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District TR

ORDER OF A DISTRICT COURT

NOTICE OF APPEAL TO THE SUPREME COURT FROM A JUDGEMENT AND

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NO: A-18-770532-C

**DEPT NO: 14C** 

Electronically Filed Sep 17 2018 03:47 p.m.

IN THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF MEDANDOWN FOR THE COUNTY OF CLARK

Clerk of Supreme Court

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TERESA R. BURWELL, PLAINTIFF/APPEALLANT

NEVADA ORTHOPEDIC AND SPINE CENTER LLP, DEFENDANT/RESPONDENT

**NOTICE OF APPEAL** 

Notice is hereby given that, Teresa R. Burwell, plaintiff/appellant, the above named, hereby appeals to the Supreme Court of Nevada, from the final judgment, Defendant's Motion to Dismiss, entered on this action, August 7, 2018, and mailed to the plaintiff on the same day, with her being in receipt of it August 8, 2018; leaving the 30 days valid through today, being the 8th was on a weekend. The order and judgment was entered on August 7, 2018, and the decision and order as stated was mailed.

The related cases to this appeal are District Court Case Number: A-18-770532-C (Appellant filed a Complaint against the defendant/respondent for two separate claims: 1.Professional Negligence and 2. Libel/Defamation of character. The other relative case is District Court Case Number: A-16-74034-J, where the plaintiff/appellant filed a petition for judicial review AND WON due to being abruptly wrongfully terminated from her employment because of an orthopedic report in which the defendant/respondent submitted which outlined statements that were both defamatory and slanderous. At the same time the defendant/respondent presented this orthopedic report he committed fraud and perjury by attesting that he released the plaintiff/appellant back to work during a January 6, 2016 office visit where he insulted the plaintiff/appellant and misrepresented the facts. The plaintiff/appellant has video footage to validate her claims and has yet to be given justice or be heard.

### REQUEST FOR PRO BONO COUNSEL IF AVAILABLE? - YES

#### STATEMENT OF FACTS

The plaintiff/appellant brought forth the above mentioned action, case number: A-18-770532-C, within the scope of the statutes, laws, and rules which govern such offenses and violations of libel/slander/ defamation of character for claim 2. While the plaintiff/appellant did not provide the court with a medical affidavit, she did provide the court with a legal defense which as upheld by the statute would prevent the need for one. However, the defendant filed a Motion to Dismiss, and having never denied any

allegations that were set forth in the plaintiff's/appellant's complaint, statements, opposition, and exhibits presented to the Court, the defendant was allowed to wiggle his way out of liability and responsibility.

#### **FOUNDATION OF THE CASE**

The plaintiff/appellant was being provided a very different form of treatment by the defendant after she sustained a right hand injury, while working at the Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas, otherwise known as Nevada Property I. While pulling the cart properly from the room, the rubber door stopper slipped on the tile surface while being lodged under the door. The plaintiff's/appellant's right hand was crushed between the door, the collector and threshold of the door; being lacerated between her ring finger and pinky due to the metal plating being broken and loose.

Upon being seen and treated by the Concentra clinic the plaintiff/appellant was placed on light duty, and her worker compensation claim was accepted. During the plaintiff's/appellant's course of treatment, she attended a round of physical therapy, which still offered no relief or resolve to her ongoing complaints, symptoms, and injury.

On October 20, 2015 the plaintiff/appellant was placed on full medical workers compensation leave; being eligible for both medical and financial benefits.

As prodigal, the plaintiff's/appellant's care was transferred to a hand specialist, where she attempted to enlighten them on the seriousness of her injury, while they were being dismissive to her complaints. The plaintiff/appellant provided Dr. Young a copy of her records from her doctor whom had treated her for a left hand injury and ultimately did carpel tunnel surgery. It is with this information the plaintiff/appellant was targeted and the accusations begin to fly is the reason she requested transfer of care from Dr. Young.

Upon the plaintiff/appellant's initial visit with the defendant/respondent, Dr. Arthur Taylor, he began to make accusatory statements about her personal injury case, which had nothing to do with why she was there. Dr. Taylor, thumbing through papers said, "I see you had carpel tunnel surgery even though the tests came back negative for it." The plaintiff/appellant stated, "Yes, the symptoms were there and the doctor felt it best to perform because as he stated tests can be off or not accurate sometimes, especially when symptoms are present." When asked why, the defendant stated he was just quoting what was in the report.

Once the plaintiff/appellant left, she was given a progress report, which stated she was still on medical leave and had not been released back to work. Each visit any recipient of workers compensation is required to call in to see if there is light duty work available. The plaintiff/appellant performed each routine call after each visit as required.

On January 6, 2016, the plaintiff/appellant reported to the defendant's office for a second follow-up visit. During triage, her blood pressure was charted at 185/143. Due to the level of pain the plaintiff/appellant was experiencing from her previous medical condition and now an added injury, where pain was only felt in her third finger of her right hand, the plaintiff was very sick on this day.

Once the defendant came in, he asked about the plaintiff's/appellant's holiday, where she went on to explain to him that after her toy give away, her middle finger on her injured right hand was not only still swollen, but stiff and throbbing with pain. The plaintiff/appellant went on to advise the defendant that her symptoms since injury weren't any better and requested further diagnostic testing because she felt something was not right and knew so.

The defendant then told the plaintiff/appellant she had more complaints than gunshot victims he treats. After the plaintiff/appellant questioned the arthritis diagnosis and attempted to explain to him why she could only complete one session of the **SECOND** order for physical therapy, the defendant became offended, and started cutting the plaintiff/appellant off and insisted it would be best for her care to be transferred and he walked out of the room slamming the door. (Video exhibit exists and has been provided)

Upon receipt of the routine progress report, the plaintiff/appellant was given the same restrictions, the same leave status, and was never told verbally or advised in writing that she would be released to full duty and needed to report to work immediately.

