#### IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

	***	
VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC., A NEVADA DOMESTIC CORPORATION, Appellan	) ) ) t, )	Electronically Filed Nov 02 2018 02:55 p.n Supreme Court No. 건발설 Olerk of Supreme Cour
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 ORGANIZED AND IN GOOD STANDING WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF UTAH, Respondent	) ) ) ) ) ) (ss. )	
	/	

### **APPEAL**

From the Eighth Judicial District Court,

The Honorable Susan H. Johnson, District Judge

District Court Case No. A-15-728233-C

### JOINT APPENDIX VOLUME VII

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

CELTIC BANK CORPORATION,	)	
Plaintiff,	)	CASE NO. A-15-728233-C DEPT NO. XXII
vs.	)	
VEGAS UNITED INVESTMENT SERIES 105, INC.,	) ) )	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
Defendant.	)	220022100

BEFORE THE HONORABLE SUSAN JOHNSON, DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

### BENCH TRIAL - DAY 2

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2017

APPEARANCES:

FOR THE PLAINTIFF: ALLYSON R. NOTO, ESQ.

KELLY L. SCHMITT, ESQ.

FOR VEGAS UNITED: ROGER P. CROTEAU, ESQ.

RECORDED BY: NORMA RAMIREZ, COURT RECORDER

TRANSCRIBED BY: JD REPORTING, INC.

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## CHARLES SCHMIDT

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### LAS VEGAS, CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA, AUGUST 10, 2017, 1:38 P.M. 1 2 3 THE COURT: Okay. You all may be seated. And I'm calling the case, Celtic Bank Corporation versus Vegas United 4 5 Investment Series 105, Inc., and that is Case Number 6 A-15-728233-C. 7 And, Counsel, I apologize to you for the delay. We 8 have literally been in court from 9:00 a.m. till 1:25, and so I 9 said, hurry up, go get a sandwich. So we've got some people 10 eating here, and some of us who wolfed whatever we had down. 11 So are we ready to proceed with trial? 12 MS. NOTO: Yes, Your Honor. 13 THE COURT: Okay. Next witness. MS. NOTO: We'd like to call to the stand Charles 14 15 Schmidt. CHARLES SCHMIDT 16 17 [having been called as a witness and being first duly sworn, 18 testified as follows: ] 19 THE CLERK: Will you please state and spell your full 20 name for the record. 21 THE WITNESS: Charles Schmidt. C-h-a-r-l-e-s, 22 S-c-h-m-i-d-t. 23 MS. NOTO: May I proceed, Your Honor? 24 THE COURT: Yes, you may. 25

### DIRECT EXAMINATION

2 BY MS. NOTO:

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- Q Mr. Schmidt, good afternoon. I want to start with a little bit of your background. You are the sole owner of Vegas United; is that correct?
  - A I believe so.
- O You believe so?
- A There may be another stockholder, but I'm not sure.
  - Q Who do you believe may be the other stockholder?
  - A No. My father-in-law I thought, but he's not.
- 11 Q Okay. So you are the sole --
- 12 A Correct.
- 13 Q -- stockholder of Vegas United?
- 14 A Correct.
- 15 Q Okay.
- 16 THE COURT: Okay. Sir, make sure the attorney gets
  17 her question out first before you respond, okay?
- 18 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 19 BY MS. NOTO:
- 20 Q And Vegas United is a real estate holding company?
- 21 A It is.
- 22 Q And you are also the president of that company;
- 23 correct?
- 24 A Correct.
- 25 Q And, in fact, you've been involved personally with

