KAINEN LAW GROUP, PLLC

3303 Novat Street, Suite 200

Electronically Filed
11/19/2019 10:19 AM
Steven D. Grierson
CLERK OF THE COURT

NTC
Andrew L. Kynaston, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 8147
KAINEN LAW GROUP, PLLC
3303 Novat Street, Suite 200
Las Vegas, Nevada 89129
Telephone: (702) 823-4900
Facsimile: (702) 823-4488
service@KainenLawGroup.com
Attorneys for Defendant

Electronically Filed Nov 25 2019 02:25 p.m. Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

JASWINDER SINGH,

Plaintiff,

CASE NO: 04D323977 DEPT NO: P

VS.

RAJWANT KAUR,

Defendant.

## **NOTICE OF APPEAL**

Notice is hereby given that Defendant, RAJWANT KAUR, appeals to the Nevada Supreme Court from the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order, filed on October 22, 2019 (Notice of Entry of Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order was also filed on October 22, 2019) copy of which is attached hereto as **Exhibit "A"**.

Dated this <u>k</u> day of November, 2019.

KAINEN LAW GROUP, PLLC

RACHEAL H. MASTEL, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 11646 ANDREW L. KYNASTON, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 8147 3303 Novat Street, Suite 200 Las Vegas, Nevada 89129 Attorney for Defendant

Electronically Filed 10/22/2019 11:53 AM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

		CLERK OF THE COURT
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	LAW OFFICES OF F. PETER JAMES, 1	
2	F. Peter James, Esq.	
3	Nevada Bar No. 10091 3821 West Charleston Boulevard, Suite 2	E-SERVED
~	Las Vegas, Nevada 89102	OCT 2 2 2019
4	Peter@PeterJamesLaw.com 702-256-0087	
5	702-256-0145 (fax)	
,	Counsel for Plaintiff	
6	DISTRICT COURT, F	FAMILV DIVISION
7	CLARK COUNT	
_		
8	JASWINDER SINGH,	CASE NO. : 04D323977
9	Plaintiff,	DEPT. NO. : P
	i idilitii,	NOTICE OF ENTRY OF FINDINGS
10	vs.	OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF
11	DATES AND TO AND	LAW, AND ORDER
11	RAJWANT KAUR,	
12	Defendant.	
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		•
	1 of .	3

2 of 3

i	<u>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</u>	
2	I certify that on this 22 day of October, 2019, I caused the above and	
3	foregoing document entitled NOTICE OF ENTRY OF FINDINGS OF FACT	
4	CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER to be served as follows:	
5	pursuant to EDCR 8.05(A), EDCR 8.05(F), NRCP 5(b)(2)(D)	
6	and Administrative Order 14-2 captioned "In the Administrative Matter of Mandatory Electronic Service in the Eighth Judicial District Court," by mandatory electronic service through the	
7	Eighth Judicial District Court's electronic filing system;	
8	[ ] by placing same to be deposited for mailing in the United States	
9	Mail, in a sealed envelope upon which first class postage was prepaid in Las Vegas, Nevada;	
10	[ ] pursuant to EDCR 7.26 / NEFCR 9, to be sent via facsimile / email;	
11	onan,	
12	to the attorney(s) / party(ies) listed below at the address(es), email address(es),	
13	and/or facsimile number(s) indicated below:	
14	Andrew L. Kynaston, Esq.	
15	Kainen Law Group 3303 Novat Street, Suite 200	
16	Las Vegas, Nevada 89129 702-823-4488 (fax)	
17	Service@KainenLawGroup.com Counsel for Defendant	
18		
19	By: Whier	
Į	An employee of the Law Offices of E. Deter Jomes, Egg. DLLC	

# **ORIGINAL**

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**FFCL** 

LAW OFFICES OF F. PETER JAMES, ESQ.

F. Peter James, Esq.

Nevada Bar No. 10091

3821 West Charleston Boulevard, Suite 250

Las Vegas, Nevada 89102

Peter@PeterJamesLaw.com

702-256-0087

702-256-0145 (fax)

Counsel for Plaintiff

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DISTRICT COURT, FAMILY DIVISION CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

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JASWINDER SINGH,

Plaintiff,

vs.

RAJWANT KAUR.

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Defendant.

CASE NO.: 04D323977

DEPT. NO.: P

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND **ORDER** 

This matter came before the Court on the 12th of September, 2019 and the 13th of September, 2019 for an Evidentiary Hearing on Defendant's Motion to Set Aside Decree of Divorce, which was filed on January 7, 2019, and on Plaintiff's Opposition thereto filed January 23, 2019. Also being heard was Plaintiff's Motion in Limine, which was filed August 30, 2019, and on Defendant's Opposition and Countermotion thereto, which was filed on September 6, 2019. F. Peter James, Esq. appeared with Plaintiff, Jaswinder

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**FAMILY COURT** DBPARTMENT P

14 15 Other District of Translet of District of

Singh. Andrew L. Kynaston, Esq. appeared with Defendant, Rajwant Kaur. Nevada registered Punjabi interpreter, Muir Qureshi, was also present to interpret for Plaintiff and Defendant. The Honorable Sandra Pomrenze presided over the matter.

Testimony and exhibits were presented. There was argument and discussion regarding the relative issues for this hearing. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed. There was argument and discussion regarding the Court taking judicial notice that entry of a Decree of Divorce ends a marriage and that being the issue before the Court in these proceedings. Court advised counsel it was taking judicial notice that a Decree of Divorce was entered on September 04, 2004. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed. There was colloquy at the bench. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed. The matter was trialed and then recalled with all present as before.

Court advised counsel it received documents (Plaintiff's Petition for writ relief filed in the Nevada Supreme Court) in chambers and it conferred with the Presiding Judge and it was agreed the documents did not divest this Court of jurisdiction and the matters would proceed. Counsel concurred with the Court. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed. Upon Court's inquiry both counsel agreed to conduct a conference with the Court. The matter was trailed for the Court to conduct a conference with counsel off the record and outside of the

courtroom. The matter was recalled with all present as before. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed.

Defendant testified. Mr. Kynaston finished his examination and passed the witness. Mr. James moved the Court for Judgment on the Evidence. Court observed it questioned *Vaile v. Eighth Judicial District Court*, 118 Nev. 262, 44 P.3d 512 (2002), as it seemed to be illogical and it seemed to say it was okay to "pull a scam and get away with it" but it was Nevada law.

The Court further observed the testimony of the Defendant is not a far distance from the facts of the *Vaile* case. There was argument and discussion regarding the fraudulent divorce, both parties' testimony about the divorce, the *Vaile* case decision, the facts of the *Vaile* case, and Mr. Kynaston appealing this case to have the Supreme Court review of the *Vaile* case. There was argument and discussion regarding neither party understanding what they were doing, Plaintiff's beliefs about getting a Nevada divorce, the California requirements for divorce, and Nevada divorce law. There was argument and discussion regarding the decision regarding the fraudulent divorce, Defendant not receiving any benefits after the last 15 years with Plaintiff, California making the decision, and the Court's discretion under the *Vaile* case. Mr. Kynaston requested the Court exercise its discretion and rule on the facts of the case.

There was discussion regarding the Court's obligation to rule on the facts and the law. There was argument and discussion regarding the provisions of Rule 60(b), the provisions of the *Vaile* case, Defendant's testimony, and counsel appealing this case. Court advised counsel it would be exceeding its obligation if it did not rule on Plaintiff's motion for judgment based on the evidence presented, and Defendant's deposition was not published so it could not review the deposition. There was argument and discussion regarding the facts presented today being on point with the *Vaile* case and Defendant not meeting her burden of proof.

The Court, having read the papers and pleadings on file herein, being well advised in the premises, having heard the testimony, having considered the evidence, being well advised in the premises, and for sufficient cause shown, hereby finds and orders as follows:

THE COURT HEREBY FINDS that Plaintiff was not credible in any portion of his testimony. Based on the evidence presented Defendant was more credible; therefore, the Court does find that the parties perpetrated a fraud on the State of Nevada by entering into a Decree of Divorce without the requisite residency. Were that to be the end of the inquiry, but because of the Vaile vs. Eighth Judicial District case, it was not the end of the inquiry. If sufficient time has passed, the Court is obligated to make a decision on the merits as to how the

fraudulent divorce was implemented and what the parties' roles were. In the Vaile case, both spouses were willing participants and they both knew that they did not have residency. They both knew they wanted a divorce sooner rather than later. It is not uncommon, unfortunately, because we have such generous divorce laws, that people take advantage of those divorce laws and they come here thinking they will get a quick divorce and they pretend to be residents. The Courts see that on a regular basis. Sometimes they get away with it, sometimes they do not, but certainly, in this instance, the presiding judge had no reason to question the validity of the documents that were submitted and, therefore, executed the Decree. What Vaile says is, if they make a distinction where there is a very old divorce and one party seeks to set it aside based on fraud, that party must prove they were free from fault. You have 2 parties at fault and the Court in Vaile applied an equitable standard that they were not going to reward a "wrong doer" and that is why there is a requirement of some equitable reason why a "co-wrong doer" should be permitted relief even though they are equally as much of a wrong doer as the other party. So, they set the standard that there has to be some threat, duress, or coercion or an equitable reason why that party is free from fault. In the instant case the Court finds the Defendant to be very credible, unlike the Plaintiff. However, what is missing from Defendant's testimony is that she was forced to sign those papers and, in fact in this instance,

she knew there was a divorce in Nevada whether Plaintiff told her it was a piece of paper or not. This is a person who is a competent adult and who knew there was a divorce in Nevada until such time as she became upset with the Plaintiff, upon his allegation he had married someone else. She was content to "let sleeping dogs lie" and live together with the Plaintiff. Ironically, they are still living together and, ironically, Plaintiff has not remarried. But it requires, in this instance, evidence of an unequal bargaining position at a minimum. There was nothing in Defendant's testimony that was evidence of an unequal bargaining position between the Plaintiff and Defendant. Plaintiff said, "we're going to Nevada, we're going to sign some paperwork, it is going to be a divorce, it is going to be a paper divorce, we're going to continue to live together." This was not a person with a mental defect or an inability to understand what was being told to her. Defendant knew it, and in fact at his request, not a demand according to her own testimony, she in fact went to India to marry Plaintiff's brother. Was it a "sham" marriage? Of course it was. Did it assist the parties in their "end game"? No, because Plaintiff's brother never got a Visa and did not come to the U.S. But at the end of the day, there is simply insufficient evidence that the Defendant acted under duress. So as much as the Court finds the facts of this case offensive, it cannot rule on what it finds offensive—it has to rule on the law and precedent and Vaile is still precedent in this state. Should the Supreme Court

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choose to take a second look on appeal, they are free to do so, and, if in fact, they say that *Vaile* is not good law then the Court is happy to have the parties come back and the Court will even set a second hearing. On the testimony and the evidence, the Court is compelled to grant the motion for judgment on the evidence and it is compelled to deny the motion to set aside.