Following a personal matter the plaintiff/appellant, she advised at the time counsel of her need to leave town for two weeks while awaiting the transfer of care and would be available via phone, text, or email once they heard back from the workers compensation claims representative. Instead, the plaintiff/appellant received a phone call on February 2, 2016 from her then employer, stating she had been released back to full duty and could she come in the upcoming Thursday. Once the plaintiff/appellant made arrangements with her then employer and manager, Karen, the following she received an email from the Cosmopolitan's human resources department, stating that she was unreachable and needed to contact them.

It is upon asking the one who called the plaintiff/appellant, Karen, what was going on and why she advised human resources that she (Karen) informed the plaintiff/appellant she was on an unauthorized medical leave, the plaintiff/appellant was upon meeting with her then employer on February 22, 2016 wrongfully terminated for "being rude to her manager" and an unauthorized medical leave.

The plaintiff/appellant was too abruptly terminated from her medical and financial benefits she was receiving through workers compensation and denied a PPD rating.

Strangely, the plaintiff's/appellant counsel resigned from her case and she was left to pick up the pieces on her own, which she has been doing.

After a few months and in the course of her appealing unemployment decisions and workers compensation denial letters, the plaintiff/appellant went to seek treatment and a second opinion from a doctor in California, she obtained from her insurance website.

On or around June 6, 2016 (or later) the plaintiff/appellant had an appointment with a Dr. Matthew Enna, where he sent her for nerve study testing, gave her an injection, a brace and follow-up. Upon following up later in June 2016, the plaintiff/appellant was diagnosed with right hand carpel tunnel syndrome, trigger finger, and an ulnar nerve tear from her injury sustained on September 11, 2015.

In the course of appealing and filing proper civil complaints, the plaintiff/appellant delayed surgery until finding a doctor she was comfortable with and has since had the needed surgery on September 7, 2018, which is a result of her right hand being crushed on September 11, 2015.

#### STATEMENT OF DISTRICT COURT ERROR

The District court errored in judgment because the claims which were presented under the provisions of NRS 200.510 1. Libel is a malicious defamation, expressed by printing, writing, signs, pictures or the like, tending to blacken the memory of the dead, or to impeach the honesty, integrity, virtue, or reputation, or to publish the natural defects of a living person or persons, or community of persons, or association of persons, and thereby to expose them to public hatred, contempt or ridicule. 2. Every person, whether the writer or publisher, convicted of the offense is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

It appears that in order to evade the lawful liability and holding the defendant in the light of his actions, the judge was dismissive to the plaintiff's opposition and exhibits presented, which shed a preponderance of evidence onto the weight of the claims set forth in the original complaint. It appears that there has been no fair hearing and consideration of all evidence, both presented in exhibits and as matters of law because the judge has combined both claims set forth separately in the plaintiff's/appellants complaint as one.

The error in combining a case of libel, where the defendant defamed the plaintiff/appellant, lied on her, misrepresented the facts, and caused a domino effect with his untimely orthopedic report and full duty release which never occurred in the plaintiff's/appellant's presence is a miscarriage of justice,

While there may be some light of evidence in leaning towards a dismissal without prejudice in regards to the medical affidavit, the judge was still presented a timely opposition; one for which she either didn't care to read or consider because it bore reasonable evidence and argument which supported the law of Res Ipsa Loquitur, (the thing speaks for itself), is written as an affirmative defense against having to provide a medical affidavit.

The act of professional negligence all in itself is one thing, but upon the defendant releasing himself from the plaintiff's/appellant's medical case, he construed a fabricated written orthopedic report which violated the provisions set forth in NRS 200.510, NRS 630.3062, and the provisions set forth in the plaintiff's/appellant's original complaint.

The plaintiff/appellant, hereby requests this appeal and requests the Nevada Supreme Court to screen this case for such appeal in order for the proper claims that have been set forth against the defendant be heard fairly by review of all evidence, both exhibits, statements, and video. The plaintiff/appellant requests that sanctions be issued against the defendant for the violations set forth in all the pleadings the plaintiff/appellant has presented to the court in the above named case, and that the defendant not be allowed to evade the damages sought for actual and punitive damages, because if it had not been for his false reports and defamation the plaintiff's/appellant's outcome would've been handled differently and had a different outcome, both with her employment and workers compensation claim.

DATED THIS 10<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2018

RESPECTUFLLY SUBMITTED BY:

elec P Burul

TERESA R. BURWELL, PLAINTIFF/APPELLANT IN PROPER PERSON

CERT	IFICATE	E OF SE	ERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that on the date indicated below, I served a copy of this Notice of Appeal, Statement of Facts, and pleadings herein, upon all parties to the appeal as follows: By depositing a true and correct copy of the Notice of Appeal, Statement of Facts, and pleading herein, in a sealed envelope, and mailing it postage pre-paid to the following parties, with their names and addresses listed. Robert Mc Ryde 8329 W Smit Rand +200 9/10/ DATED THIS 10<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2018 ele L Bure TERESA R BURWELL, APPELLANT IN PROPER PERSON 1015 TIMBERLINE COURT, HENDERSON, NEVADA 89015 (702)628-4927 

Electronically Filed 9/12/2018 1:49 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

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IN THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CLARK

TERESA R. BURWELL,

Plaintiff(s),

vs.

NEVADA ORTHOPEDIC AND SPINE CENTER LLP; ARTHUR TAYLOR, MD; TINA WELLS, ESQ.,

Defendant(s),

Case No: A-18-770532-C

Dept No: XIV

### **CASE APPEAL STATEMENT**

- 1. Appellant(s): Teresa R. Burwell
- 2. Judge: Adriana Escobar
- 3. Appellant(s): Teresa R. Burwell

Counsel:

Teresa R. Burwell 1015 Timberline Ct. Henderson, NV 89015

4. Respondent (s): Nevada Orthopedic and Spine Center LLP; Arthur Taylor, MD

Counsel:

Robert C. McBride, Esq.

