**Electronically Filed** 11/6/2017 2:48 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

**Electronically Filed** Nov 15 2017 09:01 a.m. Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court

A-15-728233-C

AMENDED NOTICE OF APPEAL

181 Gibson Road

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VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC., a Nevada corporation,
Counterclaimant,
vs.
CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, successor-in-interest to SILVER STATE BANK by acquisition of assets from the FDIC as Receiver for Silver State Bank, a Utah banking corporation; GIBSON ROAD, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; DOE individuals I through XX; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through XX,
Counter-Defendants.
AMENDED NOT

#### ICE OF APPEAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Defendant/Counterclaimant, VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC., by and through its attorneys, ROGER P. CROTEAU & ASSOCIATES, LTD., hereby appeals to the Supreme Court of the State of Nevada from:

- (1) the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment entered herein on or about August 25, 2017; and
- the Order and Judgment re: Memorandum of Costs and Disbursements entered (2) herein on or about October 2, 2017.

DATED this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2017.

ROGER P. CROTEAU & ASSOCIATES, LTD.

/s/ Tímothy E. Rhoda ROGER P. CŘOTEAU, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 4958 TIMOTHY E. RHODA, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 7878 9120 West Post Road, Suite 100 Las Vegas, Nevada 89148 (702) 254-7775 Attorney for Defendant VEGAŠ UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC.

# ROGER P. CROTEAU & ASSOCIATES, LTD. • 9120 W. Post Road, Suite 100 • Las Vegas, Nevada 89148 • Telephone: (702) 254-7775 • Facsimile (702) 228-7719

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

	Pursuant to Nevada Rules of Civil P	rocedure 5(b), I hereby certify that I am an employee			
of RO	of ROGER P. CROTEAU & ASSOCIATES, LTD. and that on the 6 <sup>th</sup> day of November,				
2017, 1	I caused a true and correct copy of the	e foregoing document to be served on all parties as			
follow	s:				
X	VIA ELECTRONIC SERVICE: throfile and serve system.	ough the Eighth Judicial District Court's Odyssey e-			
	Sylvester & Polednak, Ltd. Contact Bridget Williams Kellly L. Schmitt	Email bridget@sylvesterpolednak.com kelly@sylvesterpolednak.com			
	Williams & Associates Contact Donald H. Williams, Esq. Robin Gullo	Email dwilliams@dhwlawlv.com rgullo@dhwlawlv.com			
	Williams & Associates Contact Drew Starbuck, Esq.	Email dstarbuck@dhwlawlv.com			
	VIA U.S. MAIL: by placing a true copostage thereon fully prepaid, address States mail at Las Vegas, Nevada.	opy thereof enclosed in a sealed envelope with ssed as indicated on service list below in the United			
	VIA FACSIMILE: by causing a true on the service list below.	copy thereof to be telecopied to the number indicated			
		ausing a true copy hereof to be hand delivered on this ss(es) set forth on the service list below.			
		/s/ Timothy E. Rhoda An employee of ROGER P. CROTEAU & ASSOCIATES, LTD.			

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-15-728233-C

Celtic Bank Corporation, Plaintiff(s)

VS.

Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc., Defendant

**(s)** 

Location: Department 22
Judicial Officer: Johnson, Susan
Filed on: 11/25/2015

Case Number History:

Cross-Reference Case A728233

Number:

Supreme Court No.: 74163

**CASE INFORMATION** 

8888

Statistical Closures Case Type: Judicial Foreclosure

08/25/2017 Judgment Reached (bench trial)

Case Flags: Appealed to Supreme Court

Automatically Exempt from

Arbitration

DATE CASE ASSIGNMENT

**Current Case Assignment** 

Case Number A-15-728233-C
Court Department 22
Date Assigned 02/18/2016
Judicial Officer Johnson, Susan

PARTY INFORMATION

Plaintiff Celtic Bank Corporation Noto, Allyson R.

*Retained* 702-952-5200(W)

Defendant Gibson Business Center Property Owner Association

Removed: 06/01/2016

Dismissed

Gibson Road LLC

Republic Silver State Disposal Inc

Removed: 08/08/2017

Dismissed

Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc. Croteau, Roger P, ESQ

Retained

702-254-7775(W)

Counter Claimant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc. Croteau, Roger P, ESQ

Retained

702-254-7775(W)

Counter Celtic Bank Corporation

Noto, Allyson R.
Retained

702-952-5200(W)

Gibson Road LLC

DATE EVENTS & ORDERS OF THE COURT INDEX

11/25/2015

Defendant

Complaint

Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Verified Complaint for Judicial Foreclosure of Deed of Trust

11/25/2015

Initial Appearance Fee Disclosure

	CASE NO. A-15-728233-C
	Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation  Initial Appearance Fee Disclosure
12/01/2015	Notice of Lis Pendens  Filed by: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation  Notice of Lis Pendens
12/03/2015	Summons Filed by: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Summons-Civil-Gibson Business Center Property Owner Association
12/07/2015	Summons  Filed by: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation  Summons - Republic Silver State Disposal, Inc. dba Republic Services of Southern Nevada
12/07/2015	Notice of Appearance Party: Counter Claimant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc. Notice of Appearance
12/07/2015	Affidavit of Service Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Affidavit of Service-Vegas United Investment Serioes 105 Inc
12/08/2015	Answer Filed By: Defendant Republic Silver State Disposal Inc Answer to Complaint
12/08/2015	Initial Appearance Fee Disclosure Filed By: Defendant Republic Silver State Disposal Inc Initial Appearance Fee Disclosure
01/04/2016	Peremptory Challenge Filed by: Counter Claimant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.  Peremptory Challenge of Judge
01/04/2016	Answer and Counterclaim Filed By: Counter Claimant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.  Answer and Counterclaim
01/04/2016	Notice of Department Reassignment  Notice of Department Reassignment
01/05/2016	Summons Filed by: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Party served: Counter Defendant Gibson Road LLC Summons - Gibson Road LLC
01/22/2016	Three Day Notice of Intent to Default Filed by: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Three (3) Day Notice of Intent to Take Default of Gibson Road, LLC
01/27/2016	Motion to Dismiss  Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation  Motion to Dismiss Defendant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.'s Counterclaim

	CASE 110. A-13-720233-C
02/05/2016	Opposition to Motion to Dismiss  Filed By: Counter Claimant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.  Opposition to Motion to Dismiss Counterclaim
02/05/2016	Default Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Default - Gibson Road, LLC
02/17/2016	Affidavit Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Affidavit of Service - Gibson Road
02/18/2016	Notice of Department Reassignment  Notice of Department Reassignment
03/14/2016	Notice of Entry of Order Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order to Continue Hearing on Motion to Dismiss Defendant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.'s Counterclaim
03/14/2016	Stipulation and Order Filed by: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Stipulation and Order to Continue Hearing on Motion to Dismiss Defendant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.'s Counterclaim
03/28/2016	Notice of Entry of Default  Party: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation  Notice of Entry of Default
03/31/2016	Stipulation and Order Filed by: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Stipulation and Order to Continue Hearing on Motion to Dismiss Defendant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.'s Counterclaim
04/01/2016	Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order to Continue Hearing on Motion to Dismiss Defendant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.'s Counterclaim
04/06/2016	Affidavit of Attempted Service Filed By: Counter Claimant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.  Affidavit of Attempted Service
04/08/2016	Affidavit of Service Filed By: Counter Claimant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.  Affidavit of Service
04/20/2016	Joint Case Conference Report Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation  Joint Case Conference Report
04/29/2016	Notice of Entry of Default Party: Counter Claimant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.

	CASE NO. A-15-/28233-C
	Notice of Entry of Default
04/29/2016	Default Filed By: Counter Claimant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc. Default of Gibson Road, LLC (as to Counterclaim)
05/06/2016	Scheduling Order Scheduling Order
05/16/2016	Order Setting Civil Bench Trial  Order Setting Civil Bench Trial
05/24/2016	Reply in Support Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Reply in Support of Motion to Dismiss Defendant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.'s Counterclaim
05/31/2016	Motion to Dismiss (10:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Johnson, Susan)  Plaintiff/Counterdefendant Celtic Bank Corporation's Motion to Dismiss Defendant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.'s Counterclaim 04/05/2016 Continued to 05/31/2016 - Stipulation and Order - Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.; Celtic Bank Corporation; Republic Silver State Disposal Inc
05/31/2016	Stipulation and Order for Dismissal Without Prejudice Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Stipulation and Order Disclaiming Interest and Dismissing Gibson Business Center Property Owner Association Without Prejudice
05/31/2016	Order of Dismissal Without Prejudice (Judicial Officer: Johnson, Susan) Debtors: Gibson Business Center Property Owner Association (Defendant) Creditors: Celtic Bank Corporation (Plaintiff) Judgment: 05/31/2016, Docketed: 06/09/2016
06/01/2016	Notice of Entry of Stipulation & Order for Dismissal Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order Disclaiming Interest and Dismissing Gibson Business Center Property Owner Association Without Prejudice
06/02/2016	Notice of Entry of Order Filed By: Counter Claimant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc. Notice of Entry of Order
06/02/2016	Order Denying Motion Filed By: Counter Claimant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc. Order Denying Motion to Dismiss Counterclaim
12/19/2016	Motion to Stay Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation  Joint Motion to Stay Proceedings
01/24/2017	Motion to Stay (10:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Johnson, Susan)  Joint Motion to Stay Proceedings
03/24/2017	Answer to Counterclaim

	CASE NO. A-15-720255-C
	Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation  Answer to Counterclaim
04/04/2017	Motion to Extend Discovery  Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation  Motion to Extend Discovery Deadlines - First Request on Order Shortening Time
04/05/2017	Receipt of Copy Filed by: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Receipt of Copy of Motion to Extend Discovery Deadlines - First Request on Order Shortening Time
04/05/2017	Status Check: Trial Setting (8:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Johnson, Susan)
04/07/2017	Motion to Extend Discovery (9:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Bulla, Bonnie)  Pltf's Motion to Extend Discovery Deadlines, First Request on OST
05/18/2017	Discovery Commissioners Report and Recommendations Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Discovery Commissioner's Report and Recommendation
06/01/2017	CANCELED Status Check: Compliance (3:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Bulla, Bonnie)  Vacated - per Commissioner
06/30/2017	Pre-Trial Disclosure Party: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Plaintiff's Pre-Trial Disclosure
07/19/2017	Pretrial/Calendar Call (8:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Johnson, Susan)
07/28/2017	Amended Notice Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Amended Notice of 2.67 Conference
07/28/2017	Affidavit of Attempted Service Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Affidavit of Attempted Service - Trial Subpoena Karen Klagues
07/28/2017	Affidavit of Service Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation (Attorney refiling with proper caption 8/1/17) Affidavit of Service - Trial Subpoena Stephanie Jordan
07/28/2017	Affidavit of Service Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation (Attorney refiling with proper caption 8/1/17) Affidavit of Service - Trial Subpoena Julia Thompson
08/01/2017	Trial Subpoena Filed by: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation (8/2/2017 Withdrawn) Trial Subpoena - Julia Thompson
08/01/2017	Affidavit of Service Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation

	CASE NO. A-15-728233-C
	Affidavit of Service of Trial Subpoena - Julia Thompson
08/01/2017	Trial Subpoena Filed by: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation (8/1/2017 Withdrawn) Trial Subpoena - Karen Klagues
08/01/2017	Trial Subpoena Filed by: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation (8/1/2017 Withdrawn) Trial Subpoena - Stephanie Jordan
08/01/2017	Affidavit of Service Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Affidavit of Service of Trial Subpoena - Stephanie Jordan
08/01/2017	Notice of Withdrawal Filed by: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Notice of Withdrawal of Trial Subpoena for Karen Klagues
08/01/2017	Notice of Withdrawal Filed by: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Notice of Withdrawal of Trial Subpoena for Stephanie Jordan
08/02/2017	Notice of Withdrawal Filed by: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Notice of Withdrawal of Trial Subpoena for Julia Thompson
08/04/2017	Trial Subpoena Filed by: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Trial Subpoena
08/04/2017	Pre-trial Memorandum  Filed by: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation  Joint Pre-Trial Memorandum
08/08/2017	Affidavit of Service Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Affidavit of Service of Trial Subpoena - Julie Skinner
08/08/2017	Trial Brief Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Celtic Bank Corporation's E.D.C.R. 7.27 Civil Trial Memorandum
08/08/2017	Order of Dismissal Without Prejudice (Judicial Officer: Johnson, Susan) Debtors: Celtic Bank Corporation (Plaintiff) Creditors: Republic Silver State Disposal Inc (Defendant) Judgment: 08/08/2017, Docketed: 08/08/2017
08/08/2017	Stipulation and Order  Stipulation and Order to Dismiss Defendant Republic Services, Inc.
08/09/2017	Bench Trial (9:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Johnson, Susan) 08/09/2017-08/11/2017
08/15/2017	Notice

