	1 2 3 4 5	J. Randall Jones, Esq. (#1927) r.jones@kempjones.com Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) m.gayan@kempjones.com Mona Kaveh, (#11825) m.kaveh@kempjones.com KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 Telephone: (702) 385-6000 Facsimile: (702) 385-6001	Electror Jan 31 Elizabe Clerk of	
KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway Seventeenth Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 (702) 385-6000 • Fax (702) 385-6001 kic@kempiones.com	7 8 9 10 11	Richard L. Stone, Esq. (pro hac vice) rstone@jenner.com David R. Singer, Esq. (pro hac vice) dsinger@jenner.com Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (pro hac vice) agallegos@jenner.com JENNER & BLOCK 633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600 Los Angeles, CA 90071-2054		
	12 13		CT COURT NTY, NEVADA	
	14 15 16 17	LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada corporation,  Plaintiff,  v.	Case No.: A-18-772591-B Dept. No.: XVI  NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL AND LAS VEGAS REVIEV	
X	18 19 20 21 22	NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; and LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC., a Delaware limited liability company,  Defendants.  LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC., a Delaware corporation,	INC.'S NOTICE OF APPE	
	<ul><li>23</li><li>24</li><li>25</li><li>36</li></ul>	V.  LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada		
	<ul><li>26</li><li>27</li><li>28</li></ul>	LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada corporation,  Counter-defendant.		

**Electronically Filed** 1/28/2020 5:00 PM Steven D. Grierson RK OF THE COURT

onically Filed 2020 11:06 a.m. eth A. Brown of Supreme Court

L GROUP LLC EW-JOURNAL, EAL

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

kic@kempiones.com

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC and Defendant/Counterclaimant Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc. hereby appeal to the Supreme Court of Nevada from the Findings of Facts, Conclusions of Law, and Order Affirming the Arbitration Award, filed on January 28, 2020 (the "Order"), in the Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County, Nevada, attached hereto as Exhibit 1. The Notice of Entry of Order was filed and served on January 28, 2020, and is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.

DATED this 28th day of January, 2020.

KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP

### /s/ J. Randall Jones

J. Randall Jones, Esq., (#1927) Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) Mona Kaveh, Esq., (#11825) 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89169

Richard L. Stone, Esq. (pro hac vice) David R. Singer, Esq. (pro hac vice) Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (pro hac vice) JENNER & BLOCK 633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600 Los Angeles, CA 90071-2054

Attorneys for Defendants/Counterclaimant

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 28th day of January, 2020, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC AND LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC.'S NOTICE OF APPEAL via the Court's electronic filing system only, pursuant to the Nevada Electronic Filing and Conversion Rules, Administrative Order 14-2, to all parties currently on the electronic service list.

/s/ Pamela Montgomery

An Employee of Kemp, Jones & Coulthard, LLP

	1
	2
	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
	4
	5
	6
	7
	8
	9
C.	10
, LLI	11
ARD (way 69 85-60(	12
L TH ss Park loor a 891 (02) 33	13
COU Hughe enth F evad Vevad Fax (7	14
IES & COULTHA! Howard Hughes Parkw: Seventeenth Floor Vegas, Nevada 89169 -6000 • Fax (702) 385- ic@kempiones.com	15
P, JONES   3800 Howa Seve Las Vega 02) 385-600 kic@k	16
MP, JONES & COULTHARD, L. 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway Seventeenth Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 (702) 385-6000 • Fax (702) 385-6001 kic@kempiones.com	17
KE	18
	19
	20
	21
	22
	23
	24
	25
	26
	27
	28

		Electronically Filed 1/28/2020 4:43 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT
1	J. Randall Jones, Esq. (#1927) r.jones@kempjones.com	Stumb. Stru
2	Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) m.gayan@kempjones.com	
3	Mona Kaveh, Esq. (#11825) m.kaveh@kempjones.com	
4	KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor	
5	Las Vegas, Nevada 89169	
6	Telephone: (702) 385-6000 Facsimile: (702) 385-6001	
7	Richard L. Stone, Esq. (pro hac vice)	
8	David R. Singer, Esq. (pro hac vice)	
9	dsinger@jenner.com Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (pro hac vice)	
10	agallegos@jenner.com   JENNER & BLOCK LLP	
11	633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600 Los Angeles, California 90071-2054	
12	Telephone: (213) 239-2203	
13	Attorneys for Defendants/Counterclaimant	
14	DISTRI	CT COURT
15	CLARK CO	UNTY, NEVADA
16	LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada corporation,	Case No.: A-18-772591-B Dept. No.: XVI
17	Plaintiff,	<del>[PROPOSED]</del> FINDINGS OF FACTS,
18	v.	CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER AFFIRMING THE ARBITRATION
19	NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; and	AWARD
20	LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC., a Delaware limited liability company,	Hearing Date: October 22, 2019
21	Defendants.	
22	LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC.,	
23	a Delaware corporation,	
24	Counterclaimant,	
25	v.	

JAM 0 3 2029

LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada corporation,

Counter-defendant.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

kic@kempiones.com

This matter came before the Court on October 22, 2019, at 1:30 P.M., with all parties appearing by and through their counsel of record, on (a) Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part, (b) Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC's and Las Vegas-Review Journal, Inc.'s Motion to Vacate the Arbitration Award, and (c) Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC's and Las Vegas-Review Journal, Inc.'s Conditional Countermotion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate the Award, in Part (collectively, the "Motions").

The Court, having considered the papers filed in support of and in opposition to the Motions, having heard arguments of counsel, and for good cause appearing, enters the following findings, conclusions and Order:1

### **BACKGROUND**

On June 10, 2005, Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc. (the "Sun") and Defendant Las 1. Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s predecessor executed a joint operating arrangement (the "JOA").

# The Sun's Complaint and the Arbitration

- On April 10, 2018, Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc. (the "Sun") filed its Complaint 2. against Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc. (collectively, the "Review-Journal") in the above-captioned matter regarding disputes related to the JOA, and moved this Court to compel arbitration of certain (but not all) claims outlined in the Complaint.
- This Court granted the Sun's motion to compel arbitration via an order entered 3. on November 21, 2018.
- In the arbitration proceedings, the parties engaged in discovery, submitted 4. written briefs, and presented arguments and evidence before the Arbitrator.
  - After a multi-day arbitration hearing, the Arbitrator issued a Final Award of 5.

Any finding of fact more properly characterized as a conclusion of law shall be deemed so. Any conclusion of law more properly characterized as a finding of fact shall be deemed so.

Arbitrator on July 2, 2019 (the "Award").

### The Arbitration Award

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

The Award contains the Arbitrator's rulings on the following claims and requests for relief: (a) the Sun's requests for declaratory relief related to interpretation of various JOA provisions (i.e., Section 4.2, Section 5.1.4, and the audit provision in Appendix D); (b) the Sun's breach of contract claims related to those same sections of the JOA; (c) the Sun's claim for tortious breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing related to those same sections of the JOA; and (d) both parties' requests for an award of attorneys' fees and costs related to the arbitration proceedings. The full contents of the Award are the subject of various motions to seal pending before this Court.

### The Parties' Motions to Confirm/Vacate the Award

- On September 13, 2019, the Sun filed its Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, 7. in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part (the "Sun's Motion").
- On September 18, 2019, the Review-Journal filed its Motion to Vacate 8. Arbitration Award.
- On September 30, 2019, the Review-Journal filed its opposition to the Sun's 9. Motion along with a Conditional Countermotion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate the Award, in Part.
  - By October 11, 2019, the parties completed briefing the motions. 10.
  - On October 22, 2019, this Court heard arguments on the parties' motions. 11.
- On December 4, 2019, this Court issued its six-page Minute Order resolving the 12. parties' motions, affirming the Award in its entirety, and directing the parties to prepare and submit this more detailed Order for the Court's review and signature.

## DISCUSSION, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

## The RJ's Motion to Vacate Arbitration Award

The first issue raised by the Review-Journal as the basis to vacate the Award 13. focused on whether the Arbitrator disregarded the plain language of the JOA by failing to

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

subtract editorial expenses from revenues in order to calculate EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization) for the purposes of determining the Sun's share of profits under the JOA.

- Under Nevada law, "[t]he party seeking to attack the validity of an arbitration 14. award has the burden of proving, by clear and convincing evidence, the statutory or commonlaw ground relied upon for challenging the award." Washoe Cty. Sch. Dist. v. White, 133 Nev. 301, 303, 396 P.3d 834, 838 (2017) (quoting Health Plan of Nev., Inc. v. Rainbow Med., LLC, 120 Nev. 689, 695, 100 P.3d 172, 176 (2004)). There are two common-law grounds recognized in Nevada under which a court may review private binding arbitration award: (1) whether the award is arbitrary, capricious, or unsupported by the agreement; and (2) whether the arbitrator manifestly disregarded the law." Id. at 306. The Nevada Supreme Court explained the distinction between the two as: "the former standard ensures that the arbitrator does not disregard the facts or the terms of the arbitration agreement," while "the latter standard ensures that the arbitrator recognizes applicable law." Id.
- Moreover, "[j]udicial inquiry under the manifest-disregard-of-the-law standard is 15. extremely limited." Id. When a party seeks to vacate an arbitration award based on manifest disregard of the law, they must show more than a mere objection to the results of the arbitration. Id. Consequently, the Court's focus is not on whether the Arbitrator correctly interpreted the law, but "whether the arbitrator, knowing the law and recognizing that the law required a particular result, simply disregarded the law." Id.
- In the instant action, the Arbitrator was presented with the JOA's plain language 16. and determined that under the JOA, editorial expenses should not be included in the EBITDA calculation. There appears to be a colorable justification for the Arbitrator's findings on this issue. The Arbitrator concluded:

The term "Retention" was very similar to earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA). The prior (pre-2005) computation of "Retention" included Editorial Expenses of the RJ as allowable deductible expenses. On the other hand, a specific provision of the JOA (4.2), a provision which was new to the calculation in the 2005 JOA, specifically indicates that the RJ and Sun would each bear their own editorial costs meaning that the RJ would not, in keeping the books of the JOA, be permitted to deduct editorial

expenses of the RJ in computing EBITDA of the JOA and the subsequent annual profits payments (if any) to the Sun. The weight of the evidence leads to the conclusion that the RJ has improperly deducted the RJ editorial expenses reducing the EBITDA of the JOA resulting in improperly low annual profits payments to the Sun.

- 17. Consequently, the Court finds that the Review-Journal has failed to meet its burden by clear and convincing evidence that the Arbitrator manifestly disregarded the JOA's contract provisions as to the deduction of editorial expenses.
- 18. Next, the Arbitrator considered Section 5.1.4 of the JOA to determine the impact of promotional activities and expense on the EBITDA. The Arbitrator concluded that under his interpretation of Section 5.1.4 there was evidence of impermissible deductions. The Arbitrator noted:

The weight of the evidence indicated that the RJ charged all promotional expenses to the JOA (both expenses that would be allowed as promotion of both the RJ and Sun in equal prominence and additional promotional activities expenses of the RJ only) resulting in lower EBITDA and payments to the Sun. There was not enough evidence presented in this matter to make a definitive damages calculation of wrongfully charged additional promotional activities expenses by the RJ. A crucial element of a breach of contract action is the proof of damages beyond speculation. Fortunately, the "audit" awarded in this matter could determine the damages (and additional profits payments due), if any, from the RJ's charging of all (both proper and additional) promotional expenses to the JOA EBITDA. It is the finding of this tribunal that additional promotional activities may not be included in the expenses charged to the JOA EBITDA.

- 19. In light of the Arbitrator's analysis and reliance of Section 5.1.4 of the JOA, the Court finds that there is not clear and convincing evidence that the Arbitrator manifestly disregarded the JOA's contract provisions as to promotional activities and expenses.
- 20. Next, the Court reviews the Review-Journal's contentions that the Arbitrator exceeded his authority when he issued a two-page supplementary non-binding interpretation regarding the ordered audit.
- 21. In determining the grounds for invalidating an arbitration award based on the assertion that an Arbitrator exceeded his authority, in *Washoe*, the Nevada Supreme Court noted:

"The Nevada Arbitration Act provides specific grounds for invalidating an arbitration award. NRS 38.241(1)(d) dictates that a court shall vacate an arbitration award if the arbitrator exceeded his powers." Health Plan of Nev.,

Inc., 120 Nev. at 697, 100 P.3d at 178 (internal citation omitted). In particular, "[a]rbitrators exceed their powers when they address issues or make awards outside the scope of the governing contract." Id. "However, allegations that an arbitrator misinterpreted the agreement or made factual or legal errors do not support vacating an award as being in excess of the arbitrator's powers." Id. Moreover, "[a]rbitrators do not exceed their powers if their interpretation of an agreement, even if erroneous, is rationally grounded in the agreement." Id. at 698, 100 P.3d at 178. As such, "[t]he question is whether the arbitrator had the authority under the agreement to decide an issue, not whether the issue was correctly decided." Id. Therefore, "[a]n award should be enforced so long as the arbitrator is arguably construing or applying the contract" and "there is a colorable justification for the outcome." Id. Nonetheless, "[t]he deference accorded an arbitrator . . . is not limitless; he is not free to contradict the express language of the contract." Int'l Ass'n of Firefighters, Local 1285 v. City of Las Vegas, 107 Nev. 906, 910, 823 P.2d 877, 879 (1991).

Washoe, 133 Nev. at 304.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

22. It must be pointed out that Appendix D to the JOA provides that the Sun has a right to a yearly audit as the Arbitrator noted:

Appendix D to the JOA allowing for the Claimant to "...appoint an certified public accounting firm or law firm as Sun's representative to examine and audit the books and records of the Review-Journal and the other publications whose earnings are included in EBITDA for the purposes of verifying the determinations of the changes to the Annual Profit Payments..." (this provision has been referred to by both parties as "audit"). Respondent indicated that an "audit" has never been refused however the conduct of Respondent certainly has done just about everything possible to blunt, avoid, deter and postpone an "audit". In accordance with the scope of this tribunal's authority, Claimant's request for an "audit" is granted. Claimant may undertake the "audit" for the periods covered by this award (December 15, 2015 through March 31, 2018) and forward per the declaratory relief granted. Respondent had requested that this award, if an "audit" be directed, limit the scope and/or party to conduct the "audit". This award does not define the scope of the "audit" as part of the award as such specificity may be beyond the scope of the tribunal's authority.

- In review of the Award, the Arbitrator ordered an audit but recognized there is 23. no provision for the creation of audit rules or guidelines in the JOA. Additionally, the Arbitrator noted that neither party requested any of audit rules or guidelines provided in the Award. It is clear in review of the Award that the Arbitrator was well aware of the limits of his authority and simply suggested a non-binding legal evaluation and recommendation as to the guideline for an audit. Thus, the Arbitrator's non-binding legal opinion is not a sufficient basis to vacate the Award.
- 24. Next, the Court has to consider whether the Arbitrator issued an Award that was arbitrary and capricious. Under Nevada law, a court's review of the arbitrary-and-capricious

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

kic@kempiones.com

standard is limited to whether the arbitrator's findings are supported by substantial evidence in the record. Washoe, 133 Nev. at 308. Further, "The arbitrary-and-capricious standard does not permit a reviewing court to vacate an arbitrator's award based on a misinterpretation of the law." Id.

As this Court has already found, the Arbitrator based his rulings on his 25. interpretations of the JOA. Under the facts of this case and the JOA, there is substantial evidence to support the Award.

# The Sun's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part

- After reviewing Section 5.1.4, the Arbitrator determined that House Ads were 26. not additional promotional activities and expenses. The Sun argues that the Arbitrator's ruling is arbitrary and capricious and a manifest disregard of the law. Nonetheless, the Court finds that the Arbitrator did consider section 5.1.4 in relation to House Ads, and as a result the Court affirms the Award on this issue.
- Additionally, after weighing the evidence in this matter, the Arbitrator denied the 27. Sun's claims for tortious breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing. The Court again reiterates that its inquiry under the manifest-disregard-of-the law standard is extremely limited. Consequently, the Court will not reassess and weigh the evidence that the Arbitrator relied on to make his decision. It is clear to the Court that the Arbitrator understood that there is a distinction between contract and tort claims, and the unique nature of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing as it relates to contracts versus torts. Further, the Arbitrator noted the sections of the JOA to which the tort claims potentially applied. Although it is not set forth in detail, the Arbitrator evaluated the parties' unique relationship, and he determined there was insufficient evidence of intentional conduct on this issue. Therefore, he found that the Review-Journal's conduct "does not qualify for tortious breach." Consequently, with respect to the Sun's claim for tortious breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, the Court finds that the Arbitrator did not manifestly disregard the law or the JOA, and the decision was not arbitrary and capricious.

28.	Also, the Arbitrator noted that both parties requested attorneys' fees, costs and
the cost of ar	bitration; but, found that no provision in the JOA addressed awarding attorneys'
fees and costs	s in connection with this matter. Rather, the Arbitrator interpreted Appendix D of
the JOA and	found that Appendix D addressed the award of arbitration fees and costs. As a
consequence,	the Arbitrator awarded only fees and costs of the arbitration. Thus, the Court finds
that the Arbit	rator did consider the entire JOA and more specifically Appendix D to support his
ruling. Accord	dingly, the Court affirms the Arbitrator's ruling on attorneys' fees and costs.

Lastly, the Sun argues that the Arbitrator failed to enter a ruling on whether the 29. Review-Journal breached the JOA audit provision. However, the Arbitrator determined that the Review-Journal has never refused to conduct an audit. Therefore, the Arbitrator simply ordered that an audit be conducted and this decision is affirmed.

### <u>ORDER</u>

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that the Arbitration Award is confirmed in its entirety.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Review-Journal's Motion to Vacate the Arbitration Award is DENIED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part the Sun's Motion to Vacate the Arbitration Award is GRANTED IN PART and DENIED IN PART as provided for herein.

III

The Honorable Timothy C. Williams

Submitted by:

KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP

made in En Vela #13626

J. Randall Jones, Esq. (#1927) Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) Mona Kaveh, Esq. (#11825)

3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor

Las Vegas, Nevada 89169

Counsel for Defendants/Counterclaimant

KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway Seventeenth Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 (702) 385-6000 • Fax (702) 385-6001 kic@kempiones.com
---

J. Randall Jones, Esq. (#1927) 1 r.jones@kempjones.com 2 Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) m.gayan@kempjones.com Mona Kaveh, (#11825) 3 m.kaveh@kempjones.com KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP 4 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 5 Telephone: (702) 385-6000 Facsimile: (702) 385-6001 6 7 Richard L. Stone, Esq. (pro hac vice) rstone@jenner.com David R. Singer, Esq. (pro hac vice) 8 dsinger@jenner.com 9 Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (pro hac vice) agallegos@jenner.com 10 JENNER & BLOCK 633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600 11 Los Angeles, CA 90071-2054 12 Attorneys for Defendants DISTRICT COURT 13 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 14 LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada 15 corporation, 16 Plaintiff, 17 v. 18 NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC, a 19 Delaware limited liability company; and LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC., a 20 Delaware limited liability company, 21 Defendants. LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC., a 22 Delaware corporation, 23 Counterclaimant, 24 ٧. 25 26 LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada corporation, 27 Counter-defendant.

**Electronically Filed** 1/28/2020 4:52 PM Steven D, Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

NOTICE OF ENTRY OF FINDINGS OF FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER AFFIRMING THE ARBITRATION AWARD

Case No.: A-18-772591-B

Dept. No.: 16

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

YOU, AND EACH OF YOU, WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the FINDINGS OF FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER AFFIRMING THE ARBITRATION AWARD was entered in the above-entitled matter on January 28, 2020, a copy of which is attached hereto. DATED this 28th day of January, 2020. KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP /s/ Michael Gayan J. Randall Jones, Esq., (#1927) Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) Mona Kaveh, Esq., (#11825) 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 Richard L. Stone, Esq. (pro hac vice) David R. Singer, Esq. (pro hac vice) Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (pro hac vice) JENNER & BLOCK 633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600 Los Angeles, CA 90071-2054 Attorneys for Defendants CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE I hereby certify that on the 28th day of January, 2020, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing NOTICE OF ENTRY OF FINDINGS OF FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER AFFIRMING THE ARBITRATION AWARD via the Court's electronic filing system only, pursuant to the Nevada Electronic Filing and Conversion Rules, Administrative Order 14-2, to all parties currently on the electronic service list.

/s/ Pamela Montgomery

An Employee of Kemp, Jones & Coulthard, LLP

KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway Seventeenth Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 (702) 385-6000 • Fax (702) 385-6001 kic@kempiones.com
---

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

1 J. Randall Jones, Esq. (#1927) r.jones@kempjones.com 2 Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) m.gayan@kempjones.com 3 Mona Kaveh, Esq. (#11825) m.kaveh@kempiones.com KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor 5 Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 Telephone: (702) 385-6000 Facsimile: (702) 385-6001 6 7 Richard L. Stone, Esq. (pro hac vice) rstone@jenner.com 8 David R. Singer, Esq. (pro hac vice) dsinger@jenner.com Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (pro hac vice) 9 agallegos@jenner.com JENNER & BLOCK LLP 10 633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600 Los Angeles, California 90071-2054 11 Telephone: (213) 239-2203 12 Attorneys for Defendants/Counterclaimant 13 14

LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada

Electronically Filed
1/28/2020 4:43 PM
Steven D. Grierson
CLERK OF THE COURT

### DISTRICT COURT

# CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Plaintiff,

v.

NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; and LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC., a Delaware limited liability company,

Defendants.

LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC., a Delaware corporation,

Counterclaimant,

v.

LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada corporation,

Counter-defendant.

Case No.: A-18-772591-B Dept. No.: XVI

<del>[PROPOSED]</del> FINDINGS OF FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER AFFIRMING THE ARBITRATION AWARD

Hearing Date: October 22, 2019

JAM 0 3 2020

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

This matter came before the Court on October 22, 2019, at 1:30 P.M., with all parties appearing by and through their counsel of record, on (a) Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part, (b) Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC's and Las Vegas-Review Journal, Inc.'s Motion to Vacate the Arbitration Award, and (c) Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC's and Las Vegas-Review Journal, Inc.'s Conditional Countermotion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate the Award, in Part (collectively, the "Motions").