A-18-770532-C

Case Number: A-18-770532-C

-1-

1	8329 W. Sunset Rd., Suite 260 Las Vegas, NV 89113		
2	Respondent (s): Tina Wells, Esq.		
3	Counsel:		
5	Tina Wells, Esq. 8861 W. Sahara Ave., Suite 220		
6 7	Las Vegas, NV 89117  5. Appellant(s)'s Attorney Licensed in Nevada: N/A		
8	Permission Granted: N/A		
9	Respondent(s)'s Attorney Licensed in Nevada: Yes Permission Granted: N/A		
10	6. Has Appellant Ever Been Represented by Appointed Counsel In District Court: No		
11	7. Appellant Represented by Appointed Counsel On Appeal: N/A		
12	8. Appellant Granted Leave to Proceed in Forma Pauperis**: Yes, March 6, 2018		
13 14	**Expires 1 year from date filed Appellant Filed Application to Proceed in Forma Pauperis: N/A Date Application(s) filed: N/A		
15	9. Date Commenced in District Court: March 6, 2018		
16	10. Brief Description of the Nature of the Action: Unknown		
17	Type of Judgment or Order Being Appealed: Dismissal		
18	11. Previous Appeal: No		
19	Supreme Court Docket Number(s): N/A		
20	12. Child Custody or Visitation: N/A		
21 22	13. Possibility of Settlement: Unknown		
23	Dated This 12 day of September 2018.		
24	Steven D. Grierson, Clerk of the Court		
25			
26	/s/ Heather Ungermann		
27	Heather Ungermann, Deputy Clerk 200 Lewis Ave		
28	PO Box 551601		

Las Vegas, Nevada 89155-1601

A-18-770532-C -2-

(702) 671-0512

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cc: Teresa R. Burwell

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A-18-770532-C -3-

#### **DEPARTMENT 14**

## CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-770532-C

Teresa Burwell, Plaintiff(s)

VS.

Nevada Orthopedic And Spine Center LLP, Defendant

**(s)** 

Location: Department 14
Judicial Officer: Escobar, Adriana
Filed on: 03/06/2018

Case Number History:

Cross-Reference Case A770532

Number:

**CASE INFORMATION** 

88888

Statistical Closures Case Type: Other Civil Matters

09/10/2018 Motion to Dismiss by the Defendant(s)

Case Flags: Appealed to Supreme Court

In Forma Pauperis Granted

DATE CASE ASSIGNMENT

**Current Case Assignment** 

Case Number A-18-770532-C
Court Department 14
Date Assigned 06/14/2018
Judicial Officer Escobar, Adriana

**PARTY INFORMATION** 

Plaintiff Burwell, Teresa R Pro Se

702-628-4927(H)

Defendant Nevada Orthopedic And Spine Center LLP McBride, Robert C.

*Retained* 702-792-5855(W)

Taylor, Arthur, M.D.

Removed: 09/10/2018 Dismissed

Wells, Tina, ESQ

Removed: 09/10/2018

Dismissed

DATE	EVENTS & ORDERS OF THE COURT	INDEX
02/09/2018	Application to Proceed in Forma Pauperis Filed By: Plaintiff Burwell, Teresa R Application to Proceed in Forma Pauperis	
03/06/2018	Order to Proceed In Forma Pauperis Granted for: Plaintiff Burwell, Teresa R Order to Proceed In Forma Pauperis	
03/06/2018	Complaint  Filed By: Plaintiff Burwell, Teresa R  Complaint	
04/25/2018	Affidavit of Service Filed By: Plaintiff Burwell, Teresa R Affidavit of Service	
04/30/2018	Initial Appearance Fee Disclosure	

#### **DEPARTMENT 14**

### CASE SUMMARY CASE No. A-18-770532-C

Filed By: Defendant Nevada Orthopedic And Spine Center LLP; Defendant Taylor, Arthur, Initial Appearance Fee Disclosure

04/30/2018 Motion to Dismiss

Filed By: Defendant Nevada Orthopedic And Spine Center LLP; Defendant Taylor, Arthur,

Defendants Nevada Orthopedic & Spine Center, LLP and Arthur Taylor, M.D's Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint Plaintiff's Complaint for Failure to Comply with NRS 41A.097 and NRS 41A.071

05/25/2018 Opposition

Filed By: Plaintiff Burwell, Teresa R

Plaintiff's Opposition to Defendants' Motion to Dismiss Complaint for Failure to Comply with

NRS 41A.097 and NRS 41A.071

05/29/2018 Reply

> Filed by: Defendant Nevada Orthopedic And Spine Center LLP; Defendant Taylor, Arthur, MD

> Defendants Nevada Orthopedic and Spine Center and Arthur Taylor, M.D.'s Reply in Support of Motion to Dismiss Pursuant to NRS 41A.097 and NRS 41A.071

06/05/2018 Motion to Dismiss (8:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Smith, Douglas E.)

> Defendants Nevada Orthopedic & Spine Center, LLP and Arthur Taylor, M.D's Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint for Failure to Comply with NRS 41A.097 and NRS 41A.071

06/14/2018 Notice of Department Reassignment Notice of Department Reassignment

06/25/2018

Notice of Motion Notice of Motion Hearing and Notice of Department Reassignment

08/06/2018 Motion for Summary Judgment Filed By: Plaintiff Burwell, Teresa R

08/07/2018 Motion to Dismiss (9:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Escobar, Adriana)

> Defendants Nevada Orthopedic & Spine Center, LLP and Arthur Taylor, M.D.'s Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint for Failure to Comply with NRS 41A.097 and NRS 41A.071

09/06/2018 CANCELED Motion for Summary Judgment (9:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Escobar, Adriana) Vacated

09/10/2018 Notice of Appeal Notice of Appeal

09/10/2018 Order of Dismissal (Judicial Officer: Escobar, Adriana)

Debtors: Teresa R Burwell (Plaintiff)

Creditors: Nevada Orthopedic And Spine Center LLP (Defendant), Arthur Taylor, MD.

