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

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC.

Case No. 79271

Appellant,

Related Case No. 70754 Electronically Filed Feb 28 2020 06:57 p.m.

Elizabeth A. Brown

Clerk of Supreme Court

VS.

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST,

Respondent.

#### **APPEAL**

From the Eighth Judicial District Court, Department XIII The Honorable Elizabeth Gonzalez, District Judge District Court Case No. A-13-691323-C

#### APPENDIX TO OPENING BRIEF<sup>1</sup>, **VOLUME IV**

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Documents from Volumes 1-5 are identical to the Joint Appendix Volumes 1-5 of Related Case No. 70754.

# **Alphabetical Index**

Volume	Tab	Date Filed	Document	Bates
I	12.	10/8/2014	Affidavit of Publication	0054
I	2.	12/9/2013	Affidavit of Service	0008
I	3.	12/9/2013	Affidavit of Service	0009
I	4.	12/9/2013	Affidavit of Service	0010
I	5.	12/11/2013	Affidavit of Service	0011
I	6.	12/19/2013	Answer to Complaint	0012-0019
I	11.	6/18/2014	Answer to Counterclaim	0043-0053
VI	41.	12/20/2017	Association of Counsel	1038-1040
VI	46.	7/27/2018	Clerk's Certificate/Judgment (NVSC 70754)	1049-1062
I	1.	11/6/2013	Complaint	0001-0007
VI	60.	5/14/2019	Court Minutes (Calendar Call)	1114
VI	53.	2/28/2019	Court Minutes (Minute Order Advancing Calendar Call)	1077
VI	47.	8/29/2018	Court Minutes (Minute Order Resetting Status Check)	1063
VI	64.	5/28/2019	Court Minutes (Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Motion in Limine to Introduce into Evidence at Trial Documents Disclosed After the Close of Discovery)	1158
IX	107.	8/30/2019	Court Minutes (Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Motion to Retax)	1823
VI	52.	2/28/2019	Court Minutes (Status Check)	1076
VI	44.	3/20/2018	Court Minutes (Status Check: Status of Case)	1047
VI	45.	6/19/2018	Court Minutes (Status Check: Status of Case)	1048
VI	48.	10/15/2018	Court Minutes (Status Check: Status of Case)	1064-1065
VI	40.	9/19/2017	Court Minutes (Status Check: Stay)	1037
IV	22.	7/29/2015	Default Against New Freedom Mortgage Corporation	0790-0792
IV	21.	7/29/2015	Default Against Stephanie Tablante	0783-0789
II	14.	5/11/2015	Deposition of 30(b)(6) Designee Red Rock Financial Services Julia Thompson	0277-0301

Volume	Tab	Date Filed	Document	Bates
I, II	13.	5/11/2015	Deposition of 30(b)(6) Designee United Legal Services, LLC Robert Atkinson, Esq.	0055-0276
IX	93.	7/16/2019	Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law	1737-1744
VI	49.	10/17/2018	First Amended Order Setting Civil Bench Trial and Calendar Call	1066-1068
VI	62.	5/22/2019	Joint PreTrial Memorandum	1129-1146
VII	69.		Joint Trial Exhibit 1 (Grant, Bargain and Sale Deed)	1380-1384
VII	70.		Joint Trial Exhibit 2 (Deed of Trust)	1385-1404
VII	71.		Joint Trial Exhibit 3 (Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure)	1405-1410
VII	72.		Joint Trial Exhibit 4 (Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure)	1411-1417
VII	73.		Joint Trial Exhibit 5 (Assignment of Deed of Trust)	1418-1420
VII	74.		Joint Trial Exhibit 6 (Substitution of Trustee)	1421-1422
VII	75.		Joint Trial Exhibit 7 (Lien for Delinquent Assessments)	1423-1424
VII	76.		Joint Trial Exhibit 8 (Notice of Default and Election to Sell Pursuant to the Lien for Delinquent Assessments)	1425-1426
VII	77.		Joint Trial Exhibit 9 (Corporation Assignment of Deed of Trust)	1427-1429
VII	78.		Joint Trial Exhibit 10 (Notice of Foreclosure Sale)	1430-1431
VII	79.		Joint Trial Exhibit 11 (Foreclosure Deed Upon Sale)	1432-1435
VII	80.		Joint Trial Exhibit 12 (Notice of Breach and Default and of Election to Cause Sale of Real Property Under Deed of Trust)	1436-1441
VII	81.		Joint Trial Exhibit 13 (ULS Documents from Deposition)	1442-1469
VIII	82.		Joint Trial Exhibit 14 (Red Rock Documents from Deposition)	1470-1523

VolumeTabDate FiledDocumentVIII83.Joint Trial Exhibit 15 (HOA and 1s 100 LLC Contracts)	t 1524-1564
100 LLC Contracts)	
VIII   84.   Joint Trial Exhibit 16 (ULS Auction	1565-1567
Results)	
VIII 85. Joint Trial Exhibit 17 (ULS Emails)	1568-1611
VIII 86. Joint Trial Exhibit 18 (John Peter Lee	, 1612-1646
Ltd.'s Subpoena Duces Tecum	i
Response)	
VIII 87. Joint Trial Exhibit 19 (Title Policy)	1647-1663
VIII 88. Joint Trial Exhibit 20 (Red Rock'	s 1644-1711
Subpoena Duces Tecum Response)	
VIII 89. Joint Trial Exhibit 21 (Declaration o	f 1712-1718
Julia Thompson in Support of Red	
Rock Financial Services, LLC'	
Limited Opposition to Motion fo	r
Summary Judgment)	
IX 90. Joint Trial Exhibit 27 (BANA	1719-1723
Transfer Letter)	
IX 91. Joint Trial Exhibit 30 (Lease	1724-1733
Agreement)	
IX 98. 7/22/2019 Memorandum of Costs and	1 1778-1781
Disbursements	00261005
V 33. 10/11/2016 Motion for Final Judgment Pursuant to	
Rule 54(b) and to Stay Remaining	
Claims Pending Conclusion of Appea	
on and Order Shortening Time	0022 0042
I 10. 5/20/2014 Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Answer	
Counterclaim Against West Sunse	
2050 Trust and Cross-Claim Agains	l
IX 100. 7/22/2019 Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Case	2 1785-1788
Appeal Statement	1/03-1/00
VI 56. 4/26/2019 Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Firs	t 1086-1094
Amended PreTrial Disclosures	1000-1074
VI 61. 5/14/2019 Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Motion in	1115-1128
Limine to Introduce into Evidence a	
Trial Documents Disclosed After the	
Close of Discovery	
IX 102. 7/26/2019 Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Motion to	1790-1796
Retax	

Volume	Tab	Date Filed	Document	Bates
IX	99.	7/22/2019	Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Notice of Appeal	1782-1784
IX	95.	7/17/2019	Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Notice of Filing of Proposed Supplemental Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Judgment	1757-1771
IX	92.	7/15/2019	Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Notice of Voluntary Dismissal of Claims Against Stephanie Tablante Without Prejudice	1734-1736
IX	106.	8/22/2019	Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Reply in Support of its Motion to Retax	1819-1822
VI	58.	5/3/2019	Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Second Amended PreTrial Disclosures	1099-1108
IV	32.	7/1/2016	Notice of Appeal	0917-0935
VI	43.	1/30/2018	Notice of Association of Counsel for Bank of America, N.A.	1044-1046
VI	42.	1/18/2018	Notice of Change of Address	1041-1043
VI	54.	3/19/2019	Notice of Department Sealing and/or Redacting Procedures	1078-1079
VI	50.	11/2/2018	Notice of Disassociation of Counsel	1069-1071
IV	23.	7/29/2015	Notice of Entry of Default	0793-0798
IV	24.	7/29/2015	Notice of Entry of Default	0799-0808
IX	94.	7/17/2019	Notice of Entry of Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law	1745-1756
I	9.	2/4/2014	Notice of Entry of Order	0029-0032
IV	26.	2/16/2016	Notice of Entry of Order	0813-0820
IV	31.	6/3/2016	Notice of Entry of Order Denying Plaintiff's Motion for Reconsideration and to Alter and Amend Order Granting Nationstar Mortgage LLC and Bank of America, N.A.'s Motion for Summary Judgment	0911-0916
IX	109.	10/4/2019	Notice of Entry of Order Granting in Part Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Motion to Retax Costs	1827-1833
V	36.	11/10/2016	Notice of Entry of Order Granting Motion for Final Judgment Pursuant to Rule 54(b) and to Stay Remaining Claims Pending Conclusion of Appeal	1015-1022

Volume	Tab	Date Filed	Document	Bates
VI	39.	7/3/2017	Notice of Entry of Stipulation and	1030-1036
			Order for Disclaimer of Interest and	
			Dismissal of Bank of America, N.A.	
IX	101.	7/26/2019	Notice of Hearing	1789
VI	51.	2/7/2019	Notice of Lis Pendens	1072-1075
IX	103.	7/30/2019	Notice of Posting of Bond on Appeal	1797-1801
IX	96.	7/17/2019	Notice of Voluntary Dismissal of	1772-1774
			Defendant New Freedom Mortgage	
			Corporation Without Prejudice	
IX	97.	7/17/2019	Notice of Voluntary Dismissal of	1775-1777
			Defendant Stephanie Tablante	
			Without Prejudice	
III, IV	17.	6/10/2015	Opposition to Motion for Summary	0600-0737
,			Judgment and Countermotion for	
			Summary Judgment	
VI	63.	5/23/2019	Opposition to Motion in Limine	1147-1157
IV	28.	3/22/2016	Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion for	0891-0898
			Reconsideration and to Alter and	
			Amend Order Granting Defendants	
			Nationstar Mortgage LLC and Bank of	
			America, N.A.'s Motion for Summary	
			Judgment	
IV	30.	5/31/2016	Order Denying Plaintiff's Motion for	0909-0910
			Reconsideration and to Alter and	
			Amend Order Granting Nationstar	
			Mortgage LLC and Bank of America,	
			N.A.'s Motion for Summary Judgment	
I	8.	2/3/2014	Order Granting Dismissal of the	0027-0028
			Cooper Castle Law Firm, LLP	
IX	108.	10/2/2019	Order Granting in Part Nationstar	1824-1826
			Mortgage LLC's Motion to Retax	
			Costs	
V	35.	11/9/2016	Order Granting Motion for Final	1010-1014
			Judgment Pursuant to Rule 54(b) and	
			to Stay Remaining Claims Pending	
		- 10 15 5 5	Conclusion of Appeal	
IV	25.	2/8/2016	Order Granting Nationstar Mortgage	0809-0812
			LLC's Countermotion for Summary	
			Judgment and Denying Plaintiff's	
			Motion for Summary Judgment	

Volume	Tab	Date Filed	Document	Bates
IV	27.	3/4/2016	Plaintiff's Motion for Reconsideration and to Alter and Amend Order Granting Defendants Nationstar Mortgage LLC and Bank of America, N.A.'s Countermotion for Summary Judgment	0821-0890
IV	29.	3/28/2016	Plaintiff's Reply in Support of Motion for Reconsideration and to Alter and Amend Order Granting Defendants Nationstar Mortgage LLC and Bank of America, N.A.'s Countermotion for Summary Judgment	0899-0908
VI	65.	5/31/2019	Plaintiff's Trial Brief	1159-1164
VI	57.	5/1/2019	Plaintiff, West Sunset 2050 Trust's Objections to Defendant Nationstar Mortgage LLC's First Amended PreTrial Disclosures	1095-1098
VI	59.	5/6/2019	Plaintiff, West Sunset 2050 Trust's Objections to Defendant Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Second Amended PreTrial Disclosures	1109-1113
IX	105.	8/9/2019	Plaintiff West Sunset 2050 Trust's Opposition to Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Motion to Retax	1805-1818
IV	20.	7/13/2015	Recorder's Transcript Re: Calendar Call	0778-0782
I	7.	1/15/2014	Recorder's Transcript Re: Defendant, The Cooper Castle Law Firm's LLP, Motion to Dismiss; Plaintiff's Opposition to Motion to Dismiss; Countermotion for Leave to Amend Complaint	0020-0026
V	34.	10/26/2016	Recorder's Transcript Re: Plaintiff/Counter Defendant, West Sunset 2050 Trust's Motion for Final Judgment Pursuant to Rule 54(b) and to Stay Remaining Claims Pending Conclusion of Appeal on an Order Shortening Time	1008-1009

Volume	Tab	<b>Date Filed</b>	Document	Bates
IV	19.	6/24/2015	Recorder's Transcript Re: West Sunset	0760-0777
			2050 Trust's Motion for Summary	
			Judgment; Opposition to Motion for	
			Summary Judgment and	
			Countermotion for Summary	
			Judgment	
IX	104.	8/8/2019	Request for Transcript of Proceedings	1802-1804
VI	38.	6/30/2017	Stipulation and Order for Disclaimer	1027-1029
			of Interest and Dismissal of Bank of	
		~ /0 / <b>0</b> 0 1 <b>-</b>	America, N.A.	1000 1001
VI	37.	5/9/2017	Substitution of Attorneys	1023-1026
VI	66.	6/6/2019	Transcript of Proceedings (Bench	1165-1260
X 777		<b>7</b> /2 /2 0 1 0	Trial – Day 1)	10:1 107:
VII	67.	7/3/2019	Transcript of Proceedings (Bench	1261-1356
X 777		7/12/2010	Trial – Day 2)	1057 1070
VII	68.	7/12/2019	Transcript of Proceedings (Bench	1357-1379
	1.7	5/02/0015	Trial – Day 3)	0202 0477
II	15.	5/22/2015	West Sunset 2050 Trust's Motion for	0302-0477
7.77	~ ~	1/06/0010	Summary Judgment	1000 1007
VI	55.	4/26/2019	West Sunset 2050 Trust's Pre-Trial	1080-1085
IV	10	C/10/2015	Disclosures West Sevent 2050 Tweetle Banks in	0729 0750
IV	18.	6/18/2015	West Sunset 2050 Trust's Reply in	0738-0759
			Support of Motion for Summary	
			Judgment and Opposition to Countermotion for Summary	
			Countermotion for Summary Judgment	
III	16.	5/22/2015	West Sunset 2050 Trust's Request for	0478-0599
1111	10.	3/44/4013	Judicial Notice in Support of Motion	U <del>1</del> / O-UJ77
			for Summary Judgment	
			101 Summary Judgment	

# **Chronological Index**

Volume	Tab	<b>Date Filed</b>	Document	Bates
I	1.	11/6/2013	Complaint	0001-0007
I	2.	12/9/2013	Affidavit of Service	8000
I	3.	12/9/2013	Affidavit of Service	0009
I	4.	12/9/2013	Affidavit of Service	0010
I	5.	12/11/2013	Affidavit of Service	0011
I	6.	12/19/2013	Answer to Complaint	0012-0019
I	7.	1/15/2014	Recorder's Transcript Re: Defendant, The Cooper Castle Law Firm's LLP, Motion to Dismiss; Plaintiff's Opposition to Motion to Dismiss; Countermotion for Leave to Amend Complaint	0020-0026
I	8.	2/3/2014	Order Granting Dismissal of the Cooper Castle Law Firm, LLP	0027-0028
Ι	9.	2/4/2014	Notice of Entry of Order	0029-0032
I	10.	5/20/2014	Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Answer, Counterclaim Against West Sunset 2050 Trust and Cross-Claim Against Stephanie Tablante	0033-0042
I	11.	6/18/2014	Answer to Counterclaim	0043-0053
I	12.	10/8/2014	Affidavit of Publication	0054
I, II	13.	5/11/2015	Deposition of 30(b)(6) Designee United Legal Services, LLC Robert Atkinson, Esq.	0055-0276
II	14.	5/11/2015	Deposition of 30(b)(6) Designee Red Rock Financial Services Julia Thompson	0277-0301
II	15.	5/22/2015	West Sunset 2050 Trust's Motion for Summary Judgment	0302-0477
III	16.	5/22/2015	West Sunset 2050 Trust's Request for Judicial Notice in Support of Motion for Summary Judgment	0478-0599
III, IV	17.	6/10/2015	Opposition to Motion for Summary Judgment and Countermotion for Summary Judgment	0600-0737

Volume	Tab	<b>Date Filed</b>	Document	Bates
IV	18.	6/18/2015	West Sunset 2050 Trust's Reply in	0738-0759
			Support of Motion for Summary	
			Judgment and Opposition to	
			Countermotion for Summary	
			Judgment	
IV	19.	6/24/2015	Recorder's Transcript Re: West Sunset	0760-0777
			2050 Trust's Motion for Summary	
			Judgment; Opposition to Motion for	
			Summary Judgment and	
			Countermotion for Summary	
	• •		Judgment	
IV	20.	7/13/2015	Recorder's Transcript Re: Calendar Call	0778-0782
IV	21.	7/29/2015	Default Against Stephanie Tablante	0783-0789
IV	22.	7/29/2015	Default Against New Freedom	0790-0792
			Mortgage Corporation	
IV	23.	7/29/2015	Notice of Entry of Default	0793-0798
IV	24.	7/29/2015	Notice of Entry of Default	0799-0808
IV	25.	2/8/2016	Order Granting Nationstar Mortgage	0809-0812
			LLC's Countermotion for Summary	
			Judgment and Denying Plaintiff's	
			Motion for Summary Judgment	
IV	26.	2/16/2016	Notice of Entry of Order	0813-0820
IV	27.	3/4/2016	Plaintiff's Motion for Reconsideration	0821-0890
			and to Alter and Amend Order	
			Granting Defendants Nationstar	
			Mortgage LLC and Bank of America,	
			N.A.'s Countermotion for Summary	
			Judgment	
IV	28.	3/22/2016	Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion for	0891-0898
			Reconsideration and to Alter and	
			Amend Order Granting Defendants	
			Nationstar Mortgage LLC and Bank of	
			America, N.A.'s Motion for Summary	
			Judgment	

Volume	Tab	<b>Date Filed</b>	Document	Bates
IV	29.	3/28/2016	Plaintiff's Reply in Support of Motion for Reconsideration and to Alter and Amend Order Granting Defendants Nationstar Mortgage LLC and Bank of America, N.A.'s Countermotion for Summary Judgment	0899-0908
IV	30.	5/31/2016	Order Denying Plaintiff's Motion for Reconsideration and to Alter and Amend Order Granting Nationstar Mortgage LLC and Bank of America, N.A.'s Motion for Summary Judgment	0909-0910
IV	31.	6/3/2016	Notice of Entry of Order Denying Plaintiff's Motion for Reconsideration and to Alter and Amend Order Granting Nationstar Mortgage LLC and Bank of America, N.A.'s Motion for Summary Judgment	0911-0916
IV	32.	7/1/2016	Notice of Appeal	0917-0935
V	33.	10/11/2016	Motion for Final Judgment Pursuant to Rule 54(b) and to Stay Remaining Claims Pending Conclusion of Appeal on and Order Shortening Time	0936-1007
V	34.	10/26/2016	Recorder's Transcript Re: Plaintiff/Counter Defendant, West Sunset 2050 Trust's Motion for Final Judgment Pursuant to Rule 54(b) and to Stay Remaining Claims Pending Conclusion of Appeal on an Order Shortening Time	1008-1009
V	35.	11/9/2016	Order Granting Motion for Final Judgment Pursuant to Rule 54(b) and to Stay Remaining Claims Pending Conclusion of Appeal	1010-1014
V	36.	11/10/2016	Notice of Entry of Order Granting Motion for Final Judgment Pursuant to Rule 54(b) and to Stay Remaining Claims Pending Conclusion of Appeal	1015-1022
VI	37.	5/9/2017	Substitution of Attorneys	1023-1026

Volume	Tab	Date Filed	Document	Bates
VI	38.	6/30/2017	Stipulation and Order for Disclaimer	1027-1029
			of Interest and Dismissal of Bank of	
			America, N.A.	
VI	39.	7/3/2017	Notice of Entry of Stipulation and	1030-1036
			Order for Disclaimer of Interest and	
X 77	40	0/10/2017	Dismissal of Bank of America, N.A.	1007
VI	40.	9/19/2017	Court Minutes (Status Check: Stay)	1037
VI	41.	12/20/2017	Association of Counsel	1038-1040
VI	42.	1/18/2018	Notice of Change of Address	1041-1043
VI	43.	1/30/2018	Notice of Association of Counsel for Bank of America, N.A.	1044-1046
VI	44.	3/20/2018	Court Minutes (Status Check: Status	1047
			of Case)	
VI	45.	6/19/2018	Court Minutes (Status Check: Status	1048
			of Case)	
VI	46.	7/27/2018	Clerk's Certificate/Judgment (NVSC 70754)	1049-1062
VI	47.	8/29/2018	Court Minutes (Minute Order	1063
V 1	77.	0/27/2010	Resetting Status Check)	1003
VI	48.	10/15/2018	Court Minutes (Status Check: Status	1064-1065
			of Case)	
VI	49.	10/17/2018	First Amended Order Setting Civil	1066-1068
			Bench Trial and Calendar Call	
VI	50.	11/2/2018	Notice of Disassociation of Counsel	1069-1071
VI	51.	2/7/2019	Notice of Lis Pendens	1072-1075
VI	52.	2/28/2019	Court Minutes (Status Check)	1076
VI	53.	2/28/2019	Court Minutes (Minute Order	1077
			Advancing Calendar Call)	
VI	54.	3/19/2019	Notice of Department Sealing and/or	1078-1079
			Redacting Procedures	
VI	55.	4/26/2019	West Sunset 2050 Trust's Pre-Trial	1080-1085
			Disclosures	
VI	56.	4/26/2019	Nationstar Mortgage LLC's First	1086-1094
			Amended PreTrial Disclosures	
VI	57.	5/1/2019	Plaintiff, West Sunset 2050 Trust's	1095-1098
			Objections to Defendant Nationstar	
			Mortgage LLC's First Amended	
			PreTrial Disclosures	

Volume	Tab	Date Filed	Document	Bates
VI	58.	5/3/2019	Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Second Amended PreTrial Disclosures	1099-1108
VI	59.	5/6/2019	Plaintiff, West Sunset 2050 Trust's Objections to Defendant Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Second Amended PreTrial Disclosures	1109-1113
VI	60.	5/14/2019	Court Minutes (Calendar Call)	1114
VI	61.	5/14/2019	Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Motion in Limine to Introduce into Evidence at Trial Documents Disclosed After the Close of Discovery	1115-1128
VI	62.	5/22/2019	Joint PreTrial Memorandum	1129-1146
VI	63.	5/23/2019	Opposition to Motion in Limine	1147-1157
VI	64.	5/28/2019	Court Minutes (Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Motion in Limine to Introduce into Evidence at Trial Documents Disclosed After the Close of Discovery)	1158
VI	65.	5/31/2019	Plaintiff's Trial Brief	1159-1164
VI	66.	6/6/2019	Transcript of Proceedings (Bench Trial – Day 1)	1165-1260
VII	67.	7/3/2019	Transcript of Proceedings (Bench Trial – Day 2)	1261-1356
VII	68.	7/12/2019	Transcript of Proceedings (Bench Trial – Day 3)	1357-1379
VII	69.		Joint Trial Exhibit 1 (Grant, Bargain and Sale Deed)	1380-1384
VII	70.		Joint Trial Exhibit 2 (Deed of Trust)	1385-1404
VII	71.		Joint Trial Exhibit 3 (Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure)	1405-1410
VII	72.		Joint Trial Exhibit 4 (Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure)	1411-1417
VII	73.		Joint Trial Exhibit 5 (Assignment of Deed of Trust)	1418-1420
VII	74.		Joint Trial Exhibit 6 (Substitution of Trustee)	1421-1422
VII	75.		Joint Trial Exhibit 7 (Lien for Delinquent Assessments)	1423-1424

Volume	Tab	Date Filed	Document	Bates
VII	76.		Joint Trial Exhibit 8 (Notice of	1425-1426
			Default and Election to Sell Pursuant	
			to the Lien for Delinquent	
			Assessments)	
VII	77.		Joint Trial Exhibit 9 (Corporation	1427-1429
			Assignment of Deed of Trust)	1.120.1.121
VII	78.		Joint Trial Exhibit 10 (Notice of	1430-1431
X 777	70		Foreclosure Sale)	1.422.1.425
VII	79.		Joint Trial Exhibit 11 (Foreclosure	1432-1435
3711	90		Deed Upon Sale)	1426 1441
VII	80.		Joint Trial Exhibit 12 (Notice of Breach and Default and of Election to	1436-1441
			Cause Sale of Real Property Under	
			Deed of Trust)	
VII	81.		Joint Trial Exhibit 13 (ULS	1442-1469
V 11	01.		Documents from Deposition)	1112 1109
VIII	82.		Joint Trial Exhibit 14 (Red Rock	1470-1523
,			Documents from Deposition)	
VIII	83.		Joint Trial Exhibit 15 (HOA and 1st	1524-1564
			100 LLC Contracts)	
VIII	84.		Joint Trial Exhibit 16 (ULS Auction	1565-1567
			Results)	
VIII	85.		Joint Trial Exhibit 17 (ULS Emails)	1568-1611
VIII	86.		Joint Trial Exhibit 18 (John Peter Lee, 1612-1646	
			Ltd.'s Subpoena Duces Tecum	
X 7777	0.5		Response)	1547 1550
VIII	87.		Joint Trial Exhibit 19 (Title Policy)	1647-1663
VIII	88.		Joint Trial Exhibit 20 (Red Rock's 1644-1711	
3/111	90		Subpoena <i>Duces Tecum</i> Response)  Loint Trial Exhibit 21 (Declaration of	1712 1710
VIII	89.		Joint Trial Exhibit 21 (Declaration of Julia Thompson in Support of Red	1712-1718
			Rock Financial Services, LLC's	
			Limited Opposition to Motion for	
			Summary Judgment)	
IX	90.		Joint Trial Exhibit 27 (BANA	1719-1723
			Transfer Letter)	
IX	91.		Joint Trial Exhibit 30 (Lease	1724-1733
			Agreement)	

Volume	Tab	<b>Date Filed</b>	Document	Bates
IX	92.	7/15/2019	Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Notice of	1734-1736
			Voluntary Dismissal of Claims	
			Against Stephanie Tablante Without Prejudice	
IX	93.	7/16/2019	Findings of Fact and Conclusions of	1737-1744
			Law	
IX	94.	7/17/2019	Notice of Entry of Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law	1745-1756
IX	95.	7/17/2019	Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Notice of	1757-1771
			Filing of Proposed Supplemental	
			Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Judgment	
IX	96.	7/17/2019	Notice of Voluntary Dismissal of	1772-1774
			Defendant New Freedom Mortgage	
			Corporation Without Prejudice	
IX	97.	7/17/2019	Notice of Voluntary Dismissal of	1775-1777
			Defendant Stephanie Tablante	
137	0.0	7/22/2010	Without Prejudice	1770 1701
IX	98.	7/22/2019	Memorandum of Costs and Disbursements	1778-1781
IX	99.	7/22/2019	Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Notice of	1782-1784
			Appeal	
IX	100.	7/22/2019	Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Case 1785-1788	
	101	<b>-</b> (2.5 (2.0.1.0)	Appeal Statement	1=00
IX	101.	7/26/2019	Notice of Hearing	1789
IX	102.	7/26/2019	Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Motion to Retax	1790-1796
IX	103.	7/30/2019	Notice of Posting of Bond on Appeal	1797-1801
IX	104.	8/8/2019	Request for Transcript of Proceedings	1802-1804
IX	105.	8/9/2019	Plaintiff West Sunset 2050 Trust's	1805-1818
			Opposition to Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Motion to Retax	
IX	106.	8/22/2019	Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Reply in	1819-1822
			Support of its Motion to Retax	
IX	107.	8/30/2019	Court Minutes (Nationstar Mortgage	1823
			LLC's Motion to Retax)	

Volume	Tab	Date Filed	Document	Bates
IX	108.	10/2/2019	Order Granting in Part Nationstar	1824-1826
			Mortgage LLC's Motion to Retax Costs	
IX	109.	10/4/2019	Notice of Entry of Order Granting in Part Nationstar Mortgage LLC's Motion to Retax Costs	1827-1833

DATED February 28, 2020.

#### **AKERMAN LLP**

/s/ Scott R. Lachman

ARIEL E. STERN, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 8276
MELANIE D. MORGAN, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 8215
SCOTT R. LACHMAN, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 12016
1635 Village Center Circle, Suite 200
Las Vegas, NV 89134

Attorneys for Appellant

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 

I certify that I electronically filed on February 28, 2020, the foregoing

APPENDIX TO OPENING BRIEF, VOLUME IV with the Clerk of the Court

for the Nevada Supreme Court by using the CM/ECF system. I further certify that

all parties of record to this appeal either are registered with the CM/ECF or have

consented to electronic service.

[ ] By placing a true copy enclosed in sealed envelope(s) addressed as

follows: Not applicable.

[X] (By Electronic Service) Pursuant to CM/ECF System, registration as a

CM/ECF user constitutes consent to electronic service through the

Court's transmission facilities. The Court's CM/ECF systems sends an e-

mail notification of the filing to the parties and counsel of record listed

above who are registered with the Court's CM/ECF system.

[X] (Nevada) I declare that I am employed in the office of a member of the

bar of this Court at whose discretion the service was made.

/s/Carla Llarena

An employee of Akerman LLP

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### TABLE 3 TO SCHEDULE A

# Work performed by ULS:

- Notice of Forcelosure Sale with preparation, mailings, coordination of publication/posting, and recordation
- Title research to identify mailing addresses (\$40+ if outsourced as a "TSG") and obtain pdfs for subsequent use by First 100 in quiet title actions

#### Breakdown of Placement Payment (per parcel):

		Notes
\$275.00	Sales Agent fee for Notice of Foreclosure	Earned in full when publication order is sent
\$250.00	Addresses	\$40+ more if outside Trustee's Sale Guarantee
\$90.00	Publication of Notice of Sale	Or actual cost, if prices change
\$30.00	Mailing costs for Notice of Sale	Fixed per parcel, for ease of expense tracking
\$74.50	Service of Notice of Sale	Fixed per parcel, for ease of expense tracking
\$13.50	Public Postings of Notice of Sale	Fixed per parcel, for ease of expense tracking
\$17.00	Recordation cost for Notice of Sale	Fixed per parcel, for ease of expense tracking
\$750.00	Placement Payment (relating to Nevada pre-	-foreclosure)

## TABLE 4 TO SCHEDULE A

# Work performed by ULS:

- Holding of Auction
- Preparation of Foreclosure Deed
- [Optional]: Recordation of Forcelosure Deed

# Breakdown of Fees and Costs (per parcel):

\$100.00	Auction fees per parcel
<u>\$50.00</u>	Preparation of Foreclosure Deed
\$150.00	Auction fees (paid from auction proceeds, pursuant to NRS 116.31164(3)(c)(1)) (First 100
	responsible for fees in which the auction proceeds are lose than \$150)

Note: If First 100 optionally requests the ULS record the Forcelosure Deed, then additional fees and costs shall be charged as follows:

\$13.00	Trip to Recorder
\$17.00	Recordation costs of Foreclosure Deed
Varies	RPTT

CONFIDENTIAL

Page 6 of 6

# UNITED LEGAL SERVICES INC.

8965 South Eastern Ave Suite 350 Las Vegas, NV 89123 (702) 617-3263

Federal EIN: 46-1434376

INVOICE # ULS-009

BILL TO:

**INVOICE DATE** 03/29/13

On receipt

First 100, LLC 11920 Southern Highlands Pkwy, Suite 200 Las Vegas, NV 89141

**BALANCE DUE** \$11,906.00

# **Placement Payments:**

	DESCRIPTION	HOA	AMOUNT
1.	2615 W Gary Ave, #1065, Las Vegas, NV	Southgate	\$750.00
2.	7255 W. Sunset Rd., #2046	Tuscano	\$750.00
3.	7255 W. Sunset Rd., #2141	Tuscano	\$750.00
4.	7255 W. Sunset Rd., #1008	Tuscano	\$750.00
5.	7255 W. Sunset Rd., #2017	Tuscano	\$750.00
6.	7255 W. Sunset Rd., #2024	Tuscano	\$750.00
7.	1715 Laurel Ridge Court, Reno	Tuscano	\$750.00
8.	7781 Shalestone Way, Reno	Somersett	\$832,00
9.	1670 Autumn Valley Way, Reno	Somersett	\$832.00
10.	1684 Spicewood Circle, Reno	Somersett	\$832.00
11.	1695 Autumn Valley Court, Reno	Somersett	\$832.00
12.	2145 Heavenly View Trail, Reno	Somersett	\$832.00
13.	8135 Willow Ranch Trail, Reno	Somersett	\$832.00
14.	8985 Chipshot Trail, Reno	Somersett	\$832.00
15.	9099 Cabin Creek Trail, Reno	Somersett	\$832.00

Total

\$11,906.00

**BALANCE DUE** 

\$11,906.00

#### UNITED LEGAL SERVICES INC.

8965 South Eastern Ave Suite 350 Las Vegas, NV 89123 (702) 617-3263



BILL TO:

**INVOICE DATE** 04/27/13

On receipt

First 100, LLC 11920 Southern Highlands Pkwy, Suite 200 Las Vegas, NV 89141

BALANCE DUE \$750.00

**Placement Payments:** 

DESCRIPTION HOA AMOUNT

1. 7255 W Sunset #2140 Tuscano \$ 750.00

Total \$750.00

BALANCE DUE

\$750.00

#### United Legal Services Inc.

8965 South Eastern Ave Suite 350 Las Vegas, NV 89123 (702) 617-3263



NAMES OF THE PROPERTY OF THE P

**INVOICE DATE** 05/29/13

On receipt

First 100, LLC 11920 Southern Highlands Pkwy, Suite 200 Las Vegas, NV 89141

\$2,250.00

**Placement Payments:** 

\$0,14	DESCRIPTION	HOA	AMO	UNT
1.	7255 W. Sunset #1173	Tuscano	\$	750,00
2.	7255 W. Sunset #2018	Tuscano	\$	750.00
3.	7255 W. Sunset #2050	Tuscano	\$	750,00
<u> </u>		Total	¢7	250.00

**BALANCE DUE** 

\$2,250.00

#### UNITED LEGAL SERVICES INC.

8965 South Eastern Ave Suite 350 Las Vegas, NV 89123 (702) 617-3263 INVOICE # ULS-021

BILL TO:

**INVOICE DATE** 07/03/13

On receipt

First 100, LLC 11920 Southern Highlands Pkwy, Suite 200 Las Vegas, NV 89141

BALANCE DUE \$6,400.00

**Placement Payments:** 

34.14	DESCRIPTION	HOAS SEED HOAS	AMC	UNT
1.	7255 W Sunset #1049	Tuscano	\$	800.00
2,	7255 W Sunset #1082	Tuscano	\$	800,00
3.	7255 W Sunset #1088	Tuscano	\$	800.00
4,	7255 W Sunset #1151	Tuscano	\$	800.00
5.	7255 W Sunset #1169	Tuscano	\$	800.00
6.	7255 W Sunset #2039	Tuscano	\$	800,00
7.	7255 W Sunset #1032	Tuscano	\$	800.00
8.	7445 Crested Quall	Sun City Allante	\$	800.00
espinisti.		Total	\$6,	400.00

**BALANCE DUE** 

\$6,400.00

# Proceeds Reconciliation Report 6/25/2013

	**************************************			\$15,018.00	\$15,018.00
		Proceeds remitted to First 100	Remittance	\$12,880.95	
	Actual	Recordation RPTT costs for F100 (2 properties)	Costs	\$533.05	
NAC 116,470(2)(t)	NAC :	Foreclosure fee (2 @ \$150)	77	\$300.00	
NAC 115,470(2)(i)		Prepare and record transfer deed for above (2 @ S125)	Pees	\$250.00	
NAC 116,470(2)(h)	NEC 11	Conduct foreclosure sale - June 23 sale (2 @ \$125)	rees	\$250.00	
		From First 100 (2 properties)	Auction proceeds		\$6,000.00
NAC 116.470(2)(1)	II OAN	Foreclosure fee (1 @ \$150)	TI PO	\$150,00	
NAC 115,470(2)(3)		Prepare and record transfer deed for above (1 @ S125)	Fees	\$125,00	
NAC 116.470(2)(h)		Conduct foreclosure sale - June 23 sale (1 above @ \$125)	Fees	\$125.00	
NRS 116.31164(3)(c)	NRS 11	None	Excess proceeds	00.08	
		NV-TU3-03	Auction proceeds		57,800.00
150	NAC - cost	Recordation of release (2 @ \$22)	Stac	\$44,00	
NAC 116.470(2)(I)	THUYN	Release of Notice of Lien (2 @ 530)	70 60	00.03\$	
NAC 116,470(2)(q)	NACII	Payoff quote for above (2 @ \$150)	7605	\$300.00	
		NV-BE3-17 - 5261 River Glen Drive Unit 201	RRFS payment plan		\$525,00
		MV-503-27 - 10105 Prattville Ave	Superpriority		\$693.00
		Related to	What	CREDITS	DEBITS

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Checksum

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Excess -\$6,42

# EXHIBIT E

CERTIFICATE OF CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS 2 STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF CLARK) JULIA THOMPSON, being first sworn, states: I am employed by Red Rock Financial Services ("RRFS") as a supervisor, and in such capacity I am the custodian of the records. 8 On or about the 5th day of January, 2015, I received a Subpoena calling for the 2. production of records pertaining to West Sunset 2050 Trust v. New Freedom Mortgage Corporation, et al., District Court, Clark County Nevada Case No. A-13-691323-C. I and/or persons acting under my supervision have examined the information 3. and/or records requested, and have made a true representation of the information and/or an 13 exact copy of the records. I hereby certify that the information and/or reproduction of documents attached hereto are true and complete. DATED this \(\square\) day of February, 2015. 19 20 SUBSCRIBED and SWORN to before me me this 12 day of February, 2015.

lotary Public State of Novada My appt. 8kp. Sep. 18, 2018 §

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# **Red Rock Financial Services** Account Detail **Tuscano Homeowners Association**

Information as of: August 10, 2012

Red Rock Financial Services Account Number: R792725

Property Address: 7255 W Sunset Rd #2050, Las Vegas, NV 89113

New Freedom Mortgage Corporation,

# Detailed Summary

Date	Description	Amount	Balance Check#
12/01/201	1 Assessment	\$1,476.00	\$1,476.00
12/01/201	1 Late Fee	\$45.00	\$1,521.00
12/01/201	1 Association Setup Fee Resale	\$115.00	\$1,636.00
12/10/201	1 Late Fee	\$15.00	\$1,651.00
01/01/201	2 Assessment	\$164.00	\$1,815.00
01/10/201	2 Late Fee	\$15.00	\$1,830.00
02/01/201	2 Assessment	\$164.00	\$1,994.00
02/10/201	2 Late Fee	\$15.00	\$2,009.00
02/24/201	2 Intent to Lien Letter	\$125.00	\$2,134.00
02/24/201	2 Intent Mailing Costs	\$8.97	\$2,142.97
02/24/201	2 Intent Mailing Costs	\$8.97	\$2,151.94
03/01/201	2 Assessment	\$164.00	\$2,315.94
03/01/201	2 Association Interest	\$7.22	\$2,323.16
03/10/201	2 Late Fee	\$15.00	\$2,338.16
03/29/201	.2 Lien Mailing Costs	\$8.97	\$2,347.13
03/29/201	2 Lien for Delinquent Assessment	\$275.00	\$2,622.13
03/29/201	2 Lien Release	\$33.00	\$2,655.13
03/29/201	2 Lien Recording Costs	\$31.00	\$2,686.13
03/29/201	12 Lien Mailing Costs	\$8.97	\$2,695.10
04/01/20	12 Assessment	\$164.00	\$2,859.10
04/01/201	12 Association Interest	\$7.94	\$2,867.04
04/10/203	12 Late Fee	\$15.00	\$2,882.04
04/29/201	12 Association Interest	\$8.66	\$2,890.70
05/01/20	12 Assessment	\$164.00	\$3,054.70
05/10/20	12 Late Fee	\$15.00	\$3,069.70
	·		

7251 Amigo Street, Suite 100, Las Vegas, NV 89119 Phone: (702) 932-6887 Fax: (702) 341-7733

Red Rock Financial Services is a debt collector and is attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Printed: 8/10/12

# Red Rock Financial Services Account Detail

# Tuscano Homeowners Association

Information as of: August 10, 2012

Red Rock Financial Services Account Number: R792725

Property Address: 7255 W Sunset Rd #2050, Las Vegas, NV 89113

New Freedom Mortgage Corporation,

# Detailed Summary

Date	Description	Amount	Balance Check#
05/11/2012	Intent to NOD	\$90.00	\$3,159.70
05/23/2012	NOD Mailing Charges Adjustment	-\$71.76	\$3,087.94
05/23/2012	Notice of Default	\$375.00	\$3,462.94
05/23/2012	NOD Release	\$30.00	\$3,492.94
05/23/2012	? Trustee Sale Guarantee	\$320.00	\$3,812.94
05/23/2012	NOD Recording Costs	\$22.00	\$3,834.94
05/23/2012	NOD Release Recording Costs	\$22.00	\$3,856.94
05/23/2012	NOD Mailing Costs	\$89.70	\$3,946.64
05/30/2012	2 Association Interest	\$9.38	\$3,956.02
06/01/2012	2 Assessment	\$164.00	\$4,120.02
06/10/2012	2 Late Fee	\$15.00	\$4,135.02
06/29/2012	2 Association Interest	\$10.10	\$4,145.12
07/01/2012	2 Assessment	\$164.00	\$4,309.12
07/10/2012	2 Late Fee	\$15.00	\$4,324.12
07/30/2012	2 Association Interest	\$10.82	\$4,334.94
08/01/2012	2 Assessment	\$164.00	\$4,498.94
08/10/2012	2 Payoff Demand	\$150.00	\$4,648.94
8/10/201	2 lake fer	\$ 15.00	\$4,663.94

**RPLY** 1 Luis A. Ayon, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 9752 MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 12489 MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON 400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 Telephone: (702) 629-7900 5 Facsimile: (702) 629-7925 E-mail: laa@mgalaw.com 6 mes@mgalaw.com 7 Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant West Sunset 2050 Trust 8 9 10

Alun J. Chrim

**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

#### **DISTRICT COURT**

# **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust

Plaintiff,

VS.