THE COURT FURTHER FINDS that, because neither party comes to this court with clean hands, neither party shall receive an award of attorney's fees against the other. The Plaintiff is not entitled to an award of attorney's fees. He is equally, if not greater, at fault than the Defendant, so he may be the prevailing party, but the Court will not reward someone with extremely unclean hands with an award of attorney's fees. The Defendant is not the prevailing party here and as much as there is some sympathy here, the Court does not rule on sympathy. It must rule on the law and insofar as Defendant is not the prevailing party the Court cannot award her any attorney's fees either. The Court was surprised when Defendant rested, but counsel did, and did not get to the heart of the Vaile case standard. It is not a criticism of counsel. The Court believes that Defendant was honest and candid with the Court, and counsel was left with the case he had. Defendant knew what her husband wanted her to do, and she went ahead and did it. There is no evidence that she refused or that he demanded or that he threatened her or anything else, just like the parties did in the Vaile case. Because of that,

and the Vaile precedent, the Court is compelled to deny the motion to set aside. There is an appealable issue there. The Court does not know what the Supreme Court will do. It is a question that has been answered in a way that most of us might not appreciate, but it is the question that has been answered and Defendant's testimony does not rise to the level for the Court to set aside the Decree of Divorce. Counsel need to decide what they wish to do, because the Court does believe there is an issue here. This Court does not have the ability to "jump over" the Supreme Court and decide.

Therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Motion for Judgment on the Evidence is GRANTED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant's Motion to Set Aside the Decree of Divorce is DENIED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, as neither party is the prevailing party, there shall be no award of attorney's fees to either party.

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1	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Mr. James shall prepare the Findings
2	of Fact, Conclusions of Law with Mr. Kynaston to review the same and
3	countersign.
4	IT IS SO ORDERED.
5	Dated this 2) day of October, 2019.
6	
7	DISTRICT COURT JUDGE SANDRA L. POMRENZE
8	Respectfully submitted by:  Approved as to form and content by:
9	The state of the s
10	LAW OFFICES OF F. PETER JAMES KAINEN LAW GROUP F. Peter James, Esq. Andrew L. Kynaston Esq.
11	Nevada Bar No. 10091  Nevada Bar No. 8147  3821 W. Charleston Blvd., Suite 250  3303 Novat Street, Suite 200
12	Las Vegas, Nevada 89102 Las Vegas, Nevada 89129 702-256-0087 702-823-4900
13	Counsel for Plaintiff Counsel for Defendant
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KAINEN LAW GROUP, PLLC

3303 Novat Street, Suite 200

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**Electronically Filed** 

702.823.4900 • Fax 702.823.4488

Las Vegas. Nevada 89129 702.823.4900 • Fax 702.823.4488

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J. Whether case was previously subject of appeal or writ proceeding in Nevada Supreme Court, and if so, caption and docket number of prior proceeding:

Yes, Respondent's counsel filed a Petition for Writ of Mandamus, docket number 79591, which was subsequently transferred to the Court of Appeals, docket number 79591-COA. The Writ was withdrawn by Order Dismissing Petition for Writ of Mandamus or Prohibition, on October 30, 2019.

- K. Whether appeal involves child custody or visitation: No
- L. <u>Whether appeal involves possibility of settlement</u>: Unknown Dated this <u>(S)</u> day of November, 2019.

KAINEN LAW GROUP, PLLC

By:

RACHEAL H. MASTEL, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 11646 ANDREW L. KYNASTON, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 8147 3303 Novat Street, Suite 200 Las Vegas, Nevada 89129 Attorney for Defendant

11/19/2019 CLERK OF THE COURT

Please take notice that Defendant, RAJWANT KAUR, has posted cash (check or credit card) in the amount of \$500 for the costs on appeal, pursuant to NRAP7.

KAINEN LAW-GROUP, PLLC

ANDREW L. KYNASTON, ESQ.

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Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT COS ANDREW L. KYNASTON, ESO. Nevada Bar No. 8147 KAINEN LAW GROUP, PLLC 3303 Novat Street, Suite 200 Vegas, Nevada 89129-8714 PH: (702) 823-4900 FX: (702) 823-4488 service@kainenlawgroup.com Attorney for Defendant 6 EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION 7 COUNTY OF CLARK, STATE OF NEVADA 8 JASWINDER SINGH, 9 10 CASE NO. 04D323977 DEPT. P Plaintiff, 11 VS. Date of Hearing: 12 Time of Hearing: N/A Las Vegas. Nevada 89129 702.823.4900 • Fax 702.823.4488 www.KainenLawGroup.com RAJWANT KAUR. 13 14 Defendant. 15 16 CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE I HEREBY CERTIFY that on the 20 day of November, 2019, I caused to be 17 served the foregoing Notice of Appeal (Efiled 11.19.19), Case Appeal Statement (Efiled 11.19.19), as well as Notice of Filing Cost Bond (Efiled 11.19.19), to all interested parties as follows: BY MAIL: Pursuant to N.R.C.P. 5(b), I caused a true copy thereof to be 21 placed in the U.S. Mail, enclosed in a sealed envelope, postage fully prepaid thereon, 23 addressed as follows: 24 BY CERTIFIED MAIL: I caused a true copy thereof to be placed in the U.S. Mail, enclosed in a sealed envelope, certified mail, return receipt requested, postage

Electronically Filed 11/20/2019 2:49 PM

BY FACSIMILE: Pursuant to EDCR 7.26, I caused a true copy thereof to

fully paid thereon, addressed as follows:

be transmitted, via facsimile, to the following number(s):

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X BY ELECTRONIC MAIL: Pursuant to EDCR 7.26 and N.E.F.C.R. Rule
9, I caused a true copy thereof to be served by electronic mail, via Odyssey Wiznet E-File
& Serve, to the following e-mail address(es):

Peter@peterjameslaw.com Courtney@peterjameslaw.com Colleen@peterjameslaw.com

An Employee at
KAINEN LAW GROUP, PLLC

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. 04D323977

In the Matter of the Joint Petition for Divorce of: Jaswinder Singh and Rajwant Kaur

Location: Department P
Judicial Officer: Pomrenze, Sandra
Filed on: 08/27/2004

CASE INFORMATION

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**Statistical Closures** 

10/22/2019 Settled/Withdrawn With Judicial Conference or Hearing

Case Type: **Divorce - Joint Petition**Subtype: **Joint Petition No Minor(s)** 

Case Status: 10/22/2019 Closed

Case Flags: Order After Hearing Required

Appealed to Supreme Court

DATE CASE ASSIGNMENT

**Current Case Assignment** 

Case Number 04D323977
Court Department P
Date Assigned 04/15/2013
Judicial Officer Pomrenze, Sandra

**PARTY INFORMATION** 

Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant

9969 Sepulveda BLVD #204 Mission Hills, CA 91345 Kynaston, Andrew Retained 702-823-4900(W) Pro Se

Singh, Jaswinder 2916 Jansen Avenue Las Vegas, NV 89101 James, F Peter, ESQ Retained 702-256-0087(W)

Conversion Extended Connection Type Financial Conversion 04D323977 Removed: 03/23/2007

Converted From Blackstone

DATE EVENTS & ORDERS OF THE COURT

**EVENTS** 

11/20/2019

Certificate of Service

Filed by: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant

Certificate of Service of Notice of Appeal, Case Appeal Statement, and Notice of Filing Cost

Bond

11/19/2019

Notice

Filed By: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant

Notice of Filing Cost Bond

11/19/2019

🔼 Case Appeal Statement

Filed By: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant

Case Appeal Statement

11/19/2019

Notice of Appeal

Filed By: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant

Notice of Appeal

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. 04D323977

10/22/2019	Notice of Entry of Order  Filed By: Petitioner Singh, Jaswinder  Notice of Entry of Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order
10/22/2019	Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment  Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Law and Judgment
09/10/2019	Certificate of Service  Certificate of Service
09/10/2019	Order Shortening Time  Order Shortening Time
09/10/2019	Receipt of Copy  Receipt of Plaintiff's Trial Exhibits
09/09/2019	Witness List  Plaintiff's Witness List
09/09/2019	Notice of Hearing  Notice of Hearing
09/06/2019	Family Court Motion Opposition Fee Information Sheet Filed by: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant Family Court Motion Opposition Fee Sheet
09/06/2019	Opposition and Countermotion  Filed By: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant  Defendant's Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion in Limine and Defendant's Countermotion for Attorney's Fees and Costs
09/05/2019	Pre-trial Memorandum Filed By: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant Defendant's Pre-Trial Memorandum
09/05/2019	Pre-trial Memorandum Filed By: Petitioner Singh, Jaswinder Plaintiff's Pre-Trial Memorandum
09/04/2019	Certificate of Service  Certificate of Service
09/03/2019	Notice of Hearing  Notice of Hearing
08/30/2019	Ex Parte Application  Ex Parte Application for An Order Shortening Time on Motion for Limine
08/30/2019	Ex Parte Application  Ex Parte Application for an Order Shortening Time on Motion for Limine
08/30/2019	Exhibits  Exhibits in Support of Motion in Limine
08/30/2019	Motion in Limine  Motion in Limine
08/29/2019	Acceptance of Service Filed by: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant Acceptance of Service - Subpoena to Jagtar Singh
08/29/2019	Acceptance of Service Filed by: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant Acceptance of Service - Subpoena to Guriqbal Pandher

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. 04D323977

	CASE NO. 04D323977
08/29/2019	Acceptance of Service Filed by: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant Acceptance of Service - Subpoena to Sukhpal Grewal
08/29/2019	Subpoena Filed By: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant Trial Subpoena - Jagtar Singh
08/29/2019	Subpoena Filed By: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant Trial Subpoena - Guriqbal Pandher
08/29/2019	Subpoena Filed By: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant Trial Subpoena - Sukhpal Grewal
06/18/2019	Notice of Taking Deposition  Filed by: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant  Notice of Taking Deposition
06/17/2019	Notice of Deposition  Re-Notice of Taking Deposition of Defendant Rajwant Kaur
06/03/2019	Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order Filed by: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order to Continue Trial (First Request)
05/30/2019	Stipulation and Order Filed By: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant Stipulation and Order to Continue Trial (First Request)
05/21/2019	Notice to Take Deposition  Re-Notice of Taking Deposition of Defendant Rajwant Kaur
05/14/2019	Notice of Deposition  Notice of Taking Deposition of Rajwant Kaur
05/13/2019	Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order Filed by: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order Re: Discovery
05/10/2019	Stipulation and Order Filed By: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant Stipulation and Order Re: Discovery
04/09/2019	Transcript of Proceedings February 13, 2019
04/09/2019	Final Billing of Transcript  February 13, 2019
03/19/2019	Estimate of Transcript  Hearing date February 13, 2019
03/19/2019	Notice of Entry of Order  Filed By: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant  Notice of Entry of Order from Hearing Held February 13, 2019
03/14/2019	Order Filed By: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant Order from Hearing Held February 13, 2019
02/12/2019	Supplement Filed by: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant

## CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. 04D323977

Defendant's Supplemental Filing

02/08/2019 🔼 Reply to Opposition

Filed by: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant

Defendant's Reply to Plaintiff's Opposition to Defendant's Motion to Set Aside Decree of

Divorce and Defendant's Opposition to Plaintiff's Countermotion

01/23/2019 Financial Disclosure Form

Filed by: Petitioner Singh, Jaswinder

Financial Disclosure Form

01/23/2019 Opposition and Countermotion

Pltf's Opposition to Motion to Set Aside Decree of Divorce; Countermotion

01/16/2019 Notice of Appearance

> Party: Petitioner Singh, Jaswinder Notice of Appearance of Counsel

01/09/2019 Affidavit of Service

Filed By: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant

Affidavit of Service

01/07/2019 Motion to Set Aside

> Filed by: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant Dft's Motion to Set Aside Decree of Divorce

01/04/2019 Exhibits

Filed By: Petitioner Singh, Jaswinder; Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant

Appendix of Exhibits to Defendant's Motion to Set Aside Decree of Divorce

01/04/2019 Family Court Motion Opposition Fee Information Sheet

Filed by: Petitioner Singh, Jaswinder; Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant

**MOFI** 

Administrative Reassignment to Department P 04/15/2013

Case reassigned from Judge Cynthia Giuliani Dept K

09/08/2004 Document Archive

Judgment 09/08/2004

Filed By: Petitioner Singh, Jaswinder

DECREE OF DIVORCE SCH/PER Date: 09/10/2004 Blackstone OC:

Child Support and Welfare Party Identification Sheet 08/27/2004

Filed by: Petitioner Singh, Jaswinder; Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant

SS NUMBER DECLARATION NRS 125.130 SCH/PER Date: Blackstone OC:

Affidavit 08/27/2004

Filed By: Petitioner Singh, Jaswinder

AFFIDAVIT OF RESIDENT WITNESS SCH/PER Date: Blackstone OC:

08/27/2004

Filed By: Petitioner Singh, Jaswinder

JOINT PETITION FOR SUMMARY DECREE OF DIVORCE FEE \$142.00 SCH/PER Date:

Blackstone OC:

**DISPOSITIONS** 

09/08/2004 8:12 AM

Divorce Granted (Judicial Officer: Del Vecchio, N Anthony)

Converted Disposition:

Description: DECREE OF DIVORCE

Debtor: Kaur, Rajwant Creditor: Singh, Jaswinder Amount Awarded: \$0.00 Attorney Fees: \$0.00 Costs: \$0.00 Interest Amount: \$0.00

Total: \$0.00

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. 04D323977

### **HEARINGS**

09/13/2019

Evidentiary Hearing (9:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Pomrenze, Sandra)

Voiding Divorce

Denied:

Journal Entry Details:

EVIDENTIARY HEARING: VOIDING DIVORCE Petitioner Jaswinder Singh is referred to as Plaintiff herein. Petitioner Rajwant Kaur is referred to as Defendant herein. Nevada registered Punjabi interpreter Munir Qureshi, present with Plaintiff and Defendant. Testimony and exhibits presented (see worksheets). Argument and discussion regarding the relative issues for this hearing. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed (see worksheets). Argument and discussion regarding the Court taking judicial notice that entry of a Decree Of Divorce ends a marriage and that being the issue before the Court in these proceedings. Court advised counsel it was taking judicial notice that a Decree Of Divorce was entered on September 04, 2004. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed (see worksheets). Colloquy at the bench. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed (see worksheets). MATTER TRAILED. MATTER RECALLED. All present as before. Court advised counsel it received documents in chambers and it conferred with the Presiding Judge and it was agreed the documents did not divest this Court of jurisdiction and the matters would proceed. Counsel concurred with the Court. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed (see worksheets). Upon Court's inquiry both counsel agreed to conduct a conference with the Court. MATTER TRAILED for the Court to conduct a conference with counsel off the record and outside of the courtroom. MATTER RECALLED. All parties present as before. Court stated for the record and advised the parties of the matters discussed in the conference with counsel. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed (see worksheets). Counsel moved the Court for judgment on the evidence. Court observed it questioned the Vaile case as it seemed to be illogical and it seemed to say it was okay to "pull a scam and get away with it" but it was Nevada law. Court further observed the testimony of the Defendant is not a far distance from the facts of the Vaile case. Argument and discussion regarding the fraudulent divorce, both parties' testimony about the divorce, the Vaile case decision, the facts of the Vaile case and counsel appealing this case to have the Supreme Court review of the Vaile case. Argument and discussion regarding neither party understanding what they were doing, Plaintiff's beliefs about getting a Nevada divorce, the California requirements for divorce and Nevada divorce law. Argument and discussion regarding the decision regarding the fraudulent divorce, Defendant not receiving any benefits after the last 15 years with Plaintiff, California making the decision and the Court's discretion under the Vaile case. Counsel requested the Court exercise its discretion and rule on the facts of the case. Discussion regarding the Court's obligation to rule on the facts of the law. Argument and discussion regarding the provisions of Rule 60b, the provisions of the Vaile case, Defendant's testimony and counsel appealing this case. Court advised counsel it would be exceeding its obligation if it did not rule on Plaintiff's motion (for judgment) based on the evidence presented and Defendant's deposition was not admitted or published so it could not review the deposition. Argument and discussion regarding the facts presented today being on point with the Vaile case and Defendant not meeting her burden of proof. COURT stated its FINDINGS: The Court does not find that Plaintiff was credible in any portion of his testimony. Based on the evidence presented Defendant was more credible, therefore, the Court does find that the parties perpetrated a fraud on the State Of Nevada by entering into a Decree Of Divorce without the requisite residency. Were that to be the end of the inquiry, because of the Vaile vs. Eighth Judicial District case, it was not the end of the inquiry. If sufficient time has passed the Court is obligated to make a decision to the merits as to how the fraudulent divorce was implemented (and) what were the parties' roles. In the Vaile case both spouses were willing participants (and) they both knew that they didn't have residency. They both knew they wanted a divorce sooner rather than later. It is not uncommon, unfortunately because we have such generous divorce laws, that people take advantage of those divorce laws and they come here thinking they'll get a quick divorce and they pretend to be residents. The Courts see that on a regular basis. Sometimes they get away with it, sometimes they don't but certainly, in this instance, the presiding judge had no reason to question the validity of the documents that were submitted and, therefore, executed the Decree. What Vaile says is if they make a distinction where there is a very old divorce the party who seeks to set it aside based on fraud (that party) must prove they were free from fault and you have 2 parties at fault and the Court in Vaile applied an equitable standard that they were not going to reward a "wrong doer" and that is why there is a requirement of some equitable reason why a "co-wrong doer" should not be permitted relief even though they are equally ( as much of) a wrong doer as the other party. So they set the standard that there has to be some threat or coercion or (an) equitable reason why that party is free from fault. In the instant case the Court finds the Defendant to be very credible, unlike the Plaintiff. However, what is missing from her testimony is that she was

## CASE SUMMARY **CASE NO. 04D323977**

forced to sign those papers and, in fact in this instance, she knew there was a divorce in Nevada whether Plaintiff told her it was a piece of paper or not. This is a person who is a competent adult and (who) knew there was a divorce in Nevada until such time as she became upset with the Plaintiff, upon his allegation he had married someone else, she was content to "let sleeping dogs lie" and live together (with the Plaintiff). Ironically, they are still living together and, ironically, Plaintiff has not remarried. But it requires, in this instance, evidence of an unequal bargaining position at a minimum. There was nothing in Defendant's testimony that was evidence of an unequal bargaining position between the Plaintiff and Defendant. He said we're going to Nevada, we're going to sign some paperwork, it is going to be a divorce, it is going to be a "paper divorce", we're going to continue to live together (and) this was not a person with a mental defect or an inability to understand what was being told to her. She knew it, and in fact at his request and again it was a request not a demand according to her own testimony, she in fact went to India to marry his (Plaintiff's) brother. Was it a "sham" marriage? Of course it was. Did it assist the parties in their "end game"? No, because the brother never got a Visa and (did not) come to the U.S. But at the end of the day there is simply insufficient evidence that the Defendant acted under duress. So as much as I (the Court) find the facts of this case offensive, it cannot rule on what it finds offensive it has to rule on the law and precedent and Vaile is still precedent in this state. Should the Supreme Court choose to take a second look on appeal and, if in fact, they say that Vaile is not good law then the Court is happy to have the parties come back and the Court will even set a second hearing but on the testimony and the evidence the Court is compelled to grant the motion on the evidence and it is compelled to deny the motion to set aside. The COURT FURTHER FINDS because neither party comes to this court with clean hands neither party will receive an award of attorney's fees against the other. The Plaintiff is not entitled to an award of attorney's fees. He is equally, if not greater, at fault so he may be the prevailing party, but the Court will not reward someone with extremely unclean hands with an award of attorney's fees. The Defendant is not the prevailing party here and as much as there is some sympathy here, the Court does not rule on sympathy it must rule on the law and insofar as Defendant is not the prevailing party I (the Court) cannot award her any attorney's fees either. The Court was surprised when Defendant rested but counsel did and did not get to the heart of the Vaile case. It is not a criticism of counsel. The Court believes Defendant was honest and candid with the Court and counsel was left with the case he had. She (Defendant) knew what her husband wanted her to do and she went ahead and did it. There is no evidence that she refused or that he demanded or that he threatened her or anything else just like the parties did in the Vaile case and because of that the Court is compelled to deny the motion to set aside. There is an appealable issue there. The Court does not know what the Supreme Court will do. It is a question that has been answered in a way that most of us might not appreciate, but it is the question that has been answered and Defendant's testimony does not rise to the level for the Court to set aside the Decree Of Divorce. Counsel need to decide what they wish to do. This Court does not have the ability to "jump over" the Supreme Court and decide. COURT ORDERED: 1. The MOTION for judgment on the EVIDENCE is GRANTED. 2. Defendant's MOTION TO SET ASIDE the Decree Of Divorce is DENIED. 3. As neither party is the prevailing party there shall be NO AWARDS of ATTORNEY'S FEES to either party. Mr. James shall PREPARE the FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW. Mr. Kynaston shall REVIEW the FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW then COUNTERSIGN.;

09/12/2019



🚺 All Pending Motions (1:30 PM) (Judicial Officer: Pomrenze, Sandra)