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A-15-728233-C | Celtic Bank v. Vegas United | 08/10/2017
     this one property; is that correct?
 1
 2
          Α
               Correct.
 3
               But you personally are involved with other real
 4
     estate holding companies that also hold real estate; correct?
 5
               Personally, I only have one property.
          Α
 6
               Okay. And how about through an entity that you
          Q
7
     control?
8
          Α
               Several. I mean, over 12, as you said.
 9
               Over 12.
          0
10
          Α
               Uh-huh.
11
               So you're knowledge about -- knowledgeable about the
12
     process that goes into an association foreclosure sale --
13
          Α
               Correct.
14
               -- is that fair?
15
               I'm sorry. Correct.
          Α
16
               Okay. And, in fact, you learned about this sale
          Q
17
     through a publication in the Nevada Legal News; right?
18
               That's correct.
          Α
19
          Q
               All right. Let's look at stipulated Exhibit 15.
20
               While you're turning there, sir, was it your pattern
21
     and practice at that time in 2014 to review the Nevada Legal
22
     News for properties?
23
          Α
               It was.
24
                        (Pause in the proceedings)
25
```

1 BY MS. NOTO:

- Q And while we're waiting, turn if you would in that exhibit to Red Rock 0077.
  - A Okay.
- Q Is this the Nevada Legal News publication that you reviewed which led you to this sale?
- A It appears to be an affidavit of publication. I don't believe I read an affidavit of publication [unintelligible].
- Q Okay. And looking at that document on the right-hand side, does this represent what would have been -- what you reviewed in the Nevada Legal News? Take a moment to look at it.
  - A It very well could be.
- Q You'll see on the right side that you'll see that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following dates. Do you see that, February 28th, 2014, on the left-hand side?
  - A I do.
- Q All right. So take a moment and look at that right-hand side and the notice, and let me know if that refreshes your recollection as to what it was that you reviewed to identify the sale.
- A It appears to be a typical Nevada Legal News sale posting, and I see Gibson Road LLC in the middle, but I can't

1 read much more. It's a little small for me.

- Q Very good. Well, hopefully, maybe if we get the TV on here, I can --
  - A Are you going to have me read?
- Q -- amplify it a bit. I'll zoom in for us there. So if you look on this screen, is that a little easier for you to read?
  - A It is.

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- Q Okay. Very good. So if you look at the top of that, it identifies the assessor's parcel number; correct?
  - A Correct.
- Q And is that the same assessor's parcel number that we have in this case? Is that the Gibson Road assessor's parcel number?
- A I believe the last three numbers are. So I would assume that the entire thing is, but I'm not positive.
- Q Very good. And it identifies 181 North Gibson Road; right?
- 19 A It does.
- 20 Q It references a lien for delinquent assessments; 21 right?
- 22 A It does.
  - Q And it references the book number and instrument number of the lien for delinquent assessments. Do you see that?

- A How far down was that? I -- after all those --
- 2 Q We are right around here.
  - A Uh-huh.

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- Q Do you see that?
- A Correct. I see that.
- Q Okay. It references the notice of default and election to sell. Do you see that?
- A I do.
- Q Okay. And it has the book and the instrument number for that also; correct?
- 11 A It does.
  - Q And then if you'll go down here to the property, do you see it beginning right here --
- Oh, let me see if I can go up. There you go.
- 15 The property heretofore described. Can you read
  16 that into the record through right before the dated
  17 February 23rd?
- 18 MR. CROTEAU: Counsel, will you turn and push that
  19 page to the left a little bit.
- 20 MS. NOTO: Oh, I apologize. There you go.
- 21 BY MS. NOTO:
- Q Will you please read into the record starting, The property heretofore described.
- A The property heretofore described is being sold as
  is. The sale was made without covenant or warranty, express or

1 | implied regarding the --

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- Q You need to slow down for the court reporter.
- A Okay. Sorry.
- -- not limited to title or possession, encumbrances, obligations to satisfy, secured or unsecured --
  - THE COURT: Well, here, hold on.
- THE WITNESS: I didn't know that did that.
- 8 THE COURT: Okay.
  - THE WITNESS: -- or unsecured liens against all right, title and interest of the owner without equity, right or redemption -- right or redemption to satisfy the indebtedness secured by said lien with interest thereon as provided in the declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions recorded on 10/24, 1994, and then it gives the book number if you need that.
- 16 BY MS. NOTO:
  - Q It doesn't list a book number, but I would like you to read in the instrument number.
    - A The Instrument Number 1994, 024-00-0285.
    - Q Very good. So it's my understanding that after you identified this sale in the Nevada Legal News you also went to the recorder's office and reviewed the recorded documents associated with the parcel; correct?
      - A I believe I did.
      - Q Well, did you or did you not?

1 A It was my practice to.

- Q But in this case, did you go to the recorder's office?
- A I did go to the recorder's office. I don't recall the time frame.
- Q Well, certainly you would have reviewed the recorders -- at the recorder's office the instrument by which this property was being sold?
  - A Correct.
    - Q Was that your pattern and practice?
- A I don't know if we looked at the instruments other than dates. We looked at dates that the documents were recorded on. I don't think I really paid attention to the instrument number, per se.
- Q Well, you certainly would have reviewed the declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions recorded on 10/24, 1994, as Instrument Number 194024000285 to ensure that you were purchasing the property with the rights, titles and interests that you were looking for; is that fair?
  - A No. I didn't review the CC&Rs at that time.
  - Q When did you review the CC&Rs?
  - A After our purchase of the property.
- Q So when did you review 1994 CC&Rs referenced in the Nevada Legal News and all of the notices?
  - A Approximately two weeks after the sale. Wait a

believe provided the right of the HOA to foreclose on the property?

MR. CROTEAU: Objection. Calls for a legal conclusion.

THE COURT: Overruled.

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THE WITNESS: I believe this document amends the CC&Rs of '89, 1989.

1 BY MS. NOTO:

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- 2 Q Did you review the 1989 CC&Rs?
- 3 A '89, I did.
  - Q I'm sorry?
  - A I did.
- Q And did you see any reference to NRS 116 in those 1989 CC&Rs?
  - A I saw --
  - Q My question is a yes or no. Did you see a reference --
- 11 A I did not see a reference.
  - Q Wait till I ask my -- finish my question. Did you see a reference to NRS 116 in the 1989 CC&Rs?
- 14 A I did not see a reference to NRS 116; however, the 15 reference is in the record --
  - Q That's all I needed to know. You didn't see a reference to NRS 116 in the 1989 CC&Rs?
- 18 A I did not.
  - Q Did you see a reference to NRS 116 in this document, Exhibit 2, which is the first amendment to the Declaration of Protective Covenants and Conditions and Restrictions?
    - A I did not see it in this document.
  - Q And I believe if I understood your testimony earlier, you did not necessarily at the recorder's office review for instance the lien for delinquent assessments; is that correct?

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MS. NOTO: 15. Thank you.

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1 BY MS. NOTO:

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- Q If you'll look at the second page of that document, which is Red Rock 0076, are you with me?
  - A I am.
- Q In the second paragraph of that document, it states again that, The sale is made without covenant or warranty, express or implied, but not limited to title or possession. Did you see that?
  - A I did.
  - Q I'm sorry?
- 11 A I do see it.
- 12 Q Did you see it before you purchased the property?
- 13 A I can't tell you that I read the document, only the dates that they're recorded.
  - Q Okay. This one as well, you don't necessarily know if you read the notice of sale?
- 17 A That's correct.
  - Q And so but you again had the opportunity to if you wanted to?
  - A I did.
  - Q Okay. And this document provides that the sale is without covenant or warranty as to title, and it again references indebtedness. Do you see that? Satisfy the indebtedness secured by said lien with interest thereon as provided in the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and

- 1 Restrictions, again recorded on 10/24, 1994. Do you see that?
- 2 A I see that.

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- Q Do you have an understanding, as you sit here today, that the sale was conducted to satisfy indebtedness under that document we looked at dated 10/24, 1994, which is an amendment to the 1989 CC&Rs?
- A If I'm to understand your question, you're asking if it was an indebtedness that was --
- Q My question -- and I apologize. It was long and probably very confusing. But as you sit here today, in reading this document, is it your understanding that the sale was to satisfy indebtedness under that document recorded 10/24 of 1994?
  - A It appears to.
- Q Okay. Prior to purchasing the property, you drove by the property; right?
- 17 A I did.
- 18 Q And you knew that it was a commercial property?
- 19 A I did.
- 20 Q You didn't have anyone prepare a preliminary title 21 report though, did you?
- 22 A I did not.
- 23 Q You could have; right?
- 24 A Sure.
- 25 Q All right. But that wasn't your pattern and practice

1 A Okay.

- Q Do you see that this is a document that was recorded; right?
  - A Okay. I see that it was recorded in 2013, before the sale.
  - Q Okay. And the APN number, just a check, the APN number that you had searched by, it's the same as the APN number that we looked at for the other documents; correct?
    - A It is.
  - Q Okay. So at the time of the foreclosure sale, you knew that the property was being held in trust by the Clark County Treasurer for unpaid taxes; right?
  - A Correct.
  - Q Okay. Let's look at Exhibit Number 9, please. This is the lien for delinquent assessments. Again, this is one of the documents that was available to you; right?
  - A If it was recorded in the county recorder's office in 2011, so, yeah.
  - Q Okay. And you'll see in this document as well, the current owner of the property. Can you read into the record who the current owner of the property is listed on the lien for delinquent assessments.
- A Trustee, Clark County Treasurer, care of Gibson Road LLC.
  - Q Okay. So --

1 THE COURT: Could you say that a little slower.

THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. Trustee for the Clark

County -- or trustee, Clark County Treasurer, care of Gibson

Road LLC.

THE COURT: Okay. By the way, you don't have to be that close.

THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. I don't why I keep doing that. I'm sorry.

THE COURT: Okay. Well I need to make sure you're heard, but --

THE WITNESS: Right. Right. Did somebody say -- I thought the guys said sit close, the gentleman.

THE COURT: Well, he did, but --

THE WITNESS: Close but don't get in it. Don't put it in your mouth; right? Right.

BY MS. NOTO:

Q So you knew that there were past due taxes that were owed on the property; correct?

A I did.

Q You knew that those past due taxes would have to be paid to the county before title could be transferred to you; correct?

A I don't really believe that to be correct.

Q Well, how would you redeem the property from Clark County if you didn't pay the taxes if it was being held in

1 LLC.

- Q And it goes on to say, As owner of record?
- A Oh, sorry. As owner of record on said lien.
- Q Okay. And the NOD provides also the same book and instrument number of the CC&Rs, which recites as recorded being 1024, 1994; correct?

THE WITNESS: I'm sorry, Your Honor. They're obnoxious, but can I have my sunglasses. They have bifocals, and I tried to do these today, but they're blurry.

THE COURT: Okay. Counsel, could you go ahead and -THE WITNESS: I'm sorry they're obnoxious. I didn't
think of it until -- let me try these. Thank you.

Okay. Same book and instrument number.

14 BY MS. NOTO:

- Q And maybe I can point you to here. It says that there is a lien described as Gibson Business Park with a legal description, and then it starts here, Makes known the obligations. Do you see that?
  - A I do.
- Q All right. Read into the record what it says from, Makes known the obligations.
  - A Under the covenants, conditions --
- Q Sorry. I'm sorry. That was my fault. Start with reading, Makes known the obligations.
  - A Makes known obligations -- makes known the

Have you ever seen this document before?