The Court, having considered the papers filed in support of and in opposition to the Motions, having heard arguments of counsel, and for good cause appearing, enters the following findings, conclusions and Order:1

### **BACKGROUND**

On June 10, 2005, Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc. (the "Sun") and Defendant Las 1. Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s predecessor executed a joint operating arrangement (the "JOA").

# The Sun's Complaint and the Arbitration

- On April 10, 2018, Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc. (the "Sun") filed its Complaint 2. against Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc. (collectively, the "Review-Journal") in the above-captioned matter regarding disputes related to the JOA, and moved this Court to compel arbitration of certain (but not all) claims outlined in the Complaint.
- This Court granted the Sun's motion to compel arbitration via an order entered 3. on November 21, 2018.
- In the arbitration proceedings, the parties engaged in discovery, submitted written briefs, and presented arguments and evidence before the Arbitrator.
  - After a multi-day arbitration hearing, the Arbitrator issued a Final Award of 5.

Any finding of fact more properly characterized as a conclusion of law shall be deemed so. Any conclusion of law more properly characterized as a finding of fact shall be deemed so.

Arbitrator on July 2, 2019 (the "Award").

### The Arbitration Award

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

The Award contains the Arbitrator's rulings on the following claims and requests 6. for relief: (a) the Sun's requests for declaratory relief related to interpretation of various JOA provisions (i.e., Section 4.2, Section 5.1.4, and the audit provision in Appendix D); (b) the Sun's breach of contract claims related to those same sections of the JOA; (c) the Sun's claim for tortious breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing related to those same sections of the JOA; and (d) both parties' requests for an award of attorneys' fees and costs related to the arbitration proceedings. The full contents of the Award are the subject of various motions to seal pending before this Court.

# The Parties' Motions to Confirm/Vacate the Award

- On September 13, 2019, the Sun filed its Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, 7. in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part (the "Sun's Motion").
- On September 18, 2019, the Review-Journal filed its Motion to Vacate 8. Arbitration Award.
- On September 30, 2019, the Review-Journal filed its opposition to the Sun's 9. Motion along with a Conditional Countermotion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate the Award, in Part.
  - By October 11, 2019, the parties completed briefing the motions. 10.
  - On October 22, 2019, this Court heard arguments on the parties' motions. 11.
- On December 4, 2019, this Court issued its six-page Minute Order resolving the 12. parties' motions, affirming the Award in its entirety, and directing the parties to prepare and submit this more detailed Order for the Court's review and signature.

# DISCUSSION, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

# The RJ's Motion to Vacate Arbitration Award

The first issue raised by the Review-Journal as the basis to vacate the Award 13. focused on whether the Arbitrator disregarded the plain language of the JOA by failing to

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

subtract editorial expenses from revenues in order to calculate EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization) for the purposes of determining the Sun's share of profits under the JOA.

- 14. Under Nevada law, "[t]he party seeking to attack the validity of an arbitration award has the burden of proving, by clear and convincing evidence, the statutory or commonlaw ground relied upon for challenging the award." Washoe Cty. Sch. Dist. v. White, 133 Nev. 301, 303, 396 P.3d 834, 838 (2017) (quoting Health Plan of Nev., Inc. v. Rainbow Med., LLC, 120 Nev. 689, 695, 100 P.3d 172, 176 (2004)). There are two common-law grounds recognized in Nevada under which a court may review private binding arbitration award: (1) whether the award is arbitrary, capricious, or unsupported by the agreement; and (2) whether the arbitrator manifestly disregarded the law." Id. at 306. The Nevada Supreme Court explained the distinction between the two as: "the former standard ensures that the arbitrator does not disregard the facts or the terms of the arbitration agreement," while "the latter standard ensures that the arbitrator recognizes applicable law." Id.
- 15. Moreover, "[j]udicial inquiry under the manifest-disregard-of-the-law standard is extremely limited." Id. When a party seeks to vacate an arbitration award based on manifest disregard of the law, they must show more than a mere objection to the results of the arbitration. Id. Consequently, the Court's focus is not on whether the Arbitrator correctly interpreted the law, but "whether the arbitrator, knowing the law and recognizing that the law required a particular result, simply disregarded the law." *Id.*
- 16. In the instant action, the Arbitrator was presented with the JOA's plain language and determined that under the JOA, editorial expenses should not be included in the EBITDA calculation. There appears to be a colorable justification for the Arbitrator's findings on this issue. The Arbitrator concluded:

The term "Retention" was very similar to earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA). The prior (pre-2005) computation of "Retention" included Editorial Expenses of the RJ as allowable deductible expenses. On the other hand, a specific provision of the JOA (4.2), a provision which was new to the calculation in the 2005 JOA, specifically indicates that the RJ and Sun would each bear their own editorial costs meaning that the RJ would not, in keeping the books of the JOA, be permitted to deduct editorial

11 Seventeenth Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 1385-6000 • Fax (702) 385-6001 kic@kempiones.com 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

expenses of the RJ in computing EBITDA of the JOA and the subsequent annual profits payments (if any) to the Sun. The weight of the evidence leads to the conclusion that the RJ has improperly deducted the RJ editorial expenses reducing the EBITDA of the JOA resulting in improperly low annual profits payments to the Sun.

- Consequently, the Court finds that the Review-Journal has failed to meet its 17. burden by clear and convincing evidence that the Arbitrator manifestly disregarded the JOA's contract provisions as to the deduction of editorial expenses.
- 18. Next, the Arbitrator considered Section 5.1.4 of the JOA to determine the impact of promotional activities and expense on the EBITDA. The Arbitrator concluded that under his interpretation of Section 5.1.4 there was evidence of impermissible deductions. The Arbitrator noted:

The weight of the evidence indicated that the RJ charged all promotional expenses to the JOA (both expenses that would be allowed as promotion of both the RJ and Sun in equal prominence and additional promotional activities expenses of the RJ only) resulting in lower EBITDA and payments to the Sun. There was not enough evidence presented in this matter to make a definitive damages calculation of wrongfully charged additional promotional activities expenses by the RJ. A crucial element of a breach of contract action is the proof of damages beyond speculation. Fortunately, the "audit" awarded in this matter could determine the damages (and additional profits payments due), if any, from the RJ's charging of all (both proper and additional) promotional expenses to the JOA EBITDA. It is the finding of this tribunal that additional promotional activities may not be included in the expenses charged to the JOA EBITDA.

- 19. In light of the Arbitrator's analysis and reliance of Section 5.1.4 of the JOA, the Court finds that there is not clear and convincing evidence that the Arbitrator manifestly disregarded the JOA's contract provisions as to promotional activities and expenses.
- 20. Next, the Court reviews the Review-Journal's contentions that the Arbitrator exceeded his authority when he issued a two-page supplementary non-binding interpretation regarding the ordered audit.
- In determining the grounds for invalidating an arbitration award based on the 21. assertion that an Arbitrator exceeded his authority, in Washoe, the Nevada Supreme Court noted:

"The Nevada Arbitration Act provides specific grounds for invalidating an arbitration award. NRS 38.241(1)(d) dictates that a court shall vacate an arbitration award if the arbitrator exceeded his powers." Health Plan of Nev.,

10 11 Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 (702) 385-6000 • Fax (702) 385-6001 kic@kempiones.com 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

*Inc.*, 120 Nev. at 697, 100 P.3d at 178 (internal citation omitted). In particular, "[a]rbitrators exceed their powers when they address issues or make awards outside the scope of the governing contract," Id. "However, allegations that an arbitrator misinterpreted the agreement or made factual or legal errors do not support vacating an award as being in excess of the arbitrator's powers." Id. Moreover, "[a]rbitrators do not exceed their powers if their interpretation of an agreement, even if erroneous, is rationally grounded in the agreement." Id. at 698, 100 P.3d at 178. As such, "[t]he question is whether the arbitrator had the authority under the agreement to decide an issue, not whether the issue was correctly decided." Id. Therefore, "[a]n award should be enforced so long as the arbitrator is arguably construing or applying the contract" and "there is a colorable justification for the outcome." Id. Nonetheless, "[t]he deference accorded an arbitrator . . . is not limitless; he is not free to contradict the express language of the contract." Int'l Ass'n of Firefighters, Local 1285 v. City of Las Vegas, 107 Nev. 906, 910, 823 P.2d 877, 879 (1991).

Washoe, 133 Nev. at 304.

22. It must be pointed out that Appendix D to the JOA provides that the Sun has a right to a yearly audit as the Arbitrator noted:

Appendix D to the JOA allowing for the Claimant to "...appoint an certified public accounting firm or law firm as Sun's representative to examine and audit the books and records of the Review-Journal and the other publications whose earnings are included in EBITDA for the purposes of verifying the determinations of the changes to the Annual Profit Payments..." (this provision has been referred to by both parties as "audit"). Respondent indicated that an "audit" has never been refused however the conduct of Respondent certainly has done just about everything possible to blunt, avoid, deter and postpone an "audit". In accordance with the scope of this tribunal's authority, Claimant's request for an "audit" is granted. Claimant may undertake the "audit" for the periods covered by this award (December 15, 2015 through March 31, 2018) and forward per the declaratory relief granted. Respondent had requested that this award, if an "audit" be directed, limit the scope and/or party to conduct the "audit". This award does not define the scope of the "audit" as part of the award as such specificity may be beyond the scope of the tribunal's authority.

- 23. In review of the Award, the Arbitrator ordered an audit but recognized there is no provision for the creation of audit rules or guidelines in the JOA. Additionally, the Arbitrator noted that neither party requested any of audit rules or guidelines provided in the Award. It is clear in review of the Award that the Arbitrator was well aware of the limits of his authority and simply suggested a non-binding legal evaluation and recommendation as to the guideline for an audit. Thus, the Arbitrator's non-binding legal opinion is not a sufficient basis to vacate the Award.
- Next, the Court has to consider whether the Arbitrator issued an Award that was 24. arbitrary and capricious. Under Nevada law, a court's review of the arbitrary-and-capricious

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

standard is limited to whether the arbitrator's findings are supported by substantial evidence in the record. Washoe, 133 Nev. at 308. Further, "The arbitrary-and-capricious standard does not permit a reviewing court to vacate an arbitrator's award based on a misinterpretation of the law." Id.

As this Court has already found, the Arbitrator based his rulings on his interpretations of the JOA. Under the facts of this case and the JOA, there is substantial evidence to support the Award.

# The Sun's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part

- After reviewing Section 5.1.4, the Arbitrator determined that House Ads were 26. not additional promotional activities and expenses. The Sun argues that the Arbitrator's ruling is arbitrary and capricious and a manifest disregard of the law. Nonetheless, the Court finds that the Arbitrator did consider section 5.1.4 in relation to House Ads, and as a result the Court affirms the Award on this issue.
- Additionally, after weighing the evidence in this matter, the Arbitrator denied the 27. Sun's claims for tortious breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing. The Court again reiterates that its inquiry under the manifest-disregard-of-the law standard is extremely limited. Consequently, the Court will not reassess and weigh the evidence that the Arbitrator relied on to make his decision. It is clear to the Court that the Arbitrator understood that there is a distinction between contract and tort claims, and the unique nature of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing as it relates to contracts versus torts. Further, the Arbitrator noted the sections of the JOA to which the tort claims potentially applied. Although it is not set forth in detail, the Arbitrator evaluated the parties' unique relationship, and he determined there was insufficient evidence of intentional conduct on this issue. Therefore, he found that the Review-Journal's conduct "does not qualify for tortious breach." Consequently, with respect to the Sun's claim for tortious breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, the Court finds that the Arbitrator did not manifestly disregard the law or the JOA, and the decision was not arbitrary and capricious.

	,
	10
	11
way 59 35-600	12
s Park loor a 891 (02) 38	13
Fughe Fughe Floradia Vevada (7 Fax (7 Piones	14
3800 Howard Hughes Parkway Seventeenth Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 02) 385-6000 - Fax (702) 385-6001	15
3800 How Sev Las Veg (702) 385-60	16
38; 1 (702)	17
	18
	19

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

20

21

22

23

24

- Also, the Arbitrator noted that both parties requested attorneys' fees, costs and 28. the cost of arbitration; but, found that no provision in the JOA addressed awarding attorneys' fees and costs in connection with this matter. Rather, the Arbitrator interpreted Appendix D of the JOA and found that Appendix D addressed the award of arbitration fees and costs. As a consequence, the Arbitrator awarded only fees and costs of the arbitration. Thus, the Court finds that the Arbitrator did consider the entire JOA and more specifically Appendix D to support his ruling. Accordingly, the Court affirms the Arbitrator's ruling on attorneys' fees and costs.
- 29. Lastly, the Sun argues that the Arbitrator failed to enter a ruling on whether the Review-Journal breached the JOA audit provision. However, the Arbitrator determined that the Review-Journal has never refused to conduct an audit. Therefore, the Arbitrator simply ordered that an audit be conducted and this decision is affirmed.

### ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that the Arbitration Award is confirmed in its entirety.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Review-Journal's Motion to Vacate the Arbitration Award is DENIED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part the Sun's Motion to Vacate the Arbitration Award is GRANTED IN PART and DENIED IN PART as provided for herein.

///

111 25

27

26

28

1	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las
2	Vegas-Review Journal, Inc.'s Conditional Countermotion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in
3	Part, and to Vacate the Award, in Part is GRANTED IN PART and DENIED IN PART as
4	provided for herein.
5	Dated this 22 day of 1, 2020.
6	
7	JACOU-
8	The Honorable Timothy C. Williams
9	Submitted by:
10	KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP
11	
12	made on 2 Vela #13626
13	J. Randall Jones, Esq. (#1927) Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135)
14	Mona Kaveh, Esq. (#11825) 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor
15	Las Vegas, Nevada 89169
16	Counsel for Defendants/Counterclaimant
17	
18	
19	
20	

1 J. Randall Jones, Esq. (#1927) r.jones@kempjones.com Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) 2 m.gayan@kempjones.com 3 Mona Kaveh, (#11825) m.kaveh@kempjones.com KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP 4 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor 5 Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 Telephone: (702) 385-6000 Facsimile: (702) 385-6001 6 7 Richard L. Stone, Esq. (pro hac vice) rstone@jenner.com David R. Singer, Esq. (pro hac vice) 8 dsinger@jenner.com 9 Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (pro hac vice) agallegos@jenner.com JENNER & BLOCK 10 633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600 Los Angeles, CA 90071-2054 11 12 Attorneys for Defendants DISTRICT COURT 13 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 14 Case No.: A-18-772591-B LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada 15 Dept. No.: XVI corporation, 16 Plaintiff, 17 ٧, 18 NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC, a 19 Delaware limited liability company; and LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC., a 20 Delaware limited liability company, 21 Defendants. LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC., a 22 Delaware corporation, 23 Counterclaimant, 24 25 v. 26 LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada corporation, 27 Counter-defendant. 28

**Electronically Filed** 1/28/2020 5:02 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC AND LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC.'S CASE APPEAL STATEMENT

1	Defer	ndant News+Me	edia Capital Group LLC and Defendant/Counterclaimant Las Vegas
2	Review-Jour	nal, Inc., by and	d through their counsel of record, Kemp, Jones & Coulthard, LLP,
3	and Jenner &	Block, hereby	file this Case Appeal Statement regarding their Notice of Appeal
4	pursuant to N	Jevada Rule of	Appellate Procedure 3(f):
5	1.	Name of app	pellants filing this Case Appeal Statement:
6	News	+Media Capital	l Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.
7	2.	Identify the j	judge issuing the decision, judgment or order appealed from:
8	Hono	rable District (	Court Judge Timothy C. Williams, Eighth Judicial District Court,
9	Clark County	, Nevada	
10	3.	Identify eac	h appellant and the name and address of counsel for each
11	appellant:		
12	News	+Media Capital	l Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.
13	Repre	esented by:	J. Randall Jones, Esq., (#1927)
14			Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) Mona Kaveh, Esq., (#11825) KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP
15			3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89169
16			
17			Richard L. Stone, Esq. (pro hac vice) David R. Singer, Esq. (pro hac vice)
18			Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. ( <i>pro hac vice</i> ) JENNER & BLOCK 633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600
19			Los Angeles, California 90071-2054
20			
21	4.	Identify eacl	h respondent and the name and address of appellate counsel, if
22	known, for	each responde	nt (if the name of a respondent's appellate counsel is unknown,
23	provide the	name and add	ress of that respondent's trial counsel):
24	Las V	egas Sun, Inc.	
25	Repre	esented by:	E. Leif Reed, Esq. (#5750)
26			Kristen L. Martini, Esq. (#11272) Nicole Scott, Esq. (#13757) LEWIS ROCA ROTHGERBER CHRISTIE LLP
27			One East Liberty Street, Suite 300 Reno, Nevada 89501-2128

James J. Pisanelli, Esq. (#4027) Todd L. Bice, Esq. (#4534) Jordan T. Smith, Esq. (#12097) PISANELLI BICE PLLC 400 South 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 300 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

5. Indicate whether any attorney identified above in response to question 3 or 4 is not licensed to practice law in Nevada, and if so, whether the district court granted that attorney permission to appear under SCR 42 (attach a copy of any district court order granting such permission):

Richard L. Stone, Esq., David R. Singer, Esq., and Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. were granted permission to appear before the district court under SCR 42. The Orders granting such permission are attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**.

6. Indicate whether appellant was represented by appointed or retained counsel in the district court:

News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc. were represented by retained counsel in the district court.

7. Indicate whether appellant is represented by appointed or retained counsel on appeal:

News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc. are represented by retained counsel on appeal.

8. Indicate whether appellant was granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis, and if so, the date of the district court's order granting such leave:

News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc. did not request and was not granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis.

9. Indicate the date that the proceedings commenced in the district court (e.g., date complaint, indictment, information, or petition was filed):

Las Vegas Sun, Inc. filed its Complaint in the district court on April 10, 2018.

kic@kempiones.com

(702)

10. Provide a brief description of the nature of the action and result in the district court, including the type of judgment or order being appealed and the relief granted by the district court:

On June 10, 2005, Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc. (the "Sun") and Defendant Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s predecessor executed a joint operating arrangement (the "JOA"). On April 10, 2018, the Sun filed a Complaint against News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc. (collectively, "Review-Journal") regarding disputes related to the JOA, and moved the district court to compel arbitration of certain (but not all) claims in the Complaint. The district court granted the Sun's motion to compel arbitration via an order entered on November 21, 2018. The Arbitrator issued a Final Award of Arbitrator dated July 2, 2019 (the "Award"). The Award contains the Arbitrator's rulings on the following claims and requests for relief: (a) the Sun's requests for declaratory relief related to interpretation of various JOA provisions (i.e., Appendix D, Section 4.2 and Section 5.1.4); (b) the Sun's breach of contract claims related to those same sections of the JOA; (c) the Sun's claim for tortious breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing related to those same sections of the JOA; and (d) both parties' requests for an award of attorneys' fees and costs related to the arbitration proceedings. The full contents of the Award are the subject of various motions to seal pending before the district court.

On September 13, 2019, the Sun filed its Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part (the "Sun's Motion"). On September 18, 2019, the Review-Journal filed its Motion to Vacate Arbitration Award. On September 30, 2019, the Review-Journal filed its opposition to the Sun's Motion along with a Conditional Countermotion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate the Award, in Part. On December 4, 2019, the district court issued its six-page Minute Order resolving the parties' motions, affirming the Award in its entirety, and directing the parties to prepare and submit a more detailed order containing findings of fact and conclusions of law for the district court's review and signature. On January 28, 2020, the district court entered its Findings of Facts, Conclusions of Law, And Order Affirming the Arbitration Award ("Order"), with the

	,	i
	4	
	5	
	6 7	
	7	
	8	
	8 9	
	10	
	11	
	12	
	13	
	14	
	15	
3	16	
	17	
	18	
	19	
	20	
	21	ı
	22	
	23	
	24	
	25	
	26	
	27	
	28	

2

3

Notice of Entry of Order being filed on January 28, 2020. Pursuant to NRS 38.247, the Review-Journal filed its Notice of Appeal of the Order on January 28, 2020.

11. Indicate whether the case has previously been the subject of an appeal to or original writ proceeding in the Supreme Court or Court of Appeals and, if so, the caption and docket number of the prior proceeding:

This case has not previously been the subject of an appeal to or original writ proceeding in the Supreme Court or Court of Appeals.

12. Indicate whether this appeal involves child custody or visitation:

This appeal does not involve child custody or visitation.

13. If this is a civil case, indicate whether this appeal involves the possibility of settlement:

This appeal involves the possibility of settlement.

DATED this 28th day of January, 2020.

KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP

### /s/ J. Randall Jones

J. Randall Jones, Esq., (#1927) Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) Mona Kaveh, Esq., (#11825) 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89169

Richard L. Stone, Esq. (pro hac vice) David R. Singer, Esq. (pro hac vice) Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (pro hac vice) JENNER & BLOCK 633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600 Los Angeles, CA 90071-2054

Attorneys for Defendants/Counterclaimant

# KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 28th day of January, 2020, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC AND LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC.'S CASE APPEAL STATEMENT via the Court's electronic filing system only, pursuant to the Nevada Electronic Filing and Conversion Rules, Administrative Order 14-2, to all parties currently on the electronic service list.