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NEW FREEDOM **MORTGAGE** CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National Association; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company, COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Partnership Nevada Limited Liability **STEPHANIE** TABLANTE, an individual, DOES I through **X**: **ROE** and CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: A-13-691323-C

Dept. No.: XXI

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST'S REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND OPPOSITION TO COUNTERMOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Hearing Date: Hearing Time:

# AND ALL RELATED CLAIMS.

Plaintiff/Counterdefendant West Sunset 2050 Trust ("Plaintiff" or "West Sunset"), by and through its attorneys of record, the law firm MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON, hereby files this reply in support of motion for summary judgment and opposition to defendants Nationstar Mortgage LLC and Bank of America, N.A.'s countermotion for summary judgment ("Opposition").

///

This reply and opposition is made and based upon the following memorandum of points and authorities, the papers and pleadings on file in this matter and the argument of counsel at the time of the hearing.

DATED this 18<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

### MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON

\_/s/ Luis A. Ayon\_

Luis Ayon, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 9752
MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 12489
400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant West
Sunset 2050 Trust

# **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

#### I. INTRODUCTION

This is a simple case in which a borrower signed over a deed in lieu of foreclosure to her lender in full satisfaction of her debt and recorded the deed in lieu with the county recorder. By satisfying the underlying debt, the deed in lieu extinguished the deed of trust, which had secured the debt. Two years later, Plaintiff, a bona fide purchaser for value, bought the property at a foreclosure sale. Now, four years after the deed in lieu was recorded, Defendants Bank of America, N.A. and Nationstar Mortgage LLC ("Defendants") as successors in interest to a deed of trust, allege that the deed was fraudulent and barred by the Statute of Frauds.

Defendants have no evidence of fraud, and the Statute of Frauds is inapplicable for the reasons discussed below. Furthermore, even if the property had not been transferred back to the original lender in satisfaction of the debt, Defendants' interests were extinguished by the subsequent homeowners' association ("HOA") foreclosure.

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## II. ADDITIONAL FACTUAL HISTORY

Property records for 7255 W. Sunset Road, Unit 2050, Las Vegas, Nevada (the "Property") show that on or about March 1, 2011, Stephanie Tablante transferred title of the Property to her lender, New Freedom Mortgage Corporation ("New Freedom"), in full satisfaction of the debts secured by the Property. The transfer is evidenced by a Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure ("Deed in Lieu"), recorded on March 3, 2011, and re-recorded on June 21, 2011.

Defendants attempt to mislead the Court by asserting in their "Statement of Undisputed Material Facts," that Stephanie Tablante "never obtained approval to move forward with a deed in lieu of foreclosure." Opp'n at 3. Defendants go on to allege that Ms. Tablante "had her attorney unilaterally record a false deed in lieu to New Freedom Mortgage Corporation." *Id.* To the contrary, there is no evidence that Ms. Tablante acted fraudulently in recording the Deed in Lieu. A letter from the Clark County Assessor's Office dated March 18, 2011, shows that New Freedom was notified of the recording of the Deed in Lieu and provided with a copy of the document. *See* Opp'n, Ex. A. It is undisputed that New Freedom took absolutely no action to notify the Assessor's Office of any fraud or other error relating to the Deed in Lieu, at that time or at any time thereafter. Two years later, in proceeding with the Tuscano Homeowners' Association (the "Association") foreclosure, the Association and its agents reasonably relied on the Deed in Lieu in sending notices to New Freedom.

Plaintiff also disputes Defendants' assertion that no notice of the lien or notice of default was sent to BANA. *See* Opp'n at 4. At the deposition of Julia Thompson, the person most knowledgeable for the Association's agent, Red Rock Financial Services ("RRFS"), Ms. Thompson testified that the person who had prepared the notices for the Association foreclosure in this case no longer works at RRFS. Opp'n, Ex. C, at 13–14. Ms. Thompson testified that the notice of default and notice of sale are normally provided to all interested parties as shown on a title report. *Id.* at 9–10. Later on in the deposition, Defendants' counsel asked Ms. Thompson to whom RRFS had provided a copy of the notice of default. *Id.* at 18. Initially, Ms. Thompson stated that she did not know; and defendants' counsel immediately requested to go off record. When they came back, Ms. Thompson testified based on review of a document that the Notice of Default was provided to New

--

Freedom but not to Nationstar or BANA. Ms. Thompson had not prepared the Notice of Default and clearly had no recollection of to whom the notice was sent. Further, the document that caused Ms. Thompson to change her testimony was never entered as an exhibit or produced to Plaintiff. Also, it is undisputed that United Legal Services, the foreclosure agent, sent a notice of sale to New Freedom, BANA, Nationstar, and Cooper Castle one month prior to the auction date. *See* Deposition of Robert Atkinson, attached as Exhibit 10, at 23; Exhibit B to Deposition of Robert Atkinson, at 6, 9, 14.

## III. ARGUMENT

# A. DEFENDANTS MAY NOT RELY ON EVIDENCE THAT THEY FAILED TO DISCLOSE IN DISCOVERY.

As an initial matter, Defendants in their Opposition and Countermotion for Summary Judgment rely on documents not previously disclosed to Plaintiff. *See* Opp'n, Ex. A, B, E. Defendants are prohibited from relying on these documents under the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure.

Rule 16.1(a)(1) requires that a party "must, without awaiting a discovery request," provide other parties with all documents in the party's possession and which are discoverable. Rule 26(e) requires that parties supplement these disclosures with information subsequently acquired. Rule 37(c) states:

A party that without substantial justification fails to disclose information required by Rule 16.1, 16.2, or 26(e)(1), or to amend a prior response to discovery as required by Rule 26(e)(2), is not, unless such failure is harmless, permitted to use as evidence at a trial, at a hearing, or on a motion any witness or information not so disclosed.

Thus, under Rule 37(c), a party that has not disclosed information either in initial disclosures or a supplement to the initial disclosures may not use the evidence at trial *or on a motion*.

Defendants did not previously disclose Exhibits A, B, or E of their Opposition to Plaintiff. Exhibit A consists of several documents, which Defendants imply constitute the entire records of John Peter Lee, Ltd., regarding the Deed in Lieu. *See* Opp'n at 3; Opp'n, Ex. A. Exhibit B consists of a printout of a webpage, which Defendants assert demonstrates that New Freedom Mortgage merged into iFreedom Direct Corporation in 2008. That assertion is not supported by the printout;

but in any case, Defendants have never previously asserted that New Freedom ceased to exist in 2008 or that it merged into iFreedom Direct Corporation in that year. Exhibit E consists of a two-page document purporting to be Red Rock Financial Services Records, along with a custodian's certificate. *See* Opp'n at 4.

Discovery is now closed, and Defendants' attempt to introduce these documents constitutes unfair surprise and would cause substantial prejudice to Plaintiff. Plaintiff has no opportunity to investigate the import of these documents or to depose any witnesses that might have information relating to these documents. For example, Plaintiff questions whether the documents included as Exhibit A to the Opposition constitute all of the documents relating to the Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure and whether Exhibit E represents all the documents in the possession of Red Rock Financial Services relating to the Property.

Because Exhibits A, B, and E of the Opposition were not previously disclosed to Plaintiff in accordance with Rule 16.1(a)(1) or 26(e), this Court should disregard those exhibits for purposes of Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment and Defendants' Countermotion for Summary Judgment.

B. DEFENDANTS' PURPORTED INTERESTS UNDER THE DEED OF TRUST HAD BEEN EXTINGUISHED EVEN BEFORE THE DEED OF TRUST WAS ASSIGNED.

The Deed in Lieu satisfied all obligations secured by the Deed of Trust. Consequently, the Deed of Trust was extinguished, and Defendants have no interest in the Property.

1. The Deed in Lieu Satisfied the Underlying Debt and Extinguished the Deed of Trust.

In Nevada, a loan secured by real property is often evidenced by a note and a deed of trust. See Edelstein v. Bank of N.Y. Mellon, 286 P.3d 249, 254 (Nev. 2012). "The note represents the right to the repayment of the debt, while the deed of trust represents the security interest in the property that is being used to secure the note." Id. The deed of trust is considered a form of mortgage and does not convey title but "merely a lien on the property as security for the debt." Id. The beneficiary of the deed of trust does not have a right to repayment on the loan; only the holder of the note is entitled to repayment. Bergenfield v. Bank of Am., 302 P.3d 1141, 1142 (Nev. 2013). When the underlying debt has been satisfied, a mortgage or deed of trust becomes void. See Deutsche

Bank Nat'l Trust Co. v. Fitchburg Capital, LLC, 471 Mass. 248, 254, 28 N.E.3d 416, 422 (2015) ("[A] mortgage derives its vitality from the debt it secures," and "does not generally have a binding effect that survives its underlying obligation."); see also Alliance Mortg. Co. v. Rothwell, 10 Cal. 4th 1226, 1235, 44 Cal. Rptr. 2d 352, 357, 900 P.2d 601, 606 (1995) ("A security interest cannot exist without an underlying obligation, and therefore a mortgage or deed of trust is generally extinguished by either payment or sale of the property in an amount which satisfies the lien.").

Here, the Deed in Lieu on its face conveyed absolute title to the Property to New Freedom in full satisfaction of the debts secured by the Property. When New Freedom accepted the Deed in Lieu, the note was fully satisfied. Because the Deed of Trust represented only a security interest in the Property based on the underlying debt, the satisfaction of the underlying debt extinguished the Deed of Trust, or at least any beneficial interest under the Deed of Trust. Moreover, Defendants have not even claimed that they own the Note on which the Deed of Trust was based. The Note has been satisfied; as a result, Defendants as the purported assignees of the beneficial interest of the Deed of Trust have no interest in the Property. Defendants therefore can claim no interest under the Deed of Trust.

#### 2. Defendants Have No Evidence that the Deed in Lieu Was Fraudulent.

Defendants desperately attempt to dismiss the effects of the Deed in Lieu by alleging fraud, but there is no evidence of fraud here.

Defendants cite the absence of documentation in a very sparse file subpoenaed from John Peter Lee, Ltd., attached as Exhibit A to Defendants' Opposition, to show that Ms. Tablante acted fraudulently in recording the Deed in Lieu. Opp'n at 3. Defendants also conclude that fraud was involved because "the 30(b)(6) witness for the Law Offices of John Peter Lee, Esq. failed to appear twice at scheduled depositions in this matter." Opp'n at 7.

Defendants' allegations of fraud are unfounded. It would be an incredible leap for a court to conclude that the nonappearance of a witness for a deposition signified fraud in the underlying subject of the deposition. In addition, as discussed above, this Court should disregard the purported file subpoenaed from John Peter Lee, Ltd.

Even if the Court were to consider the documents, however, the documents provided by the

custodian are so sparse the Court should question whether the custodian's response really contains every document relating to the Deed in Lieu, or whether some documents were not in the file for any of a number of reasons. One can hardly conclude from this lack of evidence, particularly on a summary judgment motion, that New Freedom never agreed to accept the Deed in Lieu. To the contrary, Defendants' own documents show that the Clark County Assessor's Office sent a copy of the Deed in Lieu to New Freedom by letter dated March 18, 2011. See Opp'n, Ex. A. New Freedom received a copy of the recording and would have received copies of tax bills, as well as HOA notices; yet, New Freedom never once contested the validity of the Deed in Lieu. The fact that New Freedom (or its successors) never contested the validity of the Deed in Lieu speaks strongly in showing that the Deed in Lieu was not fraudulent. Furthermore, by waiting years after the recording of the Deed in Lieu, Defendants are estopped from asserting fraud. If the allegations of fraud were true, then New Freedom, BANA and Nationstar negligently failed to reject the Deed in Lieu when it was recorded or when they became assignees of the beneficial interest under the Deed of Trust.

Defendants have no proof of any fraud and cannot overcome the presumption that the recorded Deed in Lieu is valid.

# 3. The Statute of Frauds does not apply here, and the Deed in Lieu Was Effective Without New Freedom's Signature.

Defendants argue the Statute of Frauds as an affirmative defense to attempt to avoid the clear conclusion that the Deed in Lieu extinguished any beneficial interest under the Deed of Trust. As an initial matter, this Court should disregard Defendants' assertion of the Statute of Frauds: Defendants did not plead the Statute of Frauds as an affirmative defense in accordance with NRCP 8(c). BANA's Answer to Complaint, at 6–7; Nationstar Mortgage, LLC's Answer, Counterclaim Against West Sunset 2050 Trust and Cross-Claim Against Stephanie Tablante, at 2–3. Where a party fails to plead the Statute of Frauds as an affirmative defense, that defense is waived. *See Coray v. Hom*, 80 Nev. 39, 389 P.2d 76 (1964) (remanding with instructions not to consider the purported defense of the statute of frauds because that had been waived by failing to plead it as an affirmative defense).

Since Defendants did not plead the Statue of Frauds as an affirmative defense, they have waived the defense.

Even if Defendants had not waived the affirmative defense, the Statute of Frauds does not invalidate the transfer of title from Ms. Tablante to New Freedom via the Deed in Lieu. NRS 111.105 provides that a conveyance of land "may be made by deed, signed by the person from whom the estate or interest is intended to pass . . . , acknowledged or proved, and recorded." The statute does not require that the recipient of real property countersign the deed. Rather, the conveyance is complete when the deed has been executed by the grantor, acknowledged, and recorded.

Since it is undisputed here that the Deed in Lieu was executed by Ms. Tablante, acknowledged, and recorded, title of the Property was effectively transferred from Ms. Tablante to New Freedom. Defendants' argument that the Deed was invalid because it was not signed by New Freedom is nonsensical—Defendants might as well say the original deed to Ms. Tablante and the Deed of Trust were all invalid because they were signed by the grantors of the deeds but not the grantees! Although Ms. Tablante properly conveyed the Property to New Freedom pursuant to NRS 111.105, New Freedom made no promises to Ms. Tablante that required recordation. Defendants therefore cannot argue that the absence of New Freedom's signature on the Deed in Lieu invalidated the Deed in Lieu under the Statute of Frauds.

The Statute of Frauds also does not apply because Ms. Tablante fully performed under the contract, and assuming *arguendo* that the contract had previously been invalid, New Freedom ratified the contract by its silence notwithstanding notice of the Deed in Lieu. *See Wiley v. Cook*, 94 Nev. 558 at 565 ("Each of the above understandings, however, were taken out of the statute of frauds by part performance . . ."); *cf.* NRS 111.015 ("Nothing contained in this chapter shall be construed to abridge the powers of courts to compel the specific performance of agreements in cases of part performance of such agreements.").

Because the Deed in Lieu, pursuant to NRS 111.105, did not require New Freedom's signature, the Deed in Lieu was effective in transferring title and satisfying the debt obligations

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secured by the Property. Consequently, the security interest represented by the Deed of Trust was extinguished.

# C. EVEN IF SOME DEFECT OR FRAUD IN RECORDING THE DEED IN LIEU EXISTED, PLAINTIFF'S TITLE IS PROTECTED UNDER THE BONA FIDE PURCHASER DOCTRINE.

Defendants have no evidence that the Deed in Lieu was defective or fraudulent; but even if they had such evidence, Plaintiff's title is protected by the bona fide purchaser doctrine.

# 1. NRS 111.180 Bars Any Allegation of Fraud Regarding the Deed in Lieu.

NRS 111.180 codifies the bona fide purchaser doctrine, protecting one who purchases in good faith and for valuable consideration. Fraud in a prior conveyance may not be asserted against a subsequent purchaser for value unless that purchaser had actual knowledge, constructive notice or reasonable cause to know of the fraud intended. NRS 111.180(2).

Here, New Freedom had become the title owner of the Property in 2011. From 2011 to 2013, New Freedom did not contest the validity of the Deed in Lieu or otherwise dispute that it was the title owner of the Property. Although assignments of the beneficial interests in the Deed of Trust were made in 2011 and 2013, these were insufficient to constitute reasonable cause to know of a fraud. First, one would assume that the assignee of a deed of trust would perform a record search when accepting the assignment. However, neither BANA nor Nationstar disputed the validity of the Deed in Lieu prior to institution of this action. Second, although BANA and Nationstar argue that the assignments themselves should have put Plaintiff on notice of the fraud, the assignments only purported to transfer a beneficial interest under the original Deed of Trust. The assignments do not assert an amount still due under the original note or otherwise lay claim to the Property. In fact, Defendants have never asserted in this action that they even hold the original note or any right to payment on that note. Cf. Edelstein v. Bank of N.Y. Mellon, 286 P.3d 249, 252 (Nev. 2012) ("[F]or a subsequent lender to establish that it is entitled to enforce a promissory note, it must present evidence showing endorsement of the note either in its favor or in favor of its servicer."). Since the original note was satisfied by the Deed in Lieu, any transfer of the beneficial interest under the Deed of Trust had no substance. At most, the assignments show that the banks, who were likely

transferring hundreds of these interests at a time, were not paying any attention to the specifics of individual properties and whether or not any actual interest in the properties remained.

## 2. The Bona Fide Purchaser Doctrine, under NRS 111.180, Applies to Purchasers at an HOA Foreclosure Sale.

Defendants argue that "[t]he good faith purchaser standard has no application to an HOA foreclosure sale," because the legislature "abandoned" the standard as applied to HOA foreclosure sales. Defendants cite to the omission from NRS Chapter 116 of a provision in the 1982 version of the Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act ("UCIOA") that specifically provides that a good faith purchaser for value acquires a unit free of the association's debt and any subordinate interest. While it is true that NRS Chapter 116 does not specifically include this provision of the UCIOA, the omission from Chapter 116 does not reflect a legislative intent that the bona fide purchaser doctrine not apply to purchasers at HOA foreclosure sales. The plain language of NRS Chapter 111 applies to all conveyances of property, whether between a traditional buyer and sale, or between a trustee and purchaser at a foreclosure sale. Nowhere does NRS Chapter 116 limit application of NRS 111.180's bona fide purchaser doctrine in the HOA foreclosure sale context. Because the plain language is clear, this Court need not guess at the legislature's intent in adopting the UCIOA.

Plaintiff was a bona fide purchaser for value at the HOA foreclosure sale and is therefore protected from any assertion of fraud in a prior conveyance. Summary judgment should therefore be granted in favor of Plaintiff.

## D. THE HOA FORECLOSURE EXTINGUISHED ALL OTHER INTERESTS IN THE PROPERTY UNDER NRS CHAPTER 116 AND SFR.

The Deed in Lieu, which transferred title pursuant to NRS 111.105, and Plaintiff's protection as a bona fide purchaser, show that Defendants have no interest in the Property under the Deed of Trust regardless of the HOA foreclosure. As a matter of completeness and for the sake of argument, however, Plaintiff next addresses Defendants' quarrels with the Nevada Supreme Court's decision in SFR Investments Pool 1, LLC v. U.S. Bank, NA., 334 P.3d 408 (Nev. 2014), and its application to the current case.

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### If Defendants Had Any Interest in the Property Following the Deed in 1. Lieu, the Interest Was Extinguished by the HOA Foreclosure Sale.

Any interest beneficial interest under the Deed of Trust that was not wiped out by the Deed in Lieu was subsequently extinguished by the Association's foreclosure sale under NRS Chapter 116.

NRS Chapter 116 affirms an HOA's right to collect from units within the community a share of real estate taxes, insurance premiums, maintenance, and other expenses. See, e.g., NRS 116.021; 116.3101. In order to provide the HOA with leverage in collecting delinquent assessments, NRS 116.3116(1) grants the HOA a statutory lien against a unit for unpaid assessments. The lien is deemed perfected from the time the HOA recorded its CC&Rs, and "[n]o further recordation of any claim of lien for assessment under this section is required." NRS 116.3116(5).

NRS 116.3116(2) provides HOA liens with priority over all other liens, with a few exceptions, including a first deed of trust; however, the flush language of NRS 116.3116(2) grants an exception to the exception for up to nine months of HOA assessments. Specifically, the flush language of NRS 116.3116(2) states:

The [HOA] lien is also prior to all security interests described in paragraph (b) [including a "first security interest on the unit recorded before the date on which the assessment sought to be enforced became delinquent,"] to the extent of any charges incurred by the association on a unit pursuant to NRS 116.310312 and to the extent of the assessments for common expenses based on the periodic budget adopted by the association pursuant to NRS 116.3115 which would have become due in the absence of acceleration during the 9 months immediately preceding institution of an action to enforce the lien, unless federal regulations adopted by the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation or the Federal National Mortgage Association require a shorter period of priority for the lien.

This flush language creates what is commonly called the superpriority portion of an HOA's lien. In interpreting NRS 116.3116, the Nevada Supreme Court has declared that "the superpriority piece of the HOA lien carries true priority over a first deed of trust." SFR, 334 P.3d at 413. Therefore, under Nevada law, an HOA's lien on a property is prior to a first deed of trust to the extent of nine months of assessments and any abatement or maintenance charges.

When an HOA forecloses on an HOA lien which includes a superpriority portion, the foreclosure extinguishes any junior lien on the property, including the first deed of trust. SFR, 334

P.3d at 419. NRS 116.31162 through 116.31168 govern the foreclosure sale process. In order to foreclose its lien, the HOA must mail a notice of delinquent assessment to the unit's owners, and wait at least thirty (30) days to record a notice of default and election to sell the unit. The lien must remain unpaid for an additional ninety (90) days, following which the HOA may give notice of the sale and sell the unit. NRS 116.31162(1); NRS 116.311635(1)(a). Once the HOA complies with these requirements, the HOA is authorized to proceed with foreclosure.

Here, the Association complied with the statutory requirements and foreclosed on its lien, including a superpriority portion. Since foreclosure of the superpriority portion would have extinguished any junior interest, including a first deed of trust, whatever interest Defendants held that was not extinguished by the Deed in Lieu was extinguished by the Association foreclosure.

# 2. The HOA Foreclosure Sale Did Not Violate Defendants' Due Process Rights.

Defendants assert that the statutory foreclosure scheme violated Defendants' due process rights under the Fourteenth Amendment "due to RRFS's improper reliance on a fraudulent deed in lieu." Opp'n at 6. As discussed above, RRFS did not improperly rely on the Deed in Lieu, and Defendants' due process rights were not violated by the foreclosure sale.

#### a. The Statutory Foreclosure Scheme Does Not Violate Due Process

The Nevada Supreme Court has already considered and rejected the argument that the statutory scheme violates due process. In *SFR*, the Nevada Supreme Court found that a bank's due process argument was a "nonstarter" as "it is well established that due process is not offended by requiring a person with actual, timely knowledge of an event that may affect a right to exercise due diligence and take necessary steps to preserve that right." *SFR*, 334 P.3d at 418. In coming to this conclusion, the Court noted that Chapter 116 was enacted in 1991 and provided notice to the lender at that time that, by operation of law, unpaid assessments could result in a superpriority lien in favor of the HOA. *Id.* This statutory scheme does not offend due process because after the enactment of Chapter 116 in 1991, a lender is on notice that an HOA could be entitled to a super priority lien at some future date. *SFR*, 334 P.3d at 418 (citing *7912 Limbwood Court Trust v. Wells Fargo Bank*, 979 F. Supp. 2d 1142, 1152 (2013)). In fact, based on a letter produced by BANA in another case,

lenders were aware of the superpriority provisions of the law at least by 2011. *See* BANA000268–69 in Case No. A-14-694640-C attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

#### b. Defendants' Due Process Rights Were Not Violated.

Defendants have no standing to assert a due process violation because they received record and actual notice of the Association's intent to foreclose on the Property.

For more than sixty years, the United States Supreme Court has held that a notice satisfies due process if it is "reasonably calculated, under all the circumstances, to apprise interested parties of the pendency of the action and afford them an opportunity to present their objections." *Mullane v. Cent. Hanover Bank & Trust Co.*, 339 U.S. 306, 314 (1950). If a notice identifies an event that will impact an individual's property interest, then due process is satisfied. *United Student Aid Funds, Inc. v. Espinosa*, 559 U.S. 260, 272 (2010); *Mennonite Bd. of Missions v. Adams*, 462 U.S. 791, 801 (1983). The United State Supreme Court clarified that if the name of a person with a protectable interest in property is "reasonably ascertainable," the notice that is "reasonably calculated" to inform him of the impending event must be notice by mail or other equivalent means. *Bender v. City of Rochester, N.Y.*, 765 F.2d 7, 11 (2d Cir. 1985) (citing Mennonite, 462 U.S. at 800). Moreover, "receipt of actual notice deprives [a party] of standing to raise the claim" that the statutory notice scheme violated due process. *Wiren v. Eide*, 542 F.2d 757, 762 (9th Cir. 1976).

In May 2013, when BANA assigned the beneficial interest under the Deed of Trust to Nationstar, Nationstar was on notice of the language of NRS 116.3116. (*See* Corporation Assignment of Deed of Trust, MSJ, Ex. 13.) In fact, by the time of the assignment, Nationstar was also on notice that the Association had filed a Lien for Delinquent Assessments (MSJ Ex. 6), Notice of Default (MSJ, Ex. 7), and Notice of Foreclosure Sale (MSJ, Ex. 8).

In addition to the record notice of the Association's intent to foreclose, there is no dispute that Defendants received actual notice prior to the foreclosure sale. The foreclosure agent mailed notice of the foreclosure sale to New Freedom, BANA, Nationstar, and Cooper Castle. *See* Deposition of Robert Atkinson, MSJ, Ex. 10, at 23; Exhibit B to Deposition of Robert Atkinson, at 6, 9, 14. Defendants had actual notice and an opportunity to be heard; thus, they lack standing to

raise a due process claim against the statutory notice scheme. Any claim that the Association foreclosure violated Defendants' due process rights is not properly before this Court.

Defendants also lack standing to challenge the constitutionality of the conclusive presumption found in NRS 116.31166. Defendants received actual notice of the foreclosure sale, so their due process rights were not violated by application of the presumption.

To the extent Defendants may argue that notices of the Association's intent to foreclose were deficient because they were improperly mailed to New Freedom, notice is not deficient simply because a party fails to correct or provide another address to county officials. *See In re Foreclosures of Liens for Delinquent Land Taxes by Action v. Bhatti*, 334 S.W.3d 444 (Mo. 2011) (holding that an owner's failure to correct his address with county officials could not be used to ground a due process violation where notice was sent to the address of record). Here, the Deed of Trust requested that tax statements be mailed to New Freedom at its address in Salt Lake City. That same address was listed on the Deed in Lieu. Mailing of notices to New Freedom was therefore sufficient to satisfy due process.

## c. There Was No Due Process Violation Because There Was No State Action.

Aside from the fact that Defendants received adequate notice to satisfy due process, in order for the Fourteenth Amendment to even be implicated, there must be a state actor. *See Brentwood Acad. v. Tenn. Secondary Sch. Athletic Ass'n*, 531 U.S. 288, 295 (2001). "As a matter of substantive constitutional law the state-action requirement reflects judicial recognition of the fact that 'most rights secured by the Constitution are protected only against infringement by governments." *Lugar v. Edmondson Oil Co., Inc.*, 457 U.S. 922, 936 (1982) (quoting *Flagg Bros., Inc. v. Brooks*, 436 U.S. 149, 155 (1978)). A state action may be found if "there is such a 'close nexus between the State and the challenged action' that seemingly private behavior 'may be fairly treated as that of the State itself." *Brentwood*, 531 U.S. at 295 (quoting *Jackson v. Metro. Edison Co.*, 419 U.S. 345, 351 (1974)).

Defendants' due process rights in this case could not have been violated because there was no state action. "It is well-settled law that non-judicial foreclosure proceedings do not involve 'state

action,' even though such proceedings are regulated by state law." *Edwards v. Aurora Loan Servs.*, *LLC*, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 46892, \*21-22, 2011 WL 1668926 (E.D. Cal. Apr. 29, 2011). Absent state action, there can be no due process violation under the Fourteenth Amendment.

Defendants raise a host of other arguments about the insufficiency of the specific provisions of NRS Chapter 116 to meet due process. Defendants are grasping at straws. These additional procedural safeguards that Defendants would like to see in the statute are not guaranteed by the state or federal constitutions, so long as Defendants had notice and an opportunity to be heard. Here, Defendants had their notice and opportunity as required by statute. Furthermore, the Nevada Supreme Court has already rejected the argument that Chapter 116 violates due process. Accordingly, this Court should reject Defendants' due process arguments and grant summary judgment to Plaintiff.

E. DEFENDANTS' ARGUMENT THAT THE FORECLOSURE SALE WAS NOT CONDUCTED IN A COMMERCIALLY REASONABLE MANNER IS INAPPLICABLE UNDER THE STATUTE AND IS UNSUPPORTED BY THE FACTS OF THIS CASE.

Defendants contend that this Court should disregard proper application of NRS Chapter 116 because Plaintiff acquired the Property for a relatively low. Opp'n at 14–19. That defense is inapplicable here because NRS Chapter 116 does not require an HOA foreclosure sale be conducted subject to a separate requirement for commercially reasonableness. *See generally* NRS Chapter 116. Rather, the Legislature "handcrafted" the "special notice requirements and protections . . . in NRS 116.31162 through NRS 116.31168" to govern the foreclosure sale process. *See SFR*, 334 P.3d at 417. Thus, commercial reasonableness is either inapplicable or is satisfied as a matter of law by the HOA's compliance with the statutory requirements and the conclusive presumptions afforded by NRS 116.31166.

Here, the Foreclosure Deed conclusively resolves, under NRS 116.31166, that the statutory requirements for notice were complied with. Because the statutory notice requirements and protections were fulfilled, this Court need not examine the transaction for commercial reasonableness.

however, Defendants have alleged no facts to show that the sale was conducted in a commercially unreasonable manner. Although Defendants may cite to the low price at the public auction as the basis for its argument, "[m]ere inadequacy of price is not sufficient to justify setting aside a foreclosure sale, absent a showing of fraud, unfairness or oppression." *Long v. Towne*, 98 Nev. 11, 13, 639 P.2d 528, 530 (1982). Defendants argue that extremely low sale prices alone should invalidate a sale, but they can cite to no Nevada case that supports their proposition. Here, there is no evidence of fraud or oppression. The Association had no responsibility for protecting Defendants' interests beyond selling the Property to the highest bidder at the auction. The argument of unfairness was soundly rejected in *SFR*; there, the Court held that extinguishment of a first deed of trust is not unfair because the situation is created by a lender's own inaction. *See* 334 P.3d at 414 (noting that "as a junior lienholder, U.S. Bank could have paid off the [HOA] lien to avert loss of its security; it also could have established an escrow for [HOA] assessments to avoid having to use its own funds to pay delinquent dues").

Even if this Court were to analyze the foreclosure sale for commercial reasonableness,

In addition, the price paid at the foreclosure sale did not indicate any commercial unreasonableness since, at the time, the law concerning the superpriority of HOA liens was unsettled. *See Bourne Valley Court Trust v. Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.*, Case No. 2:13-CV-00649-PMP-NJK, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 8057, at \*12–13 (D. Nev. Jan. 23, 2015). Commercial reasonableness must be assessed as of the time the sale occurred. *Id.* The purchaser at an HOA foreclosure sale before the release of *SFR* was making a "risky investment" and basically "purchasing a lawsuit." *Id.* A low price was therefore to be expected, as the purchaser could expect to incur litigation fees to even obtain title insurance on such a property, with no assurance that the purchaser would ever receive a clean title. *See id.* 

Finally, assuming *arguendo* the applicability of commercial reasonableness to an HOA foreclosure sale, setting aside a commercially unreasonable sale is not a proper remedy when an innocent third party has purchased the property. *See Savage Constr. v. Challenge-Cook Bros.*, 102 Nev. 34, 39, 714 P.2d 573, 576 (1986) (finding commercial unreasonableness but requiring the seller to credit the buyer with the difference rather than setting aside the sale); *Levers v. Rio King* 

Land & Inv. Co., 93 Nev. 95, 100, 560 P.2d 917, 920 (1977) (affirming the district court's finding of commercial unreasonableness but reversing the portion of the judgment that set aside the sale). Any analysis of commercial unreasonableness is irrelevant to the current action involving Plaintiffs, because they are innocent third parties. Plaintiffs are not liable for any fraud or irregularity that hypothetically may have occurred with respect to the foreclosure sale. If any flaws exist, Nationstar should seek relief from the foreclosure agent or HOA.

## F. DEFENDANTS MISINTERPRET EDELSTEIN AND THE PURCHASE AND SALE AGREEMENT.

Defendants cite *Edelstein*, 286 P.3d at 258, for the proposition that a party pursuing nonjudicial foreclosure in Nevada must hold both the right to payment and the lien securing the right to repayment. This stretches the logic and holding of *Edelstein* and misapplies it to the case here.

As discussed above, in a typical mortgage transaction, the note represents the right to repayment of the loan, and the deed of trust represents the right to a security interest in the property. See id. at 254. Traditionally, the borrower executed both the note and the deed of trust in favor of the lender, see id. at 254, 257; however, following the creation of MERS, it became increasingly common for lenders to designate MERS as the beneficiary under deeds of trust and to split the deed of trust from the note, see id. at 256. In Edelstein, the Nevada Supreme Court held that after the separation of a note and deed of trust, a bank must possess both the note and the deed of trust in order to initiate nonjudicial foreclosure proceedings—that is, the bank must show that it is "the proper entity . . . to proceed against the property." Id. at 255.

Here, the "note" and lien were never split. The Association had the right to collect assessments, and also held a security interest in the Property to enforce collection. Although the Association may have sold the right to *proceeds from* collection, the Association did not sell its right to collect. In fact, the Purchase and Sale Agreement referenced by Defendants (the "Agreement") contemplates that proceeds "will be received by . . . the [Association] (as assessment claimant and lienholder)," and that the Association will use a designated agent "to conduct foreclosure sales on behalf of [the Association]." Purchase and Sale Agreement, Opp'n Ex. D at 2. The clear import of this is that the payment right had not been split from the lien; rather, a third party had purchased the

right to *proceeds* from payments collected on behalf of the Association, with the Association retaining the underlying right to payment. *Edelstein*, therefore, does not apply, as the Association was at all times the proper entity to proceed against the Property.

Similarly, the purchase of the right to proceeds from collection did not constitute satisfaction of the superpriority portion of the Association's lien. In the Agreement, the Association authorized the designated agent to send out notices of the lien, default, and foreclosure sale *on the Association's behalf* and to proceed with the foreclosure sale *on behalf of the Association*. *Id.* at 3, 4. Payments received by the Association from the collection efforts were to be "used to satisfy past due assessments first." *Id.* These provisions show that the Association's lien was not satisfied by the third party's purchase of the rights to proceeds.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons and the arguments made in Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court grant summary judgment for Plaintiff against all defendants on all claims and counterclaims, and deny Defendants' Countermotion for Summary Judgment.