	CASE NO. A-15-/28255-C
	Filed By: Counter Claimant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.  Notice of Supplemental Authority
08/25/2017	Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment  Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment
08/25/2017	Judgment (Judicial Officer: Johnson, Susan) Debtors: Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc. (Defendant) Creditors: Celtic Bank Corporation (Plaintiff) Judgment: 08/25/2017, Docketed: 08/28/2017 Debtors: Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc. (Counter Claimant)
	Creditors: Celtic Bank Corporation (Counter Defendant) Judgment: 08/25/2017, Docketed: 08/28/2017
09/05/2017	Notice of Entry of Order Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Notice of Entry of Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment
09/06/2017	Memorandum of Costs and Disbursements Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Memorandum of Costs and Disbursements
09/26/2017	Writ Electronically Issued Party: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Writ of Execution
09/28/2017	Notice of Appeal Filed By: Counter Claimant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc. Notice of Appeal
09/28/2017	Case Appeal Statement Filed By: Counter Claimant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc. Case Appeal Statement
10/02/2017	Judgment (Judicial Officer: Johnson, Susan) Debtors: Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc. (Defendant), Gibson Road LLC (Defendant) Creditors: Celtic Bank Corporation (Plaintiff) Judgment: 10/02/2017, Docketed: 10/02/2017 Total Judgment: 10,442.96
10/02/2017	Order Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Order and Judgment re: Memorandum of Costs and Disbursements
10/03/2017	Notice of Entry Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Noltice of Entry Of Order and Judgment re: Memorandum of Costs and Disbursements
10/04/2017	Writ of Execution Filed by: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Writ of Execution
10/12/2017	Notice of Sheriff's Sale Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Notice of Sheriff's Sale of Real Property

10/13/2017	Affidavit of Mailing Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation  Affidavit of Mailing	
10/20/2017	Affidavit of Posting Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation  Affidavit of Posting	
10/23/2017	Ex Parte Motion for Order Allowing Examination of Judgment Filed by: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation  Ex Parte Application for Order Allowing Examination of the 30(B)(6) Designee of Vegas  United Investments Series 105, Inc.	
10/30/2017	Affidavit of Publication Filed By: Counter Claimant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.; Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation; Counter Defendant Gibson Road LLC Affidavit of Publication	
10/31/2017	Order Allowing Examination of Judgment Debtor Party: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Order Allowing Examination of the 30(B)(6) Designee of Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.	
10/31/2017	Notice of Entry Filed By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Notice of Entry of Order Allowing Examination of the 30(B)(6) Designee of Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.	
10/31/2017	Notice of Examination of Judgment Debtor File By: Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation Notice of Judgment Debtor Exam of the 30(B)(6) Designee of Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.	
11/06/2017	Amended Notice of Appeal Party: Counter Claimant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc. Amended Notice of Appeal	
11/08/2017	Motion Filed By: Counter Claimant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.  Motion for Injunction Pending Appeal on Order Shortening Time	
11/14/2017	Motion (10:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Johnson, Susan)  Motion for Injumction Pending Appeal on Order Shortening Time	
DATE	FINANCIAL INFORMATION	
	Defendant Republic Silver State Disposal Inc Total Charges Total Payments and Credits Balance Due as of 11/8/2017	223.00 223.00 <b>0.00</b>
	Counter Claimant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc. Total Charges Total Payments and Credits Balance Due as of 11/8/2017	697.00 697.00 <b>0.00</b>
	Counter Defendant Celtic Bank Corporation	

Total Charges Total Payments and Credits Balance Due as of 11/8/2017	287.00 287.00 <b>0.00</b>
<b>Counter Claimant</b> Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc. Appeal Bond Balance as of 11/8/2017	500.00

## DISTRICT COURT CIVIL COVER SHEET

	CN-		A - 15 - 728233 - C	
	Case No. (Assigned by Clerk!		XXXII	
I. Party Information (provide both he	ome and mailing addresses if different)			
Plaintiff(s) (name/address/phone):		Defenda	nt(s) (name/address/phone):	
CELTIC BANK CO	RPORATION	VEGAS	UNITED INVESTEMENT SERIES 105., INC., ET AL	
Attorney (name/address/phone):		Attorney	(name/address/phone):	
Kelly L, Schmitt Esq., Sylve	ester & Polednak. Ltd.	Unknown		
1731 Village Ce				
Las Vegas, N				
(702) 952-				
II. Nature of Controversy (please s	elect the one most applicable filing type	below)	- Control of the Cont	
Civil Case Filing Types	T		Torts	
Real Property  Landlord/Tenant	Negligence	Τ	Other Torts	
Unlawful Detainer	Auto		Product Liability	
Other Landlord/Tenant	Premises Liability		Intentional Misconduct	
Title to Property	Other Negligence		Employment Tort	
Judicial Foreclosure	Malpractice		Insurance Tort	
Other Title to Property	Medical/Dental	:	Other Tort	
Other Real Property	Legal			
Condemnation/Eminent Domain	Accounting			
Other Real Property	Other Malpractice			
Probate	Construction Defect & Cont	ract	Judicial Review/Appeal	
Probate (select case type and estate value)	Construction Defect		Judicial Review	
Summary Administration	Chapter 40		Foreclosure Mediation Case	
General Administration	Other Construction Defect		Petition to Seal Records	
Special Administration	Contract Case		Mental Competency	
Set Aside	Uniform Commercial Code		Nevada State Agency Appeal	
Trust/Conservatoship	Building and Construction		Department of Motor Vehicle	
Other Probate	Insurance Carrier		Worker's Compensation	
Estate Value	Commercial Instrument		Other Nevada State Agency	
Over \$200,000	Collection of Accounts		Appeal Other	
Between \$100,000 and \$200,000	Employment Contract		Appeal from Lower Court	
Under \$100,000 or Unknown	Other Contract		Other Judicial Review/Appeal	
Under \$2,500				
Civi	l Writ		Other Civil Filing	
Civil Writ			Other Civil Filing	
Writ of Habeas Corpus	Writ of Prohibition	Ì	Compromise of Minor's Claim	
Writ of Mandamus	Other Civil Writ		Foreign Judgment	
Writ of Quo Warrant	<u> </u>	-	Other Civil Matters	
	ourt filings should be filed using the	Business	Court civil coversheet.	
11/25/2015		_4	KUKH	
Date	<del></del>	Signat	rure of initiating party or representative	

See other side for family-related case filings.

**FFCL** 1 2 3 4 CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, 5 successor-in-interest to SILVER STATE BANK by acquisition of assets from the 6 FDIC as Receiver for Silver State Bank, a 7 Utah banking corporation organized and in good standing with the laws of the State of 8 Utah, 9 Plaintiff, 10 Vs. 11 VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 12 105, INC., a Nevada domestic corporation; 13 GIBSON ROAD, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; GIBSON BUSINESS 14 CENTER PROPERTY OWNER ASSOCIATION, a Nevada non-profit 15 corporation; REPUBLIC SILVER STATE DISPOSAL, INC. dba REPUBLIC 16 SERVICES OF SOUTHERN NEVADA, a 17 foreign corporation; DOE Individuals I through X; and ROE Corporations and 18 Organizations I through V, inclusive; 19 Defendants. 20 VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 21 105, INC., a Nevada corporation, 22 Counter-Claimant, 23 Vs. 24 CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, 25 successor-in-interest to SILVER STATE 26 BANK by acquisition of assets from the FDIC as Receiver for Silver State Bank, 27 Counter-Defendant. 28

SUSAN H. JOHNSON DISTRICT JUDGE DEPARTMENT XXII Electronically Filed 8/25/2017 3:00 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

DISTRICT COURT

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Case No. A-15-728233-C Dept. No. XXII

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND JUDGMENT

☐ Non-Jury
Disposed After Trial Start
Non-Jury
Judgment Reached

☐ Jury
Disposed After Trial Start
☐ Jury
Verdict Reached

Other :

1

☐ Transferred before Trial

VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC., a Nevada Corporation,

#### Third-Party Plaintiff,

Vs.

GIBSON ROAD, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; DOE individuals I through XX; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through XX,

Third-Party Defendants.1

#### FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND JUDGMENT

This matter came on for trial before the Court on the 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> day of August 2017 before Department XXII of the Eighth Judicial District Court, in and for Clark County, Nevada, with JUDGE SUSAN H. JOHNSON presiding; Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, as Successor-in-Interest to SILVERSTATE BANK appeared by and through its attorneys, ALLYSON R. NOTO, ESQ. and KELLY L. SCHMIDT, ESQ. of the law firm, SYLVESTER & POLEDNAK; and Defendant/Counter-Claimant VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC. appeared by and through its attorney, ROGER P. CROTEAU, ESQ. of the law firm, ROGER P. CROTEAU & ASSOCIATES. Having reviewed the papers and pleadings on file herein, including the stipulated Joint Trial Exhibits 1 through 59, heard the testimonies of the witnesses, to wit: BRIAN ZERN, JULIA SKINNER and CHARLES SCHMIDT, as well as arguments of counsel, and taken this matter under advisement, this Court now makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

<sup>1</sup>As GIBSON ROAD, LLC is not listed as a plaintiff in the primary action, it is improper to classify the action against it as a "counter-claim" or identify it as a "counter-defendant." Similarly, as this party is not listed as a party in the primary action at all, GIBSON ROAD, LLC is best identified as a "third-party defendant" in a "third-party complaint."

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. CELTIC BANK CORPORATION filed its Verified Complaint for Judicial Foreclosure of Deed of Trust against VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC., GIBSON ROAD, LLC, GIBSON BUSINESS CENTER PROPERTY OWNER ASSOCIATION and REPUBLIC SILVER STATE DISPOSAL, INC. on November 25, 2015.<sup>2</sup> On January 4, 2016, VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC. filed its Answer and Counterclaim, asserting two causes of action: (1) Quiet Title/Declaratory Relief, and (2) Slander of Title against CELTIC BANK CORPORATION. The facts adduced through trial, most of which were stipulated by the parties, are as follows:
- 2. On or about January 18, 2006, GIBSON ROAD, LLC borrowed \$748,000.00 from Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant CELTIC BANK CORPORATION'S predecessor-in-interest, SILVER STATE BANK to purchase certain non-residential real property, to wit: 181 North Gibson Road, Henderson, Nevada.<sup>3</sup> The property in question is located within what appears to be two commoninterest communities encompassing the same business or industrial park, i.e. GIBSON BUSINESS PARK, PHASE ONE and GIBSON BUSINESS CENTER PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, both of which are governed by certain covenants, conditions and restrictions (also known as "CC&Rs"). The CC&Rs include, *inter alia*, the requirement the associations' members pay periodic assessments to benefit the business parks or common-interest communities.
- 3. As discussed *supra* and in more detail *infra*, there are actually two declarations of covenants, conditions and restrictions recorded against the business park. The first declaration entitled "Declaration of Protective Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions" for GIBSON

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>GIBSON BUSINESS CENTER PROPERTY OWNER ASSOCIATION disclaimed interest in the property, and it was dismissed as a party to the lawsuit on June 1, 2016. REPUBLIC SILVER STATE DISPOSAL, INC. was dismissed as a party on August 8, 2017. Defaults were entered against GIBSON ROAD, LLC. on February 5, 2016 and April 29, 2016, respectively.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Also see Stipulated Trial Exhibit 4, Promissory Note.

BUSINESS PARK, PHASE ONE was recorded by its then declarant, AMPAC DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, and joining parties<sup>4</sup> on or about September 11, 1989 for the purpose of developing the premises into a commercial and industrial park.<sup>5</sup> The parties to this lawsuit have referred to these CC&Rs as the "1989 Master CC&Rs." The 1989 Master CC&Rs were amended by the October 24, 1994 recording of the "First Amendment to Declaration of Protective Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions" for GIBSON BUSINESS PARK, PHASE ONE." The purpose of this recording was to "amend the description of the land constituting the Premises for the purpose of withdrawing certain acreage from the Premises due to changes in development plans for the affected area." The parties have referred this document as the "1994 First Amendment." Approximately ten years later, on or about March 18, 2004, the second set of CC&Rs, entitled "Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for Gibson Business Center" was recorded against the business park already being governed by the 1989 Master CC&Rs by a new declarant, GIBSON AMERICAN PACIFIC, LLC. The parties here have referred to this recording as the "2004 CC&Rs."

- 4. To secure payment of the promissory note, GIBSON ROAD, LLC executed and delivered a first deed of trust to SILVER STATE BANK on or about December 9, 2005, which was recorded with the Clark County Recorder's Office on December 30, 2005, and encumbered the subject property within the business park.<sup>7</sup>
- 5. On or about September 5, 2008, SILVER STATE BANK was closed by the Nevada Financial Institutions Division, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) was named receiver for the bank. Approximately one year later, on September 24, 2009, the FDIC, as SILVER

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 1. The "joining parties" are identified as MARSHMELLOW LANE PARTNERS, GIBSON BUSINESS PARK ASSOCIATION 1986-1, OCEAN SPRAY CRANBERRIES, INC., and PACIFIC ENGINEERING & PRODUCTION COMPANY OF NEVADA.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 1, 1989 Master CC&Rs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 2, 1994 First Amendment.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Also see Stipulated Trial Exhibit 5, Deed of Trust.

- 6. Almost two years later, on August 23, 2011, RED ROCK FINANCIAL SERVICES, the collection agent for GIBSON BUSINESS CENTER PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, recorded a Lien for Delinquent Assessments with the Clark County Recorder's Office purportedly against the subject property, listing as its current owner: "Trustee Clark County Treasurer c/o GIBSON ROAD, LLC." The assessment lien, however, did not specify the subject property as the particular parcel to be liened; instead, the legal description contained within the Lien for Delinquent Assessments was that of the *entire* business park.
- 7. The Lien for Delinquent Assessments also provided it was made "in accordance with Nevada Revised Statutes 116 and outlined in the Association Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions, herein also called CC&Rs, recorded on 10/24/1994, in Book Number, as Instrument Number 19940240000285 and including any and all Amendments and Annexations et seq. of Official Records of Clark County, Nevada, which have been supplied to and agreed upon by said owner." However, a review of the Official Records of Clark County, Nevada shows there were no CC&Rs recorded as Instrument Number 19940240000285.
- 8. While there is no CC&Rs recorded with Instrument Number 1994024000285, there is the document recorded in 1994 as First Amendment to Declaration of Protective Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (again referred to as the "1994 First Amendment") by GIBSON BUSINESS PARK, PHASE ONE with Instrument Number 199410240000285; this Instrument number contains one additional number, i.e. "1," as the fifth digit, than the figure referred to within the Lien for Delinquent Assessments recorded August 23, 2011. As noted above, this 1994 First Amendment revises or amends that certain document titled "Declaration of Protective Covenants,

SUSAN H. JOHNSON DISTRICT JUDGE DEPARTMENT XXII

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>Also see Stipulated Trial Exhibit 7, Assignment of Deed of Trust.