/s/ Pamela Montgomery

An Employee of Kemp, Jones & Coulthard, LLP

Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT J. Randall Jones, Esq. (#1927) 1 NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER ADMITTING TO PRACTICE (RICHARD YOU, AND EACH OF YOU, WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an ORDER ADMITTING TO PRACTICE (RICHARD LEE STONE, ESQ.) was entered in the above

**Electronically Filed** 9/26/2019 10:54 AM

entitled matter on September 25, 2019, a copy of which is attached hereto. 1 DATED this 26th day of September, 2019. 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 16 I hereby certify that on the 26th day of September, 2019, I served a true and correct copy 17 of the foregoing NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER ADMITTING TO PRACTICE (RICHARD LEE STONE, ESQ.) via the Court's electronic filing system only, pursuant to the 18 Nevada Electronic Filing and Conversion Rules, Administrative Order 14-2, to all parties 19 currently on the electronic service list. 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP /s/ Michael Gayan J. Randall Jones, Esq., (#1927) Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) Mona Kaveh, Esq., (#11825) 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 Richard L. Stone, Esq. (pro hac vice) David R. Singer, Esq. (pro hac vice) Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (pro hac vice) JENNER & BLOCK 633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600 Los Angeles, CA 90071-2054 Attorneys for Defendants /s/ Pamela Montgomery An Employee of Kemp, Jones & Coulthard, LLP

Electronically Filed 9/25/2019 3:00 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

J. Randall Jones, Esq. (#1927)
r.jones@kempjones.com
Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135)
m.gayan@kempjones.com
Mona Kaveh, (#11825)
m.kaveh@kempjones.com
KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP
3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor
Las Vegas, Nevada 89169
Telephone: (702) 385-6000
Facsimile: (702) 385-6001

Richard L. Stone, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice Pending)
Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice Pending)

Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice Pending)
David R. Singer, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice Pending)
JENNER & BLOCK, LLP
633 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 3600
Los Angeles, CA 90071
Telephone: (213) 239-2206
Attorneys for Defendants

### DISTRICT COURT

### CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada corporation,

Plaintiff,

v.

NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; and LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC., a Delaware limited liability company,

Defendants.

Case No.: A-18-772591-B Dept. No.: XVI

ORDER ADMITTING TO PRACTICE (RICHARD LEE STONE, ESQ.)

RICHARD LEE STONE, ESQ., having filed his Motion to Associate Counsel under Nevada Supreme Court Rule 42, together with a Verified Application for Association of Counsel, a Certificate of Good Standing for the State of California, and the State Bar of Nevada Statement; said application having been noticed, no objections having been made, and the Court being fully apprised in the premises, and good cause appearing, it is hereby

б

ORDERED, that said application is hereby granted, and RICHARD LEE STONE,
ESQ., is hereby admitted to practice in the above entitled Court for the purposed of the above
entitled matter only.
DATED this 25 day of September, 2019.
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE
Respectfully submitted,
KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP  J. Randall Jones, Esq., (#1927) Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) Mona Kaveh, Esq., (#11825) 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89169  Richard L. Stone, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice Pending) Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice Pending) David R. Singer, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice Pending) JENNER & BLOCK, LLP 633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600 Los Angeles, CA 90071 Attorneys for Defendants

9/26/2019 10:54 AM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT J. Randall Jones, Esq. (#1927) 1 r.jones@kempjones.com Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) 2 m.gayan@kempjones.com 3 Mona Kaveh, (#11825) m.kaveh@kempjones.com KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP 4 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor 5 Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 Telephone: (702) 385-6000 Facsimile: (702) 385-6001 6 7 Richard L. Stone, Esq. (pro hac vice) rstone@jenner.com David R. Singer, Esq. (pro hac vice) 8 dsinger@jenner.com Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (pro hac vice) agallegos@jenner.com JENNER & BLOCK 10 633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600 Los Angeles, CA 90071-2054 11 Attornevs for Defendants 12 DISTRICT COURT 13 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 14 15 LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada Case No.: A-18-772591-B 16 Dept. No.: XVI corporation, 17 Plaintiff, 18 NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER ٧. ADMITTING TO PRACTICE (DAVID 19 NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC, RANSEN SINGER, ESQ.) 20 a Delaware limited liability company; and LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC., 21 a Delaware limited liability company, 22 Defendants. 23 24 YOU, AND EACH OF YOU, WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an ORDER 25 ADMITTING TO PRACTICE (DAVID RANSEN SINGER, ESQ.) was entered in the 26 III27

**Electronically Filed** 

Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 (702) 385-6000 • Fax (702) 385-600

above entitled matter on September 25, 2019, a copy of which is attached hereto. 1 DATED this 26th day of September, 2019. 2 3 KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP 4 /s/ Michael Gayan 5 J. Randall Jones, Esq., (#1927) Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) 6 Mona Kaveh, Esq., (#11825) 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor 7 Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 8 Richard L. Stone, Esq. (pro hac vice) 9 David R. Singer, Esq. (pro hac vice) Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (pro hac vice) 10 JENNER & BLOCK 633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600 Los Angeles, CA 90071-2054 11 12 Attorneys for Defendants 13 14 15 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 16 I hereby certify that on the 26th day of September, 2019, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER ADMITTING TO PRACTICE 17 (DAVID RANSEN SINGER, ESQ.) via the Court's electronic filing system only, pursuant to 18 the Nevada Electronic Filing and Conversion Rules, Administrative Order 14-2, to all parties 19 currently on the electronic service list. 20 21 22 /s/ Pamela Montgomery An Employee of Kemp, Jones & Coulthard, LLP 23 24 25 26 27 28

27

28

1

9/25/2019 3:00 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT J. Randall Jones, Esq. (#1927) r.jones@kempjones.com Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) m.gayan@kempjones.com | Mona Kaveh, (#11825) m.kaveh@kempjones.com KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 Telephone: (702) 385-6000 Facsimile: (702) 385-6001 Richard L. Stone, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice Pending) Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice Pending) David R. Singer, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice Pending)

## DISTRICT COURT

## CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada corporation, Case No.: A-18-772591-B Dept. No.: XVI

Plaintiff,

JENNER & BLOCK, LLP 633 West 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 3600

Los Angeles, CA 90071 Telephone: (213) 239-2206

Attorneys for Defendants

NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; and LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC., a Delaware limited liability company,

Defendants.

ORDER ADMITTING TO PRACTICE (DAVID RANSEN SINGER, ESQ.)

**Electronically Filed** 

DAVID RANSEN SINGER, ESQ., having filed his Motion to Associate Counsel under Nevada Supreme Court Rule 42, together with a Verified Application for Association of Counsel, a Certificate of Good Standing for the State of California, and the State Bar of Nevada Statement; said application having been noticed, no objections having been made, and the Court being fully apprised in the premises, and good cause appearing, it is hereby

Ì

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

28

ORDERED, that said application is hereby granted, and DAVID RANSEN SINGER, ESQ., is hereby admitted to practice in the above entitled Court for the purposed of the above entitled matter only. DATED this day of September, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

KEMP, JQNES & COULTHARD, LLP

J. Randall Jones, Esq., (#1927) Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) Mona Kaveh, Esq., (#11825)

3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor

Las Vegas, Nevada 89169

Richard L. Stone, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice Pending) Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice Pending)
David R. Singer, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice Pending)
JENNER & BLOCK, LLP 633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600 Los Angeles, CA 90071 Attorneys for Defendants

**Electronically Filed** 9/26/2019 10:54 AM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

above entitled matter on September 25, 2019, a copy of which is attached hereto. 1 DATED this 26th day of September, 2019. 2 3 KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP 4 /s/ Michael Gayan 5 J. Randall Jones, Esq., (#1927) Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) 6 Mona Kaveh, Esq., (#11825) 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor 7 Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 8 Richard L. Stone, Esq. (pro hac vice) 9 David R. Singer, Esq. (pro hac vice) Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (pro hac vice) JENNER & BLOCK 10 633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600 Los Angeles, CA 90071-2054 11 Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 (702) 385-6000 • Fax (702) 385-6001 kic@kempiones.com Attorneys for Defendants 12 13 14 15 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 16 I hereby certify that on the 26th day of September, 2019, I served a true and correct copy 17 of the foregoing NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER ADMITTING TO PRACTICE (AMY MARSHALL GALLEGOS, ESQ.) via the Court's electronic filing system only, pursuant to 18 the Nevada Electronic Filing and Conversion Rules, Administrative Order 14-2, to all parties 19 currently on the electronic service list. 20 21 22 /s/ Pamela Montgomery An Employee of Kemp, Jones & Coulthard, LLP 23 24 25 26 27 28

24

25

26

27

28

Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT J. Randall Jones, Esq. (#1927) 1 r.jones@kempjones.com Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) m.gayan@kempjones.com Mona Kaveh, (#11825) m.kaveh@kempjones.com KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 Telephone: (702) 385-6000 Facsimile: (702) 385-6001 Richard L. Stone, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice Pending) Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice Pending) David R. Singer, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice Pending) JENNER & BLOCK, LLP 633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600 Los Angeles, CA 90071 Telephone: (213) 239-2206 10 Attorneys for Defendants 11 DISTRICT COURT Seventeenth Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 (702) 385-6000 • Fax (702) 385-6001 kic@kempiones.com 12 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 13 LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada Case No.: A-18-772591-B Dept. No.: XVI 14 corporation, 15 Plaintiff, 16 ٧. ORDER ADMITTING TO PRACTICE 17 (AMY MARSHALL GALLEGOS, ESQ.) NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC, 18 a Delaware limited liability company; and LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC., 19 a Delaware limited liability company, 20 Defendants. 21 22 AMY MARSHALL GALLEGOS, ESQ., having filed his Motion to Associate 23

Electronically Filed 9/25/2019 3:00 PM

AMY MARSHALL GALLEGOS, ESQ., having filed his Motion to Associate Counsel under Nevada Supreme Court Rule 42, together with a Verified Application for Association of Counsel, a Certificate of Good Standing for the State of California, and the State Bar of Nevada Statement; said application having been noticed, no objections having been made, and the Court being fully apprised in the premises, and good cause appearing, it is hereby

	ORDERED, that said application is hereby granted, and AMY MARSHALL
	GALLEGOS, ESQ., is hereby admitted to practice in the above entitled Court for the purposed
	of the above entitled matter only.
	DATED this at day of September, 2019.
	DISTRICT COURT JUDGE
	Respectfully submitted,
	KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP  J. Randall Jones, Esq., (#1927) Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#1135) Mona Kaveh, Esq., (#11825) 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89169  Richard L. Stone, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice Pending) Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice Pending) David R. Singer, Esq. (Pro Hac Vice Pending) JENNER & BLOCK, LLP 633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600 Los Angeles, CA 90071 Attorneys for Defendants
1	

# **CASE SUMMARY** CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

Las Vegas Sun Inc, Plaintiff(s)

News+Media Capital Group LLC, Defendant(s)

Location: Department 16 Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.

Filed on: 04/10/2018

Case Number History:

Cross-Reference Case A772591

Number:

**CASE INFORMATION** 

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$

Case Type: Other Business Court Matters

Status:

04/10/2018 Open

DATE **CASE ASSIGNMENT** 

**Current Case Assignment** 

Case Number A-18-772591-B Court Department 16 Date Assigned 08/27/2018

Judicial Officer Williams, Timothy C.

PARTY INFORMATION

Lead Attorneys **Plaintiff** Las Vegas Sun Inc

Reid, Leif Retained 702-823-2900(W)

Defendant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Jones, Jon Randall

> Retained 7023856000(W)

News+Media Capital Group LLC Jones, Jon Randall

> Retained 7023856000(W)

**Counter Claimant** Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Jones, Jon Randall

Retained

7023856000(W)

Reid, Leif Retained 702-823-2900(W)

DATE **EVENTS & ORDERS OF THE COURT** INDEX

**EVENTS** 

Counter

Defendant

04/10/2018 Complaint (Business Court)

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Complaint

04/10/2018 Initial Appearance Fee Disclosure

Las Vegas Sun Inc

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Initial Appearance Fee Disclosure

04/10/2018 Summons Electronically Issued - Service Pending

Party: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Summons

# CASE SUMMARY CASE No. A-18-772591-B

04/10/2018	Summons Electronically Issued - Service Pending Party: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Summons	
04/12/2018	Notice Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Notice of Related Cases	
04/19/2018	Affidavit of Service Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Affidavit of Service News+Media Capital Group LLC c/o CSC Service of Nevada Inc Registered Agent	
04/19/2018	Affidavit of Service Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Affidavit of Service LV Review Journal, Inc. c/o CSC Service of Nevada IncRegistered Agent	
04/27/2018	Motion to Compel  Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc  Plaintiffs' Motion to Compel Arbitration	
05/07/2018	Motion to Dismiss  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC  Defendants' Motion to Dismiss	
05/07/2018	Initial Appearance Fee Disclosure Filed By: Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Initial Appearance Fee Disclosure (NRS Chapter 19)	
05/16/2018	Stipulation and Order Filed by: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Stipulation and Order to Vacate, Continue, and Consolidate Hearings on Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Arbitration and Defendants' Motion to Dismiss	
05/17/2018	Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order to Vacate, Continue, and Consolidate Hearings on Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Arbitration and Defendants Motion to Dismiss	
07/18/2018	Stipulation and Order Filed by: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Stipulation and Order to Vacate and Continue Hearing on Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Arbitration and Defendants' Motion to Dismiss and to Extend Deadlines for Filing Motion Responses	
07/19/2018	Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order to Vacate and Continue Hearing on Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Arbitration and Defendants' Motion to Dismiss and to Extend Deadlines for Filing Motion Responses	
08/22/2018	Stipulation and Order	

# CASE SUMMARY CASE No. A-18-772591-B

Filed by: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Stipulation and Order to Vacate and Continue Hearing on Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Arbitration and Defendants' Motionto Dismiss and to Extend Deadlines for Filing Motion Responses 08/22/2018 Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order to Vacate and Continue Hearing on Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Arbitration and Defendants' Motion to Dmismiss and to Extend Deadlines for Filing Motion Responses 08/22/2018 Notice of Department Reassignment Notice of Department Reassignment 08/24/2018 Peremptory Challenge Filed by: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Defendants' Peremptory Challenge of Judge 08/27/2018 Notice of Department Reassignment Notice of Department Reassignment 09/17/2018 Opposition to Motion to Dismiss Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Plaintiff's Opposition to Defendants' Motion to Dismiss 09/17/2018 Response Filed by: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Defendants' Response to Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Arbitration 09/17/2018 Stipulation and Order Filed by: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Stipulation and Order to Extend Deadlines for Filing Motion Responses on Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Arbitration and Defendants' Motion to Dismiss 10/02/2018 Stipulation and Order Filed by: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Stipulation and Order to Vacate and Continue Hearing on Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Arbitration and Defendants' Motion to Dismiss and to Extend Deadlines for Filing Motion Replies 10/03/2018 Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order 10/17/2018 🔼 Reply Filed by: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Plaintiff's Reply to Defendants' Response to Motion to Compel Arbitration 10/17/2018 Reply Filed by: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Defendants' Reply in Support of Defendants' Motion to Dismiss

# CASE SUMMARY CASE No. A-18-772591-B

	CASE 110. A-10-7/2371-D
11/07/2018	Motion for Partial Summary Judgment Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Plaintiff's Motion for Partial Summary Judgment for Declaratory Relief and Breach of Contract/Specific Performance (First and Fourth Claims for Relief)
11/21/2018	Order Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Arbitration and Denying Defendants' Motion to Dismiss
11/21/2018	Motion to Extend  Party: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Motion to Extend Deadline for the Filing of Defendants' Response to Plaintiff's Motion for Partial Summary Judgment and to Vacate and Reschedule Hearing on Order Shortening Time (First Request)
11/27/2018	Notice of Entry Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Notice of Entry of Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Arbitration and Denying Defendants' Motion to Dismiss
11/27/2018	Opposition to Motion  Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc  Plaintiff's Opposition to Motion to Extend Deadline for the Filing of Defendants' Response to  Plaintiff's Motion for Partial Summary Judgment and to Vacate and Reschedule the Hearing on Order Shortening Time
12/03/2018	Motion to Reconsider  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration of Court's Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Arbitration and Denying Defendants' Motion to Dismiss, and Request for Stay on Order Shortening Time
12/10/2018	Affidavit in Support Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Affidavit of Richard J. Pocker in Support of Request to Postpone Ruling on Motion for Summary Judgment Until Close of Discovery Pursuant to Rule 56(f) of the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure
12/10/2018	Response Filed by: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Defendants' Response to Plaintiff's Motion for Partial Summary Judgment for Declaratory Relief and Breach of Contract/Specific Performance (First and Fourth (sic) Claims for Relief)
12/11/2018	Request for Judicial Notice Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Defendants' Request for Judicial Notice in Support of Their Response to Plaintiff's Motion for Partial Summary Judgment and Declaratory Relief and Breach of Contract/Specific Performance (First and Fourth (sic) Claims for Relief)
12/11/2018	Opposition to Motion Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

Plaintiff's Opposition to Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration of Court's Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Arbitration and Denying Defendants' Motion to Dismiss, and Request for Stay on Order Shortening Time

12/14/2018

Answer

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas

Review-Journal Inc Answer to Complaint

12/17/2018

Reply

Filed by: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Reply to Defendants' Response to Plaintiff's Motion for Partial Summary Judgment for

Declaratory Relief and Breach of Contract/Specific Performance

12/17/2018

Reply in Support

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas

Review-Journal Inc

Defendants' Reply In Support of Motion for Reconsideration of Court's Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Arbitration and Denying Defendants' Motion to Dismiss, and

Request for Stay on Order Shortening Time

12/18/2018

Notice of Appearance

Party: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Notice of Appearance

01/14/2019

Order Denying Motion

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Order Denying Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration of Court's Order Granting Plaintiff's Motin to Compel Arbitration and Denying Defendants' Motion to Dismiss and Request for Stay

on Order Shortening Time

01/15/2019

Notice of Entry

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Notice of Entry of Order Denying Defendants Motion for Reconsideration of Court's Order

Granting Plaintiff s Motion to Compel Arbitration And Denying Defendants Motion oo

Dismiss And Request for Stay on Order Shortening Time

01/30/2019

Notice of Appearance

Party: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-

Journal Inc

Notice of Appearance

02/13/2019

Joint Case Conference Report

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Joint Case Conference Report

03/18/2019

Business Court Order

Business Court Order

04/03/2019

Demand for Jury Trial

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Demand for Jury Trial

04/08/2019

Order Setting Civil Jury Trial and Calendar Call

Order Setting Civil Jury Trial and Calendar Call

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

	CASE NO. A-18-7/2591-B
06/05/2019	Stipulation to Extend Discovery Party: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Stipulation and Order to Continue Discovery, Case Deadlines, and Trial Date
06/05/2019	Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order  Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc  Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order to Continue Discovery, Case Deadlines, and Trial  Date
06/06/2019	Amended Order Setting Jury Trial  Amended Order Setting Jury Trial
07/17/2019	Motion for Protective Order  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Motion for Protective Order and Objections Under NRCP 45
07/18/2019	Clerk's Notice of Hearing  Notice of Hearing
07/29/2019	Opposition to Motion For Protective Order  Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc  Plaintiff's Opposition to Motion for Protective Order and Objections Under NRCP 45
08/08/2019	Stipulated Protective Order Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Stipulated Confidentiality and Protective Order
08/09/2019	Notice of Appearance Party: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Notice of Appearance
08/09/2019	Notice of Entry  Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc  Notice of Entry of Stipulated Confidentiality and Protective Order
08/13/2019	Stipulation Filed by: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Stipulated Discovery Exchange Protocol and Order
08/14/2019	Notice of Entry Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Notice of Entry of Stipulated Discovery Exchange Protocol and Order
08/14/2019	Reply in Support  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Review-Journal's Reply in Support of Motion for Protective Order and Objections Re Huffman Subpoena
08/14/2019	Declaration  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Declaration of Keith Moyer

# CASE SUMMARY CASE No. A-18-772591-B

08/15/2019	Substitution of Attorney  Filed by: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Substitution Of Attorneys
08/19/2019	Supplement to Opposition  Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc  Plaintiff's Supplemental Opposition to Defendants' Motion for Protective Order and  Objections Under NRCP 45
08/19/2019	Motion to Compel Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Production of Documents
08/20/2019	Clerk's Notice of Hearing  Notice of Hearing
08/20/2019	Objection Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Defendants' Objection To Plaintiff's Improper Supplement Related To Defendants' Motion For Protective Order And Objections Under NRCP 45
08/30/2019	Motion to Amend Answer Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s Motion for Leave to Amend Answer and Assert Counterclaim on Order Shortening Time
09/09/2019	Notice of Appearance Party: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Notice of Appearance
09/09/2019	Opposition to Motion  Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc  Opposition to Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal,  Inc.'s Motion for Leave to Amend Answer and Assert Counterclaim on Order Shortening Time  (Redacted)
09/09/2019	Motion to Seal/Redact Records  Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc  Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal
09/10/2019	Filed Under Seal Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Filed Under Seal per 9/9/19 Motion for Leave to File Douments Under Seal. Opposition to Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s Motion for leave to Amend Answer and Assert Counterclaim on Order Shortening Time
09/10/2019	Clerk's Notice of Hearing  Notice of Hearing
09/12/2019	Motion to Associate Counsel  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc

# CASE SUMMARY

CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

	CASE 110. A-10-7/2371-D
	Motion To Associate Counsel (Richard Lee Stone, Esq.)
09/12/2019	Motion to Associate Counsel Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Motion To Associate Counsel (Amy Marshall Gallegos, Esq.)
09/12/2019	Motion to Associate Counsel Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Motion To Associate Counsel (David Ransen Singer, Esq.)
09/12/2019	Clerk's Notice of Hearing  Notice of Hearing
09/12/2019	Clerk's Notice of Hearing  Notice of Hearing
09/12/2019	Clerk's Notice of Hearing  Notice of Hearing
09/12/2019	Clerk's Notice of Hearing  Amended Notice of Hearing
09/13/2019	Motion to Seal/Redact Records  Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc  Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal
09/13/2019	Appendix Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Appendix of Exhibits to: Plaintiff's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part (Volume 1)
09/13/2019	Clerk's Notice of Hearing  Notice of Hearing
09/13/2019	Order Denying Motion  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Order Denying Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Motion For Partial Summary Judgment
09/13/2019	Filed Under Seal Filed By: Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Plaintiff's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part Sealed per 9/13/19 Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal
09/13/2019	Notice of Entry of Order  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Notice Of Entry Of Order Denying Las Vegas Sun Inc.'s Motion For Partial Summary Judtment
09/13/2019	Filed Under Seal Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

Appendix of Exhibits to: Plaintiffs Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part and to Vacate, or Alternatively Modify or Correct the Award in Part - Volume 13 (Filed under Seal per 9/13/19 Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal)

09/13/2019

🛐 Filed Under Seal

Filed By: Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc

Appendix of Exhibits to: Plaintiffs Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part and to Vacate, or Alternatively Modify or Correct the Award in Part - Volume 14 (Filed under Seal per 9/13/19 Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal)