Just one second. I'm sorry. I might have the wrong Α document. I see your document here on the screen.

Okay. I think it's Exhibit 26. Q

26. I didn't hear that. Α

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BY MS. NOTO:

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- me.
  - on this property to redeem it; is that correct?
    - Α Correct.
- 24 And it goes on to say that, Gibson Road LLC, paid by 25 Celtic Bank, is entitled to reconveyance. Do you understand --

- A I do. I'm sorry. I didn't realize we were looking at the recorded number.
- Q Very good. Let's look at Stipulated Exhibit 16.

  Now, you attended the foreclosure sale personally, didn't you?
  - A I did.

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- Q And there were a lot of people at the sale, wasn't there?
  - A That day there was a lot of people at the sale, yes.
  - Q So this document, which is Red Rock 0117, this is a stipulated exhibit, and I understand this didn't come to you, but this is a document directed to Red Rock Financial Services. Do you see that?
- 13 MR. CROTEAU: Which exhibit?
- 14 THE COURT: Exhibit 16.
- 15 BY MS. NOTO:
- 16 Q Do you see that?
- 17 A I do.
- Q Okay. And in this document, it says that the number -- how many number -- let me start again.
- 20 How many witnesses does it say was present at the 21 sale?
- 22 A I wouldn't have any idea. Sometime -23 MR. CROTEAU: Objection.
- 24 BY MS. NOTO:
- 25 Q Look at the documents --

THE COURT: Well, wait. Guys, we're talking all over the place here okay.

State your question. Go ahead.

### BY MS. NOTO:

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- Q How many people were present at the sale?
- 6 THE COURT: Okay. And you had an objection.
  - MR. CROTEAU: I'll withdraw that. She changed it.
- 8 THE COURT: Okay.
- 9 THE WITNESS: The document states 70 were present,
- 10 seven, zero.
- 11 BY MS. NOTO:
  - Q And you had said a lot of people. Would you have any quarrel with a number that's suggested in this document?
- 14 A I wouldn't.
- Q And how many bidders were at the property?
- 16 A According to the document, three.
- Q Okay. Would you have any quarrel with the fact that three bidders bid on this property at the sale?
- 19 A I wouldn't.
  - Q Okay. Is there anything else -- take a moment to look at this document. Is there anything on this document that you believe to be inaccurate based on your personal knowledge of the sale?
    - A I don't see anything.
    - Q Okay. The total amount sold for 30,000; correct?

- 1 A That's correct.
  - Q Okay. And it said, Said property sold to Charles Schmidt. That's you; right?
    - A Correct.
    - Q Okay. The sale took place at Nevada Legal News?
- 6 A It did.

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- Q And someone at Nevada Legal News actually cried the sale? Do you know what I mean --
  - A I believe so. I believe so.
- 10 Q Sorry. You know what I mean when I say "cried the 11 sale"?
- 12 A I do.
- Q Okay. And you heard the sale being called?
- 14 A I did.
  - Q And the representative at Nevada Legal News didn't say anything different than that was contained in the notice in the Nevada Legal News, did they?
- 18 A I don't know what they said.
- 19 Q You don't recall?
  - A Well, I mean, they read a lot of legal description, and they probably, you know, read from the Nevada Legal News exactly what was posted, and then they get to the sale. As a bidder, we kind of tune into the address and then the opening.
- Q Very good. Let's look at Exhibit 17. Are you with me, Mr. Schmidt?

- 1 A I am.
- 2 Q Okay. And do you recognize this document?
- 3 A I do.

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- Q This is a foreclosure deed that was recorded following the sale on March 21st, 2014?
- A Correct.
- Q And when was it recorded?
  - A It appears to be recorded April 17th of 2014.
- Q Okay. And who prepared this foreclosure deed? Do you know?
- 11 A I don't, no.
- 12 Q Was it you?
- 13 A No, it wasn't.
  - Q Okay. If you'll look at this document, in the first paragraph, if I can make that just a little bit smaller, but still so you can read it, let's see, so we can get the whole thing on there.
- 18 A I believe I can see it.
  - Q Can you see it? Okay. Great. Starting with, The previous owner as reflected on said lien, do you see that?
  - A I do.
    - Q Okay. Going to the next sentence that starts, Red Rock Financial Services, as agent for Gibson Business Center Property Owner's Association, can you read into the record the rest of that sentence, well, at least just up to, Pursuant to

1 116.31168. Go ahead and read that into the record.

- A What are the first words you want me to pronounce?
- Q Well, let's start with, Does hereby.
- A Does hereby grant and convey, but without warranty, expressed or implied, to Vegas United Investment Series 105, herein called grantee, pursuant to NRS 116.3116 through NRS 116.31168, all of its right, title and interest in and to that certain property legally described as Gibson Park -- Gibson Business Park 3 Plat Book 5636, part of Lot 1, which is commonly known as 181 North Gibson Road, Henderson, Nevada 89014.
- Q And you knew at the time of the sale that title was being conveyed without warranty, express or implied; correct?
- A Correct. That's the language in the statute and here.
- Q This document, if you look at it, also references in the second paragraph the lien for delinquent assessments. Do you see that? I'm sorry, right here in the second paragraph.
  - A I do.

- Q Very good. And it references the notice of default; correct?
  - A Correct.
  - Q And it references the sale date; right? Here.
- 24 A It does.
  - Q And it references the purchase price of 30,000;

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- A That's correct.
- Q All right. And then if you'll go to the third page of that document, which at the bottom corner says 0003; do you see that?
  - A 0002?
  - Q Well, mine says 3. It's the third page.
- 8 A I'm sorry. Okay. I have it.
  - Q It's the Declaration of Value. Are you with me?
- 10 A I have it.
- 11 Q Did you prepare this document, the Declaration of 12 Value?
- 13 A I did.
  - Q So it was your opinion at the time of the foreclosure sale that the sales price, the total value of the property was \$358,734?
  - A My opinion was that it was worth \$30,000, what I paid. The county's opinion was 358,734 because that's what they wanted to get property taxes on, and at the time, that's what they got.
    - Q Well, you signed this document; right?
- 22 A I did.
- Q And you put that the total value sales price of property was \$358,734; correct?
- 25 A We -- required by the county in order to record

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What they wanted was an additional description. So in other

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words, the deed says Part 1, and they wanted Part 1 and then all the measurements from the street and, you know, to further narrow down the boundaries of the property that was sold.

So it was incomplete?

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- I wouldn't say it was incomplete. She apparently thought it was incomplete, but she's just pulling off the recorder's office. So it's her opinion.
- I heard your testimony to say that the assessor's office was requesting additional information; is that fair?
  - Α [No audible response.]
  - To further describe the property?
- Maybe it says you may wish to contact the title company or attorney for assistance.
  - I'm sorry. My question, it was confusing. I Q No. apologize. I understood your prior testimony to say that they were requesting additional information to further describe the parcel; is that fair?
  - I guess I don't see where they're requesting anything. It says this is to --
    - I'm not looking at the letter. Q
  - Oh. Oh. Α
  - You just testified that they were asking you to further describe the parcel; is that correct?
- Α I testified what they liked was a further description 25 of the parcel, yes.

- Q Okay. So in their mind, and maybe not in your mind, but in their mind it was incomplete; is that fair?
  - A To the assessor.
- Q Okay.

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- A Who pulled off the recorder and didn't like the document they saw.
  - Q Okay. Very good. But in any event, in May of 2014, you knew that the assessor's office was claiming that there was a problem with the document that you recorded; is that fair?
  - A That the -- I don't think it says that there was a problem.
    - Q Well, incorrect, incomplete or missing.
- 13 A I guess I don't understand why I would, you know, 14 care what they are -- what their opinion on --
- 15 THE COURT: Okay. Sir.
- 16 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry.
  - THE COURT: She's asking a question. You just answer, okay?
- 19 THE WITNESS: Okay. Okay.
- 20 Go ahead. I'm sorry. Can you repeat the question.
- 21 MS. NOTO: I would be happy to.
- 22 BY MS. NOTO:
  - Q As of May 3rd, 2014, you knew that the assessor's office was claiming that the legal description you recorded was either incorrect, incomplete or missing; is that fair?

- 1 A Sure. Yes. I'm sorry. Yes.
  - Q All right. And, in fact, you recorded a document later that had that further information that the assessor's office was requesting; is that fair?
    - A I did.

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- Q Okay. And when was it that you recorded the foreclosure deed with the additional information that the assessor's office had been requesting?
  - A Do you have an exhibit number?
- Q I believe I do. Let's look at Exhibit 27. Take a look at this document and tell me what it is.
- A It is the rerecorded foreclosure document with the additional -- with the additional -- let's verify here -- with the additional measurements on it.
  - O And what date was that recorded?
  - A It appears to be recorded on 4/4 of 2016.
- Q So two years after the foreclosure sale is when you recorded this document; right?
  - A Yes.
  - Q Is it your testimony, Mr. Schmidt, that the original foreclosure deed in April of 2014 transferred title to Vegas United?
    - A It is.
- 24 Q But at that time the property was held in trust by 25 the Clark County Treasurer; correct?

1 A Correct.

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- Q So how could it transfer title to Vegas United if Clark County Trustee was holding it in trust?
- A Because Clark County was holding it in trust. When it comes out of trust, it will follow the chain of the recorded documents and title.
  - Q Who was Clark County holding it in trust for?
- A At the time, Gibson -- Gibson LLC. Is it Gibson Park? Gibson something -- Gibson Road LLC. I'm sorry.
  - Q All right. Well, let's go look back at again at the reconveyance document.
    - A Which was item --
  - Q Which was -- I believe that is Exhibit 26. So your testimony is that title had transferred and that they were holding in trust in essence for the owner of the property; is that fair?
- 17 A Correct.
- Q Okay. So the foreclosure happened in March of 2014;
  19 right?
- 20 A Yes, it did.
  - Q So in your mind, the treasurer then should have reconveyed the property to you?
  - A No.
- 24 Q I mean, sorry, to Vegas United?
- 25 A No.

1 Q Why not?

A Well, because they hold it in trust for Gibson Road LLC that day. They have to then reconvey it with the same name in order to get the cloud off the title. They wouldn't be able to just shuffle it because there would be no recorded tracking in the recorder's office to show --

Q There's still no tracking in the recorder's office. If Clark County had done a title search following your foreclosure sale, it's your testimony that your title would have shown up?

A Yes.

Q And you would have been the record owner of the property?

A Correct.

Q Do you understand that the treasurer reconveys to either the owner or someone who has a beneficial interest?

A I understand that the treasurer reconveys to whoever they took it from and held it in trust as not to cloud the title, to put it back exactly how they found it. The record would determine who is the record owner.

Q And how do you develop that -- how did you develop that understanding?

A I deal a little bit with tax sales.

Q All right. How did you develop that understanding that Clark County would reconvey it to a prior owner?

A I don't believe I've ever seen a reconveyance filed that wasn't who they were taken from. So in other words, I haven't ever seen a reconveyance filed in a different name.

Q Have you ever seen a reconveyance filed where someone else paid the taxes, and they reconveyed it to the owner?

A I already know I haven't seen -- I'm not purporting to have seen every reconveyance or read it. I just haven't seen one that ever reconveyed it to somebody else.

Q But your --

A It's reconvey.

Q I'm sorry. Your understanding is that Clark County will — I just want to make sure I understand. Your understanding is that Clark County is going to record a reconveyance to a prior owner of a property. That's your testimony?

A If it's a prior owner that they held it in trust for in the first place, yes.

Q Okay. When you went to the county recorder's office and you saw that the sale was pursuant to declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions recorded on 10/24, 1994 in Book Number as Instrument Number 19940240000285, did you make any attempt at that time to review CC&Rs that were recorded on 10/24, 1994?