- 9. Neither the 1989 Master CC&Rs nor the 1994 First Amendment incorporate, refer to or mention NRS Chapter 116 which was enacted December 31, 1991. There is no language contained within the 1989 Master CC&Rs and its 1994 First Amendment to suggest a lien for delinquent assessments has priority over the first security interest; if anything, its provisions state to the contrary. The 2004 CC&Rs does mention NRS Chapter 116, although it specifies "[t]he Real Property shall not be subject to the provisions of the Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act, codified in Chapter 116 of the Nevada Revised Statutes ('NRS') except to the extent permitted under NRS 278A.170." Like the 1989 Master CC&Rs, the 2004 CC&Rs contain a mortgage protection clause as set forth in Article XIII. 11
- 10. On October 14, 2011, RED ROCK FINANCIAL SERVICES recorded a Notice of Default. Notably, the Notice of Default referred to the recorded Lien for Delinquent Assessments

<sup>0</sup>Section 8.09 of the 1989 Master CC&Rs provides as follows:

<u>Liens to Secure Assessments</u>. All Assessments, including interest and other amounts due with respect to unpaid assessments, shall constitute, and shall be secured by, a separately valid and existing lien on the portion of the Premises to which they relate, and upon all Improvements at any time erected or constructed thereon. The provisions of Nev. Rev. Stat. Section 278A.170 are incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 11.03 of the 1989 Master CC&Rs state in pertinent part:

Protection of Encumbrances. (a) No violation or breach of, or failure to comply with, any provision of this Declaration, and no action to enforce any such provision, shall affect, defeat, render invalid or impair the lien of any mortgage, deed of trust or other lien on any Lot or part of the Premises taken in good faith and for failure; nor shall any violation, breach, failure to comply or action to enforce affect, defeat, render invalid or impair the title or interest of the holder of any such mortgage, deed of trust or other lien or title of any interest acquired by any purchaser upon foreclosure of any such mortgage, deed of trust or other lien, or result in any liability, personal or otherwise, of any such holder or purchaser.

<sup>11</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 3, Bates No. CB000380, Article XIII, "Mortgage Protection Clause."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>The "Declaration of Protective Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions" recorded in 1989 were also referred to by the parties as the "1989 Master CC&Rs." The stated purchase of the 1994 First Amendment was to remove some of the property originally encumbered by the Declarant identified in the 1989 Master CC&Rs. Notably, and as discussed *infra*, the GIBSON BUSINESS CENTER PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION was not created until approximately March 17, 2004 when a second "Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions" was recorded against the business park or common-interest community. *See* Stipulated Trial Exhibit 3.

and included the incorrect legal description of the property to be liened and the erroneous Instrument Number<sup>12</sup> described in Paragraphs 4 and 5 above. The Notice of Default was sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to CELTIC BANK CORPORATION and it was signed as received by the Bank's employee.

11. On or about October 21, 2011, in conjunction with the Property Owners' Association's impending foreclosure, RED ROCK FINANCIAL SERVICES obtained a Trustee's Sale Guarantee<sup>13</sup> from FIRST AMERICAN TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY.<sup>14</sup> This Trustee's Sale Guarantee identified, as one of its exceptions to title, that which related to the 1989 Master CC&Rs; this exception, No. 7, provided as follows:

COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, RESTRICTIONS, EASEMENTS, ASSESSMENTS, LIENS, CHARGES, TERMS AND PROVISIONS IN THE DOCUMENT RECORDED **SEPTEMBER 11, 1989** IN BOOK **890911** AS INSTRUMENT NO. **00173** OF OFFICIAL RECORDS, WHICH PROVIDE THAT A VIOLATION THEREOF SHALL NOT DEFEAT OR RENDER INVALID THE LIEN OF ANY FIRST MORTGAGE OR DEED OF TRUST MADE IN GOOD FAITH AND FOR VALUE, BUT DELETING ANY COVENANT, CONDITION OR RESTRICTION INDICATING A PREFERENCE, LIMITATION OR DISCRIMINATION BASED ON RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, SEX, HANDICAP, FAMILIAL STATUS, OR NATIONAL ORIGIN, TO THE EXTENT SUCH COVENANTS, CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS VIOLATE TITLE 42, SECTION 3604(c), OF THE UNITED STATES CODES. (Emphasis in original)

A similar exception, No. 8, was noted with respect to the 2004 CC&Rs. Other exceptions to title identified within the Trustee's Sale Guarantee were issues related to unpaid property taxes and the Deed of Trust recorded December 30, 2005 against the property and assigned to CELTIC BANK CORPORATION on or about September 24, 2009.<sup>15</sup>

12. On or about December 21, 2011, RED ROCK FINANCIAL SERVICES sent what appears to be a form letter to CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, indicating it was sending "this

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>Also see Stipulated Trial Exhibit 10, Notice of Default and Election to Sell Pursuant to the Lien for Delinquent Assessments.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>The Trustee's Sale Guarantee was also identified as "TSG" by the parties and their lawyers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup>Also see Stipulated Trial Exhibit 11, Trustee's Sale Guarantee.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 11, Trustee's Sale Guarantee, pp. 2-3, Exceptions Nos. 2 and 9.

notice" as a courtesy. The collection agent indicated "the above referenced homeowner" was delinquent in paying "their "Homeowners Association assessments," and it set forth the procedures followed thus far regarding the non-judicial foreclosure process. At that juncture, RED ROCK FINANCIAL SERVICES stated it was "approximately 60 days into the mandatory 90-day waiting period" between the recordation of Noticed of Default and Election to Sell and when it could exercise its enforcement rights. As pertinent to the analysis here, the letter also stated: "The Association's Lien for Delinquent Assessments is Junior only to the Senior Lender/Mortgage Holder," which all parties agree was CELTIC BANK CORPORATION.

Account Coordinator for RED ROCK FINANCIAL SERVICES, sent an electronic mail (also referred to as "e-mail") to the Community Manager for the business park to "assist the Board of Directors in making the decision of whether or not to proceed forward with foreclosure,..."

Attached was a form outlining pertinent information such as (1) "A brief outline of the two (2) possible outcomes of foreclosure. This will assist in making certain the Board is making an informed decision and understands the Associations' responsibility[;]" and (2) "Mortgage information obtained from the Title Report [or Trustee's Sale Guarantee]. This provides the Board with an estimate of outstanding mortgages that may survive the association foreclosure." The attached form indicated the balance due as of that date to the Association and its collection agent was \$11,676.08. The two possible outcomes were:

1. The first possible outcome is when a 3<sup>rd</sup> Party steps in and purchases the property at auction. This outcome will usually only occur if there is equity and/or no mortgage. Under this outcome, the Association would be made whole.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup>The "above referenced homeowner" was identified in the letter's "Re:" line as "181 N. Gibson Rd, (sic) Henderson, NV 89014" and "Gibson Business Center Property Owners Association/R92471." See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 12, p. 1 (Bates No. "Redrock 0312").

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2. The second possible outcome is that at auction no 3<sup>rd</sup> Party steps in which will cause the property to revert to the Association. The Association would then be responsible for collection costs, property tax and transfer tax. The first mortgage would remain on the property. (Emphasis added)

The information "pulled" from the Title Report or Trustee's Sale Guarantee was:

1<sup>st</sup> Mortgage: \$748,000.00 2<sup>nd</sup> Mortgage: NONE

Lender Foreclosure Activity: NONE

(Emphasis in original)

The Community Manager was then asked to mark the Association's decision whether it desired to proceed with foreclosure of "181 N Gibson Rd, (sic) Henderson, NV 89014."

14. Apparently, the Board of Directors elected to pursue non-judicial foreclosure as, on February 26, 2014, its collection agent recorded and posted a Notice of Foreclosure Sale "Under the Lien for Delinquent Assessments," indicating the association's foreclosure sale would take place on March 21, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at the front entrance of Nevada Legal News. This Notice also set forth on page 2, "[t]he sale will be made without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied regarding, but not limited to, title or possession, encumbrances, obligations to satisfy any secured or unsecured liens or against all right, title and interest of the owner, without equity or right of redemption to satisfy the indebtedness secured by said Lien, with interest thereon, as provided in the Declarations of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions, recorded on 10/24/1994, in Book Number, as Instrument Number 19940240000285 of the Official Records in the Office of the Recorder and any subsequent amendments or updates that may have been recorded." This Notice of Foreclosure Sale was also sent, via certified mail, return receipt requested, to CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, care of ROBERTA MERRYMAN, 340 East 400 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111, although the Bank claims the notice was never received as it was sent to its former address.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 15.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup>See Bates No. Redrock 0076.

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- 15. The foreclosure sale took place on March 21, 2014, and CHARLES SCHMITDT was the highest bidder at \$30,000,00 of the three (3) who attended. As a result of the association's auction, the property title was vested in Defendant/Counter-Claimant VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105 of which MR. SCHMIDT is the sole shareholder.<sup>20</sup>
- MR. SCHMIDT claims he was a bona fide purchaser at the aforementioned 16. foreclosure sale, and entitled to rely upon the recitals contained in the Foreclosure Deed. Prior to bidding on the property here, MR. SCHMIDT testified he did look at the public record by assessor parcel number (or "APN") and owner. However, he did not review any of the CC&Rs recorded against the property until approximately two weeks after the foreclosure sale. Whether his assertion he is a bona fide purchaser is true, the evidence also showed MR. SCHMIDT was sophisticated. He started purchasing real estate at both bank and association foreclosure sales since 2008, and by the time this trial commenced, he admitted he has acquired over 100 properties either personally or through controlled entities.
- In the meantime, on June 3, 2013, the Clark County Treasurer placed a lien on the 17. subject property for past due taxes which was recorded in Book No. 20131226 as Instrument No. 00891 in the Official Records of the Clark County Recorder's Office. CELTIC BANK CORPORATION sent various reminders to its borrower, GIBSON ROAD, LLC, concerning the delinquent property taxes due in 2014.<sup>21</sup>
- In addition to not paying the taxes and association assessments, GIBSON ROAD, 18. LLC also did not pay the monthly installments owing to CELTIC BANK CORPORATION under

<sup>21</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibits 16 and 17 (Foreclosure Deed).

- 19. On April 30, 2015, ROGER P. CROTEAU, ESQ., counsel for VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, sent a letter to CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, <sup>23</sup> indicating its Notice of Default was invalid for a couple of reasons. *First*, the original Deed of Trust recorded December 30, 2005 and described within the Notice of Default identified incorrect assessor parcel numbers, meaning, in his view, the subject property was not secured by the Deed of Trust. <sup>24</sup> *Second, even if* the Deed of Trust was property recorded against the property, it was extinguished by the association's foreclosure sale held in March 2014. According to CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, MR. CROTEAU'S April 2015 letter was the first notice it received regarding the association's intention to sell the property and ultimately, the foreclosure sale to VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105.
- 20. On June 11, 2015, the Clark County Treasurer recorded a Tax Trustee Deed against the subject property, indicating \$14,149.45 in taxes, penalties, interest and costs were due. This Tax Trustee Deed deeded the subject property to the county in trust for GIBSON ROAD, LLC. On October 29, 2015, CELTIC BANK CORPORATION paid the outstanding amount due to the Clark County Treasurer, i.e. \$18,281.67. Such resulted in the Treasurer's re-conveyance of the deed to the Bank's borrower, GIBSON ROAD, LLC, and such was recorded On November 5, 2015. This can be subject property to the county in trust for GIBSON ROAD, LLC, and such was recorded On November 5, 2015.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 20.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 21.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup>The correct assessor parcel number or APN for the subject property is 178-15-511-042. The APNs indicated in the Deed of Trust recorded December 30, 2005 are 178-15-511-029, 178-15-511-030 and 178-15-511-031. JULIA SKINNER, Senior Underwriter for National Commercial Services at FIRST AMERICAN TITLE COMPANY, who had worked in the property title industry for over thirty (30) years, testified at trial the APNs set forth on the Deed of Trust were changed over time. However, the alterations in the APNs did not affect whether the Deed of Trust was properly recorded against the subject property.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 22.
 <sup>26</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 26.