09/13/2019

Filed Under Seal

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Appendix of Exhibits to: Plaintiff's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part (Volume 7) Sealed per 9/13/19 Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal

09/13/2019

Filed Under Seal

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Appendix of Exhibits to: Plaintiffs Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part and to Vacate, or Alternatively Modify or Correct the Award in Part - Volume 15 (Filed under Seal per 9/13/19 Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal)

09/13/2019

🛐 Filed Under Seal

Appendix of Exhibits to: Plaintiff's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part (Volume 8) Sealed per 9/13/19 Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal

09/13/2019

🛐 Filed Under Seal

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Appendix of Exhibits to: Plaintiffs Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part and to Vacate, or Alternatively Modify or Correct the Award in Part - Volume 16 (Filed under Seal per 9/13/19 Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal)

09/13/2019

Filed Under Seal

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Appendix of Exhibits to: Plaintiffs Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part and to Vacate, or Alternatively Modify or Correct the Award in Part - Volume 17 (Filed under Seal per 9/13/19 Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal)

09/13/2019

Filed Under Seal

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Appendix of Exhibits to: Plaintiff's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part (Volume 2) Sealed per 9/13/19 Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal

09/13/2019

🛐 Filed Under Seal

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Appendix of Exhibits to: Plaintiffs Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part and to Vacate, or Alternatively Modify or Correct the Award in Part - Volume 9 (Filed under Seal per 9/13/19 Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal)

09/13/2019

filed Under Seal

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Appendix of Exhibits to: Plaintiffs Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part and to Vacate, or Alternatively Modify or Correct the Award in Part - Volume 10 (Filed under Seal per 9/13/19 Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal)

09/13/2019

## CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

🛍 Filed Under Seal

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Appendix of Exhibits to: Plaintiffs Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part and to Vacate, or Alternatively Modify or Correct the Award in Part - Volume 11 (Filed under Seal per 9/13/19 Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal)

09/13/2019 filed Under Seal

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Appendix of Exhibits to: Plaintiff's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part (Volume 3) Sealed per 9/13/19

Motion for Leave to File Documents under Seal

09/13/2019 췹 Filed Under Seal

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Appendix of Exhibits to: Plaintiffs Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part and to Vacate, or Alternatively Modify or Correct the Award in Part - Volume 12 (Filed under Seal

per 9/13/19 Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal)

09/13/2019 🚹 Filed Under Seal

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Appendix of Exhibits to: Plaintiff's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part (Volume 4) Sealed per 9/13/19 Motion for Leave to File Documents under Seal

09/13/2019 🚮 Filed Under Seal

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Appendix of Exhibits to: Plaintiff's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part (Volume 6) Sealed per 9/13/19 Motion for Leave to File Documents under Seal

09/13/2019 Filed Under Seal

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Appendix of Exhibits to: Plaintiff's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part (Volume 5) Sealed per 9/13/19 Motion for Leave to File Documents under Seal

09/18/2019 Motion for Leave to File

Party: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc

Defendants' Motion For Leave To File Documents Under Seal

09/18/2019 Motion to Vacate

> Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc

Defendants' Motion To Vacate Arbitration Award

09/18/2019 Reply in Support

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc

Reply In Support Of Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC And Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s Motion For Leave To Amend Answer And Assert Counterclaim On Order

Shortening Time

09/19/2019 Clerk's Notice of Hearing

Notice of Hearing

09/19/2019 Clerk's Notice of Hearing

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

	Notice of Hearing
09/19/2019	Filed Under Seal Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Defendants' Motion to Vacate Arbitration Award 9/18/19 Defendants' Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal
09/24/2019	Notice Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Notice of Related Federal Court Action
09/24/2019	Stipulation and Order Filed by: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Stipulation And Order To Continue Hearing On Plaintiff's Motion To Confirm Arbitration Award, In Part, And To Vacate Or, Alternatively, Modify Of Correct The Award, In Part And To Set Briefing Schedules
09/24/2019	Stipulation and Order to Extend Discovery Deadlines Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Stipulation And Order To Extend Discovery Deadlines
09/24/2019	Stipulation and Order Filed by: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Stipulation And Order To Continue Hearing On Plaintiff's Motion To Compel And To Set Briefing Schedule
09/24/2019	Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Notice Of Entry Of Stipulation And Order To Continue Hearing On Plaintiff's Motion To Compel And To Set Briefing Schedule
09/24/2019	Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Notice Of Entry Of Stipulation And Order To Extend Discovery Deadlines
09/24/2019	Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Notice Of Entry Of Stipulation And Order To Continue Hearing On Plaintiff's Motion To Confirm Arbitration Award, In Part, And To Vacate Or, Alternatively, Modify Or Correct The Award, In Part And To Set Briefing Schedules
09/25/2019	Order Admitting to Practice  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Order Admitting To Practice (David Ransen Singer, Esq.)
09/25/2019	Order Admitting to Practice  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Order Admitting To Practice (Amy Marshall Gallegos, Esq.)

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

	CASE NO. A-18-//2591-B
09/25/2019	Order Admitting to Practice  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Order Admitting To Practice (Richard Lee Stone, Esq.)
09/26/2019	Notice of Entry of Order  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Notice Of Entry Of Order Admitting To Practice (Richard Lee Stone, Esq.)
09/26/2019	Notice of Entry of Order  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Notice Of Entry Of Order Admitting To Practice (Amy Marshall Gallegos, Esq.)
09/26/2019	Notice of Entry of Order  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Notice Of Entry Of Order Admitting To Practice (David Ransen Singer, Esq.)
09/27/2019	Non Opposition  Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc  Notice of Non-Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal
09/27/2019	Notice of Intent  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Notice Of Intent To File Opposition To Plaintiff's Motions For Leave To File Documents Under Seal
09/30/2019	Amended Answer First Amended Answer To Complaint And Counterclaims
09/30/2019	Motion to Seal/Redact Records  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Defendants' Motion To Seal Opposition And Exhibits A-K
09/30/2019	Motion for Leave to File Party: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Plaintiff's Motion for Leave to Amend Complaint
09/30/2019	Filed Under Seal  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review Journal, Inc's Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in part, and to Vacate or Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in part, and Conditional Countermotion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in part, and to Vacate the Award, in Part
09/30/2019	Clerk's Notice of Hearing  Notice of Hearing
09/30/2019	Opposition to Motion

# CASE SUMMARY

CASE No. A-18-772591-B

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Defendants' Limited Opposition To Motions For Leave To File Documents Under Seal 09/30/2019 Opposition to Motion Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Plaintiff's Opposition to Defendants' Motion to Vacate Arbitration Award (Redacted) 09/30/2019 Motion to Seal/Redact Records Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal [The Sun's Opposition and Exhibits to Defendants' Motion to Vacate Arbitration Award] 09/30/2019 Opposition to Motion Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Plaintiff's Limited Opposition to Defendants' Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal [Exhibits B and C to Defendants' Motion to Vacate Arbitration Award, and References Thereto in Motion to Vacate] 10/01/2019 Clerk's Notice of Hearing Notice of Hearing 10/01/2019 🛍 Filed Under Seal Plaintiff's Opposition to Defendants' Motion to Vacate Arbitration Award 10/02/2019 🔼 Opposition to Motion to Compel Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC Defendants' Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Production of Documents 10/03/2019 Clerk's Notice of Hearing Notice of Hearing 10/08/2019 Order Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Order Granting In Part Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC And Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s Motion For Protective Order And Objections Under NRCP 45 10/08/2019 Notice of Entry of Order Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Notice Of Entry Of Order 10/10/2019 Opposition to Motion Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Plaintiff's Limited Opposition to Defendants' Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal [Exhibits A, B, D, and G-K to Defendants' Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award in Part, and References Thereto 10/10/2019 Opposition to Motion Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC Defendants' Limited Opposition to Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal [The Sun's Opposition and Exhibits to Defendants' Motion to Vacate Arbitration Award] 10/10/2019

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

Opposition to Motion

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC

Defendants' (1) Limited Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion for Leave to Amend Complaint and (2) Countermotion to Continue Trial

10/11/2019

Reply in Support

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC

Reply in Support of Defendants' Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal

10/11/2019

Motion to Seal/Redact Records

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas

Review-Journal Inc

Defendants' Motion For Leave To File Documents Under Seal

10/11/2019

Reply in Support

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas

Review-Journal Inc

Defendants' Reply In Support Of Motion To Vacate Arbitration Award

10/11/2019

Reply to Opposition

Filed by: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Plaintiff's Reply to Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review Journal, Inc.'s Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part and Defendants' Conditional Countermotion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate the Award, in Part

(Redacted)

10/11/2019

Motion to Seal/Redact Records

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal [Exhibits 3-6 to Reply to Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively,

Modify or Correct the Award, in Part, and References Thereto]

10/11/2019

Reply to Opposition

Filed by: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Reply to Defendants' Limited Opposition to Motions for Leave to File Documents Under Seal [Opposition to Defendants' Motion for Leave to Amend Answer and Assert Counterclaim and Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or

Correct the Award, In Part]

10/11/2019

🔼 Reply

Filed by: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Reply to Defendants' Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Production of Documents

10/14/2019

Clerk's Notice of Hearing

Notice of Hearing

10/14/2019

🛍 Filed Under Seal

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas

Review-Journal Inc

Defendant's Reply in Support of Motion to Vacate Arbotratopm Award (FUS from Motion dated 10/11/19)

10/14/2019

Reply in Support

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas

Review-Journal Inc

# CASE SUMMARY

CASE No. A-18-772591-B

Reply In Support Of Defendants Nesw+Media Capital Group LLC And Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s Conditional Countermotion To Confirm Arbitration Award, In Part, And To Vacate The Award, In Part

10/14/2019

🛅 Filed Under Seal

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Plaintiff's Reply to Defendants' News & Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review Journal, Inc.'s Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part and Defendant's Conditional Countermotion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate the Award, in Part

10/14/2019

Motion to Dismiss

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Motion to Dismiss Counterclaims or, Alternatively, to Stay Counterclaims Pending Federal Court Action

🔁 Clerk's Notice of Hearing

Notice of Hearing

10/15/2019

10/15/2019

Stipulation and Order

Filed by: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc

Stipulation And Order To Continue Hearing On All Motions Set For Hearing On October 16, 2010

10/15/2019

Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc

Notice Of Entry Of Stipulation And Order To Continue Hearing On All Motions Set For Hearing On October 16, 2019

10/21/2019

🔁 Opposition to Motion

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Plaintiff's Limited Opposition to Defendants' Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal [Exhibits E-H to Defendants' Reply in Support of Motion to Vacate Arbitration Award, and References Thereto in Motion to Vacate]

10/21/2019

Opposition to Motion

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC

Defendants' Limited Opposition to Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal [Exhibits 3-6 to Reply to Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part, and References Thereto]

10/23/2019

Stipulation and Order

Filed by: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc

Stipulation And Order To Extend Time For Defendants To File A Response In Opposition To Plaintiff's Motion To Dismiss

10/23/2019

Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc

Notice Of Entry Of Stipulation And Order To Extend Time For Defendants To File A Response In Opposition To Plaintiff's Motion To Dismiss

10/25/2019

Order

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

# CASE SUMMARY

CASE NO. A-18-772591-B Order Granting Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal,

Inc.'s Motion for Leave to Amend Answer and Assert Counterclaim on Order Shortening Time

10/28/2019

Notice of Entry

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Notice of Entry of Order Granting Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s Motion for Leave to Amend Answer and Assert Counterclaim on Order Shortening Time

10/28/2019

🔼 Opposition to Motion to Dismiss

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc

Counterclaimant Las Vegas Review-Journal's Opposition To Counter-Defendant Las Vegas Sun's Motion To Dismiss Counterclaims

11/01/2019

Reply

Filed by: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Plaintiff's (1) Reply to Limited Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion for Leave to Amend Complaint and (2) Opposition to Countermotion to Continue Trial

11/01/2019

Reply to Opposition

Filed by: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Reply to Defendants' Limited Opposition to Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal [The Sun's Opposition and Exhibits to Defendants' Motion to Vacate Arbitration Award]

11/01/2019

Reply in Support

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC

Reply in Support of Defendants' Motion to Seal Opposition and Exhibits A-K

11/04/2019

Reply in Support

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas

Review-Journal Inc

Reply In Support Of Defendants' Countermotion To Continue Trial

11/05/2019

Status Report

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Plaintiff's Status Report for Status Check Regarding Outstanding Discovery Issues

11/08/2019

Reply to Opposition

Filed by: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Reply to Defendants' Limited Opposition to Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal [Exhibits 3-6 to Reply to Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and References Thereto]

11/08/2019

Reply in Support

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc

Reply In Support Of Defendants' Motion For Leave To File Documents Under Seal (Exhibits E-H To Defendants' Reply In Support Of Motion To Vacate Arbitration Award And References Thereto)

11/12/2019

Objection

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc

Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC And Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s (1) Objection To Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Binder Of Exhibits Submitted To The Court On November 6, 2019, And (2) Request For Court To Defer Ruling On Arbitration Motions

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

	CASE NO. A-18-//2591-B
11/12/2019	Order Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Order Granting Plaintiff's Motoin for Leave to Amend Complaint and Granting in Part Defendants' Countermotion to Continue Trial
11/14/2019	Notice of Entry Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Notice of Entry of Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion for Leave to Amend Complaint and Granting in Part Defendants' Countermotion to Continue Trial
11/15/2019	First Amended Complaint Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc First Amended Complaint
11/18/2019	Reply in Support  Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc  Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Reply In Support Of Motion To Dismiss Counterclaims Or, Alternatively,  To Stay Counterclaims Pending Federal Court Action
11/18/2019	Appendix Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Appendix To Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Reply In Support Of Motion To Dismiss Counterclaims Or, Alternatively, To Stay Counterclaims Pending Federal Court Action
11/18/2019	Motion to Seal/Redact Records  Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc  Motion For Leave To File Documents Under Seal [Exhibits 7 And 9 To Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s  Reply In Support Of Motion To Dismiss Counterclaims Or, Alternatively, To Stay  Counterclaims Pending Federal Court Action And References Thereto]
11/18/2019	Motion for Protective Order Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Motion for Protective Order Staying Discovery Pending Resolution of Sun's Motion to Dismiss Counterclaims, or Alternatively, to Stay Counterclaims Pending Federal Court Action
11/19/2019	Clerk's Notice of Hearing  Notice of Hearing
11/19/2019	Clerk's Notice of Hearing  Notice of Hearing
11/19/2019	Motion Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc News+Media Capital Group LLC And Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.s' Motion To Modify Protective Order On Order Shortening Time
11/19/2019	Notice of Change of Hearing  Notice of Change of Hearing
11/19/2019	Filed Under Seal Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Reply in Support of Motion to Dismiss Counterclaims or Alternatively, to Stay Counterc laims Pending Federal Court Action

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

	CASE NO. A-18-//2591-B
11/19/2019	Filed Under Seal  Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc  Appendix to Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Reply in Support of Motion to Dismiss Counterclaims or  Alternatively, to Stay Counterclaims Pending Federal Court Action
11/20/2019	Amended Order Setting Jury Trial  2nd Amended Order Setting Civil Jury Trial, Pre-Trial, Calendar Call, and Deadlines for  Motions; Amended Discovery Scheduling Order
11/21/2019	Stipulation and Order Filed by: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Stipulation and Order to Extend Deadline for Reply in Support of Motion to Dismiss Counterclaims or, Alternatively, to Stay Counterclaims Pending Federal Court Action (First Request)
11/21/2019	Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order to Extend Deadline for Reply in Support of Motion to Dismiss Counterclaims or, Alternatively, to Stay Counterclaims Pending Federal Court Action (First Request)
11/22/2019	Motion to Stay  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  News+Media Capital Group LLC And Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s Emergency Motion To Stay Case And Postpone Action On Arbitration-Related Motions On Order Shortening Time
11/25/2019	Stipulation and Order Filed by: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Stipulation And Order To Extend Time For Defendants To File Response To Plaintiff's First Amended Complaint
11/25/2019	Notice of Entry of Stipulation and Order  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Notice Of Entry Of Stipulation And Order To Extend Time For Defendants To File Response To Plaintiff's First Amended Complaint
11/27/2019	Notice of Rescheduling of Hearing Filed by: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Notice of Rescheduling
12/02/2019	Non Opposition  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Defendants' Non-Opposition To Motion For Leave To File Documents Under Seal (Exhibits 7 And 9 To Plaintiff's Reply In Support Of Motion To Dismiss Counterclaims Or, Alternatively, To Stay Counterclaims Pending Federal Court Action And References Thereto)
12/02/2019	Motion to Seal/Redact Records  Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc  Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal [Exhibits 5, 7, and 9 to Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Opposition to Defendants' Emergency Motion to Stay Case and Postpone Action on Arbitration-Related Motions on OST and References Thereto]

# CASE SUMMARY CASE No. A-18-772591-B

	CASE NO. A-18-//2591-B
12/02/2019	Opposition and Countermotion  Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Opposition to News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review- Journal, Inc.'s Emergency Motion to Stay Case and Postpone Action on Arbitration-Related Motions on Order Shortening Time and Countermotion to Stay Defendants' Tenth, Twenty- Sixth and Twenty-Seventh Affirmative Defenses (Redacted)
12/02/2019	Opposition and Countermotion  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  News+Media Capital Group LLC's And Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s (1) Opposition To Plaintiff's Motion For Protective Order Staying Discovery Pending Resolution Of Sun's Motion To Dismiss Counterclaims, Or Alternatively, To Stay Counterclaims Pending Federal Court Action, And In The Alternative, (2) Countermotion To Stay All Discovery
12/02/2019	Opposition to Motion  Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc  Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Opposition to News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-  Journal, Inc.'s Motion to Modify Protective Order on Order Shortening Time
12/03/2019	Reply in Support  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Reply In Support Of News+Media Capital Group LLC And Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s Emergency Motion to Stay Case and Postpone Action on Arbitration-Related Motions on Order Shortening Time and Opposition to Countermotion to Stay Defendants' Tenth, Twenty-Sixth And Twenty-Seventh Affirmative Defenses
12/03/2019	Filed Under Seal  Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc  Las Vegas Sun Inc's Opposition to News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review- Journal Inc's Emergency Motion to Stay CAse and Postpone Action on Arbitration-Related  Motions on Order Shortening Time and Countermotion to Stay Defendants' Tenth, Twenty- Sixth and Twenty-Seventh Affirmative Defenses 12/02/19 Motion to Leave to File Documents  Under Seal [Exhibits 5,7, and 9 to Las Vegas Inc's Opposition to Defendants' Emergency  Motion to Stay Case and Postpone Action on Arbitration-Related Motions on OST and  References Thereto
12/03/2019	Clerk's Notice of Hearing  Notice of Hearing
12/17/2019	Order Granting  Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Production of Documents
12/18/2019	Notice of Entry of Order  Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc  Notice Of Entry Of Order Granting In Part And Denying In Part Plaintiff's Motion To Compel Production Of Documents
01/03/2020	Objection Filed By: Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc News+Media Capital Group LLC's and Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s Objection to Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order Affirming the Arbitration Award
01/09/2020	Order Granting Motion

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part Pltf's Motion to Dismiss Counterclaims or

Alternatively to Stay

01/13/2020

Notice of Entry of Order

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Notice of Entry of Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part Plaintiff's Motion to Dismiss Counterclaims or Alternatively, to Stay Counterclaims Pending Federal Court Action

01/16/2020

Motion for Leave to File

News+Media Capital Group LLC And Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s Motion For Leave To File Additional Briefing Requested By Court On Order Shortening Time

01/21/2020

Notice of Withdrawal of Attorney

Filed by: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas

Review-Journal Inc

Notice of Withdrawal of Attorney Akke Levin

01/28/2020

🔼 Opposition to Motion

Filed By: Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc

Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Opposition to News+Media Capital Groups LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s Motion for Leave to File Additional Briefing Requested by Court on Order

Shortening Time

01/28/2020

Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc

Findings Of Facts, Conclusions Of Law, And Order Affirming The Arbitration Award

01/28/2020

Notice of Entry

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas

Review-Journal Inc

Notice Of Entry Of Findings Of Facts, Conclusions Of Law And Order Affirming The

Arbitration Award

01/28/2020

Notice of Appeal

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc

News+Media Capital Group LLC And Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s Notice Of Appeal

01/28/2020

Case Appeal Statement

Filed By: Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC; Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc

News+Media Capital Group LLC And Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s Case Appeal Statement

## **HEARINGS**

08/22/2018

Minute Order (2:27 PM) (Judicial Officer: Denton, Mark R.)