09/12/2019

Opposition & Countermotion (1:30 PM) (Judicial Officer: Pomrenze, Sandra) Rajwant Kaur's Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion in Limine and Defendant's Countermotion for

Attorney's Fees and Costs

09/12/2019



Motion in Limine (1:30 PM) (Judicial Officer: Pomrenze, Sandra)

Petitioner's Motion in Limine

Denied:

Journal Entry Details:

PETITIONER'S MOTION IN LIMINE...RAJWANT KAUR'S OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION IN LIMINE AND COUNTERMOTION FOR ATTORNEY'S FEES This matter was heard concurrently with the Evidentiary Hearing: Voiding Divorce calendared for September 12, 2019 and again on September 13, 2019. Please refer to the Minute Order under the Evidentiary Hearing for the hearing details and the Court's orders.;

09/12/2019

**Evidentiary Hearing** (1:30 PM) (Judicial Officer: Pomrenze, Sandra)

Voiding Divorce

Matter Heard:

Journal Entry Details:

EVIDENTIARY HEARING: VOIDING DIVORCE This matter was heard concurrently with

## CASE SUMMARY **CASE NO. 04D323977**

Petitioner's Motion In Limine and Rajwant Kaur's Opposition To Plaintiff's Motion In LImine And Defendant's Countermotion For Attorney's Fees And Costs this date. Petitioner Jaswinder Singh is referred to as Plaintiff herein. Petitioner Rajwant Kaur is referred to as Defendant herein. Interpreter Munir Qureshi, Registered Interpreter in Punjabi, present with Plaintiff. Argument and discussion regarding the Motion In Limine. Counsel advised the Court he wished to invoke the exclusionary rule. COURT SO ORDERED. COURT FURTHER ORDERED: 2. The MOTION is DENIED WITHOUT PREJUDICE. 3. Counsel shall ARGUE AGAINST Defendant's WITNESSES as they are CALLED to TESTIFY. Both counsel WAIVED OPENING STATEMENTS. Testimony and exhibits presented (see worksheets). Argument and discussion regarding counsel stipulating to admission of some of the exhibits. Counsel advised Plaintiff's exhibits, except for exhibits 3,6,8,9,11,12,16 and 17, were stipulated to for admission. Counsel further advised all of Defendant's exhibits, except for exhibits H, T, and U, were stipulated to for admission. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed (see worksheets). MATTER TRAILED for counsel to confer with his client. MATTER RECALLED. All parties present as before. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed (see worksheets). Plaintiff's DEPOSITION PUBLISHED IN OPEN COURT. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed (see worksheets). MATTER TRAILED. MATTER RECALLED. All present as before. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed (see worksheets). Colloquy at the bench. MATTER TRAILED. MATTER RECALLED. All present as before. Colloguy at the bench. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed (see worksheets). Evidentiary Hearing proceeds to Day Two. Court adjourned.;

02/13/2019



All Pending Motions (10:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Pomrenze, Sandra)

#### MINUTES

Matter Heard; Journal Entry Details:

DEFT'S MOTION TO SET ASIDE DECREE OF DIVORCE...PLTF'S OPPOSITION TO MOTION TO SET ASIDE DECREE OF DIVORCE AND COUNTERMOTION...DEFT'S REPLY TO PLTF'S OPPOSITION AND COUNTERMOTION Munit Qureshi, Punjabi interpreter, present with Jaswinder Singh. Petitioner Jaswinder Singh is referred to as Plaintiff herein. Co-Petitioner Rajwant Kaur is referred to as Defendant herein. Discussion regarding the Vaile case, there being evidence to be induced, the validity of residency and the issue of voluntary participation in fraud being perpetrated on the State Of Nevada. Further discussion regarding whether California recognizes "common law" marriages. Argument and discussion regarding adoption of the Marvin case, counsel appealing the Court, making findings and setting an evidentiary hearing. Argument regarding the fraud and void claims, whether fraud was perpetrated and the State Of Nevada being the victim of the fraud. Argument and discussion regarding Plaintiff's burden of proof, Defendant's burden of proof and the issues with divorces in Nevada. Argument and discussion regarding the fraud and the relief. Court advised counsel the issues were the fraudulent divorce, whether Defendant could lawfully exercise a right to void the divorce and what the date of the voiding of the marriage was. Argument and discussion regarding the events in 2004, both parties being remarried, Defendant's new evidence and whether Defendant would need an interpreter. COURT ORDERED: 1. The MATTERS are calendared for an EVIDENTIARY HEARING regarding VOIDING the DIVORCE for ONE and ONE HALF DAYS on June 13, 2019 at 1:30 P.M. and again on June 14, 2019 at 9:30 A.M. The parties shall BE PRESENT IN PERSON. NO TELEPHONIC APPEARANCES will be ALLOWED. 2. Prehearing briefs, including a Schedule Of Assets And Debts and the proposed property division, citing applicable law and applying the law to the facts in the case shall be EXCHANGED and FILED, with COURTESY COPIES delivered to chambers, NO LATER THAN June 06, 2019 at the close of the business day (5:00 P.M.). Briefs may be e-mailed or faxed to chambers if less than thirty pages. If the Briefs are more than 30 pages counsel shall Courtesy Copy a HARD COPY to the Court's CHAMBERS. In the event either of the parties do not timely submit their brief, the non-complying party will be subject to monetary sanctions. The TRIAL EXHIBITS SHALL NOT BE ATTACHED TO THE BRIEF THAT IS FILED. 3. DISCOVERY shall CLOSE on MAY 30, 2019 at the close of the business day (5:00 P.M.). WRITTEN DISCOVERY shall be SERVED ONE MONTH and ONE WEEK prior to the close of Discovery and in a fashion that allows the other party 30 DAYS to RESPOND. There shall be no written Discovery requests, no responses required and no depositions taken after the Discovery closing date. 4. Parties shall EXCHANGE LISTS of witnesses and exhibits, as well as copies of their proposed exhibits, NO LATER THAN MAY 01, 2019 at the close of business (5:00 P.M.). Counsel shall PROVIDE the witness and exhibit DISCLOSURES for trial SEPARATELY from the DISCOVERY DISCLOSURES and in a fashion that allows TIME for any needed DEPOSITIONS. Any witness not identified in advance of the hearing who is presented at the hearing will not be permitted to testify at the hearing absent compelling circumstances. Any exhibits not identified prior to the time set for hearing will not be admitted absent compelling circumstances. The TRIAL EXHIBITS SHALL NOT BE

## CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. 04D323977

FILED. 5. Counsel shall MAKE the ARRANGEMENTS for the INTERPRETERS PRIOR to the TRIAL. Mr. Kynaston shall PREPARE the ORDER. Mr. James shall REVIEW the ORDER then COUNTERSIGN.:

02/13/2019 **Hearing** (10:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Pomrenze, Sandra)

Events: 02/08/2019 Reply to Opposition

Deft's Reply to Plaintiff's Opposition to Defendant's Motion to Set Aside Decree of Divorce

and Defendant's Opposition to Plaintiff's Countermotion

Matter Heard:

02/13/2019 **Hearing** (10:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Pomrenze, Sandra)

Events: 01/23/2019 Opposition and Countermotion

Pltl's Opposition To Motion To Set Aside Decree Of Divorce; Countermotion

Evidentiary Hearing;

02/13/2019 **Motion** (10:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Pomrenze, Sandra)

Events: 01/07/2019 Motion to Set Aside *Dft's Motion to Set Aside Decree of Divorce* 

MINUTES

Motion to Set Aside

Filed by: Petitioner Kaur, Rajwant

Dft's Motion to Set Aside Decree of Divorce

Evidentiary Hearing;

02/13/2019 | CANCELED Motion (10:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Pomrenze, Sandra)

Vacated - per Clerk

Defendant's Motion to Set Aside Decree of Divorce

# ORGNAL

**Electronically Filed** 10/22/2019 10:51 AM Steven D. Grierson

**FFCL** 

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LAW OFFICES OF F. PETER JAMES, ESQ.

F. Peter James, Esq.

Nevada Bar No. 10091

3821 West Charleston Boulevard, Suite 250 3

Las Vegas, Nevada 89102

Peter@PeterJamesLaw.com

JASWINDER SINGH,

RAJWANT KAUR,

702-256-0087

702-256-0145 (fax)

Counsel for Plaintiff

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VS.

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DISTRICT COURT, FAMILY DIVISION **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 

CASE NO. : 04D323977

DEPT. NO.: P

FINDINGS OF FACT, **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND** 

ORDER

Defendant.

Plaintiff,

This matter came before the Court on the 12<sup>th</sup> of September, 2019 and the 13th of September, 2019 for an Evidentiary Hearing on Defendant's Motion to Set Aside Decree of Divorce, which was filed on January 7, 2019, and on Plaintiff's Opposition thereto filed January 23, 2019. Also being heard was Plaintiff's Motion in Limine, which was filed August 30, 2019, and on Defendant's Opposition and Countermotion thereto, which was filed on September 6, 2019. F. Peter James, Esq. appeared with Plaintiff, Jaswinder

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FAMILY COURT DEPARTMENT P

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Testimony and exhibits were presented. There was argument and discussion regarding the relative issues for this hearing. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed. There was argument and discussion regarding the Court taking judicial notice that entry of a Decree of Divorce ends a marriage and that being the issue before the Court in these proceedings. Court advised counsel it was taking judicial notice that a Decree of Divorce was entered on September 04, 2004. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed. There was colloquy at the bench. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed. The matter was trialed and then recalled with all present as before.

Court advised counsel it received documents (Plaintiff's Petition for writ relief filed in the Nevada Supreme Court) in chambers and it conferred with the Presiding Judge and it was agreed the documents did not divest this Court of jurisdiction and the matters would proceed. Counsel concurred with the Court. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed. Upon Court's inquiry both counsel agreed to conduct a conference with the Court. The matter was trailed for the Court to conduct a conference with counsel off the record and outside of the

Defendant testified. Mr. Kynaston finished his examination and passed the witness. Mr. James moved the Court for Judgment on the Evidence. Court observed it questioned *Vaile v. Eighth Judicial District Court*, 118 Nev. 262, 44 P.3d 512 (2002), as it seemed to be illogical and it seemed to say it was okay to "pull a scam and get away with it" but it was Nevada law.

The Court further observed the testimony of the Defendant is not a far distance from the facts of the *Vaile* case. There was argument and discussion regarding the fraudulent divorce, both parties' testimony about the divorce, the *Vaile* case decision, the facts of the *Vaile* case, and Mr. Kynaston appealing this case to have the Supreme Court review of the *Vaile* case. There was argument and discussion regarding neither party understanding what they were doing, Plaintiff's beliefs about getting a Nevada divorce, the California requirements for divorce, and Nevada divorce law. There was argument and discussion regarding the decision regarding the fraudulent divorce, Defendant not receiving any benefits after the last 15 years with Plaintiff, California making the decision, and the Court's discretion under the *Vaile* case. Mr. Kynaston requested the Court exercise its discretion and rule on the facts of the case.