DATED this 18th day of June, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

#### MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON

<u>/s/ Luis A. Ayon</u>

Luis Ayon, Esq.
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Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant West
Sunset 2050 Trust

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Pursuant to Administrative Order 14-2, a copy of the WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST'S REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND OPPOSITION TO COUNTERMOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT was electronically filed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2015 and served through the Notice of Electronic Filing automatically generated by the Court's facilities to those parties listed on the Court's Master Service List and by depositing a true and correct copy of the same, enclosed in a sealed envelope upon which first class postage was fully prepaid, in the U.S. Mail at Las Vegas, Nevada, addressed as follows (Note: All Parties Not Registered Pursuant to Administrative Order 14-2 Have Been Served By Mail.):

Ariel E. Stern, Esq.
Allison R. Schmidt, Esq.
AKERMAN LLP
1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330
Las Vegas, Nevada 89144
Attorneys for Defendant Bank of America, N.A., and Nationstar Mortgage LLC

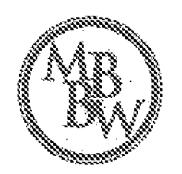
/s/ Charity Barber

An Employee of MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON

## EXHIBIT 1

## EXHIBIT 1

DOUGLAS E. MILES \* Also Admitted in California and Ministr RICHARD L BAUER, M.\* JEREMY T. BERGSTROM Also Admitted in Arizona FRED TIMOTHY WINTERS\* KEENAN E. McCLENAHAN\* MARK T. DOMEYER\* Also Admitted in District of Calumbia & Virginia тамі ў Скозвуч L. BRYANT JAQUEZ \* Danikl L. Carter \* GINA M. CORENA 'ሦላ¥ክ፮ ል. Bash + ROCK K, MNG VY T. PHAM \* KRISTA I NIELSON hadir seved-ali \* *J*ory C. Garabedian THOMAS M. MORLAN Admitted in California Brian II. Tran \* anna a. Chaiar • CORIB. JONES \* STEVEN E. STERN Admitted in Arizona & Illinois ANDREW H. PASTWICK Also Admitted in Arizona and California



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August 30, 2011

Catherine K. Mason • CHRISTINE A. CHUNG \*

Hanh t. Nguyen \* Thomas B. Song -

Club Aliante Nevada Association Services, Inc. 6224 W. Desert Inn Road, Suite A Las Vegas, NV 89146

SENT VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

MBBW File No. 11-H1329

Dear Sirs:

 $\Re e$ :

This letter is in response to your Notice of Sale with regard to the HOA assessments purportedly owed on the above described real property. This firm represents the interests of MERS as nominee for Bank of America, N.A., as successor by merger to BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP (hereinafter "BANA") with regard to these issues. BANA is the beneficiary/servicer of the first deed of trust loan secured by the property.

As you know, NRS 116.3116 governs liens against units for assessments. Pursuant to NRS 116.3116:

Property Address: 7229 Millerbird Street, North Las Vegas, NV 89084

The association has a lien on a unit for:

any penalties, fees, charges, late charges, fines and interest charged pursuant to paragraphs (j) to (n), inclusive, of subsection 1 of NRS 116.3102 are enforceable as assessments under this section

While the HOA may claim a lien under NRS 116.3102 Subsection (1), Paragraphs (j) through (n) of this Statute clearly provide that such a lien is JUNIOR to first deeds of trust to the extent the lien is for fees and charges imposed for collection and/or attorney fees, collection costs, late fees, service charges and interest. See Subsection 2(b) of NRS 116.3116, which states in pertinent part:

2. A lien under this section is prior to all other liens and encumbrances on a unit except:

(b) A first security interest on the unit recorded before the date on which the assessment sought to be enforced became delinquent...

The lien is also prior to all security interests described in paragraph (b) to the extent of the assessments for common expenses...which would have become due in the absence of acceleration during the 9 months immediately preceding institution of an action to enforce the lien.

Subsection 2b of NRS 116.3116 clearly provides that an HOA lien "is prior to all other liens and encumbrances on a unit except; a first security interest on the unit..." But such a lien is prior to a first security interest to the extent of the assessments for common expenses which would have become due during the 9 months before institution of an action to enforce the lien.

Based on Section 2(b), a portion of your HOA lien is arguably senior to BANA's first deed of trust, specifically the nine months of assessments for common expenses incurred before the date of your notice of delinquent assessment. For purposes of calculating the nine-month period, the trigger date is the date the HOA sought to enforce its lien. It is unclear, based upon the information known to date, what amount the nine months' of common assessments pre-dating the NOD actually are. That amount, whatever it is, is the amount BANA should be required to rightfully pay to fully discharge its obligations to the HOA per NRS 116.3102 and my client hereby offers to pay that sum upon presentation of adequate proof of the same by the HOA.

Please let me know the status of the Foreclosure sale that is scheduled for September 9, 2011. My client does not want these issues to become further exacerbated by a wrongful HOA sale and it is my client's goal and intent to have these issues resolved as soon as possible. Please refrain from taking further action to enforce this HOA lien until my client and the HOA have had an opportunity to speak to attempt to fully resolve all issues.

Thank you for your time and assistance with this matter. I may be reached by phone directly at (702) 942-0471. Please fax the breakdown of the HOA arrears to my attention at (702) 942-0411. I will be in touch as soon as I've reviewed the same with BANA.

Sincerely,

MILES, BAUER, BERGSTROM & WINTERS, LLP

Krista J. Nielson, Esq.

**RTRAN** 1 **CLERK OF THE COURT** 2 3 DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 4 5 WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, CASE NO. A691323 6 Plaintiff(s), 7 VS. DEPT. NO. XXI 8 **NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE** CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National 10 Association; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC, a Foreign Limited Company; 11 COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Limited Liability Partnership; 12 STEPHANIE TABLANTE, an individual; 13 Defendant(s). 14 15 AND ALL RELATED CLAIMS 16 BEFORE THE HONORABLE VALERIE ADAIR, DISTRICT COURT JUDGE 17 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2015 18 **RECORDER'S TRANSCRIPT RE:** 19 WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT; **OPPOSITION TO MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND** 20 **COUNTERMOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT** 21 APPEARANCES: 22 FOR THE PLAINTIFF: LUIS A. AYON, ESQ. 23 FOR THE DEFENDANT: ALLISON SCHMIDT, ESQ. 24 RECORDED BY: SUSAN SCHOFIELD, COURT RECORDER 25

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2015, 9:54 A.M.

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THE COURT: West Sunset 2050 Trust versus New Freedom Mortgage.

All right. This is on for West Sunset's motion for summary judgment and the countermotion, and I've reviewed everything. And could counsel state their appearances for the record?

MR. AYON: Good morning, Your Honor, Luis Ayon on behalf of plaintiff.

MR. SCHMIDT: And good morning, Your Honor, Allison Schmidt on behalf of the defendants, Bank of America and Nationstar Mortgage.

THE COURT: All right. We'll start with West Sunset Trust's motion. Do you have anything you'd like to add to what's already been provided to the Court?

MR. AYON: Just a little bit, Your Honor. I think that we've kind of looked at the opposition and you can see that they're trying to make this more into an HOA case as far as super priority lien issue, but it's clearly not, and this is kind of an issue where New Freedom Mortgage was deeded the property, were noticed, there was different notices provided throughout the different -- the various different beneficiaries or the transactual who actually owned the property itself, but this was --

THE COURT: Okay, yeah. I was confused factually, actually.

MR. AYON: Okay.

THE COURT: Because as I understand from the defense, basically they wanted to do a deed in lieu of foreclosure, and then the defense's allegation was nobody ever approved that, and then how does New Freedom come into the picture?

MR. AYON: New Freedom is the original mortgagor.

THE COURT: Okay.

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MR. AYON: So now at the time --

THE COURT: And the original mortgagor had transferred its issue -- its interest down the road a few times so now we've got Nationstar.

MR. AYON: Well, we don't --

THE COURT: Yes.

MR. AYON: I'm sorry, Your Honor, I was just trying to get into as far as the factual.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. AYON: What happened was, and we actually don't know when New Freedom transferred. There's the recordings, all those different things that are in the judicial notice pleadings, however, we actually don't -- they're not part of the case right now. At least they -- we're probably going to default them at some point, but they've at least contacted us and said, listen, we have no interest, however, there's no evidence of when the actual transfer took place.

It could have tooken place immediately after, which is mostly what mortgage companies do is they sell these immediately.

THE COURT: Right, these small companies.

MR. AYON: That's right. So years later then the transfer of fact, to kind of back up, before all those transfers that were recorded, is you have a situation where a deed in lieu took place by the borrower, and this deed in lieu was actually done by an attorney, John Peter Lee, who then recorded the deed in lieu, then rerecorded it because it didn't have a description of the property.

THE COURT: Right.

MR. AYON: Now the allegations are that this was a fraudulent deed in lieu, so that's --

THE COURT: Well, I understood the allegations -- when you say fraudulent, I understood the allegations to be that they didn't receive approval from Nationstar or Bank of America and that this was just then done and recorded on behalf of New Freedom who was the original mortgagor.

MR. AYON: Now there's a couple problems with that -- those allegations. One, is discovery is closed so there is no more evidence as far as being able to prove. And this is an affirmative defense that they have to prove every single element of that affirmative defense.

Now, if you look at the documents that was subpoenaed by John Peter Lee, and this is their exhibit number A, this is exhibit A in their opposition to countermotion. There -- if you flip through the middle, and these aren't date stamped or anything, but if you look kind of in the middle of these documents, there's actually an e-mail -- and I can go and, Your Honor, I can show you exactly what document I'm looking at because I think this is actually pretty important as far as our claims are concerned --

THE COURT: I've got it here, exhibit A, items to be produced. Is that what you're looking at?

MR. AYON: That's right. And there's an e-mail from Bank of America to the borrower in this case that talks about all the different items that they'd need right around the same time this deed in lieu took place.

So knowing what I know about the servicer, knowing what I know about the different lenders, that this was probably a loan modification that failed, and in exchange for any deficiency, credits, any of those things, they went ahead and accepted the deed in lieu. The problem is is there's no evidence of that.

THE COURT: Well if Bank of America held the mortgage at that point in time,

why on earth would they want a deed in lieu of foreclosure to go to the benefit of New Freedom who is not even involved anymore?

MR. AYON: We don't know that, Your Honor, and that's the problem with this -- with the evidence that's being presented is that because the recording statute -- because of the recordings currently on the property clearly indicated New Freedom Mortgage as the servicer --

THE COURT: Well, right, but I mean why would the Bank of America go and check-- or Nationstar go and check the recordings at this point when they don't know they're filing anything? I mean, you know, they've got, I don't know, tens of thousands -- hundreds of thousands of properties. They're not just out there affirmatively checking through the recorder's office, although I'm sure at some point in time you'll have technology that will ping these things up. But do you see what I'm saying? Why on earth are they going to know that this was recorded on behalf of New Freedom who everybody knows doesn't have an interest in this anymore?

MR. AYON: We don't know -- well we don't know positively --

THE COURT: Well, I mean, John Peter Lee knew he was communicating with the Bank of America, correct?

MR. AYON: You would think so.

THE COURT: And so I don't get why he filed a deed in lieu of foreclosure to the benefit of New Freedom.

MR. AYON: Because they --

THE COURT: Does that make any sense to you, Mr. Ayon? What am I missing?

MR. AYON: Yes, because they were still the recorded -- they were still the owner of the property under our recording -- under our assessor's site, so they're

probably likely is that they did that in order to avoid paying the transfer tax that they would have done in order to transfer it down the road. The problem is is that there isn't any evidence from B of A or their side to actually explain any of this.

So we're left with now the foreclosure sale that took place that did notice B of A, did notice Nationstar as far as the transfer from, because it's now New Freedom Mortgage who's getting all the tax -- or getting the tax bills, all those different things because it's now two years down the road. So my client purchases at the HOA sale with the understanding that they are now -- that New Freedom is the actual titleholder, because they were the titleholder at the time according to the recorded documents.

So instead of doing what they could have done and tried to do, or didn't do --

THE COURT: Well, what should they have done?

MR. AYON: Recorded their interest as soon as they -- as soon as they obtained the new interest which is required by law, record their interest in the property, they would have gotten all the notices, the deed in lieu would have gone to them; instead, this happens. Is that -- but the problem is they still get noticed of this foreclosure sale anyway.

So they can't -- so the way -- either way you look at it, they're noticed of the sale. They're the record holder and they've known about -- now, what's even more interesting is that down the road even after the foreclosure sale is that they're are transferring the properties, they're doing notice of default, which their trustee then should, and they're required under the law, to go back and look who's the recorded -- who is the titleholder of the property. So they would have been aware of this deed in lieu at some point prior to the HOA sale as well.

So there was multiple opportunities to actually figure out if there was a mistake. And that's -- we're under operating under a really big assumption here that there was a mistake in terms of this deed in lieu. But there's no evidence to the contrary that this wasn't exactly what was bargained for by B of A, by New Mortgage, by and of these --

THE COURT: Well, there's no evidence that it was bargained for.

MR. AYON: But that's not my burden though. And that's the problem with this case --

THE COURT: Well, right.

MR. AYON: -- is that there is no evidence to rebut the presumptions that is already given to me statutorily.

THE COURT: Well. Except if you say, well, this never happened, you don't have any evidence that it never happened. I mean, you can't necessarily -- it's that old thing, you can't prove a negative. So if they say it was never bargained for, we didn't bargain, we didn't bargain. How do you prove we didn't bargain?

MR. AYON: But what they're --

THE COURT: I guess, you know --

MR. AYON: But what they're arguing is that it was done improperly and that's what we're here --

THE COURT: Right, because they never had permission to do it.

MR. AYON: Exactly, but they don't say that by any evidence, and that's the big problem here is that I still get the rebuttal presumption under the statute, under the recording statutes, under the deed, that says every -- the proper holder was noticed. So they do nothing here to provide evidence to say, listen, this deed is improper, it wasn't noticed, none of those different things have happened in this

case.

I mean evidentiary, you know, there -- we prevailed just by the evidence that is lacking, the fact that we're unable to rely on all these presumptions. They don't provide anything else to the contrary, even though they are Bank of America and Nationstar, they can provide affidavits saying, listen, this was improperly done, this was not what we bargained for, all those different things, but they don't do it.

So that's why we're here today saying, listen, you haven't proven your affirmative defense in this case.

THE COURT: Okay. Counsel?

MS. SCHMIDT: Yes, Your Honor.

I think to say that we have to affirmatively prove that this deed was fraudulent, which we do -- essentially we do assert that it's a rogue document, unilaterally filed -- recorded by the borrower, and we do have evidence that it's a rogue document. First of all, we have the evidence that it's never been delivered, so a bedrock principle of property law for a deed to be effective there has to be delivery and acceptance.

Well, there's no acceptance on the face of the deed because this was never assigned by Bank of America who John Peter Lee was dealing with. There's no delivery because it's clear from the face of the documents, which Your Honor can take judicial notice of, that the deeds were returned to John Peter Lee, not New Freedom.

And I think Your Honor is on the right track. Why would Bank of America have a property deeded back to a mortgage shop in Utah that has no interest in the loan, that hadn't been dealing with them, that at that time didn't even exist, and I think it's pretty clear once we go through everything that we've attached

you see that when there was ever attempted to be notice on New Freedom, everything gets returned as undeliverable. It just didn't exist anymore.

And another thing is that what they do have to prove in order to affirmatively prove title in their names that this foreclosure sale was proper.

THE COURT: Was properly noticed.

MS. SCHMIDT: And there's no dispute, Redrock Financial Services has testified we did not give notice to Bank of America, we did not give notice to Nationstar, despite the fact that the deed in -- the deed of trust had been transferred to Bank of America prior to these foreclosure notices being recorded.

And that sort of, to anyone checking a title report, should have kind of pinged their radar that, hey, this deed of trust is still being transferred. If it's been reconveyed, wouldn't there be a reconveyance? Why would they continue to transfer the interest of it?

And just from, you know, general industry standards, it's not that a borrower would prepare a deed in lieu of foreclosure, that's a document that Bank of America would prepare and send to them for signing.

Another thing is that we subpoenaed all the records from John Peter Lee, and one of the requests was any document indicating that this deed in lieu had been approved or accepted by a lender. We got his entire file; there was nothing in there.

What we do have is a letter from Cooper Castle once they started their foreclosure proceedings and reviewed title, which occurred after the HOA foreclosure, and they said they sent him a letter, I believe it's the last page in that exhibit, stating what is this? What have you recorded? We represent Bank of America. What happened here?

So we have plenty of evidence, I think, that this isn't a good deed, and there's already questions as to whether 116 provides due process to a lender, and, you know, there's certainly judges on both sides of that issue. But if you take away -

THE COURT: Yeah. I mean, I'm -- I mean, I haven't -- I have a couple under advisement. My inclination is to say, look, as long as there's appropriate notice there's due process, and the statute's constitutional and fine. So really the issue for me here is whether or not they were required to provide notice to Bank of America and Nationstar, or could they have relied on this deed in lieu of foreclosure which was unilaterally filed by the borrower and the borrower's attorney. Although, again, it doesn't really make a lot of sense to me just based on what I know. Maybe there's something out there that John Peter Lee knew that I don't know -- why you would just kind of unilaterally do that in favor of New Freedom when you were dealing with the Bank of America.

MS. SCHMIDT: Well, I think -- I think that -- I think Your Honor's on the right track. There does have to be notice. And if we looked at it in terms --

THE COURT: Well, what about -- why don't you speak to this, you know, what about the bank's obligations when, you know, on the property, according to the assessor's office, it's giving everybody notice that New Freedom is the one with the interest in the property. What -- you know, Mr. Ayon has touched on some of the bank's obligations here. Do you want to respond to any of that?

MS. SCHMIDT: I don't --

THE COURT: Because I think this, you know, I think a lot of these cases are really turning out to be very -- you know, once you kind of resolved the broader issues, the constitutionality and all that, they're really fact specific. You know, did

they get notice, was the notice proper, that sort of thing, so.

MS. SCHMIDT: I think -- I don't know of an affirmative duty that would exist for Bank of America or Nationstar to review title on every single one of their properties on a regular basis. They certainly reviewed title on this property prior, or Cooper Castle did prior to going forward with their own foreclosure, but that -- the ship had sailed, to speak colloquially, at that point and the HOA foreclosure sale had happened.

I don't think -- there was never any notice to Bank of America that this document was recorded because it was returned to John Peter Lee, there's no indication from any of the documents that we received in the subpoena that he ever sent it to either New Freedom or Bank of America despite the fact that he was in contact with them.

So I don't believe that there was an affirmative duty for either of my clients to go and check title. As Your Honor mentioned, they have hundreds of thousands if not millions, maybe, of properties in Nevada. They can't --

THE COURT: Right.

MS. SCHMIDT: -- and as you said, maybe one day there will be the technology in place that can do this, but they can't check every single property.

And as I've gone through, you know, our foreclosure crisis the past several years, you see all kinds of wacky things that borrowers have either downloaded from the internet and thought this is the way I get out of my mortgage, or this is the way that I get out of my obligation to my lender, and they just record whatever they think will help them.

So we have plenty of rogue documents that get recorded and this is one of them, and I think the evidence from the subpoena shows that. And you can't

-- there can't be a taking without notice. That's, you know, that's due process in a nutshell, notice and opportunity to be heard.

The statute says these are the documents that a lienholder needs to receive notice of, it's undisputed that we didn't receive notice of the notice of default, and United Legal Services actually recognized this deed in lieu of foreclosure as unusual for a rogue document and did provide notice of the sale, but at that point you receive it essentially, at best, three weeks before a sale date, and it's an institutional client, doesn't give them a very good opportunity to cure.

And so with the questions of whether due process is satisfied, if you take away one of those notices, then I don't think there's any question that there's no due process. When you take away a mortgage, I believe it was \$165,000, and they buy it for pennies on the dollar, and then --

THE COURT: Yeah, I mean, I'm fine with that actually. I mean, I -- you know, because, again, as many judges have said, looking at the climate at the time what wasn't known -- and they're still spending money litigating all this stuff with Mr. Ayon, so by the time it's all said and done, they're not going to get this huge windfall on all of these properties once you go through all the litigation costs and everything like that.

So, you know, factoring all that in, the uncertainty -- and there's still a lot of uncertainty because we have all of these different cases with different little factual permutations, different notice issues, different CC&R issues, you know, I kind of reject that argument that it's so cheap. But, you know, notice is the issue. You had to have notice.

MR. AYON: Let me just address that very quickly, Your Honor, because -- THE COURT: That's my big issue on these things.

MR. AYON: If we attach the deposition of Robert Atkinson whose firm conducted the sale, and that's exhibit 10 to our motion, if you look at page 25, he goes into Ms. Schmidt asks, well we'll mark as exhibit B in section 3, blah, blah, blah, section through the documents that we're just referring to that contain the certified mailing receipt, the recorded and unrecorded notice of foreclosure sales, the notice to the tenants, and the UPS Form 3877 that we were just referencing, Answer: you'll now notice that Form 3877, that there is reference to Nationstar Mortgage at Highland Drive address. You may ask where you get this notice, he goes into that: This document titled transfer of the beneficiary to the deed of trust from Bank of America NA to Nationstar, and provides the same Highland Drive address that you find on the certified -- certificate of mailing.

So I think that the question's been answered and, you know, to some extent, if Bank of America was involved in some way in either the modification process or any other process, I think they would have been at least aware to know that, listen, we now have this property that we're conducting servicing for, and they're -- the titleholder is somebody completely else.

So I think that at least at that point in time --

THE COURT: I'm not getting how they would have had notice.

MR. AYON: If you look at their involvement -- so there's an e-mail from Bank of America talking about loan documents. They would have -- could have easily --

THE COURT: You're talking about the modification.

MR. AYON: That's right.

THE COURT: But see, to me, I'm not getting there. How on earth is anybody at the Bank of America supposed to figure out, gee, somebody may go to a lawyer and file a deed in lieu of without our knowledge, and that we're supposed to check

that. Is that what you're saying?

MR. AYON: No, what they would have done though is they could have pulled up the property record at the time of the loan modification was done and noticed that it was in New Freedom and not Nationstar.

While this was all going -- without what was happening at the time of the --

THE COURT: Yeah, but where, other than Luis Ayon saying that that's their obligation, where are you getting that somehow the bank had this obligation to be, oh, we're in the process of a loan modification; gee, I better check the record --

MR. AYON: Well if they're going to --

THE COURT: -- and anticipate that.

MR. AYON: Well, in order to modify the loan they've got to do it by the beneficiary of the deed of trust. So they're going to have to do it in the name of whoever the record holder of the property is. That has to be done.

THE COURT: Right.

MR. AYON: So they would have had to at least look at it to say wait a minute, it's New Freedom who actually is the titleholder, we have to make a change, because they wouldn't have been able to do the modification unless it was in the name of the actual owner of the property.

THE COURT: Right, but what I'm saying is they didn't do the modification for whatever reason, mainly because a lot of banks just waste everybody's time and don't do the modifications --

MR. AYON: We're only speculating here, too.

THE COURT: Yeah, but the issue is we are speculating, and what I'm saying is, you know, to me, the bank had no way to know that this was going to occur and

I'm still getting to I don't understand why the deed in lieu of was filed and done the way it was done. That doesn't make a lot of sense to me.

So, basically, what I've been doing on all of these is taking them under submission and issuing decisions from chambers. So that's what I'm going to do and I know, Mr. Ayon, you may or may not have gotten some of those already.

MR. AYON: I don't think -- not in your department, but --

THE COURT: Then look for something Monday. Did you have anything to add?

MS. SCHMIDT: Well, I didn't know if Your Honor, beyond being noted this year, if you wanted to address the *Edelstein* issue that is kind of unique to these First 100 cases where the -- the way our -- part of our countermotion, and we include the contract as exhibit, the association sells the payment right on these under *Edelstein* in order to have standing to foreclose you need to pick up the lien and the payment right. When they sell the payment right they lost standing to foreclose. So even assuming that there was no issue with notice, even though it's undisputed my client's not received notice, then you have a foreclosure that's improper because of the lack of standing under *Edelstein*.

MR. AYON: The problem with that argument, Your Honor, is that they're not foreclosing on the borrower, they're foreclosing on the actual titleholder of the property which is New Freedom Mortgage. I mean, for example, if I go to the HOA at this point and say, listen, I'd like to -- and if it's my property that I own and I go to the HOA and say, listen, I'm in arrears \$5,000 and I say, well, I'll give you \$1,000 for this priority lien amount, they're going to say, no, you owe the \$5,000. And that's this circumstance here. You don't have a super priority lien issue in this case.

THE COURT: I don't think that's what counsel's saying.

MR. AYON: I think that's exactly what she's saying is that --

THE COURT: What are you -- is that what you're saying?

MS. SCHMIDT: No, I -- what I'm saying is that for every type of lien on real property there's a payment right and a lien. And in order to have standing to foreclose, which is now black letter law in Nevada --

THE COURT: But they sold their payment right and so whoever's getting the payments is a different entity than the HOA. That's what you're saying.

MS. SCHMIDT: Correct.

MR. AYON: And I think it's only -- and it's only a portion of it but they're still -- the HOA's still allowed to foreclose on their entire lien right. So I mean that's --

THE COURT: Right, but the issue is whether or not that's a super priority because it only matters -- the super priority portion of the foreclosure is the only thing that matters. That's why we're here.

MR. AYON: That's right. Well, but it doesn't matter because it's not a super priority -- there's no priority issue in this case because the owner of the property who's -- the record owner of the property, New Freedom, is the one who's being foreclosed upon. They're responsible for the full lien amount, not just a portion of it.

THE COURT: Oh, because of if you respect the deed in lieu of foreclosure.

MR. AYON: That's correct.

THE COURT: If you set aside the deed in lieu of foreclosure -- so you're saying they're the owner and they have to pay the entire amount because they're not -- they're not standing as a secured -- a secured party, they're standing as the owner itself because of this deed in lieu of foreclosure. So we're right back to square one which is the deed in lieu of foreclosure --

MR. AYON: That's absolutely right, yes.

THE COURT: -- which nobody had any permission to file and do. So that's what your argument is.

MR. AYON: Exactly, then we --

THE COURT: And her argument is, no, what we're looking at is you have to have both of these interests. You have to have a lien right and a payment right in order to do this, and because they sold their payment rights they only have one right. Is that what you're saying?

MS. SCHMIDT: Yes, and I don't think it matters --

THE COURT: I just wanted to make sure I get everybody's argument.

MS. SCHMIDT: And my position is it doesn't matter whether it's super priority, sub-priority, you have to have the payment right and the lien, and they don't -- the association only had the lien.

THE COURT: Okay. And I get what Mr. Ayon is saying, well, we're not really just talking about -- you know, I'm not sure what you're saying in terms of the standing issue.

MR. AYON: That's right. I would say that, Your Honor, I don't know if they actually counterclaimed against the HOA because they would have had to -- they would've had to move to set aside the sale, so they would have had to sue the HOA, the trustees. I mean, I don't think they can necessarily make that standing argument because they're asking for the sale to be set aside at this point --

THE COURT: Right.

MR. AYON: -- because of that. So I think that argument doesn't apply --

THE COURT: They waived?

MR. AYON: Yeah.

1	THE COURT: All right. Look for something Monday from the chamber's
2	calendar.
3	MR. AYON: Thank you, Your Honor.
4	THE COURT: All right, thank you.
5	MR. AYON: Have a good morning.
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7	****
8	PROCEEDING CONCLUDED AT 10:19 A.M.
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13	ATTEST: I do hereby certify that I have truly and correctly transcribed the
14	audio/video proceedings in the above-entitled case to the best of my ability.
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16	SUSAN SCHOFIELD
17	Court Recorder/Transcriber
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**RTRAN** 1 **CLERK OF THE COURT** 2 3 DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 4 5 WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, CASE NO. A691323 6 Plaintiff(s), 7 VS. DEPT. NO. XXI 8 **NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE** CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National 10 Association; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC, a Foreign Limited Company; 11 COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Limited Liability Partnership; 12 STEPHANIE TABLANTE, an individual; 13 Defendant(s). 14 15 AND ALL RELATED CLAIMS 16 BEFORE THE HONORABLE VALERIE ADAIR, DISTRICT COURT JUDGE 17 MONDAY, JULY 13, 2015 18 **RECORDER'S TRANSCRIPT RE:** 19 **CALENDAR CALL** 20 21 **APPEARANCES:** 22 FOR THE PLAINTIFF: MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, ESQ. 23 FOR THE DEFENDANT: ALLISON SCHMIDT, ESQ. 24 25 RECORDED BY: SUSAN SCHOFIELD, COURT RECORDER

THE COURT: Stern, okay. Because basically we wouldn't put you in August
at all because we have a firm trial and a murder settting starting August 3 <sup>rd</sup> , so if this
is one to three days we'd give you the end of July, like July 29 <sup>th</sup> , 30 <sup>th</sup> , and 31 <sup>st</sup> . I
don't think it would take more than that. That was the estimate.

MS. M. SCHMIDT: Yeah, we probably wouldn't need more than two days, I'm thinking.

THE COURT: So when is Mr. Stern going to Bulgaria?

MS. A. SCHMIDT: You know, I just talked to him briefly at 5:00 A.M. this morning, so I don't know that I got 100% of the details, but I think it would be -- let me see if I have that in my phone.

THE COURT: Is he doing one of those legal teaching things in Bulgaria?

MS. A. SCHMIDT: No, it's actually something -- it's some religious thing that I don't entirely know about.

THE COURT: Following the path of Moses to Bulgaria?

MS. A. SCHMIDT: That could very well be what it is, I don't know.

And so we were looking at the 29<sup>th</sup>?

THE COURT: Um hmm.

I mean, if the motion's granted then that would resolve everything. This is just in case the motion isn't granted then we could fit you in at the end of July, which -- I mean, what does he really need to do, throw some clothes in a bag to go to Bulgaria?

MS. A. SCHMIDT: That's true. I know we have a -- I only have my calendar, unfortunately, so I'm not sure -- I thought it was the 1<sup>st</sup> that he was leaving.

THE COURT: Okay, well --

MS. A. SCHMIDT: And I know we have a motion to certify class that's pretty

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big on the 30<sup>th</sup>, but it'll all depend, too, on --
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           THE COURT: Right.
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           MS. A. SCHMIDT: -- what the issues of fact that remain are so we can
     subpoena our witnesses.
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           THE COURT: Okay, why don't we do this?
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           MS. A. SCHMIDT: Okay.
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           THE COURT: Why don't we set you for July 29<sup>th</sup>. If Mr. Stern is unavailable
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     on that date --
           MS. A. SCHMIDT: Okay.
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           THE COURT: Let opposing counsel know and let the Court know.
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           MS. A. SCHMIDT: Okay.
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           THE COURT: If the motion's granted, that'll be vacated. If the med-mal trial
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     which they estimated five to seven days looks like it's going to be ten days or
     something like that, as soon as I start to figure that out I will contact the parties and
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     let you know that. So if none of those things occurs then we'll have a trial on July
     29<sup>th</sup>. Okay? And if one of those things occurs then we'll either vacate it all together
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     or we'll find you another date.
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           MS. A. SCHMIDT: Okay.
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           THE COURT: Okay?
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           MS. A. SCHMIDT: Great. Thank you.
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1	MS. M. SCHMIDT: Thank you, Your Honor.
2	THE COURT: All right. Thank you.
3	
4	****
5	PROCEEDING CONCLUDED AT 9:41 A.M.
6	******
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12	ATTEST: I do hereby certify that I have truly and correctly transcribed the audio/video proceedings in the above-entitled case to the best of my ability.
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14	_ Swan Shofe ad
15	SUSAN SCHOFIELD Court Recorder/Transcriber
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**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

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1	DFLT
	Luis A. Ayon, Esq.
2	Nevada Bar No. 9752
	Margaret E. Schmidt, Esq.
3	Nevada Bar No. 12489
	MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON
4	400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400
	Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
5	Telephone: (702) 629-7900
	Facsimile: (702) 629-7925
6	E-mail: laa@mgalaw.com
	mes@mgalaw.com
7	
	Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant
8	West Sunset 2050 Trust
9	
	D

#### ISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust

Plaintiff,

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FREEDOM MORTGAGE NEW CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National Association; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company, COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Limited Liability Partnership TABLANTE, an individual, STEPHANIE DOES through Х; ROE 1 and CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

AND ALL RELATED CLAIMS.

Case No.: A-13-691323-C

Dept. No.: XXI

DEFAULT AGAINST STEPHANIE TABLANTE

It appearing from the files and records in the above-entitled action that STEPHANIE TABLANTE, the defendant herein, having been duly served with a copy of the summons and complaint by publication in the Nevada Legal News on September 10, 2014, September 17, 2014, September 24, 2014, October 1, 2014 and October 8, 2014 and mailed to defendant on September 9, 2014 by U.S. Mail to the last known addresses; that more than twenty (20) days, exclusive of the

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final date of publication, having expired since service upon the defendant by publication; that no answer or other appearance having been filed and no further time having been granted, the default of defendant STEPHANIE TABLANTE for failing to answer or otherwise plead to plaintiff West Sunset 2050 Trust's complaint is hereby entered.

STEVEN D. GRIENSON, CLERK OF THE COURT

Deputy Clerk

Regional Justice CoultONNE HERNAND

200 Lewis Avenue

Las Vegas, Nevada 89155

The undersigned hereby requests and directs the entry of default.

Respectfully submitted,

MAIER GUTTERREZ AYON

Luis Ayon, Esq.

Nevada Bar No. 9752

MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 12489

400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400

Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant West

Sunset 2050 Trust

AFFP A 691323 Electronically Filed 10/08/2014 10:26:21 AM

CLERK OF THE COURT

#### Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF NEVADA }
COUNTY OF CLARK }

SS

#### I, Rosalie Qualis state:

That I am Assistant Operations Manager of the Nevada Legal News, a daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following dates:

Sep 10, 2014

Sep 17, 2014

Sep 24, 2014

Oct 01, 2014

Oct 08, 2014

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED: Oct 08, 2014

DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA Case No.: A 691323 Dept. No.: XXI

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust Plaintill,

vs. NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National Association; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company, COOPER CASTER LAW FIRM, LLP, a Navada Limited Liability Partnership STEPHANIE TABLANTE, an Individual, DOES I through X; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive, Defendants.

SUMMONS - CIVIL

NOTICE! YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. THE COURT MAY DECIDE AGAINST YOU WITHOUT YOUR BEING HEARD UNLESS YOU RESPOND WITHIN 20 DAYS. READ THE INFORMATION BELOW. STEPHANIE TABLANTE A civil Complaint has been filed by the Plaintiff against you for the relief set forth in the Complaint. Object of Action: This is a Complaint for Title to Property - Quiet Title, 1. If you intend to defend this lawsuit, within 20 days after this Summons is served on you, exclusive of the day of service, you must do the following: (a) File with the Clerk of the Court, whose address is shown below, a formal written response to the Complaint in accordance with the rules of the Court, with the appropriate filing fee. (b) Serve a copy of your response upon the attorney whose name and address is shown below. 2. Unless you respond, your default will be entered upon application of the Plaintiffs and failure to so respond will result in a judgment of default against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint, which could result in the taking of money or property or other relief requested in the Compiaint, 3, If you intend to seek the advice of an attorney in this matter, you should do so promptly so that your response may be filed on time. 4. The State of Nevada, its political subdivisions, agencies, officers, employees, board members, commission members and legislators each have 45 days after service of this Summons within which to file and Answer or other responsive pleading to the Complaint CLERK OF THE COURT, s/ Joshua Raak, Deputy Clerk, Date 11-7-13, Regional Justice Court, 200 Lewis Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada 89155, MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON, s/ LUIS A. AYON, ESQ., Nevada Bar No. 9752, MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, ESQ., Nevada Bar No. 12489, 2500 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 106, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102, Telephone: (702) 629-7900, Facsimile: (702) 629-7925, E-mail: laa@mgalaw.com, mes@mgalaw.com, Attorneys for West Sunset 2050 Trust

Published in Nevada Legal News September 10, 17, 24, October 1, 8, 2014

04108253 00381302 702-629-7925

MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON 400 SOUTH SEVENTH STREET SUITE 400 LAS VEGAS, NV 89101

1 **CSERV** Luis A. Ayon, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 9752 MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 12489 MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON 400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 Telephone: (702) 629-7900 5 Facsimile: (702) 629-7925 laa@mgalaw.com 6 E-mail: mes@mgalaw.com 7 Attorneys for West Sunset 2050 Trust

CLERK OF THE COURT

#### DISTRICT COURT

#### CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust

#### Plaintiff,

VS.

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MORTGAGE NEW FREEDOM CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National Association; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company, COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Limited Liability Partnership. TABLANTE, an individual, STEPHANIE through DOES ROE I Χ., and CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: A-13-691323-C

Dept. No.: XXI

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 9th day of September, 2014, I served a copy of the summons and complaint by depositing a true and correct copy of the same, enclosed in a sealed envelope upon which first class postage was fully prepaid, certified U.S. Mail, return receipt requested, deposited with the United States Postal Service in Las Vegas, Nevada, addressed as follows:

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# MARK GUTIERREZ AYON mic

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#### Stephanie Tablante 708 Kelso Way Las Vegas, Nevada 89107

Jes	Cha	801819	$R\alpha i$	1305
136	$\sim mu$	7 2 5 1	DW	(75)

An Employee of MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON

#### VIER GUTIERREZ ÂYON PUC

400 South Seventh Serent \* Suite 400 Las Vegas, Nevada 80101



Stephanie Tablante 708 Kelso Way Las Vegas, Nevada 89107

Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.  Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.  Attach this card to the back of the maliplece, or on the front if space permits.	A. Signature  X
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A. Signature ■ Complete Items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete. □ Agent item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired. X 🛛 Addressee M Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you. B. Received by Affinted Name) C. Date of Delivery M Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece. or on the front if space permits. D. Is delivery address different from item 17 C) Yes 1 Article Addressed to: III No If YES, enter delivery address below: Stopheric Tabillated 100 years way a 100 and 1 SEP 1 5 2014 3. Seryide Type G Certified Mail C Express Mali SHeturn Receipt for Merchandise C Registered C insured Mail III 0.0.D. 4. Restricted Delivery? (Extra Fee) CD Yes 7012 1640 0000 7761 1089 2. Article Number

Domestic Return Receipt

(Transfer from service label)

PS Form 3811, February 2004

10259S-02-M-1S4:

**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

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ì	DELT	
2	Luis A. Ayon, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 9752	
3	MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 12489	
4	MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON 400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101	
5	Telephone: (702) 629-7900 Facsimile: (702) 629-7925	
6	E-mail: <u>laa@mgalaw.com</u> mes@mgalaw.com	
7	Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant	
8	West Sunset 2050 Trust	
9	DISTRICT	ن <b>گ</b> نگان <u>گ</u> رگان ا
10		
e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e	CLARK COUN	TY, NEVADA
12	WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust	Case No.: A-13 Dept. No.: XXI
13	Plaintiff,	<b>.</b>
14	vs.	DEFAULT AC MORTGAGE
15	NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation;	
16	BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National	
17	Association; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE	

Case No.: A-13-691323-C Dept. No.: XXI

#### DEFAULT AGAINST NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION

m; aal ΞE LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company, COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Limited Nevada Liability Partnership STEPHANIE TABLANTE, an individual, DOES through X; ROE and CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive, Defendants.

AND ALL RELATED CLAIMS.

It appearing from the files and records in the above-entitled action that NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, the defendant herein, having been duly served with a copy of the summons and complaint on November 25, 2013; that more than twenty (20) days, exclusive of the day of service having since expired upon the defendant; that no answer or other appearance having been filed and no further time having been granted, the default of defendant NEW FREEDOM

ģ.	MORTGAGE CORPORATION for failing to answer or otherwise plead to plaintiff West Sunset
2	2050 Trust's complaint is hereby entered
3	STEVEN D. GRIERSON, CLERK OF THE COURT
4 5	I VITTIUM I VIX CONS
6	Regional Justice Court ACQ1323
7	Las Vegas, Nevada 89155
8	The undersigned hereby requests and directs the entry of default.
9	Respectfully submitted,
10	Maier Gutierrez Ayon
1 1	MULTINUT
12	Luis Ayon, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 9752
13	Margaret E. Schmidt, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 12489.
14	400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
15 16	Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant West Sunset 2050 Trust
17	
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#### AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

State of NEVADA

County of CLARK

**District Court** 

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**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

Plaintiff:

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST

Case Number: A-13-691323-C

Defendant:

NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC: COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLC; STEPHANIE TABLANTE; DOES I THROUGH X; AND ROE CORPORATIONS I THROUGH X

For: SUMM

Las Vegas, NV 89129

Received by AM:PM LEGAL SOLUTIONS on the 22nd day of November, 2013 at 2:17 pm to be served on NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPROATION, 2363 SOUTH FOOTHILL DRIVE, SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84109.