(Defendant), Tina Wells, ESQ. (Defendant) Judgment: 09/10/2018, Docketed: 09/11/2018

09/10/2018 Order Granting

> Order Granting Defendants Nevada Orthopedic & Spine Center, LLP And Arthur Taylor, M.D. S Motion To Dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint For Failure To Comply With NRS 41A.097 And NRS 41A.071

#### DEPARTMENT 14

## CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-770532-C

09/12/2018 Case Appeal Statement Filed By: Plaintiff Burwell, Teresa R Case Appeal Statement	09/11/2018	Notice of Entry  Notice Of Entry Of Order Granting Defendants Nevada Orthopedic & Spine Center, Llp And Arthur Taylor, M.D. S Motion To Dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint For Failure To Comply With Nrs 41a.097 And Nrs 41a.071	
	09/12/2018		

DATE	FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Defendant Nevada Orthopedic And Spine Center LLPTotal Charges253.00Total Payments and Credits253.00Balance Due as of 9/12/20180.00

A-18-770532-C

## DISTRICT COURT CIVIL COVER SHEET

County, Nevada

	Case No. (Assigned by Clerk's	's Office)	
I. Party Information (provide both hor	me and mailing addresses if different)		
Plaintiff(s) (name/address/phone):  Resea R Burnell  1015 Traberline Court  Henderson, Nu 89015		Defendant(s) (name/address/phone):  Neyada Urthupedic And Spine Can  Properties Taylor, AND The Muchs  2200 W Sahara MICC  14 Nu 89107	
Attorney (name/address/phone):		Attorney (name/address/phone):	
		(a) Vesas Ny 89117	
II. Nature of Controversy (please see	lect the one most applicable filing type	_	
Real Property		Torts Other Torts	
Landlord/Tenant  Unlawful Detainer  Other Landlord/Tenant  Title to Property  Judicial Forcelosure  Other Title to Property  Other Real Property  Condemnation/Eminent Domain  Other Real Property  Probate  Probate (select case type and estate value)  Summary Administration  General Administration  Special Administration  Set Aside  Trust/Conservatorship  Other Probate  Extre Value	Negligence Auto Premises Liability Other Negligence Malpractice Medical/Dental Legal Accounting Other Malpractice  Construction Defect & Cont Construction Defect Uniform Commercial Code Building and Construction Insurance Carrier Commercial Instrument	Product Liability Intentional Misconduct Employment Tort Insurance	
ver \$200,000  tween \$100,000 and \$200,000  inder \$100,000 or Unknown  onder \$2,500	Collection of Accounts Employment Contract Other Contract	Appeal Other  Appeal from Lower Court  Other Judicial Review/Appeal	
Civil Writ		Other Civil Filing	
Civil Writ  Writ of Habeas Corpus  Writ of Mandamus  Wytof Quo Warrant	Writ of Prohibition Other Civil Writ	Other Civil Filing Compromise of Minor's Claim Foreign Judgment Other Civil Matters	
Business C	ourt filings should be filed using th	He Business Court civil coversheet.	
Date Date	See other vide for family-re	Signature of initiating party or representative	

Nevada AOC - Research Statistics Unit Purstiant to NRS 3,275 A - 18 - 770532 - C CCS Civil Cover Sheet 4728783

Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT 1 **ORDR** ROBERT C. McBRIDE, ESQ. 2 Nevada Bar No. 7082 HEATHER S. HALL, ESO. 3 Nevada Bar No. 10608 CARROLL, KELLY, TROTTER, FRANZEN, McBRIDE & PEABODY 8329 W. Sunset Road, Suite 260 5 Las Vegas, Nevada 89113 Telephone No. (702) 792-5855 6 Facsimile No. (702) 796-5855 E-mail: rcmcbride@cktfmlaw.com E-mail: hshall@cktfmlaw.com Attorneys for Defendants, Nevada Orthopedic & Spine Center, LLP 9 and Arthur Taylor, M.D. 10 DISTRICT COURT 11 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 12 TERESA R. BURWELL, CASE NO.: A-18-770532-C **DEPT: XIV** 13 Plaintiff, 14 ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANTS 15 NEVADA ORTHOPEDIC AND SPINE NEVADA ORTHOPEDIC & SPINE CENTER LLP, ARTHUR TAYLOR, MD, CENTER, LLP AND ARTHUR TAYLOR. 16 TINA WELLS, ESO M.D.'S MOTION TO DISMISS 17 PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT FOR Defendants. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH NRS 18 41A.097 AND NRS 41A.071 19 Defendants, NEVADA ORTHOPEDIC & SPINE CENTER, LLP and ARTHUR 20 21 TAYLOR, M.D., came before the court on August 7, 2018 for hearing on Defendants Nevada 22 Orthopedic & Spine Center, LLP and Arthur Taylor, M.D.'s Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's 23 Complaint for Failure to Comply with NRS 41A.097 and NRS 41A.071. Having reviewed all 24 submitted briefs, no oral argument being necessary, and for good cause showing, the Court finds 25 as follows: 26 Voluntary Dismissal ☐ Summary Judgment DOF 27 ☐ Involuntary Dismissal ☐ Stipulated Judgment ☐ Default Judgment ☐ Ştipulated Dismissal Motion to Dismiss by Deft(s) ☐ Judgment of Arbitration 1111 28

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#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. On March 6, 2018, Plaintiff filed her Complaint against Nevada Orthopedic and Spine Center and Arthur Taylor, M.D. relating to care and treatment provided to Plaintiff from December 2015 to January 2016.
- 2. Plaintiff admits in her complaint, and reiterated at the hearing, that Defendant's treatment of her ceased on January 6, 2016, and that Dr. Taylor's last act as her physician occurred at the time of his January 29, 2016 written evaluation of her condition.
- 3. Plaintiff admits in her complaint, and reiterated at the hearing, that she was aware of the injury caused by the alleged negligence of Defendants on or about February 2016.