There was discussion regarding the Court's obligation to rule on the facts and the law. There was argument and discussion regarding the provisions of Rule 60(b), the provisions of the *Vaile* case, Defendant's testimony, and counsel appealing this case. Court advised counsel it would be exceeding its obligation if it did not rule on Plaintiff's motion for judgment based on the evidence presented, and Defendant's deposition was not published so it could not review the deposition. There was argument and discussion regarding the facts presented today being on point with the *Vaile* case and Defendant not meeting her burden of proof.

The Court, having read the papers and pleadings on file herein, being well advised in the premises, having heard the testimony, having considered the evidence, being well advised in the premises, and for sufficient cause shown, hereby finds and orders as follows:

THE COURT HEREBY FINDS that Plaintiff was not credible in any portion of his testimony. Based on the evidence presented Defendant was more credible; therefore, the Court does find that the parties perpetrated a fraud on the State of Nevada by entering into a Decree of Divorce without the requisite residency. Were that to be the end of the inquiry, but because of the *Vaile vs. Eighth Judicial District* case, it was not the end of the inquiry. If sufficient time has passed, the Court is obligated to make a decision on the merits as to how the

fraudulent divorce was implemented and what the parties' roles were. In the 1 2 Vaile case, both spouses were willing participants and they both knew that they 3 did not have residency. They both knew they wanted a divorce sooner rather than later. It is not uncommon, unfortunately, because we have such generous divorce 4 5 laws, that people take advantage of those divorce laws and they come here thinking they will get a quick divorce and they pretend to be residents. The 6 7 Courts see that on a regular basis. Sometimes they get away with it, sometimes they do not, but certainly, in this instance, the presiding judge had no reason to 8 9 question the validity of the documents that were submitted and, therefore, 10 executed the Decree. What Vaile says is, if they make a distinction where there 11 is a very old divorce and one party seeks to set it aside based on fraud, that party must prove they were free from fault. You have 2 parties at fault and the Court 12 13 in Vaile applied an equitable standard that they were not going to reward a "wrong doer" and that is why there is a requirement of some equitable reason 14 15 why a "co-wrong doer" should be permitted relief even though they are equally 16 as much of a wrong doer as the other party. So, they set the standard that there has to be some threat, duress, or coercion or an equitable reason why that party 17 18 is free from fault. In the instant case the Court finds the Defendant to be very 19 credible, unlike the Plaintiff. However, what is missing from Defendant's 20 testimony is that she was forced to sign those papers and, in fact in this instance,

she knew there was a divorce in Nevada whether Plaintiff told her it was a piece of paper or not. This is a person who is a competent adult and who knew there was a divorce in Nevada until such time as she became upset with the Plaintiff, upon his allegation he had married someone else. She was content to "let sleeping dogs lie" and live together with the Plaintiff. Ironically, they are still living together and, ironically, Plaintiff has not remarried. But it requires, in this instance, evidence of an unequal bargaining position at a minimum. There was nothing in Defendant's testimony that was evidence of an unequal bargaining position between the Plaintiff and Defendant. Plaintiff said, "we're going to Nevada, we're going to sign some paperwork, it is going to be a divorce, it is going to be a paper divorce, we're going to continue to live together." This was not a person with a mental defect or an inability to understand what was being told to her. Defendant knew it, and in fact at his request, not a demand according to her own testimony, she in fact went to India to marry Plaintiff's brother. Was it a "sham" marriage? Of course it was. Did it assist the parties in their "end game"? No, because Plaintiff's brother never got a Visa and did not come to the U.S. But at the end of the day, there is simply insufficient evidence that the Defendant acted under duress. So as much as the Court finds the facts of this case offensive, it cannot rule on what it finds offensive—it has to rule on the law and precedent and Vaile is still precedent in this state. Should the Supreme Court

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THE COURT FURTHER FINDS that, because neither party comes to this court with clean hands, neither party shall receive an award of attorney's fees against the other. The Plaintiff is not entitled to an award of attorney's fees. He is equally, if not greater, at fault than the Defendant, so he may be the prevailing party, but the Court will not reward someone with extremely unclean hands with an award of attorney's fees. The Defendant is not the prevailing party here and as much as there is some sympathy here, the Court does not rule on sympathy. It must rule on the law and insofar as Defendant is not the prevailing party the Court cannot award her any attorney's fees either. The Court was surprised when Defendant rested, but counsel did, and did not get to the heart of the Vaile case standard. It is not a criticism of counsel. The Court believes that Defendant was honest and candid with the Court, and counsel was left with the case he had. Defendant knew what her husband wanted her to do, and she went ahead and did it. There is no evidence that she refused or that he demanded or that he threatened her or anything else, just like the parties did in the Vaile case. Because of that,

and the Vaile precedent, the Court is compelled to deny the motion to set aside. 1 2 There is an appealable issue there. The Court does not know what the Supreme 3 Court will do. It is a question that has been answered in a way that most of us might not appreciate, but it is the question that has been answered and 4 5 Defendant's testimony does not rise to the level for the Court to set aside the Decree of Divorce. Counsel need to decide what they wish to do, because the 6 7 Court does believe there is an issue here. This Court does not have the ability to "jump over" the Supreme Court and decide. 8 9 Therefore, 10 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Motion for Judgment on the 11 Evidence is GRANTED. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant's Motion to Set Aside the 12 Decree of Divorce is DENIED. 13 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, as neither party is the prevailing 14 party, there shall be no award of attorney's fees to either party. 15 16 /// 17 /// 18 /// 19 ///

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1	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Mr. James shall prepare the Findings
2	of Fact, Conclusions of Law with Mr. Kynaston to review the same and
3	countersign.
4	IT IS SO ORDERED.
5	Dated this <u>2</u> ) day of October, 2019.
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7	DISTRICT COURT JUDGE SANDRA L. POMRENZE
8	Respectfully submitted by:  Approved as to form and content by:
9	1W / / / /
10	LAW OFFICES OF F. PETER JAMES KAINEN LAW GROUP
11	F. Peter James, Esq.  Nevada Bar No. 10091  Nevada Bar No. 8147
12	3821 W. Charleston Blvd., Suite 250       3303 Novat Street, Suite 200         Las Vegas, Nevada 89102       Las Vegas, Nevada 89129         702-256-0087       702-823-4900
13	Counsel for Plaintiff  Counsel for Defendant
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19	

**Electronically Filed** 10/22/2019 11:53 AM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT 1 **NEOJ** LAW OFFICES OF F. PETER JAMES, ESQ. F. Peter James, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 10091 3821 West Charleston Boulevard, Suite 250 3 Las Vegas, Nevada 89102 Peter@PeterJamesLaw.com 4 702-256-0087 702-256-0145 (fax) 5 Counsel for Plaintiff 6 DISTRICT COURT, FAMILY DIVISION **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 7 8 JASWINDER SINGH, CASE NO. : 04D323977 DEPT. NO.: P 9 Plaintiff, NOTICE OF ENTRY OF FINDINGS 10 OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF VS. LAW, AND ORDER 11 RAJWANT KAUR, 12 Defendant. 13 14 /// 15 /// 16 /// 17 /// 18 /// 19 /// 20 /// 1 of 3

1	Please take notice that the attached Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law,
2	and Order was entered on October 22, 2019.
3	Dated this Z day of October 2019
4	41H
5	LAW OFFICES OF F. PETER JAMES
6	F. Peter James, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 10091
7	3821 W. Charleston Blvd., Suite 250 Las Vegas, Nevada 89102
8	702-256-0087 Counsel for Plaintiff
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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on this 22 day of October, 2019, I caused the above and foregoing document entitled NOTICE OF ENTRY OF FINDINGS OF FACT,

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER** to be served as follows:



pursuant to EDCR 8.05(A), EDCR 8.05(F), NRCP 5(b)(2)(D) and Administrative Order 14-2 captioned "In the Administrative Matter of Mandatory Electronic Service in the Eighth Judicial District Court," by mandatory electronic service through the Eighth Judicial District Court's electronic filing system;

- by placing same to be deposited for mailing in the United States Mail, in a sealed envelope upon which first class postage was prepaid in Las Vegas, Nevada;
- 1 pursuant to EDCR 7.26 / NEFCR 9, to be sent via facsimile / email;

to the attorney(s) / party(ies) listed below at the address(es), email address(es),

and/or facsimile number(s) indicated below:

14

Andrew L. Kynaston, Esq.

Kainen Law Group

3303 Novat Street, Suite 200

Las Vegas, Nevada 89129

702-823-4488 (fax)

Service@KainenLawGroup.com

Counsel for Defendant

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19 By: An employee of the Law Offices of F. Peter James, Esq., PLLC

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### ORGNAL

**Electronically Filed** 10/22/2019 10:51 AM Steven D. Grierson

1 **FFCL** 

LAW OFFICES OF F. PETER JAMES, ESQ.

F. Peter James, Esq.

Nevada Bar No. 10091

3821 West Charleston Boulevard, Suite 250

Las Vegas, Nevada 89102

Peter@PeterJamesLaw.com

702-256-0087

702-256-0145 (fax)

Counsel for Plaintiff

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DISTRICT COURT, FAMILY DIVISION **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 

JASWINDER SINGH,

Plaintiff.

VS.

RAJWANT KAUR,

12 Defendant.

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25 Judgment Reaches by Trial Columbia

CASE NO. : 04D323977

DEPT. NO. : P

FINDINGS OF FACT, **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND** ORDER

This matter came before the Court on the 12th of September, 2019 and the 13th of September, 2019 for an Evidentiary Hearing on Defendant's Motion to Set Aside Decree of Divorce, which was filed on January 7, 2019, and on Plaintiff's Opposition thereto filed January 23, 2019. Also being heard was Plaintiff's Motion in Limine, which was filed August 30, 2019, and on Defendant's Opposition and Countermotion thereto, which was filed on September 6, 2019. F. Peter James, Esq. appeared with Plaintiff,

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Singh. Andrew L. Kynaston, Esq. appeared with Defendant, Rajwant Kaur. Nevada registered Punjabi interpreter, Muir Qureshi, was also present to interpret for Plaintiff and Defendant. The Honorable Sandra Pomrenze presided over the matter.

Testimony and exhibits were presented. There was argument and discussion regarding the relative issues for this hearing. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed. There was argument and discussion regarding the Court taking judicial notice that entry of a Decree of Divorce ends a marriage and that being the issue before the Court in these proceedings. Court advised counsel it was taking judicial notice that a Decree of Divorce was entered on September 04, 2004. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed. There was colloquy at the bench. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed. The matter was trialed and then recalled with all present as before.