I, GRANT ROLL, being duly sworn, depose and say that on the 25th day of November, 2013 at 11:50 am, I:

SERVED the within named CORPORATION by delivering a true copy of the SUMMONS & COMPLAINT with the date and hour of service endorsed thereon by me to ELIZABETH ČARDENAS as AUTHORIZED LEGAL AGENT of the within named corporation, in compliance with state statutes.

Additional Information pertaining to this Service:

Attempted Service: 2363 SOUTH FOOTHILL DRIVE, SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84109 11-25-13 11:50am served Elizabeth Cardenas/Authorized

I am over the age of 21 and have no interest in the above action.

UCA 788-5-705. I declare under criminal penalty that the foregoing is true and correct.

Commission # 661615

Subscribed and Swom to before me on the 25th day of November, 2013 by the affiant who is personally known to

**GRANT ROLL** 

Private Investigator A103235

AM:PM LEGAL SOLUTIONS 520 S. 7th St.

Ste. 8

Las Vegas, NV 89101

(702) 385-2676

Our Job Serial Number: AND-2013005006

Ref: 5111

1	NEOD Luis A. Ayon, Esq.	Alun D. Column
2	Nevada Bar No. 9752 MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, ESQ.	CLERK OF THE COURT
3	Nevada Bar No. 12489  MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON	
4	400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101	
5	Telephone: (702) 629-7900	
6	Facsimile: (702) 629-7925 E-mail: laa@mgalaw.com	
7	mes@mgalaw.com	
8	Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant West Sunset 2050 Trust	
9	DICTRICA	COLDT
10	DISTRICT	
11	CLARK COUN	TY, NEVADA
12	WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust	Case No.: A-13-691323-C Dept. No.: XXI
13	Plaintiff,	NOTICE OF ENTRY OF DEFAULT
14	vs.	TOTICE OF ENTITY OF BEITHEET
15	NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation;	
16	BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National Association; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE	
17	LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company, COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a	
18	Nevada Limited Liability Partnership	
19	STEPHANIE TABLANTE, an individual, DOES I through X; and ROE	
20	CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,	
21	Defendants.	
22	AND ALL RELATED CLAIMS.	
23		
24	TO: ALL PARTIES AND THEIR COUNSEL (	OF RECORD.
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YOU AND EACH OF YOU will please take notice that a DEFAULT AGAINST NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION was hereby entered on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2015. A copy of which is attached hereto.

DATED this 29<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

#### MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON

_/s	Li	iis .	A.	Ay	on

Luis Ayon, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 9752
MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 12489
400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant West
Sunset 2050 Trust

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Pursuant to Administrative Order 14-2, a copy of the **NOTICE OF ENTRY OF DEFAULT** was electronically filed on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2015 and served through the Notice of Electronic Filing automatically generated by the Court's facilities to those parties listed on the Court's Master Service List and by depositing a true and correct copy of the same, enclosed in a sealed envelope upon which first class postage was fully prepaid, in the U.S. Mail at Las Vegas, Nevada, addressed as follows (Note: All Parties Not Registered Pursuant to Administrative Order 14-2 Have Been Served By Mail.):

Ariel E. Stern, Esq.
Allison R. Schmidt, Esq.
AKERMAN LLP
1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330
Las Vegas, Nevada 89144
Attorneys for Defendant Bank of America, N.A., and Nationstar Mortgage LLC

/s/ Charity Barber

An Employee of MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON

**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

<b>3</b>	DFLT
2	Luis A. Ayon, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 9752
المكر المكر	MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, ESQ.
3	Nevada Bar No. 12489
	MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON
4	400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400
سر	Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
5	Telephone: (702) 629-7900
6	Facsimile: (702) 629-7925 E-mail: laa@mgalaw.com
V	mes@mgalaw.com
7	
	Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant
8	West Sunset 2050 Trust
9	30°94, 10
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	**************************************

DISTRICT COURT
LARK COUNTY, NEVADA

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust

Plaintiff,

VS.

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NEW MORTGAGE FREEDOM CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National Association; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company, COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Liability Limited Partnership TABLANTE, an individual, STEPHANIE DOES through  $X_{i}$ Ĭ and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

AND ALL RELATED CLAIMS.

Case No.: A-13-691323-C Dept. No.: XXI

DEFAULT AGAINST NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION

It appearing from the files and records in the above-entitled action that NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, the defendant herein, having been duly served with a copy of the summons and complaint on November 25, 2013; that more than twenty (20) days, exclusive of the day of service having since expired upon the defendant; that no answer or other appearance having been filed and no further time having been granted, the default of defendant NEW FREEDOM

, transi	MORTGAGE CORPORATION for failing to answer or otherwise plead to plaintiff West Sunse
2	2050 Trust's complaint is hereby entered.
3	STEVEN D. GRIERSON, CLERK OF THE COURT
4	Beputy Clerk Transfer and Applicate
5 6	Regional Justice Court PERNAME HERNAME A GOLD A GOL
7	Las Vegas, Nevada 89155
8	The undersigned hereby requests and directs the entry of default.
9	Respectfully submitted,
10	Maier Gutierrez Ayon
7 7	MM+50111
12	Luis Ayon, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 9752
13	MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 12489.
124 M	400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
5	Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant West Sunset 2050 Trust
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#### AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

State of NEVADA

County of CLARK

District Court

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CLERK OF THE COURT

Plaintiff:

**WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST** 

Case Number: A-13-691323-C

VS.

Defendant:

NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC; COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLC; STEPHANIE TABLANTE; DOES I THROUGH X; AND ROE CORPORATIONS I THROUGH X

For: SUMM

Las Vegas, NV 89129

Received by AM:PM LEGAL SOLUTIONS on the 22nd day of November, 2013 at 2:17 pm to be served on NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPROATION, 2363 SOUTH FOOTHILL DRIVE, SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84109.

I, GRANT ROLL, being duly sworn, depose and say that on the 25th day of November, 2013 at 11:50 am, I:

SERVED the within named CORPORATION by delivering a true copy of the SUMMONS & COMPLAINT with the date and hour of service endorsed thereon by me to ELIZABETH CARDENAS as AUTHORIZED LEGAL AGENT of the within named corporation, in compliance with state statutes.

Additional Information pertaining to this Service:

Attempted Service: 2363 SOUTH FOOTHILL DRIVE, SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84109 11-25-13 11:50am served Elizabeth Cardenas/Authorized

I am over the age of 21 and have no interest in the above action.

UCA 788-5-705. I declare under criminal penalty that the foregoing is true and correct.

HEIDI ANDERSON
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF UTAH
NY Comm. Exp. 01/01/2017
Commission # 661615

Subscribed and Sworn to before me on the 25th day of November, 2013 by the affiant who is personally known to me.

NOTARY PUBLIC

GRANT ROLL

Private Investigator A103235

AM:PM LEGAL SOLUTIONS 520 S. 7th St.

Ste. 8

Las Vegas, NV 89101

(702) 385-2676

Our Job Serial Number: AND-2013005006

Ref: 5111

1	NEOD Luis A. Ayon, Esq.	Alun J. Column
2	Nevada Bar No. 9752	CLERK OF THE COURT
3	Margaret E. Schmidt, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 12489	
	Maier Gutierrez Ayon	
4	400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400   Las Vegas, Nevada 89101	
5	Telephone: (702) 629-7900	
_	Facsimile: (702) 629-7925	
6	E-mail: <u>laa@mgalaw.com</u> mes@mgalaw.com	
7	A44 a man and fam Dlaintiff(Canadan dafan dan)	
8	Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant West Sunset 2050 Trust	
0		
9	DISTRICT	COURT
10	CLADIZ COUN	
11	CLARK COUN	IY, NEVADA
12	WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust	Case No.: A-13-691323-C
		Dept. No.: XXI
13	Plaintiff,	NOTICE OF ENTRY OF DEFAULT
14	vs.	NOTICE OF ENTRY OF BEFACET
15	NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE	
	CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation;	
16	BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National Association; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE	
17	LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company,	
18	COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Limited Liability Partnership	
19	STEPHANIE TABLANTE, an individual,	
	DOES I through X; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,	
20		
21	Defendants.	
22		
	AND ALL RELATED CLAIMS.	
23		
24	TO: ALL PARTIES AND THEIR COUNSEL (	OF RECORD.
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YOU AND EACH OF YOU will please take notice that a DEFAULT AGAINST STEPHANIE TABLANTE was hereby entered on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2015. A copy of which is attached hereto.

DATED this 29<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

#### MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON

/s/ Luis A. Ayon
Luis Ayon, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 9752
MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 12489
400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant West
Sunset 2050 Trust

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Pursuant to Administrative Order 14-2, a copy of the **NOTICE OF ENTRY OF DEFAULT** was electronically filed on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2015 and served through the Notice of Electronic Filing automatically generated by the Court's facilities to those parties listed on the Court's Master Service List and by depositing a true and correct copy of the same, enclosed in a sealed envelope upon which first class postage was fully prepaid, in the U.S. Mail at Las Vegas, Nevada, addressed as follows (Note: All Parties Not Registered Pursuant to Administrative Order 14-2 Have Been Served By Mail.):

Ariel E. Stern, Esq.
Allison R. Schmidt, Esq.
AKERMAN LLP
1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330
Las Vegas, Nevada 89144
Attorneys for Defendant Bank of America, N.A., and Nationstar Mortgage LLC

/s/ Charity Barber

An Employee of MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON

**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

1	
1	DELT
	Luis A. Ayon, Esq.
2	Nevada Bar No. 9752
	MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, ESQ.
3	Nevada Bar No. 12489
	MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON
4	400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400
	Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
5	Telephone: (702) 629-7900
	Facsimile: (702) 629-7925
6	E-mail: <u>laa@mgalaw.com</u>
	mes@mgalaw.com
7	
	Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant
8	West Sunset 2050 Trust
9	
j	XX.

DISTRICT COURT

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust

Plaintiff,

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MORTGAGE NEW FREEDOM CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National Association; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company, COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Limited Liability Partnership TABLANTE, an individual, STEPHANIE DOES through X;and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

AND ALL RELATED CLAIMS.

Case No.: A-13-691323-C

Dept. No.: XXI

DEFAULT AGAINST STEPHANIE TABLANTE

It appearing from the files and records in the above-entitled action that STEPHANIE TABLANTE, the defendant herein, having been duly served with a copy of the summons and complaint by publication in the Nevada Legal News on September 10, 2014, September 17, 2014, September 24, 2014, October 1, 2014 and October 8, 2014 and mailed to defendant on September 9, 2014 by U.S. Mail to the last known addresses; that more than twenty (20) days, exclusive of the

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final date of publication, having expired since service upon the defendant by publication; that no answer or other appearance having been filed and no further time having been granted, the default of defendant STEPHANIE TABLANTE for failing to answer or otherwise plead to plaintiff West Sunset 2050 Trust's complaint is hereby entered.

TEVEN D. GRIEFISON, CLERK OF THE COURT

Deputy Clerk

Regional Justice Coult ONNE HERNAND

200 Lewis Avenue

Las Vegas, Nevada 89155

The undersigned hereby requests and directs the entry of default.

Respectfully submitted,

MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON

Luis Ayon, Esq.

Nevada Bar No. 9752

MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 12489

400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400

Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant West

Sunset 2050 Trust

AFFP A 691323 Electronically Filed 10/08/2014 10:26:21 AM

CLERK OF THE COURT

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# Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF NEVADA }
COUNTY OF CLARK }

SS

I, Rosalie Qualis state:

That I am Assistant Operations Manager of the Nevada Legal News, a daily newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada; that the publication, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the said newspaper on the following dates:

Sep 10, 2014

Sep 17, 2014

Sep 24, 2014

Oct 01, 2014

Oct 08, 2014

That said newspaper was regularly issued and circulated on those dates. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED: Oct 08, 2014

DISTRICT COURT
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA
Care No. 4 801322 Deat No. 1

Case No.: A 691323 Dept. No.: XXI WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust Plaintiff,

vs. NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National Association; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company, COOPER CASTER LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Limited Liability Partnership STEPHANIE TABLANTE, an Individual, DOES I through X; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive. Defendants.

SUMMONS - CIVIL

NOTICE! YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. THE COURT MAY DECIDE AGAINST YOU WITHOUT YOUR BEING HEARD UNLESS YOU RESPOND WITHIN 20 DAYS. READ THE INFORMATION BELOW. STEPHANIE TABLANTE A civil Complain! has been filed by the Plaintiff against you for the relief set forth in the Complaint. Object of Action: This is a Complaint for Title to Property - Quiet Title, 1. If you intend to defend this lawsuit, within 20 days after this Summons is served on you, exclusive of the day of service, you must do the following: (a) File with the Clark of the Court. whose address is shown below, a formal written response to the Complaint in accordance with the rules of the Court, with the appropriate filing fee. (b) Serve a copy of your response upon the attorney whose name and address is shown below. 2. Unless you respond, your default will be entered upon application of the Plaintiffs and failure to so respond will result in a judgment of default against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint, which could result in the taking of money or property or other relief requested in the Complaint. 3, If you intend to seek the advice of an allomey in this matter, you should do so promptly so that your response may be filed on time. 4. The State of Nevada, its political subdivisions, agencies, officers. employees, board members, commission members and legislators each have 45 days after service of this Summons within which to file and Answer or other responsive pleading to the Complaint, CLERK OF THE COURT, st Joshua Raak, Deputy Clerk, Date 11-7-13, Regional Justice Court, 200 Lewis Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada 89155, MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON, S/LUIS A. AYON, ESQ., Nevada Sar No. 9752, MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, ESQ., Nevada Bar No. 12489, 2500 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 106, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102, Telephone: (702) 629-7900, Facsimile: (702) 629-7925, E-mail: laa@mgalaw.com, mes@mgalaw.com, Attomeys for West Sunset 2050 Trust

Published in Nevada Legal News September 10, 17, 24, October 1, 8, 2014

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MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON 400 SOUTH SEVENTH STREET SUITE 400 LAS VEGAS, NV 89101

-	
******	CSERV
*******	LUIS A. AYON, ESQ.
	Nevada Bar No. 9752
	MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, ESQ.
	Nevada Bar No. 12489
	MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON
	400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400
	Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
	Telephone: (702) 629-7900
	Facsimile: (702) 629-7925
	E-mail: laa@mgalaw.com
	mes@mgalaw.com
*******	Attorneys for West Sunset 2050 Trust

CLERK OF THE COURT

0805

#### DISTRICT COURT

#### CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust

Plaintiff,

Case No.: A-13-691323-C

Dept. No.: XXI

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

VS.

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FREEDOM MORTGAGE NEW CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National Association; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company, COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Liability Limited Partnership Nevada TABLANTE, an individual, STEPHANIE DOES ROE through Χ, and CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2014, I served a copy of the summons and complaint by depositing a true and correct copy of the same, enclosed in a sealed envelope upon which first class postage was fully prepaid, certified U.S. Mail, return receipt requested, deposited with the United States Postal Service in Las Vegas, Nevada, addressed as follows:

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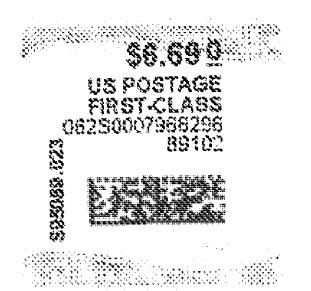
Stephanie Tabla	nte
708 Kelso Waj	У
Las Vegas, Nevada	89107

/s/ Charity Barber
An Employee of MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON

**>** 

# VER GUTTERREZ AYON PUC

400 South Seventh Street \* Suite 400 Las Vegas, Nevada 80101



Stephanie Tablante 708 Kelso Way Las Vegas, Nevada 89107

Complete items 1, 2, and 3. Also complete item 4 if Restricted Delivery is desired.  Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.  Attach this card to the back of the maliplece, or on the front if space permits.	A. Signature  X
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**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

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1160 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 330 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89144 TEL.: (702) 634-5000 – FAX: (702) 380-8572 1 ARIEL E. STERN, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 8276

ALLISON R. SCHMIDT, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 10743

|| AKERMAN LLP

1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330

Las Vegas, NV 89144

Telephone: (702) 634-5000 Facsimile: (702) 380-8572

6 Email: ariel.stern@akerman.com
Email: allison.schmidt@akerman.com

Attorneys for Defendant Nationstar Mortgage, LLC

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

**CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

Plaintiff,

V.

MORTGAGE NEW FREEDOM CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, Association: LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company; COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Limited Liability Partnership; **STEPHANIE** TABLANTE, an individual; DOES I through X; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

Counterclaimant,

23 || v.

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

Counter-Defendant.

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{37064085;1}

Case No.: A-13-691323-C Dept.: XXI

ORDER GRANTING NATIONSTAR
MORTGAGE LLC'S COUNTERMOTION
FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND
DENYING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR
SUMMARY JUDGMENT

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NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

Cross-Claimant,

V.

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STEPHANIE TABLANTE,

Cross-Defendant.

# ORDER GRANTING NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC'S COUNTERMOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND DENYING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Nationstar Mortgage, LLC's (Nationstar) countermotion for summary judgment came on for hearing before this court on June 24, 2015. Allison R. Schmidt, Esq. appeared on behalf of Nationstar. Luis Ayon, Esq. appeared on behalf of Plaintiff, West Sunset 2050 Trust. The court, having reviewed the countermotion and opposition thereto, as well as Plaintiff's competing motion for summary judgment, the opposition thereto and reply, and good cause appearing hereby grants summary judgment in favor of Nationstar.

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. Stephanie Tablante (**Tablante**) purchased the property located at 7255 W. Sunset Road, Unit 2050, Las Vegas, Nevada on or about December 2, 2005.
- 2. To finance the purchase of the property, Tablante obtained a loan from New Freedom Mortgage Corporation in the amount of \$176,760.00, which was secured by a senior deed of trust recorded against the property.
- 3. Tablante contacted Bank of America in 2011 in hopes of obtaining a deed in lieu of foreclosure on her property, but never obtained approval from Bank of America for the deed in lieu.
- 4. Tablante, through her attorney, unilaterally recorded a false deed in lieu to New Freedom Mortgage Corporation.
- 5. According to the Utah Secretary of Staten, New Freedom Mortgage Corporation no longer existed after 2008, having merged into iFreedom Direct Corporation.

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10 1160 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 330 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89144 TEL.: (702) 634-5000 – FAX: (702) 380-8572 17 18

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- 6. The deed in lieu that was recorded by Tablante is not signed by either New Freedom Mortgage Corporation or Bank of America, NA.
- The cover page of the deed in lieu recorded by Tablante indicated the documents 7. was to be returned to the offices of John Peter Lee, Esq. upon recording.
- Red Rock Financial Services (RRFS) recorded a notice of delinquent assessment lien 8. on April 4, 2012.
  - Later, RRFS recorded a Notice of Default on May 29, 2013. 9,
- RRFS did not provide any foreclosure notices to Bank of America, which was the 10. record beneficiary of the senior deed of trust.
  - Prior to the foreclosure sale, the senior deed of trust was assigned to Nationstar. 11.
- A foreclosure sale was held by United Legal Services on June 22, 2013, where 12. the property was sold to Plaintiff for \$7,800.
- The declaration of value recorded with the trustee's deed lists the value of the 13. property at the time of the sale as \$63,280.00.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- Under Nev. R. Civ. P. 56, a motion for summary judgment should be granted "when the pleadings and other evidence on file demonstrate that no 'genuine issue as to any material fact [remains] and that the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law." Wood v. Safeway, (2005) 121 Nev. 724, 729; 121 P.3d 1026, 1029; NRCP 56(c).
- Materiality is dependent on the underlying substantive law, and includes only those 2. factual disputes that could change the ultimate outcome of a case. Id. All evidence and inferences are viewed in a light most favorable to the non-moving party on a summary judgment motion. Id.
- Nationstar and its predecessor in interest, Bank of America, was entitled to receive 3. the foreclosure notices as the senior deed of trust could be effected by the foreclosure sale. NRS 116.31168, NRS 116.31163(2); Mullane v. Central Hanover Bank & Trust Co., 339 U.S. 306, 313, 70 S.Ct. 652, 94 L.Ed. 865 (1950).
- Tablante's recording of a false deed in lieu of foreclosure did not strip the beneficiary 4. of the senior deed of trust of its property rights.

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**AKERMAN LLP** 

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**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

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1160 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 330 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89144 TEL.: (702) 634-5000 – FAX: (702) 380-8572 ARIEL E. STERN, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 8276

ALLISON R. SCHMIDT, ESQ.

|| Nevada Bar No. 10743

| AKERMAN LLP

4 | 1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330

Las Vegas, NV 89144

5 Telephone: (702) 634-5000

Facsimile: (702) 380-8572

Email: ariel.stern@akerman.com Email: allison.schmidt@akerman.com

Attorneys for Defendant Nationstar Mortgage, LLC

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

**CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

Plaintiff,

V.

NEW MORTGAGE FREEDOM a Foreign CORPORATION, Corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, Association; LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company; COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Limited Liability Partnership; **STEPHANIE** TABLANTE, an individual; DOES I through X; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

Counterclaimant,

22 || v.

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

24 | Counter-Defendant.

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{32863212;1}

Dept.: XXI

Case No.:

NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER

A-13-691323-C

		1	NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,
		2	Cross-Claimant,
		3	v.
		4	STEPHANIE TABLANTE,
		5	Cross-Defendant.
		6	PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Order has been entered on the 8 <sup>th</sup> day of February, 2016,
		7	in the above-captioned matter. A copy of said Order is attached hereto as Exhibit A.
		8	DATED this 16 <sup>th</sup> day of February, 2016.
		9	AKERMAN LLP
		10	/s/ Allison R. Schmidt ARIEL E. STERN, ESQ.
	<i>(C</i> ) ∞ ∞	11	Nevada Bar No. 8276 ALLISON R. SCHMIDT, ESQ.
Ь	SUITE 89144 02) 380-	12	Nevada Bar No. 10743 1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330
AKERMAN LLP	DRIVE, VADA 'AX: (7	13	Las Vegas, Nevada 89144  Attorneys for Defendant Nationstar Mortgage, LLC
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1160 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 330 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89144 TEL.: (702) 634-5000 – FAX: (702) 380-8572 

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 16th day of February, 2016 and pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I served through this Court's electronic service notification system ("Wiznet") a true and correct copy of the foregoing **NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER** addressed to:

Luis A. Ayon, Esq.
MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON PLLC

cmb@mgalaw.com djb@mgalaw.com

dtr@mgalaw.com

jrm@mgalaw.com

jag@mgalaw.com laa@mgalaw.com

mes@mgalaw.com

ndv@mgalaw.com

Attorneys for West Sunset 2050 Trust

/s/ Brieanne Siriwan

An employee of AKERMAN LLP

# EXHIBIT A

# EXHIBIT A

{36191416;1}

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CLERK OF THE COURT

ORDR 1 ARIEL E. STERN, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 8276 ALLISON R. SCHMIDT, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 10743 3 AKERMAN LLP 1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330 4 Las Vegas, NV 89144 Telephone: (702) 634-5000 5 Facsimile: (702) 380-8572 Email: ariel.stern@akerman.com 6 Email: allison.schmidt@akerman.com 7 Attorneys for Defendant Nationstar Mortgage, LLC

#### EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

#### CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

Plaintiff,

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1160 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 330 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89144 :EL.: (702) 634-5000 – FAX: (702) 380-8572

NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National Association; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company; COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Limited Liability Partnership; STEPHANIE TABLANTE, an individual; DOES I through X; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

Counterclaimant,

23 | <sub>V</sub>.

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

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Counter-Defendant.

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Case No.: A-13-691323-C
Dept.: XXI

ORDER GRANTING NATIONSTAR

ORDER GRANTING NATIONSTAR
MORTGAGE LLC'S COUNTERMOTION
FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND
DENYING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR
SUMMARY JUDGMENT

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NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

Cross-Claimant,

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STEPHANIE TABLANTE,

Cross-Defendant.

#### ORDER GRANTING NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC'S COUNTERMOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND DENYING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY **JUDGMENT**

Nationstar Mortgage, LLC's (Nationstar) countermotion for summary judgment came on for hearing before this court on June 24, 2015. Allison R. Schmidt, Esq. appeared on behalf of Nationstar. Luis Ayon, Esq. appeared on behalf of Plaintiff, West Sunset 2050 Trust. The court, having reviewed the countermotion and opposition thereto, as well as Plaintiff's competing motion for summary judgment, the opposition thereto and reply, and good cause appearing hereby grants summary judgment in favor of Nationstar.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Stephanie Tablante (Tablante) purchased the property located at 7255 W. Sunset Road, Unit 2050, Las Vegas, Nevada on or about December 2, 2005.
- To finance the purchase of the property, Tablante obtained a loan from New 2. Freedom Mortgage Corporation in the amount of \$176,760.00, which was secured by a senior deed of trust recorded against the property.
- Tablante contacted Bank of America in 2011 in hopes of obtaining a deed in lieu 3. of foreclosure on her property, but never obtained approval from Bank of America for the deed in lieu.
- Tablante, through her attorney, unilaterally recorded a false deed in lieu to New 4. Freedom Mortgage Corporation.
- According to the Utah Secretary of Staten, New Freedom Mortgage Corporation 5. no longer existed after 2008, having merged into iFreedom Direct Corporation.

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  - 9. Later, RRFS recorded a Notice of Default on May 29, 2013.
- RRFS did not provide any foreclosure notices to Bank of America, which was the 10. record beneficiary of the senior deed of trust.
  - Prior to the foreclosure sale, the senior deed of trust was assigned to Nationstar. 11.
- 12, A foreclosure sale was held by United Legal Services on June 22, 2013, where the property was sold to Plaintiff for \$7,800.
- The declaration of value recorded with the trustee's deed lists the value of the 13. property at the time of the sale as \$63,280.00.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- Under Nev. R. Civ. P. 56, a motion for summary judgment should be granted "when 1. the pleadings and other evidence on file demonstrate that no 'genuine issue as to any material fact [remains] and that the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law." Wood v. Safeway, (2005) 121 Nev. 724, 729; 121 P.3d 1026, 1029; NRCP 56(c).
- Materiality is dependent on the underlying substantive law, and includes only those 2. factual disputes that could change the ultimate outcome of a case. Id. All evidence and inferences are viewed in a light most favorable to the non-moving party on a summary judgment motion. *Id.*
- Nationstar and its predecessor in interest, Bank of America, was entitled to receive 3. the foreclosure notices as the senior deed of trust could be effected by the foreclosure sale. NRS 116.31168, NRS 116.31163(2); Mullane v. Central Hanover Bank & Trust Co., 339 U.S. 306, 313, 70 S.Ct. 652, 94 L.Ed. 865 (1950).
- Tablante's recording of a false deed in lieu of foreclosure did not strip the beneficiary 4. of the senior deed of trust of its property rights.

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RRFS failed to provide any foreclosure notices to the beneficiary of the senior deed

**ORDER** 

**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

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1	MRCN
	Luis A. Ayon, Esq.
2	Nevada Bar No. 9752
	Margaret E. Schmidt, Esq.
3	Nevada Bar No. 12489
	Maier Gutierrez Ayon
4	400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400
	Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
5	Telephone: (702) 629-7900
	Facsimile: (702) 629-7925
6	E-mail: <u>laa@mgalaw.com</u>
	mes@mgalaw.com
7	
	Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant
8	West Sunset 2050 Trust

# DISTRICT COURT

### **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust

Plaintiff,

VS.

**NEW** FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National Association; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company, COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Limited Liability Partnership **STEPHANIE** TABLANTE, an individual, DOES Ι through **ROE** X: and CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

AND ALL RELATED CLAIMS.

Case No.: A-13-691323-C

Dept. No.: XXI

PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION AND TO ALTER AND AMEND ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANTS NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC AND BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.'S COUNTERMOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Plaintiff/Counterdefendant West Sunset 2050 Trust ("Plaintiff" or "West Sunset"), by and through its attorneys of record, the law firm MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON, hereby files this motion for reconsideration of the order granting defendants Nationstar Mortgage LLC ("Nationstar") and Bank of America, N.A. ("BANA") summary judgment entered on February 8, 2016.

This motion is made and based upon EDCR 2.24, the following memorandum of points and

1	authorities, the pleadings and papers on file herein, the attached affidavit of counsel, and any oral
2	argument of counsel at the time of the hearing.
3	DATED this 4 <sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016.
4	Respectfully submitted,
5	MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON
6	
7	/s/ Luis A. Ayon Luis Ayon, Esq.
8	Nevada Bar No. 9752 MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, ESQ.
9	Nevada Bar No. 12489 400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400
10	Las Vegas, Nevada 89101  Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant West
11	Sunset 2050 Trust
12	
13	NOTICE OF MOTION
14	PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the undersigned will bring this PLAINTIFF'S MOTION
15	FOR RECONSIDERATION AND TO ALTER AND AMEND ORDER GRANTING
16	DEFENDANTS NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC AND BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.'S
17	COUNTERMOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT on for a hearing on the 4 day of
18	April In Chambers, 2016, at a.m./p.m., in Department XXI of the above-entitled Court, or
19	as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard.
20	DATED this 4 <sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016.
21	Respectfully submitted,
22	MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON
23	
24	/s/ Luis A. Ayon Luis Ayon, Esq.
25	Nevada Bar No. 9752 MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, ESQ.
26	Nevada Bar No. 12489 400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400
27	Las Vegas, Nevada 89101  Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant West
28	Sunset 2050 Trust

### **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

### I. INTRODUCTION

Plaintiff requests this Court reconsider its Order denying Plaintiff's motion for summary judgment and granting Defendants' Nationstar Mortgage ("Nationstar") and Bank of America, N.A. ("BANA") countermotion for summary judgment. *See* Court Minutes and Decision, attached as **Exhibit 1**. The Order was entered on February 8, 2016, and notice of entry of order was entered on February 16, 2016. *See* Order, attached as **Exhibit 2**; Notice of Entry of Order, attached as **Exhibit 3**.

One of the main issues before the Court was whether the Deed in Lieu was fraudulently recorded, and if so, whether Plaintiff as a subsequent bona fide purchaser at the HOA Foreclosure Sale is entitled to have its interest in the Property protected. First, the Court incorrectly concluded that Nationstar was a legitimate holder of the First Deed of Trust and did not receive notice of the HOA delinquency. Exh. 1. Second, the Court found that the rogue filing of a Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure to Defendant New Freedom Mortgage Co. ("New Freedom") did not divest Nationstar of its interest in the property, meaning Plaintiff purchased the property subject to the First Deed of Trust even though Plaintiff was a bona fide purchaser. *Id.* There has been an intervening change in controlling law with the entry of the Nevada Supreme Court's decision in *Shadow Wood Homeowners Ass'n, Inc., et al. v. N.Y. Cmty. Bancorp, Inc.*, 132 Nev. Adv. Op. 5 (2016) ("Shadow Wood"), which settles that a third party purchaser who qualifies as bona fide is protected from any latent interest of which he had no notice. Therefore, the Court should reconsider, alter, and amend its Order and enter summary judgment in favor of Plaintiff.

### II. SUMMARY OF FACTS

The property at issue in this case is commonly known as 7255 W. Sunset Road, Unit 2050, Las Vegas, NV 89113, and bears Assessor's Parcel Number 176-03-510-102 (the "Property"). The Property is within a common-interest community governed by non-party Tuscano Homeowners Association (the "Association"), a common-interest community association created pursuant to NRS Chapter 116. *See, e.g.*, Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for Tuscano Condominiums ("Tuscano CC&Rs"), attached to Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment

("MSJ") at Exh. 1, on file.

Stephanie Tablante purchased the Property on or about December 2, 2005. *See* Grant, Bargain and Sale Deed (NSM00001-NSM00004), attached to MSJ at Exh. 2. Ms. Tablante borrowed money from New Freedom Mortgage Corporation ("New Freedom"), in the amount of \$176,760.00. *See* Deed of Trust (NSM00005–23), attached to MSJ at Exh. 3. A deed of trust securing the loan was recorded on December 7, 2005, in the Official Records of the Clark County Recorder as Instrument Number 20051207-0002367 (the "Deed of Trust"). *See id.*, at NSM00005. The Deed of Trust listed Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), as the beneficiary. *See id.*, at NSM00006.

Five years later, on or about March 1, 2011, the Property records show that Ms. Tablante transferred the Property to New Freedom in "full satisfaction of all obligations secured by the Deed of Trust," by executing a Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure ("Deed in Lieu"). *See* Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure (NSM00025–29), attached to MSJ at Exh. 4. A few months later, the Deed in Lieu was corrected to include the legal description of the Property and was re-recorded on June 21, 2011. *See* Corrected Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure (NSM00030–35), attached to MSJ at Exh. 5. A letter from the Clark County Assessor's Office dated March 18, 2011, shows that New Freedom was notified of the recording of the Deed in Lieu and provided with a copy of the document. *See* Opposition & Countermotion for Summary Judgment ("Opp'n") at Exh. A, *on file*.

New Freedom—as the owner of record following the Deed in Lieu—failed to pay the Property's HOA dues, and the Association through its agent recorded a Lien for Delinquent Assessments on April 4, 2012. See Lien for Delinquent Assessments (NSM00039), attached to MSJ at Exh. 6. More than thirty (30) days later, on May 29, 2012, the Association recorded a Notice of Default and Election to Sell Pursuant to the Lien for Delinquent Assessments. See Notice of Default and Election to Sell Pursuant to the Lien for Delinquent Assessments (NSM00040), attached to MSJ at Exh. 7. More than ninety (90) days following the recording of the Notice of Default and Election to Sell Under Homeowners Association Lien, May 29, 2013, the Association recorded a Notice of Foreclosure Sale Under the Lien for Delinquent Assessments, setting the foreclosure sale for June 22, 2013. See Notice of Foreclosure Sale Under the Lien for Delinquent Assessments (NSM00043),

attached to MSJ at Exh. 8. On that day, the Association sold the Property at public auction to Plaintiff. *See* Foreclosure Deed Upon Sale (NSM00044-NSM00046), attached to MSJ at Exh. 9.

A Foreclosure Deed Upon Sale was properly recorded on June 24, 2013. *See id.* The Foreclosure Deed recited, in part, that the sale complied with all requirements of law including proper notice:

This conveyance is made pursuant to the powers conferred upon Agent by NRS Chapter 116, the foreclosing Association's governing documents (CC&R's), and the notice of the Lien for Delinquent Assessments, recorded on April 4, 2012 as instrument 201204040001017 in the Official Records of the Recorder of Clark County, Nevada. Default occurred as set forth in the Notice of Default and Election to Sell, recorded on May 29, 2012 as instrument 201205290001690 in the Official Records of the Recorder of Clark County, Nevada. All requirements of law have been complied with, including, but not limited to, the elapsing of the 90 days, the mailing of copies of the notice of Lien of Delinquent Assessment, and Notice of Default, and the mailing, posting, and publication of the Notice of Foreclosure Sale and in exercise of its power under NRS § 116.31164, sold the property at public auction on June 22, 2013.

Id. (emphasis added). Robert Atkinson, the attorney responsible for conducting the foreclosure auction, testified that his firm had mailed notice of the Foreclosure Sale to New Freedom, BANA, Nationstar, and Cooper Castle; and he provided documentation of certified mailing in his deposition. See Deposition of Robert Atkinson, attached as **Exhibit 4** at 23; Exhibit B to Deposition of Robert Atkinson, at 6, 9, 14.

Meanwhile, notwithstanding the fact that all obligations secured by the Deed of Trust had been satisfied and the Deed of Trust consequently extinguished, on or about July 29, 2011, MERS purportedly assigned the Deed of Trust to BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP FKA Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP ("BANA"). See Assignment of Deed of Trust (NSM00036-NSM00037), attached to MSJ at Exh. 11. BANA substituted The Cooper Castle Law Firm, LLP ("Cooper Castle"), as the Trustee, see Substitution of Trustee (NSM00038), attached to MSJ at Exh. 12, and then on March 20, 2013, BANA purportedly assigned the deed of trust to Nationstar. See Corporation Assignment of Deed of Trust (NSM00041–42), attached as Exhibit 5. At the time of the assignment to Nationstar, Nationstar was on record notice of the Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure, as well as the Association's pending foreclosure sale.

On September 18, 2013, Cooper Castle, as Trustee of the Deed of Trust, instituted foreclosure proceedings by filing a Notice of Breach and Default and of Election to Cause Sale of Real Property Under Deed of Trust. *See* Notice of Breach and Default and of Election to Cause Sale of Real Property Under Deed of Trust (NSM00047–51), attached to MSJ at Exh. 14.

### III. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff initiated the above-captioned lawsuit on November 6, 2013 in order to quiet title against the adverse interests in the Property of Defendants New Freedom, BANA, Nationstar, Cooper Castle, and Stephanie Tablante, and for injunctive relief preventing Defendants from continuing foreclosure proceedings on the Property. *See* Complaint, *on file*. On February 3, 20213, this Court dismissed Cooper Castle as a party.

On December 19, 2013, BANA filed its Answer. On May 20, 2014, Nationstar filed its Answer and Counterclaim against Plaintiff, and its Cross-Claim against Stephanie Tablante. Plaintiff filed its Answer to Nationstar's Counterclaim on June 18, 2014.

On May 22, 2015, Plaintiff filed its Motion for Summary Judgment, arguing that the Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure that was recorded on the Property, and which went uncontested by New Freedom, extinguished any interest Nationstar or BANA had in the Property, that the Association's foreclosure sale extinguished New Freedom's interest in the Property, and that regardless of whether or not the Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure was properly recorded, Plaintiff was a bona fide purchaser at the Association's foreclosure sale and now holds valid title to the Property.

On June 10, 2015, Defendants Nationstar and BANA filed their Opposition and Countermotion to the Motion for Summary Judgment, arguing that Nationstar was never provided notice of the Association's foreclosure of the Property, that First 100, LLC split the payment rights from the security interest and satisfied the super-priority portion of the HOA's lien, that Nationstar was denied its due process rights, and that the sale was commercially unreasonable.

On June 18, 2015, Plaintiff filed its Reply in support of the Motion for Summary Judgment, and Opposition to Defendants' Countermotion for Summary Judgment, arguing that Defendants did not previously disclose many of their exhibits submitted in support of their Opposition and Countermotion, that the recordation of the Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure satisfied the underlying

debt and extinguished the Deed of Trust on the Property, that Defendants have no evidence the Deed in Lieu was fraudulent, and that Plaintiff's title is protected under the bona fide purchaser doctrine.