#### II.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. The entirety of Plaintiff's complaint sounds in professional negligence of a medical professional, as all alleged acts of the Defendants were alleged to be committed in the process of rendering medical services and involve medical diagnosis, treatment, and judgment. NRS 41A.015.
- 2. Because the complaint alleges only professional negligence under NRS Chapter 41A, the requirements of NRS 41A.071 and NRS 41A.097 apply to the entire complaint.
- 3. While not all allegations of unlawful conduct are necessarily professional negligence merely because they are committed by a healthcare provider, Plaintiff does not allege any wrongdoing by Defendants that occurred during performance of nonmedical services, and thus this complaint sounds in professional negligence. *See Szymborski v. Spring Mountain Treatment Ctr.*, 403 P.3d 1280, 1284–85 (Nev. 2017).
  - 4. Plaintiff's claim filed in February of 2018 is time-barred under NRS 41A.097(2),

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- 5. Additionally, because NRS 41A.071 applies, the complaint was void ab initio for lack of a concurrently filed medical expert affidavit, and the complaint **must be automatically dismissed**.
- 6. Because the complaint alleges only professional negligence under NRS Chapter 41A, the requirements of NRS 41A.071 and NRS 41A.097 apply to the entire complaint. NRS 41A.097(2) states that an action for professional negligence must be filed no more than three years after the date of injury or one year after the Plaintiff discovers the injury, whichever occurs first. Plaintiff admits in her complaint, and reiterated at the hearing, that she was aware of the injury caused by the alleged negligence of Dr. Taylor on or about February 2016. Thus, under NRS 41A.097(2), the one-year limitations period is applicable because it would expire before the three-year limitations period, in February 2017. For statute of limitations purposes, the complaint is considered filed upon receipt by the court, which was on February 9, 2018, with Plaintiff's application to proceed in forma pauperis. Because February 9, 2018 was more than one year after Plaintiff discovered the injury, the claim is time-barred under NRS 41A.097(2), and thus must be dismissed with prejudice.
- 7. Additionally, because NRS 41A.071 applies, the complaint was void ab initio for lack of a concurrently filed medical expert affidavit, and the complaint "must be automatically dismissed." Washoe Med. Ctr. v. Second Judicial Dist. Ct., 122 Nev. 1298, 1304 (2006).

1	Based on the foregoing and good cause appearing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that
2	Defendants, NEVADA ORTHOPEDIC & SPINE CENTER, LLP and ARTHUR TAYLOR,
3	M.D.'s Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint for Failure to Comply with NRS 41A.097 and
4	NRS 41A.071 is GRANTED.
5	IT IS FURTHER HEREBY ORDERED THAT Plaintiff's Complaint against Defendants
7	Nevada Orthopedic & Spine Center, LLP and Arthur Taylor, M.D. is <b>DISMISSED</b> .
8	IT IS SO ORDERED.
9 10	DATED this 6th day of September 2018.
11	HONOPIA DI FADRIANA ESCORAR
12	Respectfully Submitted By:
13 14	CARROLL, KELLY, TROTTER, FRANZEN, McBRIDE & PEABODY
15 16 17	ROBERT C. McBRIDE, ESQ. Nevada Bar No.: 7082
18	HEATHER S. HALL, ESQ. Nevada Bar No.: 10608 8329 West Sunset Road, Suite 260
19   20	Las Vegas, Nevada 89113 Attorneys For Defendants, Nevada Orthopedic & Spine Center, LLP and Arthur Taylor, M.D.
21   22	Approved as to form and content by:
23   24	DATED: day of August, 2018
25 26 27 28	By Teresa R. Burwell 1015 Timberline Court Henderson, Nevada 89015 Plaintiff in Pro Per

### 1 CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE I HEREBY CERTIFY that on the 10 day of August 2018, I served a true and correct 2 copy of the foregoing ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANTS NEVADA ORTHOPEDIC & 3 SPINE CENTER, LLP AND ARTHUR TAYLOR, M.D.'s MOTION TO DISMISS 4 PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH NRS 41A.097 AND 5 NRS 41A.071 addressed to the following counsel of record at the following address(es): 6 7 $\times$ VIA ELECTRONIC SERVICE: By mandatory electronic service (e-service), proof of 8 e-service attached to any copy filed with the Court; or 9 VIA U.S. MAIL: By placing a true copy thereof enclosed in a sealed envelope with 10 postage thereon fully prepaid, addressed as indicated on the service list below in the United States mail at Las Vegas, Nevada 11 VIA FACSIMILE: By causing a true copy thereof to be telecopied to the number 12 indicated on the service list below. 13 14 Teresa R. Burwell 15 1015 Timberline Court Henderson, Nevada 89015 16 Plaintiff in Pro Per 17 18 19 An Employee of CARROLL, KELLY, TROTTER, FRANZEN, McBRIDE & PEABODY 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