Court advised counsel it received documents (Plaintiff's Petition for writ relief filed in the Nevada Supreme Court) in chambers and it conferred with the Presiding Judge and it was agreed the documents did not divest this Court of jurisdiction and the matters would proceed. Counsel concurred with the Court. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed. Upon Court's inquiry both counsel agreed to conduct a conference with the Court. The matter was trailed for the Court to conduct a conference with counsel off the record and outside of the

courtroom. The matter was recalled with all present as before. Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed.

Defendant testified. Mr. Kynaston finished his examination and passed the witness. Mr. James moved the Court for Judgment on the Evidence. Court observed it questioned *Vaile v. Eighth Judicial District Court*, 118 Nev. 262, 44 P.3d 512 (2002), as it seemed to be illogical and it seemed to say it was okay to "pull a scam and get away with it" but it was Nevada law.

The Court further observed the testimony of the Defendant is not a far distance from the facts of the *Vaile* case. There was argument and discussion regarding the fraudulent divorce, both parties' testimony about the divorce, the *Vaile* case decision, the facts of the *Vaile* case, and Mr. Kynaston appealing this case to have the Supreme Court review of the *Vaile* case. There was argument and discussion regarding neither party understanding what they were doing, Plaintiff's beliefs about getting a Nevada divorce, the California requirements for divorce, and Nevada divorce law. There was argument and discussion regarding the decision regarding the fraudulent divorce, Defendant not receiving any benefits after the last 15 years with Plaintiff, California making the decision, and the Court's discretion under the *Vaile* case. Mr. Kynaston requested the Court exercise its discretion and rule on the facts of the case.

and the law. There was argument and discussion regarding the provisions of Rule 60(b), the provisions of the *Vaile* case, Defendant's testimony, and counsel appealing this case. Court advised counsel it would be exceeding its obligation if it did not rule on Plaintiff's motion for judgment based on the evidence presented, and Defendant's deposition was not published so it could not review the deposition. There was argument and discussion regarding the facts presented today being on point with the *Vaile* case and Defendant not meeting her burden of proof.

There was discussion regarding the Court's obligation to rule on the facts

The Court, having read the papers and pleadings on file herein, being well advised in the premises, having heard the testimony, having considered the evidence, being well advised in the premises, and for sufficient cause shown, hereby finds and orders as follows:

THE COURT HEREBY FINDS that Plaintiff was not credible in any portion of his testimony. Based on the evidence presented Defendant was more credible; therefore, the Court does find that the parties perpetrated a fraud on the State of Nevada by entering into a Decree of Divorce without the requisite residency. Were that to be the end of the inquiry, but because of the *Vaile vs. Eighth Judicial District* case, it was not the end of the inquiry. If sufficient time has passed, the Court is obligated to make a decision on the merits as to how the

fraudulent divorce was implemented and what the parties' roles were. In the Vaile case, both spouses were willing participants and they both knew that they did not have residency. They both knew they wanted a divorce sooner rather than later. It is not uncommon, unfortunately, because we have such generous divorce laws, that people take advantage of those divorce laws and they come here thinking they will get a quick divorce and they pretend to be residents. The Courts see that on a regular basis. Sometimes they get away with it, sometimes they do not, but certainly, in this instance, the presiding judge had no reason to question the validity of the documents that were submitted and, therefore, executed the Decree. What Vaile says is, if they make a distinction where there is a very old divorce and one party seeks to set it aside based on fraud, that party must prove they were free from fault. You have 2 parties at fault and the Court in Vaile applied an equitable standard that they were not going to reward a "wrong doer" and that is why there is a requirement of some equitable reason why a "co-wrong doer" should be permitted relief even though they are equally as much of a wrong doer as the other party. So, they set the standard that there has to be some threat, duress, or coercion or an equitable reason why that party is free from fault. In the instant case the Court finds the Defendant to be very credible, unlike the Plaintiff. However, what is missing from Defendant's testimony is that she was forced to sign those papers and, in fact in this instance,

she knew there was a divorce in Nevada whether Plaintiff told her it was a piece of paper or not. This is a person who is a competent adult and who knew there was a divorce in Nevada until such time as she became upset with the Plaintiff, upon his allegation he had married someone else. She was content to "let sleeping dogs lie" and live together with the Plaintiff. Ironically, they are still living together and, ironically, Plaintiff has not remarried. But it requires, in this instance, evidence of an unequal bargaining position at a minimum. There was nothing in Defendant's testimony that was evidence of an unequal bargaining position between the Plaintiff and Defendant. Plaintiff said, "we're going to Nevada, we're going to sign some paperwork, it is going to be a divorce, it is going to be a paper divorce, we're going to continue to live together." This was not a person with a mental defect or an inability to understand what was being told to her. Defendant knew it, and in fact at his request, not a demand according to her own testimony, she in fact went to India to marry Plaintiff's brother. Was it a "sham" marriage? Of course it was. Did it assist the parties in their "end game"? No, because Plaintiff's brother never got a Visa and did not come to the U.S. But at the end of the day, there is simply insufficient evidence that the Defendant acted under duress. So as much as the Court finds the facts of this case offensive, it cannot rule on what it finds offensive—it has to rule on the law and precedent and Vaile is still precedent in this state. Should the Supreme Court

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choose to take a second look on appeal, they are free to do so, and, if in fact, they say that *Vaile* is not good law then the Court is happy to have the parties come back and the Court will even set a second hearing. On the testimony and the evidence, the Court is compelled to grant the motion for judgment on the evidence and it is compelled to deny the motion to set aside.

THE COURT FURTHER FINDS that, because neither party comes to this court with clean hands, neither party shall receive an award of attorney's fees against the other. The Plaintiff is not entitled to an award of attorney's fees. He is equally, if not greater, at fault than the Defendant, so he may be the prevailing party, but the Court will not reward someone with extremely unclean hands with an award of attorney's fees. The Defendant is not the prevailing party here and as much as there is some sympathy here, the Court does not rule on sympathy. It must rule on the law and insofar as Defendant is not the prevailing party the Court cannot award her any attorney's fees either. The Court was surprised when Defendant rested, but counsel did, and did not get to the heart of the Vaile case standard. It is not a criticism of counsel. The Court believes that Defendant was honest and candid with the Court, and counsel was left with the case he had. Defendant knew what her husband wanted her to do, and she went ahead and did it. There is no evidence that she refused or that he demanded or that he threatened her or anything else, just like the parties did in the Vaile case. Because of that,

///

	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Mr. James shall prepare the Findings
2 of Fa	ct, Conclusions of Law with Mr. Kynaston to review the same and
3 counte	ersign.
4	IT IS SO ORDERED.
5 Dated	this <u>a)</u> day of October, 2019.
6	
7	DISTRICT COURT JUDGE SANDRA L. POMRENZE
8 Respec	ctfully submitted by:  Approved as to form and content by:
9 7	
	OFFICES OF F. PETER JAMES KAINEN LAW GROUP
11 Nevad	er James, Esq. Andrew L. Kynaston Esq. a Bar No. 10091 Nevada Bar No. 8147
12    Las Ve	W. Charleston Blvd., Suite 250 3303 Novat Street, Suite 200 egas, Nevada 89102 Las Vegas, Nevada 89129 702-823-4900
11	el for Plaintiff  Counsel for Defendant
14	
15	
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### **DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

**Divorce - Joint Petition** 

**COURT MINUTES** 

February 13, 2019

04D323977

In the Matter of the Joint Petition for Divorce of:

Jaswinder Singh and Rajwant Kaur

February 13, 2019

10:00 AM

**All Pending Motions** 

**HEARD BY:** Pomrenze, Sandra

**COURTROOM:** Courtroom 10

COURT CLERK: Carol Critchett

**PARTIES:** 

Jaswinder Singh, Petitioner, present

Rajwant Kaur, Petitioner, not present

F James, Attorney, present

Andrew Kynaston, Attorney, present

### **IOURNAL ENTRIES**

- DEFT'S MOTION TO SET ASIDE DECREE OF DIVORCE...PLTF'S OPPOSITION TO MOTION TO SET ASIDE DECREE

OF DIVORCE AND COUNTERMOTION...DEFT'S REPLY TO PLTF'S OPPOSITION AND **COUNTERMOTION** 

Munir Qureshi, Punjabi interpreter, present with Jaswinder Singh.

Petitioner Jaswinder Singh is referred to as Plaintiff herein. Co-Petitioner Rajwant Kaur is referred to as Defendant herein.

Discussion regarding the Vaile case, there being evidence to be induced, the validity of residency and the issue of voluntary participation in fraud being perpetrated on the State Of Nevada. Further discussion regarding whether California recognizes

"common law" marriages. Argument and discussion regarding adoption of the Marvin case, counsel appealing the Court, making findings and setting an evidentiary hearing. Argument regarding the fraud and void claims, whether fraud was perpetrated and the State Of Nevada being the victim of the fraud. Argument and discussion regarding Plaintiff's burden of proof, Defendant's burden of proof and the issues with divorces in Nevada. Argument and discussion regarding the fraud and the relief. Court advised counsel the issues were the fraudulent divorce, whether Defendant could lawfully exercise a right to void the divorce and what the date of the voiding of the marriage was.

|--|

Argument and discussion regarding the events in 2004, both parties being remarried, Defendant's new evidence and whether Defendant would need an interpreter.

#### COURT ORDERED:

- 1. The MATTERS are calendared for an EVIDENTIARY HEARING regarding VOIDING the DIVORCE for ONE and ONE HALF DAYS on June 13, 2019 at 1:30 P.M. and again on June 14, 2019 at 9:30 A.M. The parties shall BE PRESENT IN PERSON. NO TELEPHONIC APPEARANCES will be ALLOWED.
- 2. Prehearing briefs, including a Schedule Of Assets And Debts and the proposed property division, citing applicable law and applying the law to the facts in the case shall be EXCHANGED and FILED, with COURTESY COPIES delivered to chambers, NO LATER THAN June 06, 2019 at the close of the business day (5:00 P.M.). Briefs may be e-mailed or faxed to chambers if less than thirty pages. If the Briefs are more than 30 pages counsel shall Courtesy Copy a HARD COPY to the Court's CHAMBERS. In the event either of the parties do not timely submit their brief, the non-complying party will be subject to monetary sanctions. The TRIAL EXHIBITS SHALL NOT BE ATTACHED TO THE BRIEF THAT IS FILED.
- 3. DISCOVERY shall CLOSE on MAY 30, 2019 at the close of the business day (5:00 P.M.). WRITTEN DISCOVERY shall be SERVED ONE MONTH and ONE WEEK prior to the close of Discovery and in a fashion that allows the other party 30 DAYS to RESPOND. There shall be no written Discovery requests, no responses required and no depositions taken after the Discovery closing date.
- 4. Parties shall EXCHANGE LISTS of witnesses and exhibits, as well as copies of their proposed exhibits, NO LATER THAN MAY 01, 2019 at the close of business (5:00 P.M.). Counsel shall PROVIDE the witness and exhibit DISCLOSURES for trial SEPARATELY from the DISCOVERY DISCLOSURES and in a fashion that allows TIME for any needed DEPOSITIONS. Any witness not identified in advance of the hearing who is presented at the hearing will not be permitted to testify at the hearing absent compelling circumstances. Any exhibits not identified prior to the time set for hearing will not be admitted absent compelling circumstances. The TRIAL EXHIBITS SHALL NOT BE FILED.
- 5. Counsel shall MAKE the ARRANGEMENTS for the INTERPRETERS PRIOR to the TRIAL.