Following a hearing on the matter, the Court denied Plaintiff's motion for summary judgment, and granted Defendants' countermotion for summary judgment. The Order was entered on February 8, 2016, and notice of entry of order was entered on February 16, 2016. *See* Exh. 2 and Exh. 3.

### IV. LEGAL ARGUMENT

### A. LEGAL STANDARD—MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

The Nevada Supreme Court has held that district courts have the inherent authority to reconsider their prior orders. *See Trail v. Faretto*, 91 Nev. 401, 403, 536 P.2d 1026, 1027 (1975) ("a court may, for sufficient cause shown, amend, correct, resettle, modify, or vacate, as the case may be, an order previously made and entered on motion in the progress of the cause of proceeding"). Indeed, "the district court is empowered to correct erroneous rulings at any time prior to the entry of final judgment." *Insurance Co. of the West v. Gibson Tile Co., Inc.*, 122 Nev. 455, 134 P.3d 698, fn 4 (2006) (Maupin, J., concurring).

Accordingly, a party may file a motion for reconsideration under EDCR 2.24 when the decision articulated in the court's findings are "clearly erroneous." *Masonry & Tile Contractors Ass'n of S. Nevada v. Jolley, Urga & Wirth, Ltd.*, 113 Nev. 737, 741, 941 P.2d 486, 489 (1997). Similarly, a party may file a motion for relief of an order entered erroneously pursuant to NRCP 59(e).

If taken as a Motion under Rule 59(e), it is timely as "[a] motion to alter or amend the judgment shall be filed no later than 10 days after service of written notice of entry of judgment." The Court should grant relief under Rule 59(e) where "(1) the motion is necessary to correct manifest errors of law or fact upon which the judgment is based; (2) the moving party presents newly discovered or previously unavailable evidence; (3) the motion is necessary to prevent manifest injustice; or (4) there is an intervening change in controlling law." *See Turner v. Burlington Northern Santa Fe R.R. Co.*, 338 F.3d 1058, 1063 (9th Cir. 2003). The motion must also

satisfy Nev. R. Civ. P. 7(b) and be "in writing, . . . state with particularity [its] grounds [and] set forth the relief or order sought." *United Pac. Ins. Co. v. St. Denis*, 81 Nev. 103, 106–07, 399 P.2d 135, 137 (1965) (citing Nev. R. Civ. P. 7(b) and Nev. R. Civ. P. 59(e)).

### B. THE COURT ERRED IN ITS ANALYSIS OF THE DEED IN LIEU FILING

The Court held that the "rogue filing of a Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure to New Freedom did not divest Nation Star of its interest in the property." *See* Exh. 1. *See also*, Exh. 2 ("Tablante's recording of a false deed in lieu of foreclosure did not strip the beneficiary of the senior deed of trust of its property rights."). This reasoning led the Court to conclude that because the Association's agent never provided any foreclosure notices to Nationstar, the "foreclosure sale did not extinguish the senior deed of trust." Exh. 2 at p. 4.

However, Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure (Deed in Lieu) has the same effect as any other foreclosure, thus recordation of the Deed in Lieu provided formal record notice to the world – including the Association and its agent – that Stephanie Tablante had conveyed absolute title to the Property to New Freedom in full satisfaction of the debts secured by the Property.

A deed in lieu is, for a great many purposes, the functional equivalent of a formal foreclosure. A deed in lieu essentially involves an alternate method of the collection of security. The lender accepting a deed in lieu, just like the lender exercising strict foreclosure, has the security interest mature into real ownership without any requirement of public sale.

Moloney v. Boston Five Cents Sav. Bank FSB, 422 Mass. 431, 433, 663 N.E.2d 811, 813 (1996). See also FH Partners, LLC v. Leany, No. 2:11-CV-0796-LRH-NJK, 2014 WL 3853806, at \*2 (D. Nev. Aug. 6, 2014) (a deed in lieu is the functional equivalent of a duly noticed foreclosure sale). In accordance with this case law, the Deed in Lieu expressly conveyed the Property to New Freedom with the consideration being "full satisfaction of all obligations secured by the Deeds of Trust executed by the party of the first part to New Freedom Mortgage Corporation . . . ." MSJ at Exh. 4. Thus, the Court erred in holding that the recording of the deed in lieu of foreclosure did not strip Nationstar of its interest in the Property.

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# C. THE COURT ERRED IN NOT PROTECTING PLAINTIFF'S RIGHTS TO THE PROPERTY AS A BONA FIDE PURCHASER

Despite Plaintiff's briefing of the issue in the summary judgment pleadings, the Court's Order failed to address Plaintiff's status as a bona fide purchaser and the rights that accompany that status. Exh. 2. NRS 111.180(1) defines a bona fide purchaser as a purchaser who "purchases an . . . interest in any real property in good faith and for valuable consideration and who does not have actual knowledge, constructive notice of, or reasonable cause to know that there exists a defect in, or adverse rights, title or interest to, the real property." *See also Hewitt* v. Glaser Land & Livestock Co., 97 Nev. 207, 208, 626 P.2d 268, 269 (1981) (holding that a bona fide purchaser is someone who purchases a property without notice of outstanding equities).

To be clear, Plaintiff purchased the Property at the HOA foreclosure sale without any notice or reasonable cause to suspect a defect in New Freedom's title as record owner, and Defendants offered no evidence to dispute this contention. Even if the Deed in Lieu is somehow invalid, that dispute is immaterial because Plaintiff was a bona fide purchaser for value at the Association's foreclosure sale, and its title should not have been attacked. *See Buhecker v. R.B. Petersen & Sons Const. Co.*, 112 Nev. 1498, 1501, 929 P.2d 937, 939 (1996) ("[W]e conclude that it would be unfair to impute to [the bona fide encumbrancer] constructive notice of the fraud.").

If the significance of a bona fide purchaser's status was ever in doubt, an intervening change in controlling law occurred through the Nevada Supreme Court's decision in *Shadow Wood Homeowners Ass'n, Inc., et al. v. N.Y. Cmty. Bancorp, Inc.*, 132 Nev. Adv. Op. 5 (2016) ("*Shadow Wood*"), which affirmatively settles that a third party purchaser who qualifies as bona fide is protected from any latent interest of which he had no notice. "A subsequent purchaser is bona fide under common-law principles if it takes property 'for a valuable consideration and without notice of prior equity, and without notice of facts which upon diligent inquiry would be indicated and from which notice would be imputed to him, if he failed to make such inquiry." *Shadow Wood* at 22 (quoting *Bailey v. Butner*, 64 Nev. 1, 19 (1947)).

Moreover, if there were any question as to Plaintiff's ability to rely on the recitals set forth in the Association's foreclosure deed, which stated that that the sale complied with all requirements of

law including proper notice, *Shadow Wood* also effectively confirmed the Nevada Supreme Court's previous holding in *SFR Investments Pool 1 v. U.S. Bank*, 130 Nev. \_\_\_\_, 334 P.3d 408 (2014), *reh'g denied* (Oct. 16, 2014) ("*SFR Investments*"), which stated that the foreclosure deed's recitals are <u>conclusive</u> as to notice.

The Nevada Supreme Court held in *SFR Investments* that a foreclosure deed "reciting compliance with notice provisions of NRS 116.31162 through NRS 116.31168 'is conclusive' as to the recitals 'against the unit's former owner, his or her heirs and assigns and all other persons." *SFR Investments*, 334 P.3d at 411-412 (citing NRS 116.31166(2)). Thus, a purchaser at an HOA foreclosure sale may rely on specific recitals in the foreclosure deed as "conclusive proof of the matters recited" as follows: "(a) Default, the mailing of the notice of delinquent assessment, and the recording of the notice of default and election to sell; (b) The elapsing of the 90 days; and (c) The giving of notice of sale." NRS 116.31166(1).

This sentiment was reaffirmed in *Shadow Wood*, wherein the Court, quoting *Bourne Valley Court Trust v. Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.*, 80 F. Supp. 3d 1131, 1135 (D. Nev. 2015), stated that "under NRS 116.31166, when a foreclosure deed recited that there was a default, the proper notices were given, the appropriate amount of time elapsed between notice of default and sale, and the notice of sale was given, it was 'conclusive proof' that the required statutory notices were provided." *Shadow Wood* at 10. While the *Shadow Wood* court declined to extend NRS 116.31166 as "conclusively establishing a default," the court did not take issue with the recitals pertaining to notice. *Id.* Thus, Plaintiff had a right to rely on the recitals contained in the foreclosure deed that the sale was properly noticed and Defendants provided no evidence indicating Plaintiff had any notice that the Association's foreclosure sale was in any way improper.

Just as the Nevada Supreme Court recognized the purchaser's probable bona fide status in *Shadow Wood* due to the evidence suggesting a lack of notice, this Court should grant Plaintiff's Motion here, because any actual defects in the Association sale were entirely unknown to Plaintiff. *Id.* ("Because the evidence does not show Gogo Way had any notice of the pre-sale dispute between NYCB and Shadow Wood, the potential harm to Gogo Way must be taken into account and further defeats NYCB's entitlement to judgment as a matter of law.").

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### V. **CONCLUSION**

Based on the foregoing reasons, Plaintiff respectfully requests this Court alter, amend, or reconsider its Order denying Plaintiff's motion for summary judgment and granting Nationstar and BANA's countermotion for summary judgment.

DATED this 4<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

## MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON

# /s/ Luis A. Ayon

Luis Ayon, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 9752 MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 12489 400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant West Sunset 2050 Trust

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Pursuant to Administrative Order 14-2, a copy **MOTION FOR** of the RECONSIDERATION AND **AMEND** AND **ALTER ORDER GRANTING** TO DEFENDANTS NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC AND BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.'S COUNTERMOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT was electronically filed on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016 and served through the Notice of Electronic Filing automatically generated by the Court's facilities to those parties listed on the Court's Master Service List and by depositing a true and correct copy of the same, enclosed in a sealed envelope upon which first class postage was fully prepaid, in the U.S. Mail at Las Vegas, Nevada, addressed as follows (Note: All Parties Not Registered Pursuant to Administrative Order 14-2 Have Been Served By Mail.):

Ariel E. Stern, Esq.
Allison R. Schmidt, Esq.
AKERMAN LLP
1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330
Las Vegas, Nevada 89144
Attorneys for Defendant Bank of America, N.A., and Nationstar Mortgage LLC

/s/ Charity Barber

An Employee of MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON

# EXHIBIT 1

# EXHIBIT 1

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

Title to Property		COURT MINUTES	July 24, 2015
A-13-691323-C	West Sunset	2050 Trust, Plaintiff(s)	
	VS.		
	New Freedo	n Mortgage Corporation	, Defendant(s)
July 24, 2015	1:00 PM	Decision	W. Sunset 2050
- •			Trust's Motion for
			Summary
			JudgmentOppositio
(			n to Motion for
			Summary Judgment
			and Countermotion
			for Summary
			Judgment

**HEARD BY:** Adair, Valerie

COURTROOM:

**COURT CLERK:** Denise Husted

RECORDER:

REPORTER:

**PARTIES** PRESENT:

## JOURNAL ENTRIES

- COURT ORDERED, Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment is DENIED; Nation Star's Countermotion for Summary Judgment is GRANTED as it appears from the record that Nation Star, the legitimate holder of the First Deed of Trust did not receive notice of the HOA delinquency. The rogue filing of a Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure to New Freedom did not divest Nation Star of its interest in the property. Accordingly the Plaintiff purchased the property subject to the first Deed of Trust. Nation Star to prepare a detailed Finding of Fact and Decision of Order.

CLERK'S NOTE: Copies of this minute order placed in the attorney folders of:

PRINT DATE:

07/24/2015

Page 1 of 2

Minutes Date:

July 24, 2015

## A-13-691323-C

Luis Ayon (MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON)
Allison Schmidt (ACKERMAN LLP)

PRINT DATE: 07/24/2015 Page 2 of 2 Minutes Date: July 24, 2015

# EXHIBIT 2

# EXHIBIT 2

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**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

**ORDR** 

ARIEL E. STERN, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 8276

ALLISON R. SCHMIDT, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 10743

|| AKERMAN LLP

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Telephone: (702) 634-5000 Facsimile: (702) 380-8572

6 Email: ariel.stern@akerman.com Email: allison.schmidt@akerman.com

> Attorneys for Defendant Nationstar Mortgage, LLC

> > EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

Plaintiff,

v.

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A 89144 (702) 380-8572

1 TOWN CENTER DE LAS VEGAS, NEV. 1 (702) 634-5000 – FA

TEL.:

NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; AMERICA, N.A., a National BANK OF Association; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company; COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada STEPHANIE Limited Liability Partnership; TABLANTE, an individual; DOES I through X; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

Counterclaimant,

23 | <sub>V</sub>.

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

25 | Counter-Defendant.

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{37064085;1}

Case No.: A-13-691323-C Dept.: XXI

ORDER GRANTING NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC'S COUNTERMOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND DENYING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

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يــه	1160 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 330 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89144 TEL: (702) 634-5000 – FAX: (702) 380-8572	12
AAN LLI	R DRIVE, SUIT NEVADA 89144 - FAX: (702) 38	13
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AKERI	1160 TOWN CENTE LAS VEGAS, 1 TEL: (702) 634-5000	15
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NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

Cross-Claimant,

V.

STEPHANIE TABLANTE,

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Cross-Defendant.

# ORDER GRANTING NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC'S COUNTERMOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND DENYING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY **JUDGMENT**

Nationstar Mortgage, LLC's (Nationstar) countermotion for summary judgment came on for hearing before this court on June 24, 2015. Allison R. Schmidt, Esq. appeared on behalf of Nationstar. Luis Ayon, Esq. appeared on behalf of Plaintiff, West Sunset 2050 Trust. The court, having reviewed the countermotion and opposition thereto, as well as Plaintiff's competing motion for summary judgment, the opposition thereto and reply, and good cause appearing hereby grants summary judgment in favor of Nationstar.

# FINDINGS OF FACT

- Stephanie Tablante (Tablante) purchased the property located at 7255 W. Sunset 1. Road, Unit 2050, Las Vegas, Nevada on or about December 2, 2005.
- 2. To finance the purchase of the property, Tablante obtained a loan from New Freedom Mortgage Corporation in the amount of \$176,760.00, which was secured by a senior deed of trust recorded against the property.
- 3. Tablante contacted Bank of America in 2011 in hopes of obtaining a deed in lieu of foreclosure on her property, but never obtained approval from Bank of America for the deed in lieu.
- Tablante, through her attorney, unilaterally recorded a false deed in lieu to New 4. Freedom Mortgage Corporation.
- 5. According to the Utah Secretary of Staten, New Freedom Mortgage Corporation no longer existed after 2008, having merged into iFreedom Direct Corporation.

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- 6. The deed in lieu that was recorded by Tablante is not signed by either New Freedom Mortgage Corporation or Bank of America, NA.
- 7. The cover page of the deed in lieu recorded by Tablante indicated the documents was to be returned to the offices of John Peter Lee, Esq. upon recording.
- 8. Red Rock Financial Services (RRFS) recorded a notice of delinquent assessment lien on April 4, 2012.
  - 9. Later, RRFS recorded a Notice of Default on May 29, 2013.
- 10. RRFS did not provide any foreclosure notices to Bank of America, which was the record beneficiary of the senior deed of trust.
  - 11. Prior to the foreclosure sale, the senior deed of trust was assigned to Nationstar.
- 12. A foreclosure sale was held by United Legal Services on June 22, 2013, where the property was sold to Plaintiff for \$7,800.
- 13. The declaration of value recorded with the trustee's deed lists the value of the property at the time of the sale as \$63,280.00.

# **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. Under Nev. R. Civ. P. 56, a motion for summary judgment should be granted "when the pleadings and other evidence on file demonstrate that no 'genuine issue as to any material fact [remains] and that the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law." *Wood v. Safeway*, (2005) 121 Nev. 724, 729; 121 P.3d 1026, 1029; NRCP 56(c).
- 2. Materiality is dependent on the underlying substantive law, and includes only those factual disputes that could change the ultimate outcome of a case. *Id.* All evidence and inferences are viewed in a light most favorable to the non-moving party on a summary judgment motion. *Id.*
- 3. Nationstar and its predecessor in interest, Bank of America, was entitled to receive the foreclosure notices as the senior deed of trust could be effected by the foreclosure sale. NRS 116.31168, NRS 116.31163(2); *Mullane v. Central Hanover Bank & Trust Co.*, 339 U.S. 306, 313, 70 S.Ct. 652, 94 L.Ed. 865 (1950).
- 4. Tablante's recording of a false deed in lieu of foreclosure did not strip the beneficiary of the senior deed of trust of its property rights.

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AKERMAN LLP

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# EXHIBIT 3

# EXHIBIT 3

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**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

**NEOJ** ARIEL E. STERN, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 8276

ALLISON R. SCHMIDT, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 10743

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Attorneys for Defendant Nationstar Mortgage, LLC

# EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

# CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

Plaintiff,

V.

NEW FREEDOM **MORTGAGE** CORPORATION, Foreign Corporation; a AMERICA, N.A., a National BANK OF NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, Association; LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company; COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Limited Liability Partnership; STEPHANIE TABLANTE, an individual; DOES I through X; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

Counterclaimant,

22 || v.

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

24 | Counter-Defendant.

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 $\{32863212;1\}$ 

Case No.: A-13-691323-C Dept.: XXI

NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER

		1	NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,			
		2	Cross-Claimant,			
		3	v.			
		4	STEPHANIE TABLANTE,			
		5	Cross-Defendant.			
		6	PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Order has been entered on the 8 <sup>th</sup> day of February, 2016,			
		7	in the above-captioned matter. A copy of said Order is attached hereto as Exhibit A.			
		8	DATED this 16 <sup>th</sup> day of February, 2016.			
		9	AKERMAN LLP			
		10	/s/ Allison R. Schmidt ARIEL E. STERN, ESQ.			
	330-8572	11	Nevada Bar No. 8276 ALLISON R. SCHMIDT, ESQ.			
<u></u>	SUITE 89144 02) 380	12	Nevada Bar No. 10743 1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330			
NLL	VADA AX: (7	13	Las Vegas, Nevada 89144  Attorneys for Defendant Nationstar Mortgage, LLC			
KERMA	AS, NE 1000 – F	14				
AKE	WN CE S VEG, 2) 634-5	15				
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# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 16th day of February, 2016 and pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I served through this Court's electronic service notification system ("Wiznet") a true and correct copy of the foregoing NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER addressed to:

Luis A. Ayon, Esq.
MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON PLLC cmb@mgalaw.com djb@mgalaw.com dtr@mgalaw.com jrm@mgalaw.com jag@mgalaw.com laa@mgalaw.com mes@mgalaw.com ndv@mgalaw.com Attorneys for West Sunset 2050 Trust

/s/ Brieanne Siriwan

An employee of AKERMAN LLP

JVE, SUITE 330 NDA 89144 X: (702) 380-8572

1160 TOWN CENTER LAS VEGAS, NE TEL.: (702) 634-5000 – 1 16

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# EXHIBIT A

# EXHIBIT A

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CLERK OF THE COURT

ORDR
ARIEL E. STERN, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 8276
ALLISON R. SCHMIDT, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 10743
AKERMAN LLP
1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330
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Email: allison.schmidt@akerman.com

Mortgage, LLC

# EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

# CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

Plaintiff,

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V,

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1 TOWN CENTER DR. LAS VEGAS, NEVA : (702) 634-5000 - FAX

**AKERMAN** 

MORTGAGE FREEDOM NEW CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, Association; LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company; COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada STEPHANIE Limited Liability Partnership; TABLANTE, an individual; DOES I through X; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

Counterclaimant,

23 | <sub>V</sub>.

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

25 Counter-Defendant.

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{37064085;1}

Case No.: A-13-691323-C Dept.: XXI

ORDER GRANTING NATIONSTAR
MORTGAGE LLC'S COUNTERMOTION
FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND
DENYING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR
SUMMARY JUDGMENT

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NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

Cross-Claimant,

v.

STEPHANIE TABLANTE,

Cross-Defendant,

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# ORDER GRANTING NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC'S COUNTERMOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND DENYING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Nationstar Mortgage, LLC's (Nationstar) countermotion for summary judgment came on for hearing before this court on June 24, 2015. Allison R. Schmidt, Esq. appeared on behalf of Nationstar. Luis Ayon, Esq. appeared on behalf of Plaintiff, West Sunset 2050 Trust. The court, having reviewed the countermotion and opposition thereto, as well as Plaintiff's competing motion for summary judgment, the opposition thereto and reply, and good cause appearing hereby grants summary judgment in favor of Nationstar.

# FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Stephanie Tablante (**Tablante**) purchased the property located at 7255 W. Sunset Road, Unit 2050, Las Vegas, Nevada on or about December 2, 2005.
- 2. To finance the purchase of the property, Tablante obtained a loan from New Freedom Mortgage Corporation in the amount of \$176,760.00, which was secured by a senior deed of trust recorded against the property.
- 3. Tablante contacted Bank of America in 2011 in hopes of obtaining a deed in lieu of foreclosure on her property, but never obtained approval from Bank of America for the deed in lieu.
- 4. Tablante, through her attorney, unilaterally recorded a false deed in lieu to New Freedom Mortgage Corporation.
- 5. According to the Utah Secretary of Staten, New Freedom Mortgage Corporation no longer existed after 2008, having merged into iFreedom Direct Corporation.

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- The deed in lieu that was recorded by Tablante is not signed by either New 6. Freedom Mortgage Corporation or Bank of America, NA.
- 7. The cover page of the deed in lieu recorded by Tablante indicated the documents was to be returned to the offices of John Peter Lee, Esq. upon recording.
- 8. Red Rock Financial Services (RRFS) recorded a notice of delinquent assessment lien on April 4, 2012.
  - 9. Later, RRFS recorded a Notice of Default on May 29, 2013.
- RRFS did not provide any foreclosure notices to Bank of America, which was the 10. record beneficiary of the senior deed of trust.
  - Prior to the foreclosure sale, the senior deed of trust was assigned to Nationstar. 11.
- 12, A foreclosure sale was held by United Legal Services on June 22, 2013, where the property was sold to Plaintiff for \$7,800.
- The declaration of value recorded with the trustee's deed lists the value of the 13. property at the time of the sale as \$63,280.00.

# CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- Under Nev. R. Civ. P. 56, a motion for summary judgment should be granted "when 1. the pleadings and other evidence on file demonstrate that no 'genuine issue as to any material fact [remains] and that the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law." Wood v. Safeway, (2005) 121 Nev. 724, 729; 121 P.3d 1026, 1029; NRCP 56(c).
- Materiality is dependent on the underlying substantive law, and includes only those 2. factual disputes that could change the ultimate outcome of a case. Id. All evidence and inferences are viewed in a light most favorable to the non-moving party on a summary judgment motion. Id.
- Nationstar and its predecessor in interest, Bank of America, was entitled to receive 3. the foreclosure notices as the senior deed of trust could be effected by the foreclosure sale. NRS 116,31168, NRS 116,31163(2); Mullane v. Central Hanover Bank & Trust Co., 339 U.S. 306, 313, 70 S.Ct. 652, 94 L.Ed. 865 (1950).
- Tablante's recording of a false deed in lieu of foreclosure did not strip the beneficiary 4. of the senior deed of trust of its property rights.

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# EXHIBIT 4

# EXHIBIT 4

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                  EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
                       CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA
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     WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a
 4
     Nevada Trust,
 5
           Plaintiff,
 6
                                     CASE NO. A-13-691323-C
          V .
 7
                                     DEPT. NO. XXI
     NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE
     CORPORATION, a Foreign
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     Corporation; BANK OF AMERICA,)
 9
     N.A., a National Association;)
     NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC, a
     Foreign Limited Liability
10
                                          DEPOSITION OF
     Company; COOPER CASTLE LAW
     FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Limited
11
                                        30(B)(6) DESIGNEE
     Liability Partnership;
     STEPHANIE TABLANTE, an
12
                                   ) UNITED LEGAL SERVICES, LLC
     individual; DOES I through X;)
13
     and ROE CORPORATIONS I
                                       ROBERT ATKINSON, ESQ.
     through X, inclusive,
                                         LAS VEGAS, NEVADA
14
           Defendants.
15
                                       MONDAY, MAY 11, 2015
     NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,
16
           Counterclaimant,
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          V .
18
     WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a
     Nevada Trust,
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           Counter-Defendant.
21
     Reported By Kele R. Smith, NV CCR No. 672, CA CSR No.
22
     13405
     JOB NO.: 245765A
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	Page 1	2	Page 4
1	Page 2 DEPOSITION OF ROBERT ATKINSON, ESQ.,	1	LAS VEGAS, NEVADA; MONDAY, MAY 11, 2015
2	taken at 1160 Town Center, Suite 330, Las Vegas, Nevada,	2	10:14 A.M.
3 4	on Monday, May 11, 2015, at 10:14 a.m., before Kele R. Smith, Certified Court Reporter, in and for the State of	2	
5	Nevada.	3	-000-
6	ADDEAD ANCEC.	4	(The Reporter was relieved of her duties
8	APPEARANCES: For the Witness:	5	under NRCP 30(b)(4).)
9	IN PROPER PERSON	6	Whereupon,
10	BY: ROBERT ATKINSON, ESQ. 8965 South Eastern Avenue	7	ROBERT ATKINSON, ESQ.,
	Suite 260	8	having first been called as a witness, was duly sworn
11	Las Vegas, Nevada 89123	9	and testified as follows:
12	(702) 614-0600	10	
	For the Plaintiff:	11	BY MS. SCHMIDT:
13	MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON	12	Q. Can you state your name and spell your last name
14	BY: KATHRYN L. BUTLER, ESQ.	13	for the record?
4 -	2500 West Sahara Avenue	14	
15	Suite 106 Las Vegas, Nevada 89102		A. Robert Atkinson, A-T-K-I-N-S-O-N.
16	(702) 629-7900	15	Q. And my name is Allison Schmidt. I'm the attorney
17	klb@mgalaw.com	16	for Bank of America and NationStar Mortgage in the
	For the Defendants NationStar Mortgage:	17	action designated as Case No. A-13-691323. Have you
18	AKERMAN	18	been a witness or have you been deposed before today?
19	AKERMAN BY: ALLISON SCHMIDT, ESQ.	19	A. I am here in my capacity as PMK for United Legal
00	1160 Town Center Drive	20	Services, Inc. I'm also here in an attorney capacity
20	Suite 330 Las Vegas, Nevada 89144	21	representing myself. On that basis, I reserve the right
21	(702) 634-5000	22	to object to any questions that may arise.
22	allison.schmidt@akerman.com	23	With respect to your specific question: Have I
23		24	been subject to a deposition, with respect to United
24 25		25	Legal Services, Inc., no. This is my first one. But I
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1	Page 3	3   1	Page 5
1 2	I N D E X	1	have another one scheduled this afternoon, so I think
		1 2	have another one scheduled this afternoon, so I think the wave is starting to hit.
2 3 4	I N D E X WITNESS: ROBERT ATKINSON, ESQ.	1 2 3	have another one scheduled this afternoon, so I think the wave is starting to hit.  Q. Since you are an attorney, I'll probably waive
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	WITNESS: ROBERT ATKINSON, ESQ.  EXAMINATION PAGE By Ms. Schmidt 4  EXHIBITS  MARKED PAGE Exhibit A Documents Brought By Witness - Emails, Statutes, Fee Schedules 8  Exhibit B United Legal Services Documents Documents 26  Exhibit C Documents From Prior Collection Agency 55  Exhibit D Documents From Land Records 55  Exhibit E Contracts With HOA and First 100 55  Exhibit F Auction Results 55	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	have another one scheduled this afternoon, so I think the wave is starting to hit.  Q. Since you are an attorney, I'll probably waive your standard admonitions. I assume you understand the deposition process?  A. I do. And the ground rules.  Q. Okay. Great.  And you understand that since you've designated yourself as someone with knowledge in this case, you may be required to give testimony at trial if this case gets tried?  A. I do.  Q. Okay. And today my purpose is to find out, essentially, what you would say at trial if this case gets tried. Do you understand that?  A. I do.  Q. All right. And you understand that the oath you just took is the same oath you would take in a court of law?  A. I do.  Q. Okay. Let's see. Is there any reason that you're not able to give your best and truthful testimony
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	WITNESS: ROBERT ATKINSON, ESQ.  EXAMINATION PAGE By Ms. Schmidt 4  EXHIBITS  MARKED PAGE Exhibit A Documents Brought By Witness - Emails, Statutes, Fee Schedules 8  Exhibit B United Legal Services Documents Documents 26  Exhibit C Documents From Prior Collection Agency 55  Exhibit D Documents From Land Records 55  Exhibit E Contracts With HOA and First 100 55  Exhibit F Auction Results 55	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	have another one scheduled this afternoon, so I think the wave is starting to hit.  Q. Since you are an attorney, I'll probably waive your standard admonitions. I assume you understand the deposition process?  A. I do. And the ground rules.  Q. Okay. Great.  And you understand that since you've designated yourself as someone with knowledge in this case, you may be required to give testimony at trial if this case gets tried?  A. I do.  Q. Okay. And today my purpose is to find out, essentially, what you would say at trial if this case gets tried. Do you understand that?  A. I do.  Q. All right. And you understand that the oath you just took is the same oath you would take in a court of law?  A. I do.  Q. Okay. Let's see. Is there any reason that you're not able to give your best and truthful testimony today?

testimony?

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- A. No.
- Q. Do you feel well today?
- A. I do. 4
- 5 Q. Okay. All right.
  - A. And to qualify that, pursuant to my oath, I am testifying to the best of my knowledge and recollection as to events which took place almost two years ago.
  - Q. When I ask my questions, since you are acting as your attorney as well, I'll give you some time to object in case you want to make your objection, as I understand that that might be the case.

How did you prepare for this deposition today?

- A. I printed out the documents that I had previously provided to you on disk, and I printed out ancillary documents related to HOA lien sales that you perhaps might have had a question on, and that's it.
- Q. So all the documents that you've reviewed in preparation for today's deposition have been provided?
- A. All the documents that were responsive to your specific request that were anticipated as part of the deposition have been provided.
- 23 Q. Okay. When you say "ancillary documents," what 24 are you referring to?
- A. Well, I'm glad you asked. In case the subject

Page 6 Q. I don't think we need the 116.

> A. Here is a copy of the Clark County treasurer document.

MS. BUTLER: I'll just look through it real quick and I should be fine.

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THE WITNESS: I'm not bringing these because I want to lead off with these. I brought these in case you asked me.

MS. SCHMIDT: Got it. Would you mind if I mark these as an exhibit to this deposition so when we 10 11 get the transcript, we will have them all together?

12 THE WITNESS: That is fine. I brought these 13 in case we needed them.

MS. SCHMIDT: Can we mark all of these as Exhibit A. 15

16 (Exhibit A was marked.)

MS. SCHMIDT: Did you have any questions for 18 me before we start?

19 THE WITNESS: I do not. 20 MS. SCHMIDT: Okay.

21 BY MS. SCHMIDT:

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22 Q. What do you do for a living?

A. I'm an attorney.

24 Q. And who is your employer?

25 A. Atkinson Law Associates.

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goes there, one of them is a breakdown of the NAC statutory costs. Again, these are small percentage items, but in case you had a question on them.

Another is a printout from the Clark County treasurer's office that explains why for all of these HOA sales the value shown on the DOV form on the foreclosure deed is not equal to the auction value, and those are specific instructions from the Clark County treasurer.

And I printed off the relevant statutes from NRS 116 relating to foreclosure in case we needed them as reference during the conversation.

And lastly is a printout example of request for notice that the mortgage companies are doing in the land records now, which I do not recall a single one being land records back in the day, but now all of the mortgage companies are filing requests for land documents.

- 19 Q. Would we be able to make copies of those 20 documents really quick so she would have a copy and I would have a copy as well?
- 22 A. Absolutely. For the ones that are not the 23 statutes, this is your copy. Actually, if you want more than one copy, there's that. I'm not -- if we get into 24 116, we will. If you want we can. 25

Q. Okay. And how is Atkinson Law Associates affiliated with United Legal Services?

A. Common ownership. I own 100 percent of both firms. The firms themselves have no relationship whatsoever to each other. United Legal Services is no longer in business and has not been in business for a long time now.

Q. Do you know approximately when United Legal Services ceased operations?

A. With respect to the HOA foreclosure sales, it was October of 2013. We almost began another project in approximately May or June of 2014 for a commercial HOA, but that project aborted, and I did not consider that to be a job. So effectively it's October 2013.

Q. So as of today, are you involved in any HOA foreclosures, or has that ceased?

A. That's ceased. Other than that one aborted commercial HOA foreclosure, which is a project we never actually ended up doing, it has completely ceased all business since October 2013.

Q. Got it.

Are you familiar with the property located at 7255 West Sunset Road, Unit 2050, Las Vegas, Nevada 89113?

A. I'm familiar to the extent that I was the

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auctioneer for that property at an auction that was scheduled and arranged for by United Legal Services.

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- Q. And when you say you were the auctioneer, was United Legal Services just the auctioneer or were they also the trustee? I'm trying to figure out what that relationship was at the time of the sale?
- A. Your question is legally incorrect. There is a mass of confusion in the industry between NRS 107 and NRS 116. NRS 116 does not use the word "trustee." It used the words "agent authorized for sale." However, other players in the industry, including Alessi & Koenig, would oftentimes use the language of 107 for their NRS 116 sales. So you see things like "trustee foreclosure deeds for HOA sales. We believe that to be utterly legally incorrect, but people nevertheless would recognize such deeds as being a valid 116 foreclosure.

We always in all capacities were an NRS 116 agent authorized for sale. And by the way, when I use the collective word "we," I mean specifically the law firm United Legal Services.

- Q. Okay. And so did United Legal Services have the relationship you just described with the Tuscano HOA?
- 23 A. Yes. As provided in Section 4 of the documents 24 that were provided, there is a contract with the HOA. Have you had a chance to review the document entitled

be performed by Agent under this agreement."

So specifically United Legal Services, Inc. is -step back. I forgot to put the end quote. The quote ended with the words "under this agreement."

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United Legal Services is a Nevada law firm, and so through this contract, the HOAs retained United Legal Services to perform the scope of services.

- Q. The contract you're referencing, is that the only contract that governs the tri-partite relationship you were describing between Tuscano -- or I should say amongst Tuscano, First 100, and United Legal Services?
- A. There is the Purchase and Sale Agreement itself. The Purchase and Sale Agreement, as with them all, included what we would call a first batch. It would be one or more properties that would be subject to the Purchase and Sale Agreement. Subsequent batches that would come in -- and I believe on Tuscano there were four additional batches, and these batches would come in through a self-executing Exhibit 3 to the Purchase and Sale Agreement, the examples of which we provided to you.

For example, I believe the -- here's the example of the subject property coming in simply as a contract extension. And that contract extension was not a full new -- brand new Purchase and Sale Agreement but merely

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Purchase and Sale Agreement?

- Q. I have, actually. Maybe not with respect to this case, but I am familiar with the contents --
- A. It's a generally standard template that was used for tri-party agreements between an HOA, the company First 100, LLC, and United Legal Services as agent authorized for sale. In this document the HOA specifically has the collections file transferred from Red Rock Financial Services to United Legal Services. These files were always transferred after Red Rock had done the Notice of Lien and had filed a Notice of Default. The purpose of this Purchase and Sale Agreement, amongst other purposes, had United Legal Services act in that final third stage of the sale to notice up a foreclosure sale and to conduct the auction.
- Q. Okay. And who would retain United Legal
- Services? Was it the HOA or First 100? A. I'm attempting to find the specific clause in the contract to point you to. Section 7.08 of the contract is entitled, "Limited Scope of Attorney-Client Representation. By this contract, an attorney/client relationship is established between Agent and Seller, however, Agent is not the general counsel for Seller and is the attorney-at-law of Seller only for the limited scope of services described herein and contemplated to

Page 13 a signed Exhibit 3, and that sped up the business considerably.

The Purchase and Sale Agreement was the only contractual legal agreement between United Legal Services and the HOA. There was a separate purchase arrangement agreement between United Legal Services and First 100, LLC whereby First 100, LLC would pay for the costs of United Legal Services to perform the services. In other words, it was a zero-cost contract for the HOA.

- Q. Okay.
- A. And that document was provided for you as well in the Section 4.
  - Q. So to make sure I understand, United Legal Services would be paid for their services by First 100?
- A. That is correct, and what would happen is we would get notified that another batch had come in or for the first batch a PSA had been signed. We would send out an invoice to First 100, and they initially started off at \$750, pursuant to the purchase arrangement agreement, and I provided the invoice showing the subject property for this deposition as one of those invoices. This is invoice ULS-016.

That covered the NAC costs, so this was a contractual -- a statutorily defined up-front number, and I wasn't going to do -- and by "I," I mean in my

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capacity as president of United Legal Services. I was not going to have United Legal Services do any work until First 100 paid for the costs. A lot of these were costs.

Q. When you say "the NAC costs," are you referring to the schedule of costs that you provided today as well?

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12 13 A. That is correct. If you refer to the schedule of costs — may I? In Exhibit A you will see a document entitled Collections Fees and Costs Scheduled. So these were broken out. The top section is relating to NOS. Relating to the Notice of Sale. The bottom section is relating to sale. So the costs relating to the Notice of Sale are these seven items. The sum of those seven items in this schedule is \$800. For most of the duration of it prior to approximately June 22nd, 2013, it was \$750.

The reason that this changed is because the very last item, which is the USPS mailing cost, including certified mail, went up from \$5 to \$55, and the reason is because there was a statute change that went into effect approximately June 22nd, 2013, whereas after that date there are — you had to send out certified mail to all of the relevant parties as opposed to regular first class mail to regular parties. So we bumped up the cost

Page 16 auctions, and so I formed United Legal Services for that

- purpose.

  Q. And what was your former law firm that you were
- referencing?

  A. It's a law firm called Kupperlin Law Group, LLC.
- Q. And can you spell that just?
- A. K-U-P-P-E-R-L-I-N. My son's name is Cooper.
- Q. Who at First 100 contacted you?
  - A. My primary point of contact throughout the whole process was Michelle Sergent. The development of the Purchase and Sale Agreement was mostly conducted with Jay Bloom. But after these got going, United Legal Services had very little interaction with Jay Bloom. It was more of a volume relationship, and Michelle Sergent over there was a point of contact, so when a PSA needed to get executed, she'd send it to me. I'd Email her back. And I believe we provided some Emails for you as well. You'll see there that almost all the Emails are to and from Michelle Sergent.
- Q. So once United Legal Services is retained to be the agent, as you put it, for the HOA, what duties does United Legal Services undertake?
- A. The typical business process would be to obtain the collections file from Red Rock, produce a Notice of Foreclosure Sale, record that document, notice it out

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- to \$800. So the sum from here to here was \$800. At the time this was implemented it was 750.
- Q. And that's why the invoice that you just indicated, it appears that the costs per property were \$750?
- A. That is correct. And in addition, that \$750 is referred to in the Payment Arrangement Agreement between United Legal Services and First 100 as executed on December 5th, 2012 in placement for Clark County properties because it differed by county was \$750.
- Q. Thank you. How did the relationship between United Legal Services and First 100 come about?
- A. First 100 had contacted me to --
- MS. BUTLER: You're not going to get into any client confidentiality?
- 16 THE WITNESS: No. I'm going through that in my head.
- A. First 100 had contacted me to perform and act as the agent authorized for sale for HOA industry relationships that they were developing as part of their
- 21 business model. The very first auction that I
- 22 personally held was in my former law firm, and realizing
- that my insurance for that law firm would not cover this
- 24 sort of activity, I felt it prudent to start a brand new
- 25 law firm whose sole purpose was HOA foreclosure

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pursuant to statute, take calls and any payments
proffered, and for those properties for which the lien
was not satisfied as of the date of sale, to conduct the
foreclosure sale.

