## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

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RICHARD H NEWMAN, AN INDIVIDUAL; NEWMAN LAW, LLC, A NEVADA LIMITED LIABILITY

COMPANY: AND COOPER BLACKSTONE, LLC, A NEVADA

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Electronically Filed Mar 22 2020 09:15 p.m.

Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court

**SUPREME COURT NO.: 79395** 

VS. FULL COLOR GAMES, INC., A NEVADA CORPORATION Appellee.

LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

Appellant,

APPELLANTS' NON-OPPOSITION TO HUTCHISON & STEFFEN, PLLC'S MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL AND OPPOSITION TO APPELLEE'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO LOCATE NEW COUNSEL

Appellee's current counsel, Hutchison & Steffen, PLLC was disqualified from representing Appellee, Full Color Games, Inc. ("FCGI") on February 18, 2020. Appellant does not oppose Hutchison & Steffen, PLLC's Motion to Withdraw as Counsel. However, Appellant opposes Appellee's Motion for Extension of Time because an extension of time for an additional 90 days is unnecessarily long, prejudicial to Appellants respective interests in this appeal, and inconsistent with the continued hearing dates in the underlying action that also require Appellee to have retained new counsel.

As a preliminary matter, Appellee's basis for requesting a 90 day extension of time due to David Mahon being out of the country fails to acknowledge that Appellee FCGI is a corporate entity with another director residing in the United States, namely, Glen Howard, FCGI's President. Glen Howard is believed to either own or lease an apartment in Las Vegas, and as its director and President, had ample opportunity over the last month since Appellee's current counsel was disqualified to locate and retain new counsel on behalf Appellee while Mahon was traveling.

Indeed, given Mahon's apparent need to be physical in India, the due dates in this appeal, as well as next month's deadlines in the underlying action, Appellee had a compelling reason for its President Glen Howard to waste no time in locating and retaining new counsel after its current counsel was disqualified. Yet Appellee's motion fails to provide a reason why Appellee's director and President Glen Howard was unable to retain new counsel on behalf of Appellee FCGI last month while Appellee's other director David Mahon was traveling. Appellee's failure to diligently address their need for new counsel is even more aggravating now that Covid-19 concerns have made the process more difficult than it would have been last month.

Since there is no reason why Appellee's President Glen Howard cannot locate and retain new counsel on its behalf, there is no reason why this appeal must be put on hold just so David Mahon can return from traveling at some uncertain date. Glen Howard, David Mahon and prospective or retained new counsel can easily communicate using conventional telecommunication technology, such as video-conferencing and email. David Mahon has already been willing to attend hearings in the underlying actions telephonically. Mahon can participate with Howard in finding new counsel telephonically or through one of the many video conferencing options.

It should be noted that in light of the Covid-19 crisis, David Mahon's return to this country by any particular date cannot be assured. This fact is alluded to by Appellee on Page 3 of its Motion where it states Mahon "anticipates that he cannot safely leave India until approximately April 15, 2020." Even assuming Mahon was able to leave India on April 15, 2020, his return would leave very little time for him to both locate and retain new counsel for Appellee and afford Appellee's new counsel sufficient time to be prepared for the deadlines in the underlying action, at least one of which is April 20, 2020. There is also the very real possibility that travelers returning from abroad will be quarantined upon arrival, and therefore, telephonic or video conferencing may be the only options for retaining new counsel even if Mahon is in the US. Thus, it is much more efficient and less likely to cause

unnecessary delay for Appellee's other director and president Glen Howard to locate and retain new counsel on behalf of Appellee. Appellee's motion does not give any reason why Glen Howard cannot do this as soon as possible.

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As mentioned above, Appellee must also retain new counsel in order to comply with the current hearing schedule in the underlying action. In the underlying action, Appellee filed a Second Amended Answer and Third-Party Complaint which named numerous additional Third-Party Defendants and added new claims against Appellants. This Second Amended Answer and Third-Party Complaint was filed on January 9, 2020, about a month before Hutchison & Steffen, PLLC was disqualified. Appellants and other newly named Third-Party Defendants timely filed Motions to Dismiss. Oppositions and hearings on these Motions and other matters in the underlying action have now been rescheduled as a result of the disqualification of Appellee's counsel. The continuances agreed to by Appellee, Appellants, Plaintiffs and other Third-Party Defendants expire much sooner than 90 days. For example, an opposition to Appellant's Motion to Dismiss is due by April 20, 2020, and the related hearing is scheduled for May 16, 2020. Appellee would need to retain counsel in time to enable counsel to be in a position to respond to Appellant's Motion to Dismiss by April 20, 2020 and prepare for the hearing on May 16, 2020.

Since the outcome of Appellant's appeal relates to matters in the underlying action, including Appellant's Motion to Dismiss, it would be prejudicial to

Appellants for this appeal to be possibly delayed for a longer period of time than the 1 current opposition and hearing schedule in the underlying action. 2 uncertainty of Mahon's return from India, it makes much more sense for Appellee's 3 other director and president Glen Howard who is here to locate and retain counsel. 4 Though the current situation complicates this process, Glen Howard can presumably 5 locate and retain new counsel without uncertainty or unnecessarily delay. 6 7 In light of the foregoing, and in consideration of the fact that Appellee has already had a month to locate and retain new counsel, Appellants move this Court 8 to deny Appellee's Motion for a 90 day extension in favor of an extension of time 9 which is commensurate with Appellee retaining new counsel at least prior to the 10 11 April 20, 2020 hearing date in the underlying action. DATED, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March 2020. 12 13 NEWMAN LAW, LLC /s/ Richard H Newman 14 Richard H Newman (NV Bar No. 8943) Attorneys for Third-Party 15 Defendants/Appellants 16 17 18 19

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## 1 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 2 I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of this foregoing document was electronically filed on this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of March 2020, and served via the Nevada 3 Supreme Court's Eflex electronic filing system to: 4 5 Michael K. Wall Mark Hutchison 6 Todd Prall 7 HUTCHISON & STEFFEN, LLC 10080 West Alta Drive, Suite 200 8 Las Vegas, Nevada 89145 Attorneys for Respondent, Full Color Games, Inc. 9 Respectfully Submitted, 10 /s/ Richard H Newman 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20