Mr. Kynaston shall PREPARE the ORDER. Mr. James shall REVIEW the ORDER then COUNTERSIGN.

	Ī	PRINT DATE:	11/21/2019	Page 2 of 12	Minutes Date:	February 13, 2019
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INTERIM	<b>CONDITIONS:</b>
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**FUTURE HEARINGS:** 

PRINT DATE: 11/21/2019	Page 3 of 12 Minutes Date:	February 13, 2019
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### DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

**Divorce - Joint Petition** 

**COURT MINUTES** 

September 12, 2019

04D323977

In the Matter of the Joint Petition for Divorce of:

Jaswinder Singh and Rajwant Kaur

September 12,

1:30 PM

**Evidentiary Hearing** 

2019

**HEARD BY:** Pomrenze, Sandra

**COURTROOM:** Courtroom 10

**COURT CLERK:** Carol Critchett

**PARTIES:** 

Jaswinder Singh, Petitioner, present

Rajwant Kaur, Petitioner, present

F James, Attorney, present

Andrew Kynaston, Attorney, present

### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

#### - EVIDENTIARY HEARING: VOIDING DIVORCE

This matter was heard concurrently with Petitioner's Motion In Limine and Rajwant Kaur's Opposition To Plaintiff's Motion In Limine And Defendant's Countermotion For Attorney's Fees And Costs this date.

Petitioner Jaswinder Singh is referred to as Plaintiff herein. Petitioner Rajwant Kaur is referred to as Defendant herein.

Interpreter Munir Qureshi, Registered Interpreter in Punjabi, present with Plaintiff.

Argument and discussion regarding the Motion In Limine. Counsel advised the Court he wished to invoke the exclusionary

rule. COURT SO ORDERED.

#### **COURT FURTHER ORDERED:**

### 2. The MOTION is DENIED WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

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	PRINT DATE:	11/21/2019	Page 4 of 12	Minutes Date:	February 13, 2019
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3. Counsel shall ARGUE AGAINST Defendant's WITNESSES as they are CALLED to TESTIFY.

Both counsel WAIVED OPENING STATEMENTS.

Testimony and exhibits presented (see worksheets).

Argument and discussion regarding counsel stipulating to admission of some of the exhibits.

Counsel advised

Plaintiff's exhibits, except for exhibits 3,6,8,9,11,12,16 and 17, were stipulated to for admission.

Counsel further advised all of Defendant's exhibits, except for exhibits H, T, and U, were stipulated to for admission.

Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed (see worksheets).

MATTER TRAILED for counsel to confer with his client.

MATTER RECALLED. All parties present as before.

Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed (see worksheets).

Plaintiff's DEPOSITION PUBLISHED IN OPEN COURT.

Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed (see worksheets).

MATTER TRAILED.

MATTER RECALLED. All present as before.

Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed (see worksheets).

Colloquy at the bench.

MATTER TRAILED.

MATTER RECALLED. All present as before.

Colloquy at the bench.

Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed (see worksheets).

Evidentiary Hearing proceeds to Day Two.

Court adjourned.

	Ī	PRINT DATE:	11/21/2019	Page 5 of 12	Minutes Date:	February 13, 2019
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**INTERIM CONDITIONS:** 

**FUTURE HEARINGS:** 

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### DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

**Divorce - Joint Petition** 

**COURT MINUTES** 

September 12, 2019

04D323977

In the Matter of the Joint Petition for Divorce of:

Jaswinder Singh and Rajwant Kaur

September 12,

1:30 PM

**Motion in Limine** 

2019

**HEARD BY:** Pomrenze, Sandra

**COURTROOM:** Courtroom 10

**COURT CLERK:** Carol Critchett

**PARTIES:** 

Jaswinder Singh, Petitioner, present

Rajwant Kaur, Petitioner, present

F James, Attorney, present

Andrew Kynaston, Attorney, present

### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- PETITIONER'S MOTION IN LIMINE...RAJWANT KAUR'S OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION IN LIMINE AND COUNTERMOTION FOR ATTORNEY'S FEES

This matter was heard concurrently with the Evidentiary Hearing: Voiding Divorce calendared for September 12, 2019 and

again on September 13, 2019. Please refer to the Minute Order under the Evidentiary Hearing for the hearing details

and the Court's orders.

**INTERIM CONDITIONS:** 

**FUTURE HEARINGS:** 

PRINT DATE:	11/21/2019	Page 7 of 12	Minutes Date:	February 13, 2019
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### DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

**Divorce - Joint Petition** 

**COURT MINUTES** 

September 13, 2019

04D323977

In the Matter of the Joint Petition for Divorce of:

Jaswinder Singh and Rajwant Kaur

September 13,

9:30 AM

**Evidentiary Hearing** 

2019

**HEARD BY:** Pomrenze, Sandra

**COURTROOM:** Courtroom 10

**COURT CLERK:** Carol Critchett

**PARTIES:** 

Jaswinder Singh, Petitioner, present

Rajwant Kaur, Petitioner, present

F James, Attorney, present

Andrew Kynaston, Attorney, present

### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

#### - EVIDENTIARY HEARING: VOIDING DIVORCE

Petitioner Jaswinder Singh is referred to as Plaintiff herein. Petitioner Rajwant Kaur is referred to as Defendant herein.

Nevada registered Punjabi interpreter Munir Qureshi, present with Plaintiff and Defendant.

Testimony and exhibits presented (see worksheets).

Argument and discussion regarding the relative issues for this hearing.

Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed (see worksheets).

Argument and discussion regarding the Court taking judicial notice that entry of a Decree Of Divorce ends a marriage and that being the issue before the Court in these proceedings. Court advised counsel it was taking judicial notice that a Decree Of Divorce was entered on September 04, 2004.

Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed (see worksheets).

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Colloquy at the bench.

Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed (see worksheets).

MATTER TRAILED.

MATTER RECALLED. All present as before.

Court advised counsel it received documents in chambers and it conferred with the Presiding Judge and it was agreed the documents did not divest this Court of jurisdiction and the matters would proceed. Counsel concurred with the Court.

Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed (see worksheets).

Upon Court's inquiry both counsel agreed to conduct a conference with the Court.

MATTER TRAILED for the Court to conduct a conference with counsel off the record and outside of the courtroom.

MATTER RECALLED. All parties present as before.

Court stated for the record and advised the parties of the matters discussed in the conference with counsel.

Testimony and exhibit presentation resumed (see worksheets).

Counsel moved the Court for judgment on the evidence. Court observed it questioned the Vaile case as it seemed to be

illogical and it seemed to say it was okay to "pull a scam and get away with it" but it was Nevada law. Court further observed the testimony of the Defendant is not a far distance from the facts of the Vaile case. Argument and discussion

regarding the fraudulent divorce, both parties' testimony about the divorce, the Vaile case decision, the facts of the Vaile case and counsel appealing this case to have the Supreme Court review of the Vaile case. Argument and discussion regarding neither party understanding what they were doing, Plaintiff's beliefs about getting a Nevada divorce, the California requirements for divorce and Nevada divorce law. Argument and discussion regarding the decision regarding the fraudulent divorce, Defendant not receiving any benefits after the last 15 years with Plaintiff, California making the decision and the Court's discretion under the Vaile case. Counsel requested the Court exercise its discretion and rule on the facts of the case. Discussion regarding the Court's obligation to rule on the facts of the law. Argument and discussion regarding the provisions of Rule 60b, the provisions of the Vaile case, Defendant's testimony and counsel appealing this case. Court advised counsel it would be exceeding its obligation if it did not rule on Plaintiff's motion (for judgment) based on the evidence presented and Defendant's deposition was not admitted or published so it could not review the deposition.

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Argument and discussion regarding the facts presented today being on point with the Vaile case and Defendant not meeting her burden of proof.

#### **COURT stated its FINDINGS:**

The Court does not find that Plaintiff was credible in any portion of his testimony. Based on the evidence presented Defendant was more credible, therefore, the Court does find that the parties perpetrated a fraud on the State Of Nevada by

entering into a Decree Of Divorce without the requisite residency. Were that to be the end of the inquiry, because of the Vaile vs. Eighth Judicial District case, it was not the end of the inquiry. If sufficient time has passed the Court is

obligated to make a decision to the merits as to how the fraudulent divorce was implemented (and) what were the parties' roles. In the Vaile case both spouses were willing participants (and) they both knew that they didn't have residency. They both knew they wanted a divorce sooner rather than later. It is not uncommon, unfortunately because we have such generous divorce laws, that people take advantage of those divorce laws and they come here thinking they'll get a quick divorce and they pretend to be residents. The Courts see that on a regular basis. Sometimes they get away with it, sometimes they don't but certainly, in this instance, the presiding judge had no reason to question the validity of the documents that were submitted and, therefore, executed the Decree. What Vaile says is if they make a distinction where there is a very old divorce the party who seeks to set it aside based on fraud (that party) must prove they were free from fault and you have 2 parties at fault and the Court in Vaile applied an equitable standard that they were not going to reward a "wrong doer" and that is why there is a requirement of some equitable reason why a "co-wrong doer" should not be permitted relief even though they are equally (as much of) a wrong doer as the other party. So they set the standard that there has to be some threat or coercion or (an) equitable reason why that party is free from fault. In the instant case

the Court finds the Defendant to be very credible, unlike the Plaintiff. However, what is missing from her testimony is that she was forced to sign those papers and, in fact in this instance, she knew there was a divorce in Nevada whether Plaintiff told her it was a piece of paper or not. This is a person who is a competent adult and (who) knew there was a divorce in Nevada until such time as she became upset with the Plaintiff, upon his allegation he had married someone else, she was content to "let sleeping dogs lie" and live together (with the Plaintiff). Ironically, they are still living together and, ironically,

Plaintiff has not remarried. But it requires, in this instance, evidence of an unequal bargaining position at a minimum.