A I'm sorry. Did you just ask me when I reviewed the

Q When you reviewed the document in the Nevada Legal News that referenced you to that declaration of covenants and conditions and restrictions recorded on 10/24, 1994, did you make any effort to review the document that was referenced in the Nevada Legal News?

A And just to clarify, are you talking before or after the sale?

- Q Before the sale.
- A No.

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- Q Okay. I don't have any other questions.
- 11 THE COURT: Okay. Cross.
- 12 MR. CROTEAU: Absolutely.

### CROSS-EXAMINATION

## BY MR. CROTEAU:

- Q Mr. Schmidt, since we just got done talking about taxes, why don't we continue doing that for a minute. You've been sitting in trial; right?
- 18 A I have.
  - Q You've been here. And you've heard testimony that Celtic Bank paid the tax payment; correct?
    - A Correct.
  - Q Counsel just asked you, Well, if somebody else pays it, you don't -- you expect them to put it back in the entity's name that had it before or in the name that paid it. Remember, she asked you that?

- 1 A She did.
- 2 Q Okay. Do you have an explanation --

MS. NOTO: Objection. Misstates my question, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay. Why don't you rephrase it.

BY MR. CROTEAU:

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Q Okay. Counsel questioned you on whether or not reconveyance would go back to a prior owner that wasn't still record owner versus going to the person who paid it. Make sense?

A She did.

MS. NOTO: Objection. Again, Your Honor, that's not the question that I asked him. It's confusing and misstates it.

THE COURT: I understand.

Why don't you rephrase.

MR. CROTEAU: I'll do it differently. Fine.

THE COURT: Okay.

BY MR. CROTEAU:

Q Sir, do you have any explanation as to how Celtic Bank could come in and pay the tax certificate, and it would end up reverting not to Celtic Bank, but to Gibson Road LLC? If you know.

A Anybody could have paid it, when it reverted back to Gibson Road LLC.

Now, just so I'm also clear, had an auction actually

2 occurred --

You're familiar with tax sales; correct?

A I am.

- Q All right. And had an auction actually occurred at the point of a certificate of trust being issued by Clark County with a two-year right of redemption?
  - A It has not. It had not and will not.
- Q All right. So from the purposes of the tax sale, it was holding the property subject to a two-year right of redemption administratively subject to somebody paying the tax?
- A Just to correct, it was holding it for a two-year holding period because they did away with the right of redemption period in order to hold it in the trustee's name, that bypassing that two-year right of redemption.
- Q All right. So if someone were to, in your opinion, if someone were to go in, pay that sum at this stage of the process, it would have to revert back to where they took it from, the name that it had at that time?
- A It's my understanding that any payment prior to the sale date to the public it would revert back -- well, not revert. It would just take it out of trust and put it back in the name of the -- in the prior owner or if it's a current owner or whatever the name is that they are initially held it in trust for.

MS. NOTO: Objection. Lack of foundation. Ask to strike.

MR. CROTEAU: Your Honor, he's already laid foundation that he has familiarity with public tax sales. He's participated in them. He understands them, and I don't think counsel understands them because in this particular case the property did not transfer hands of any kind. It is simply held in trust. It is still owned --

THE COURT: Well, I think you need to lay some foundation for that, if nothing else, for me because I probably don't know near as much as both of -- all three of you guys.

MR. CROTEAU: That's fair, Your Honor. That's fair.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. CROTEAU: That's fair.

# BY MR. CROTEAU:

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- Q Let's go look at the -- wait a minute.
- 17 A I can explain it.
- 18 Q I'm sorry?
- 19 A I can explain it.
- 20 Q Yeah, I understand, and I'm going to have you do 21 that. Hang on.
  - Go to 14, please.
- 23 THE COURT: I'm sorry. Which exhibit?
- MR. CROTEAU: 14, Your Honor.
- 25 THE COURT: 14.

1 BY MR. CROTEAU:

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- Q Okay. So this certificate is recorded on 12/26 of 2013; correct?
  - A Correct.
- Q All right. And at that time, and this is prior to the common-interest community sale; correct?
  - A It was.
- Q And you did not acquire interest at that point in time; correct?
  - A Not yet.
- Q All right. Now, when the sale -- I'm sorry. When this certificate is filed, there's a delinquency on there of \$4,584.71. Do you see that?
- 14 A I do.
  - Q Okay. Now, this says it's a Treasurer's Certificate for Holding Delinquent Real Property Parcel; correct?
  - A It does.
  - Q All right. What does that connotate for you? What is your understanding of what a certificate to hold is?
  - A If I may, they used to sell certificates and charge interest. The county took this process in-house, and so the certificate is an interest-bearing certificate on the past due amount of the taxes, and for the two years, it used to be 2 percent a month. It sits with the county, and the county collects that 2 percent a month.

They administer the property sold at -- when they have it, they have a free and clear title versus the old where they used to do it which you had to try to get a hold of them, of the prior owner or whoever the owner, and then, if you couldn't get a hold of them within a certain period of time, you got deed. So they cleaned the process up here.

Certificate is a interest-bearing certificate on the past due property tax.

- Q Okay. So this is sort of like the advertisement, or at least it used to be, invest in tax certificates?
  - A That's correct.
- Q All right. So it does not divest the prior owner of ownership; correct?
  - A Correct.

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Q Okay. Now, if you'll take a look at the -- I'll call it the second to the last paragraph, it says,

A certificate is issued for this property on which all or a portion of the real property taxes levied for the Fiscal Year 2012-2013, has not been paid by 5:00 p.m. on the first Monday in June, the third day of June 2013.

This certificate authorizes the county treasurer to hold the property -- hold -- for a period of two years after the first Monday

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in June unless sooner redeemed by payment of the taxes and accruing taxes, penalties and costs together with interest on the taxes at a rate of 10 percent per annum from the date due until paid.

Does that comport with your understanding?

A It does.

Q All right. So basically they're holding it. They say you got to pay it. If you don't pay it, you got two years to pay it. At the end of the two years; however, we're going to auction your property; is that correct?

A Correct.

Q All right. And that's when you go to a tax sale; correct?

A Correct.

Q And the tax sale -- what's your understanding or implications of a tax sale? Do you get full and clear title to a property on a tax sale?

A You do. Because the county held the certificate for the two-year period which formally would have been right of redemption, the title is absolute. It's a tax sale title subject to only to a two year. If the county completely fumbled the sale, it's subject to a two-year statute of limitations.

Q All right. In other words, for a callback to be sued

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- A Correct.
- Q All right. Now, it says the last paragraph says,
  The title to the property, if not redeemed by the expiration of
  the period of redemption, will vest in the county for the
  benefit of the State and County. Do you see that?
  - A That's correct.
- Q All right. So title doesn't transfer. It doesn't transfer. It doesn't vest in the county for two years after the certificate; correct?
  - A Correct.
- Q That's by its own terms what it says?
- 13 A That's correct.
- Q All right. And that's your understanding of the operation of a tax certificate?
  - A My understanding that it sometimes could be later because the county dibbles around between --
  - Q All right. Were you concerned, as a buyer of this property, that it had a tax certificate on the property?
  - A I was not.
    - Q Okay. Tell us why.
  - A Because I would let it go to tax sale and purchase it at the tax sale where I would get a refund as the owner for every dollar that I paid over the amount due at that time.
    - Q All right. I want to make sure that's clear, okay,

- as a strategy. That's your strategy; correct?
  - A Correct.

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- Q All right. Let's drill it down so we have more understanding, okay. You have asserted in this case through a complaint that you are the rightful title holder of this particular property; correct?
  - A Correct.
- Q Without the benefit of having a Celtic Bank lien on the property; correct?
  - A That's correct.
- Q All right. So tell me by operation, if you will, that had you let it go to tax sale at the end of two years redemption period how what you're saying works.
- A We would've avoided this suit because of the nature of the flux at that time in NRS 116.
- Q All right. But you didn't explain it. So let's go back.
- A Right.
- Q All right. If you let the property sit there till the end of the two-year period, that would expire theoretically June 2015; right?
  - A Right.
  - Q Okay. What would happen?
- 24 A The property would be sent to a tax sale, and I would 25 have shown up and bid on the property at the tax sale.

Q Okay. All right. Now, when you say you would have shown up and bid, what would happen?

A You have to qualify, get a seat, and they would auction the property off at that sale.

Q Okay. What could you afford to pay for the property?

A In theory, anything that I had. I mean, I could pay millions for the property because, as the record owner that I believe -- as the record owner, I would've received all the monies back since there was no --

Q Right. And you say all the money back. In other words, the tax sale would occur. The property would be sold for whatever number. Let's say for a hypothetical speaking, let's say it gets sold for \$500,000.

A Okay.

Q What would be the math on that transaction?

A The guy next to me, if he paid \$500,000, he would pay \$500,000. If I paid \$500,000, I would pay \$500,000 but be entitled to a refund from the county for everything over and above the opening bid at the tax sale.

O Okay. So in other words --

THE COURT: And if the guy next do you bid 500,000, he -- in essence part of the money would go to pay the tax sale. The other money would go to you to pay for the property?

THE WITNESS: It would go to the record holder of the

property, right, as an overage of payment.

THE COURT: But if Gibson Road was the record owner, the money would go to Gibson Road LLC?

THE WITNESS: Right. It is my understanding the record holder is in the record of the recording, and you have to make a claim for overage funds and then prove a little bit what -- what the condition of the title is. So if there's two competing people, Gibson and me, who both show up and say I'd like to have that check back --

THE COURT: Okay. No. No. No. Let's just say it's you and third party, okay?

THE WITNESS: Okay.

THE COURT: So you and third party get into a bidding war at this tax sale.

THE WITNESS: Correct.

THE COURT: And let's say that the price does go up to what was the fair market value. Let's say it goes up to 700,000, okay?

THE WITNESS: Okay.

THE COURT: So 700,000 would be paid. Let's say third-party guy bought the property for 700,000.

THE WITNESS: Okay.

THE COURT: Part of the money would go to pay the taxes and interest.

THE WITNESS: Correct.

THE COURT: Which accrued at 2 percent a month;

1 from him. Okay.

So you say you were not concerned because you would have simply bid on the property, and then the part would go to the taxes and interest, and the other part would go back to you.

THE WITNESS: Right.

THE COURT: But if there is a dispute about ownership, then you'd have the same battle you've got right now with Gibson Road.

THE WITNESS: I don't believe there's a dispute of ownership between me and Gibson Road. Gibson Road, without a doubt, was foreclosed out on at this foreclosure sale. They're not disputing the Gibson Road LLC was foreclosed out in the, I don't believe. I mean, I haven't seen an HOA claim that. So Gibson Road LLC was absolutely foreclosed out, and I'm the new guy. So I guess there's a slight chance that Celtic Bank could find out about the excess proceeds. Maybe they could show up. I don't know how that would work.

THE COURT: Well, if the property were subject to a first, and there's a dispute about that, a debate. I get that.

THE WITNESS: Sure.

THE COURT: But then you'd also have Celtic Bank to have to deal with; right?

THE WITNESS: Sure. That could happen, yes.

THE COURT: Okay. And you're not concerned even

though this taxes is accruing interest at a right of 2 percent a month?