We also provided a notice — sorry the actual foreclosure deed to an auction winner for any auction in which First 100 was the winner. United Legal Services, who had electronic filing capacity with the Clark County recorder, we would record those documents as a courtesy, as an accommodation we call it. For other parties we would simply provide the foreclosure deed, typically with a suggested DOV, but I have no idea what the DOV — what actually got filed for the subject property.

- Q. And how did United Legal Services calculate the amount that was owed that's listed in the Notice of Sale?
- A. We started with the total amount owed as provided by Red Rock Financial Services, and the total amount owed included overdue assessments, plus late fees, plus collections costs, and excluded any compliance files. And then we added the cost shown in exhibit -- of collections costs.
  - Q. Uh-huh?
- A. But the entire first section, which I believe added up to \$1,200. Because if someone -- let me --

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pull that document back out so I can explain how it works. We do this very carefully. If -- do you see the \$1200 number on this exhibit?

Q. I do.

- A. So if the property went for auction, then that was how much total would have been owed. However, if somebody attempted to pay it off before auction and quite a few of these properties did get paid off before the auction we would subtract out charges relating to the auction, as you can see in the second table of this exhibit. But we would add in the statutorily permitted additional costs such as recordation and release of notice. The net on that is minus 146. So if somebody called in and said, "How much do I owe to pay this off, we would take a look at the number that was calculated in the Notice of Foreclosure Sale and subtract \$146.
- Q. Okay. And for clarity of the record, we were referring to the document contained in Exhibit A that's entitled Collection Fees and Costs Schedule.

When you indicated that quite a few properties got paid off prior to auction, how would that come about?

A. We -- we got calls from property owners, many of whom were quite irate. We occasionally got contacted by servicers. Very rarely. And occasionally we would be

independent knowledge of whether or not Red Rock essentially did what it was required to do?

- A. We had absolutely no knowledge of that. Correct.
- Q. Okay. In this case you indicated that one of the duties of United Legal Services was to notice out a Notice of Sale, provide notice in accordance with the law. What is your understanding of who is required to receive notice at the Notice of Sale?
- A. Let us refer to the statute. Under NRS 116.311635 it says, "The association or other person conducting the sale shall also, after the expiration of the 90 days and before selling the unit:

"(a) Give notice of the time and place of the sale in the manner and for a time not less than that required by law for the sale of real property upon execution, except that in lieu of following the procedure for service on a judgment debtor pursuant to NRS 21.130, service must be made on the unit's owner as follows:"

Subsections 1 and 2 of that talk about mailing it to the unit and then posting it on the unit. Subsection B, which I think is relevant for your client, says, "Mail, on or before the date of first publication of posting, a copy of the notice by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested to:"

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contacted by confused tenants. At all times we expressed the need to pay this off prior to auction; that foreclosure was eminent, and for homeowners that expressed a desire to pay, it was either done as a payment in full or if they're able to strike a deal to be on a shortened payment plan, those would be accommodated as well. If it was one of the rare contacts from a mortgage servicer, we accepted any money that was provided to us. This happened on — to my recollection, six occasions out of the between 1 and 200 properties that were placed with us.

On all six occasions they tendered just the nine months assessments with no collections costs. In all six we recorded notice of partial payment in the land records prior to the auction. That did not occur in this case. For the subject property for this lawsuit, we were not contacted by either the homeowner or a servicer.

- Q. Okay. When United Legal Services gets the file from Red Rock Financial Services, does it take any independent steps to verify the file is correct, the work that had been done by Red Rock was correct?
- A. No. That was the responsibility of the HOA pursuant to the Purchase and Sale Agreement.
  - Q. So United Legal Services would have no

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May I point out that the statute that says "copy of the notice by certified or registered mail" didn't always say that. Pursuant to Senate Bill 280, it used to say first class. Under — for the subject property, the pre-amendment statute was in effect, and so the mailing requirement was only by first class mail to the parties, which I'm about to express.

Continuing with the quotation from the statute, subsection 1, "Each person entitled to receive a copy of the Notice of Default and Election to Sale under notice NRS 3.1163."

Subsection 2, "The holder of a recorded security interest or the purchaser of the unit, if either of them has notified the association, before the mailing of the Notice of Sale, of the existence of the security interest, lease or contract of sale, as applicable."

And 3, "The Ombudsman."

We had no knowledge as to which holders of recorded security interests had notified the association. It is our legal position that any recorded security interest, in order to win any case on notice, would have to provide proof positive that they notified the association prior to the sale. However, because we had no knowledge of this, we went ahead and mailed it to the security interests and assignments as recorded in

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the land records out of an abundance of caution.

Does that make sense?

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- Q. Yes. Thank you. So to ascertain what security interests existed on the property, did United Legal Services obtain a title report, or did they do some title research?
- A. United Legal Services performed title research. I'm also a real estate attorney, and I'm quite familiar with title and recordation and security instruments, so what we would do is we would pull a fresh printout from the Clark County recorder's office, and we would also do side research on the borrower's names in order to ensure that there were no security interests on the relevant parcel that didn't come up when you typed in the parcel number. We would also, by the way, do bankruptcy searches, including the day before each sale.

And in the Section 2 of the documents I sent you is a printout of the Clark County recorded documents, a printout of the Clark County assessor, which indicates what the mailing address of the deed was at the time, a printout of the deed itself, and then behind it is the recorded security interests and any assignments thereof. I haven't look at this in awhile, so I don't know if there were any assignments, but we can certainly flip through it and see if there were.

Page 23

- Q. Do your records show precisely what parties were provided with the Notice of Sale in this case?
- A. They do. In Section 3, which is the documents that were produced by United Legal Services, stepping through it, you can see -- the first document. Do you have that with you?
- Q. I don't have them from your documents, but I did print us out a copy of the recorded documents.
- 9 A. Okay. Let's step through this. This is the unrecorded original Notice of Foreclosure Sale, the recorded Notice of Foreclosure Sale, the Notice to 11 Tenants of Property, which was a statutorily required 13 item. Here is the certified mailing receipt to owner or occupant. Here's the certified mail to New Freedom Mortgage Corporation. Here is returned USPS from Cooper Castle, returned mail from owner or occupant, returned mail from New Freedom Mortgage Corporation, returned certified mail from owner/occupant, and then returned 18 certified mail from New Freedom Mortgage Corporation, and then you'll see a Form 3877 from the post office. U.S. Post Office Form 3877 is a bulk certificate of
- 22 mailing document. Are you familiar with these? 23 Q. No.
- 24 A. Okay. There are multiple types of mail: Regular, first class mail, certified mail, registered 25

mail, and so forth. A certificate of mail indicates that you have transmitted to the post office a first class mail item. It's proof that it got mailed.

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There's no proof of receipt. There's no proof of delivery or anything. It's a certificate of mailing.

Now there are individual U.S. postal certificates of mail for individual pieces, but as we were billed in volume, we asked the post office is there was an easier way to do this, and they told us about Form 3877 and how to fill it out.

The way you read this form is each one of the addresses in the second column is something in which a U.S. first class mail envelope went out the door. For example, you can see the Ombudsman on there, and you can see the transferees and other people that were in the land records. And then they stamped the whole thing. The slashes on the bottom are required by the post office. If we didn't put them in, then the person in the post office would to make sure there's a complete column so that there's no subsequent shenanigans as to typing in something.

So this certificate of mail shows all of the U.S. first class pieces of mail that went out the door relevant to the property. In addition, you can see on the bottom of Form 3877 -- you can see our code, and we

had internal codes for each property, and this is NV, meaning Nevada, dash T3, which is batch three of Tuscano, dash 03, which is the subject property.

- Q. So this form would show that these got mailed, but not necessarily indicate receipt of those?
- A. That is correct. We were under no statutory duty whatsoever to send it out with delivery confirmation or certified mail or anything.
  - Q. Okay.

MS. SCHMIDT: Do you mind if we go off the record for two seconds?

(Discussion off the record.)

MS. SCHMIDT: We'll mark as Exhibit B -this is the Section 3 of documents that we were just referring to that contain the certified mailing receipts, the recorded and unrecorded Notice of Foreclosure Sales, the notice to tenants, and the USPS Form 3877 that we were just referencing.

A. Now you'll notice on the Form 3877 there is a reference to NationStar Mortgage at the Highland Drive address. You may ask where did we get that address, and may I refer you to Bates stamp N as in Nancy SM as in Mary 0041. This document is the document entitled Corporation Assignment and Deed of Trust, and it transfers the beneficial interest in the deed of trust

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from Bank of America, N.A. to NationStar Mortgage, and it provides the same Highland Drive address that you find on the certificate of mailing.

(Exhibit B was marked.)

5 BY MS. SCHMIDT:

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- Q. Looking at the Notice of Foreclosure Sale that's recorded NSM 00043, was this something that was generated by United Legal Services?
- A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And I see it's executed by a Mia --
- 11 A. Fregeau.
- 12 Q. Fregeau. What's her role with United Legal 13 Services?
  - A. She's no longer employed by United Legal Services as United Legal Services is no longer in business. At the time she was a staff employee.
- 17 Q. And at the time that this was executed, what were 18 her duties?
- A. She wore several hats. She posted items on the property and the public notice postings. She handled all of the outbound mail such as filling out the certified mailing receipts. She handled incoming returned mail and scanned and sorted them. She also
- 24 work our call center. We had a very tiny call center,
- 25 but we would get calls, and if she was out posting, then

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- A. If by that you mean did that sale for the subject property occur on that date, I would have to look at the --
- Q. Well, preliminarily, do you agree that that's the date listed on the Notice of Foreclosure Sale?
  - A. Is that your question? Yes. That is the date listed on the foreclosure sale.
    - Q. Did the sale actually go forward on that date?
- A. Yes. I say that by referring to the documents, specifically the Foreclosure Deed on Sale, as well as the auction results that were provided to you on this property, which were filled out at the time of the sale.
- Q. What steps did United Legal Services take to publicize the sales?
  - A. They were published and posted. It was all done pursuant to statute. There was no marketing or advertising done in any manner. However, we had a regular public auction and people knew about our sales, and so they were the same cast of characters that you would find at HOA foreclosures over at Alessi & Koenig. For example, one of the principals of SFR Investments commonly showed up.
  - Q. Did United Legal Services ever contact individual -- I'll say purchasers from the cast of characters to let them know that that specific sale was

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1 another employee would handle the calls.

- Q. And what is the amount listed as due and owing on this document?
- A. It's found the last word of Paragraph 2, which is 7,806.42.
  - Q. And can you explain to me again how that was calculated?
  - A. Certainly. It may take a moment to rebuild my calculation, so hold, please.

If you look on the back page of the collections file that we received from Red Rock Financial Services, you'll see the last page, Page 6 of 6 of Accounts Detail a total of \$6487.42. As discussed, that is the sum of collections costs plus past due assessments. If you add \$1,150, which was the pre-June 22nd, 2013 amount, you will get \$7,637.42.

Now, the file was transferred as of May 23rd, 2013. The sale is set for June 22nd, 2013, so we had to add in one more month of unpaid assessments and one more month of late fees. At the time the monthly assessments were \$164. At the time the late fees were \$15. So if you add 179 to 7,637.42, you get 7,806.42, and that's the number that's in the Notice of Foreclosure Sale.

Q. The notice indicates that a sale would be held on June 22nd, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. Do you agree with that?

1 happening?

A. Not as a matter of practice. Occasionally it might have happened, but not as a matter of practice.

Q. When you say that the sales were published and posted according to statute, where would they be published?

A. In the Clark County Legal News. Affidavit of Publications are in the documents provided. And the postings took place on the property as well as in three public locations. The Affidavit of Posting for the three public locations are provided in the documents. Those are public boards that are in existence around town. We were very careful to select those, and the Affidavit of Service provides the items that were taped to the unit on the door. And on this one we provided a photograph of the documents taped to the door. I'm sure you saw that.

- Q. And did the investors or purchasers that would attend these sales ever contact United Legal Services?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did United Legal Services have a website or something like that where someone could look up upcoming foreclosure sales?
- A. No. It's a very small community of people that buy these things.

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- 1 Q. Were you personally in attendance of this 2 auction?
  - A. I called every auction held in Clark County that United Legal Services did. So the answer to your question is yes.
  - Q. Do you have any records or memory that indicate how many individuals attended this particular auction?
  - A. I do not and did not keep an attendance ledger of any auction. There was at least two individuals, but there could have been five or six or ten. Sometimes there was as high as 15.
    - Q. What was the opening bid for this auction?
  - A. You would have to refer to the MP3 of the auction. On many of the auctions I recorded them for posterity just in case I needed it, so I provided that MP3 to you, so you can listen to it.
    - Q. And that was on the CD that you provided?
- 18 A. Yes. Under Section 5. And you will hear that 19 there is regular, normal, spirited bidding. This 20 particular property got up to \$7,800.
  - Q. Was \$7,800 what the property was sold for?
- 22 A. Correct.

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- 23 Q. If the borrower had wanted to pay off the lien,
- 24 let's say at 8:00 a.m. prior to the sale, what would --
  - 5 how much would they have had to pay to satisfy the lien?

which Jacob personally was the successful bidder on behalf of some other entity. Perhaps 5 or 10.

Page 32

You have to understand that a lot of these properties were lousy properties. I don't know if you understand the cash flow, but these properties, as part of the Purchase and Sale Agreement contract were all contractually obligated to be started with an opening bid of \$99, and the reason is because most of the properties sold for just 2 or \$3,000 because they're crappy little condos.

So when you start putting together the cost of sale, plus the cost of rehab, plus the cost of litigation, you might be in at \$9,000 just to get a first deed of trust foreclosure sale stalled out in court, and on those properties, this is an apartment unit, it might rent out for \$500. These are not good parts of town. So at \$500 and you're in it for 9,000, now you've got a pay-back period of 18 months just to get your money back. This thing's got a lien amount of 7800. You know? This one probably was a two bedroom. I don't even know. The reason it went more is because for the rent you might be able to get \$900 and your payback period is less.

It's my understanding that a lot of these guys would go buy the property and try to peek in the window

Page 31

- A. I believe I have answered that question. Let me reiterate my answer. It would have been the amount shown in the Notice of Foreclosure Sale minus \$146.
  - Q. So that would be the 7,806.42 minus the \$146?
- A. And the \$146 is shown as Table 2 to the collections cost document found in Exhibit 1. The property owner or anyone else did not show up to this auction. If they had, we absolutely would take that money.
- 10 Q. Do you recall who was the high bidder at this 11 sale?
  - A. A gentleman -- I don't know how to spell his last name, but it's Jacob Lefkowitz or something like that.

    He was a regular. We saw him all the time.
  - Q. Can you estimate about how many properties he has purchased from United Legal Services auctions?
  - A. It is my understanding that Jacob personally was a bidder so just to clarify your question, I don't recall Jacob ever taking properties in his personal name, but instead after the sale and auctions were concluded, then as part as part of bringing up the receipt for sale, which you have a copy of, we would ask for vesting information, and vesting information on this one happened to be the trust. West Sunset 2050 trust.
- I do not recall offhand how many properties for

and see if it was in the good shape, and if it was in good shape, then hey, my rehab cost will be 500 bucks.

I was not part of it, but I was aware of the fact that there were calculations as to how much each individual bidder was willing to bid up to. It's all — my understanding is hard cash flow costs.

- Q. So pursuant to the contract with the HOA and First 100, do you believe the bidding on this would have started at \$99?
- A. Every property that United Legal Services acted as the agent authorized for sale and was the auctioneer for began opening bid at \$99. So as a result, this particular property would have started at \$99 as an opening bid.
- Q. So is it possible that a purchaser could buy these properties for less than the amount of the lien owed?
- A. Oh, yes. In fact, that was an explicit part of the First 100 business model, to my understanding. Have you ever attended an Alessi & Koenig foreclosure auction? You personally?
  - Q. Not that I can recall.
- A. They're very interesting because a third to a half of them are won by the HOA. Alessi & Koenig sets the initial opening bid at the lien amount, and these

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Page 34

cash flow investors say, "I'm not going to pay 13,000 for a condo or \$8,000 for a condo," and so there's no overbid. Now, Alessi & Koenig, back in the day, would then identify the HOA was the opening bidder as being the winner. Then the HOAs would become title owner of the property. What are they going to do with the title owner of the property? That was really troublesome to the HOA. Now they had to insure the property. What were they going to do? Fix it up and rent it out?

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First 100, it is my understanding, spotted an opportunity in the business model saying as part of the multifaceted complex document that is a PSA, said, Hey, auction this thing off. By setting it at \$99, they were virtually assured that somebody would overbid because somebody would take a flier for 100 bucks. Most of them would offer 2 or 3,000, and that way the HOA could be comforted that they wouldn't end up being the owner of the property. And, in fact, on none of our auctions was the HOA winning bid ever the winning bidder at \$99.

And by the way, I don't know if you know this, but this is entirely hearsay, but it is my understanding that after awhile, Alessi & Koenig was instructed to 23 cancel the auction if there was no overbid, which I found to be an extremely interesting practice, if that's 24 what they were doing. They would call it at 15,000, the

occasionally we'd have one go off for \$100, but

generally there was active bidding because Hey, man, why not bid \$500? It's still cheap because you never know.

Page 36

Page 37

Generally it would go \$100, \$500 as the opening bid, and

somebody else would top that by a 500, and generally bid in increments of \$500 until you hit a stopping point. It's a public auction. We found the market value for

it, and the auction ceased.

Sometimes -- because everybody walked in with a number that was their bid cap, because these are very calculated cash flow kind of guys -- when things got closer to a bid cap, people would reduce the increment to less than \$500. So that's probably what happened on the subject property going off at 7800. You probably got -- these guys have the same business models, and somebody was in the 7,000s and then Jay -- I don't know what his cap was, but he had a higher cap then anyone else, so he won the property at 7800.

- 19 Q. Were the sales ever canceled or postponed to 20 attempt to get more bidders there?
  - A. No. It is United Legal Services' position that every auction was commercially reasonable.
  - Q. I know you indicated before on the six or so occasions where the security interest holder paid some money to United Legal Services it was your practice to

amount of the lien, no overbids. They would cancel in order to prevent their HOA from having the take back the property. That is entirely hearsay. I don't know if they did that.

You can see the pressure the HOAs were under. Like, Oh, man. I don't want the property. No one is buying it. Cancel the sale and leave it in the property owner's name. That \$99 opening bid was a very attractive part of the First 100 business model.

- Q. Was there a First 100 agent or representative that attended the sale?
- A. Yes. Typically it was Jay Bloom, but sometimes it was another employee.
- Q. And if there were no third-party bidders -- and by third party I mean not the HOA and not First 100 -what would happen in those instances?
- A. You can probably listen to and hear for yourself on the MP3 that was provided. There were three properties that were auctioned that day. Two of them were bought by First 100. One for 3,000 and the other for \$3,000. In the MP3 -- I haven't listened to it in awhile, but generally the way the bids would go is that somebody would start off with \$100 or \$500, because if nobody overbid, why would you overbid yourself? Generally somebody would say \$100, and then

record a Notice of Partial Payment.

A. Yes.

- Q. Would that be information that was announced at the sale as well?
- A. Oh, yes. And it, as you might imagine, affects the purchase price because it would be relevant information into the calculation of these characters.
- Q. In your experience did that have an effect of chilling the bidding on certain properties where the partial payment had been recorded?

THE WITNESS: I object to the form of the question in the sense that "chilling the bidding" is an undefined term.

A. How I would instead characterize it is that my understanding is that the price would be less than it otherwise would have gone for without the presence of that information.

BY MS. SCHMIDT:

- 19 Q. Prior to calling the sales, does United Legal Services or I should say did United Legal Services announce whether or not there was a deed of trust on the 22 property at all?
  - A. No. That was not anything required by statute. It was absolute caveat emptor. I mean, you don't hear that down at regular foreclosure auctions. There was no

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need for that. Nor did United Legal Services take any legal position whatsoever as to the legal effect of an NRS 116 foreclosure on an extant deed of trust.

As a matter of fact, we expressly put that on the six or so Notice of Partial Payment of Lien. I can provide an example if you wish. It says, We have no legal position as to what this payment is, but the payor intended it to pay off the nine-months super priority.

- Q. I want to look at the Foreclosure Deed Upon Sale Bates stamped NSM 0044 and including the Declaration of Value through NSM 00046.
- A. Okay.

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- Q. Are you familiar with this document?
- 13 14 A. The NSM 0044 and 45 document was produced and executed by United Legal Services, and the Bates stamp 15 46 document was a blank deed -- sorry. A blank Declaration of Value form that was produced but not 17 executed by United Legal Services. The asterisk by 19 United Legal Services and then it says at the bottom "as agent for Tuscano Homeowners' Association, " that was additional language and clarification that was required 21 by Clark County recorder or these things would get 23 kicked back unless we put that in.

24 But the actual handwriting in Section 3 of the DOV form that is not familiar to me, it would have been

any requirement to having to have the sale price incorporated in the foreclosure deed.

Q. Does it anywhere in the Foreclosure Deed Upon Sale recite the consideration paid for the property?

Page 40

A. No. Nor is there any requirement for it to do so. Pursuant to the Email from Clark County treasurer that is found in Exhibit 1, they expressly said that it should be at market value. There is a statutory basis for that. I don't know if you're aware of that, but the Clark County -- the reason for that Email was because the Clark County recorder was having a conniption fit over a \$2,000 DOV form, and there's a statute -- it's like NRS 375 or something. I can look it up -- that says that in  $\operatorname{\mathsf{--}}$  for recordation, real property transfer taxes -- then any transfer which is a gift or of nominal value shall be at full market value. I forget the exact language, but the reading that you see is from Georgia who works in the audit department. They got a readout from, I think, the DA's office saying that the HOA foreclosure sales -- we're going to deem them to be nominal, and therefore they have to be at full market value. I personally do not believe it to be nominal. \$2,000 is \$2,000.

However, it is my perception it's more of a revenue grab for the government than anything else

Page 39

somebody on the buyer's side. That's not my

handwriting. It's not Mr. Opdyke's handwriting. We

never fill those out except for First 100 purchases.

And certainly that is not any signature -- the grantee,

as you can see, signed the DOV form. 5

- Q. Can you tell me who Robert Opdyke is?
- A. He's an attorney that is currently an employee of Atkinson Law Associates, but at the time also did and worked as a part-time employee at United Legal Services.
- Q. Can you tell me what his role was in United Legal 10 Services when he was working there? 11
  - A. I can answer that two ways. First, he acted in an attorney capacity. Second is that he assisted with the production of the documents and in the evaluation of the land records.
- 16 Q. Does the foreclosure deed contain the price paid 17 of the auction?
- 18 A. No. Nor is there any statutory requirement for it to do so. There is, in fact, a statutory discussion of the language for such foreclosure deeds in NRS 116. Are you familiar with that particular language?
- 22 Q. Yes.
- 23 A. You will find that language in there, and the 24 discussion of the language to be found in the foreclosure deed in the statutes makes no reference to 25

- because they knew all these players had money, and if they could get \$300 out of them instead of \$20 of them, then they would certainly do that, but that was my perception.
  - Q. The amount listed on the Declaration of Value, NSM 00046 is \$63,280. Where would that figure come from?
  - A. I have no knowledge whatsoever as to how the buyer obtained that number on the DOV form. We provided them a blank DOV form. I can guess -- and if you permit me to -- what we would do for the foreclosure deeds that we recorded as an accommodation for First 100 sales, we would go to the land records and call up the assessor's value on the Clark County treasurer's website because that's where Clark County recorder pointed us to. I forget if it was that mail or a subsequent phone call. They said, Use the assessed value of the current year. There it is right there. I had no knowledge of it until today. It's right there on the then current year tax assessed value on the Clark County treasurer website printout for the parcel. Do you see that?
- 22 Q. And for the record, we're indicating on the Clark 23 County Assessor information under Real Property Assessed 24 Value is the total taxable value for the year 2013 through '14 and appears to be \$63,280. 25

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Page 42

- A. That was the industry standard.
- Q. So just so I understand, on these declarations of value that were not for First 100, the grantee, whoever purchased at the sale, would be in charge of ascertaining the total value sales price of the property and filling them in themselves?
- A. Ascertaining is I would instead use the word "determining." But because a Clark County recorder had set it out as a general rule, then it is my understanding that the industry players all knew the rule, and per our discovery today, that it appears that they did the exact same thing, because that's what everybody did. Because otherwise how would you determine what a market value is? If the Clark County recorder said go to the Clark County website and use the assessed value, that's what people did.
- Q. So for this particular declaration of value in this case, that information was filled in by the grantee and not United Legal Services. Is that correct?
  - A. Correct.

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- Q. Okay. I believe you indicated previously it was the HOA's responsibility to make sure that the work that had been done by -- in this case -- Red Rock Financial Services was correct?
- A. Yes. It is definitely not United Legal

Page 43

- Services's responsibility to be auditing or inspecting the work of Red Rock Financial Services in terms of how they did the Notice of Lien and Notice of Default. When I say "did," I mean both the compilation and recordation of that document, as well as any noticing required by the statutes.
- Q. United Legal Services didn't go through certificates of mailing that might have been in Red Rock's file?
  - A. We were under no duty to do so whatever.
- Q. And United Legal Services didn't check to make sure that Red Rock Financial Services complied with posting requirements?
- 14 A. We were under no duty to do so. If there was a 15 flaw in Red Rock's work, you'll have to talk to Red 16 Rock.
- Q. Looking at the first page of the Foreclosure Deed
  Upon Sale, NSM 00044, looking at the bottom of the
  paragraph in the middle of it where it says I'm
  quoting from the deed. "All requirements of law have
  been complied with, including, but not limited to te
  elapsing of the 90 days, the mailing of copies of the
  Notice of Lien of Delinquent Assessment, and Notice of
  Default, and the mailing, posting, and publication of
  the Notice of Foreclosure Sale."

Page 44

Based on your testimony -- I should say that's the end of the quote. The quote ends with "Notice of Foreclosure Sale."

Based on your testimony, the individual signing this for United Legal Services would have no personal knowledge that all those requirements had been complied with. Is that correct?

- A. Pursuant to my earlier statement, United Legal Services had no duty or obligation to inspect or audit Red Rock's records. I believe the statement and line of argument that you're presenting is conflating two different concepts.
- Q. Well, my question is -- I mean, you testified that you didn't check whether or not Red Rock Financial Services did the correct mailing or the posting or the work they did in terms of the creating and recording of these documents, so I'm wondering --
  - A. The purpose --
- Q. Let me just finish this if the individual for United Legal Services who executed this would have personal knowledge of whether or not those had been complied with since it wasn't one of United Legal Services's duties to check those things.
- A. You misunderstand the purpose of that language. That language is specific language that's found in NRS

Page 45 116.31166 subsection 1. That statute discusses the effects of certain recitals in the deed, and what the statutes say is that if those recitals that you read about are present in an HOA foreclosure deed — and by HOA foreclosure I mean NRS 116 foreclosure — then they are conclusive proof of the matter's recital.

Now, I will leave it up to you attorneys to explore the various wrinkles of that. Your questions are intending for me to form a legal opinion as to what it is. My legal opinion is that if the foreclosure deed contains the recitals, then by statute they're conclusive proof of the matter's recital.

If you believe that based on my earlier testimony relative to United Legal Services' personal knowledge of things that United Legal Services performed and lack of personal knowledge of things that a prior collections agency performed, whether those facts have any sort of legal effect on the statutory recitals, is not my fight.

- Q. I understand. What I'm trying to find out here is whether or not Robert Opdyke -- and I apologize if I'm mispronouncing that to him wherever he is -- whether or not he had personal or business records knowledge of each and every thing in the recitals.
- A. What we had was the documents we were provided from Red Rock Financial Services. So in that document

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you can see a lengthy set of assessments as well as collections efforts. Mr. Opdyke had no personal knowledge of any activity of Red Rock Financial Services. United — nor is he particularly any sort of target for your investigation. He's simply a signatory for United Legal Services.

I think your question is better: Did United Legal Services as an entity have any knowledge of any particular activity of Red Rock Financial Services, and my response is: We were provided the documents that we were provided, which comprise the lien, a Notice of Default, and an accounting ledger. We got no other documents from Red Rock Financial Services on any of the accounts, and so we know what was in here and nothing else.

- Q. So when the recitals say that all requirements of law have been complied with for instance, the mailing of copies of the Notice of Delinquent Assessment Lien even though United Legal Services is signing that, they have no personal knowledge that those requirements were complied with?
- A. That is correct. We relied on Red Rock Financial Services to perform their collections activities in a professional manner, and our assumption is that they would not have sent over any deficient file. So the

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statement was made on the assumption that it was correct because Red Rock did not flag it as being a troubled or a redo file.

By the way, your line of inquiry is not how I read that statute.

Q. Fair enough.

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- A. That's fine.
- Q. I know quite a bit of this is up in the air and subject to all of our interpretation.
- 10 A. By the way, if you find that Red Rock's files are in order, then it doesn't matter.
  - Q. In United Legal Services's files for each property, does it keep copies of any correspondence it receives related to that property?
    - A. Yes.
- Q. Does United Legal Services maintain a call log for properties for — for instance, if someone called, would there be a record of that in the file?
  - A. No written record.
- Q. Did anyone contact United Legal Services to pay off this particular -- to make a payment on this particular property prior to sale?
- 23 A. No.
- Q. If United Legal Services received contact from a beneficiary of a first deed of trust who requested a

superpriority payoff, what was United Legal Services' policy at the time between 2012 to the date of sale, June 22nd, 2013, in responding to those requests?

A. We always had an open-door policy with respect to any servicer or deed of trust beneficiary that contacted us. Those contacts were very rare and very far in between. In general, they would ask how much should they pay, and we would say, "We cannot provide you with legal advice."

And then they would say, "We only want to pay nine months of assessments and not collections costs," and I would say, "You are free to do so," and then we would explain what we would do. And on those rare occasions when a servicer did contact us to make some sort of payment, they were always delighted that we would take payment without demanding collections costs and we would record the payments in the land record. Apparently no other NRS 116 foreclosure agent would do that and so apparently it was a best practice.

- Q. If a beneficiary called and said, "Can you tell me what the monthly assessments are or quarterly assessments," looking at that information so they could calculate nine months, United Legal Services would give that to them?
  - A. Certainly. Because the monthly assessment was

Page 49

Page 48

found right in the account detail.

- Q. I usually say "borrower," but I should say unit owner" contacted United Legal Services and wanted to explore ways to save their home, who would have the ultimate authority to decide whether or not to enter into some sort of payment plan with them?
- A. Typically our policy was to tell them that the amount shown the amount that was required to stop a sale was the amount shown in the Notice of Foreclosure Sale minus \$146, and we would inform them that would have to be paid in full prior to the auction.

  Occasionally, homeowners would also contact the HOA either through the HOA board member or FirstService Residential, formerly known as RMI, and sometimes we would get a request from the HOA or RMI to accept a payment plan for a unit owner, and in those instances we would put people on payment plans. We would then postpone auctions to keep them on a short leash, and when the payment plan was complete, we would cancel the auction. It didn't happen that often.
- Q. Would it be the HOA that decided whether or not to allow the home owner to enter some sort of payment plan?
  - A. Usually the HOA boards are extremely quiescent in the sense that they relied heavily on RMI -- now

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FirstService Residential -- to perform the day-to-day management of the HOA community, and so it was very rare would I actually get contacted by anyone on the HOA board. It was always through somebody over at RMI.

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- Q. So it was the management company, generally, that would decide whether or not to allow a payment plan? I'm trying to figure out who has the authority to --
- A. RMI would clearly have the authority to put somebody on a payment plan and request that a payment plan be put on. It was very rare. In general I was contractually obligated to take this thing for sale. If somebody called up and said, "I'd like to go on a payment plan, " our standard response is: "You have to pay it in full before the sale." Why? Because we're permitted to do that. It's just like a regular deed of trust auction. I mean, you're in arrearage for \$20,000, and the answer is no.

But you have to realize that this is a fairly rare event because most of these homeowners were severely delinquent on the deed of trust, were terribly underwater. A lot of these condos had a market value of \$40,000 or \$60,000 and the deed of trust was for \$210,000 because it was bought in 2005, and the last thing anybody wanted to do was cough up \$7,000 to save it from an HOA foreclosure auction, because they knew

Page 52 came back, "No payment plans unless the HOA requests it. Otherwise march it to sale."

> I believe -- I don't know for sure, but I believe that it was the concept of: Anybody that's behind on their deed of trust and the HOA foreclosure would have said anything to eek out another few months on the property, and these guys were already horribly behind, and if they could now live in the property and pay only \$300 a month, which effectively would have been rent because you can make \$300 a month for years on a \$7,000 lien, that this was rewarding bad behavior.

> There was also, I believe, a concept of: Let's try to flush out the people who actually have money and do, in fact, want to stay there, and then, Hey, if those guys cough up 8 grand, then fine. We did see that occasionally on the few single-family homes we did. All of a sudden a check for \$12,000 would come in because people had been living there for four years and had not paid the deed of trust and actually had the money. But it was rare.

- 21 Q. When there was proceeds from a foreclosure sale, would United Legal Services be responsible for the application of those proceeds?
  - A. Yes. Correct.
    - Q. And how were the proceeds applied in this case?

- the foreclosure date was coming at some point. They just didn't know who was going to be first: the deed of trust beneficiary or the HOA. So they had rode it out sometimes for years before something got foreclosed on.
- Q. On the properties where there was an agreement with First 100 and the HOA, would First 100 have any say over whether or not a payment plan could be entered into?
- A. I inquired with Mr. Jay Bloom early on as to what his perspectives and views were under the three-way contract, and his perspective was, for example, the Purchase and Sale Agreement had as a large component of it the cash flow of the receivables, and so First 100 would typically pay the HOA nine-months worth of assessments in order to receive all cash flows that would arise from any monetization event that might occur on the property that arose as a result of United Legal Services posting and serving out the Notice of Foreclosure Sale.

So as a result, First 100 was a third-party beneficiary of any payment stream that would come in off of a payment plan because those payments would go to First 100, not to the HOA. So I felt it proper to ask First 100, "Hey if somebody calls in and wants a \$100 a month payment plan, what do you say," and the answer

A. On the last page of Section 4.

Q. Okay. Let me make sure I write this down.

A. We produced a Proceeds Reconciliation Report. United Legal Services would get proceeds in. This is the Proceeds Reconciliation Report for the subject property, as well as other activity. So we would receive money in from auction sales, and then we were to

remit back to First 100 the proceeds, because by contract we were required to.

Now, before we did that, though, we were allowed to apply the foreclosure sales collections costs provided in the NAC document that would include conducting the foreclosure sale and so forth. Do you see that?

Q. Yes.

A. So you see \$7,800 came in, and then there were no excess proceeds because this, as usual, came in less than the lien amount. And so we would deduct \$125 to conduct the foreclosure sale. Then \$125 to prepare the deed. And then there was also something called a foreclosure fee that was permitted in NAC. Now, I'm in business to make a buck, so I, of course, charge all of them, and you can see this is a debits and credits. So every few days we would remit a chunk of change over to First 100 as we were required to by contract. So...

