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

BRIAN MARCUS, an individual,	) Supreme Court 79512 Electronically Filed ) District Mar 17 2020 12:48 p.m.
Appellants, v.	Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court
FULL COLOR GAMES, Inc., a Nevada Corporation	) ) )
Respondent.	) ) )

HUTCHISON & STEFFEN, PLLC'S MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL FOR FULL COLOR GAMES, INC., AND FOR EXTENSION OF TIME FOR FULL COLOR GAMES, INC. TO LOCATE NEW COUNSEL

Hutchison & Steffen, PLLC ("H&S") moves for an order allowing H&S to withdraw from its representation of Respondent Full Color Games, Inc. ("FCGI"), and further moves for additional time, up to 90 days to allow FCGI to obtain new counsel. This motion is based on NRAP 27 and NRAP 46(e).

In the underlying action, Hutchison & Steffen, PLLC ("H&S"), which represented several defendants, counter-claimants, and third-party plaintiffs, including Full Color Games, Inc. ("FCGI"), has been disqualified from continuing to represent FCGI, the respondent in this appeal. H&S continues to represent all other defendants, counter-claimants, and third-party plaintiffs, but can no longer represent FCGI. *See* Decision, filed on February 18, 2020, attached as Exhibit A.

H&S notes that no final order disqualifying it has yet been entered in district court (it is Judge Denton's general practice to issue detailed written orders but then to have the parties submit final versions of those orders), but the result that H&S is disqualified from further representing FCGI is not in doubt, and appellant has no intent to challenge that decision further.

FCGI's answering brief is due on March 19, 2020, and H&S cannot submit any further responses on behalf of FCGI because of the Decision filed on February 18, 2020.

Since the date of the Decision on February 20, 2020, H&S has been attempting to work with David Mahon, the sole director of FCGI, to arrange for retention of new counsel to substitute in on this appeal. Mahon, however, has been out of the country in India on business since the Court issued a decision disqualifying FCGI. Mahon has, and continues to have, significant business interests in India that cannot be left unattended for a long period of time. Because of the recent outbreak of the coronavirus or COVID-19, travel to and from India has become increasingly difficult, such that Mahon's ability to travel back to the United States has been significantly delayed. Further, traveling from India at this time will be next to impossible without risking not being able to return to India to attend to his ongoing business interests in a timely manner. Mahon anticipates at

this time that he cannot safely leave India until approximately April 15, 2020.

However, because of the fluid nature of the situation, he may be required to stay in India for a longer period of time. Mahon cannot retain new counsel in the United States until he is able to travel back to the United States to meet with and retain new counsel.

Under these circumstances, H&S request that the Court grant H&S's motion to withdraw, and grant FCGI 90 days to retain new counsel.

Respectfully submitted this \(\frac{1}{2}\) day of March, 2020.

**HUTCHISON & STEFFEN, PLLC** 

Michael K. Wall (2098)

Todd W. Prall (9154)

Peccole Professional Park

10080 West Alta Drive, Suite 200

Las Vegas, NV 89145

mwall@hutchlegal.com

Attorney for Respondent

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I am an employee of HUTCHISON & STEFFEN, PLLC and that on this date the HUTCHISON & STEFFEN, PLLC'S MOTION TO

WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL FOR FULL COLOR GAMES, INC., AND FOR EXTENSION OF TIME FOR FULL COLOR GAMES, INC. TO LOCATE

NEW COUNSEL was filed electronically with the Clerk of the Nevada Supreme Court, and therefore electronic service was made in accordance with the master service list as follows:

Joseph A. Gutierrez (9046)
Maier Gutierrez & Associates
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Attorney for Appellants

DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of March, 2020.

An employee of Hutchison & Steffen, PLLC

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## **EXHIBIT A**



28 MARK R. DENTON DISTRICT JUDGE

DEPARTMENT THIRTEEN LAS VEGAS, NV 89155

DISTRICT COURT

2/18/2020 3:32 PM Steven D. Grierson

**Electronically Filed** 

**CLERK OF THE COURT** 

A-17-759862-B

February 10, 2020

9:00 a.m.

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

In re: FULL COLOR GAMES, INC.