Minute Order: Recusal

Minute Order - No Hearing Held; Minute Order: Recusal

Journal Entry Details:

GIVEN the Court's previous professional relationship with one of the parties and its previous professional and long-time personal friendship with principals of the same, and to avoid the appearance of impropriety, the Court RECUSES from further involvement in this case and directs that it be reassigned to another Business Court Department. CANON 2, Rule 2.11, Commentary [1]. IT IS SO ORDERED. CLERK S NOTE: This Minute Order was electronically served by Courtroom Clerk, April Watkins, to all registered parties for Odyssey

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

	CASE NO. A-10-//2591-B
	File & serve. aw;
10/24/2018	Motion to Compel (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Plaintiffs' Motion to Compel Arbitration  Minute Order Dated 08-22-18  Motion Granted;
10/24/2018	Motion to Dismiss (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Defendants' Motion to Dismiss  Minute Order Dated 08-22-18  Motion Denied;
10/24/2018	All Pending Motions (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)
	MINUTES  Matter Heard; Journal Entry Details:  APPEARANCES CONTINUED: Robert Cauthorn, representative of Las Vegas Sun, present.  DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISSPLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO COMPEL  ARBITRATION Arguments by counsel on Motions. Court stated ITS FINDINGS and  ORDERED, Motion to Dismiss DENIED; Motion to Compel GRANTED. Pltf. to prepare order and circulate to counsel.;
12/04/2018	Motion (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Motion to Extend Deadline for the Filing of Defendants Response to Plaintiffs Motion for Partial Summary Judgment and to Vacate and Reschedule Hearing on Order Shortening Time (First Request)  Motion Granted; Journal Entry Details:  APPEARANCES CONTINUED: Robert Cauthorn, representative of Las Vegas Sun, present. Matter of Motion to Extend Deadline for the Filing of Defendants Response to Plaintiffs Motion for Partial Summary Judgment and to Vacate and Reschedule Hearing on Order Shortening Time (First Request). Arguments by counsel. Colloquy regarding possible continuance of all pending matters and scheduling briefing. COURT ORDERED, Motion GRANTED; Response to Motion for Partial Summary Judgment DUE 12/10/18; Reply thereto DUE 12/17/18 by 12:00 p.m. COURT FURTHER ORDERED, following matters CONTINUED: Pltf's Motion for Partial Summary Judgment and Defis' Motion for Reconsideration on Order Shortening Time. CONTINUED TO: 12/19/18 1:15 P.M.;
12/19/2018	Motion for Partial Summary Judgment (1:15 PM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Plaintiff's Motion for Partial Summary Judgment for Declaratory Relief and Breach of Contract/Specific Performance (First and Fourth Claims for Relief)  Motion Denied; See 2/4/19 Minute Order
12/19/2018	Motion For Reconsideration (1:15 PM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration of Court's Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Arbitration and Denying Defendants' Motion to Dismiss, and Request for Stay on Order Shortening Time Motion Denied;
12/19/2018	All Pending Motions (1:15 PM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Matter Heard; Journal Entry Details:  APPEARANCES CONTINUED: Nicole Scott, Esq. present for Pltf. Las Vegas Sun. Representatives of Las Vegas Sun present: Brian Greenspun, Myra Greenspun, and Robert Cauthorn, present. DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF COURT'S ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO COMPEL ARBITRATION AND DENYING DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS, AND REQUEST FOR STAY ON ORDER SHORTENING TIME Arguments by counsel. COURT ORDERED, Motion DENIED; Ms. Martini to prepare detailed amended order within a week. PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF AND BREACH OF

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

CONTRACT/SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE Arguments by counsel. Court advised decision forthcoming within a week.;

02/04/2019

Minute Order (8:13 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

re: Plaintiff LVS s Motion for Partial Summary Judgment for Declaratory Relief and Breach of Contract for Specific Performance (First and Fourth Claims for Relief)

Minute Order - No Hearing Held;

Journal Entry Details:

After a review and consideration of the points and authorities on file herein, and the argument of counsel, the Court determined as follows: The Court has reviewed the issues raised by Plaintiff, Las Vegas, Sun, Inc. (LVS) in its Motion for Partial Summary Judgment for Declaratory Relief and Breach of Contract/Specific Performance (First and Fourth Claims for Relief). It is clear that the Joint Operating Agreement (JOA) is binding and controls the contractual relationship as to LVS and the News+Media Capital Group, LLC. (News-Media). However, issues as to whether there is a material breach of Section 5.1 and Appendices A and B of the JOA by Defendant, News-Media are questions of fact and not the proper basis to support granting summary judgment at this time. Additionally, the remedy of specific performance is only available as an alternative claim to monetary damage where the remedy at law is inadequate. It is premature at this time to reach such a conclusion. Ultimately, the Court anticipates that all issues of compliance and/or breach of Section 5.1 and Appendices A and B of the JOA will require expert testimony to assist the trier of fact in reaching their decision in this matter. Based on the foregoing, Plaintiff LVS s Motion for Partial Summary Judgment for Declaratory Relief and Breach of Contract for Specific Performance (First and Fourth Claims for Relief) shall be DENIED. Counsel for News-Media shall prepare a detailed Order, Findings of Facts, and Conclusions of Law, based not only on the foregoing Minute Order, but also on the record on file herein. This is to be submitted to adverse counsel for review and approval and/or submission of a competing Order or objections, prior to submitting to the Court for review and signature. CLERK S NOTE: This Minute Order has been electronically served to the parties through Odyssey eFile.;

04/03/2019

Mandatory Rule 16 Conference (9:15 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Matter Heard;

Journal Entry Details:

Matter of Mandatory Discovery Conference. Ms. Martini advised related arbitration begins 4/15/19 and concludes 4/26/19. Colloquy regarding impact of the arbitration as to discovery proceeding in this case and claims anticipated for trial. Court stated 2 weeks to be set aside for trial. As to witnesses, Ms. Martini advised 13 total which accounts for 3 duplicates. Ms. Levin advised a confidentiality and protective order and ESI to be negotiated. There being agreement, COURT ORDERED, Trial dates SET; Close of Discovery SET 9/27/19. Department to issue scheduling order. 1/9/20 10:30 AM PRETRIAL/CALENDAR CALL 1/27/20 9:30 AM BENCH TRIAL;

08/21/2019

Motion for Protective Order (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Motion for Protective Order and Objections Under NRCP 45

Granted in Part; See 9/4/19 Minute Order

Journal Entry Details:

APPEARANCES CONTINUED: Benjamin Lipman, Esq. also present as General Counsel for Las Vegas Review-Journal. Matter of Review-Journal's Motion for Protective Order and Objections Under NRCP 45. Mr. Jones argued for opportunity for review and privilege log, and for expansive view as to a representative. Ms. Martini proposed monthly case management conferences and argued burden not met as to whether fact witness at issue covered. Court stated decision to issue next week by way of Minute Order. Colloquy regarding proposed monthly conferences. Court stated if efforts to resolve issue discussed are unsuccessful, Court will entertain motion on order shortening time from Ms. Martini.;

09/04/2019

Minute Order (12:12 PM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Motion for Protective Order and Objections Under NRCP 45

Minute Order - No Hearing Held;

Journal Entry Details:

After review and consideration of the arguments of counsel and the moving papers on file herein, the Court determined as follows: Upon reflection, the Court has considered Defendant News+Media Capital Group, LLC and Las Vegas Review Journal, Inc. s (Collectively the

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

R.J.s ) Motion for a Protective Order as it relates to Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc. s (LV Sun) Notice of Subpoena Duces Tecum regarding the files of J. Ford Huffman. According to the declaration of Keith Moyer dated August 14, 2019, Mr. Huffman was retained to perform two functions. The first task was to assist R.J. employees and managers in the redesign of the newspaper, including the LV Sun insert portion of the newspaper. Mr. Huffman also consulted with and assisted the R.J. as a litigation consultant in responding to the LV Sun s Motion for Summary Judgment. The Court is well aware of positions asserted by the parties and would probably be required to conduct an evidentiary hearing to determine if Mr. Huffman s role in assisting the R.J. rose to the level of functional equivalent of an employee and thus subject to attorney client privilege. Additionally, Defendant R.J. alleges that Mr. Huffman was retained as a litigation consultant resulting in the application of the work product doctrine. Considering the totality of the arguments presented, without a more developed record, it is uncertain as to whether the functional equivalent doctrine applies at this time. However, it is patently apparent that Mr. Huffman has been retained by Defendant R.J. in the dual capacity to work on the newspaper redesign and as a litigation consultant. As a result of Mr. Huffman s dual capacity, the Court will take a cautious approach to the production of documents in Mr. Huffman's possession. In order to prevent the inadvertent disclosure of privileged documents, the Court feels that in order to save time and expedite discovery in this matter and without the necessity of an evidentiary hearing, the Court shall require Mr. Huffman to supply all documents in his possession to Defendant R.J., who then shall be required to prepare a privilege log identifying all documents with particularity and assert the basis, if any for privileged documents for the record. The privileged log shall be prepared and exchanged by counsel within ten days from entry of this Court s order. In addition, the Court shall set a status check on 10/16/2019 at 9:00AM to expedite the discovery and to address the applicability of any asserted privileges. Consequently, Defendant R.J. s Motion for Protective Order shall be Granted in Part as to potential work product privileged based on work as a litigation consultant and Denied in Part as to the functional equivalent employer classifications. Counsel for Defendant R.J. shall prepare a detailed Order, Findings of Facts, and Conclusions of Law, based not only on the foregoing Minute Order, but also on the record on file herein. This is to be submitted to adverse counsel for review and approval and/or submission of a competing Order or objections, prior to submitting to the Court for review and signature. CLERK'S NOTE: The above Minute Order has been corrected with regards to the status check date as was brought to the Court s attention. The initial 10/4/19 setting was a date on which the Court is unavailable; the correct status check date is 10/16/19 at 9:00 a.m. as reflected above. This Minute Order has been electronically served to the parties through *Odyssey eFile. /cd 9-26-19/;* 

09/25/2019

Motion for Leave (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s Motion for Leave to Amend Answer and Assert Counterclaim on Order Shortening Time Motion Granted:

Journal Entry Details:

APPEARANCES CONTINUED: Representatives of Pltf. present: Brian Greenspun, Myra Greenspun, and Amy Greenspun. Benjamin Lipman, Esq. present as General Counsel for Deft. Las Vegas Review-Journal. Attorney David Singer, Pro Hac pending, present for Defts. Matter of Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s Motion for Leave to Amend Answer and Assert Counterclaim on Order Shortening Time. Mr. Jones requested pending Motions to Associate Counsel David Singer, Amy Gallegos, and Richard Stone be granted. Mr. Reid advised no opposition to the Motions. COURT ORDERED, Motions to Associate Counsel GRANTED. Arguments by Mr. Jones and Mr. Pisanelli regarding Motion for Leave. COURT ORDERED, Motion for Leave GRANTED; no rights have been waived. Mr. Jones advised will prepare the order and circulate to counsel.;

10/16/2019 CANCELED Status Check (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

> Vacated - per Stipulation and Order Status Check re Trial Readiness

10/16/2019 CANCELED Motion to Associate Counsel (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Defendant's Motion To Associate Counsel (Richard Lee Stone, Esq.)

CANCELED Motion to Associate Counsel (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.) 10/16/2019

Defendant's Motion To Associate Counsel (Amy Marshall Gallegos, Esq.)

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

	1
10/16/2019	CANCELED Motion to Associate Counsel (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Vacated  Motion To Associate Counsel (David Ransen Singer, Esq.)
10/22/2019	Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award (1:30 PM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Plaintiff's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively,  Modify or Correct the Award, in Part  Granted in Part; See 12/4/19 Minute Order
10/22/2019	Motion to Vacate (1:30 PM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Defendants' Motion To Vacate Arbitration Award  Motion Denied; See 12/4/19 Minute Order
10/22/2019	All Pending Motions (1:30 PM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Matter Heard; Journal Entry Details:  APPEARANCES CONTINUED: Benjamin Lipman, Esq. present as General Counsel for Deft.  Las Vegas Review-Journal. PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE OR, ALTERNATIVELY, MODIFY OR CORRECT THE AWARD, IN PARTDEFENDANTS' MOTION TO VACATE ARBITRATION AWARD Argument by Mr.  Reid. CONFERENCE AT BENCH. Arguments by Mr. Reid and Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones provided document for Court's review. Colloquy regarding scheduling other pending matters from today. As to the Arbitration Motions, Court stated will issue decision after review of issues regarding exceeding powers, common law, sufficient evidence, and manifest disregard. COURT ORDERED, outstanding pending matters from today CONTINUED. CONTINUED TO: 10/31/19 1:00 PM PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL AS TO MOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE OR, ALTERNATIVELY, MODIFY OR CORRECT THE AWARDDEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL AS TO MOTION TO VACATEPLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL AS TO OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO AMEND ANSWER AND ASSERT COUNTERCLAIMPLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO COMPEL PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTSSTATUS CHECK: EXPEDITED DISCOVERY AND APPLICABILITY OF ASSERTED PRIVILEGES;
10/31/2019	Motion to Compel (1:00 PM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Plaintiff's Motion to Compel Production of Documents  Per 9/17/19 Stipulation and Order  Motion Granted;
10/31/2019	Motion to Seal/Redact Records (1:00 PM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Plaintiff's Motion For Leave To File Documents Under Seal as to Opposition to Defendants'  Motion for Leave to Amend Answer and Assert Counterclaim  Under Advisement; See 11/12/19 Minutes
10/31/2019	Motion for Leave (1:00 PM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Plaintiff's Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal as to Motion to Confirm  Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award  Under Advisement; See 11/12/19 Minutes
10/31/2019	Motion for Leave (1:00 PM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Defendants' Motion For Leave To File Documents Under Seal  Under Advisement; See 11/12/19 Minutes
10/31/2019	Status Check (1:00 PM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Status Check: Expedited Discovery and Applicability of Asserted Privileges  Matter Heard;
10/31/2019	All Pending Motions (1:00 PM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Matter Heard;

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

-	-	
lourna	L⊬ntrv	Details:

PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO COMPEL PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS Arguments by Ms. Martini and Mr. Jones. COURT ORDERED, Motion GRANTED; documents must be provided; no sanctions at this time in light of third-party issues. Colloquy regarding a status check as to outstanding issues and electronically stored information ("ESI"). COURT FURTHER ORDERED, Status Check regarding same SET for time of 11/6/19 matters hearing. PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL AS TO MOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE OR, ALTERNATIVELY, MODIFY OR CORRECT THE AWARD...PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL AS TO OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO AMEND ANSWER AND ASSERT

COUNTERCLAIM...DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL Arguments by Mr. Smith and Mr. Jones. Discussion regarding an appendix with tabs for submission of the Motions. Court directed the supplement delivered by Monday next week for a decision of the Motions. Court directed the supplement delivered by Monday next week for a

COUNTERCLAIM...DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL Arguments by Mr. Smith and Mr. Jones. Discussion regarding an appendix with tabs for submission of the Motions. Court directed the supplement delivered by Monday next week for a decision. STATUS CHECK: EXPEDITED DISCOVERY AND APPLICABILITY OF ASSERTED PRIVILEGES Court noted matter previously addressed. 11/4/19 3:00 AM (CHAMBERS) STATUS CHECK: SUPPLEMENT TO MOTIONS FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL 11/6/19 9:00 AM STATUS CHECK: OUTSTANDING DISCOVERY AND ESI;

#### 11/06/2019 **Motion**

Motion to Seal/Redact Records (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Defendants Motion to Seal Opposition and Exhibits A-K

Under Advisement; See 11/12/19 Minutes

### 11/06/2019

Opposition and Countermotion (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.) 11/06/2019, 11/12/2019

Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review Journal, Inc's Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in part, and to Vacate or Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in part, and Conditional Countermotion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in part, and to Vacate the Award, in Part

Matter Continued:

Granted in Part; See 12/4/19 Minute Order

Matter Continued;

Granted in Part; See 12/4/19 Minute Order

## 11/06/2019

Motion to Seal/Redact Records (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal [The Sun's Opposition and Exhibits to Defendants' Motion to Vacate Arbitration Award]

Under Advisement; See 11/12/19 Minutes

### 11/06/2019

Motion for Leave (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Plaintiff's Motion for Leave to Amend Complaint

Motion Granted;

## 11/06/2019

Opposition and Countermotion (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Defendants' (1) Limited Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion for Leave to Amend Complaint and

(2) Countermotion to Continue Trial

Decision Made;

### 11/06/2019

Status Check (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

11/06/2019, 11/12/2019

Status Check: Outstanding Discovery and ESI

Matter Continued; Matter Heard; Matter Continued; Matter Heard;

## 11/06/2019

All Pending Motions (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Matter Heard;

Journal Entry Details:

APPEARANCES CONTINUED: Robert Cauthorn, COO of Las Vegas Sun, also present. DEFENDANTS MOTION TO SEAL OPPOSITION AND EXHIBITS A-K...MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL [THE SUN'S OPPOSITION AND EXHIBITS

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

TO DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO VACATE ARBITRATION AWARD] Arguments by Mr. Smith and Mr. Jones. Court stated will review matters and issue detailed minute order shortly. Court further stated records at issue remain in their current state until time of the order. Colloguy regarding supplementation provided today by counsel as relates to forthcoming decision on sealing Motions. Court stated it sought documents Arbitrator was relying upon, namely, the joint operating agreements. Court also stated no preclusion from supplementing the matter further. Mr. Gayan advised will provide a supplement by tomorrow or Friday. PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO AMEND COMPLAINT...DEFENDANTS' (1) LIMITED OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO AMEND COMPLAINT AND (2) COUNTERMOTION TO CONTINUE TRIAL Arguments by Mr. Reid and Mr. Jones. COURT ORDERED, Motion for Leave to Amend Complaint GRANTED. Prevailing party to prepare the order. Discussion and argument by counsel regarding Countermotion to Continue Trial in light of two new claims. As to the Countermotion, COURT FURTHER ORDERED, case schedule as follows: Initial Experts 1/20/20; Rebuttal Experts 2/19/20; Close of Discovery 4/20/20; Dispositive Motions 5/18/20; Trial 6/15/20. Department to issue amended trial order. STATUS CHECK: OUTSTANDING DISCOVERY AND ESI...DEFENDANTS NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC AND LAS VEGAS REVIEW JOURNAL, INC'S OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE OR ALTERNATIVELY, MODIFY OR CORRECT THE AWARD, IN PART, AND CONDITIONAL COUNTERMOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE THE AWARD, IN PART Colloquy regarding rescheduling remaining matters from today as well as 11/13/19 matters. COURT ORDERED, today's pending matters CONTINUED to 11/12/19 afternoon; 11/13/19 matters RESET to same 11/12/19 session. CONTINUED TO: 11/12/19 1:15 PM STATUS CHECK: OUTSTANDING DISCOVERY AND ESI...DEFENDANTS NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC AND LAS VEGAS REVIEW JOURNAL, INC'S OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE OR ALTERNATIVELY, MODIFY OR CORRECT THE AWARD, IN PART, AND CONDITIONAL COUNTERMOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE THE AWARD, IN PART 11/12/19 1:15 PM DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL...MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL [EXHIBITS 3-6 TO REPLY TO OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE OR, ALTERNATIVELY, MODIFY OR CORRECT THE AWARD, IN PART, AND REFERENCES THERETO 1 5/28/20 10:30 AM PRETRIAL/CALENDAR CALL 6/15/20 9:30 AM JURY TRIAL;

11/12/2019

CANCELED Status Check (3:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Vacated

Status Check: Supplement to Motions for Leave to File Documents Under Seal (Pending UA from 10/31 and 11/6 Hearings)

11/12/2019

**Motion to Seal/Redact Records** (1:15 PM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.) Defendants' Motion For Leave To File Documents Under Seal

Under Advisement;

11/12/2019

Motion to Seal/Redact Records (1:15 PM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal [Exhibits 3-6 to Reply to Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part, and References Thereto]

Under Advisement;

11/12/2019

All Pending Motions (1:15 PM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Matter Heard;

Journal Entry Details:

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL [EXHIBITS 3-6 TO REPLY TO OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE OR, ALTERNATIVELY, MODIFY OR CORRECT THE AWARD, IN PART, AND REFERENCES THERETO]...DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL Matters submitted. Court stated will decide all seal issues together and notify counsel if assistance needed. DEFENDANTS NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC AND LAS VEGAS REVIEW JOURNAL, INC'S OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE OR ALTERNATIVELY, MODIFY OR CORRECT THE AWARD, IN PART, AND CONDITIONAL COUNTERMOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE THE AWARD, IN PART Mr. Gayan presented binder of materials for Court's review. Court

# CASE SUMMARY CASE No. A-18-772591-B

noted receipt of materials needed for decision on the confirmation or vacate matter; decision anticipated before Thanksgiving Holiday. STATUS CHECK: OUTSTANDING DISCOVERY AND ESI Mr. Reid advised Ms. Martini unable to attend due to health issue. Mr. Gayan reviewed history of issues with vendor, the rational review, and custodians. Upon inquiry by Mr. Reid as to prior production compelled, Mr. Gayan advised will provide within two (2) weeks and earlier if possible. Court so noted. Discussion and arguments by counsel regarding custodians, search terms with respect to those involved in redesign, and second set of outstanding discovery. Mr. Jones presented documents for Court's review. Mr. Jones advised will perform search as discussed. Colloguy regarding special setting for results of ESI search and related issues as well as the Motion to Dismiss previously set 11/20. COURT ORDERED, Motion to Dismiss REST from 11/20/19 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.; Status Check SET 11/20/19 at 10:00 a.m. as to the ESI search, custodian issues, and second set of outstanding discovery. Mr. Reid advised will prepare order from today's hearing. 11/20/19 10:00 AM STATUS CHECK: RESULTS OF ESI SEARCH/CUSTODIAN ISSUES/SECOND SET OF OUTSTANDING DISCOVERY CONTINUED TO: 11/20/19 10:00 AM MOTION TO DISMISS COUNTERCLAIMS OR. ALTERNATIVELY, TO STAY COUNTERCLAIMS PENDING FEDERAL COURT ACTION;

11/20/2019

Motion to Dismiss (10:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Motion to Dismiss Counterclaims or, Alternatively, to Stay Counterclaims Pending Federal Court Action

Decision Made;

11/20/2019

Status Check (10:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.) 11/20/2019, 12/04/2019

Status Check: Results of ESI Search/Custodian Issues/Second Set of Outstanding Discovery

Matter Continued; Matter Heard:

Matter Continued;

Watter Continued

Matter Heard;

11/20/2019

All Pending Motions (10:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Matter Heard;

Journal Entry Details:

APPEARANCES CONTINUED: Benjamin Lipman, Esq. present as General Counsel for Deft. Las Vegas Review Journal. MOTION TO DISMISS COUNTERCLAIMS OR, ALTERNATIVELY, TO STAY COUNTERCLAIMS PENDING FEDERAL COURT ACTION...STATUS CHECK: RESULTS OF ESI SEARCH/CUSTODIAN ISSUES/SECOND SET OF OUTSTANDING DISCOVERY Arguments by Mr. Pisanelli and Mr. Jones regarding the Motion. COURT ORDERED, as to Motion to Dismiss Counterclaims, claims have merit until final adjudication; as to alternative Motion to Stay, matter stayed; will reserve ruling on subject matter jurisdiction and defer to pending resolution of action in Federal Court; Status Check SET in ninety (90) days regarding stay as to federal action. Colloquy regarding stay of entire case in light of anticipated issues with discovery. Court stated counsel may file appropriate motion for stay on order shortening time with setting not less than ten (10) days for response. Court directed Mr. Pisanell prepare today's Motion order and circulate to counsel. As to today's Status Check, Mr. Reid advised the production outstanding of six months is promised next week. Court stated today's stay is not for purpose of the production. Mr. Gayan reviewed extensive search results, advised parties have agreed on certain terms and anticipates parties will meet and confer on issues. There being agreement, COURT ORDERED, Status Check matter CONTINUED to 12/4/19. CONTINUED TO: 12/4/19 9:00 AM STATUS CHECK: RESULTS OF ESI SEARCH/CUSTODIAN ISSUES/SECOND SET OF OUTSTANDING DISCOVERY 2/19/20 9:00 AM STATUS CHECK: STAY FOR FEDERAL ACTION:

11/27/2019

Minute Order (9:42 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Motions re: Arbitration Award Minute Order - No Hearing Held; Journal Entry Details:

At the prior hearing in the instant matter, the Court restated its intention to publish a decision by a minute order on Defendants, New+MEDIA Capital Group LLC; Las Vegas Review Journal, Inc. (The RJ), Motion to Vacate the Arbitration Award, and the Plaintiff s, Las Vegas Sun, Inc., Countermotion to Confirm the Arbitration Award, in Part and to Vacate the Award

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

in Part before November 28, 2019. The Court has reviewed the parties submissions and has finalized its decision and minute order. However, in light of the recent filing by the RJ seeking to stay all aspects of this case, the Court believes out of fairness it cannot publish its decision until after a hearing on the merits of the RJ s Motion to Stay is held. CLERK'S NOTE: This Minute Order has been electronically served to the parties through Odyssey eFile.;

12/04/2019

Motion to Stay (9:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s Emergency Motion to Stay Case And Postpone Action on Arbitration-Related Motions on Order Shortening Time Granted in Part;

12/04/2019

Status Check (9:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Status Check: Decision on Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award; Motion to Vacate Arbitration Award
Matter Heard:

12/04/2019

Opposition and Countermotion (9:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Opposition to News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-

Las vegas Sun, Inc.'s Opposition to News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las vegas Review Journal, Inc.'s Emergency Motion to Stay Case and Postpone Action on Arbitration-Related Motions on Order Shortening Time and Countermotion to Stay Defendants' Tenth, Twenty-Sixth and Twenty-Seventh Affirmative Defenses (Redacted)

Decision Made;

12/04/2019

All Pending Motions (9:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Matter Heard;

Journal Entry Details:

APPEARANCES CONTINUED: Robert Cauthorn, COO for Pltf. Las Vegas Sun, present. Representatives of Pltf. present: Brian Greenspun and Myra Greenspun. Benjamin Lipman, Esq. present as General Counsel for Deft. Las Vegas Review-Journal. Representative of Deft. Las Vegas Review-Journal, Keith Moyer, present. EWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC AND LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC.'S EMERGENCY MOTION TO STAY CASE AND POSTPONE ACTION ON ARBITRATION-RELATED MOTIONS ON ORDER SHORTENING TIME...LAS VEGAS SUN, INC.'S OPPOSITION TO NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC AND LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC.'S EMERGENCY MOTION TO STAY CASE AND POSTPONE ACTION ON ARBITRATION-RELATED MOTIONS ON ORDER SHORTENING TIME AND COUNTERMOTION TO STAY DEFENDANTS' TENTH, TWENTY-SIXTH AND TWENTY-SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES (REDACTED)...STATUS CHECK: DECISION ON MOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD; MOTION TO VACATE ARBITRATION AWARD...STATUS CHECK: RESULTS OF ESI SEARCH/CUSTODIAN ISSUES/SECOND SET OF OUTSTANDING DISCOVERY Arguments by Mr. Jones and Mr. Pisanelli. COURT ORDERED, Motion GRANTED IN PART and DENIED IN PART; DENIED as to issue with respect to decision on arbitration; will stay all other case matters. Prevailing party to submit the order. Court stated a minute order is anticipated today as to arbitration confirmation or vacation. Further stated will issue decision without prejudice as to sealing motions, maintaining status quo, subject to future briefing as discussed.;

12/04/2019

Minute Order (5:11 PM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Motions re Arbitration Award Minute Order - No Hearing Held;

Journal Entry Details:

After a review and consideration of the points and authorities on file herein, the Court determined as follows: First, the Court will address collectively Defendant News + Media Capital Group, LLC s and the Review Journal s (Review Journal) Motion to Vacate the Arbitration Award, and then Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc. s (LV Sun) Motion to confirm the Arbitration Award, in Part and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award in Part. The first issue raised by the Review Journal as the basis to vacate the Arbitrator s Award, focused on whether the Arbitrator disregarded the plain language of the Joint Operating Agreement (JOA) by failing to subtract editorial expenses from revenues in order to calculate EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization) for the purposes of determining the LV Sun s share of profits under the JOA. Under Nevada Law, [t] he party seeking to attack the validity of an arbitration award has the burden of proving, by clear and convincing evidence, the statutory or common-law ground relied upon for challenging the award. Washoe Cty. Sch. Dist. v. White, 133 Nev. 301, 303, 396 P.3d 834, 838 (2017) quoting Health Plan of Nev., Inc. v. Rainbow Med., LLC, 120 Nev. 689, 695, 100 P.3d

## CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

172, 176 (2004). Additionally, [t]here are two common-law grounds recognized in Nevada under which a court may review private binding arbitration award: (1) whether the award is arbitrary, capricious, or unsupported by the agreement; and (2) whether the arbitrator manifestly disregarded the law. Id. at 306. The Nevada Supreme Court explained the distinction between the two as: the former standard ensures that the arbitrator does not disregard the facts or the terms of the arbitration agreement, while the latter standard ensures that the arbitrator recognizes applicable law. Id. Moreover, [j]udicial inquiry under the manifest-disregard-of-the-law standard is extremely limited. Id. When a party seeks to vacate an arbitration award based on manifest disregard of the law, they must show more than a mere objection to the results of the arbitration. Id. Consequently, the Court's focus is not on whether the Arbitrator correctly interpreted the law, but whether the arbitrator, knowing the law and recognizing that the law required a particular result, simply disregarded the law. Id. In the instant action, the Arbitrator recognized the JOA s plain language, considered its EBITDA, and determined that under the JOA deductions should be calculated for editorial expenses. Thus, there appears to be, at a minimum, a colorable justification for the Arbitrator's findings on this issue. The Arbitrator concluded: The term Retention was very similar to earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA). The prior (pre-2005) computation of Retention included Editorial Expenses of the RJ as allowable deductible expenses. On the other hand, a specific provision of the JOA (4.2), a provision which was new to the calculation in the 2005 JOA, specifically indicates that the RJ and Sun would each bear their own editorial costs meaning that the RJ would not, in keeping the books of the JOA, be permitted to deduct editorial expenses of the RJ in computing EBITDA of the JOA and the subsequent annual profits payments (if any) to the Sun. The weight of the evidence leads to the conclusion that the RJ has improperly deducted the RJ editorial expenses reducing the EBITDA of the JOA resulting in improperly low annual profits payments to the Sun. Arbitrator s Decision at page 5. Consequently, the Court finds that the Defendant Review Journal has failed to meet its burden by clear and convincing evidence that the Arbitrator manifestly disregarded the JOAs contract provisions as to the deduction of editorial expenses. Next, the Arbitrator focused on Section 5.1.4 of the JOA to determine the impact of promotional activities and expense on the EBITDA. After he weighed the evidence, he concluded that under his interpretation of Section 5.1.4 there was evidence of impermissible deductions. The Arbitrator noted: The weight of the evidence indicated that the RJ charged all promotional expenses to the JOA (both expenses that would be allowed as promotion of both the RJ and Sun in equal prominence and additional promotional activities expenses of the RJ only) resulting in lower EBITDA and payments to the Sun. There was not enough evidence presented in this matter to make a definitive damages calculation of wrongfully charged additional promotional activities expenses by the RJ. A crucial element of a breach of contract action is the proof of damages beyond speculation. Fortunately, the audit awarded in this matter could determine the damages (and additional profits payments due), if any, from the RJ s charging of all (both proper and additional) promotional expenses to the JOA EBITDA. It is the finding of this tribunal that additional promotional activities may not be included in the expenses charged to the JOA EBITDA. Arbitrator's Decision at page 6. In light of the Arbitrator's analysis and reliance of Section 5.1.4 of the JOA, the Court finds that there is not clear and convincing evidence that the Arbitrator manifestly disregarded the JOA s contract provisions as to promotional activities and expenses. Next, the Court reviews Defendant Review Journal s contentions that the Arbitrator exceeded his authority when he issued a two-page supplementary non-binding interpretation regarding the ordered audit. In determining the grounds for invalidating an arbitration award based on the assertion that an Arbitrator exceeded his authority, in Washoe, the Nevada Supreme Court noted: "The Nevada Arbitration Act provides specific grounds for invalidating an arbitration award. NRS 38.241(1)(d) dictates that a court shall vacate an arbitration award if the arbitrator exceeded his powers." Health Plan of Nev., Inc., 120 Nev. at 697, 100 P.3d at 178 (internal citation omitted). In particular, [[a]rbitrators exceed their powers when they address issues or make awards outside the scope of the governing contract." Id. "However, allegations that an arbitrator misinterpreted the agreement or made factual or legal errors do not support vacating an award as being in excess of the arbitrator's powers." Id. Moreover, "[a]rbitrators do not exceed their powers if their interpretation of an agreement, even if erroneous, is rationally grounded in the agreement." Id. at 698, 100 P.3d at 178. As such, "[t]he question is whether the arbitrator had the authority under the agreement to decide an issue, not whether the issue was correctly decided." Id. Therefore, "[a]n award should be enforced so long as the arbitrator is arguably construing or applying the contract" and "there is a colorable justification for the outcome." Id. Nonetheless, "[t]he deference accorded an arbitrator . . . is not limitless; he is not free to contradict the express language of the contract." Int l Ass'n of Firefighters, Local 1285 v. City of Las Vegas, 107 Nev. 906, 910, 823 P.2d 877, 879 (1991). Washoe, 133 Nev. at 304. It must be pointed out that Appendix D to the JOA provide that Plaintiff LV Sun has a right to a yearly audit as the Arbitrator noted: Appendix D to the JOA allowing for the Claimant to appoint an certified public accounting firm or law firm as Sun s representative to examine and audit the books and

#### EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

## CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

records of the Review-Journal and the other publications whose earnings are included in EBITDA for the purposes of verifying the determinations of the changes to the Annual Profit Payments (this provision has been referred to by both parties as audit ). Respondent indicated that an audit has never been refused however the conduct of Respondent certainly has done just about everything possible to blunt, avoid, deter and postpone an audit. In accordance with the scope of this tribunal s authority, Claimant s request for an audit is granted. Claimant may undertake the audit for the periods covered by this award (December 15, 2015 through March 31, 2018) and forward per the declaratory relief granted. Respondent had requested that this award, if an audit be directed, limit the scope and/or party to conduct the audit. This award does not define the scope of the audit as part of the award as such specificity may be beyond the scope of the tribunal s authority. Arbitrator s Decision, page 6. In review of the Arbitrator s decision, the Arbitrator ordered an audit but recognized there is no provision for the creation of audit rules or guidelines in the JOA. Additionally, the Arbitrator noted that neither party requested any of audit rules or guidelines. It is clear in review of the Arbitrator's decision he was well aware of the limits of his authority and simply suggested a non-binding legal evaluation and recommendation as to the guideline for an audit. Thus, a non-binding legal opinion is not a sufficient basis to vacate an arbitration decision. Next, the Court has to consider whether the Arbitrator issued an Award that was arbitrary and capricious. Under Nevada law, a court's review of the arbitrary-and- capricious standard is limited to whether the arbitrator's findings are supported by substantial evidence in the record. Washoe, 133 Nev. at 308. Further, The arbitrary-and-capricious standard does not permit a reviewing court to vacate an arbitrator's award based on a misinterpretation of the law. Id. As this Court has already found, the Arbitrator based his rulings on his interpretations of the JOA. Under the facts of this case and the JOA, there is substantial evidence to support the Arbitrator's Award. Finally, although the Court has addressed the primary contested issues raised by Defendant Review Journal in its Motion to Vacate the Arbitration Award, the Court will briefly address the issues raised by the LV Sun. After reviewing Section 5.1.4, the Arbitrator determined that House Ads were not additional promotional activities and expenses. The LV Sun argues that the Arbitrator's ruling is arbitrary and capricious and a manifest disregard of the law. Nonetheless, the Court finds that the Arbitrator did consider section 5.1.4 in relation to House Ads, and as a result the Court Affirms the Arbitrator s ruling. Additionally, after weighing the evidence in this matter, the Arbitrator denied the LV Sun s tortious breach claims. The Court again reiterates that its inquiry under the manifest-disregard-of-the law standard is extremely limited. Consequently, the Court will not reassess and weigh the evidence that the Arbitrator relied on to make his decision. It is clear to the Court that the Arbitrator understood that there is a distinction between contract and tort claims, and the unique nature of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing as it relates to contracts vs. torts. Further, the Arbitrator noted the sections of the JOA that the tort claims potentially applied. Although it s not set forth in detail how the Arbitrator evaluated the party s unique relationship, it appears he determined there was insufficient evidence of intentional conduct on this issue, and therefore, he found that the party s conduct does not qualify for tortious breach. Consequently, the Court cannot find that the Arbitrator manifestly disregarded the law or the JOA or that the decision was arbitrary and capricious. Also, the Arbitrator noted that both parties requested attorneys fees, costs, and the cost of arbitration; but, found that no provision in the JOA addressed awarding attorney s fees and costs in connection with this matter. Rather, the Arbitrator interpreted Appendix D of the JOA and found that Appendix D addressed the award of arbitration fees and costs. As a consequence, the Arbitrator awarded only fees and costs of the arbitration. Thus, the Court finds that the Arbitrator did consider the entire JOA and more specifically Appendix D to support his ruling. Accordingly, the Court Affirms the Arbitrator's ruling on costs and fees. Lastly, the LV Sun argues that the Arbitrator failed to enter a ruling on whether the Review Journal breached the JOA audit provision. However, the Arbitrator noted that while the Review Journal has done just about everything possible to blunt, avoid, deter and postpone an audit, yet he determined that the Review Journal has never refused to conduct an audit. Therefore, the Arbitrator simply ordered that an audit be conducted and this decision is affirmed. As a result of the foregoing, the Review Journal's Motion to Vacate Arbitration Award shall be DENIED. The LV Sun s Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part shall be GRANTED in Part and DENIED in Part. The LV Sun s motion is granted as to the request to confirm the Arbitration Award. The LV Sun's motion is denied as to all requests to vacate, modify, or correct the Arbitrator's Award. Lastly, the Review Journal's Conditional Countermotion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate the Award, in Part shall be GRANTED in Part and DENIED in Part. The Review Journal's countermotion is granted as to the request to confirm the Arbitration Award. The Review Journal's countermotion is denied as to the request to vacate the Arbitration Award. Lastly, in order to alleviate any potential misunderstanding in light of the confusing procedural posture of the pleadings and request for relief in this case, it is the Court s intention to AFFIRM the entire Arbitration Decision as written. Counsel for Plaintiff shall prepare a detailed Order, Findings of Facts, and Conclusions of Law, based not

#### EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

# CASE SUMMARY CASE NO. A-18-772591-B

only on the foregoing Minute Order, but also on the record on file herein. This is to be submitted to adverse counsel for review and approval and/or submission of a competing Order or objections, prior to submitting to the Court for review and signature. CLERK S NOTE: This Minute Order has been electronically served to the parties through Odyssey eFile.;

12/11/2019

CANCELED Motion to Modify or Dissolve TPO (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Vacated

News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s Motion to Modify Protective Order on Order Shortening Time

01/09/2020

CANCELED Pretrial/Calendar Call (10:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Vacated - per Stipulation and Order

01/10/2020

Minute Order (11:45 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Motions re: Sealing of Documents Minute Order - No Hearing Held;

Journal Entry Details:

On January 9, 2020, a stay was entered in this case. Therefore, the Court hereby vacates the pending motions under submission regarding sealing of documents. In the event of the stay being lifted, these matters will renew for consideration and decision. CLERK S NOTE: This Minute Order has been electronically served to the parties through Odyssey eFile.;

01/22/2020

CANCELED Status Check (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Vacated

Status Check re Trial Readiness

01/27/2020

CANCELED Jury Trial (9:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Vacated - per Stipulation and Order

01/29/2020

Motion for Leave (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

News+Media Capital Group LLC And Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s Motion For Leave To File Additional Briefing Requested By Court On Order Shortening Time Motion Granted;

Journal Entry Details:

Upon Court's inquiry as to federal action status, Mr. Gayan advised Motions to Dismiss fully briefed, hearings not set, his client moved to stay pending dismissal, conference report submitted, and there is a 2/4/20 hearing before Magistrate on stay issue and the report. Arguments by Mr. Gayan and Mr. Smith regarding the instant Motion. Court stated there appears jurisdiction on the issue. COURT ORDERED, Motion For Leave To File Additional Briefing Requested By Court GRANTED. Colloquy regarding briefing and hearing schedule as to sealing issue and modification of stipulated protective order. There being agreement, COURT FURTHER ORDERED, briefing and hearing as follows: Motion DUE 2/12/20; Opposition DUE 2/26/20; Reply DUE 3/4/20; Hearing SET 3/11/20. Court directed Mr. Gayan to prepare today's order. COURT FURTHER ORDERED, 2/19/20 Status Check matters VACATED. 3/11/20 9:30 AM HEARING ON SEALING AND MODIFICATION ISSUE CLERK'S NOTE: Subsequent to proceedings, Court hereby clarifies as to the briefing there will be no strict page number limit; parties are to follow customary limit pursuant to the Rules. This Minute Order has been electronically served to the parties through Odyssey eFile.;

02/05/2020

CANCELED Motion for Leave (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)

Vacated

Plaintiff/Counter Defendant - Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal [Exhibits 7 and 9 to Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Reply in Support of Motion to Dismiss Counterclaims or, Alternatively, to Stay Counterclaims Pending Federal Court Action and References Thereto

02/05/2020

CANCELED Motion for Protective Order (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.) Vacated

Motion for Protective Order Staying Discovery Pending Resolution of Sun's Motion to Dismiss Counterclaims, or Alternatively, to Stay Counterclaims Pending Federal Court Action

02/05/2020

CANCELED Motion to Seal/Redact Records (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy

## EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

## CASE SUMMARY CASE No. A-18-772591-B

	CASE NO. A-10-1/2371-D	
	C.)  Vacated  Motion for Leave to File Documents Under Seal [Exhibits 5, 7, and 9 to Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Opposition to Defendants' Emergency Motion to Stay Case and Postpone Action on Arbitration-Related Motions on OST and References Thereto]	
02/05/2020	CANCELED Opposition and Countermotion (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Vacated  News+Media Capital Group LLC's And Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s (1) Opposition To Plaintiff's Motion For Protective Order Staying Discovery Pending Resolution Of Sun's	
	Motion To Dismiss Counterclaims, Or Alternatively, To Stay Counterclaims Pending Federal Court Action, And In The Alternative, (2) Countermotion To Stay All Discovery	
02/19/2020	CANCELED Status Check (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Vacated  Status Check: Stay for Federal Action/Rescheduling Motions from 2/5/20 vacated per stay	
02/19/2020	CANCELED Status Check (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Vacated  Status Check: Decision on Pending Motions re Sealing of Documents	
03/11/2020	Hearing (9:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Hearing on Sealing and Modification Issue	
04/23/2020	CANCELED Pretrial/Calendar Call (10:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Vacated	
05/06/2020	Status Check: Trial Readiness (9:00 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)	
05/11/2020	CANCELED Jury Trial (9:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)  Vacated	
05/28/2020	Pretrial/Calendar Call (10:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)	
06/15/2020	Jury Trial (9:30 AM) (Judicial Officer: Williams, Timothy C.)	
DATE	FINANCIAL INFORMATION	
	Counter Claimant Las Vegas Review-Journal Inc Total Charges Total Payments and Credits Balance Due as of 1/30/2020	181.50 181.50 <b>0.00</b>
	Defendant News+Media Capital Group LLC Total Charges Total Payments and Credits	2,033.00 2,033.00
	Balance Due as of 1/30/2020  Counter Defendant Las Vegas Sun Inc Total Charges Total Payments and Credits Balance Due as of 1/30/2020	2,052.00 2,052.00 0.00

## BUSINESS COURT CIVIL COVER SHEET

Case No. County, Nevada

A-18-772591-B

Case No Department 13				
I. Party Information (provide both home and mailing addresses if different)  Plaintiff(s) (name/address/phone):  Defendant(s) (name/address/phone):				
Las Vegas Sun, Inc., a N	evada corporation		News+Media Capital Group LLC &	
Lao vogao can, mo., a re	orada corporation		Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.	
			Las vegas review oburnal, me.	
		-		
A (		A 44 a mm av.	(nome of a distance (mb ampa))	
Attorney (name/address/phone):  E. Leif Reid,	Esa	Attorney	(name/address/phone):	
Lewis Roca Rothgerbe		-		
		-		
One East Liberty S		-		
Reno, NV 8				
II. Nature of Controversy (Please ch	neck the applicable boxes for both the ci	vil case type	e and business court case type)	
Arbitration Requested				
Civil Case	Filing Types		Business Court Filing Types	
Real Property	Torts		CLARK COUNTY BUSINESS COURT	
Landlord/Tenant	Negligence		NRS Chapters 78-89	
Unlawful Detainer	Auto		Commodities (NRS 91)	
Other Landlord/Tenant	Premises Liability		Securities (NRS 90)	
Title to Property	Other Negligence		Mergers (NRS 92A)	
Judicial Foreclosure	Malpractice		Uniform Commercial Code (NRS 104)	
Other Title to Property	Medical/Dental		Purchase/Sale of Stock, Assets, or Real Estate	
Other Real Property	Legal		Trademark or Trade Name (NRS 600)	
Condemnation/Eminent Domain	Accounting		Enhanced Case Management	
Other Real Property	Other Malpractice		Other Business Court Matters	
Construction Defect & Contract	Other Torts			
Construction Defect	Product Liability			
Chapter 40	Intentional Misconduct		WASHOE COUNTY BUSINESS COURT	
Other Construction Defect	Employment Tort		NRS Chapters 78-88	
Contract Case	Insurance Tort		Commodities (NRS 91)	
Uniform Commercial Code Other Tort			Securities (NRS 90) Investments (NRS 104 Art.8)	
Building and Construction	Civil Writs			
Insurance Carrier Writ of Habeas Corpus			Deceptive Trade Practices (NRS 598)	
Commercial Instrument Writ of Mandamus			Trademark/Trade Name (NRS 600)	
Collection of Accounts Writ of Quo Warrant Employment Contract Writ of Prohibition		l	Trade Secrets (NRS 600A)  Enhanced Case Management	
Employment Contract   Writ of Prohibition     Other Contract   Other Civil Writ			Other Business Court Matters	
			Other Business Court Watters	
Judicial Review/Appeal/Other Civil Filing				
Judicial Review Foreclosure Mediation Case	Other Civil Filing Foreign Judgment			
Appeal Other	Other Civil Matters			
Appeal From Lower Court	E Carol Civil Iviations			
LI spread from bower court				

April 9, 2018

Date

Signature of initiating party or representative

J. Randall Jones, Esq. (#1927) 1 r.jones@kempjones.com 2 Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) m.gayan@kempjones.com 3 Mona Kaveh, Esq. (#11825) m.kaveh@kempjones.com KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP 4 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor 5 Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 Telephone: (702) 385-6000 6 Facsimile: (702) 385-6001 7 Richard L. Stone, Esq. (pro hac vice) rstone@jenner.com David R. Singer, Esq. (pro hac vice) dsinger@jenner.com 9 Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (pro hac vice) agallegos@jenner.com JENNER & BLOCK LLP 10 633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600 Los Angeles, California 90071-2054

CLERK OF THE COURT

**Electronically Filed** 1/28/2020 4:43 PM Steven D. Grierson

Attorneys for Defendants/Counterclaimant

### DISTRICT COURT

## CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada corporation,

Telephone: (213) 239-2203

Plaintiff,

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; and LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC., a Delaware limited liability company,

Defendants.

LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC., a Delaware corporation,

Counterclaimant,

LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada corporation,

Counter-defendant.

Case No.: A-18-772591-B Dept. No.: XVI

(TROPOSED) FINDINGS OF FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER AFFIRMING THE ARBITRATION AWARD

Hearing Date: October 22, 2019

JAM 0 3 2029

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

This matter came before the Court on October 22, 2019, at 1:30 P.M., with all parties appearing by and through their counsel of record, on (a) Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part, (b) Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC's and Las Vegas-Review Journal, Inc.'s Motion to Vacate the Arbitration Award, and (c) Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC's and Las Vegas-Review Journal, Inc.'s Conditional Countermotion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate the Award, in Part (collectively, the "Motions").

The Court, having considered the papers filed in support of and in opposition to the Motions, having heard arguments of counsel, and for good cause appearing, enters the following findings, conclusions and Order:1

## <u>BACKGROUND</u>

1. On June 10, 2005, Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc. (the "Sun") and Defendant Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s predecessor executed a joint operating arrangement (the "JOA").

### The Sun's Complaint and the Arbitration

- On April 10, 2018, Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc. (the "Sun") filed its Complaint 2. against Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc. (collectively, the "Review-Journal") in the above-captioned matter regarding disputes related to the JOA, and moved this Court to compel arbitration of certain (but not all) claims outlined in the Complaint.
- 3. This Court granted the Sun's motion to compel arbitration via an order entered on November 21, 2018.
- 4. In the arbitration proceedings, the parties engaged in discovery, submitted written briefs, and presented arguments and evidence before the Arbitrator.
  - 5. After a multi-day arbitration hearing, the Arbitrator issued a Final Award of

Any finding of fact more properly characterized as a conclusion of law shall be deemed so. Any conclusion of law more properly characterized as a finding of fact shall be deemed so.

Arbitrator on July 2, 2019 (the "Award"). 1 2

#### The Arbitration Award

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 1385-6000 • Fax (702) 385-6001 kic@kempiones.com

The Award contains the Arbitrator's rulings on the following claims and requests for relief: (a) the Sun's requests for declaratory relief related to interpretation of various JOA provisions (i.e., Section 4.2, Section 5.1.4, and the audit provision in Appendix D); (b) the Sun's breach of contract claims related to those same sections of the JOA; (c) the Sun's claim for tortious breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing related to those same sections of the JOA; and (d) both parties' requests for an award of attorneys' fees and costs related to the arbitration proceedings. The full contents of the Award are the subject of various motions to seal pending before this Court.

## The Parties' Motions to Confirm/Vacate the Award

- On September 13, 2019, the Sun filed its Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, 7. in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part (the "Sun's Motion").
- On September 18, 2019, the Review-Journal filed its Motion to Vacate 8. Arbitration Award.
- On September 30, 2019, the Review-Journal filed its opposition to the Sun's 9. Motion along with a Conditional Countermotion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate the Award, in Part.
  - 10. By October 11, 2019, the parties completed briefing the motions.
  - 11. On October 22, 2019, this Court heard arguments on the parties' motions.
- 12. On December 4, 2019, this Court issued its six-page Minute Order resolving the parties' motions, affirming the Award in its entirety, and directing the parties to prepare and submit this more detailed Order for the Court's review and signature.

#### DISCUSSION, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

#### The RJ's Motion to Vacate Arbitration Award

The first issue raised by the Review-Journal as the basis to vacate the Award 13. focused on whether the Arbitrator disregarded the plain language of the JOA by failing to

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

subtract editorial expenses from revenues in order to calculate EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization) for the purposes of determining the Sun's share of profits under the JOA.

- 14, Under Nevada law, "[t]he party seeking to attack the validity of an arbitration award has the burden of proving, by clear and convincing evidence, the statutory or commonlaw ground relied upon for challenging the award." Washoe Cty. Sch. Dist. v. White, 133 Nev. 301, 303, 396 P.3d 834, 838 (2017) (quoting Health Plan of Nev., Inc. v. Rainbow Med., LLC, 120 Nev. 689, 695, 100 P.3d 172, 176 (2004)). There are two common-law grounds recognized in Nevada under which a court may review private binding arbitration award: (1) whether the award is arbitrary, capricious, or unsupported by the agreement; and (2) whether the arbitrator manifestly disregarded the law." Id. at 306. The Nevada Supreme Court explained the distinction between the two as: "the former standard ensures that the arbitrator does not disregard the facts or the terms of the arbitration agreement," while "the latter standard ensures that the arbitrator recognizes applicable law." *Id.*
- 15. Moreover, "[j]udicial inquiry under the manifest-disregard-of-the-law standard is extremely limited." Id. When a party seeks to vacate an arbitration award based on manifest disregard of the law, they must show more than a mere objection to the results of the arbitration. Id. Consequently, the Court's focus is not on whether the Arbitrator correctly interpreted the law, but "whether the arbitrator, knowing the law and recognizing that the law required a particular result, simply disregarded the law." *Id.*
- 16. In the instant action, the Arbitrator was presented with the JOA's plain language and determined that under the JOA, editorial expenses should not be included in the EBITDA calculation. There appears to be a colorable justification for the Arbitrator's findings on this issue. The Arbitrator concluded:

The term "Retention" was very similar to earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA). The prior (pre-2005) computation of "Retention" included Editorial Expenses of the RJ as allowable deductible expenses. On the other hand, a specific provision of the JOA (4.2), a provision which was new to the calculation in the 2005 JOA, specifically indicates that the RJ and Sun would each bear their own editorial costs meaning that the RJ would not, in keeping the books of the JOA, be permitted to deduct editorial

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

expenses of the RJ in computing EBITDA of the JOA and the subsequent annual profits payments (if any) to the Sun. The weight of the evidence leads to the conclusion that the RJ has improperly deducted the RJ editorial expenses reducing the EBITDA of the JOA resulting in improperly low annual profits payments to the Sun.

- Consequently, the Court finds that the Review-Journal has failed to meet its 17. burden by clear and convincing evidence that the Arbitrator manifestly disregarded the JOA's contract provisions as to the deduction of editorial expenses.
- 18. Next, the Arbitrator considered Section 5.1.4 of the JOA to determine the impact of promotional activities and expense on the EBITDA. The Arbitrator concluded that under his interpretation of Section 5.1.4 there was evidence of impermissible deductions. The Arbitrator noted:

The weight of the evidence indicated that the RJ charged all promotional expenses to the JOA (both expenses that would be allowed as promotion of both the RJ and Sun in equal prominence and additional promotional activities expenses of the RJ only) resulting in lower EBITDA and payments to the Sun. There was not enough evidence presented in this matter to make a definitive damages calculation of wrongfully charged additional promotional activities expenses by the RJ. A crucial element of a breach of contract action is the proof of damages beyond speculation. Fortunately, the "audit" awarded in this matter could determine the damages (and additional profits payments due), if any, from the RJ's charging of all (both proper and additional) promotional expenses to the JOA EBITDA. It is the finding of this tribunal that additional promotional activities may not be included in the expenses charged to the JOA EBITDA.

- 19. In light of the Arbitrator's analysis and reliance of Section 5.1.4 of the JOA, the Court finds that there is not clear and convincing evidence that the Arbitrator manifestly disregarded the JOA's contract provisions as to promotional activities and expenses.
- 20. Next, the Court reviews the Review-Journal's contentions that the Arbitrator exceeded his authority when he issued a two-page supplementary non-binding interpretation regarding the ordered audit.
- 21. In determining the grounds for invalidating an arbitration award based on the assertion that an Arbitrator exceeded his authority, in Washoe, the Nevada Supreme Court noted:

"The Nevada Arbitration Act provides specific grounds for invalidating an arbitration award. NRS 38.241(1)(d) dictates that a court shall vacate an arbitration award if the arbitrator exceeded his powers." Health Plan of Nev.

Inc., 120 Nev. at 697, 100 P.3d at 178 (internal citation omitted). In particular, "[a]rbitrators exceed their powers when they address issues or make awards outside the scope of the governing contract." Id. "However, allegations that an arbitrator misinterpreted the agreement or made factual or legal errors do not support vacating an award as being in excess of the arbitrator's powers." Id. Moreover, "[a]rbitrators do not exceed their powers if their interpretation of an agreement, even if erroneous, is rationally grounded in the agreement." Id. at 698, 100 P.3d at 178. As such, "[t]he question is whether the arbitrator had the authority under the agreement to decide an issue, not whether the issue was correctly decided." Id. Therefore, "[a]n award should be enforced so long as the arbitrator is arguably construing or applying the contract" and "there is a colorable justification for the outcome." Id. Nonetheless, "[t]he deference accorded an arbitrator . . . is not limitless; he is not free to contradict the express language of the contract." Int'l Ass'n of Firefighters, Local 1285 v. City of Las Vegas, 107 Nev. 906, 910, 823 P.2d 877, 879 (1991).

Washoe, 133 Nev. at 304.

22. It must be pointed out that Appendix D to the JOA provides that the Sun has a right to a yearly audit as the Arbitrator noted:

Appendix D to the JOA allowing for the Claimant to "...appoint an certified public accounting firm or law firm as Sun's representative to examine and audit the books and records of the Review-Journal and the other publications whose earnings are included in EBITDA for the purposes of verifying the determinations of the changes to the Annual Profit Payments..." (this provision has been referred to by both parties as "audit"). Respondent indicated that an "audit" has never been refused however the conduct of Respondent certainly has done just about everything possible to blunt, avoid, deter and postpone an "audit". In accordance with the scope of this tribunal's authority, Claimant's request for an "audit" is granted. Claimant may undertake the "audit" for the periods covered by this award (December 15, 2015 through March 31, 2018) and forward per the declaratory relief granted. Respondent had requested that this award, if an "audit" be directed, limit the scope and/or party to conduct the "audit". This award does not define the scope of the "audit" as part of the award as such specificity may be beyond the scope of the tribunal's authority.

- 23. In review of the Award, the Arbitrator ordered an audit but recognized there is no provision for the creation of audit rules or guidelines in the JOA. Additionally, the Arbitrator noted that neither party requested any of audit rules or guidelines provided in the Award. It is clear in review of the Award that the Arbitrator was well aware of the limits of his authority and simply suggested a non-binding legal evaluation and recommendation as to the guideline for an audit. Thus, the Arbitrator's non-binding legal opinion is not a sufficient basis to vacate the Award.
- 24. Next, the Court has to consider whether the Arbitrator issued an Award that was arbitrary and capricious. Under Nevada law, a court's review of the arbitrary-and-capricious

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

standard is limited to whether the arbitrator's findings are supported by substantial evidence in the record. Washoe, 133 Nev. at 308. Further, "The arbitrary-and-capricious standard does not permit a reviewing court to vacate an arbitrator's award based on a misinterpretation of the law." Id.

As this Court has already found, the Arbitrator based his rulings on his 25. interpretations of the JOA. Under the facts of this case and the JOA, there is substantial evidence to support the Award.

## The Sun's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part

- After reviewing Section 5.1.4, the Arbitrator determined that House Ads were 26. not additional promotional activities and expenses. The Sun argues that the Arbitrator's ruling is arbitrary and capricious and a manifest disregard of the law. Nonetheless, the Court finds that the Arbitrator did consider section 5.1.4 in relation to House Ads, and as a result the Court affirms the Award on this issue.
- Additionally, after weighing the evidence in this matter, the Arbitrator denied the 27. Sun's claims for tortious breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing. The Court again reiterates that its inquiry under the manifest-disregard-of-the law standard is extremely limited. Consequently, the Court will not reassess and weigh the evidence that the Arbitrator relied on to make his decision. It is clear to the Court that the Arbitrator understood that there is a distinction between contract and tort claims, and the unique nature of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing as it relates to contracts versus torts. Further, the Arbitrator noted the sections of the JOA to which the tort claims potentially applied. Although it is not set forth in detail, the Arbitrator evaluated the parties' unique relationship, and he determined there was insufficient evidence of intentional conduct on this issue. Therefore, he found that the Review-Journal's conduct "does not qualify for tortious breach." Consequently, with respect to the Sun's claim for tortious breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, the Court finds that the Arbitrator did not manifestly disregard the law or the JOA, and the decision was not arbitrary and capricious.

	3	
	4	
	5	
	6	
	7	
	8	
	9	
	10	
	11	
	12	
s.com	13	
pione	14	
kic@kemı	15	
	16	
	17	
	18	
	19	
	20	
	21	
	22	
	23	
	24	
	25	
	26	

2

28. Also, the	Arbitrator noted that both parties requested attorneys' fees, costs and
the cost of arbitration; bu	at, found that no provision in the JOA addressed awarding attorneys'
fees and costs in connect	ion with this matter. Rather, the Arbitrator interpreted Appendix D of
the JOA and found that	Appendix D addressed the award of arbitration fees and costs. As a
consequence, the Arbitrat	or awarded only fees and costs of the arbitration. Thus, the Court finds
that the Arbitrator did co	nsider the entire JOA and more specifically Appendix D to support his
ruling. Accordingly, the (	Court affirms the Arbitrator's ruling on attorneys' fees and costs.

29. Lastly, the Sun argues that the Arbitrator failed to enter a ruling on whether the Review-Journal breached the JOA audit provision. However, the Arbitrator determined that the Review-Journal has never refused to conduct an audit. Therefore, the Arbitrator simply ordered that an audit be conducted and this decision is affirmed.

## <u>ORDER</u>

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that the Arbitration Award is confirmed in its entirety.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Review-Journal's Motion to Vacate the Arbitration Award is DENIED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part the Sun's Motion to Vacate the Arbitration Award is GRANTED IN PART and DENIED IN PART as provided for herein.

111

5 ||///

27

28

1	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las
2	Vegas-Review Journal, Inc.'s Conditional Countermotion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in
3	Part, and to Vacate the Award, in Part is GRANTED IN PART and DENIED IN PART as
4	provided for herein.
5	Dated this $22$ day of $202$ .
6	
7	THEOU
8	The Honorable Timothy C. Williams
9	Submitted by:
10	KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP
11	0 0/0 11
12	made in Er Vela #13626
13	J. Rahdall Jones, Esq. (#1927) Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135)
13   14   15   16   16	Mona Kaveh, Esq. (#11825) 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor
15	Las Vegas, Nevada 89169
<sup>2</sup> 16	Counsel for Defendants/Counterclaimant
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	

J. Randall Jones, Esq. (#1927) 1 r.jones@kempjones.com 2 Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) m.gayan@kempjones.com 3 Mona Kaveh, (#11825) m.kaveh@kempjones.com 4 KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor 5 Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 Telephone: (702) 385-6000 Facsimile: (702) 385-6001 6 7 Richard L. Stone, Esq. (pro hac vice) rstone@jenner.com 8 David R. Singer, Esq. (pro hac vice) dsinger@jenner.com 9 Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (pro hac vice) agallegos@jenner.com 10 JENNER & BLOCK 633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600 11 Los Angeles, CA 90071-2054 12 Attorneys for Defendants DISTRICT COURT kic@kempiones.com 13 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 14 LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada 15 corporation, 16 Plaintiff, 17 v. 18 NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC, a 19 Delaware limited liability company; and LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC., a 20 Delaware limited liability company, 21 Defendants. LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC., a 22 Delaware corporation, 23 Counterclaimant. 24 25 26 LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada corporation, 27

**Electronically Filed** 1/28/2020 4:52 PM Steven D. Grierson **CLERK OF THE COURT** 

NOTICE OF ENTRY OF FINDINGS OF FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER AFFIRMING THE ARBITRATION AWARD

Case No.: A-18-772591-B

Dept. No.: 16

Counter-defendant.

1	YOU, AND EACH OF YOU, WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the <b>FINDINGS OF</b>		
2	FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER AFFIRMING THE ARBITRATION		
3	AWARD was entered in the above-entitled matter on January 28, 2020, a copy of which is		
4	attached hereto.		
5	DATED this 28th day of January, 2020.		
6	KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP		
7			
8	/s/ Michael Gayan		
9	J. Randall Jones, Esq., (#1927) Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) Mona Kaveh, Esq., (#11825)		
10	3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89169		
11	Richard L. Stone, Esq. (pro hac vice)		
12 E	David R. Singer, Esq. (pro hac vice) Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (pro hac vice)		
moorsoup 14	JENNER & BLOCK 633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600		
uoidi la	Los Angeles, CA 90071-2054		
kic@kempiones.com	Attorneys for Defendants		
17	<u>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</u>		
18	I hereby certify that on the 28th day of January, 2020, I served a true and correct copy of		
19	the foregoing NOTICE OF ENTRY OF FINDINGS OF FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF		
20	LAW, AND ORDER AFFIRMING THE ARBITRATION AWARD via the Court's		
21	electronic filing system only, pursuant to the Nevada Electronic Filing and Conversion Rules,		
22	Administrative Order 14-2, to all parties currently on the electronic service list.		
23			
24	/s/ Pamela Montgomery An Employee of Kemp, Jones & Coulthard, LLP		
25			
26			
27			
28			

1/28/2020 4:43 PM Steven D. Grierson **CLERK OF THE COURT** J. Randall Jones, Esq. (#1927) r.jones@kempjones.com Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135) m.gayan@kempjones.com Mona Kaveh, Esq. (#11825) m.kaveh@kempjones.com KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 Telephone: (702) 385-6000 Facsimile: (702) 385-6001 Richard L. Stone, Esq. (pro hac vice) rstone@jenner.com

Attorneys for Defendants/Counterclaimant

David R. Singer, Esq. (pro hac vice)

Amy M. Gallegos, Esq. (pro hac vice)

633 West 5th Street, Suite 3600 Los Angeles, California 90071-2054

Telephone: (213) 239-2203

dsinger@jenner.com

agallegos@jenner.com JENNER & BLOCK LLP

### DISTRICT COURT

## CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada corporation,

Plaintiff,

18 || V

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

28

NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC, a Delaware limited liability company; and LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC., a Delaware limited liability company,

Defendants.

LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC., a Delaware corporation,

Counterclaimant,

11

LAS VEGAS SUN, INC., a Nevada corporation,

27 || Counter-defendant.

Case No.: A-18-772591-B

Dept. No.: XVI

(TROPOSED) FINDINGS OF FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER AFFIRMING THE ARBITRATION AWARD

**Electronically Filed** 

Hearing Date: October 22, 2019

JAM 0 3 2020

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

This matter came before the Court on October 22, 2019, at 1:30 P.M., with all parties appearing by and through their counsel of record, on (a) Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part, (b) Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC's and Las Vegas-Review Journal, Inc.'s Motion to Vacate the Arbitration Award, and (c) Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC's and Las Vegas-Review Journal, Inc.'s Conditional Countermotion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate the Award, in Part (collectively, the "Motions").

The Court, having considered the papers filed in support of and in opposition to the Motions, having heard arguments of counsel, and for good cause appearing, enters the following findings, conclusions and Order:1

## **BACKGROUND**

1. On June 10, 2005, Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc. (the "Sun") and Defendant Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s predecessor executed a joint operating arrangement (the "JOA").

## The Sun's Complaint and the Arbitration

- On April 10, 2018, Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc. (the "Sun") filed its Complaint 2. against Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc. (collectively, the "Review-Journal") in the above-captioned matter regarding disputes related to the JOA, and moved this Court to compel arbitration of certain (but not all) claims outlined in the Complaint.
- 3. This Court granted the Sun's motion to compel arbitration via an order entered on November 21, 2018.
- 4. In the arbitration proceedings, the parties engaged in discovery, submitted written briefs, and presented arguments and evidence before the Arbitrator.
  - 5. After a multi-day arbitration hearing, the Arbitrator issued a Final Award of

Any finding of fact more properly characterized as a conclusion of law shall be deemed so. Any conclusion of law more properly characterized as a finding of fact shall be deemed so.

Arbitrator on July 2, 2019 (the "Award").

#### The Arbitration Award

Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 385-6000 • Fax (702) 385-6001 kic@kempiones.com 6. The Award contains the Arbitrator's rulings on the following claims and requests for relief: (a) the Sun's requests for declaratory relief related to interpretation of various JOA provisions (i.e., Section 4.2, Section 5.1.4, and the audit provision in Appendix D); (b) the Sun's breach of contract claims related to those same sections of the JOA; (c) the Sun's claim for tortious breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing related to those same sections of the JOA; and (d) both parties' requests for an award of attorneys' fees and costs related to the arbitration proceedings. The full contents of the Award are the subject of various motions to seal pending before this Court.