Page 53

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Page 56
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        Q. In the event that there were excess proceeds,
                                                                                      CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
                                                                    STATE OF NEVADA
    would United Legal Services be responsible for paying
     those out or would First 100?
                                                                     COUNTY OF CLARK
 4
       A. Yes. United Legal Services. We did not give any
                                                                            I, KELE R. SMITH, a duly commissioned
    excess proceeds to First 100. They were not entitled to
                                                                     Notary Public, Clark County, State of Nevada, do hereby
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    it under the law. They were only entitled to the cash
                                                                     certify: That I reported the taking of the deposition
     flow up to the lien amount.
                                                                     of ROBERT ATKINSON, ESQ., commencing on Monday, May 11,
       Q. In the case where there were excess proceeds, how
                                                                 8
                                                                     2015, at 10:14 a.m.
    would those be paid out?
                                                                            That prior to being deposed, the witness was by
10
       A. Typically, we started off by just giving
                                                                10
                                                                     me duly sworn to testify to the truth. That I
     checks -- very rare by the way. It usually only
11
                                                                11
                                                                     thereafter transcribed my said shorthand notes into
    happened on Fannie Mae properties where it had already
                                                                12
                                                                     typewriting and that the typewritten transcript is a
12
                                                                     complete, true, and accurate transcription of said
13
    been foreclosed on. And so in those instances, we would
                                                                14
                                                                     shorthand notes and that witness waived review and
    remit it to Fannie Mae. After awhile, once I began
                                                                15
                                                                     correction of the transcript.
    realizing there was a fight as to whether the deed of
15
                                                                16
                                                                            I further certify that I am not a relative or
    trust -- you know, if there was any dispute as to what
                                                                17
                                                                     employee of counsel of any of the parties, nor a
    it was, then generally we would just hold on to it as
17
                                                                18
                                                                     relative or employee of the parties involved in said
18
     opposed to remitting it, because it was unclear as a
                                                                19
                                                                     action, nor a person financially interested in the
    matter of law as to who was the proper recipient of any
                                                                20
                                                                     action.
    excess proceeds, which there were very, very few of
                                                                21
                                                                            IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand in my
21
    these.
                                                                22
                                                                     office in the County of Clark, State of Nevada, this
22
        Q. Does United Legal Services -- or I should say did
                                                                     12th day of May, 2015.
                                                                23
23
    United Legal Services have a position on what it
                                                                24
    believed the amount of the superpriority lien was?
24
                                                                25
                                                                                   KELE R. SMITH, NV CCR #672, CA CSR #13405
       A. We had absolutely no legal position on the legal
                                                      Page 55
    effect of an NRS 116 foreclosure.
 2
                 MS. SCHMIDT: Can we go off the record
 3
     again?
 4
 5
           (RECESS TAKEN FROM 12:00 P.M. TO 12:08 P.M.)
 6
                                ***
                 MS. SCHMIDT: We'll mark as Exhibit C what
    is labeled as Section 1, Documents From Prior Collection
    Agencies, Red Rock Financial Services. Also mark as
    Exhibit D what's labeled as Section 2, Documents From
    Land Records. And we'll label as Exhibit E Section 4,
11
    Contracts with HOA and First 100. And as Exhibit F,
13
    Section 5. What's marked as Auction Results. And
    Exhibit G, what's marked as Section 6, Emails.
14
15
                 THE WITNESS: And under the assumption that
    those are true and correct copies of the documents so
    provided to you, I hereby authenticate at this time.
18
                 MS. SCHMIDT: Thank you.
19
                 Do you have any questions that you wanted to
20
    ask?
21
                 MS. BUTLER: I do not.
22
                 MS. SCHMIDT: I think we are done here.
23
                 (Exhibits C, D, E, F, and G were marked.)
24
                 (Proceedings concluded at 12:20 p.m.)
25
```

# Section 3

# United Legal Services documents

EXPURIT LE CONTROL CON

APN: 176-03-510-102 ULS#: NV-TU3-03

When recorded mail to: United Legal Services Inc. A Nevada Law Firm 9484 South Eastern Ave. #163 Las Vegas, NY 89123 Phone: (702) 617-3263

#### NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

UNDER THE LIEN FOR DELINQUENT ASSESSMENTS

WARNING! A SALE OF YOUR PROPERTY IS IMMINENT! UNLESS YOU PAY THE AMOUNT SPECIFIED IN THIS NOTICE BEFORE THE SALE DATE, YOU COULD LOSE YOUR HOME, EVEN IF THE AMOUNT IS IN DISPUTE. YOU MUST ACT BEFORE THE SALE DATE. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL UNITED LEGAL SERVICES INC. AT (702) 617-3263. IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CALL THE FORECLOSURE SECTION OF THE OMBUDSMAN'S OFFICE, NEVADA REAL ESTATE DIVISION, AT (877) 829-9907.

YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER THE LIEN FOR DELINQUENT ASSESSMENTS, notice of which was recorded on April 4, 2012 as instrument 201204040001017 in the Official Records of the Recorder of Clark County, Nevada ("Official Records"), by the Tuscano Homeowners Association. The Notice of Default and Election to Sell Pursuant to the Lien for Delinquent Assessments was recorded on May 29, 2012 as instrument 201205290001690 in the Official Records. The property owner(s) of record is/are: New Freedom Mortgage Corporation. The total amount necessary to satisfy the lien as of the proposed sale date is \$7,806.42.

UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE. United Legal Services Inc. ("ULS") has the collections file on this account. Any payments to satisfy the lien must be in cash, cashier's check, or wire transfer, and must be actually received by ULS prior to the sale. If payment in full is not received prior to the date/time below, the property will be auctioned. All auction sales are final and late payments will be returned. If you need an explanation of this notice or its contents, you should contact an attorney.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT on June 22, 2013 at 9:00 AM at 8965 S. Eastern Ave, Suite 350, Las Vegas, NV 89123, United Legal Services Inc., as duly authorized agent for sale pursuant to NRS 116, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder, for lawful money of the United States, all right, title, and interest in the property commonly known as: 7255 W Sunset Unit 2050, Las Vegas, Nevada 89113. Payment by the winning bidder must be made at the conclusion of the auction and in cash or a cashier's check drawn on a bank or credit union authorized to do business in the State of Nevada. The sale will be made without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding, but not limited to, title, possession, encumbrances, or obligations to satisfy any secured or unsecured liens.

Date: May 28, 2013

By: Min Fregent

An employee of United Legal Services Inc.

As authorized agent for, and on behalf of, Tuscano Homeowners Association

Inst #: 201305290000306

Fees: \$17.00 N/C Fee: \$0.00

05/29/2013 08:03:04 AM Receipt #: 1632393

Requestor:

UNITED LEGAL SERVICES INC.

Recorded By: DXI Pgs: 1
DEBBIE CONWAY

**CLARK COUNTY RECORDER** 

APN: 176-03-510-102 ULS#: NV-TU3-03

When recorded mail to:
United Legal Services Inc.
A Nevada Law Firm
9484 South Eastern Ave. #163
Las Vegas, NV 89123
Phone: (702) 617-3263

## NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE UNDER THE LIEN FOR DELINQUENT ASSESSMENTS

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Date: May 28, 2013

By:

Mia Fregeau

An employee of United Legal Services Inc.

As authorized agent for, and on behalf of, Tuscano Homeowners Association

#### NOTICE TO TENANTS OF THE PROPERTY

Foreclosure proceedings against this property have started, and a notice of sale of the property to the highest bidder has been issued.

You may either: (1) terminate your lease or rental agreement and move out; or (2) remain and possibly be subject to eviction proceedings under chapter 40 of the Nevada Revised Statutes. Any subtenants may also be subject to eviction proceedings.

Between now and the date of the sale, you may be evicted if you fail to pay rent or live up to your other obligations to the landlord.

After the date of the sale, you may be evicted if you fail to pay rent or live up to your other obligations to the successful bidder, in accordance with chapter 118A of the Nevada Revised Statutes.

Under the Nevada Revised Statutes, eviction proceedings may begin against you after you have been given a notice to quit.

If the property is sold and you pay rent by the week or another period of time that is shorter than 1 month, you should generally receive notice after not less than the number of days in that period of time.

If the property is sold and you pay rent by the month or any other period of time that is 1 month or longer, you should generally receive notice at least 60 days in advance.

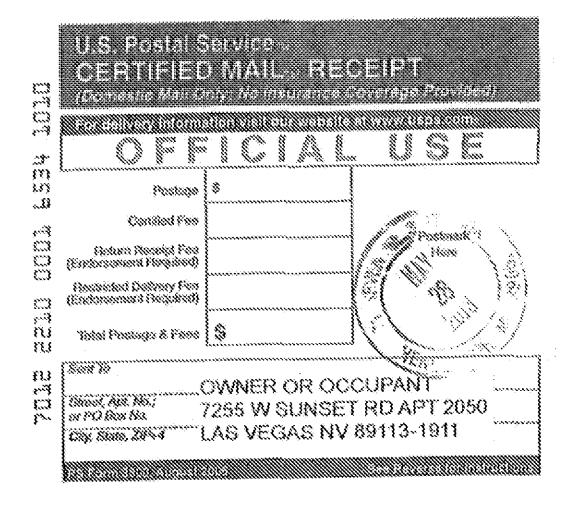
Under Nevada Revised Statutes 40.280, notice must generally be served on you pursuant to chapter 40 of the Nevada Revised Statutes and may be served by:

- (1) Delivering a copy to you personally in the presence of a witness;
- (2) If you are absent from your place of residence or usual place of business, leaving a copy with a person of suitable age and discretion at either place and mailing a copy to you at your place of residence or business; or
- (3) If your place of residence or business cannot be ascertained, or a person of suitable age or discretion cannot be found there, posting a copy in a conspicuous place on the leased property, delivering a copy to a person residing there, if a person can be found, and mailing a copy to you at the place where the leased property is.

If the property is sold and a landlord, successful bidder or subsequent purchaser files an eviction action against you in court, you will be served with a summons and complaint and have the opportunity to respond. Eviction actions may result in temporary evictions, permanent evictions, the awarding of damages pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes 40.360 or some combination of those results.

Under the Justice Court Rules of Civil Procedure:

- (1) You will be given at least 10 days to answer a summons and complaint;
- (2) If you do not file an answer, an order evicting you by default may be obtained against you;
- (3) A hearing regarding a temporary eviction may be called as soon as 11 days after you are served with the summons and complaint; and
- (4) A hearing regarding a permanent eviction may be called as soon as 20 days after you are served with the summons and complaint.





SO.460
FIRST CLASS
FROM 89123 SERVING
FROM 89123 SE

UNITED LEGAL SERVICES INC. 9484 SOUTH EASTERN AVE #163 LAS VEGAS, NV 89123 THE COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM

FORWARD X 891 NYE 1 5121 00 05/29/1 7015 COCOFS CALY E LAW 70 SEND 5275 S DURANGO DR LAW 71RR

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RN AVE #163 UNITED LEGAL SERVICES INC 9484 SOUTH EASTE LAS VEGAS, NV 891 7255 W SUNSET RD APT 2050 LAS VEGAS NV 89113-1911 OWNER OR OCCUPANT

2000/27/23 (1) 1/3 64 (3) (3)

RETURN TO SENDER VACANT UNABLE TO FORWARD

008-30-03146-38-30 86123362784 

stamps

RN AVE #163

UNITED LEGAL, SERVIC 9484 SOUTH EASTERN LAS VEGAS, NV 89123

VICES INC.

NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION 2353 S FOOTHILL DR SALT LAKE OITY UT 84109-1458 

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9484 SOUTH EASTERN AVE #163 LAS VEGAS, NV 89123 UNITED LEGAL SERVICES INC.

stamps

NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION

2363 S FOOTHILL DR SALT LAKE CITY UT 84109-1458

TO THE STATE OF TH

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la.	***************************************	OWNER OR OCCUPANT 7255 W SUNSET RD ATT 2050 LAS VEGAS NV 89113-1911	\$\$									 
		OFFICE OF THE OXIBITISSUAY ATTR ANNE NEXORS LAS VECAS REAL ESTATE DIVISION 2501 EAST SAHARA ANE SUITE 202 LAS VECAS NV 89104-4137	XXX E DVXS(0)\ 8UEE 200 37	,					₩ ≩			 
		BANK OF AMERICA, N.A. 1757 TAYO CANYON KOAD SHITE ME- SIMI VALLEY CA 2023, 3350	D 83378 3446					S			<u></u>	
นว์		NATIONSTAR MORTOAGE, 350 HIGHLAND DRIVE LEWISVILLE TX 750874177.	E, U.S.									
wi		THE COOPER CASTLELAW FIRM 220 S VALLEY VIEW 81, VD LAS VEGAS NY 89100-4411						/s. 8. 3				 
										30 8300		
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Total Kumbur of Pracus Listaid by Sunton: 6		Protection, Pres (Name of sections; enclosive)	######################################			žes.	See Privacy Act Statement on Reverse	Statement	on Rever			 
VS FORM 3677, FORMERY 2002 (Page	andronnennammannammannamman. 1918 H. H. Brassell of the Co.	ma X	Commence of the contract of th	*******************	************	***************************************	bildeeskieliskieelekiloeen	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				reserve.

#### **AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING**

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Mia Fregeau, being duly sworn, says: That at all times herein affiant was and is over 18 years of age. That on May 29, 2013, affiant posted a copy of the below listed documents:

- NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE UNDER THE LIEN FOR DELINQUENT ASSESSMENTS Regarding 7255 W. Sunset Rd Unit 1173, Las Vegas, Nevada 89113
- NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE UNDER THE LIEN FOR DELINQUENT ASSESSMENTS Regarding 7255 W. Sunset Rd Unit 2018, Las Vegas, Nevada 89113
- NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE UNDER THE LIEN FOR DELINQUENT ASSESSMENTS Regarding 7255 W. Sunset Rd Unit 2050, Las Vegas, Nevada 89113

In each the following locations:

- The public board located near the elevators on the first floor of the Regional Justice Center, 200 Lewis Ave., Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
- The public board located in the Clerk of Court's office for the Eighth Judicial District, located on the third floor of the Regional Justice Center, 200 Lewis Ave., Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
- The public board located on the first floor of the Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Ave., Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and

correct

SIGNED and SWORN to before me on

29th day of May, 2013, by Mia Fregeau

CRYSTAL BENNETT

lotary Public-State of Nevada APPT. NO. 12-8606-1 My App. Expires August 07, 2016

NOTARY PUBLIC

#### AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

STATE OF NEVADA )
SS:
COUNTY OF CLARK )

Mia Fregeau, being duty sworn, says: That at all times herein affiant was and is over 18 years of age. That on May 29, 2013, affiant served the below listed documents at the addresses and in the manner stated:

#### 7255 W. Sunset Rd Unit 1173, Las Vegas, Nevada 89113

- NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE UNDER THE LIEN FOR DELINQUENT ASSESSMENTS
- NOTICE TO TENANTS OF THE PROPERTY

by posting the Notices conspicuously on the front door of the residence.

#### 7255 W. Sunset Rd Unit 2018, Las Vegas, Nevada 89113

- NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE UNDER THE LIEN FOR DELINQUENT ASSESSMENTS
- NOTICE TO TENANTS OF THE PROPERTY

by posting the Notices conspicuously on the front door of the residence.

#### 7255 W. Sunset Rd Unit 2050, Las Vegas, Nevada 89113

- NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE UNDER THE LIEN FOR DELINQUENT ASSESSMENTS
- NOTICE TO TENANTS OF THE PROPERTY

by posting the Notices conspicuously on the front door of the residence.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law.
of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct

SIGNED and SWORN to before me on 29th day of May 2012, by Mia Fregeau

NOTARY PUBLIC

CRYSTAL BENNETT
Notary Public-State of Nevada
APPT, NO. 12-8606-1
My App, Explicit August 01, 2016

#### NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE UNDER THE LIEN FOR DELBIQUENT ASSESSMENTS

WARNING! A SALE OF YOUR PROPERTY IS IMMENTI UNLESS YOU PAY THE AMOUNT SPECIFIED IN THIS NOTICE BEFORE THE SALE DATE, YOU COULD LOSE YOUR HOME, EVEN IF THE AMOUNT IS IN DISPUTE. YOU MUST ACT before the sale date. If you have any QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL UNITED LEGAL SERVICES INC. AT (702) 817-3283. IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE. CALL PLEASE **PORECLOSURE** SECTION OF THE OMBUDSMAN'S OFFICE, NEVADA REAL ESTATE DIVISION, AT (877) 820-0907.

YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER THE LIEN FOR DELINQUENT ASSESSMENTS, notice of which was recorded on April 4, 2012 as instrument 201204040001017 in the Official Records of the Records of Clark County, Neverda ("Official Records"), by the Tuscano Homeowners Association. The Notice of Default and Election to Soft Pursuant to the Lien for Definquent Assessments was recorded on May 29, 2012 as instrument 201205200001890 in the Official Records. The property owner(s) of record isferontess Freedom Martgage Corporation. The total amount recessary to satisfy the fien es of the proposed sate date is \$7,808.42.

LEALESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE. United Legal Services Inc. ("LLS") has the collections fite on this account. Any payments to satisfy the fien must be in cash, cashier's check, or wire transfer, and must be actually received by ULS prior to the sale. If payment in full is not received prior to the date/time below, the property will be suctioned. All maction sales are first and lete payments will be returned. If you need an explanation of this notice or its contents, you should contact an attorney.

#### APM: 176-03-610-102 URS# NV-TU3-03

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT on June 22, 2013 at 0:00 AM at 6985 S. Eastern Ave., Suite 350, Los Voges, NV 89123, United Legal Services Inc., as tiply authorized agent for sale pursuant to NRS 118, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder, for lewful money of the United States, as right, title, and interest in the property commonly known as: 7255 W Sunsot Unit 2050, Las Vegas, Navedo 89113. Payment by the winning bidder must be meda at the conclusion of the auction and in cash or a castrier's check drawn on a bank or crodit union subscriped to do business in the State of Hovada. The sale will be made without coverent or warranty. accommond or implied, regarding, but not fimiled to litte, possession, encumbrances, or obligations to satisfy any secured or unsecured liens.

Date: May 26, 2013

By: Mis Emgeau
An employed of United Legal Services Inc.
As authorized agent for, and on behalf of, Tuesdan
Homeowners Association

PUBLISHED 05/31/2013, 06/07/2013 & 06/14/2013

> CLARK COUNTY LEGAL NEWS CLARK & NYE COUNTY, NEVADA CCLM FILE 1365311.wps

#### Affidavit of Publication

This is to confirm that, on the aforementioned dates, the attached Legal Notice was published in the Clark County Legal News newspaper, a newspaper of general and subscription circulation in both Clark County, Nevada and Nye County, Nevada.

Per NRS 238.030, the Clark County Legal News newspaper is printed and published in whole or in part in both Clark County and Nye County, Nevada.

WITNESS my hand on this

06-14-13

MIRANDA DONOVAN, legal notice director,

Clark County Legal News newspaper

#### STATE OF NEVADA

#### COUNTY OF CLARK

On Juny 14, 2013, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said State, personally appeared;

#### Miranda Donovan.

personally known to me (or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence) to be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that it was executed by said person.

WITNESS my hand and official seat:

Notacy Extractif and for said State

HOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF CLARK APPT NO. 10-2870-1 MY APPT, EXPRES DECEMBER 22, 2015

### **RECEIPT OF SALE**

United Legal Services Inc.

(702) 617-3263

PROPERTY INFO	RMATION:				
APN		PROPERTY STREET AD	DRESS		
176-03-510-102		7255 W SUNSET RD U	NIT 2050, LAS VEGAS NV 8911	3.	
SALE INFORMA	TION:				
SALE DATE			BID AMOUNT (\$):		
6/22/13		\$7,800		***************************************	
BUYER INFORM	ATION:			*********************************	
***************************************	RESENTATIVE'S) NAM	***************************************	INFORMATION		
Kenneth Berber	ích	P.O. Box 5	630543		
	,	Henderso	n NV 89053		
VESTING — RECORD TITLE AS SHOWN	RECORD TITLE   West Sunset 2050 Trust				
DAYMENT INFO	RIVIATION:				
AMOUNI	***************************************	ON (or WIRE FROM)	DATE RECEIVED by AGENT	INITIALS	
A7,800	o Chil	·~(	6/24/13	120	

CERTIFICATION OF AGENTS	
I hereby certify that the information above is accur Signature	79772//

All sales of property are on any "as is" basis, with no warranties, express or implied.

APN: 176-03-510-102

Return document and mail tax statements to:

West Sunset 2050 Trust P.O. Box 530541 Henderson NV 89053

#### FORECLOSURE DEED UPON SALE

Foreclosing lienholder TUSCANO HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, under power of sale pursuant to NRS Chapter 116, does hereby sell, without warranty, expressed or implied, to:

#### WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST

the real property situated in Clark County, Nevada legally described as:

SEE EXHIBIT A ATTACHED FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION

and commonly known as 7255 W SUNSET RD UNIT 2050, LAS VEGAS NV 89113,

This conveyance is made pursuant to the powers conferred upon Agent by NRS Chapter 116, the foreclosing Association's governing documents (CC&R's), and the notice of the Lien for Delinquent Assessments, recorded on April 4, 2012 as instrument 201204040001017 in the Official Records of the Recorder of Clark County, Nevada. Default occurred as set forth in the Notice of Default and Election to Sell, recorded on May 29, 2012 as instrument 201205290001690 in the Official Records of the Recorder of Clark County, Nevada. All requirements of law have been complied with, including, but not limited to, the clapsing of the 90 days, the mailing of copies of the notice of Lien of Delinquent Assessment, and Notice of Default, and the mailing, posting, and publication of the Notice of Foreclosure Sale. Agent, in compliance with the Notice of Foreclosure Sale and in exercise of its power under NRS § 116.31164, sold the property at public auction on June 22, 2013.

$\mathbf{B}\mathbf{y}$ :	Robert Opdyke, Esc		
•	United Legal Servic	es Inc.	
	As authorized agent	for, and on behalf	of, foreclosing Association
STAT	E OF NEVADA	)	
COUP	TY OF CLARK	)	
This in	strument was acknow	edged before me	
on Jun	e, 2013, by: Rol	iert Opdyke.	
	NOTARY PUBLIC		

#### EXHIBIT A

All that certain real property situated in the County of Clark, State of Nevada, described as follows:

PARCEL ONE (1) - UNITS:

UNIT 2050 IN BUILDING 7 AS SHOWN ON THE FINAL PLAT OF TUSCANO CONDOMINIUMS, A CONDOMINIUM COMMUNITY, RECORDED JANUARY 31, 2005, IN BOOK 122, PAGE 11 OF PLATS, IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OF CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA (THE "PLAT"), AND

PARCEL TWO (2) - COMMON ELEMENTS:

1/352 INTEREST AS A TENANT-IN-COMMON IN THE COMMON ELEMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH AND SUBJECT TO THE TERMS OF THE DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS, AND RESTRICTIONS FOR TUSCANO TOWNHOMES RECORDED APRIL 5, 2005 IN BOOK 20050405 AS DOCUMENT NO. 0002422 IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OF CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA (THE "DECLARATION").

EXCEPTING THEREFROM, ALL UNITS SHOWN ON THE PLAT.

RESERVING THEREFROM, THE RIGHT TO USE ANY OF THOSE AREAS DESIGNATED AS LIMITED COMMON ELEMENTS IN THE PLAT AND/OR THE DECLARATION.

FURTHER RESERVING THEREFROM, FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE OWNERS OF ALL UNITS SHOWN ON THE PLAT (EXCEPT THE UNIT REFERRED TO IN PARCEL 1 ABOVE) NON-EXCLUSIVE EASEMENTS FOR ACCESS, INGRESS, EGRESS USE, ENJOYMENT AND OTHER PURPOSES ON, OVER AND ACROSS THE COMMON ELEMENTS, AS DEFINED IN AND SUBJECT TO THE DECLARATION.

PARCEL THREE (3) - APPURTENANT EASEMENTS:

NON-EXCLUSIVE EASEMENTS FOR ACCESS, INGRESS, EGRESS USE, ENJOYMENT AND OTHER PURPOSES ON, OVER AND ACROSS THE COMMON ELEMENTS AS DEFINED IN AND SUBJECT TO THE DECLARATION, WHICH EASEMENTS ARE APPURITENANT TO PARCELS 1,2 ABOVE.

#### STATE OF NEVADA DECLARATION OF VALUE

1. Assessor Parcel Nun	nber(s)		
a. 176-03-510-1	02		
	······································		
¢.			
q.	***************************************		
2. Type of Property:	•••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••		
a. Vacant Land	b. Single Fam. Res.	FOR RECORD	ERS OPTIONAL USE ONLY
c. 7 Condo/Twnhse	d. 2-4 Plex		Page:
e. Apt. Bldg	f. Comm'l/Ind'I	Date of Record	
	h. Mobile Home	Notes:	
g. Agricultural Other	TEN SANCTERES & TENESCO	(3.46802)	
***************************************	San is Standard	ø.	
3.a. Total Value/Sales Pr	* *	3	
	eclosure Only (value of prop	XXY (	
c. Transfer Tax Value:	tar Maria Maria	<b>»</b>	
d. Real Property Transf	er rax lyue	A	······································
4. If Exemption Claim	a.t.		
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· ·	emption per NRS 375.090, S	scends	
b. Explain Reason f	BL EXCHÜBBE	~	
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Signature		Capacity:	
SELLER (GRANTOR)	INFORMATION	BUYER (GRA	NTEE) INFORMATION
(REQUIF			EQUIRED)
Print Name: United Lega	al Services Inc.	Print Name: We	st Sunset 2050 Trust
Address: 9484 S. Easter	m Ave. #163	Address: P.O. I	
*****		City: Henderso	on
City: Las Vegas State: NV	Zip: 89123	State: NV	2ip:89053
	REQUESTING RECORD		
Print Name:		Escrow#	
Address:		***************************************	
City:		State	Zin

AS A PUBLIC RECORD THIS FORM MAY BE RECORDED/MICROFILMED

## EXHIBIT 5

## EXHIBIT 5

Inst #: 201303200000887

Fees: \$18.00 N/C Fee: \$0.00

03/20/2013 08:28:50 AM Receipt #: 1541118

Requestor:

CASTLE STAWIARSKI, LLC - NE

Recorded By: MSH Pgs: 2

**DEBBIE CONWAY** 

**CLARK COUNTY RECORDER** 

Tax Parcel: 176-03-510-102

Recording requested by:
BANK OF AMERICA N.A.,
SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO BAC
HOME LOANS SERVICING, LP FKA
COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS
SERVICING, LP

When recorded mail to: NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC 350 HIGHLAND DRIVE LEWISVILLE, TX 75067 Attn: MOSAIC

Mail tax statement to: Bank of America, N.A. 1757 Tapo Canyon Road, #300 Simi Valley, CA 93063

## CORPORATION ASSIGNMENT OF DEED OF TRUST

Doc. ID# 95010692327170532 Commitment# A41682

For value received, the undersigned, BANK OF AMERICA N.A., SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO BAC HOME LOANS SERVICING, LP FKA COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS SERVICING, LP, 1800 TAPO CANYON ROAD, SIMI VALLEY, CA 93063, hereby grants, assigns and transfers to:

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC
350 HIGHLAND DRIVE, LEWISVILLE, TX 75067

All beneficial interest under that certain Deed of Trust dated 11/29/05, executed by: STEPHANIE TABLANTE, Trustor as per TRUST DEED recorded as Instrument No. 20051207-0002367 on 12/07/05 in Book Page of official records in the County Recorder's Office of CLARK County, NEVADA.

The Trustee is FIRST AMERICAN TITLE CO OF NEV. Original Mortgage \$176,760.00
7255 W SUNSET ROAD #2050, LAS VEGAS, NV 89113

Together with the Note or Notes therein described or referred to, the money due and to become due thereon with interest, and all rights accrued or to accrue under said Deed of Trust.

#### CORPORATION ASSIGNMENT OF DEED OF TRUST

Doc. ID# 95010692327170532 Commitment# A41682

Dated: FEB 28 2013

BANK OF AMERICA N.A., SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO BAC HOME LOANS SERVICING, LP FKA COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS SERVICING. LP

Ву

CARMEN DENA, ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT

State of California County of Ventura

On FEB 28 2013 before me, IRMA DIAZ, Notary Public, personally appeared CARMEN DENA, who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

I certify under PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing paragraph is true and correct.

Witness my hand and official seal.

Signature:

Prepared by: THANIA ORNELAS

1800 TAPO CANYON ROAD SIMI VALLEY, CA 93063 Phone#: (213) 345-0979 IRMA DIAZ
Commission # 1903988
Notary Public - California
Ventura County
My Comm. Expires Sep 13, 2014

Electronically Filed 03/22/2016 05:31:00 PM

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**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

 $1 \parallel \mathbf{OPPS}$ 

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| Nevada Bar No. 10743

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Attorneys for Defendant Nationstar Mortgage, LLC

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1160 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 330 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89144 IEL.: (702) 634-5000 – FAX: (702) 380-8572 WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

Plaintiff,

Defendants.

Counterclaimant,

Counter-Defendant.

v.

**NEW** FREEDOM **MORTGAGE** CORPORATION, Foreign a Corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, Association; LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company; COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada **STEPHANIE** Limited Liability Partnership; TABLANTE, an individual; DOES I through X; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

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NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

17711011517th MORTORIGE, ELC

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23 WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

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EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

Case No.: A-13-691323-C Dept.: XXI

OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION AND TO ALTER AND AMEND ORDER GRANTING NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC AND BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

AKERMAN LLP	1160 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 330 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89144 TEL.: (702) 634-5000 – FAX: (702) 380-8572	
	11 TE	

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

Cross-Claimant,

V.

STEPHANIE TABLANTE,

Cross-Defendant.

Defendants Nationstar Mortgage, LLC (Nationstar) and Bank of America, N.A. (BANA, and collectively with Nationstar Defendants) hereby submit this Opposition to plaintiff's Motion for Reconsideration and to alter or amend the order granting summary judgment in favor of defendants

#### **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

#### I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

Defendants respectfully request that this Court deny Plaintiff's motion for reconsideration. Defendants' motion for summary judgment provided a number of bases upon which this court could grant summary judgment in defendants' favor. The motion for reconsider provides no new evidence or change in law that would disrupt the judgment of this court.

#### **STANDARD OF REVIEW**

A motion for reconsideration is appropriate only in very narrow circumstances. The Nevada Supreme Court in *Moore v. Las Vegas* explicitly stated, "[o]nly in very rare instances in which *new issues of fact or law are raised* supporting a ruling contrary to the ruling already reached should a motion for rehearing be granted." 92 Nev. 402, 405 (1976) (emphasis added). The same court in *Masonry & Tile Contrs. V. Jolley, Urga & Wirth Ass'n* added, "[a] district court may reconsider a previously decided issue if substantially different evidence is subsequently introduced or [if] the decision is clearly erroneous." 113 Nev. 737, 741 (1997). A finding is only "clearly erroneous" where, "although there is evidence to support it, the reviewing court on the entire evidence is left with the definite and firm conviction that a mistake has been committed." *Unionamerica Mortg. & Equity Trust v. McDonald*, 97 Nev. 210, 211-12 (1981). Points or contentions not raised at the original hearing cannot be maintained or considered on rehearing. *Edward J. Achrem, Chtd. v. Expressway Plaza Ltd. P'ship*, 112 Nev. 737, 742 (1996).

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As discussed below, Plaintiff's motion for reconsideration should be denied for at least three reasons: (1) Defendants did not receive the statutorily required notice of the foreclosure sale and the arguments raised regarding the deed in lieu were not raised at the original hearing, and are inapposite to the court's ruling; (2) plaintiff produced no admissible evidence that it was a bona fide purchaser and (3) the recent Shadow Wood decision only supports summary judgment in favor of Defendants.

#### **ARGUMENT** II.

#### DEFENDANTS DID NOT RECEIVE THE STATUTORILY REQUIRED NOTICES.

As raised in Defendants' motion for summary judgment, the HOA failed to provide the statutorily required notices of foreclosure to the beneficiary of the deed of trust. Plaintiff does not dispute that defendants did not receive all the required notices. Rather, plaintiff argues that the deed in lieu conveyed absolute title to New Freedom Mortgage. See Mot. at 8:11-14. First, plaintiff did not raise this argument at the initial hearing on the motion for summary judgment, and is therefore barred from raising it on a motion to reconsider, alter or amend. Edward J. Achrem, Chtd. v. Expressway Plaza Ltd. P'ship, 112 Nev. 737, 742 (1996). Second, even if the plaintiff was not barred from making the new argument, the case law cited by plaintiff is inapposite to the Court's ruling in favor of defendants. Plaintiff quotes Maloney v. Boston Five Cents Sav. Bank FSB, 422 Mass. 431., 433 (1996) which states, in relevant part "[t]he lender accepting a deed in lieu, just like the lender exercising strict foreclosure, has the security interest mature into real ownership without any requirement of public sale." Id. (emphasis added). The Maloney case only serves to further support defendants' case. A deed in lieu must be accepted by the lender. Defendants produced admissible evidence in their motion for summary judgment that the deed in lieu was a rogue document, and not accepted by the lender. Specifically: New Freedom was no longer the lender at the time of the purported conveyance; New Freedom was no longer in existence at the time of the purported conveyance; the offices of John Peter Lee, under duty of subpoena, was required to produce any evidence of acceptance of the deed in lieu by the lender and could not produce anything; and the deed in lieu (which is subject to the statute of frauds) was not signed by New Freedom or any other lender. This Court did not commit clear error in finding that the deed in lieu

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was a rogue document, and that the required notices were not provided to the correct parties in interest.

#### PLAINTIFF PRESENTED NO EVIDENCE THAT IT WAS A BONA FIDE PURCHASER **B.**

The status of an individual as a bona fide purchaser for value is an affirmative defense, which plaintiff had the burden of asserting and proving in this case. See NRS 111.325; see also Berge v. Fredericks, 95 Nev. 183, 188, 591 P.2d 246, 248 (Nev. 1979) ("In order to be entitled to the status of a bona fide purchaser without notice under NRS 111.325, respondent Valdez was required to show that legal title had been transferred to her before she had notice of the prior conveyance to appellant.") West Sunset failed to plead the affirmative defense of bona fide purchaser in its answer to Defendants' counterleaim. Therefore, the defense was waived.

Even if the defense was not waived, plaintiff presented no admissible evidence that it was a bona fide purchaser for value. Under Nevada law, for a buyer to qualify as a bona fide purchaser, that buyer cannot have notice, actual or constructive, of another party's unrecorded interest in the property. Huntington v. Mila, Inc., 119 Nev. 355, 356, 75 P.3d 354, 357 (2003). A duty of inquiry arises where circumstances put a reasonable person on notice of another's rights in the property. *Id.* 

In fact, the only admissible evidence demonstrates that plaintiff is not a bona fide purchaser for value. First, plaintiff paid bid \$7,800 for the property. See Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment at Ex. 10 at 30:21-22. By plaintiff's own admission in recording the declaration of value together with the trustee's deed upon sale, the property was worth at least \$63,280. Id. at Ex. 9. At the time of the foreclosure sale, there was an assignment of the first deed of trust to Nationstar, putting plaintiff on both record and inquiry notice that the first deed of trust was still an active lien on the property. See Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment at Ex. 11. Plaintiff's motion for summary judgment did not contain so much as a self-serving affidavit by an officer, manager or employee of plaintiff to assert that it had no notice of Nationstar's interest or any of the other defects in the sale. There is no evidence whatsoever to support plaintiff's claim of the bona fide purchaser affirmative defense. Therefore, plaintiff's motion for reconsideration should be denied.

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#### C. SHADOW WOOD SUPPORTS THIS COURT'S RULING.

This court should deny plaintiff's motion because the only new law on the issue of HOA lien foreclosure actually supports judgment in favor of Defendants. The recently issued shadow Wood decision holds that the HOA's sale of the Property for approximately 12% of what plaintiff, on their declaration of value, claimed the market value of the property was, was grossly inadequate, and thus commercially unreasonable, as a matter of law. The Shadow Wood Court explained that inadequate price alone can be sufficient to set aside an HOA foreclosure sale if the price is "grossly inadequate." Shadow Wood, 132 Nev. Adv. Op. 5, at 15. Adopting the Restatement approach, the Nevada Supreme Court held: "[w]hile gross inadequacy cannot be precisely defined in terms of a specific percentage of fair market value, generally a court is warranted in invalidating a sale where the price is less than 20 percent of fair market value[.]" Id., at 15 (emphasis added) (quoting the Restatement (Third) of Property (Mortgages) § 8.3 cmt. b (1997)).

In explaining when a foreclosure sale is defective, the Restatement (Third) of Property (Mortgages) § 8.3 (1997) provides:

> (a) A foreclosure sale price obtained pursuant to a foreclosure proceeding that is otherwise regularly conducted in compliance with applicable law does not render the foreclosure defective unless the price is grossly inadequate.

> (b) Subsection (a) applies to both power of sale and judicial foreclosure proceedings.

(emphasis added). The Restatement authors defined what "grossly inadequate" means:

"Gross inadequacy" cannot be precisely defined in terms of a specific percentage of fair market value. Generally, however, a court is warranted in invalidating a sale where the price is less than 20 percent of fair market value and, absent other foreclosure defects, is usually not warranted in invalidating a sale that yields in excess of that amount. See Illustrations 1-5. While the trial court's judgment in matters of price adequacy is entitled to considerable deference, in extreme cases a price may be so low (typically well under 20% of fair market value) that it would be an abuse of discretion for the court to refuse to invalidate it.

Id., at cmt. b. (emphasis added). Finally, the Restatement authors address the method of proving gross inadequacy:

> This section articulates the traditional and widely held view that a foreclosure proceeding that otherwise complies with state law may not be invalidated because of the sale price unless that price is grossly inadequate. The standard by which "gross inadequacy" is measured is the fair market value of the real estate. For this purpose the latter means, not the fair "forced sale" value of the real

agreement, after ample time to find a purchaser, between a vendor who is willing, but not compelled to sell, and a purchaser who is willing to 2 buy, but not compelled to take a particular piece of real estate. Id. (emphasis added). 3 4

expense of already troubled debtors.").

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Under the Restatement approach—adopted in Shadow Wood—a grossly inadequate price itself is the proof of unfairness required to set aside a foreclosure sale. In re Krohn, 52 P.3d 774, 781 (Ariz. 2002). In Krohn, the Court explained that a contrary rule that allowed grossly inadequate sales prices to stand would only benefit speculators at the expense of homeowners and the mortgagelenders that make owning a home possible. Id., at 779 ("Windfall profits, like those reaped by bidders paying grossly inadequate prices at foreclosure sales, do not serve the public interest and do no more than legally enrich speculators."). The Krohn Court thus adopted the same Restatement test adopted by the Nevada Supreme Court in Shadow Wood, which is meant to protect individual

homeowners' equity from grossly inadequate and unfair foreclosure sale prices. Id., at 780 (noting

that foreclosure-sale "bidders can reasonably expect to get bargains because of the nature of

foreclosure sales, but public policy and the courts should not endorse extraordinary bargains at the

estate, but the price which would result from negotiation and mutual

Here, the HOA sold the Property for approximately 12% of its fair market value at the time of the foreclosure sale, far less than the 20% fair-market-value threshold that would qualify as "grossly inadequate as a matter of law" under Shadow Wood. Id. Plaintiff listed the value of the property on their declaration of value as \$63,280.00. The HOA sale price was \$7,800.00. Dividing the sales price by the fair market value of the Property at the time of the sale shows that the Property was sold for approximately 12% of its fair market value, a grossly inadequate price that renders the foreclosure sale invalid.

The Shadow Wood Court held the "conclusive" deed recitals found in HOA foreclosure deeds do not bar mortgagees or homeowners from challenging the validity of an HOA foreclosure sale. Shadow Wood, 132 Nev. Adv. Op. 5, at 21. The court found held that the recitals are not conclusive to even the matters recited, like whether the homeowner was in default. Id., at 11 ("[W]hile it is possible to read a conclusive recital statute like NRS 116.31166 as conclusively establishing a default justifying a foreclosure when, in fact, no default occurred, such a reading 6 {37895636;1}

would be breathtakingly broad and is probably legislatively unintended."). Thus the only new case law also bars plaintiff's from asserting the deed recitals as barring any review of the defective sale. *Shadow Wood* support's this court's ruling, and the plaintiff's motion should be denied.

#### III. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

The Court should deny Plaintiff's motion for reconsideration and to alter or amend judgment. This sale was defective for a number of reasons, set forth in Defendants' Motion for Summary Judgment. Plaintiff offers no new factual evidence in their motion and the only new case law cited in the motion actually provides additional bases upon which the Court could have granted judgment in favor of defendants. The motion must be denied.

DATED this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March 2016

#### **AKERMAN LLP**

/s/ Allison R. Schmidt, Esq.
ALLISON R. SCHMIDT, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 10743
1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330
Las Vegas, Nevada 89144

Attorneys for Defendant Nationstar Mortgage LLC

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

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FAX: (702)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I am an employee of Akerman LLP, and that on March 22, 2015be served a true and correct copy of foregoing OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION AND TO ALTER AND AMEND ORDER GRANTING NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC AND BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

(ELECTRONIC SERVICE) Pursuant to Administrative Order 14-2, the above-referenced document was electronically filed on the date hereof and served through the Notice of Electronic Filing automatically generated by the Court's facilities to those parties listed on the Court's Master Service List.

Luis A. Ayon, Esq. Margaret E. Schmidt, Esq. MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON 2500 W. Sahara Ave., Ste. 106 Las Vegas, NV 89102

Attorneys for Plaintiff

/s/ Allison R. Schmidt

An employee of AKERMAN LLP

**RPLY** 1 Luis A. Ayon, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 9752 MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 12489 MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON 400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 Telephone: (702) 629-7900 5 Facsimile: (702) 629-7925 E-mail: laa@mgalaw.com 6 mes@mgalaw.com 7 Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant West Sunset 2050 Trust 8

CLERK OF THE COURT

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#### **DISTRICT COURT**

#### **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust

Plaintiff,

VS.

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FREEDOM MORTGAGE NEW CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National Association; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company, COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Limited Liability Partnership **STEPHANIE** TABLANTE, an individual, DOES through **X**: I and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: A-13-691323-C