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#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. NRS 30.030 specifically provides the courts shall have the power to declare rights, status and other legal relations whether or not further relief is or could be claimed. The court's declaration may be affirmative or negative in form and effect; such declaration shall have the force and effect of a final judgment or decree. NRS 40.010 provides "[a]n action may be brought by any person against another who claims an estate or interest in real property adverse to the person bringing the action, for the purpose of determining such adverse claim." As noted above, CELTIC BANK CORPORATION seeks, by way of relief, to enforce its rights under the December 30, 2005 Deed of Trust and judicially foreclose upon the property. VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105 seeks declaratory relief and to quiet title, as well as damages for slander of title against CELTIC BANK CORPORATION. Both parties claim their interest has first priority, and notably, VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105 claims the Bank's rights under the Deed of Trust were extinguished by way of the Association's foreclosure sale. Before it determines whether CELTIC BANK CORPORATION can enforce its rights under the Deed of Trust, it first determines whether such rights, if any, were extinguished by the Association's foreclosure sale, and perhaps more importantly, if NRS Chapter 116 applies in this case.
- 2. NRS Chapter 116 codifies the Uniform Common-Interest Ownership Act or UCIOA, and applies to all common-interest communities created within the State of Nevada, subject to certain exceptions. See NRS 116.1201(1). One of those exceptions is set forth in NRS 116.1201(2)(b). It states NRS Chapter 116 does not apply to "[a] planned community in which all units are restricted exclusively to nonresidential use unless the declaration provides that this chapter or a part of this chapter does apply to that planned community pursuant to NRS 116.12075." NRS 116.12075 states in pertinent part:

#### 116.12075. Applicability to nonresidential condominiums.

- 1. The provisions of this chapter do not apply to a nonresidential condominium except to the extent that the declaration for the nonresidential condominium provides that:
  - (a) This entire chapter applies to the condominium;
  - (b) Only the provisions of NRS 116.001 to 116.2122, inclusive, and NRS 116.3116 to 116.31167, inclusive, apply to the condominium; or
  - (c) Only the provisions of NRS 116.3116 to 116.31168, inclusive, apply to the condominium.

Clearly, as set forth in NRS 116.1201 and 116.12075, NRS Chapter 116 does not apply to non-residential common-interest communities *except* to the extent set forth set forth by their CC&Rs. In this case, there is no question the subject property is non-residential and located within a business or industrial park. This Court therefore considers the terms set forth in the CC&Rs in determining whether exceptions exist for NRS Chapter 116 to apply here.

3. As noted above, there are two separate declarations of covenants, conditions and restrictions recorded against the subject property. The first CC&Rs, referred to as the 1989 Master CC&Rs was recorded over two years before NRS Chapter 116 was enacted on December 31, 1991. Neither the 1989 Master CC&Rs nor its 1994 First Amendment mentions NRS Chapter 116, much less indicates this statutory scheme, or any part thereof, applies to the subject property. Further, there is no language contained within the 1989 Master CC&Rs and its 1994 First Amendment to suggest a lien for delinquent association assessments has priority over the first security interest. While the 2004 CC&Rs does mention NRS Chapter 116, it also specifies "[t]he Real Property shall not be subject to the provisions of the Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act, codified in Chapter 116 of the Nevada Revised Statutes ('NRS') except to the extent permitted under NRS 278A.170."<sup>27</sup> (Emphasis added)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup>The 1989 Master CC&Rs also addresses NRS 278A.170 in Section 8.09. See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 1, Bates No. CB000419; also see Footnote 10 supra.

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#### Turning, then, to NRS 278A.170, it states: 4.

The procedures for enforcing payment of an assessment for the maintenance of common open space provided in NRS 116.3116 to 116.31168, inclusive, are also available to any organization for the ownership and maintenance of common open space established other than under this chapter or chapter 116 of NRS and entitled to receive payments from owners of property for such maintenance under a recorded declaration of restrictions, deed restriction, restrictive covenant or equitable servitude which provides that any reasonable and ratable assessment thereon for the organization's cost of maintaining the common open space constitutes a lien or encumbrance upon the property.

- 5. While NRS 278A.170 outlines the *procedures* for enforcing assessment payments for the maintenance of "common open space" provided in NRS 116.3116 to 116.31168, it does not state, substantively, the priority of the encumbrances upon the property and the exceptions thereto outlined in NRS 116.3116 are to be applied. As pertinent here, NRS 278A.170 does not state the association's assessments' lien charged for the nine-month period immediately preceding the action is prior to any first-security interest. That is, while NRS 278A.170 provides, procedurally, the association's assessments shall be enforced as provided in NRS 116.3116 to 116.31168, it does not state the assessments, or any part thereof, shall take priority over any other liens.
- 6. As noted above, the CC&Rs also contain clauses which protect certain encumbrances, which include mortgages and deeds of trust.<sup>28</sup> Specifically, "[n]o violation of any provision of this Declaration, nor any remedy exercised hereunder, shall defeat or render invalid the lien of any Mortgage made in good faith and for failure upon any portion of the Project, nor shall any Lien created hereunder be superior to any such Mortgage unless such Lien shall have been recorded in the Public Records prior to the recordation...of such Mortgage."<sup>29</sup> Further, "[n]o violation or breach of, or failure to comply with, any provision of this Declaration, and no action to enforce any such provision, shall affect, defeat, render invalid or impair the lien of any mortgage, deed of trust or other lien on any Lot or part of the Premises taken in good faith and for value; nor

<sup>29</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 3, 204 CC&Rs, Article XIII.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibits 1, 1989 Master CC&Rs, Section 11.03, and 3, 2004 CC&Rs, Article XIII.

shall any violation, breach, failure to comply or action to enforce affect, defeat, render invalid or impair the title or interest of the holder of any such mortgage, deed of trust or other lien or title or any interest acquired by any purchaser upon foreclosure of any such mortgage, deed of trust or other lien:....<sup>30</sup> In short, except to the extent the Association can utilize the procedures set forth in NRS 116.3116 to 116.31168 for collecting its assessment lien against a delinquent property owner, NRS Chapter 116 does not apply with respect to establishing the priority of such debt, or any part thereof, over the first-security interest held by CELTIC BANK CORPORATION. Further, as NRS Chapter 116 does not apply, this statutory scheme does not render invalid any provision of the two governing documents. Cf. NRS 116.2103(1). Thus, if VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC. purchased the property at the foreclosure sale, it took title subject to CELTIC BANK CORPORATION'S Deed of Trust. Its acquisition of the Foreclosure Deed did not result in an extinguishment of the first-security interest. 7. Notwithstanding the aforementioned, this Court notes it was CELTIC BANK

CORPORATION that satisfied the property tax lien, which resulted in a re-conveyance of the title to its borrower, GIBSON ROAD, LLC. No evidence was presented to demonstrate VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC. paid any property taxes. Further, GIBSON ROAD, LLC is delinquent in paying the monthly installments toward the mortgage. The Bank is entitled to judicially foreclose given its first-security interest recorded against the property. As it finds CELTIC BANK CORPORATION'S Deed of Trust is superior to any Association liens, this Court also concludes VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC. has not sustained its burden of proving the elements of its Slander of Title claim by a preponderance of the evidence. Further, given its conclusion regarding the priority of interests, this Court does not reach the remaining issues concerning the fairness or commercial reasonableness of the Association's foreclosure sale.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 1, 1989 Master CC&Rs, Section 11.03.

8. VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC. did raise the issue concerning the propriety of the Deed of Trust's recording against the correct property and the listing of three different assessor parcel numbers (APNs) therein. As testified by MS. SKINNER, the APNs set forth on the Deed of Trust were changed over time. However, the alterations in the APNs did not affect whether the Deed of Trust was properly recorded against the subject property. This Court found MS. SKINNER'S testimony to be credible, and CELTIC BANK CORPORATION met its burden of proof, by a preponderance of the evidence, its Deed of Trust was properly recorded against the subject property. Accordingly, based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED judgment is rendered in favor of CELTIC BANK CORPORATION as against VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC. with respect to its Complaint for Judicial Foreclosure. As GIBSON ROAD, LLC is a defaulting party, CELTIC BANK CORPORATION can judicially foreclose upon the property: IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED judgment is rendered in

favor of CELTIC BANK CORPORATION as against VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC. with respect to the Counter-Claim for quiet title/declaratory relief and slander of title. The Bank's first-security interest was not extinguished by the Association's foreclosure sale.

DATED this 25<sup>th</sup> day of August 2017.

H. JOHNSON/DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

1	<u>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</u>
2	I hereby certify that, on the 25 <sup>th</sup> day of August 2017, I electronically served (E-served),
3	placed within the attorneys' folders located on the first floor of the Regional Justice Center or mailed
4	a true and correct copy of the foregoing FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND
5	JUDGMENT to the following counsel of record, and that first-class postage was fully prepaid
6 7	thereon:
8	ALLYSON R. NOTO, ESQ. KELLY L. SCHMITT, ESQ.
9	SYLVESTER & POLEDNAK, LTD.  1731 Village Center Circle
10	Las Vegas, Nevada 89134
11	Allyson@sylvesterpolednak.com Kelly@sylvesterpolednak.com
12	ROGER P. CROTEAU, ESQ.
13	ROGER P. CROTEAU & ASSOCIATES, LTD.
14	9120 West Post Road, Suite 100 Las Vegas, Nevada 89148
15	croteaulaw@croteaulaw.com
16	c.
17	Laura Banks, Judicial Executive Assistant
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Las Vegas, Nevada 89134

Phone (702) 952-5200

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inclusive,

1 **NEOJ** SYLVESTER & POLEDNAK, LTD. 2 ALLYSON R. NOTO, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 8286 3 KELLY L. SCHMITT, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 10387 4 1731 Village Center Circle Las Vegas, Nevada 89134 5 Telephone: (702) 952-5200 6 Facsimile: (702) 952-5205 Email: allyson@sylvesterpolednak.com 7 Email: kelly@sylvesterpolednak.com Attorneys for Plaintiff 8 9 10 11 CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, successor-in-interest to SILVER STATE 12 BANK by acquisition of assets from the FDIC as Receiver for Silver State Bank, a 13 Utah banking corporation organized and in good standing under the laws of the State of 14 Utah, 15 Plaintiff, **16** ٧. 17 VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 18 105, INC., a Nevada domestic corporation; GIBSON ROAD, LLC, a Nevada limited 19 liability company; GIBSON BUSINESS CENTER PROPERTY OWNER 20 ASSOCIATION, a Nevada non-profit corporation; REPUBLIC SILVER STATE 21 DISPOSAL, INC. dba REPUBLIC SERVICES OF SOUTHERN NEVADA, a 22 foreign corporation; DOE Individuals I through X; and ROE Corporations and 23

Organizations I through V, inclusive; DOE

Corporations and Organizations I through V,

Defendants.

Individuals I through X; and ROE

**Electronically Filed** 9/5/2017 10:00 AM Steven D. Grierson **CLERK OF THE COURT** 

DISTRICT COURT

#### CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Case No. A-15-728233-C Dept. No. XXII

NOTICE OF ENTRY OF FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND JUDGMENT

2	was entered on the 25 <sup>th</sup> day of August, 2017. A copy which is attached hereto.
3	DATED this 5 day of September, 2017.
4	SYLVESTER & POLEDNAK, LTD.
5	By
7	Kelly L. Schmitt, Esq. 1731 Village Center Circle
8	Las Vegas, Nevada 89134  Attorneys for Plaintiff
9	
10	
11	<u>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</u>
12	I HEREBY CERTIFY that I am an employee of SYLVESTER & POLEDNAK, LTD.
13	and that on the day of September, 2017, I caused to be served a copy of the above-entitled
14	document on the party set forth below via the Court e-filing system where an email address is
15	provided and/or by depositing the same in the United States Mail, first class, postage prepaid,
16	addressed to those not electronically mailed as follows:
17	Roger P. Croteau, Esq.
18	Timothy E. Rhoda, Esq.  ROGER P. CROTEAU & ASSOCIATES
19	9120 W. Post Road, Suite 100 Las Vegas, Nevada 89148
20	Email: <u>croteaulaw@croteaulawcom</u>
21	Attorneys for Defendant Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc.
22	
23	Dridget Williams
24	An employee of SYLVESTER & POLEDNAK, LTD.
25	
26	
27	

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Judgment

**Electronically Filed** 8/25/2017 3:00 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT FFCL 1 2 DISTRICT COURT 3 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 4 CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, Case No. A-15-728233-C 5 Dept. No. XXII successor-in-interest to SILVER STATE BANK by acquisition of assets from the 6 FDIC as Receiver for Silver State Bank, a 7 Utah banking corporation organized and in good standing with the laws of the State of 8 Utah, 9 Plaintiff, 10 Vs. 11 VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 12 105, INC., a Nevada domestic corporation; 13 GIBSON ROAD, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; GIBSON BUSINESS FINDINGS OF FACT. 14 CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND **CENTER PROPERTY OWNER** ASSOCIATION, a Nevada non-profit JUDGMENT 15 corporation; REPUBLIC SILVER STATE DISPOSAL, INC. dba REPUBLIC 16 SERVICES OF SOUTHERN NEVADA, a 17 foreign corporation; DOE Individuals I through X; and ROE Corporations and 18 Organizations I through V, inclusive; 19 Defendants. 20 VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 21 105, INC., a Nevada corporation, 22 Counter-Claimant, 23 Vs. 24 CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, 25 successor-in-interest to SILVER STATE BANK by acquisition of assets from the 26 FDIC as Receiver for Silver State Bank, 27

SUSAN H. JOHNSON DISTRICT JUDGE DEPARTMENT XXII

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☐ Non-Jury
Disposed After Trial Start
Mon-Jury
Judgment Reached
☐ Transferred before Trial

☐ Jury
Disposed After Trial Start
☐ Jury
Verdict Reached

MOther-

Counter-Defendant.

VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC., a Nevada Corporation,

Third-Party Plaintiff,

Vs.