MARK MUNGER, an individual; DAVID'S ) CASE NO. HARD WORK TRUST LTD. 3/26/2012, a California Trust; MOORE FAMILY TRUST, a California Trust;

MILLENNIUM TRUST COMPANY, LLC, CUSTODICAN FBO GARY SOLSO, IRA, a California Trust; JEFFREY CASTALDO; an individual; MARA H. BRAZER, as Trustee for the MARA H. BRAZER TRUST UTA 2/12/2004; a California Trust:

individually and as shareholders of ) FULL COLOR GAMES, INC.,

Plaintiff(s),

vs.

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company,

**DECN** 

DAVID MAHON, an individual; GLEN HOWARD, an individual; INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY HOLDINGS, LTD., an Isle of Man corporation; FULL COLOR GAMES, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; FULL COLOR GAMES LTD., an Isle of Man corporation; FULL COLOR GAMES N.A. INC., a Nevada corporation; FULL COLOR GAMES GROUP INC., a Nevada corporation; JACKPOT PRODUCTIONS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability

Defendant(s).

AND ALL RELATED CLAIMS.

DECISION

THIS MATTER having come before the Court on February 10,

DEPT. NO.

Date:

Time:

2020 for hearing on Plaintiffs' Motion to Disqualify Hutchison & Steffen, PLLC ("Hutchison & Steffen"), with appearances as noted in the Minutes and to be reflected in the proposed order to be submitted as directed hereinbelow;

AND, the Court having heard the argument of counsel and having then taken such Motion under advisement for further consideration, and being now fully advised in the premises;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Court decides the Motion as follows:

### RULING

Although, by its language, the Motion seeks disqualification of the firm of Hutchison & Steffen from representation not just of Full Color Games, Inc., but of all Defendants, Counterclaimants, and Third Party Plaintiffs, Plaintiffs' counsel reiterated during the hearing what is stated at page 16 of the Motion, lines 25-28, that, "at a minimum," disqualification should apply to Full Color Games, Inc. for the benefit of which Plaintiffs' derivative claims are pleaded. That being so, and because, in the derivative context, the corporation must remain neutral—see e.g. Patrick v. Alacer Corporation, 167 Cal.App. 4<sup>th</sup>, 84 Cal.Rptr.3d 642 (2008); Sobba v. Elmen, 462 F.Supp.2d 944, 946-947 (E.D.Ark. 2006)—the Court is persuaded by the Motion to the extent that it seeks to disqualify Hutchison & Steffen from representation of Full Color Games, Inc., and the

Motion is GRANTED IN PART to that extent. See also In re DISH

Network Derivative Litigation, 133 Nev.Adv. Op. 61, 401 P.3d 1081

(2017).1

However, to the extent, that Plaintiffs' Motion seeks to disqualify the firm of Hutchison & Steffen from representing any of the other Defendants/Counterclaimants/Third Party Plaintiffs, the Court agrees with such parties that Plaintiffs' Motion comes too late and that, from a practical standpoint, and putting substance over form, Hutchison & Steffen's representation up to now of what is essentially an insolvent corporation has not prejudiced Plaintiffs. Accordingly, the Motion is DENIED IN PART insofar as it seeks disqualification relative to parties other than Full Color Games, Inc.

#### CONCLUSION

In the event counsel cannot agree upon a proposed order reflecting the foregoing, each is directed to submit a proposed competing order consistent with the foregoing and which sets forth the underpinnings of the same in accordance herewith and with briefing and argument supportive of the same.

Each proposed competing order should be submitted to opposing counsel. Instead of seeking to clarify or litigate

<sup>:</sup> Without intimating any opinion at this point on the answer to the question, it has occurred to the Court that the appointment of a receiver for Full Color Games, Inc. may be appropriate and/or necessary.

meaning or any disapproval through correspondence directed to the Court or to counsel with copies to the Court, any such clarification or disapproval should be the subject of motion practice following entry of order.

This Decision sets forth the Court's intended disposition on the subject, but it anticipates further order of the Court to make such disposition effective as an order or judgment.

DATED this 14 day of February, 2020.

MARK R. DENTON DISTRICT JUDGE

### CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that on or about the date filed, this document was e-served or a copy of this document was placed in the attorney's folder in the Clerk's Office or mailed to:

MAIER GUTIERREZ & ASSOCIATES Attn: Stephen G. Clough, Esq.

HUTCISON & STEFFEN

Attn: Mark A. Hutchison, Esq./Todd Prall, Esq.

McDONALD CARANO

Attn: Rory T. Kay, Esq.

LORRAINE TASHIRO

Judicial Executive Assistant

Dept. No. XIII