9/11/2018 4:33 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT 1 **NEO** ROBERT C. McBRIDE, ESQ. 2 Nevada Bar No. 7082 HEATHER S. HALL, ESO. 3 Nevada Bar No. 10608 CARROLL, KELLY, TROTTER, 4 FRANZEN, McBRIDE & PEABODY 8329 W. Sunset Road, Suite 260 5 Las Vegas, Nevada 89113 Telephone No. (702) 792-5855 6 Facsimile No. (702) 796-5855 E-mail: rcmcbride@cktfmlaw.com E-mail: hshall@cktfinlaw.com Attorneys for Defendants, 8 Nevada Orthopedic & Spine Center, LLP 9 and Arthur Taylor, M.D. 10 DISTRICT COURT 11 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 12 TERESA R. BURWELL, CASE NO.: A-18-770532-C 13 **DEPT: XIV** Plaintiff, 14 ν. 15 NEVADA ORTHOPEDIC AND SPINE 16 CENTER LLP, ARTHUR TAYLOR, MD, TINA WELLS, ESQ 17 Defendants. 18 19 20 NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANTS NEVADA 21 ORTHOPEDIC & SPINE CENTER, LLP AND ARTHUR TAYLOR, M.D.'S MOTION TO DISMISS PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH NRS 22 41A.097 AND NRS 41A.071 23 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an Order Granting Defendants Nevada Orthopedic & 24 Spine Center, LLP and Arthur Taylor, M.D.'s Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint for 25 26 27 28

**Electronically Filed** 

1	Failure to Comply with NRS 41A.097 And NRS 41A.071 was entered in the above-entitled		
2	action on September 10, 2018, a copy of which is attached hereto.		
3	114		
4	DATED this day of September, 2018. CARROLL, KELLY, TROTTER,		
5	FRANZEN, McBRIDE & PEABODY		
6			
7	Chather J. Chall		
8	ROBERT C. McBRIDE, ESQ. Nevada Bar No.: 7082		
9	HEATHER S. HALL, ESQ. Nevada Bar No.: 10608		
10	8329 W. Sunset Road, Suite 260 Las Vegas, Nevada 89113		
11	Attorneys for Defendants,		
12	Nevada Orthopedic & Spine Center, LLP and Arthur Taylor, M.D.		
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### 1 CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE I HEREBY CERTIFY that on the \frac{\int h}{d} 2 day of September, 2018, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANTS 3 NEVADA ORTHOPEDIC & SPINE CENTER, LLP AND ARTHUR TAYLOR, M.D.'S MOTION TO DISMISS PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH NRS 41A.097 AND NRS 41A.071 addressed to the following counsel of record at the 5 following address(es): 6 7 VIA ELECTRONIC SERVICE: By mandatory electronic service (e-service), proof of $\boxtimes$ e-service attached to any copy filed with the Court; or 8 VIA U.S. MAIL: By placing a true copy thereof enclosed in a sealed envelope with 9 postage thereon fully prepaid, addressed as indicated on the service list below in the 10 United States mail at Las Vegas, Nevada 11 VIA FACSIMILE: By causing a true copy thereof to be telecopied to the number indicated on the service list below. 12 13 Teresa R. Burwell 14 1015 Timberline Court 15 Henderson, Nevada 89015 Plaintiff in Pro Per 16 17 18 An Employee of EARROLL, KELLY, TROTTER, 19 FRANŽEŇ, McBRIDE & PEABODY 20 21 22 23 24 2.5 26 27

Electronically Filed 9/10/2018 4:08 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

1 **ORDR** ROBERT C. McBRIDE, ESO. Nevada Bar No. 7082 HEATHER S. HALL, ESQ. 3 Nevada Bar No. 10608 CARROLL, KELLY, TROTTER, FRANZEN, McBRIDE & PEABODY 8329 W. Sunset Road, Suite 260 Las Vegas, Nevada 89113 Telephone No. (702) 792-5855 Facsimile No. (702) 796-5855 E-mail: remcbride@cktfmlaw.com E-mail: <u>hshall@cktfmlaw.com</u> Attorneys for Defendants, Nevada Orthopedic & Spine Center, LLP 9 and Arthur Taylor, M.D. 10 DISTRICT COURT 11 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 12 TERESA R. BURWELL, CASE NO.: A-18-770532-C DEPT: XIV 13 Plaintiff. 14 ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANTS 15 NEVADA ORTHOPEDIC AND SPINE NEVADA ORTHOPEDIC & SPINE CENTER LLP, ARTHUR TAYLOR, MD, CENTER, LLP AND ARTHUR TAYLOR, 16 TINA WELLS, ESO M.D.'S MOTION TO DISMISS 17 PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT FOR Defendants. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH NRS 18 41A.097 AND NRS 41A.071 19 Defendants, NEVADA ORTHOPEDIC & SPINE CENTER, LLP and ARTHUR 20 TAYLOR, M.D., came before the court on August 7, 2018 for hearing on Defendants Nevada 21 22 Orthopedic & Spine Center, LLP and Arthur Taylor, M.D.'s Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's 23 Complaint for Failure to Comply with NRS 41A.097 and NRS 41A,071. Having reviewed all 24 submitted briefs, no oral argument being necessary, and for good cause showing, the Court finds 25 as follows: 26 ☐ Voluntary Dismissal ☐ Summary Judgment 111 27 ☐ Involuntary Dismissal ☐ Stipulated Judgment ☐ Ştipulated Dismissal ☐ Default Judgment Motion to Dismiss by Deft(s) Judgment of Arbitration 28 1111

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On March 6, 2018, Plaintiff filed her Complaint against Nevada Orthopedic and Spine Center and Arthur Taylor, M.D. relating to care and treatment provided to Plaintiff from December 2015 to January 2016.
- 2. Plaintiff admits in her complaint, and reiterated at the hearing, that Defendant's treatment of her ceased on January 6, 2016, and that Dr. Taylor's last act as her physician occurred at the time of his January 29, 2016 written evaluation of her condition.
- 3. Plaintiff admits in her complaint, and reiterated at the hearing, that she was aware of the injury caused by the alleged negligence of Defendants on or about February 2016.