GIBSON ROAD, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; DOE individuals I through XX; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through XX,

Third-Party Defendants.1

#### FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND JUDGMENT

This matter came on for trial before the Court on the 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> day of August 2017 before Department XXII of the Eighth Judicial District Court, in and for Clark County, Nevada, with JUDGE SUSAN H. JOHNSON presiding; Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, as Successor-in-Interest to SILVERSTATE BANK appeared by and through its attorneys, ALLYSON R. NOTO, ESQ. and KELLY L. SCHMIDT, ESQ. of the law firm, SYLVESTER & POLEDNAK; and Defendant/Counter-Claimant VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC. appeared by and through its attorney, ROGER P. CROTEAU, ESQ. of the law firm, ROGER P. CROTEAU & ASSOCIATES. Having reviewed the papers and pleadings on file herein, including the stipulated Joint Trial Exhibits 1 through 59, heard the testimonies of the witnesses, to wit: BRIAN ZERN, JULIA SKINNER and CHARLES SCHMIDT, as well as arguments of counsel, and taken this matter under advisement, this Court now makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>As GIBSON ROAD, LLC is not listed as a plaintiff in the primary action, it is improper to classify the action against it as a "counter-claim" or identify it as a "counter-defendant." Similarly, as this party is not listed as a party in the primary action at all, GIBSON ROAD, LLC is best identified as a "third-party defendant" in a "third-party complaint."

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SUSAN H. JOHNSON DISTRICT JUDGE DEPARTMENT XXII

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- CELTIC BANK CORPORATION filed its Verified Complaint for Judicial 1. Foreclosure of Deed of Trust against VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC., GIBSON ROAD, LLC, GIBSON BUSINESS CENTER PROPERTY OWNER ASSOCIATION and REPUBLIC SILVER STATE DISPOSAL, INC. on November 25, 2015.<sup>2</sup> On January 4, 2016. VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC. filed its Answer and Counterclaim, asserting two causes of action: (1) Quiet Title/Declaratory Relief, and (2) Slander of Title against CELTIC BANK CORPORATION. The facts adduced through trial, most of which were stipulated by the parties, are as follows:
- 2. On or about January 18, 2006, GIBSON ROAD, LLC borrowed \$748,000.00 from Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant CELTIC BANK CORPORATION'S predecessor-in-interest, SILVER STATE BANK to purchase certain non-residential real property, to wit: 181 North Gibson Road, Henderson, Nevada.<sup>3</sup> The property in question is located within what appears to be two commoninterest communities encompassing the same business or industrial park, i.e. GIBSON BUSINESS PARK, PHASE ONE and GIBSON BUSINESS CENTER PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, both of which are governed by certain covenants, conditions and restrictions (also known as "CC&Rs"). The CC&Rs include, inter alia, the requirement the associations' members pay periodic assessments to benefit the business parks or common-interest communities.
- 3. As discussed supra and in more detail infra, there are actually two declarations of covenants, conditions and restrictions recorded against the business park. The first declaration entitled "Declaration of Protective Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions" for GIBSON

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>GIBSON BUSINESS CENTER PROPERTY OWNER ASSOCIATION disclaimed interest in the property, and it was dismissed as a party to the lawsuit on June 1, 2016. REPUBLIC SILVER STATE DISPOSAL, INC. was dismissed as a party on August 8, 2017. Defaults were entered against GIBSON ROAD, LLC. on February 5, 2016 and April 29, 2016, respectively.

<sup>3</sup>Also see Stipulated Trial Exhibit 4, Promissory Note.

BUSINESS PARK, PHASE ONE was recorded by its then declarant, AMPAC DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, and joining parties<sup>4</sup> on or about September 11, 1989 for the purpose of developing the premises into a commercial and industrial park.<sup>5</sup> The parties to this lawsuit have referred to these CC&Rs as the "1989 Master CC&Rs." The 1989 Master CC&Rs were amended by the October 24, 1994 recording of the "First Amendment to Declaration of Protective Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions" for GIBSON BUSINESS PARK, PHASE ONE." The purpose of this recording was to "amend the description of the land constituting the Premises for the purpose of withdrawing certain acreage from the Premises due to changes in development plans for the affected area." The parties have referred this document as the "1994 First Amendment." Approximately ten years later, on or about March 18, 2004, the second set of CC&Rs, entitled "Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for Gibson Business Center" was recorded against the business park already being governed by the 1989 Master CC&Rs by a new declarant, GIBSON AMERICAN PACIFIC, LLC. The parties here have referred to this recording as the "2004 CC&Rs."

- 4. To secure payment of the promissory note, GIBSON ROAD, LLC executed and delivered a first deed of trust to SILVER STATE BANK on or about December 9, 2005, which was recorded with the Clark County Recorder's Office on December 30, 2005, and encumbered the subject property within the business park.<sup>7</sup>
- 5. On or about September 5, 2008, SILVER STATE BANK was closed by the Nevada Financial Institutions Division, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) was named receiver for the bank. Approximately one year later, on September 24, 2009, the FDIC, as SILVER

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 1. The "joining parties" are identified as MARSHMELLOW LANE PARTNERS, GIBSON BUSINESS PARK ASSOCIATION 1986-1, OCEAN SPRAY CRANBERRIES, INC., and PACIFIC ENGINEERING & PRODUCTION COMPANY OF NEVADA.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 1, 1989 Master CC&Rs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 2, 1994 First Amendment.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Also see Stipulated Trial Exhibit 5, Deed of Trust.

STATE BANK'S receiver, assigned the promissory note and Deed of Trust to CELTIC BANK CORPORATION.<sup>8</sup>

- 6. Almost two years later, on August 23, 2011, RED ROCK FINANCIAL SERVICES, the collection agent for GIBSON BUSINESS CENTER PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, recorded a Lien for Delinquent Assessments with the Clark County Recorder's Office purportedly against the subject property, listing as its current owner: "Trustee Clark County Treasurer c/o GIBSON ROAD, LLC." The assessment lien, however, did not specify the subject property as the particular parcel to be liened; instead, the legal description contained within the Lien for Delinquent Assessments was that of the *entire* business park.
- 7. The Lien for Delinquent Assessments also provided it was made "in accordance with Nevada Revised Statutes 116 and outlined in the Association Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions, herein also called CC&Rs, recorded on 10/24/1994, in Book Number, as Instrument Number 19940240000285 and including any and all Amendments and Annexations et seq. of Official Records of Clark County, Nevada, which have been supplied to and agreed upon by said owner." However, a review of the Official Records of Clark County, Nevada shows there were no CC&Rs recorded as Instrument Number 19940240000285.
- 8. While there is no CC&Rs recorded with Instrument Number 1994024000285, there is the document recorded in 1994 as First Amendment to Declaration of Protective Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (again referred to as the "1994 First Amendment") by GIBSON BUSINESS PARK, PHASE ONE with Instrument Number 199410240000285; this Instrument number contains one additional number, i.e. "1," as the fifth digit, than the figure referred to within the Lien for Delinquent Assessments recorded August 23, 2011. As noted above, this 1994 First Amendment revises or amends that certain document titled "Declaration of Protective Covenants,"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup>Also see Stipulated Trial Exhibit 7, Assignment of Deed of Trust.

Conditions and Restrictions" (again referred to as the "1989 Master CC&Rs) by GIBSON BUSINESS PARK, PHASE ONE, recorded by the declarant, AMPAC DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, in 1989 as Instrument Number 198909110000173.9

- 9. Neither the 1989 Master CC&Rs nor the 1994 First Amendment incorporate, refer to or mention NRS Chapter 116 which was enacted December 31, 1991. There is no language contained within the 1989 Master CC&Rs and its 1994 First Amendment to suggest a lien for delinquent assessments has priority over the first security interest; if anything, its provisions state to the contrary. The 2004 CC&Rs does mention NRS Chapter 116, although it specifies "[t]he Real Property shall not be subject to the provisions of the Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act, codified in Chapter 116 of the Nevada Revised Statutes ('NRS') except to the extent permitted under NRS 278A.170." Like the 1989 Master CC&Rs, the 2004 CC&Rs contain a mortgage protection clause as set forth in Article XIII. 11
- 10. On October 14, 2011, RED ROCK FINANCIAL SERVICES recorded a Notice of Default. Notably, the Notice of Default referred to the recorded Lien for Delinquent Assessments

<sup>10</sup>Section 8.09 of the 1989 Master CC&Rs provides as follows:

<u>Liens to Secure Assessments.</u> All Assessments, including interest and other amounts due with respect to unpaid assessments, shall constitute, and shall be secured by, a separately valid and existing lien on the portion of the Premises to which they relate, and upon all Improvements at any time erected or constructed thereon. The provisions of Nev. Rev. Stat. Section 278A.170 are incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 11.03 of the 1989 Master CC&Rs state in pertinent part;

<u>Protection of Encumbrances</u>. (a) No violation or breach of, or failure to comply with, any provision of this Declaration, and no action to enforce any such provision, shall affect, defeat, render invalid or impair the lien of any mortgage, deed of trust or other lien on any Lot or part of the Premises taken in good faith and for failure; nor shall any violation, breach, failure to comply or action to enforce affect, defeat, render invalid or impair the title or interest of the holder of any such mortgage, deed of trust or other lien or title of any interest acquired by any purchaser upon foreclosure of any such mortgage, deed of trust or other lien, or result in any liability, personal or otherwise, of any such holder or purchaser.

<sup>11</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 3, Bates No. CB000380, Article XIII, "Mortgage Protection Clause."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>The "Declaration of Protective Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions" recorded in 1989 were also referred to by the parties as the "1989 Master CC&Rs." The stated purchase of the 1994 First Amendment was to remove some of the property originally encumbered by the Declarant identified in the 1989 Master CC&Rs. Notably, and as discussed infra, the GIBSON BUSINESS CENTER PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION was not created until approximately March 17, 2004 when a second "Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions" was recorded against the business park or common-interest community. See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 3.

and included the incorrect legal description of the property to be liened and the erroneous Instrument Number<sup>12</sup> described in Paragraphs 4 and 5 above. The Notice of Default was sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to CELTIC BANK CORPORATION and it was signed as received by the Bank's employee.

11. On or about October 21, 2011, in conjunction with the Property Owners'
Association's impending foreclosure, RED ROCK FINANCIAL SERVICES obtained a Trustee's
Sale Guarantee<sup>13</sup> from FIRST AMERICAN TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY.<sup>14</sup> This Trustee's
Sale Guarantee identified, as one of its exceptions to title, that which related to the 1989 Master
CC&Rs; this exception, No. 7, provided as follows:

COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, RESTRICTIONS, EASEMENTS, ASSESSMENTS, LIENS, CHARGES, TERMS AND PROVISIONS IN THE DOCUMENT RECORDED SEPTEMBER 11, 1989 IN BOOK 890911 AS INSTRUMENT NO. 00173 OF OFFICIAL RECORDS, WHICH PROVIDE THAT A VIOLATION THEREOF SHALL NOT DEFEAT OR RENDER INVALID THE LIEN OF ANY FIRST MORTGAGE OR DEED OF TRUST MADE IN GOOD FAITH AND FOR VALUE, BUT DELETING ANY COVENANT, CONDITION OR RESTRICTION INDICATING A PREFERENCE, LIMITATION OR DISCRIMINATION BASED ON RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, SEX, HANDICAP, FAMILIAL STATUS, OR NATIONAL ORIGIN, TO THE EXTENT SUCH COVENANTS, CONDITIONS OR RESTRICTIONS VIOLATE TITLE 42, SECTION 3604(c), OF THE UNITED STATES CODES. (Emphasis in original)

A similar exception, No. 8, was noted with respect to the 2004 CC&Rs. Other exceptions to title identified within the Trustee's Sale Guarantee were issues related to unpaid property taxes and the Deed of Trust recorded December 30, 2005 against the property and assigned to CELTIC BANK CORPORATION on or about September 24, 2009.<sup>15</sup>

12. On or about December 21, 2011, RED ROCK FINANCIAL SERVICES sent what appears to be a form letter to CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, indicating it was sending "this

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>Also see Stipulated Trial Exhibit 10, Notice of Default and Election to Sell Pursuant to the Lien for Delinquent Assessments.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>The Trustee's Sale Guarantee was also identified as "TSG" by the parties and their lawyers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup>Also see Stipulated Trial Exhibit 11, Trustee's Sale Guarantee.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 11, Trustee's Sale Guarantee, pp. 2-3, Exceptions Nos. 2 and 9.

notice" as a courtesy. The collection agent indicated "the above referenced homeowner" was delinquent in paying "their "Homeowners Association assessments," and it set forth the procedures followed thus far regarding the non-judicial foreclosure process. At that juncture, RED ROCK FINANCIAL SERVICES stated it was "approximately 60 days into the mandatory 90-day waiting period" between the recordation of Noticed of Default and Election to Sell and when it could exercise its enforcement rights. As pertinent to the analysis here, the letter also stated: "The Association's Lien for Delinquent Assessments is Junior only to the Senior Lender/Mortgage Holder." which all parties agree was CELTIC BANK CORPORATION.

Approximately twenty (20) months later, on August 12, 2013, ASHLEY PANON, 13. Account Coordinator for RED ROCK FINANCIAL SERVICES, sent an electronic mail (also referred to as "e-mail") to the Community Manager for the business park to "assist the Board of Directors in making the decision of whether or not to proceed forward with foreclosure,..."17 Attached was a form outlining pertinent information such as (1) "A brief outline of the two (2) possible outcomes of foreclosure. This will assist in making certain the Board is making an informed decision and understands the Associations' responsibility[;]" and (2) "Mortgage information obtained from the Title Report [or Trustee's Sale Guarantee]. This provides the Board with an estimate of outstanding mortgages that may survive the association foreclosure." The attached form indicated the balance due as of that date to the Association and its collection agent was \$11,676.08. The two possible outcomes were:

The first possible outcome is when a 3<sup>rd</sup> Party steps in and purchases the property at auction. This outcome will usually only occur if there is equity and/or no mortgage. Under this outcome, the Association would be made whole.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup>The "above referenced homeowner" was identified in the letter's "Re:" line as "181 N. Gibson Rd, (sic) Henderson, NV 89014" and "Gibson Business Center Property Owners Association/R92471." See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 12, p. 1 (Bates No. "Redrock 0312").