Dept. No.: XXI

PLAINTIFF'S REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION AND TO ALTER AND AMEND ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANTS NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC AND BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.'S COUNTERMOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Hearing Date: April 4, 2016 Hearing Time: In Chambers

#### AND ALL RELATED CLAIMS.

Plaintiff/Counterdefendant West Sunset 2050 Trust ("Plaintiff" or "West Sunset"), by and through its attorneys of record, the law firm MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON, hereby files this reply in support of Plaintiff's motion for reconsideration of the order granting defendants Nationstar Mortgage LLC ("Nationstar") and Bank of America, N.A. ("BANA") summary judgment entered on February 8, 2016.

This reply is made and based upon the following memorandum of points and authorities, the pleadings and papers on file herein, and any oral argument of counsel at the time of the hearing.

DATED this 28th day of March, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

#### MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON

\_/s/ Luis A. Ayon\_

Luis Ayon, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 9752
Margaret E. Schmidt, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 12489
400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant West
Sunset 2050 Trust

#### **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

#### I. INTRODUCTION

Defendants Nationstar Mortgage LLC ("Nationstar") and Bank of America, N.A. ("BANA") (collectively "Defendants") oppose Plaintiff's motion for reconsideration largely by insisting that the Deed in Lieu to New Freedom Mortgage Corporation ("New Freedom") was a "rogue document" not accepted by New Freedom – even though the evidence showed that New Freedom was notified of the recording of the Deed in Lieu and provided with a copy of the document and still took no action to indicate that it did not accept the Deed in Lieu. Defendants also complain that they did not receive statutorily required notices, but the Nevada Supreme Court's decision in Shadow Wood Homeowners Ass'n, Inc., et al. v. N.Y. Cmty. Bancorp, Inc., 132 Nev. Adv. Op. 5 (2016) ("Shadow Wood") definitively reaffirmed that the recitals in an Association's deed are "conclusive" as to default, notice, and publication of the Notice of Sale, thus Defendants cannot argue that the Court's decision was correct merely because they allegedly did not receive the statutory notices of the HOA sale.

Defendants also strangely argue that Plaintiff presented no evidence of its bona fide purchaser status, but the recorded Property documents themselves serve as evidence that Plaintiff purchased the Property in good faith for valuable consideration and could not have possibly known

of any defects in the HOA sale. This alone should merit Plaintiff's request for reconsideration.

Finally, Defendants largely distort the *Shadow Wood* decision by claiming that "the *Shadow Wood* Court explained that inadequate price alone can be sufficient to set aside an HOA foreclosure sale if the price is 'grossly inadequate," when in fact the *Shadow Wood* decision indicates no such thing, as it specifically states that a sale may be set aside "upon a showing of grossly inadequate **plus** 'fraud, unfairness, or oppression'" and Defendants do not dispute that Plaintiff was neither involved in nor aware of any fraud, unfairness, or oppression surrounding the HOA foreclosure sale in June of 2013. *Id.* at 9-10 (emphasis added).

Accordingly, the Court should grant Plaintiff's motion and reconsider its Order granting Defendants summary judgment.

#### II. LEGAL ARGUMENT

# A. DEFENDANTS CANNOT DISPUTE THE DEED IN LIEU BY RELYING ON UNDISCLOSED EVIDENCE

Defendants' Opposition offers nothing to refute that the Court erred in its analysis of the Deed in Lieu recording, and simply urges this Court to continue to excuse Defendants for ignoring the recorded notices which indicated that not only was a Deed in Lieu recorded conveying the Property to New Freedom, but an HOA sale was imminent based on New Freedom's failure to pay the Property's HOA dues. Defendants cling to their specious arguments that 1) the Deed in Lieu was a fraudulently recorded "rogue" document not accepted by the lender, and 2) Defendants did not receive the required statutory notices. Opp. at 3. The Opposition also claims that Plaintiff failed to raise its argument that the Deed in Lieu conveyed title to New Freedom at the initial hearing on the motion for summary judgment. Opp. at 3. However, Plaintiff's entire Reply in support of its motion for summary judgment and opposition to Defendants' countermotion is based on the argument that there is no evidence to refute that New Freedom accepted the Deed in Lieu and therefore title was conveyed to New Freedom, thus any argument that Plaintiff is now raising new issues is meritless. See Plaintiff's Reply in Support of Motion for Summary Judgment and Opposition to Countermotion for Summary Judgment, on file.

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#### 1. The Deed in Lieu was Accepted by New Freedom

Defendants insist that "New Freedom was no longer the lender at the time of the purported conveyance" and "New Freedom was no longer in existence at the time of the purported conveyance." Opp. at 3. As Defendants are aware, the only "evidence" that loosely supports Defendants' theory that New Freedom did not accept the conveyance are documents which went undisclosed by Defendants during the discovery period and which were unilaterally attached to Defendants' opposition to Plaintiff's motion for summary judgment and countermotion for summary judgment. ("Opp'n and Countermotion"). See Exhibits A, B, and E of Defendants' Opp'n and Countermotion, on file. Exhibit A consists of several documents, which Defendants implied constitute the entire records of John Peter Lee, Ltd., regarding the Deed in Lieu. See Opp'n and Countermotion at 3; Opp'n and Countermotion, Ex. A. Exhibit B consists of a printout of a webpage, which Defendants claimed demonstrates that New Freedom Mortgage merged into iFreedom Direct Corporation in 2008. Opp'n and Countermotion, Ex. B. That assertion is not supported by the printout; but in any case, Defendants never previously asserted that New Freedom ceased to exist in 2008 or that it merged into iFreedom Direct Corporation in that year. Exhibit E consists of a two-page document purporting to be Red Rock Financial Services Records, along with a custodian's certificate. See Opp'n and Countermotion, Ex. E.

Defendants also attempt to revive their failing arguments that John Peter Lee did not produce any evidence of acceptance of the Deed in Lieu pursuant to a subpoena and the Deed in Lieu was not signed by New Freedom. Opp. at 3. The Court should give no credence to such arguments, as Plaintiff has previously addressed those issues and explained that 1) the nonappearance of a witness for a deposition does not signify fraud in the underlying subject of the deposition, and 2) the Deed in Lieu, pursuant to NRS 111.105, did not require New Freedom's signature. *See* Plaintiff's Reply in Support of Motion for Summary Judgment and Opposition to Countermotion for Summary Judgment, *on file*.

In actuality, Defendants' own documents showed that the Clark County Assessor's Office sent a copy of the Deed in Lieu to New Freedom by letter dated March 18, 2011. *See* Opp'n and Countermotion, Ex. A. New Freedom received a copy of the recording and would have received

copies of tax bills, as well as HOA notices; yet, New Freedom never once contested the validity of the Deed in Lieu by notifying the Assessor's Office of any fraud or other error relating to the Deed in Lieu.

Thus, aside from the improperly submitted documents which the Court should not have considered, Defendants produced absolutely <u>no evidence</u> indicating that New Freedom did not accept the Deed in Lieu. Accordingly, pursuant to *Moloney v. Boston Five Cents Sav. Bank FSB*, 422 Mass. 431, 433, 663 N.E.2d 811, 813 (1996), because it is undisputed that the Deed in Lieu was accepted by the lender, the Court erred in not concluding that the recording of the Deed in Lieu stripped Defendants of their interest in the Property and should reconsider its Order granting summary judgment in favor of Defendants.

#### 2. <u>Defendants' Argument Regarding Statutory Notice is Irrelevant</u>

Defendants also briefly raise their argument that the "required notices were not provided to the correct parties in interest." Opp. at 4. However, NRS 116 clearly establishes that a foreclosure deed "reciting compliance with notice provisions of NRS 116.31162 through NRS 116.31168 'is conclusive' as to the recitals 'against the unit's former owner, his or her heirs and assigns and all other persons." *SFR Invs. Pool 1, LLC v. U.S. Bank, N.A.*, 130 Nev. Adv. Op. 75, 334 P.3d 408 (2014) (citing NRS 116.3116.31166(2)). This sentiment was recently reaffirmed in *Shadow* Wood, wherein the Court stated that the deed recitals are conclusive as to "default, notice, and publication of the [Notice of Sale], all statutory prerequisites to a valid HOA lien foreclosure sale as stated in NRS 116.31162 through NRS 116.31164 . . . . ." *Shadow Wood* at 10.

Thus, notwithstanding Defendants' baseless allegations that they did not receive statutory notice of the HOA sale<sup>1</sup>, the recitals in the HOA foreclosure deed are <u>conclusive</u> as to notice, and Plaintiff had a right to rely on their accuracy when purchasing the Property at the public auction.

#### B. PLAINTIFF CLEARLY ESTABLISHED ITS BONA FIDE PURCHASER STATUS

Defendants' Opposition claims that because Plaintiff did not specifically plead a bona fide

Plaintiff has previously established that the foreclosure agent mailed notice of the foreclosure sale to New Freedom, BANA, Nationstar, and Cooper Castle. *See* Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment at Ex. 10, Deposition of Robert Atkinson, at 23; Exhibit B to Deposition of Robert Atkinson, at 6, 9, 14. *See also*, Plaintiff's Motion for Reconsideration at Ex. 4.

purchaser affirmative defense, such a claim is waived. Opp. at 4. However, Defendants fail to cite any case law indicating that it is a <u>requirement</u> to plead bona fide purchaser status as an affirmative defense, and the case law cited by Defendants on this issue actually supports reconsideration. Defendants cite to *Berge v. Fredericks*, 95 Nev. 183, 188, 591 P.2d 246, 248 (1979) for the notion that "[i]n order to be entitled to the status of a bona fide purchaser without notice, respondent . . . was required to show that legal title had been transferred to her before she had notice of the prior conveyance to appellant."

In *Berge*, the Court held that respondent could not have purchased the property at issue for value because respondent's marriage to seller (which respondent was claiming was the consideration) was consummated prior to any agreement to grant the property to respondent. *Id.* at 187. Here, there is no question that Plaintiff's \$7,800 payment for the Property was only conveyed to the HOA's agent <u>after</u> Plaintiff was designated as the highest bidder for the Property, thus the \$7,800 was clearly consideration for the Property.

The *Berge* Court also held that it was not clear whether respondent purchased the property without notice of the prior conveyance, as respondent was under a duty of inquiry based on her intimate relationship with the seller. *Id.* at 188-89. Here, there is absolutely no evidence that Plaintiff – who showed up at a publicly-noticed auction to bid on the Property – was in any way colluding with the HOA or its agent, thus Plaintiff was not on constructive notice of any errors with the HOA sale and the only duty Plaintiff had was to review the Property's recorded documents, which included the Deed in Lieu to New Freedom showing that Defendants had no interest in the Property regardless of the HOA foreclosure. Defendants suggest that the "assignment of the first deed of trust to Nationstar" put Plaintiff on record and inquiry notice that the first deed of trust was still an active lien on the property. Opp. at 4. However, Plaintiff had a right to rely on the Deed in Lieu (recorded before the Assignment), which satisfied all obligations secured by the Deed of Trust and made invalid any subsequent purported assignments on the Deed of Trust. Thus, despite Defendants' creative efforts to convince this Court to ignore the recorded documents themselves and the order in which they were recorded, such documents verify Plaintiff's bona fide purchaser status and Defendants produced *no evidence whatsoever* refuting that status.

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the property was actually worth more than the purchase price, that Plaintiff paid "valuable 3 consideration" cannot be contested. Fair v. Howard, 6 Nev. 304, 308 (1871) ("The question is not 4 whether the consideration is adequate, but whether it is valuable."); see also Poole v. Watts, 139 5 Wash.App. 1018, 2007 WL 1733130 (2007) (unpublished disposition) (stating that the fact that the 6 foreclosure sale purchaser purchased the property for a "low price" did not in itself put the purchaser 7 on notice that anything was amiss with the sale). Defendants claim that in recording the foreclosure deed, Plaintiff "admitted" that the property was worth \$63,280. Opp. at 4. However, this valuation 9 on the foreclosure deed is not dispositive, as it was not accompanied by any expert report justifying 10 the value, and Plaintiff was taking a risk by purchasing the Property before the Nevada Supreme 11 Court issued SFR Investments, thus "a large discrepancy between the purchase price a buyer would 12 be willing to pay and the assessed value of the property is to be expected," even if Plaintiff believed 13 the value of the property was higher than the purchase price. Bourne Valley Court Trust v. Wells 14 Fargo Bank, N.A., 80 F. Supp. 3d 1131, 1136 (D. Nev. 2015). 15

#### C. THE SHADOW WOOD DECISION DOES NOT SUPPORT THE COURT'S RULING

Defendants also attempt to argue that because Plaintiff only paid \$7,800 for the Property,

Plaintiff cannot qualify as a bona fide purchaser. Opp. at 4. Although Defendants may believe that

Finally, Defendants' Opposition distorts the *Shadow Wood* decision and attempts to convince this Court that the decision supports summary judgment in favor of Defendants. Opp. at 5-8. Defendants claim that *Shadow Wood* "holds that the HOA's sale of the Property for approximately 12% of what plaintiff, on their declaration of value, claimed the market value of the property was, was grossly inadequate, and thus commercially unreasonable, as a matter of law." Opp. at 5. Defendants also claim that *Shadow Wood* explained that "inadequate price alone can be sufficient to set aside an HOA foreclosure sale if the price is 'grossly inadequate." Opp. at 5. Unfortunately for Defendants, *Shadow Wood* contains no such holdings.

In reality, *Shadow Wood* provides welcome clarity on the subject of "commercial unreasonableness," and entirely forecloses any chance of Defendants' success. As the *Shadow Wood* Court specifically held, "demonstrating that an association sold a property at its foreclosure sale for an inadequate price *is not enough to set aside that sale*; there must also be a showing of

fraud, unfairness, or oppression." *Id.* at 15 (emphasis added). Accordingly, there can be no question that price alone is insufficient reason to set aside a sale, and a party hoping to resist summary judgment on these grounds must present some evidence of fraud, unfairness, or oppression. Indeed, the *Shadow Wood* decision mentioned the Nevada Supreme Court's previous decision in *Long v. Towne*, 98 Nev. 11 (1982) in specifically holding that in order to set aside a sale, there must be "a showing of grossly inadequate price **plus** 'fraud, unfairness, or oppression." *Shadow Wood* at 9-10 (emphasis added). Defendants' opposition fails to cite any Nevada law which indicates that grossly inadequate price alone is evidence of the unfairness required to set aside the sale, and such a finding would go against *Shadow Wood*'s indications that courts should consider factors other than the sale price, such as the actions of the HOA and the purchaser, along with the <u>inactions</u> of the lender. *Id.* at 16-20.

While the Shadow Wood decision did cement the need for more than an inadequate price to set aside a sale, it also lent credence to the suggestion in the Restatement (Third) of Property: Mortgages, that "gross inadequacy" of price (which merely triggers an inquiry into the possibility of fraud, unfairness, or oppression) can generally be considered as less than 20 percent of fair market value. Shadow Wood at 15–16. However, in a footnote to that statement, the Court cited the same comment to the Restatement as advising that "courts can properly take into account the fact that the value shown on a recent appraisal is not necessarily the same as the property's fair market value on the foreclosure sale date." Id. at 16. The Court thus acknowledges that a "fair market" appraisal should consider the property's value at the time of foreclosure, including the detrimental effect of defects on title and uncertainty of the law. Accordingly, any argument by Defendants that the HOA Sale should remain invalidated based on the HOA Sale price alone is misguided and in direct conflict with the Shadow Wood decision.

Thus, because the Court neglected to consider Plaintiff's bona fide purchaser status and erroneously concluded that Nationstar was a legitimate holder of the First Deed of Trust based on a mistaken finding that the Deed in Lieu was "rogue," Plaintiff is entitled to reconsideration of the Court's Order granting Defendants summary judgment.

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#### **CONCLUSION** III.

Based on the foregoing, Plaintiff respectfully requests that the Court grant Plaintiff's motion in its entirety and reconsider its Order denying Plaintiff's motion for summary judgment and granting Nationstar and BANA's countermotion for summary judgment.

DATED this 28<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

#### MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON

#### /s/ Luis A. Ayon\_

Luis Ayon, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 9752 MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 12489 400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counterdefendant West Sunset 2050 Trust

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Pursuant to Administrative Order 14-2, a copy of the PLAINTIFF'S REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION AND TO ALTER AND AMEND ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANTS NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC AND BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.'S COUNTERMOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT was electronically filed on the 28th day of March, 2016 and served through the Notice of Electronic Filing automatically generated by the Court's facilities to those parties listed on the Court's Master Service List and by depositing a true and correct copy of the same, enclosed in a sealed envelope upon which first class postage was fully prepaid, in the U.S. Mail at Las Vegas, Nevada, addressed as follows (Note: All Parties Not Registered Pursuant to Administrative Order 14-2 Have Been Served By Mail.):

Ariel E. Stern, Esq.
Allison R. Schmidt, Esq.
AKERMAN LLP
1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330
Las Vegas, Nevada 89144
Attorneys for Defendant Bank of America, N.A., and Nationstar Mortgage LLC

/s/ Charity Barber

An Employee of MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON

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**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

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ARIEL E. STERN, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 8276

ALLISON R. SCHMIDT, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 10743

AKERMAN LLP

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Email: allison.schmidt@akerman.com

Attorneys for Defendant Nationstar Mortgage, LLC

#### EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

Plaintiff,

V.

**MORTGAGE NEW FREEDOM** CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; AMERICA, N.A., a National BANK OF NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, Association; LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company; COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Limited Liability Partnership; STEPHANIE TABLANTE, an individual; DOES I through X; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

Counterclaimant,

Counter-Defendant.

22 || <sub>v</sub>.

| WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

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Case No.:

A-13-691323-C

Dept.:

XXI

ORDER DENYING PLAINTIFF'S
MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION AND
TO ALTER AND AMEND ORDER
GRANTING NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE
LLC AND BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.'S
MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

	1	NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,		
	<ul> <li>2</li> <li>3</li> <li>4</li> <li>5</li> <li>6</li> </ul>	Cross-Claimant,		
		$\left  \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{v}, \end{array} \right $		
		STEPHANIE TABLANTE,		
		Cross-Defendant.		
	7	On March 4, 2016, plaintiff West Sunset 2050 trust filed a motion to reconsider and amend		
	8	this court's order granting summary judgment in favor of Nationstar Mortgage, LLC and denying		
	9	plaintiff's motion for summary judgment. Nationstar filed an opposition on March 22, 2016.		
	10	This matter came before the court on April 4, 2016 in chambers. Having reviewed the papers		
000	0 57 11 8 24 11 l	filed by both parties, and good cause appearing:		
	1160 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, SUITE LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89144 TEL.: (702) 634-5000 – FAX: (702) 380- 8 1 1 1 1 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that plaintiff's motion for Reconsideration and to Alter and Amend		
N LLI		Order Granting Nationstar Mortgage LLC and Bank of America, N.A.'s Motion For Summary		
RIMA]		Judgment is DENIED.		
AKE		DATED this 23 day of May, 2016		
		aluri adan		
]		DISTRICT COURT JUDGE		
		Submitted by:  AKERMAN LLP		
	19			
	20	AŁLISON R. SCHMIDT, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 10743		
	21	1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330 Las Vegas, Nevada 89144		
	22	Attorneys for Nationstar Mortgage LLC and Bank of America, $NA$		
	23	Approved as to form and content, all rights reserved:		
	24	MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON		
	25	LUIS A. AYON, ESQ.		
	26	2500 W. Sahara Ave., Ste. 106 Las Vegas, NV 89102		
	27	Attorneys for Plaintiff		

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**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

1 **NEOJ** ARIEL E. STERN, ESQ. 2 Nevada Bar No. 8276 ALLISON R. SCHMIDT, ESQ. 3 Nevada Bar No. 10743 AKERMAN LLP 4 1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330 Las Vegas, Nevada 89144 5 Telephone: (702) 634-5000 (702) 380-8572 Facsimile: 6 Email: ariel.stern@akerman.com Email: allison.schmidt@akerman.com 7 Attorneys for Defendant Nationstar Mortgage, LLC 8 EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT 9 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 10 11 WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust, 12 Plaintiff, 13 V. 14 **NEW MORTGAGE FREEDOM** CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; 15 BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, Association; 16 LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company;

A-13-691323-C Case No.: Dept.: XXI

NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER **DENYING PLANTIFF'S MOTION FOR** RECONSIDERATION AND TO ALTER AND AMEND ORDER GRANTING NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC AND BANK OF AMERICA, N.A'S MOTION FOR **SUMMARY JUDGMENT.** 

Defendants.

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

Limited Liability Partnership;

Counterclaimant,

**STEPHANIE** 

V.

inclusive,

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada

TABLANTE, an individual; DOES I through X;

and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X,

Counter-Defendant.

26

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AKERMAN LLP

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

Cross-Claimant,

v.

STEPHANIE TABLANTE,

Cross-Defendant.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the ORDER DENYING PLANTIFF'S MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION AND TO ALTER AND AMEND ORDER GRANTING NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC AND BANK OF AMERICA, N.A'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT has been entered on the 31st day of May, 2016, in the above-captioned matter. A copy of said Order is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

DATED this 3rd day of June, 2016.

#### **AKERMAN LLP**

/s/ Allison R. Schmidt

ARIEL E. STERN, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 8276
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1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330
Las Vegas, Nevada 89144
Attorneys for Nationalstar Mortgage LLC
and Bank of America, NA

{38419497;1}

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2016 and pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I served through this Court's electronic service notification system ("Wiznet") and/or deposited for mailing in the U.S. Mail a true and correct copy of the foregoing NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER DENYING PLANTIFF'S MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION AND TO ALTER AND AMEND ORDER GRANTING NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC AND BANK OF AMERICA, N.A'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT postage prepaid and addressed to:

Charity Barber Danielle Barraza Darren T. Rodriguez Jason Maier Joseph Gutierrez Luis Ayon Margaret E. Schmidt Natalie D. Vazquez cmb@mgalaw.com dib@mqalaw.com dtr@mgalaw.com jrm@mgalaw.com jaq@mgalaw.com laa@mqalaw.com mes@mgalaw.com

ndv@mgalaw.com

/s/ Doug J. Layne

An employee of AKERMAN LLP

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# EXHIBIT A

## **EXHIBIT A**

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**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

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ARIEL E. STERN, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 8276

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Email: allison.schmidt@akerman.com

Attorneys for Defendant Nationstar Mortgage, LLC

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

Plaintiff,

V.

**MORTGAGE NEW FREEDOM** CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; AMERICA, N.A., a National BANK OF NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, Association; LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company; COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Limited Liability Partnership; STEPHANIE TABLANTE, an individual; DOES I through X; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

Counterclaimant,

Counter-Defendant.

22 || <sub>v</sub>.

| WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

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Case No.:

A-13-691323-C

Dept.:

XXI

ORDER DENYING PLAINTIFF'S
MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION AND
TO ALTER AND AMEND ORDER
GRANTING NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE
LLC AND BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.'S
MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

1	NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,
2	Cross-Claimant,
3	$\left\  \mathbf{v}_{\cdot} \right\ $
4	STEPHANIE TABLANTE,
5	Cross-Defendant.
6	
7	On March 4, 2016, plaintiff West Sunset 2050 trust filed a motion to reconsider and amend
8	this court's order granting summary judgment in favor of Nationstar Mortgage, LLC and denying
9	plaintiff's motion for summary judgment. Nationstar filed an opposition on March 22, 2016.
10	This matter came before the court on April 4, 2016 in chambers. Having reviewed the papers
22.330	filed by both parties, and good cause appearing:
SUITE 89144 12) 380-	IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that plaintiff's motion for Reconsideration and to Alter and Amend
N LLL RIVE, AX: (76 AX: (76	Order Granting Nationstar Mortgage LLC and Bank of America, N.A.'s Motion For Summary
RIMAI TTER D S, NEV 200 - E	Judgment is DENIED.
AKE N CEN VEGA 634-5(	DATED this $\frac{23^{\circ}}{}$ day of May, 2016
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<sup>91</sup>   H   17	DISTRICT COURT JUDGE
18	Submitted by:  AKERMAN LLP
19	
20	AŁLISON R. SCHMIDT, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 10743
21	1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330   Las Vegas, Nevada 89144
22	Attorneys for Nationstar Mortgage LLC and Bank of America, NA
23	Approved as to form and content, all rights reserved:
24	MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON
25	LUIS A. AYON, ESQ.
26	2500 W. Sahara Ave., Ste. 106 Las Vegas, NV 89102
27	Attorneys for Plaintiff

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**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

1 **NOAS** Luis A. Ayon, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 9752 MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 12489 MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON 400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 Telephone: (702) 629-7900 5 Facsimile: (702) 629-7925 E-mail: laa@mgalaw.com 6 mes@mgalaw.com 7 Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant West Sunset 2050 Trust 8 9

DISTRICT COURT

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust

Plaintiff,

VS.

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NEW FREEDOM **MORTGAGE** CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National Association; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company, COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Limited Liability Partnership **STEPHANIE** TABLANTE, an individual, through DOES I **X**: **ROE** and CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

AND ALL RELATED CLAIMS.

Case No.: A-13-691323-C

Dept. No.: XXI

NOTICE OF APPEAL

Notice is hereby given that plaintiff West Sunset 2050 Trust ("Plaintiff"), by and through its attorneys of record, the law firm MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON, appeals to the Supreme Court of Nevada from an order granting defendant Nationstar Mortgage LLC's ("Nationstar") countermotion for summary judgment, rendered by the Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County, Nevada on February 8, 2016 and noticed on February 16, 2016, which is attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**.

Pursuant to Nevada Rule of Appellate Procedure 4(a)(4), the time to file a notice of appeal was tolled by Plaintiff's timely filed Rule 59 motion to alter or amend the judgment. The order denying Plaintiff's motion was entered on May 31, 2016 and noticed on June 3, 2016, a copy of which is attached hereto as **Exhibit 2**.

DATED this 1st day of July, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

#### MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON

#### <u>/s/ Luis A. Ayon</u>

Luis Ayon, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 9752
MARGARET E. SCHMIDT, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 12489
400 South Seventh Street, Suite 400
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant West
Sunset 2050 Trust

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Pursuant to Administrative Order 14-2, a copy of the **NOTICE OF APPEAL** was electronically filed on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2016 and served through the Notice of Electronic Filing automatically generated by the Court's facilities to those parties listed on the Court's Master Service List and by depositing a true and correct copy of the same, enclosed in a sealed envelope upon which first class postage was fully prepaid, in the U.S. Mail at Las Vegas, Nevada, addressed as follows (*Note: All Parties Not Registered Pursuant to Administrative Order 14-2 Have Been Served By Mail.*):

Ariel E. Stern, Esq.
Allison R. Schmidt, Esq.
AKERMAN LLP
1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330
Las Vegas, Nevada 89144
Attorneys for Defendant Bank of America, N.A., and
Defendant/Counterclaimant/Cross-Claimant Nationstar Mortgage LLC

/s/ Charity Barber

An Employee of MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON

# EXHIBIT 1

# EXHIBIT 1

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**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

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XXI

NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER

NEOJ ARIEL E. STERN, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 8276

ALLISON R. SCHMIDT, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 10743

AKERMAN LLP

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1 TOWN CENTER DE LAS VEGAS, NEV. (702) 634-5000 – FA

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Las Vegas, NV 89144

5 Telephone: (702) 634-5000

Facsimile: (702) 380-8572 Email: ariel.stern@akerman.com

Email: allison.schmidt@akerman.com

Attorneys for Defendant Nationstar Mortgage, LLC

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

**CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 

Case No.:

Dept.:

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

Plaintiff,

V.

NEW FREEDOM **MORTGAGE** CORPORATION, Foreign Corporation; a AMERICA, N.A., a National BANK OF NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, Association; LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company; COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Limited Liability Partnership; STEPHANIE TABLANTE, an individual; DOES I through X; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

Counterclaimant,

22 || v.

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

Counter-Defendant.

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		1	NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,
		2	Cross-Claimant,
		3	v.
		4	STEPHANIE TABLANTE,
		5	Cross-Defendant.
		6	PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Order has been entered on the 8 <sup>th</sup> day of February, 2016,
		7	in the above-captioned matter. A copy of said Order is attached hereto as Exhibit A.
		8	DATED this 16 <sup>th</sup> day of February, 2016.
		9	AKERMAN LLP
		10	/s/ Allison R. Schmidt ARIEL E. STERN, ESQ.
	330-8572	11	Nevada Bar No. 8276 ALLISON R. SCHMIDT, ESQ.
<u></u>	SUITE 89144 02) 380	12	Nevada Bar No. 10743 1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330
NLL	ORIVE, VADA 'AX: (7	13	Las Vegas, Nevada 89144  Attorneys for Defendant Nationstar Mortgage, LLC
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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 16th day of February, 2016 and pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I served through this Court's electronic service notification system ("Wiznet") a true and correct copy of the foregoing NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER addressed to:

Luis A. Ayon, Esq.
MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON PLLC cmb@mgalaw.com djb@mgalaw.com dtr@mgalaw.com jrm@mgalaw.com jag@mgalaw.com laa@mgalaw.com mes@mgalaw.com ndv@mgalaw.com Attorneys for West Sunset 2050 Trust

/s/ Brieanne Siriwan

An employee of AKERMAN LLP

JVE, SUITE 330 NDA 89144 X: (702) 380-8572 16

1160 TOWN CENTER LAS VEGAS, NE TEL.: (702) 634-5000 – I

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# EXHIBIT A

# EXHIBIT A

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Alun D. Lahrum **ORDR** ARIEL E. STERN, ESQ. **CLERK OF THE COURT** Nevada Bar No. 8276 ALLISON R. SCHMIDT, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 10743 AKERMAN LLP 1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330 4 Las Vegas, NV 89144 Telephone: (702) 634-5000 Facsimile: (702) 380-8572 Email: ariel.stern@akerman.com 6 Email: allison.schmidt@akerman.com 7 Attorneys for Defendant Nationstar Mortgage, LLC 8 9 EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT 10 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 11 A-13-691323-C Case No.: WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust, 12 XXI Dept.: Plaintiff, ORDER GRANTING NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC'S COUNTERMOTION  $\mathbf{V}_{\bullet}$ 1 TOWN CENTER DR. LAS VEGAS, NEVA : (702) 634-5000 - FAX FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND 14 DENYING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR MORTGAGE FREEDOM NEW CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; SUMMARY JUDGMENT BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National 16 NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, Association; LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company; COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada STEPHANIE Limited Liability Partnership; 18 TABLANTE, an individual; DOES I through X; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, 19 inclusive, 20 Defendants. 21 NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC, 22 Counterclaimant, 23 V. 24 WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust, 25 Counter-Defendant. 26 27 28 {37064085;1}

**AKERMAN** 

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NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

Cross-Claimant,

v.

STEPHANIE TABLANTE,

5 Cross-Defendant.

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# ORDER GRANTING NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC'S COUNTERMOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND DENYING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Nationstar Mortgage, LLC's (Nationstar) countermotion for summary judgment came on for hearing before this court on June 24, 2015. Allison R. Schmidt, Esq. appeared on behalf of Nationstar. Luis Ayon, Esq. appeared on behalf of Plaintiff, West Sunset 2050 Trust. The court, having reviewed the countermotion and opposition thereto, as well as Plaintiff's competing motion for summary judgment, the opposition thereto and reply, and good cause appearing hereby grants summary judgment in favor of Nationstar.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Stephanie Tablante (**Tablante**) purchased the property located at 7255 W. Sunset Road, Unit 2050, Las Vegas, Nevada on or about December 2, 2005.
- 2. To finance the purchase of the property, Tablante obtained a loan from New Freedom Mortgage Corporation in the amount of \$176,760.00, which was secured by a senior deed of trust recorded against the property.
- 3. Tablante contacted Bank of America in 2011 in hopes of obtaining a deed in lieu of foreclosure on her property, but never obtained approval from Bank of America for the deed in lieu.
- 4. Tablante, through her attorney, unilaterally recorded a false deed in lieu to New Freedom Mortgage Corporation.
- 5. According to the Utah Secretary of Staten, New Freedom Mortgage Corporation no longer existed after 2008, having merged into iFreedom Direct Corporation.

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- The deed in lieu that was recorded by Tablante is not signed by either New 6. Freedom Mortgage Corporation or Bank of America, NA.
- 7. The cover page of the deed in lieu recorded by Tablante indicated the documents was to be returned to the offices of John Peter Lee, Esq. upon recording.
- 8. Red Rock Financial Services (RRFS) recorded a notice of delinquent assessment lien on April 4, 2012.
  - 9. Later, RRFS recorded a Notice of Default on May 29, 2013.
- RRFS did not provide any foreclosure notices to Bank of America, which was the 10. record beneficiary of the senior deed of trust.
  - Prior to the foreclosure sale, the senior deed of trust was assigned to Nationstar. 11.
- 12, A foreclosure sale was held by United Legal Services on June 22, 2013, where the property was sold to Plaintiff for \$7,800.
- The declaration of value recorded with the trustee's deed lists the value of the 13. property at the time of the sale as \$63,280.00.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- Under Nev. R. Civ. P. 56, a motion for summary judgment should be granted "when 1. the pleadings and other evidence on file demonstrate that no 'genuine issue as to any material fact [remains] and that the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law." Wood v. Safeway, (2005) 121 Nev. 724, 729; 121 P.3d 1026, 1029; NRCP 56(c).
- Materiality is dependent on the underlying substantive law, and includes only those 2. factual disputes that could change the ultimate outcome of a case. Id. All evidence and inferences are viewed in a light most favorable to the non-moving party on a summary judgment motion. Id.
- Nationstar and its predecessor in interest, Bank of America, was entitled to receive 3. the foreclosure notices as the senior deed of trust could be effected by the foreclosure sale. NRS 116,31168, NRS 116,31163(2); Mullane v. Central Hanover Bank & Trust Co., 339 U.S. 306, 313, 70 S.Ct. 652, 94 L.Ed. 865 (1950).
- Tablante's recording of a false deed in lieu of foreclosure did not strip the beneficiary 4. of the senior deed of trust of its property rights.

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# EXHIBIT 2

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**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

**NEOJ** ARIEL E. STERN, ESQ. 2 Nevada Bar No. 8276 ALLISON R. SCHMIDT, ESQ. 3 Nevada Bar No. 10743 AKERMAN LLP 4

1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330 Las Vegas, Nevada 89144

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Attorneys for Defendant Nationstar Mortgage, LLC

# EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

#### **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

Plaintiff,

A-13-691323-C Case No.:

XXI Dept.:

V.

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**NEW** FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, Corporation; a Foreign BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, Association; LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company; COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Limited Liability Partnership; **STEPHANIE** TABLANTE, an individual; DOES I through X; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER **DENYING PLANTIFF'S MOTION FOR** RECONSIDERATION AND TO ALTER AND AMEND ORDER GRANTING NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC AND BANK OF AMERICA, N.A'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT.

Defendants.

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

Counterclaimant,

V. 23

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

Counter-Defendant.

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NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

Cross-Claimant,

v.

STEPHANIE TABLANTE,

Cross-Defendant.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the ORDER DENYING PLANTIFF'S MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION AND TO ALTER AND AMEND ORDER GRANTING NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC AND BANK OF AMERICA, N.A'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT has been entered on the 31st day of May, 2016, in the above-captioned matter. A copy of said Order is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

DATED this 3rd day of June, 2016.

#### **AKERMAN LLP**

/s/ Allison R. Schmidt

ARIEL E. STERN, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 8276
ALLISON R. SCHMIDT, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 10743
1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330
Las Vegas, Nevada 89144
Attorneys for Nationalstar Mortgage LLC
and Bank of America, NA

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2016 and pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I served through this Court's electronic service notification system ("Wiznet") and/or deposited for mailing in the U.S. Mail a true and correct copy of the foregoing NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER DENYING PLANTIFF'S MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION AND TO ALTER AND AMEND ORDER GRANTING NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC AND BANK OF AMERICA, N.A'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT postage prepaid and addressed to:

Charity Barber Danielle Barraza Darren T. Rodriguez Jason Maier Joseph Gutierrez Luis Ayon Margaret E. Schmidt Natalie D. Vazquez cmb@mgalaw.com dib@mqalaw.com dtr@mqalaw.com jrm@mgalaw.com jaq@mgalaw.com laa@mgalaw.com mes@mgalaw.com ndv@mgalaw.com

/s/ Doug J. Layne

An employee of Akerman LLP

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# EXHIBIT A

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**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

ORDR

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Attorneys for Defendant Nationstar Mortgage, LLC

# CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

CLARK COUNTI, NEVADA

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

Plaintiff,

V.

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NEW FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, a Foreign Corporation; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., a National Association; NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company; COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, a Nevada Limited Liability Partnership; STEPHANIE TABLANTE, an individual; DOES I through X; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants.

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

Counterclaimant,

22 | v.

WEST SUNSET 2050 TRUST, a Nevada Trust,

Counter-Defendant.

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Case No.:

A-13-691323-C

Dept.:

XXI

ORDER DENYING PLAINTIFF'S
MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION AND
TO ALTER AND AMEND ORDER
GRANTING NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE
LLC AND BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.'S
MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

	1	NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,
	2	Cross-Claimant,
	3	$\mathbf{v}$ .
	4	STEPHANIE TABLANTE,
	5	Cross-Defendant.
	6	
	7	On March 4, 2016, plaintiff West Sunset 2050 trust filed a motion to reconsider and amend
	8	this court's order granting summary judgment in favor of Nationstar Mortgage, LLC and denying
	9	plaintiff's motion for summary judgment. Nationstar filed an opposition on March 22, 2016.
	10	This matter came before the court on April 4, 2016 in chambers. Having reviewed the papers
330 -8572	11	filed by both parties, and good cause appearing:
SUITE 39144 32) 380-	12	IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that plaintiff's motion for Reconsideration and to Alter and Amend
RIVE, AX: (70	13	Order Granting Nationstar Mortgage LLC and Bank of America, N.A.'s Motion For Summary
S, NEV	14	Judgment is DENIED.
N CEN VEGA 634-5(	15	DATED this $23^{\circ}$ day of May, 2016
60 TOW LAS L.: (702)	16	alun adam
11, TEI	17	DISTRICT COURT JUDGE
	18	Submitted by:  AKERMAN LLP
	19	
	20	AŁLISON R. SCHMIDT, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 10743
	21	1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 330 Las Vegas, Nevada 89144 Attorneys for Nationstar Mortgage LLC
	22	Attorneys for Nationstar Mortgage LLC and Bank of America, NA
	23	Approved as to form and content, all rights reserved:
	24	MAIER GUTIERREZ AYON
	25	LUIS A. AYON, ESQ.
	26	2500 W. Sahara Ave., Ste. 106 Las Vegas, NV 89102
	27	Attorneys for Plaintiff

AKERMAN LLP

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