II.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The entirety of Plaintiff's complaint sounds in professional negligence of a medical professional, as all alleged acts of the Defendants were alleged to be committed in the process of rendering medical services and involve medical diagnosis, treatment, and judgment. NRS 41A.015.
- 2. Because the complaint alleges only professional negligence under NRS Chapter 41A, the requirements of NRS 41A.071 and NRS 41A.097 apply to the entire complaint.
- 3. While not all allegations of unlawful conduct are necessarily professional negligence merely because they are committed by a healthcare provider, Plaintiff does not allege any wrongdoing by Defendants that occurred during performance of nonmedical services, and thus this complaint sounds in professional negligence. *See Szymborski v. Spring Mountain Treatment Ctr.*, 403 P.3d 1280, 1284–85 (Nev. 2017).
  - 4. Plaintiff's claim filed in February of 2018 is time-barred under NRS 41A.097(2),

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- 5. Additionally, because NRS 41A.071 applies, the complaint was void ab initio for lack of a concurrently filed medical expert affidavit, and the complaint **must be automatically** dismissed.
- 6. Because the complaint alleges only professional negligence under NRS Chapter 41A, the requirements of NRS 41A.071 and NRS 41A.097 apply to the entire complaint. NRS 41A.097(2) states that an action for professional negligence must be filed no more than three years after the date of injury or one year after the Plaintiff discovers the injury, whichever occurs first. Plaintiff admits in her complaint, and reiterated at the hearing, that she was aware of the injury caused by the alleged negligence of Dr. Taylor on or about February 2016. Thus, under NRS 41A.097(2), the one-year limitations period is applicable because it would expire before the three-year limitations period, in February 2017. For statute of limitations purposes, the complaint is considered filed upon receipt by the court, which was on February 9, 2018, with Plaintiff's application to proceed in forma pauperis. Because February 9, 2018 was more than one year after Plaintiff discovered the injury, the claim is time-barred under NRS 41A.097(2), and thus must be dismissed with prejudice.
- 7. Additionally, because NRS 41A.071 applies, the complaint was void ab initio for lack of a concurrently filed medical expert affidavit, and the complaint "must be automatically dismissed." Washoe Med. Ctr. v. Second Judicial Dist. Ct., 122 Nev. 1298, 1304 (2006).

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1	Based on the foregoing and good cause appearing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that
2	Defendants, NEVADA ORTHOPEDIC & SPINE CENTER, LLP and ARTHUR TAYLOR,
3	M.D.'s Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint for Failure to Comply with NRS 41A.097 and
4	NRS 41A,071 is GRANTED.
5	IT IS FURTHER HEREBY ORDERED THAT Plaintiff's Complaint against Defendants
7	Nevada Orthopedic & Spine Center, LLP and Arthur Taylor, M.D. is <b>DISMISSED</b> .
8	IT IS SO ORDERED.
9	DATED this 6th day of September 2018.
10	(). Carobar Z
12	HONORABLE ADRIANA ESCOBAR Respectfully Submitted By:
13	CARROLL, KELLY, TROTTER,
14	FRANZEN, McBRIDE & PEABODY
15	Norther J. Well
16	ROBERT C. McBRIDE, ESQ.
17	Nevada Bar No.: 7082 HEATHER S. HALL, ESQ.
18 19	Nevada Bar No.: 10608 8329 West Sunset Road, Suite 260
20	Las Vegas, Nevada 89113 Attorneys For Defendants,
21	Nevada Orthopedic & Spine Center, LLP and Arthur Taylor, M.D.
22	Approved as to form and content by:
23	
24	DATED: day of August, 2018
25	Ву
26	Teresa R. Burwell 1015 Timberline Court
27	Henderson, Nevada 89015 Plaintiff in Pro Per
28	

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE 1 I HEREBY CERTIFY that on the \( \bigcup \) day of August 2018, I served a true and correct 2 copy of the foregoing ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANTS NEVADA ORTHOPEDIC & 3 SPINE CENTER, LLP AND ARTHUR TAYLOR, M.D.'S MOTION TO DISMISS 4 5 PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH NRS 41A.097 AND NRS 41A.071 addressed to the following counsel of record at the following address(es): 6 7 VIA ELECTRONIC SERVICE: By mandatory electronic service (e-service), proof of $\boxtimes$ 8 e-service attached to any copy filed with the Court; or 9 VIA U.S. MAIL: By placing a true copy thereof enclosed in a sealed envelope with 10 postage thereon fully prepaid, addressed as indicated on the service list below in the United States mail at Las Vegas, Nevada 11 VIA FACSIMILE: By causing a true copy thereof to be telecopied to the number 12 indicated on the service list below. 13 14 Teresa R. Burwell 15 1015 Timberline Court Henderson, Nevada 89015 16 Plaintiff in Pro Per 17 18 19 An Employee of CARROLL, KELLY, TROTTER, FRANZEŇ, McBRIDE & PEABODY 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

## DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Other Civil Matters		COURT MINUTES	June 05, 2018
A-18-770532-C	Teresa Burwell, Plaintiff(s) vs. Nevada Orthopedic And Spine Center LLP, Defendant(s)		
June 05, 2018	8:00 AM	Motion to Dismiss	Defendants Nevada Orthopedic & Spine Center, LLP and Arthur Taylor, M.D's Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint for Failure to Comply with NRS 41A.097 and NRS 41A.071

**COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 11B

**COURT CLERK:** Carol Donahoo

**HEARD BY:** Smith, Douglas E.

**RECORDER:** Gina Villani

**REPORTER:** 

**PARTIES** 

PRESENT: Burwell, Teresa R Plaintiff

Plumadore, Dustin J. Attorney

#### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- Plaintiff, Teresa Burwell, appearing telephonically.