17See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 13.

The second possible outcome is that at auction no 3rd Party steps in which will 2. cause the property to revert to the Association. The Association would then be responsible for collection costs, property tax and transfer tax. The first mortgage would remain on the property. (Emphasis added)

The information "pulled" from the Title Report or Trustee's Sale Guarantee was:

1<sup>st</sup> Mortgage: \$748,000.00 2<sup>nd</sup> Mortgage: NONE

Lender Foreclosure Activity: NONE

(Emphasis in original)

The Community Manager was then asked to mark the Association's decision whether it desired to proceed with foreclosure of "181 N Gibson Rd, (sic) Henderson, NV 89014."

Apparently, the Board of Directors elected to pursue non-judicial foreclosure as, on 14. February 26, 2014, its collection agent recorded and posted a Notice of Foreclosure Sale "Under the Lien for Delinquent Assessments," indicating the association's foreclosure sale would take place on March 21, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at the front entrance of Nevada Legal News. 18 This Notice also set forth on page 2, 19 "It like sale will be made without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied regarding, but not limited to, title or possession, encumbrances, obligations to satisfy any secured or unsecured liens or against all right, title and interest of the owner, without equity or right of redemption to satisfy the indebtedness secured by said Lien, with interest thereon, as provided in the Declarations of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions, recorded on 10/24/1994, in Book Number, as Instrument Number 19940240000285 of the Official Records in the Office of the Recorder and any subsequent amendments or updates that may have been recorded." This Notice of Foreclosure Sale was also sent, via certified mail, return receipt requested, to CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, care of ROBERTA MERRYMAN, 340 East 400 South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84111, although the Bank claims the notice was never received as it was sent to its former address.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 15.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup>See Bates No. Redrock 0076.

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- 16. MR. SCHMIDT claims he was a bona fide purchaser at the aforementioned foreclosure sale, and entitled to rely upon the recitals contained in the Foreclosure Deed. Prior to bidding on the property here, MR. SCHMIDT testified he did look at the public record by assessor parcel number (or "APN") and owner. However, he did not review any of the CC&Rs recorded against the property until approximately two weeks after the foreclosure sale. Whether his assertion he is a bona fide purchaser is true, the evidence also showed MR. SCHMIDT was sophisticated. He started purchasing real estate at both bank and association foreclosure sales since 2008, and by the time this trial commenced, he admitted he has acquired over 100 properties either personally or through controlled entities.
- 17. In the meantime, on June 3, 2013, the Clark County Treasurer placed a lien on the subject property for past due taxes which was recorded in Book No. 20131226 as Instrument No. 00891 in the Official Records of the Clark County Recorder's Office. CELTIC BANK CORPORATION sent various reminders to its borrower, GIBSON ROAD, LLC, concerning the delinquent property taxes due in 2014.<sup>21</sup>
- 18. In addition to not paying the taxes and association assessments, GIBSON ROAD,
  LLC also did not pay the monthly installments owing to CELTIC BANK CORPORATION under

<sup>21</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibits 16 and 17 (Foreclosure Deed).

19. On April 30, 2015, ROGER P. CROTEAU, ESQ., counsel for VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, sent a letter to CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, <sup>23</sup> indicating its Notice of Default was invalid for a couple of reasons. *First*, the original Deed of Trust recorded December 30, 2005 and described within the Notice of Default identified incorrect assessor parcel numbers, meaning, in his view, the subject property was not secured by the Deed of Trust. <sup>24</sup> *Second, even if* the Deed of Trust was property recorded against the property, it was extinguished by the association's foreclosure sale held in March 2014. According to CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, MR. CROTEAU'S April 2015 letter was the first notice it received regarding the association's intention to sell the property and ultimately, the foreclosure sale to VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105.

20. On June 11, 2015, the Clark County Treasurer recorded a Tax Trustee Deed against the subject property, indicating \$14,149.45 in taxes, penalties, interest and costs were due. This Tax Trustee Deed deeded the subject property to the county in trust for GIBSON ROAD, LLC. On October 29, 2015, CELTIC BANK CORPORATION paid the outstanding amount due to the Clark County Treasurer, i.e. \$18,281.67. Such resulted in the Treasurer's re-conveyance of the deed to the Bank's borrower, GIBSON ROAD, LLC, and such was recorded On November 5, 2015. This can be a such as a conveyance of the deed to the Bank's borrower, GIBSON ROAD, LLC, and such was recorded On November 5, 2015.

See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 20.
 See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 21.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup>The correct assessor parcel number or APN for the subject property is 178-15-511-042. The APNs indicated in the Deed of Trust recorded December 30, 2005 are 178-15-511-029, 178-15-511-030 and 178-15-511-031. JULIA SKINNER, Senior Underwriter for National Commercial Services at FIRST AMERICAN TITLE COMPANY, who had worked in the property title industry for over thirty (30) years, testified at trial the APNs set forth on the Deed of Trust were changed over time. However, the alterations in the APNs did not affect whether the Deed of Trust was properly recorded against the subject property.

See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 22,
 See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 26.

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#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- NRS 30,030 specifically provides the courts shall have the power to declare rights, 1. status and other legal relations whether or not further relief is or could be claimed. The court's declaration may be affirmative or negative in form and effect; such declaration shall have the force and effect of a final judgment or decree. NRS 40.010 provides "[a]n action may be brought by any person against another who claims an estate or interest in real property adverse to the person bringing the action, for the purpose of determining such adverse claim." As noted above, CELTIC BANK CORPORATION seeks, by way of relief, to enforce its rights under the December 30, 2005 Deed of Trust and judicially foreclose upon the property. VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105 seeks declaratory relief and to quiet title, as well as damages for slander of title against CELTIC BANK CORPORATION. Both parties claim their interest has first priority, and notably, VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105 claims the Bank's rights under the Deed of Trust were extinguished by way of the Association's foreclosure sale. Before it determines whether CELTIC BANK CORPORATION can enforce its rights under the Deed of Trust, it first determines whether such rights, if any, were extinguished by the Association's foreclosure sale, and perhaps more importantly, if NRS Chapter 116 applies in this case.
- 2. NRS Chapter 116 codifies the Uniform Common-Interest Ownership Act or UCIOA, and applies to all common-interest communities created within the State of Nevada, subject to certain exceptions. See NRS 116.1201(1). One of those exceptions is set forth in NRS 116.1201(2)(b). It states NRS Chapter 116 does not apply to "[a] planned community in which all units are restricted exclusively to nonresidential use unless the declaration provides that this chapter or a part of this chapter does apply to that planned community pursuant to NRS 116.12075." NRS 116.12075 states in pertinent part:

## 116.12075. Applicability to nonresidential condominiums.

- 1. The provisions of this chapter do not apply to a nonresidential condominium except to the extent that the declaration for the nonresidential condominium provides that:
  - (a) This entire chapter applies to the condominium;
  - (b) Only the provisions of NRS 116.001 to 116.2122, inclusive, and NRS 116.3116 to 116.31167, inclusive, apply to the condominium; or
  - (c) Only the provisions of NRS 116.3116 to 116.31168, inclusive, apply to the condominium.

Clearly, as set forth in NRS 116.1201 and 116.12075, NRS Chapter 116 does not apply to non-residential common-interest communities *except* to the extent set forth set forth by their CC&Rs. In this case, there is no question the subject property is non-residential and located within a business or industrial park. This Court therefore considers the terms set forth in the CC&Rs in determining whether exceptions exist for NRS Chapter 116 to apply here.

3. As noted above, there are two separate declarations of covenants, conditions and restrictions recorded against the subject property. The first CC&Rs, referred to as the 1989 Master CC&Rs was recorded over two years before NRS Chapter 116 was enacted on December 31, 1991. Neither the 1989 Master CC&Rs nor its 1994 First Amendment mentions NRS Chapter 116, much less indicates this statutory scheme, or any part thereof, applies to the subject property. Further, there is no language contained within the 1989 Master CC&Rs and its 1994 First Amendment to suggest a lien for delinquent association assessments has priority over the first security interest. While the 2004 CC&Rs does mention NRS Chapter 116, it also specifies "[t]he Real Property shall not be subject to the provisions of the Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act, codified in Chapter 116 of the Nevada Revised Statutes ('NRS') except to the extent permitted under NRS 278A.170."<sup>27</sup> (Emphasis added)

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup>The 1989 Master CC&Rs also addresses NRS 278A.170 in Section 8.09. See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 1, Bates No. CB000419; also see Footnote 10 supra.

## 4. Turning, then, to NRS 278A.170, it states:

The procedures for enforcing payment of an assessment for the maintenance of common open space provided in NRS 116.3116 to 116.31168, inclusive, are also available to any organization for the ownership and maintenance of common open space established other than under this chapter or chapter 116 of NRS and entitled to receive payments from owners of property for such maintenance under a recorded declaration of restrictions, deed restriction, restrictive covenant or equitable servitude which provides that any reasonable and ratable assessment thereon for the organization's cost of maintaining the common open space constitutes a lien or encumbrance upon the property.

- 5. While NRS 278A.170 outlines the *procedures* for enforcing assessment payments for the maintenance of "common open space" provided in NRS 116.3116 to 116.31168, it does not state, substantively, the priority of the encumbrances upon the property and the exceptions thereto outlined in NRS 116.3116 are to be applied. As pertinent here, NRS 278A.170 does not state the association's assessments' lien charged for the nine-month period immediately preceding the action is prior to any first-security interest. That is, while NRS 278A.170 provides, procedurally, the association's assessments shall be enforced as provided in NRS 116.3116 to 116.31168, it does not state the assessments, or any part thereof, shall take priority over any other liens.
- 6. As noted above, the CC&Rs also contain clauses which protect certain encumbrances, which include mortgages and deeds of trust. <sup>28</sup> Specifically, "[n]o violation of any provision of this Declaration, nor any remedy exercised hereunder, shall defeat or render invalid the lien of any Mortgage made in good faith and for failure upon any portion of the Project, nor shall any Lien created hereunder be superior to any such Mortgage unless such Lien shall have been recorded in the Public Records prior to the recordation...of such Mortgage." Further, "[n]o violation or breach of, or failure to comply with, any provision of this Declaration, and no action to enforce any such provision, shall affect, defeat, render invalid or impair the lien of any mortgage, deed of trust or other lien on any Lot or part of the Premises taken in good faith and for value; nor

<sup>29</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 3, 204 CC&Rs, Article XIII.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibits 1, 1989 Master CC&Rs, Section 11.03, and 3, 2004 CC&Rs, Article XIII.

shall any violation, breach, failure to comply or action to enforce affect, defeat, render invalid or impair the title or interest of the holder of any such mortgage, deed of trust or other lien or title or any interest acquired by any purchaser upon foreclosure of any such mortgage, deed of trust or other lien;...."

In short, except to the extent the Association can utilize the procedures set forth in NRS 116.3116 to 116.31168 for collecting its assessment lien against a delinquent property owner, NRS Chapter 116 does not apply with respect to establishing the priority of such debt, or any part thereof, over the first-security interest held by CELTIC BANK CORPORATION. Further, as NRS Chapter 116 does not apply, this statutory scheme does not render invalid any provision of the two governing documents. *Cf.* NRS 116.2103(1). Thus, if VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC. purchased the property at the foreclosure sale, it took title subject to CELTIC BANK CORPORATION'S Deed of Trust. Its acquisition of the Foreclosure Deed did not result in an extinguishment of the first-security interest.

7. Notwithstanding the aforementioned, this Court notes it was CELTIC BANK CORPORATION that satisfied the property tax lien, which resulted in a re-conveyance of the title to its borrower, GIBSON ROAD, LLC. No evidence was presented to demonstrate VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC. paid any property taxes. Further, GIBSON ROAD, LLC is delinquent in paying the monthly installments toward the mortgage. The Bank is entitled to judicially foreclose given its first-security interest recorded against the property. As it finds CELTIC BANK CORPORATION'S Deed of Trust is superior to any Association liens, this Court also concludes VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC. has not sustained its burden of proving the elements of its Slander of Title claim by a preponderance of the evidence. Further, given its conclusion regarding the priority of interests, this Court does not reach the remaining issues concerning the fairness or commercial reasonableness of the Association's foreclosure sale.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup>See Stipulated Trial Exhibit 1, 1989 Master CC&Rs, Section 11.03.

8. VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC. did raise the issue concerning the propriety of the Deed of Trust's recording against the correct property and the listing of three different assessor parcel numbers (APNs) therein. As testified by MS. SKINNER, the APNs set forth on the Deed of Trust were changed over time. However, the alterations in the APNs did not affect whether the Deed of Trust was properly recorded against the subject property. This Court found MS. SKINNER'S testimony to be credible, and CELTIC BANK CORPORATION met its burden of proof, by a preponderance of the evidence, its Deed of Trust was properly recorded against the subject property.