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THE WITNESS: Well, no, Your Honor, because I would pay -- let's say I would pay fair market, and we said fair market value for the property. So the worst case scenario is I pay fair market value for the property and then fight over the excess proceeds that I give at the sale; right? So this fight now is about money, dollar for dollar rather than title, and so -- and it's a long shot that this actually gets here, I believe, because of the way that the refund process works.

In other words, you have like -- I don't -- I'm just guessing. This is completely a guess. But I think it's 90 days because I've never got excess proceeds. I think it's 90 days or six months to apply for the excess proceeds. If two people apply for it, then they go to the next step. If only one person applies in that time, you get -- that person gets the check.

THE COURT: Okay. But you're still not concerned about this?

THE WITNESS: No. Because I wouldn't pay over that, and then I would still have the exact same fight I have here at the very worst, but I would have a tax deed. I have the property, again in another layer of absolute title. I'd have the property still, and we'd be fighting over money assumedly, and it would be overage. The tax sale really is, like,

1 70 percent of value.

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THE COURT: Okay.

THE WITNESS: So in other words I couldn't lose I guess is what I'm trying to say. I don't feel like I'd lose money in the transaction.

THE COURT: Okay. Go ahead.

## BY MR. CROTEAU:

Q What's the understanding, to the extent of tax auction -- tax auction buyers, as to what quality of title they get?

MS. NOTO: Object to the form. Foundation.

THE COURT: Restate your question, please.

MR. CROTEAU: Sure.

## BY MR. CROTEAU:

Q As a tax purchaser, tax sale purchaser, okay, what is your understanding of the title you get at this tax sale?

A Pretty much absolute title. There's a few exceptions but not many. It forecloses — it has old law that forecloses out first trust deeds and any lien holders for materials and workmanship, things like that.

Q Okay. So is it your understanding the tax sale, an actual sale would take out a first deed of trust?

- A Correct.
- Q Would it take out a materialman's lien?
- A It would.

Q So you would stand in clear title, so to speak, with this property at that point in time if you chose to go that route?

A Correct. And the reason that the title is somewhat, at a regular tax sale, a little discounted is because you have that two-year threaten where the -- I'm sorry, the title company will not issue title until the two-year statute of limitations in case the county completely messed it up has passed. So when you're bidding at the tax sale, you are essentially underpaying to have absolute title, but you're not going to be able to sell it for two years unless you do a quiet title action.

- Q All right. Let's stop you. You have no prohibition from selling it for two years?
  - A I don't. I don't.
- Q After a tax sale?
- 17 A Correct.

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- Q All right. Are you saying that the statute of limitations to contest a tax auction is two years?
- A Correct.
  - Q Okay. And that it would be prudent, and you'd get higher value if you waited the two years without claim to then sell it and be able to get title insurance?
  - A Title companies don't like to do anything but collect money. So if they don't get -- they try not to insure during

1 THE WITNESS: I don't believe so.

BY MR. CROTEAU:

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it.

Q Okay. Is there a question under 116 as to whether or not Celtic Bank is extinguished?

MS. NOTO: Object to the form. Calls for a legal conclusion. Foundation.

THE COURT: That one does. I think that's ultimately for me to decide.

MR. CROTEAU: With all due respect, I think the ultimate issue that's outstanding in this case, yes. I think his interpretation of 116 as to what --

THE COURT: Unless I see his law degree and it's bigger than mine, I don't need to hear.

MR. CROTEAU: Fair enough. But I wanted you to have his understanding. That's all.

THE COURT: I understand.

17 BY MR. CROTEAU:

Q Okay. All right. Do you think that when you undertake these sales, after the sale has occurred, that there is any concerns with the owners if you will, the record title owners prior in time?

MS. NOTO: Object to the form. Vague, overbroad.

THE COURT: I'll let him answer it if he understands

THE WITNESS: Say the last thing. A record title,

1 owners prior title, is that what you said? I'm sorry.

BY MR. CROTEAU:

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- Q Yeah. The record owner of the property prior to the common interest sale?
- A No. All the notices are delivered to them. They're addressed to them. They are without a doubt noticed because that's who the foreclosure is addressed against. So they are almost absolutely foreclosed out because there is no dispute that they were the target of the foreclosure for the property.
- Q Do they have any redemption rights under 116 that you know of?
  - A I don't know -- no. There was none. There's none.
- 13 Q I'm sorry?
  - A There was no redemption right under NRS 116, old or new.
    - Q Okay. Sir, you have been involved in buying real estate for a number of years; correct?
- 18 A Correct.
  - Q All right. And you have been involved in common interest foreclosure sales substantially over those number of years?
    - A I have.
  - Q All right. When did you first begin, if you will, if you can recall, buying common interest sales?
    - A Approximately 2008 or '9, late '8 or early '9.

- Q Okay. So in all of that period of time, you've attended a number of auctions; correct?
  - A Hundred.

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- Q How many?
- A Over a hundred.
- Q Okay. And has your practice and procedure during that time been relatively the same, or has it morphed into something else on how you did this?
- A When we first started doing it, we did it a little different, and probably about 2010, we changed our strategy.
- Q Okay. And the particular property in question was purchased when?
  - A In 2014.
- 14 Q Okay.
- THE COURT: I'm sorry. 2000 --
- 16 THE WITNESS: '14, Your Honor.
- 17 BY MR. CROTEAU:
  - Q So were you reasonably sophisticated in what you were doing by 2014?
- 20 A I believe so.
  - Q All right. Now, counsel keeps asking you as to whether or not you went and ran and checked the CC&Rs at the time of preforeclosure sale?
- 24 A Correct.
- Q Was that your practice and procedure?

- A I didn't review the CC&Rs. My practice and procedure was to review the dates on the notices, of default notice of lien and the delinquent assessment.
- Q Okay. Would you do any background work at the recorder's office?
  - A I would. I would look at -- I would, yes.
- Q Would you have pulled actually the notices of lien and so forth and read the actual copies?
  - A No.

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- Q Okay. You would just look to see when they were filed and calculate your dates?
- A That's correct. I might read them on the computer. I might read the date or something or the reference number or what CC&Rs or something like that, but typically I did not print them or read them, read the documents.
- Q All right. Did you rely upon the recitals in your deeds?
- 18 A I did.
- 19 THE COURT: I'm sorry. You do?
- 20 THE WITNESS: I do. I do.
- 21 BY MR. CROTEAU:
  - Q Now, do you have a specific recollection of this actual sale date?
- 24 A Not the date, but I remember the sale.
  - Q Okay. All right. Counsel asked you if there were 70

- 1 A Risky and opinionated.
  - Q Okay. A lot of litigation?
- A A lot of litigation. Every Judge had a different opinion.
  - Q Okay. All right. So when you paid \$30,000 for this property, in your opinion, was that stepping up? I mean, were you paying competitive rates there, bidding?
    - A It was a lot of money at the time, yes.
  - Q Okay. All right. Let's go to Exhibit 15 for a second. Counsel asked you all about that. Now, in this document, second page, 0076, she asked you to read into the record a portion of this and talk about it, okay. If you'd look at that.
    - A Yes.
  - Q All right. In all the notices you've seen, were CC&Rs actually identified at book and page numbers?
  - A Not often.
- 18 Q You okay?
  - A Yeah.
- 20 Q Take your time.
- 21 THE COURT: Do you need a break?
- 22 THE WITNESS: No. I'm okay.
- 23 THE COURT: There's water there for you if you need
- 24 | it.

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25 THE WITNESS: I've been drinking. Thank you.

Q Okay. All right.

I think it does.

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A You're asking about the recording date, just to confirm, of the CC&Rs; correct?

Q Well, the page numbers of the -- I mean when they're saying the document number. So in any event that's fine.

Counsel said, Did you go to the recorder's office to look at it, and you said you thought you might, but you would've looked at the computer screen, I assume, as opposed to the actual documents?

A So maybe a better explanation is on the Internet you can go to the county and see document titles and their recording dates but not documents. Save that for Washoe County.

Q Well, then let's clarify. She asked you, did you go to the recorder's office? You said, yes. Did you? I want to clarify. Did you walk to the recorder's office, go through the front door and start doing this, or did you do it from home?

A You know, if I recall, I probably didn't. I probably looked online, and then I looked at the document and the date it was recorded.

Q All right. When you go to a sale like this, are you there for one property, or is it multiple properties that were going on?

A It depends on the day.

Q All right. Do you know if you bought anything else this day?

- 1 A I don't believe I did.
  - Q Okay. Did you bid on anything else that day if you remember?
  - A I might -- I don't -- I don't believe I did. No, I don't think so.
  - Q Okay. Fair enough. Let's go to Exhibit 2. Now, Mr. Schmidt, do you know how to read a CC&R?
    - A I do.

- Q All right. What is your understanding of an amendment to a prior CC&R? This is the first amendment to the declaration of a prior CC&R filed in 1989. What is the significance to that for you?
- A It's my opinion that -- or it's my understanding that any amendment to the document amends that document to include or incorporate or change around the language that's in the amendment of the document.
- Q Okay. So explain to me how the 1989 CC&Rs relate to this first amendment in 1994, your understanding.
- A Well, you can only amend the 1989 CC&Rs because there are no other recorded CC&Rs. So the only ability to amend it would be this 1989 document. At the very least you'd have to look.
  - Q That's fine. Go to CB 436, Item Number 4.

    THE COURT: Are you talking about Article IV?

    MR. CROTEAU: Yes, Your Honor. I apologize.

1 Paragraph 4.

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THE COURT: Oh, that's all right. Let me get there.

Article IV?

MR. CROTEAU: Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: On --

MR. CROTEAU: No other amendments.

THE COURT: Okay. 395?

MR. CROTEAU: 436, Your Honor.

THE COURT: 436. Okay. Let me get there.

MR. CROTEAU: It's Exhibit 2, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Exhibit 2, okay. I'm sorry.

MR. CROTEAU: Yes, Your Honor. That's okay.

THE COURT: Okay. Got it.

# BY MR. CROTEAU:

Q So where it says no other amendments, it says, Except as expressly provided in this first amendment, all of the provisions of the declaration shall continue in full force and effect and unmodified hereby. What does that mean to you?

A It means that everything is still in full force except for the amendment — except for whatever is in this amendment.

Q All right. And if you look at A on the front of page 435, it defines declaration because you can see where it says, otherwise, the declaration continues, right, in full force and effect?

- 1 A I'm sorry. Did you say 435?
  - Q Yeah. Just the previous page.
  - A And point me to it. What --
  - Q A.

- A Okay.
- Q Here it says under A that on September 11th of '89, Ampac, as the declarant, and enjoining parties named therein file for property records of the Clark County, Nevada, a certain Declaration of Protective Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions, and they defined that as the declaration; right?
- A Correct.
- Q All right. So paragraph 4, no other amendment says the declaration shall continue in full force and effect, right, which is the 1989 version?
- A Correct.
- Q All right. Except for whatever change is done here; correct?
- A That's my understanding, yes.
- Q Okay. Counsel also asked you repetitively how the notice of lien sale, the notice of NOD and so forth cited this particular document, the 1994; correct?
  - A It did.
- Q All right. But this is the last amendment that also still refers to the '89 in this CC&R; right?
  - A That's actually the most up-to-date version of the

other amounts due with respect to unpaid assessments, shall constitute and shall be secured by a separately valid and existing lien on the portions of the premises to which they were late, and upon all improvements at any time erected or constructed thereon.

What does that mean to you?

- A That there is a lien for everything within the community.
- Q And would that be a lien for an assessment against property that you may own?