There was nothing in Defendant's testimony that was evidence of an unequal bargaining position between the Plaintiff and Defendant. He said we're going to Nevada, we're going to sign some paperwork, it is going to be a divorce, it is going to be a "paper divorce", we're going to continue to live together (and) this was not a person with a mental defect or an inability to understand what was being told to her. She knew it, and in fact at his request and again it was a request not a demand according to her own testimony, she in fact went to India to marry his (Plaintiff's) brother. Was it a "sham" marriage? Of course it was. Did it assist the parties in their "end game"? No, because the brother never got a Visa and (did not) come

to the U.S. But at the end of the day there is simply insufficient evidence that the Defendant acted

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under duress. So as much as I (the Court) find the facts of this case offensive, it cannot rule on what it finds offensive it has to rule on the law and precedent and Vaile is still precedent in this state.

Should the Supreme Court choose to take a second look on appeal and, if in fact, they say that Vaile is not good law then the Court is happy to have the parties come back and the Court will even set a second hearing but on the testimony and the evidence the Court is compelled to grant the motion on the evidence and it is compelled to deny the motion to set aside.

The COURT FURTHER FINDS because neither party comes to this court with clean hands neither party will receive an award of attorney's fees against the other.

The Plaintiff is not entitled to an award of attorney's fees. He is equally, if not greater, at fault so he may be the prevailing party, but the Court will not reward someone with extremely unclean hands with an award of attorney's fees.

The Defendant is not the prevailing party here and as much as there is some sympathy here, the Court does not rule on sympathy it must rule on the law and insofar as Defendant is not the prevailing party I (the Court) cannot award her any attorney's fees either.

The Court was surprised when Defendant rested but counsel did and did not get to the heart of the Vaile case. It is not a criticism of counsel. The Court believes Defendant was honest and candid with the Court and counsel was left with the case he had. She (Defendant) knew what her husband wanted her to do and she went ahead and did it. There is no evidence that she refused or that he demanded or that he threatened her or anything else just like the parties did in the Vaile case and because of that the Court is compelled to deny the motion to set aside.

There is an appealable issue there. The Court does not know what the Supreme Court will do. It is a question that has been answered in a way that most of us might not appreciate, but it is the question that has been answered and Defendant's testimony does not rise to the level for the Court to set aside the Decree Of Divorce. Counsel need to decide what they wish to do. This Court does not have the ability to "jump over" the Supreme Court and decide.

#### COURT ORDERED:

- 1. The MOTION for judgment on the EVIDENCE is GRANTED.
- Defendant's MOTION TO SET ASIDE the Decree Of Divorce is DENIED.
- 3. As neither party is the prevailing party there shall be NO AWARDS of ATTORNEY'S FEES to either party.

Mr. James shall	PREPARE the FINDINGS	S OF FACT, CONCL	USIONS OF LAW.	Mr. Kynaston shall
PRINT DATE:	11/21/2019	Page 11 of 12	Minutes Date:	February 13, 2019

### 04D323977

REVIEW the FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW then COUNTERSIGN.
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**INTERIM CONDITIONS:** 

**FUTURE HEARINGS:** 

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admitted

### 04D 393977 Jaswinder Singh vs. Rajwant Kaur 04323977 PLAINTIFF'S TRIAL EXHIBITS

TRIAL DATE: 9/12 & 9/13

					admitted
	Exhibit	Description	Objected	Offered	Accepted
V	1	Executed release for employment records	no	5+10419 9-12-9V	ted 9-12-19
٧	2	Letter from Bank of America regarding records being unavailable	no	5tipula 9-12-191	1 ted 9-12-19 V
	X	Grant Bargain Sale Deed in the name of Balbinder Singh Pabla for Nevada property			
<b>V</b>	4	Payment receipts for the Law Office of F. Peter James, Esq. dated 1/16/19 and 2/26/19	no	Stipulati 9-12-19 V	ect 9-12-19 i
<b>V</b>	5	Invoice # 2621, 2588, and 2606 from the Law Office of F. Peter James, Esq. (redacted)	no	S+1PL Q-12-AV	11ated 9-12-91
	<b>X</b>	Invoices from Constance Bessada, Esq. dated 6/13/18, 8/21/18, and 1/3/19 (redacted)		The second secon	
<b>V</b>	7	Retainer Agreement for Law Offices of F. Peter James, Esq.	no	5+1pu 9-12-19 V	9-12-19 V
	*	Retainer Agreement for Constance Bessada, Esq.			
	<b>X</b>	Passport of Jaswinder Singh		A	
<b>V</b>	10	Documents disclosed by Defendant's counsel at the August 19, 2019 deposition	NO	l .	19-12-19V
<b>V</b>	11	India Marriage Certificate Jasvir Singh Dhaliwal and Rajwant Kaur	Sis	13-19	no.
	×	India Divorce Ruling			
V	13	Defendant's Deposition Transcript	YIO	Stinulat 9-12-19 V	ect 9-12-19 L
<b>V</b>	14	Plaintiff's Interrogatories to Defendant	l l		
V	15	Defendant's responses to the Interrogatories	NO	Stipula 9-12-19 V	1009 9-12-9V
	×	Plaintiff's Requests for Production of Documents to Defendant			
:	×	Defendant's responses to Requests for Production of Documents			

### Jaswinder Singh v. Rajwant Kaur CASE NO. 04D323977

DEFENDANT'S EXHIBITS	OFFERED ADMITTED OF
Decree of Divorce, filed September 8, 2004 in Clark County [DEF018 - DEF020]	
Joint Petition for Summary Decree of Divorce, filed August 27, 2004 in Clark County [DEF013 - DEF017]	
Affidavit of Resident Witness, filed August 27, 2004 in Clark County [DEF021 - DEF022]	
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage, filed May 7, 2018 in Los Angeles County [DEF001 - DEF003]	
Plaintiff's Response and Request for Dissolution of Marriage [DEF004 - DEF006]	
Plaintiff's Amended Response to Petition [DEF010 - DEF012]	V
Order from Hearing Held February 13, 2019, filed March 14, 2019 in Clark County	5+1041ated
Minutes from Hearing Held February 13, 2019	
Plaintiff's Response to Defendant's First Set of Interrogatories to Plaintiff, e-served May 13, 2019	1912-19 9-12-191
Plaintiff's Response to Defendant's First Request for Production of Documents to Plaintiff, e-served May 13, 2019]	
Copy of Plaintiff's Costco Membership Card [DEF0065]	
Copy of Defendant's Costco Membership Card [DEF0067]	
Costco Receipt showing that Store No. 48 is located in Van Nuys, CA [DEF0066]]	
Copy of Costco Membership Activity for card ending in 50001, from January 3, 2004 through December 19, 2004 [DEF0371 - DEF0376_3]	Stipulated 1917-19 925-19

# Jaswinder Singh v. Rajwant Kaur *CASE NO. 04D323977*

DEFENDANT'S EXHIBITS	OFFERED	ADMITTE
Contention Interrogatories Set No. One from California case no. 18STFL05676 [DEF0379 - DEF0386_3]	Jara	Lated gla-19/
Plaintiff's Response to Contention Interrogatories Set No. One, from California case no. 18STFL05676 [DEF0387 - DEF0390_3]		
Sales Deed showing listing property to Jaswinder Singh as a married man [DEF0024]		
Experian and TransUnion Credit Report in the name of Rajwant Kaur, showing Jaswinder as spouse or co-applicant [DEF0025 - DEF0043]		
Aftercare instruction from Gastroenterology Department for Jaswinder Singh, signed by "Accompanying Adult" Rajwant Kaur, Wife [DEF0044]		grang
Verification of employment letter from Defendant's employer dated August 21, 2019 [DEF0377_3]		
Letter from SoCal Gas regarding service dates at the Sepulveda Apartment [DEF0064]		
Interinsurance Exchange of the Automobile Club Renewal Declarations from July 2004 [DEF0362 - DEF0364_2]	Stipe V JA	alated a
Interinsurance Exchange of the Automobile Club Truth in Lending Information Billing Statement for Automobile Policy from July 2004 [DEF0365 - DEf0366_2]		
Plaintiff's Deposition Transcript		1
Defendant's Deposition Transcript	1 Stipu	19-19-19V



# EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT CLERK'S OFFICE NOTICE OF DEFICIENCY ON APPEAL TO NEVADA SUPREME COURT

ANDREW L. KYNASTON, ESQ. 3303 NOVAT ST., STE 200 LAS VEGAS, NV 89129

DATE: November 21, 2019

CASE: 04D323977

**RE CASE:** In the Matter of the Joint Petition for Divorce of: JASWINDER SINGH; RAJWANT KAUR

NOTICE OF APPEAL FILED: November 19, 2019

YOUR APPEAL HAS BEEN SENT TO THE SUPREME COURT.

PLEASE NOTE: DOCUMENTS **NOT** TRANSMITTED HAVE BEEN MARKED:

\$250 – Supreme Court Filing Fee (Make Check Payable to the Supreme Court)**  - If the \$250 Supreme Court Filing Fee was not submitted along with the original Notice of Appeal, it must be mailed directly to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court Filing Fee will not be forwarded by this office if submitted after the Notice of Appeal has been filed.
\$24 – District Court Filing Fee (Make Check Payable to the District Court)**
\$500 – Cost Bond on Appeal (Make Check Payable to the District Court)** - NRAP 7: Bond For Costs On Appeal in Civil Cases
Case Appeal Statement - NRAP 3 (a)(1), Form 2
Order
Notice of Entry of Order

### NEVADA RULES OF APPELLATE PROCEDURE 3 (a) (3) states:

"The district court clerk must file appellant's notice of appeal despite perceived deficiencies in the notice, including the failure to pay the district court or Supreme Court filing fee. The district court clerk shall apprise appellant of the deficiencies in writing, and shall transmit the notice of appeal to the Supreme Court in accordance with subdivision (e) of this Rule with a notation to the clerk of the Supreme Court setting forth the deficiencies. Despite any deficiencies in the notice of appeal, the clerk of the Supreme Court shall docket the appeal in accordance with Rule 12."

Please refer to Rule 3 for an explanation of any possible deficiencies.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Per District Court Administrative Order 2012-01, in regards to civil litigants, "...all Orders to Appear in Forma Pauperis expire one year from the date of issuance." You must reapply for in Forma Pauperis status.

### **Certification of Copy**

State of Nevada	٦	CC.
<b>County of Clark</b>	}	SS:

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

NOTICE OF APPEAL; CASE APPEAL STATEMENT; NOTICE OF FILING COST BOND; CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE; DISTRICT COURT DOCKET ENTRIES; FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER; NOTICE OF ENTRY OF FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER; DISTRICT COURT MINUTES; EXHIBITS LIST; NOTICE OF DEFICIENCY

In the Matter of the Joint Petition for Divorce of:

JASWINDER SINGH; RAJWANT KAUR

Case No: 04D323977

Dept No: P

now on file and of record in this office.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto Set my hand and Affixed the seal of the Court at my office, Las Vegas, Nevada This 21 day of November 2019.

Steven D. Grierson, Clerk of the Court

Amanda Hampton, Deputy Clerk