Accordingly, based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED judgment is rendered in favor of CELTIC BANK CORPORATION as against VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC. with respect to its Complaint for Judicial Foreclosure. As GIBSON ROAD, LLC is a defaulting party, CELTIC BANK CORPORATION can judicially foreclose upon the property;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED judgment is rendered in favor of CELTIC BANK CORPORATION as against VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC. with respect to the Counter-Claim for quiet title/declaratory relief and slander of title. The Bank's first-security interest was not extinguished by the Association's foreclosure sale.

DATED this 25<sup>th</sup> day of August 2017.

SUSAN H. JOHNSON DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

SUSAN H. JOHNSON DISTRICT JUDGE DEPARTMENT XXII

1	<u>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</u>
2	I hereby certify that, on the 25 <sup>th</sup> day of August 2017, I electronically served (E-served),
3	placed within the attorneys' folders located on the first floor of the Regional Justice Center or mailed
4	a true and correct copy of the foregoing FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND
5	JUDGMENT to the following counsel of record, and that first-class postage was fully prepaid
6 7	thereon:
8	ALLYSON R. NOTO, ESQ. KELLY L. SCHMITT, ESQ.
9	SYLVESTER & POLEDNAK, LTD.  1731 Village Center Circle
10	Las Vegas, Nevada 89134
11	Allyson@sylvesterpolednak.com Kelly@sylvesterpolednak.com
12	ROGER P. CROTEAU, ESQ.
13	ROGER P. CROTEAU & ASSOCIATES, LTD.
14	9120 West Post Road, Suite 100 Las Vegas, Nevada 89148
15	croteaulaw@eroteaulaw.com
16	Jaura Banks
17	Laura Banks, Judicial Executive Assistant
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	

SUSAN H. JOHNSON DISTRICT JUDGE DEPARTMENT XXII 27

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1 **ORDR** 2 SYLVESTER & POLEDNAK, LTD. ALLYSON R. NOTO, ESQ. 3 Nevada Bar No. 8286 KELLY L. SCHMITT, ESQ. 4 Nevada Bar No. 10387 1731 Village Center Circle 5 Las Vegas, Nevada 89134 6 Telephone: (702) 952-5200 Facsimile: (702) 952-5205 7 Email: allyson@sylvesterpolednak.com Email: kelly@sylvesterpolednak.com 8 Attorneys for Plaintiff 9 10 11 12 CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, 13 successor-in-interest to SILVER STATE BANK by acquisition of assets from the FDIC 14 as Receiver for Silver State Bank, a Utah banking corporation organized and in good 15 standing under the laws of the State of Utah, 16 Plaintiff, 17 v. 18 VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC., a Nevada domestic corporation; 19 GIBSON ROAD, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; GIBSON BUSINESS 20 CENTER PROPERTY OWNER ASSOCIATION, a Nevada non-profit 21 corporation; REPUBLIC SILVER STATE DISPOSAL, INC. dba REPUBLIC 22 SERVICES OF SOUTHERN NEVADA, a foreign corporation; DOE Individuals I 23 through X; and ROE Corporations and Organizations I through V, inclusive; DOE 24 Individuals I through X; and ROE Corporations and Organizations I through V, 25 inclusive, 26

**Electronically Filed** 10/2/2017 2:08 PM Steven D. Grierson **CLERK OF THE COURT** 

#### **DISTRICT COURT**

## CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Case No. A-15-728233-C Dept. No. XXII

ORDER AND JUDGMENT RE: MEMORANDUM OF COSTS AND **DISBURSEMENTS** 

Defendants.

VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC., a Nevada corporation,

Counterclaimant,

ν.

CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, successor-in-interest to SILVER STATE BANK by acquisition of assets from the FDIC as Receiver for Silver State Bank, a Utah banking corporation; GIBSON ROAD, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; DOE Individuals I through XX; and ROE Corporations I through XX,

Counter-Defendants.

Plaintiff CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, successor-in-interest to SILVER STATE BANK by acquisition of assets from the FDIC as Receiver of Silver State Bank ("Plaintiff" or "Celtic Bank"), filed its Memorandum of Costs and Disbursements on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017, and Defendant VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC. ("Defendant") having failed to retax costs during the prescribed period pursuant to NRS 18.110(4), the Court having considered the papers and pleadings on file herein, the Court being fully advised in the premises, and good cause appearing therefore:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Plaintiff's Memorandum of Costs and Disbursements is GRANTED in its entirety.

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IT IS FURTHER HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that this Order shall reduce to Judgment in favor of Plaintiff and against Defendant in the amount of Ten Thousand, Four Hundred Forty-Two Dollars and 96/100 (\$10,442.96) for costs.

DATED this 29 day of September, 2017.

Prepared and Submitted by:

SYLVESTER & POLEDNAK, LTD.

By:

Kelly L. Schmitt, Bsq.
1731 Village Center Circle
Las Vegas, NV 89134

Attorneys for Plaintiff

1 **NEO** SYLVESTER & POLEDNAK, LTD. 2 ALLYSON R. NOTO, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 8286 3 KELLY L. SCHMITT, ESQ. 4 Nevada Bar No. 10387 1731 Village Center Circle 5 Las Vegas, Nevada 89134 Telephone: (702) 952-5200 6 Facsimile: (702) 952-5205 Email: allyson@sylvesterpolednak.com 7 Email: kelly@sylvesterpolednak.com Attorneys for Plaintiff 8 9 DISTRICT COURT 10 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 11 CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, successor-in-interest to SILVER STATE 12 BANK by acquisition of assets from the Vegas, Nevada 89134 Las Vegas, Nevada 8913 Phone (702) 952-5200 13 FDIC as Receiver for Silver State Bank, a Utah banking corporation organized and in 14 good standing under the laws of the State of Utah, 15 Plaintiff, 16 ٧. 17 VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 18 105, INC., a Nevada domestic corporation; GIBSON ROAD, LLC, a Nevada limited 19 liability company; GIBSON BUSINESS CENTER PROPERTY OWNER 20 ASSOCIATION, a Nevada non-profit corporation; REPUBLIC SILVER STATE 21 DIŜPOSAL, INC. dba REPUBLIC SERVICES OF SOUTHERN NEVADA, a 22 foreign corporation; DOE Individuals I through X; and ROE Corporations and 23 Organizations I through V, inclusive; DOE Individuals I through X; and ROE 24 Corporations and Organizations I through V, 25 inclusive. 26 Defendants. 27

**Electronically Filed** 10/3/2017 10:01 AM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

A-15-728233-C Case No. IIXX Dept. No.

NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER AND JUDGMENT RE: MEMORANDUM OF COSTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an Order and Judgment re: Memorandum of Costs and Disbursements was entered on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2017. A copy which is attached hereto. DATED this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2017.

## SYLVESTER & POLEDNAK, LTD.

By <u>/s/ Kelly L. Schmitt</u>

Kelly L. Schmitt, Esq.
1731 Village Center Circle
Las Vegas, Nevada 89134

Attorneys for Plaintiff

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I am an employee of SYLVESTER & POLEDNAK, LTD. and that on the day of October, 2017, I caused to be served a copy of the above-entitled document on the party set forth below via the Court e-filing system where an email address is provided and/or by depositing the same in the United States Mail, first class, postage prepaid, addressed to those not electronically mailed as follows:

Timothy E. Rhoda, Esq.

ROGER P. CROTEAU & ASSOCIATES
9120 W. Post Road, Suite 100

Las Vegas, Nevada 89148

Email: <a href="mailto:croteaulaw@croteaulawcom">croteaulaw@croteaulawcom</a>

Attorneys for Defendant Vegas United

Investment Series 105, Inc.

Roger P. Croteau, Esq.

/s/ Kelly L. Easton
An employee of SYLVESTER & POLEDNAK, LTD.

SYLVESTER & POLEDNAK, LTD

1 **ORDR** 2 SYLVESTER & POLEDNAK, LTD. ALLYSON R. NOTO, ESQ. 3 Nevada Bar No. 8286 KELLY L. SCHMITT, ESQ. 4 Nevada Bar No. 10387 1731 Village Center Circle 5 Las Vegas, Nevada 89134 Telephone: (702) 952-5200 6 Facsimile: (702) 952-5205 7 Email: allyson@sylvesterpolednak.com Email: kelly@sylvesterpolednak.com 8 Attorneys for Plaintiff 9 10 11 12 CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, successor-in-interest to SILVER STATE 1.3 BANK by acquisition of assets from the FDIC as Receiver for Silver State Bank, a Utah 14 banking corporation organized and in good 15 standing under the laws of the State of Utah, 16 Plaintiff, 17 ν. 18 VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC., a Nevada domestic corporation; 19 GIBSON ROAD, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; GIBSON BUSINESS CENTER PROPERTY OWNER ASSOCIATION, a Nevada non-profit corporation; REPUBLIC SILVER STATE DISPOSAL, INC. dba REPUBLIC 22 SERVICES OF SOUTHERN NEVADA, a foreign corporation; DOE Individuals I through X; and ROE Corporations and Organizations I through V, inclusive; DOE Individuals I through X; and ROE Corporations and Organizations I through V, inclusive, 26 Defendants.

Electronically Filed
10/2/2017 2:08 PM
Steven D. Grierson
CLERK OF THE COURT

#### DISTRICT COURT

### CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Case No. A-15-728233-C Dept. No. XXII

ORDER AND JUDGMENT RE: MEMORANDUM OF COSTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC., a Nevada corporation,

Counterclaimant,

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CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, successor-in-interest to SILVER STATE BANK by acquisition of assets from the FDIC as Receiver for Silver State Bank, a Utah banking corporation; GIBSON ROAD, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; DOE Individuals I through XX; and ROE Corporations I through XX,

Counter-Defendants.

Plaintiff CELTIC BANK CORPORATION, successor-in-interest to SILVER STATE BANK by acquisition of assets from the FDIC as Receiver of Silver State Bank ("Plaintiff" or "Celtic Bank"), filed its Memorandum of Costs and Disbursements on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017, and Defendant VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC. ("Defendant") having failed to retax costs during the prescribed period pursuant to NRS 18.110(4), the Court having considered the papers and pleadings on file herein, the Court being fully advised in the premises, and good cause appearing therefore:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that Plaintiff's Memorandum of Costs and Disbursements is GRANTED in its entirety.

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Las Vegas, Nevada 89134

Phone (702) 952-5200

Prepared and Submitted by:

SYLVESTER & POLEDNAK, LTD.

By:

1.3

Kelly L. Schmitt, Esq. / 1731 Village Center Circle Las Vegas, NV 89134 Attorneys for Plaintiff

## DISTRICT COURT **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

**COURT MINUTES Judicial Foreclosure** May 31, 2016 Celtic Bank Corporation, Plaintiff(s) A-15-728233-C

Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc., Defendant(s)

10:30 AM **Motion to Dismiss** May 31, 2016

**HEARD BY:** Johnson, Susan **COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 15D

**COURT CLERK:** Melissa Murphy

Sandra Pruchnic RECORDER:

**REPORTER:** 

**PARTIES** 

PRESENT: Croteau, Roger P, ESQ Attorney

Schmitt, Kelly L Attorney

### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- Ms. Schmitt requested to stay the matter until September pending the Supreme Court decision on the retroactivity issue and noted not too much discovery will need to be done, if Vegas United takes the property subject to the first priority deed of trust. Mr. Croteau stated no faith in the retroactivity argument and that there were still pending issues that need to be developed. Given its rulings on similar cases, COURT ORDERED, Motion to Dismiss DENIED; oral request to stay case DENIED. Mr. Croteau to prepare the Order.

PRINT DATE: 11/08/2017 Page 1 of 8 Minutes Date: May 31, 2016

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

 Judicial Foreclosure
 COURT MINUTES
 January 24, 2017

A-15-728233-C Celtic Bank Corporation, Plaintiff(s)

vs.

Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc., Defendant(s)

January 24, 2017 10:30 AM Motion to Stay

**HEARD BY:** Johnson, Susan **COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 15D

**COURT CLERK:** Keri Cromer

**RECORDER:** Norma Ramirez

**REPORTER:** 

**PARTIES** 

**PRESENT:** Croteau, Roger P, ESQ Attorney

Schmitt, Kelly L Attorney

### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- Court noted it did not stay these cases anymore and ORDERED, Motion DENIED.

PRINT DATE: 11/08/2017 Page 2 of 8 Minutes Date: May 31, 2016

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

A-15-728233-C Celtic Bank Corporation, Plaintiff(s)

April 05, 2017

vs.

Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc., Defendant(s)

April 05, 2017 8:30 AM Status Check: Trial Setting

**HEARD BY:** Johnson, Susan **COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 15D

**COURT CLERK:** Keri Cromer

**RECORDER:** Norma Ramirez

**REPORTER:** 

**PARTIES** 

**PRESENT:** Croteau, Roger P, ESQ Attorney

Schmitt, Kelly L Attorney Starbuck, Drew Attorney

### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- Court noted this was #13 on the stack and it had previously denied a stipulation and order to extend discovery and continue trial. Ms. Schmitt advised they currently had a motion to extend discovery by 30 days on an order shortening time by the Discovery Commissioner; further advised this would not affect the current trial date; reviewed the deadlines for dispositive motions and motions in limine. Court reviewed its trial schedule. Counsel anticipated 2-3 days to try. Mr. Starbuck noted there may be a stipulation and order to dismiss Republic Silver State Disposal, Inc.