- A Correct. Assessment lien obviously is an assessment against the property on which it's assessed.
- Q All right. It also says, The provisions of Nevada Revised Statute Section 278A.170 are incorporated herein by reference. Do you see that?
  - A I do.
- Q Okay. Did you have an opportunity to go to 278A.170 and look at that law?
  - A I have had an opportunity to do so.
  - Q Okay. And does 278A.170 cite NRS 116?
  - A It does.
  - Q Okay. Particularly the lien sections; correct?
- A Particularly the foreclosure statutes in lien Section 31168 -- 3116 through, I believe, 31168.

Q Correct. Okay. All right. So is it your understanding from reviewing that and this section that NRS 116 is incorporated by reference into the 1989 CC&Rs pursuant to 278A.170?

MS. NOTO: Object to the form. Calls for a legal conclusion.

THE COURT: It does.

MR. CROTEAU: It's his understanding.

THE COURT: Well, I understand, but it's his understanding giving a legal conclusion. I mean, ultimately it's not going to matter to me. Now, what he may think about certain things and why he acted based upon what he thinks is important, you know, but and if you want to lay a foundation for that, that's fine.

# BY MR. CROTEAU:

- Q Okay. All right. Sir, after you've reviewed -- and you said you reviewed 278A.170; correct?
  - A That's correct.
- Q All right. Did you in your mind's eye have any concerns as to whether or not this was not going to be a 116 governed foreclosure for your purposes?
- A It's my understanding that 278A.170 was amended and almost replaced in 1991 by the NRS 116 entire chapter.
- Q Okay.
- 25 A I'm sorry. I misstated. I misstated. Not the

- 1 entire chapter, the enforcement of liens section.
  - O Enforcement of lien section?
  - A That's correct.

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- MR. CROTEAU: All right. Would this be a good opportunity to break for an afternoon break? I'm going to be a bit longer. I've got witnesses.
- THE COURT: Well, since we started later, I was going to go a little bit longer. We can go another 15 minutes.
- 9 MR. CROTEAU: That's fine. I just wanted to talk the 10 witnesses that are out there. That's all.
- 11 THE COURT: You wanted to what?
- MR. CROTEAU: I have witnesses out there. I wanted to talk to them for a second.
- 14 THE COURT: Well, I understand, but --
- 15 MR. CROTEAU: Okay. That's fine.
- THE COURT: -- why don't we go ahead and finish with this witness.
- MR. CROTEAU: Well, it's going to be longer than that. So, okay. That's fine.
- 20 BY MR. CROTEAU:
  - Q All right. Go to Exhibit 15, sir. All right. In 2014, how did you find properties that were being sold subject to common community interest sales?
- A Typically, in the Nevada Legal News. There was a small publication out of Pahrump called the Clark County Legal

1 News as well, but --

Q Were you on any websites? Did you have any subscriptions to any websites, that kind of thing?

A I subscribed to the Nevada Legal News, yes, and I subscribed to the paper which filled my house up.

Q Now, would you sit here, and if you were looking at a sale, would you, like, read this entire publication that's found at 77, Red Rock 77?

A I would not.

Q Okay. What would be your key terms that you'd care about?

A The address, type of sale and the date that I guess it was filed.

Q Okay. All right. Go to Red Rock 76, and it's the second -- well, the first full paragraph but the second paragraph on that page.

A Okay.

Q Did you have any cause, concern or care, frankly, that the sale would be made without covenant or warranty, express 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?

A I did not.

Q Now, interestingly enough -- never mind. Sorry. Any particular reason why you had no concerns for the other information on the page?

A I've done a lot of research, and in what I believe to the legislative history. I've seen several times a reference without equity or right of redemption or without warranty, and -- what is it? -- without warranty, expressed or implied in a publicly noticed sale was as strong as type of title.

Q Okay.

A For a publicly held sale.

THE COURT: I'm sorry. Sir, you're mumbling. So could you repeat what you just said.

THE WITNESS: So it's my belief from reading the legislative history that without warranty, expressed or implied, with -- I'm sorry, without warranty, expressed, or I don't know, without warranty -- or what does NRS 16 say? And without warranty. I don't know what it says exactly, but it's like without warranty. It's similar to the language here. I believe it to be strong language.

MS. NOTO: Object to the form. Again, he's testifying as to a legal conclusion and legislative history he hasn't even identified.

THE COURT: Okay.

MS. NOTO: As to what statute he's looking at, what basis he has to provide a legal conclusion on the legislative

1 history of the statute.

THE COURT: Okay. Ms. Noto, your point is well taken. Look, I'm okay listening to what he thinks about, you know, and what he interprets certain things are in terms of the legal conclusion if it bears on why he acted the way he did.

MR. CROTEAU: And that's why I brought it out.

That's the only reason. I'm not asking for him to provide us with legal knowledge.

THE COURT: But you are having him testify about legal conclusions, but not getting into what he didn't -- why he acted the way he did given. That's what my problem is.

MR. CROTEAU: Okay. That's fair.

THE WITNESS: I'm sorry, Your Honor. I prefaced that with I'm not educated at all. I mean, high school, but -- BY MR. CROTEAU:

Q So when you did your research, what was the purpose of doing your research?

A For the -- it was early on, for the effects of -- I was trying to figure out what I was buying at the HOA sales.

- Q All right. And you went and what did you do specifically to educate yourself?
  - A From then till now?
- Q Well, no. From when you started in -- when you started doing research, what did you do?
  - A When we started doing research, we were basically

seeing how long it would take if a bank were to foreclose then, and in our research -- and, again, I dropped out of 10th grade -- it's black-and-white letters to me. It was my opinion, nobody at the time, that it wiped out the first deed of trust if this number wasn't paid, this.

Q So the number being what?

A The superpriority at the -- the superpriority. And then my research went from there because I was trying to find out what that meant.

Q All right. And when you did that, what kind of things did you look at for your research when you educated yourself?

A Everything.

Q Tell the Court what everything is.

A Judges' opinions, opinions of anything that had been brought up in different states, legislative history because I learned that was something, and the uniform common interest and how that was adopted and the professor who put that together, things like that. I tried to figure out what our money was going to do, what our risk was here.

Q All right. And after you did all of that research, did you come to an opinion, your own opinion?

A I came to an opinion before when I read the statute, but, yes, I believed the research backed up my opinion.

Q Okay. And what was that opinion?

A That unless the bank paid a superpriority amount, that the first deed of trust — that the first deed of trust would be wiped out by the sale if the sale carried forward without a superpriority payment being made by the secured first deed of trust lender.

THE COURT: Which is why you bought the property?
THE WITNESS: That's correct.

## BY MR. CROTEAU:

- Q Okay. Let's go to 26, please. Exhibit 26. You've bought a lot of properties; correct?
- 11 A I have.
  - Q Okay. When you buy a property, do you get conveyed the property?
  - A We get deed of the property. So -- or in most of our properties, we get a trustee's deed or a deed for the property.
    - Q Okay. Do you know what a conveyance is?
- 17 A I do.
  - Q What's a conveyance?
  - A When you transfer a property to someone.
    - Q Okay. Do you know what a reconveyance is?
    - A It can be either a note getting taken off. So the note conveys the property into a trust for first deed of trust for something like Celtic Bank, and the reconveyance then takes it back out again, similar to the trustee sale.
      - Q So if you look at Exhibit 26, it says very

deed -- one, to, three, four, five -- six sentences down or six lines down I should say from the top, it's saying that you are being hereby granted and convey is how you received this deed; correct?

A Correct.

- Q All right. And it was to Vegas United Investment Series 105; correct?
  - A Correct.
- Q All right. Now, it also talks that you obtained this as a result of, if you go down to, The agent states that the conveyance is made pursuant to the powers conferred upon the Nevada Revised Statutes, the Gibson Business Center Property Owner's Association governing document CC&Rs and that certain lien for delinquent assessments; correct?
  - A [No audible response.]
- 16 O Correct?
- 17 A Correct.
  - Q Okay. All right. Now, there is no mention in here of the CC&Rs by book and page number, is there?
- 20 A There's not.
  - Q Okay. This Declaration of Value, was this a negotiable item with someone, or was this a, take this, this is what you got to pay?
  - A This is what the county requires to record a document transferring ownership.

- Q Would you prefer to put 30,000 in there?
  - A Very much so.

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- Q Okay. All right. So who prepared this document?

  It's all typed in. Who prepared that?
  - A The Declaration of Value?
  - Q Yes, sir.
- A Well, I -- when you say who prepared the document, you mean the 178, as typed in?
  - Q No. Well, let's do it better.
- A Okay.
- Q Exhibit 17, page 3, who prepared this document?
- A It looks to be prepared both by this person here, which was the agent, the scribble on the bottom, and then I probably wrote in the value because that's what you do at the window.
- 16 Q All right.
  - A That value is the current assessed value of the property on that day.
  - Q All right. So let me ask you this. To the extent this is not handwriting, but do you recognize these as your numbers?
- 22 A I do.
- 23 Q Okay. Fair enough.
- A The 358 I recognize my handwriting. I don't know what you said about handwriting. That's my handwriting it

1 looks like.

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THE COURT: That is your handwriting. So you didn't just probably write it. You wrote it.

THE WITNESS: Right. But I wrote it at the direction of the clerk at the recorder's office.

MR. CROTEAU: Right. We're going to get to that. BY MR. CROTEAU:

- Q So how does this work? You go down to record your foreclosure deed. Is that how you do it?
  - A Correct, and; correct.
- Q Right. You don't hire a title company to do that.

  You get your foreclosure deed mailed to you directly; right?
- 13 A I do.
  - Q And then you take that foreclosure deed and march yourself down to the recorder's office and do the recording?
- 16 A Correct.
  - Q But you have to pay the tax first, correct, before they'll record it?
- 19 A Correct.
  - Q Okay. So how do you get this number to fill this in?
    Tell me the process. You walk into the recorder's office.
- 22 What happens first?
  - A The information guy will look up the property here.

    He'll tell you write this -- he'll give you a pen and tell you

    to write this number if you don't have a pen. If you got a

pen, either way, you've got to write it. They don't touch -they don't write things.

Q Okay.

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A And he'll say you have to write here. Here's the number, and that would have been the taxable value. Later, a little before and a little after that and completely after that, they started accepting the actual value of the sale, but the assessor — the assessor for the recorder to collect any taxes.

THE COURT: Okay. And you paid the tax?

THE WITNESS: I do.

THE COURT: The transfer tax?

THE WITNESS: I did. So we paid the transfer tax and the filing fee for the document.

BY MR. CROTEAU:

Q Just to be clear, was there a time at the recorder's office where they would accept the actual price of the sale as being what they were transferring tax on --

MS. NOTO: Objection. Relevance.

THE COURT: Go ahead. I'll overrule.

BY MR. CROTEAU:

O Go ahead.

A There was a time that they accepted the sale, just like any other sale. I mean, the sale was the number, and that's the number of -- that you pay on tax. It's the fair

number, and the assessors -- the assessor decided that more money should be collected.

Q Okay. And that's the reason for the increase in the number; right? There's no benefit to you either way, is there, whether it would be written down here as 30,000 or 358- except that you pay more money?

A That's correct, except I pay more money. The benefit would be I pay the fair amount.

Q All right. Okay. Let's go to Exhibit 18. Now, Mr. Schmidt, you acquired this property on 3/21 of '14. Is that accurate?

- A 3/21 of '14.
- 13 Q Sir.

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- 14 A I'm sorry. Was it 3/14, 14?
- 15 Q 3/21 of '14?
- 16 A Okay.
- 17 THE COURT: Okay. Now, we're on Exhibit 18; right?
- 18 MR. CROTEAU: Yes, Your Honor.
- 19 THE COURT: Okay.
- 20 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 21 BY MR. CROTEAU:
  - Q So the foreclosure deed got filed, and if you look at 17, I'll represent to you the foreclosure deed was recorded on 4/17 of 2014; right? The original foreclosure deed.
  - A Right. So the sale took place 4/14 of '14.

THE COURT: I'm sorry. What? Okay. Sir, could you state that again.

THE WITNESS: In the prior question, I thought I corrected the sale date, and so, yes. I'm sorry. The foreclosure deed was recorded on that date, the 17th.

BY MR. CROTEAU:

Q Go to 17 and look at it just so we're clear, okay? I don't want this record messed up.

The sale happened on 3/21 of '14, as a result and as set forth in this foreclosure deed; correct?

- A I'm sorry. My facts were wrong. Correct.
- Q All right. And it was recorded, up on the recorder stamp on the right-hand side on page 1 of Exhibit 17, as 4/17 of 2014; correct?
  - A That's correct.
- Q All right. Now, you get this deed sent to you from Red Rock; is that correct?
- A I do.
- Q All right. So there's a lapse between the time the sale actually occurs before you even have a deed to record; correct?
  - A That's correct.
- Q All right. But when you got it, you went and you recorded it; correct?
  - A That's correct.

allowed Mr. Croteau to go through a lot of leading questions, but at this juncture, he's testifying, and he's leading the witness --

THE COURT: Sustained.

MS. NOTO: -- all through all these documents.

THE COURT: Sustained. Rephrase.

# BY MR. CROTEAU:

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Q Based upon Exhibit 17, your foreclosure deed was recorded in the Clark County Recorder's Office in April; correct?

A It was.

Q Did anything get changed in the Clark County -- well, strike that. Did your foreclosure deed not get recorded because of some legal description issue?

A This document has nothing to do with the foreclosure deed. It only purports to they draw it off just like every other marketing company that's sent to the recorder, and they draw it off, and they look at the records, and they kindly adjust the records, the assessor's records, and what they're saying is we don't feel like adjusting it. They ain't even saying they weren't adjusting it. It just says to inform you that the assessor's office encountered it. It could be to inform me the Nevada Legal News has encountered a difficulty in this section. I mean, in other words, it's an informational document. It has nothing to do with the deed.

- Q All right. So the accompanying letter provides CB 93; is that correct?
  - A That's correct.

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- Q All right. And then what do you do, sir?
- A I went down and talked to a map person about what this was, and two or three people later, we came up with -- he came up with a document which I believe is actually the Celtic Bank rerecorded deed of trust because they recorded -- they rerecorded and did the same correction [unintelligible] least in there. So they essentially gave me that document and said you need to have this information -- I'm sorry, this information in and just rerecord it with this at the end.
  - Q Okay.
- A And just to clarify, that information further details the property. So the foreclosure deed is in no way inaccurate.
  - Q All right. Do me a favor then and look at CB 95.
- A Okay.
- Q All right. CB 95 was recorded, or I should say it says rerecorded 1/23 of '06; right?
- 20 A Correct.
  - Q Do you see that up top there?
- 22 A I do.
  - Q Now, you told us a couple of minutes ago that you used the Celtic Bank rerecorded deed of trust as your guide?
    - A I didn't use it as my quide. The guy at the

1 assessor's office --

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Q Perfect. So I'll represent -- we can go back and look, but the 1/23 of '06 is the rerecording of the legal description for Celtic Bank. You can find that at --

MS. NOTO: Your Honor, it's just that he's doing the same thing. He's testifying and leading the witness.

MR. CROTEAU: I'm taking him to Exhibit 6, Your Honor. It's very simple. I will drill it down. We'll be here all day.

- 10 BY MR. CROTEAU:
- 11 Q Exhibit 6 then. Go look at that, sir.
  12 [Unintelligible] what they are.
- 13 A Okay.
  - Q What's the recording of the assignment of rents that is correcting the legal description filed by Celtic Bank? What date did they file it?
- 17 A They filed it 1/23, 2006.
  - Q Okay. And is that the same date that you can find -well, hang on. I'll do it even better, and I apologize. The
    one you used was the deed. So let's go to Exhibit 5.
    - A I'm sorry. Exhibit 5. Okay.
- 22 Q Are you there?
  - A I am.
- Q All right. On Exhibit 5, do you see the number at the top, 020060123?

1 A I do.

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- 2 Q 0000482, top, top of the page, right side.
- 3 A I see it. I see it.
  - Q Do you see it?
  - A I see it.

THE COURT: Okay. Okay. One thing I'm having trouble with, you keep hitting that microphone, and I'm having trouble hearing, and I'm only getting bits and pieces.

MR. CROTEAU: All right. Then --

THE COURT: Do you want to take a break?

(No audible response)

THE COURT: All right. Why don't we go ahead and take a 15-minute break. All right?

THE WITNESS: Thank you.

(Proceedings recessed 3:22 p.m. to 3:38 p.m.)

THE COURT RECORDER: Okay. Okay. We are good.

THE COURT: All right. We are back on the record.

And, sir, I just want to remind you again that you've been sworn, okay, and do your best not to flip the book around the microphone. I know it's got to be really hard on my court recorder, and it is a bit distracting.

THE WITNESS: Okay.

THE COURT: Okay. Make sure it's pointed to you.

THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. Let me get it out of my face so I don't knock it.

1 MR. CROTEAU: My apologies.

THE WITNESS: Yes. It's one number off if you're -- BY MR. CROTEAU:

Q All right. And you got this. Someone at the recorder's office handed this to you?

A So someone at the recorder's office handed me a recorded -- somebody at the recorder's office handed me these same documents.

Q Okay. All right. Go to CB 96.

THE COURT: Okay. Hold on a second. You're going between exhibits, and I just want to make sure I've got --

MR. CROTEAU: I'm still on 18, Your Honor. I haven't got off.

THE COURT: Well, you got on to 5 because we got into one number off.

MR. CROTEAU: I referenced 5. All right. Meaning that, yeah.

THE COURT: Right?

MR. CROTEAU: Yeah.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. CROTEAU: Meaning it's just -- yes. But that's the instrument number.

THE COURT: Okay. Hold on a second. Let me go ahead and put this in my notes.

MR. CROTEAU: They may have recorded two of the first

1 pages, I don't know. But that's the one we have.

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THE COURT: Okay. All right. So now where are we? We're on 18?

MR. CROTEAU: CB 96 of Exhibit 18.

MS. NOTO: Your Honor, I'm just going to object that it misstates the document. If you'll see on page CB 00095 that he's referencing, this is a grant bargain and sale deed. This is not the deed of trust in Exhibit Number 5.

THE COURT: I understand.

MS. NOTO: Okay.

MR. CROTEAU: And that was denoted by the fact it was one number off. I was simply getting to the fact that these were all recorded at the same time. That's all I'm saying, and I was going to clean that up in argument, but that's the issue. BY MR. CROTEAU:

Q So at CB 00096, how did you obtain this with an X through it?

A So I obtained that document, I believe, by mail as well as on a different occasion was handed it at the assessor's office.

Q Okay. Did you put an X through to it?

A No. I believe they put an X through it because they wanted it retyped.

Q Okay. Let's go to CB 0097. How did you get this document, same thing?

- A That document was drawn from the previous document without the handwritten "East."
  - Q Okay. And who wrote "good legal" there?
- A So then I had it reviewed by the assessor who would've wrote "good legal."
- Q All right. Let's take a look at, and if you want to open your book up to do that and take it out, let's compare CB 96 to CB 97. Are you there?
- A I am.

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- Q Okay. If I take out CB 96, this is the one with the big X through it; right?
- 12 A Correct.
  - Q Okay. Now, I'm going to do this paragraph by paragraph, okay, so we keep it simple?
    - A You're going to do it how?
- 16 Q Go paragraph by paragraph.
- 17 A Okay.
  - Q Okay. I'm going to start from the bottom for a reason. I'm going to start at the bottom where it says, A nonexclusive easement. Do you see that?
    - A I do.
  - Q Okay. Is that the same language in the corrected deed?
- 24 A It is.
- 25 Q And that's under Parcel 2; right?

- 1 A Parcel 2; correct.
  - Q Okay. And then I'm going to ask you to check where it begins, Commencing by, and ending with Beginning over here.

    Do you see that?
    - A I do.

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- Q All right. I want you to compare 97 to 96. Are they the same except for the hand inclusion of "East"?
  - A And the words "of the north" versus the words -- oh, what's that say? I'm sorry. Just one moment.
    - They are the same.
    - Q They're the same; correct?
- 12 A Correct.
  - Q All right. And that's adding the word "East" in that one note here. Do you see that there, this "East"?
- 15 A Correct.
- 16 Q And that's here, right here. See that, it's typed in.
- 18 A Correct.
- 19 Q But for that, they're the same; is that correct?
- 20 A They are.
- 21 Q All right.
  - A They're the same. Just one is not handwritten, and one's typed in.
- Q That's fine. Let's go here where it says, A portion of the north, ending with, As follows. Do you see that?

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- Q All right. Compare CB 96 to the good legal description. It says, A portion of the north, and it ends with, As follows; right?
  - A Correct. I will represent everything is the same except for the handwritten "East" is now typed in.
  - Q All right. Well, this one is still not done yet. All right. And then it says, And Parcel 1. It says Parcel 1 there; right?
    - A Correct.

Yes.

- Q On CB 97. It also says Parcel 1 on CB 96. Do you see that?
- A Correct.
  - Q All right. So here's the change. Do you see they added an extra, I guess, one line? Do you see that right here?
    - A I do. Oh, I'm sorry. That line?
  - Q Yes. Instead of it being, All that certain real property situated in Clark County, State of Nevada, described as follows, they turned it into, Being a portion of Lot 1 of Gibson Business Park 3 on file in book 56 of plats, page 36 in the Office of the County Recorders of Clark County, Nevada, more particularly described as follows. Do you see that?
    - A I do. I do see that.
- Q Okay. So that's the change that you had to correct; right?

1 A I believe so.

2.0

- Q Okay. So as far as the metes and bounds go -- you know what metes and bounds are, do you?
  - A Yes.
- Q Okay. So as far as metes and bounds go, both are basically exactly the same; correct?
  - A Correct.
- Q The only thing that was changed is this prefatory -this beginning provision where it says it's a portion of Lot 1?
  - A Correct.
- Q And did you in fact rerecord a corrected deed for that purpose?
- A I rerecorded a corrected deed so that they would change that [unintelligible] sorry. I rerecorded the corrected deed so that the assessor would change who the mailings went to.
- Q Okay. And if you'll take a look at Exhibit 27, is this your rerecorded deed incorporating that change?
  - A It is.
- Q Okay. Do you have any understanding that somehow your rights to the property were impaired as a result of correcting this deed or waiting to correct this deed or anything of that nature?
- A No. My rights were impaired because the assessor liked to have a different language.

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A-15-728233-C | Celtic Bank v. Vegas United | 08/10/2017
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               Okay. Go to Exhibit 29, sir.
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          Α
               Okay. Okay.
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          Q
               Is this a copy of a mailing to you or a certificate
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     of mailing to you from Red Rock?
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          Α
               Okay.
 6
               Yes?
          Q
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               Yes, it is.
          Α
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               Okay. Is this where they sent you your deed? Let me
          Q
 9
     rephrase the question.
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               Did you get any mailings from Red Rock until after
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     you purchased the property?
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               Not regarding this -- no, not regarding this
          Α
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     property.
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               Okay. All right. And you did get a mailing from Red
          Q
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     Rock when you were provided the deed, did you not?
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          Α
               Yes.