This is the time set for hearing on Defendants Nevada Orthopedic & Spine Center, LLP and Arthur Taylor, M.D.'s Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint for Failure to Comply with NRS 41A.097 and NRS 41A.071. Court called case and inquired as to why Ms. Burwell could not be personally present. Ms. Burwell stated that she has health issues and has a doctor's appointment; she is going to have surgery. Ms. Burwell represented that she contacted this Court's staff yesterday and requested a continuance but the Court denied her request. Court noted that Ms. Burwell was supposed to retain an attorney; she stated that she was still in the process of trying to find one.

PRINT DATE: 09/12/2018 Page 1 of 4 Minutes Date: June 05, 2018

#### A-18-770532-C

Court then informed the parities that Dr Taylor performed its hand surgery three (3) years ago. Although this Court is comfortable fairly adjudicating the merits of this case if either side wants the Court to recuse itself it will. Ms. Burwell stated she would like this matter to be reassigned. Therefore, in order to avoid the appearance of impropriety and implied bias and pursuant to Rule 2.11 of the Nevada Code of Judicial Conduct, this Court RECUSES itself and ORDERS, this case referred to Master Calendar and REASSIGNED at random.

PRINT DATE: 09/12/2018 Page 2 of 4 Minutes Date: June 05, 2018

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

**COURT MINUTES** 

August 07, 2018

A-18-770532-C

Other Civil Matters

Teresa Burwell, Plaintiff(s)

Nevada Orthopedic And Spine Center LLP, Defendant(s)

August 07, 2018

9:30 AM

**Motion to Dismiss** 

**HEARD BY:** Escobar, Adriana

**COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 14C

**COURT CLERK:** Denise Husted

**RECORDER:** Sandra Anderson

**REPORTER:** 

**PARTIES** 

PRESENT:

Plaintiff Burwell, Teresa R

Plumadore, Dustin J. Attorney

### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- Defendants motion to dismiss came on for a hearing before Department XIV of the Eighth Judicial District Court, the Honorable Adriana Escobar presiding, on August 7, 2018.

After considering the pleadings and argument of the parties, the Court GRANTS Defendants motion. The Court finds that the entirety of Plaintiff's complaint sounds in professional negligence of a medical professional, as all acts of the Defendants were alleged to be committed in the process of rendering medical services and involve medical diagnosis, treatment, and judgment. NRS 41A.015. While not all allegations of unlawful conduct are necessarily professional negligence merely because they are committed by a healthcare provider, Plaintiff does not allege any wrongdoing by Defendants that occurred during performance of nonmedical services, and thus this complaint sounds in professional negligence. See Szymborski v. Spring Mountain Treatment Ctr., 403 P.3d 1280, 1284 85 (Nev. 2017).

Because the complaint alleges only professional negligence under NRS Chapter 41A, the requirements of NRS 41A.071 and NRS 41A.097 apply to the entire complaint. NRS 41A.097(2) states that an action for professional negligence must be filed no more than three years after the date of injury or one year after the Plaintiff discovers the injury, whichever occurs first. Plaintiff admits in

PRINT DATE: 09/12/2018 Page 3 of 4 Minutes Date: June 05, 2018

#### A-18-770532-C

her complaint, and reiterated at the hearing, that she was aware of the injury caused by the alleged negligence of Dr. Taylor on or about February 2016. Thus, under NRS 41A.097(2), the one-year limitations period is applicable because it would expire before the three-year limitations period, in February 2017. For statute of limitations purposes, the complaint is considered filed upon receipt by the court, which was on February 9, 2018, with Plaintiff's application to proceed in forma pauperis. Because February 9, 2018 was more than one year after Plaintiff discovered the injury, the claim is time-barred under NRS 41A.097(2), and thus must be dismissed with prejudice.

Additionally, because NRS 41A.071 applies, the complaint was void ab initio for lack of a concurrently filed medical expert affidavit, and the complaint must be automatically dismissed. Washoe Med. Ctr. v. Second Judicial Dist. Ct., 122 Nev. 1298, 1304 (2006).

Counsel for Defendant is directed to prepare a proposed order including detailed findings of fact and conclusions of law, which is to be submitted to chambers in Microsoft word format, by email to dept14lc@clarkcountycourts.us.

CLERK'S NOTE: Parties notified as follows:

Teresa R. Burwell, via USPS to: 1015 Timberline Court, Henderson, Nevada 89015 Robert C. McBride, Esq. @ rcmcbride@cktfmlaw.com Heather S. Hall, Esq. @ hshall@cktfmlaw.com

PRINT DATE: 09/12/2018 Page 4 of 4 Minutes Date: June 05, 2018

## **Certification of Copy**

State of Nevada
County of Clark

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

NOTICE OF APPEAL; CASE APPEAL STATEMENT; DISTRICT COURT DOCKET ENTRIES; CIVIL COVER SHEET; ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANTS NEVADA ORTHOPEDIC & SPINE CENTER, LLP AND ARTHUR TAYLOR, M.D.'S MOTION TO DISMISS PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH NRS 41A.097 AND NRS 41A.071; NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANTS NEVADA ORTHOPEDIC & SPINE CENTER, LLP AND ARTHUR TAYLOR, M.D.'S MOTION TO DISMISS PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH NRS 41A.097 AND NRS 41A.071; DISTRICT COURT MINUTES

TERESA R. BURWELL,

Plaintiff(s),

vs.

NEVADA ORTHOPEDIC AND SPINE CENTER LLP; ARTHUR TAYLOR, MD; TINA WELLS, ESQ.,

Defendant(s),

now on file and of record in this office.

Case No: A-18-770532-C

Dept No: XIV

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto Set my hand and Affixed the seal of the Court at my office, Las Vegas, Nevada This 12 day of September 2018.

Steven D. Grierson, Clerk of the Court

Heather Ungermann, Deputy Clerk