PRINT DATE: 11/08/2017 Page 3 of 8 Minutes Date: May 31, 2016

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Judicial Foreclosure		COURT MINUTES	April 07, 2017
A-15-728233-C	vs.	rporation, Plaintiff(s) Investment Series 105, Inc. , Def	endant(s)
	vegas Officed i	investment series 105, inc., Dei	eridani(s)
April 07, 2017	9:30 AM	Motion to Extend Discovery	Pltf's Motion to Extend Discovery Deadlines, First Request on OST

**COURTROOM:** RJC Level 5 Hearing Room

**COURT CLERK:** Jennifer Lott

**HEARD BY:** Bulla, Bonnie

**RECORDER:** Francesca Haak

**REPORTER:** 

**PARTIES** 

**PRESENT:** Croteau, Roger P, ESQ Attorney

Schmitt, Kelly L Attorney Starbuck, Drew Attorney

### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- Colloquy re: deadlines. COMMISSIONER RECOMMENDED, motion is GRANTED; discovery cutoff EXTENDED to 5-12-17; file dispositive motions by 5-26-17; 7-31-17 Trial date STANDS. Ms. Schmitt to prepare the Report and Recommendations, and counsel to approve as to form and content. A proper report must be timely submitted within 10 days of the hearing. Otherwise, counsel will pay a contribution.

PRINT DATE: 11/08/2017 Page 4 of 8 Minutes Date: May 31, 2016

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

A-15-728233-C

Celtic Bank Corporation, Plaintiff(s)
vs.
Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc. , Defendant(s)

July 19, 2017 8:30 AM Pretrial/Calendar Call

**HEARD BY:** Johnson, Susan **COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 15D

**COURT CLERK:** Keri Cromer

**RECORDER:** Norma Ramirez

**REPORTER:** 

**PARTIES** 

PRESENT: Croteau, Roger P, ESQ Attorney

Noto, Allyson R. Attorney
Schmitt, Kelly L Attorney
Starbuck, Drew Attorney

#### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- Court noted this was #3 on the stack. Counsel announced ready to proceed and anticipated 2 days to try. Colloquy regarding scheduling conflicts. COURT ORDERED, bench trial SET. Court reviewed its trial schedule. Mr. Starbuck advised there was a Stipulation and Order to Dismiss Republic Silver State Disposal, Inc. Court indicated it would sign the Order if everything was ok with it.

8/09/2017 - 9:30 AM - BENCH TRIAL

PRINT DATE: 11/08/2017 Page 5 of 8 Minutes Date: May 31, 2016

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

A-15-728233-C

Celtic Bank Corporation, Plaintiff(s)
vs.
Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc., Defendant(s)

August 09, 2017 9:30 AM Bench Trial

**HEARD BY:** Johnson, Susan **COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 15D

**COURT CLERK:** Keri Cromer

**RECORDER:** Norma Ramirez

**REPORTER:** 

**PARTIES** 

**PRESENT:** Croteau, Roger P, ESQ Attorney

Noto, Allyson R. Attorney Schmitt, Kelly L Attorney

### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- Counsel announced ready to proceed. Exhibits presented (see worksheet). Ms. Schmitt placed stipulated facts on the record. Opening statements by Ms. Noto. Mr. Croteau indicated he wanted to reserve his opening statements until right before his case in chief. Testimony presented (see worksheet). Recess. Testimony continued. Recess. Testimony continued. Arguments regarding whether or not NRS 116 applied to anything other than an HOA. Testimony continued. Recess. Testimony continued. Bench conference. Testimony continued. COURT ORDERED, Bench Trial CONTINUED.

CONTINUED TO 8/10/2017 - 1:00 PM

PRINT DATE: 11/08/2017 Page 6 of 8 Minutes Date: May 31, 2016

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

A-15-728233-C Celtic Bank Corporation, Plaintiff(s)
vs.
Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc. , Defendant(s)

August 10, 2017 1:00 PM Bench Trial

**HEARD BY:** Johnson, Susan **COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 15D

**COURT CLERK:** Keri Cromer

**RECORDER:** Norma Ramirez

**REPORTER:** 

**PARTIES** 

**PRESENT:** Croteau, Roger P, ESQ Attorney

Noto, Allyson R. Attorney Schmitt, Kelly L Attorney

### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- Counsel announced ready to proceed. Testimony presented (see worksheet). Recess. Testimony continued. COURT ORDERED, Bench Trial CONTINUED. Counsel rested. Mr. Croteau requested to make his closing arguments tomorrow. Ms. Noto advised she was prepared to make closing arguments today. COURT ORDERED, Bench Trial CONTINUED.

CONTINUED TO 8/11/2017 - 8:30 AM

PRINT DATE: 11/08/2017 Page 7 of 8 Minutes Date: May 31, 2016

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

A-15-728233-C Celtic Bank Corporation, Plaintiff(s)
vs.
Vegas United Investment Series 105, Inc. , Defendant(s)

August 11, 2017 8:30 AM Bench Trial

**HEARD BY:** Johnson, Susan **COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 15D

**COURT CLERK:** Keri Cromer

**RECORDER:** Norma Ramirez

**REPORTER:** 

**PARTIES** 

**PRESENT:** Croteau, Roger P, ESQ Attorney

Noto, Allyson R. Attorney Schmitt, Kelly L Attorney

#### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- Counsel announced ready to proceed. Closing arguments by Ms. Noto and Mr. Croteau. Recess. Closing arguments continued. Recess. Closing arguments continued. COURT ORDERED, matter taken UNDER ADVISEMENT.

PRINT DATE: 11/08/2017 Page 8 of 8 Minutes Date: May 31, 2016

## **EXHIBIT(S) LIST**

lse No.: A-15-728233-C

Trial Date: August 9, 2017

Dept. No.:

o.: XXII

Judge: Susan Johnson

Plaintiff: CELTIC BANK CORPORATION

Court Clerk: Keri Cromer

vs.

Recorder: Norma Ramirez

Defendant: VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES

Counsel for Plaintiff: Allyson R. Noto, Esq.

105, INC., et. al.

Counsel for Defendant: Roger P. Croteau, Esq.

## TRIAL BEFORE THE COURT

### JOINT EXHIBITS

Exhibit		Date	100 E	Date
Number	Exhibit Description	Offered	Objection	Admitted
1	Declaration of Protective Covenants, Conditions and Restriction Gibson Business Park, Phase One, Clark County Covenant, Conditions and Restrictions recorded 09/11/89 (CB000386-CB000434)	8/9/17	No	8/9/17
2	First Amendment to Declaration of Protective Covenants, Conditions and Restriction Gibson Business Park, Phase One, Clark County recorded 10/24/94 (CB000435-CB000439)			
3	Covenant Condition and Restrictions recorded 03/18/04 (CB000355-CB000385)			
4	Promissory Note dated 12/09/05 and Allonge (CB000001-CB000005)			
5	Re-Recorded Deed of Trust recorded 01/23/06 (CB000018-CB00056)			
6	Assignment of Deed of Trust recorded 11/09/09 (CB000057-CB00081)			
7	Assignment of Deed of Trust recorded 11/09/09 (CB000082-CB00083)			
8	Assignment of Rents recorded 11/09/09 (CB000084-CB00085)			
9	Lien for Delinquent Assessments recorded 08/23/11 (REDROCK 0047)			
10	Notice of Default and Election to Sell recorded 10/14/11 (REDROCK 0060, 0054, 0346)			
11	First American Title Trustee's Sale Guarantee dated 10/21/11 (GBC 000382-GBC 000394)			
12	Red Rock Financial letter to Celtic Bank and other entities dated 12/21/11 (REDROCK 0312, 0311, 0313-0317)			
13	Email from Ashley Panon/Red Rock to Sjones@marwestre.com	V	V	V

*	dated 8/12/13 (CB000440-CB000441)	8/9/17	NO	8/9/17
14	Tax Trustee Certificate recorded 12/26/13 (REDROCK 0189)	1	1	
15	Notice of Foreclosure Sale recorded 02/26/14			
	(REDROCK 0075-0081, REDROCK 0071)			
16	Red Rock Emails dated 03/21/14 re: sale (REDROCK 0117, REDROCK 0116)			
17	Foreclosure Deed recorded 4/17/14 (0001-0003)			
18	Assessor Correspondence to Vegas United dated 05/03/14 (CB000092-CB000097)			
19	Past Due Property Tax Notices to Borrower dated 06/09/14 (CB000343); 08/06/14 (CB000353); & 02/06/15 (CB000354)			
20	Notice of Default and Election to Sell recorded 03/02/15 (CB000103-CB000108)			
21	Cease and Desist Letter to Celtic dated April 30, 2015 (CB000180-CB000183)			
22	Tax Trustee Deed recorded 06/11/15 (CB000109 -CB000109A)			
23	Email chain between Jeffrey I. Orgill and Maricela Carrera, et			
	al re: Clark County Trustee Auction –Parcel 178-15-511-042 dated 10/2015 (CB000138-CB000141)			
24	Notice of Intent to Deed dated 10/13/15 (CB000143)			
25	Wire Confirmation from Celtic Bank to Bank of America in the amount of \$18,281.67 dated 10/29/15 (CB000142)			
26	Treasurer's Deed of Reconveyance recorded 11/05/15 (CB000110-CB000111)			
27	Re-recorded Foreclosure Deed recorded 4/4/16 (CB000442-CB000448)			
28	First American Title Insurance Company National Commerci Services dated 11/9/15 (CB000112- CB000133)			
29	Notices (REDROCK 0002- REDROCK 0036)			
30	Certified Mailings of Affidavits dated 10/20/11 (REDROCK 0048- REDROCK 0060)			
31	Certificates of Mailing with Affidavit of Service for Notice of Foreclosure Sale Recorded on 2/26/14 (REDROCK 0061-REDROCK 0081)			
32	Certificate of Sale dated 3/21/14 (REDROCK 0082)			
33	Foreclosure Deed dated 4/15/14 (REDROCK 0083- REDROCK 0085)			
34	Excess Proceeds to Dues Accounting (REDROCK 0089- REDROCK 0109)			
35	Foreclosure Deed to Charles Schmidt (REDROCK 0110- REDROCK 0115)			
36	Notice to Proceed with HOA Sale (REDROCK 0119- REDROCK 0131)			
37	Charles Schmidt \$30,000 Payment (REDROCK 0140- REDROCK 0144)			
38	Notice of Foreclosure Sale/Affidavit of Mailing (REDROCK 0159- REDROCK 0174)			
39	Gibson HOA Permission Documents (REDROCK 0175- REDROCK 0178)			
40	Affidavit of Service -Gibson Road, LLC (REDROCK 0204-	V	V	V

	REDROCK 0207; REDROCK 0209- REDROCK 0210)	8/9/17	NO	8/9/17
41	Certificate of Mailing of Demand for Payment (REDROCK 0291- REDROCK 0299);			
42	Letter Request Notice of Delinquent Assessment/Recorded on 8/23/11, and Notice of Default and Election to Sue dated 10/14/11 (REDROCK 0303- REDROCK 0330)			
43	Certified Mailings (REDROCK 0342- REDROCK 0359)			
44	Notice of Default and election to Sell Pursuant to the Lien for Delinquent Assessment (NOD) (REDROCK 0363-REDROCK 0368)			
45	Mailing Affidavit for NOD (REDROCK 0396- REDROCK 0410)			
46	Mailing Affidavit for Lien for Delinquent Assessments (REDROCK 0417- REDROCK 0424)			
47	Stewart Title Preliminary Title Report dated 07/13/14 (CB 000144- CB00179)			
48	Letter dated 04/30/15 (CB000180- CB0000183)			
49	Orgill Emails dated 06/05/14 (CB000187- CB000188)			
50	Shapiro, Esq. Letter dated 08/01/14 (CB000345)			
51	Shapiro Email dated 08/01/14 (CB000351- CB000352)			
52	Gibson Business Center Property Owner Association pursuant to Subpoena Duces Tecum dated 03/23/17 (the "HOA," and/or "Gibson HOA") Certificates of Mailing (GBC 000001-GBC000035)			
53	Letter from J. Shapiro, Esq. to Red Rock Financial Services in HOA files with all policies and proofs of service (GBC000036- GBC000113)			
54	Affidavit of Mailing for Notice of Foreclosure Sale with related documents in HOA files (GBC 000158- GBC000176)			
55	HOA Notice of Sale with Pre Audit Checklist (GBC000250)			
56	Red Rock Financial Services Homeowners Progress Report (GBC000251- GBC000252)			
57	Certified Mail Celtic Bank Received dated 10/24/11 (GBC000345- GBC000362)			
58	First American Trustee's Sale Guarantee – HOA Assessment Lien (GBC000382 – GBC000395);			
59	Mailing and NOD (GBC000396- GBC000409)	V	V	

## **Certification of Copy**

State of Nevada
County of Clark

I, Steven D. Grierson, the Clerk of the Court of the Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County, State of Nevada, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, full and correct copy of the hereinafter stated original document(s):

AMENDED NOTICE OF APPEAL; DISTRICT COURT DOCKET ENTRIES; CIVIL COVER SHEET; FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND JUDGMENT; NOTICE OF ENTRY OF FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND JUDGMENT; ORDER AND JUDGMENT RE: MEMORANDUM OF COSTS AND DISBURSEMENTS; NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER AND JUDGMENT RE: MEMORANDUM OF COSTS AND DISBURSEMENTS; DISTRICT COURT MINUTES; EXHIBITS LIST

CELTIC BANK CORPORATION,

Plaintiff(s),

VS.

VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC; GIBSON ROAD, LLC,

Defendant(s),

now on file and of record in this office.

Case No: A-15-728233-C

Dept No: XXII

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto Set my hand and Affixed the seal of the Court at my office, Las Vegas, Nevada This 8 day of November 2017.

Steven D. Grierson, Clerk of the Court

Heather Ungermann, Deputy Clerk