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               Okay. And did they send it certified to you?
          Q
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               It appears so.
          Α
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               Okay.
          Q
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          Α
               I don't remember this document.
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               Okay. 32, please, sir.
          Q
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          Α
               Okay.
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               Is this certificate of sale accurate from 3/21 of
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     2014, at 10:00 a.m.? You purchased the property in question
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     that we're here about today for the sum of $30,000?
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1 A It is.

- Q Okay. Did you have any dealings whatsoever with Red Rock on this particular property prior to the sale of that?
  - A I try not to deal with Red Rock. So, no.
  - Q Okay.
    - A They're a collection company.
- MR. CROTEAU: Okay. I have no further questions.
- THE COURT: Okay. Okay. Redirect.
- MS. NOTO: Thank you.

## REDIRECT EXAMINATION

## BY MS. NOTO:

- Q Mr. Schmidt, you testified extensively that title to the -- excuse me -- that title had not actually transferred because based on the certificate of holding for delinquent assessments that the county was just holding it in trust, but there was no transfer of title. Was that your testimony?
- A I believe my testimony was that the document was recorded. So I don't exactly -- I don't agree with what you just said. So I don't believe I -- I hope I don't testify to that.
- Q Okay. I want to be clear. I understood your testimony to say that title had not transferred to anyone by virtue of the tax certificate. Is that fair?
- A No. No. I don't know how we're misunderstanding how title works.

1 Q Okay.

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- A We record in the county recorder's office.
- 3 Q I want to talk just about the taxes.
  - A Oh, I'm sorry. Oh, okay.
  - Q So you testified that you knew that there was a certificate of tax that had been recorded; right?
    - A That's fair. Yes.
  - Q And you testified that Clark County was holding the property in trust for Gibson Road LLC. You testified to that; correct?
  - A Correct.
- 12 Q Right. You testified that there was not a tax sale;
  13 right?
  - A Correct.
    - Q And so you also testified, if I recall, that Clark County can, if the taxes are paid, reconvey it back to a prior owner, whoever they were holding it in trust for. That was your testimony?
  - A Correct.
    - Q Okay. But my understanding was that at all times during that period it was being held in trust for Gibson Road LLC. Is that your testimony?
- 23 A Correct.
- Q I want you to look at Exhibit -25 MS. NOTO: Exhibit 29?

Q If I can help, I can point you to right here.

A If you can point me, that'd be great.

Q Delivers to whom?

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A Laura B. Fitzpatrick, the Treasurer of Clark County as trustee for the state of -- of the county --

Q Right. As trustee. What is being recorded? What is being delivered?

A A deed to the property described below.

Q Okay. So who held title to the property as of June 11th, 2015?

A It would appear that the county [unintelligible].

Q Correct. Okay. So you testified earlier in my direct and also in your conversations with Mr. Croteau that you have a great understanding of tax sales; is that fair?

A Sure.

Q And you testified to me that the county could only convey it back to whoever it had originally held it in trust. Do you remember that conversation?

A Sure. Correct.

Q Okay. So certainly you're familiar with NRS 361585 that talks about who the taxing authority can reconvey to. You certainly are familiar with that?

A I'm not familiar with any taxing authority

1 NRS statutes.

2.0

- Q Well, you testified you knew who the taxing authority could reconvey to. You extensively testified about that; correct?
- A I think I testified that I didn't see a lot of them, but this is what I've seen. You know, this is my understanding. They always go back.
- Q Would it surprise you then that NRS 361585 says that it can only be transferred to an owner, beneficiary under a note of deed of trust, a mortgagee under a mortgage, or a creditor under a judgment?
- A That wouldn't surprise me. Is that what you said? Would it surprise me? No, it wouldn't surprise me.
- Q But you testified it could be transferred back to a former owner.
  - A I think you're --
- Q Or it had to be transferred back to a former owner; correct?
- A Maybe you're making the distinction that it could be transfer back to a former owner. It says "owner" in the NRS statute you just read. So --
- Q Okay. But you claimed you were the owner at that time.
- 24 A Well --
- 25 Q Right?

- A But now you added the word "former" to it; right?
  - Q No. You added the word former.

MR. CROTEAU: Argumentative, Your Honor.

THE WITNESS: Okay. Well, I added the word "former" to it, but it's still an owner, is it not?

MS. NOTO: No.

THE WITNESS: What did you say former or -- BY MS. NOTO:

Q There's a former owner, and there's an owner of the property; is that fair?

A That's what your attorneys are supposed to -- you know, that's what you guys are for, to argue --

Q Well, Mr. Schmidt, it was your testimony that you believed that the taxing authority, pursuant to that reconveyance, could and would reconvey to the named owner in the certificate; is that correct?

A I did testify to that. I also testified that you could pay any day up until the sale date, and it would revert back to the prior owner, that it would transfer back to the prior owner.

Q That's not what the statute says. It says the taxing authority can reconvey to an owner, again, Owner, beneficiary under the note and deed of trust and mortgagee under a mortgage or a creditor under a judgment. You claim you were the owner at that time; correct?

A I'm sorry. I thought you were asking me about my testimony, and my testimony said any day prior to the sale date, if you go and pay the taxes, it would get transferred back to the owner, back to whoever they took it from.

THE COURT: Ms. Noto, you can go ahead and argue that during closing as well. I understand.

MS. NOTO: Very good. Thank you, Your Honor. BY MS. NOTO:

- Q And as far as liens on the property, you testified you weren't worried about going to the tax sale because you were going to be able to get it free and clear; is that correct?
  - A That's correct.

- Q And yet you've allowed a Republic Services lien to stay on the property; isn't that fair?
  - A I don't know of one, but there's --
- Q You don't know if there is a Republic Services lien on the property?
- A I don't know if there's a Republic Services lien on the property.
- Q They were a party in this action. You didn't know that?
  - A I did not know that.
- Q Okay. You testified that the 1994 amendment was the most up-to-date version of the CC&Rs; is that correct?

- A That's correct.
  - Q Okay. And let's look at that document again on Exhibit 2.
- 4 THE COURT: I'm sorry. What exhibit are you on?
- 5 MS. NOTO: Exhibit 2.
- 6 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. I thought you said we're
- 7 going to, and I was waiting for the answer.
- 8 MS. NOTO: Oh, I'm sorry.
- 9 THE WITNESS: No problem.
- 10 MS. NOTO: That was my mistake.
- 11 BY MS. NOTO:

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- 12 Q You also testified that you have extensive knowledge 13 of NRS 116; correct?
- 14 A Sure. Yes, I do.
- 15 Q And you know that it was enacted in 1991; right?
- 16 A Correct.
- Q Okay. So this document -- look up here -- was recorded in when?
- 19 A 1994.
- 20 Q Okay. And we've already established that there's
- 21 nothing in this document that incorporates or even mentions
- 22 NRS 116. Is that fair?
- 23 A Your specific line says, In this document.
- 24 Q Right.
- 25 A And in this document it does not reference 116.

- Q NRS 116. But it could have because NRS 116 had been enacted then; correct?
- A Well, if you read it as a whole, it is the up-to-date version of the CC&Rs which were recorded in 1989, which referenced 279, I believe, and 279 was replaced with --
- Q Okay.

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- A So it does reference NRS 116, but you wouldn't let me have the answer.
- 9 Q Well, let's look at that statute that you're so
  10 familiar with, 279. Let's look at that. Let's talk about that
  11 one.
- 12 MR. CROTEAU: It's 278A.
- 13 THE WITNESS: I'm not too familiar with 279.
- MR. CROTEAU: For the record, is 278A.
- 15 MS. NOTO: Oh, 278A.
- 16 BY MS. NOTO:
- 17 Q Let's look at that.
  - A And I'm not too familiar with it. I just know that when I look at older associations I know that that's how the compliance gets to NRS 116.
    - Q Are you familiar that that NRS 278.170 references the incorporation of 116 for open spaces?
      - A Well, actually 279 currently today --
- 24 Q On 278A.170.
- 25 A References open spaces generally.

1 spaces. Do you know that?

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- A I feel like you're making a distinction between what 278A references today versus what it may have referenced in 1991.
  - Q Okay. Did you look at the 1991 version?
  - A It's been a very long time, but I have.
- Q Okay. I did. Do you know that it references open spaces in 1991?
  - A So in 1991 or when the '91 statute was enacted?
- Q In 1991 --
  - A I guess both of it is current.
- 12 Q -- 278A, the version of the statute referenced the 13 incorporation of 116 for open spaces. Do you know that?
  - A So I will submit to you that it references open spaces if that helps you.
    - Q Okay. And this property is not an open space; correct?
    - A Well, the common-interest community, which is the CC&Rs, has open space.
- 20 Q Okay.
  - A Okay.
- Q But was this foreclosure pursuant to an open space or a property?
- 24 A I don't see a distinction.
- Q Okay. You said that you had done a lot of legal

MS. NOTO: Your Honor, at this time the plaintiff rests.

THE COURT: All right. Counsel, first witness.

MR. CROTEAU: I think we rest.

THE COURT: Okay. Argument.

MR. CROTEAU: Your Honor, with respect, is it --

THE COURT: Pardon me?

MR. CROTEAU: If it's possible, I would prefer to come back tomorrow for an hour and collect our thoughts. It would be a lot cleaner closing argument. I want to pull some statutes. I want to discuss with you some of the law, and I'd respectfully request -- I know you said we could go tomorrow, but maybe an hour tomorrow for closing.

MS. NOTO: Your Honor, I'm prepared to close. My client is here today. He doesn't need to go until tomorrow. I think if Mr. -- if Mr. Croteau is going to rest, then -- and he knew he wasn't going to call his witnesses, he should be ready to finish trial today.

MR. CROTEAU: Well, I wasn't -- I wasn't actually prepared to, but based upon the testimony today and stuff that has gone on in this case, I don't believe we need to go any further. I'm actually saving counsel the time coming back tomorrow and taking testimony again tomorrow because we would never finish.

MS. NOTO: You would save me time to do my closing

be unclear a little bit, not unclear, but not familiar, if you will, with tax sales. I want to bring you the statue and talk about them at the time of the arguments, to walk through them so we understand what we're doing, so it's all clear because I don't want to have confusion. I want to cite to you the statutes.

I want to make your life a little bit easier in giving you a clear roadmap as to what the case is. Counsel, I'm sure, wants to do the same thing, but so that's all. I mean, and I think it's going to take some time. I apologize, but I did save the Court a couple of witnesses and the task of going through any more of this. I think there's enough in the record to go from where we're at. So that was my only reason, and given the late hour, I thought it was more appropriate to do it the other way.

THE COURT: Okay. But usually I like to have full days, but --

MR. CROTEAU: No. No. And no disrespect.

Absolutely. It's certainly -- I have no qualms about the Court's issues timewise.

THE COURT: Okay. Ms. Noto, I'm going to just tell you this. Even if you took a half hour, he took a half hour, and then, of course, you're going to get time for rebuttal, we are clearly going to have to come back tomorrow anyway.

MS. NOTO: Fair enough, Your Honor.

THE COURT: And I agree with you, splitting it around 1 2 might not -- I don't want to put anybody at a disadvantage. So 3 why don't we go ahead and start tomorrow morning. MS. NOTO: That sounds fine, Your Honor. Thank you. 4 5 THE COURT: All right. 6 MR. CROTEAU: What time, Your Honor? 7 THE COURT: 8:30, how's that? 8 MR. CROTEAU: That's fine. 9 THE COURT: 8:30 good? 10 MS. NOTO: Yes. Absolutely. Yes. Thank you. 11 THE COURT: Okay. We'll see you tomorrow at 8:30. 12 (Proceedings recessed for the evening 4:13 p.m.) 13 -000-14 I do hereby certify that I have truly and correctly ATTEST: 15 transcribed the audio/video proceedings in the above-entitled 16 case. 17 18 Janie L. Olsen 19 Transcriber 20 21 22 23 24

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