## The Parties' Motions to Confirm/Vacate the Award

- 7. On September 13, 2019, the Sun filed its Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part (the "Sun's Motion").
- 8. On September 18, 2019, the Review-Journal filed its Motion to Vacate Arbitration Award.
- 9. On September 30, 2019, the Review-Journal filed its opposition to the Sun's Motion along with a Conditional Countermotion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate the Award, in Part.
  - 10. By October 11, 2019, the parties completed briefing the motions.
  - 11. On October 22, 2019, this Court heard arguments on the parties' motions.
- 12. On December 4, 2019, this Court issued its six-page Minute Order resolving the parties' motions, affirming the Award in its entirety, and directing the parties to prepare and submit this more detailed Order for the Court's review and signature.

#### DISCUSSION, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

#### The RJ's Motion to Vacate Arbitration Award

13. The first issue raised by the Review-Journal as the basis to vacate the Award focused on whether the Arbitrator disregarded the plain language of the JOA by failing to

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

subtract editorial expenses from revenues in order to calculate EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization) for the purposes of determining the Sun's share of profits under the JOA.

- 14. Under Nevada law, "Ithe party seeking to attack the validity of an arbitration award has the burden of proving, by clear and convincing evidence, the statutory or commonlaw ground relied upon for challenging the award." Washoe Cty. Sch. Dist. v. White, 133 Nev. 301, 303, 396 P.3d 834, 838 (2017) (quoting Health Plan of Nev., Inc. v. Rainbow Med., LLC, 120 Nev. 689, 695, 100 P.3d 172, 176 (2004)). There are two common-law grounds recognized in Nevada under which a court may review private binding arbitration award: (1) whether the award is arbitrary, capricious, or unsupported by the agreement; and (2) whether the arbitrator manifestly disregarded the law." Id. at 306. The Nevada Supreme Court explained the distinction between the two as: "the former standard ensures that the arbitrator does not disregard the facts or the terms of the arbitration agreement," while "the latter standard ensures that the arbitrator recognizes applicable law." *Id.*
- 15. Moreover, "[j]udicial inquiry under the manifest-disregard-of-the-law standard is extremely limited." Id. When a party seeks to vacate an arbitration award based on manifest disregard of the law, they must show more than a mere objection to the results of the arbitration. Id. Consequently, the Court's focus is not on whether the Arbitrator correctly interpreted the law, but "whether the arbitrator, knowing the law and recognizing that the law required a particular result, simply disregarded the law." *Id*.
- 16. In the instant action, the Arbitrator was presented with the JOA's plain language and determined that under the JOA, editorial expenses should not be included in the EBITDA calculation. There appears to be a colorable justification for the Arbitrator's findings on this issue. The Arbitrator concluded:

The term "Retention" was very similar to earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA). The prior (pre-2005) computation of "Retention" included Editorial Expenses of the RJ as allowable deductible expenses. On the other hand, a specific provision of the JOA (4.2), a provision which was new to the calculation in the 2005 JOA, specifically indicates that the RJ and Sun would each bear their own editorial costs meaning that the RJ would not, in keeping the books of the JOA, be permitted to deduct editorial

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

expenses of the RJ in computing EBITDA of the JOA and the subsequent annual profits payments (if any) to the Sun. The weight of the evidence leads to the conclusion that the RJ has improperly deducted the RJ editorial expenses reducing the EBITDA of the JOA resulting in improperly low annual profits payments to the Sun.

- 17. Consequently, the Court finds that the Review-Journal has failed to meet its burden by clear and convincing evidence that the Arbitrator manifestly disregarded the JOA's contract provisions as to the deduction of editorial expenses.
- 18. Next, the Arbitrator considered Section 5.1.4 of the JOA to determine the impact of promotional activities and expense on the EBITDA. The Arbitrator concluded that under his interpretation of Section 5.1.4 there was evidence of impermissible deductions. The Arbitrator noted:

The weight of the evidence indicated that the RJ charged all promotional expenses to the JOA (both expenses that would be allowed as promotion of both the RJ and Sun in equal prominence and additional promotional activities expenses of the RJ only) resulting in lower EBITDA and payments to the Sun. There was not enough evidence presented in this matter to make a definitive damages calculation of wrongfully charged additional promotional activities expenses by the RJ. A crucial element of a breach of contract action is the proof of damages beyond speculation. Fortunately, the "audit" awarded in this matter could determine the damages (and additional profits payments due), if any, from the RJ's charging of all (both proper and additional) promotional expenses to the JOA EBITDA. It is the finding of this tribunal that additional promotional activities may not be included in the expenses charged to the JOA EBITDA.

- 19. In light of the Arbitrator's analysis and reliance of Section 5.1.4 of the JOA, the Court finds that there is not clear and convincing evidence that the Arbitrator manifestly disregarded the JOA's contract provisions as to promotional activities and expenses.
- 20. Next, the Court reviews the Review-Journal's contentions that the Arbitrator exceeded his authority when he issued a two-page supplementary non-binding interpretation regarding the ordered audit.
- 21. In determining the grounds for invalidating an arbitration award based on the assertion that an Arbitrator exceeded his authority, in Washoe, the Nevada Supreme Court noted:

"The Nevada Arbitration Act provides specific grounds for invalidating an arbitration award. NRS 38.241(1)(d) dictates that a court shall vacate an arbitration award if the arbitrator exceeded his powers." Health Plan of Nev., KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway
Seventeenth Floor
Las Vegas, Nevada 89169
(702) 385-6000 • Fax (702) 385-6001
kic(@kempiones.com

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

*Inc.*, 120 Nev. at 697, 100 P.3d at 178 (internal citation omitted). In particular, "[alrbitrators exceed their powers when they address issues or make awards outside the scope of the governing contract." Id. "However, allegations that an arbitrator misinterpreted the agreement or made factual or legal errors do not support vacating an award as being in excess of the arbitrator's powers." Id. Moreover, "[a]rbitrators do not exceed their powers if their interpretation of an agreement, even if erroneous, is rationally grounded in the agreement." Id. at 698, 100 P.3d at 178. As such, "[t]he question is whether the arbitrator had the authority under the agreement to decide an issue, not whether the issue was correctly decided." Id. Therefore, "[a]n award should be enforced so long as the arbitrator is arguably construing or applying the contract" and "there is a colorable justification for the outcome." *Id.* Nonetheless, "[t]he deference accorded an arbitrator . . . is not limitless; he is not free to contradict the express language of the contract." Int'l Ass'n of Firefighters, Local 1285 v. City of Las Vegas, 107 Nev. 906, 910, 823 P.2d 877, 879 (1991).

Washoe, 133 Nev. at 304.

22. It must be pointed out that Appendix D to the JOA provides that the Sun has a right to a yearly audit as the Arbitrator noted:

Appendix D to the JOA allowing for the Claimant to "...appoint an certified public accounting firm or law firm as Sun's representative to examine and audit the books and records of the Review-Journal and the other publications whose earnings are included in EBITDA for the purposes of verifying the determinations of the changes to the Annual Profit Payments..." (this provision has been referred to by both parties as "audit"). Respondent indicated that an "audit" has never been refused however the conduct of Respondent certainly has done just about everything possible to blunt, avoid, deter and postpone an "audit". In accordance with the scope of this tribunal's authority, Claimant's request for an "audit" is granted. Claimant may undertake the "audit" for the periods covered by this award (December 15, 2015 through March 31, 2018) and forward per the declaratory relief granted. Respondent had requested that this award, if an "audit" be directed, limit the scope and/or party to conduct the "audit". This award does not define the scope of the "audit" as part of the award as such specificity may be beyond the scope of the tribunal's authority.

- 23. In review of the Award, the Arbitrator ordered an audit but recognized there is no provision for the creation of audit rules or guidelines in the JOA. Additionally, the Arbitrator noted that neither party requested any of audit rules or guidelines provided in the Award. It is clear in review of the Award that the Arbitrator was well aware of the limits of his authority and simply suggested a non-binding legal evaluation and recommendation as to the guideline for an audit. Thus, the Arbitrator's non-binding legal opinion is not a sufficient basis to vacate the Award.
- 24. Next, the Court has to consider whether the Arbitrator issued an Award that was arbitrary and capricious. Under Nevada law, a court's review of the arbitrary-and-capricious

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

standard is limited to whether the arbitrator's findings are supported by substantial evidence in the record. Washoe, 133 Nev. at 308. Further, "The arbitrary-and-capricious standard does not permit a reviewing court to vacate an arbitrator's award based on a misinterpretation of the law." Id.

As this Court has already found, the Arbitrator based his rulings on his 25. interpretations of the JOA. Under the facts of this case and the JOA, there is substantial evidence to support the Award.

## The Sun's Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part

- After reviewing Section 5.1.4, the Arbitrator determined that House Ads were 26. not additional promotional activities and expenses. The Sun argues that the Arbitrator's ruling is arbitrary and capricious and a manifest disregard of the law. Nonetheless, the Court finds that the Arbitrator did consider section 5.1.4 in relation to House Ads, and as a result the Court affirms the Award on this issue.
- 27. Additionally, after weighing the evidence in this matter, the Arbitrator denied the Sun's claims for tortious breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing. The Court again reiterates that its inquiry under the manifest-disregard-of-the law standard is extremely limited. Consequently, the Court will not reassess and weigh the evidence that the Arbitrator relied on to make his decision. It is clear to the Court that the Arbitrator understood that there is a distinction between contract and tort claims, and the unique nature of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing as it relates to contracts versus torts. Further, the Arbitrator noted the sections of the JOA to which the tort claims potentially applied. Although it is not set forth in detail, the Arbitrator evaluated the parties' unique relationship, and he determined there was insufficient evidence of intentional conduct on this issue. Therefore, he found that the Review-Journal's conduct "does not qualify for tortious breach." Consequently, with respect to the Sun's claim for tortious breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, the Court finds that the Arbitrator did not manifestly disregard the law or the JOA, and the decision was not arbitrary and capricious.

1	
2	the
3	fees
4	the
5	cons
6	that
7	rulii
8	
9	Rev
10	Rev
11	that
12	
13	
14	Awa
15	
16	Arb
17	
18	Arb
19	Part
20	IN I
21	///
22	
23	

1

28. Also, the Arbitrator noted that both parties requested attorneys' fees, costs and cost of arbitration; but, found that no provision in the JOA addressed awarding attorneys' and costs in connection with this matter. Rather, the Arbitrator interpreted Appendix D of JOA and found that Appendix D addressed the award of arbitration fees and costs. As a sequence, the Arbitrator awarded only fees and costs of the arbitration. Thus, the Court finds the Arbitrator did consider the entire JOA and more specifically Appendix D to support his ng. Accordingly, the Court affirms the Arbitrator's ruling on attorneys' fees and costs.

29. Lastly, the Sun argues that the Arbitrator failed to enter a ruling on whether the iew-Journal breached the JOA audit provision. However, the Arbitrator determined that the iew-Journal has never refused to conduct an audit. Therefore, the Arbitrator simply ordered an audit be conducted and this decision is affirmed.

### **ORDER**

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that the Arbitration ard is confirmed in its entirety.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants Review-Journal's Motion to Vacate the itration Award is DENIED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc.'s Motion to Confirm itration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in the Sun's Motion to Vacate the Arbitration Award is GRANTED IN PART and DENIED PART as provided for herein.

24

25

26

27

28

1	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las
2	Vegas-Review Journal, Inc.'s Conditional Countermotion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in
3	Part, and to Vacate the Award, in Part is GRANTED IN PART and DENIED IN PART as
4	provided for herein.
5	Dated this 22 day of
6	
7	THEOU
8	The Honorable Timothy C. Williams
9	Submitted by:
10	KEMP, JONES & COULTHARD, LLP
11	0 0/0 1/
12	made gr & Vela #13626
13	J. Rahdall Jones, Esq. (#1927) Michael J. Gayan, Esq. (#11135)
14	Mona Kaveh, Esq. (#11825) 3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, 17th Floor
15	Las Vegas, Nevada 89169
16	Counsel for Defendants/Counterclaimant
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Other Business Cou	rt Matters	COURT MINUTES	August 22, 2018	
A-18-772591-B	8-772591-B Las Vegas Sun Inc, Plaintiff(s) vs. News+Media Capital Group LLC, Defendant(s)			
August 22, 2018	2:27 PM	Minute Order	Minute Order: Recusal	
<b>HEARD BY:</b> Denton, Mark R.		COURTROOM:	Chambers	
COURT CLERK: A	April Watkins			
RECORDER:				
REPORTER:				
PARTIES PRESENT:				

## **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- GIVEN the Court's previous professional relationship with one of the parties and its previous professional and long-time personal friendship with principals of the same, and to avoid the appearance of impropriety, the Court RECUSES from further involvement in this case and directs that it be reassigned to another Business Court Department. CANON 2, Rule 2.11, Commentary [1].

IT IS SO ORDERED.

CLERK S NOTE: This Minute Order was electronically served by Courtroom Clerk, April Watkins, to all registered parties for Odyssey File & serve. aw

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 1 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

**COURT MINUTES** 

October 24, 2018

A-18-772591-B

Las Vegas Sun Inc, Plaintiff(s)

VS.

News+Media Capital Group LLC, Defendant(s)

October 24, 2018

9:00 AM

**All Pending Motions** 

**HEARD BY:** Williams, Timothy C.

**Other Business Court Matters** 

**COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 03H

**COURT CLERK:** Christopher Darling

**RECORDER:** 

**REPORTER:** Dana J. Tavaglione

**PARTIES** 

**PRESENT:** Martini, Kristen L.

Pocker, Richard J. Attorney Reid, Leif Attorney

### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

Attorney

- APPEARANCES CONTINUED: Robert Cauthorn, representative of Las Vegas Sun, present.

DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS...PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO COMPEL ARBITRATION

Arguments by counsel on Motions. Court stated ITS FINDINGS and ORDERED, Motion to Dismiss DENIED; Motion to Compel GRANTED. Pltf. to prepare order and circulate to counsel.

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 2 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

**COURT MINUTES** 

December 04, 2018

A-18-772591-B

Las Vegas Sun Inc, Plaintiff(s)

vs.

News+Media Capital Group LLC, Defendant(s)

December 04, 2018

9:00 AM

Motion

**HEARD BY:** Williams, Timothy C.

**Other Business Court Matters** 

**COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 03H

**COURT CLERK:** Christopher Darling

**RECORDER:** 

**REPORTER:** Peggy Isom

**PARTIES** 

**PRESENT:** Martini, Kristen L.

Attorney

Pocker, Richard J.

Attorney

#### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- APPEARANCES CONTINUED: Robert Cauthorn, representative of Las Vegas Sun, present.

Matter of Motion to Extend Deadline for the Filing of Defendants Response to Plaintiffs Motion for Partial Summary Judgment and to Vacate and Reschedule Hearing on Order Shortening Time (First Request).

Arguments by counsel. Colloquy regarding possible continuance of all pending matters and scheduling briefing. COURT ORDERED, Motion GRANTED; Response to Motion for Partial Summary Judgment DUE 12/10/18; Reply thereto DUE 12/17/18 by 12:00 p.m. COURT FURTHER ORDERED, following matters CONTINUED: Pltf's Motion for Partial Summary Judgment and Defts' Motion for Reconsideration on Order Shortening Time.

CONTINUED TO: 12/19/18 1:15 P.M.

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 3 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

**COURT MINUTES** 

**Other Business Court Matters** 

December 19, 2018

A-18-772591-B Las Vegas Sun Inc, Plaintiff(s)

VS.

News+Media Capital Group LLC, Defendant(s)

December 19, 2018 1:15 PM All Pending Motions

**HEARD BY:** Williams, Timothy C. **COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 03H

**COURT CLERK:** Christopher Darling

**RECORDER:** 

**REPORTER:** Peggy Isom

**PARTIES** 

**PRESENT:** Martini, Kristen L. Attorney

Pocker, Richard J. Attorney Reid, Leif Attorney

### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- APPEARANCES CONTINUED: Nicole Scott, Esq. present for Pltf. Las Vegas Sun. Representatives of Las Vegas Sun present: Brian Greenspun, Myra Greenspun, and Robert Cauthorn, present.

DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF COURT'S ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO COMPEL ARBITRATION AND DENYING DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS, AND REQUEST FOR STAY ON ORDER SHORTENING TIME Arguments by counsel. COURT ORDERED, Motion DENIED; Ms. Martini to prepare detailed amended order within a week.

PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF AND BREACH OF CONTRACT/SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE

Arguments by counsel. Court advised decision forthcoming within a week.

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 4 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

A-18-772591-B Las Vegas Sun Inc, Plaintiff(s)
vs.
News+Media Capital Group LLC, Defendant(s)

February 04, 2019 8:13 AM Minute Order

**HEARD BY:** Williams, Timothy C. COURTROOM: Chambers

**COURT CLERK:** Christopher Darling

**RECORDER:** 

**REPORTER:** 

PARTIES PRESENT:

### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- After a review and consideration of the points and authorities on file herein, and the argument of counsel, the Court determined as follows:

The Court has reviewed the issues raised by Plaintiff, Las Vegas, Sun, Inc. (LVS) in its Motion for Partial Summary Judgment for Declaratory Relief and Breach of Contract/Specific Performance (First and Fourth Claims for Relief).

It is clear that the Joint Operating Agreement (JOA) is binding and controls the contractual relationship as to LVS and the News+Media Capital Group, LLC. (News-Media). However, issues as to whether there is a material breach of Section 5.1 and Appendices A and B of the JOA by Defendant, News-Media are questions of fact and not the proper basis to support granting summary judgment at this time. Additionally, the remedy of specific performance is only available as an alternative claim to monetary damage where the remedy at law is inadequate. It is premature at this time to reach such a conclusion. Ultimately, the Court anticipates that all issues of compliance and/or breach of Section 5.1 and Appendices A and B of the JOA will require expert testimony to assist the trier of fact in reaching their decision in this matter.

Based on the foregoing, Plaintiff LVS s Motion for Partial Summary Judgment for Declaratory Relief

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 5 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

and Breach of Contract for Specific Performance (First and Fourth Claims for Relief) shall be DENIED.

Counsel for News-Media shall prepare a detailed Order, Findings of Facts, and Conclusions of Law, based not only on the foregoing Minute Order, but also on the record on file herein. This is to be submitted to adverse counsel for review and approval and/or submission of a competing Order or objections, prior to submitting to the Court for review and signature.

CLERK S NOTE: This Minute Order has been electronically served to the parties through Odyssey eFile.

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 6 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

**COURT MINUTES** 

A 40 FF0504 B

April 03, 2019

A-18-772591-B

Las Vegas Sun Inc, Plaintiff(s)

VS.

News+Media Capital Group LLC, Defendant(s)

April 03, 2019

9:15 AM

**Mandatory Rule 16** 

Conference

**HEARD BY:** Williams, Timothy C.

**Other Business Court Matters** 

**COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 03H

**COURT CLERK:** Christopher Darling

**RECORDER:** 

**REPORTER:** 

**PARTIES** 

**PRESENT:** Levin, Akke

Attorney

Martini, Kristen L.

Attorney

## **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- Matter of Mandatory Discovery Conference. Ms. Martini advised related arbitration begins 4/15/19 and concludes 4/26/19. Colloquy regarding impact of the arbitration as to discovery proceeding in this case and claims anticipated for trial. Court stated 2 weeks to be set aside for trial. As to witnesses, Ms. Martini advised 13 total which accounts for 3 duplicates. Ms. Levin advised a confidentiality and protective order and ESI to be negotiated. There being agreement, COURT ORDERED, Trial dates SET; Close of Discovery SET 9/27/19. Department to issue scheduling order.

1/9/20 10:30 AM PRETRIAL/CALENDAR CALL

1/27/20 9:30 AM BENCH TRIAL

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 7 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

A-18-772591-B Las Vegas Sun Inc, Plaintiff(s)
vs.
News+Media Capital Group LLC, Defendant(s)

August 21, 2019

August 21, 2019 9:00 AM Motion for Protective See 9/4/19 Minute

Order Order

**HEARD BY:** Williams, Timothy C. **COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 03H

**COURT CLERK:** Christopher Darling

**RECORDER:** 

**REPORTER:** Peggy Isom

**PARTIES** 

PRESENT: Jones, Jon Randall Attorney

Levin, Akke Attorney
Martini, Kristen L. Attorney
Scott, Nicole Attorney

#### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- APPEARANCES CONTINUED: Benjamin Lipman, Esq. also present as General Counsel for Las Vegas Review-Journal.

Matter of Review-Journal's Motion for Protective Order and Objections Under NRCP 45. Mr. Jones argued for opportunity for review and privilege log, and for expansive view as to a representative. Ms. Martini proposed monthly case management conferences and argued burden not met as to whether fact witness at issue covered. Court stated decision to issue next week by way of Minute Order. Colloquy regarding proposed monthly conferences. Court stated if efforts to resolve issue discussed are unsuccessful, Court will entertain motion on order shortening time from Ms. Martini.

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 8 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

## DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

A-18-772591-B Las Vegas Sun Inc, Plaintiff(s)
vs.
News+Media Capital Group LLC, Defendant(s)

September 04, 2019 12:12 AM Minute Order

**HEARD BY:** Williams, Timothy C. COURTROOM: Chambers

**COURT CLERK:** Christopher Darling

**RECORDER:** 

REPORTER:

PARTIES PRESENT:

## **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- After review and consideration of the arguments of counsel and the moving papers on file herein, the Court determined as follows:

Upon reflection, the Court has considered Defendant News+Media Capital Group, LLC and Las Vegas Review Journal, Inc. s (Collectively the R.J.s.) Motion for a Protective Order as it relates to Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc. s (LV Sun) Notice of Subpoena Duces Tecum regarding the files of J. Ford Huffman. According to the declaration of Keith Moyer dated August 14, 2019, Mr. Huffman was retained to perform two functions. The first task was to assist R.J. employees and managers in the redesign of the newspaper, including the LV Sun insert portion of the newspaper. Mr. Huffman also consulted with and assisted the R.J. as a litigation consultant in responding to the LV Sun s Motion for Summary Judgment. The Court is well aware of positions asserted by the parties and would probably be required to conduct an evidentiary hearing to determine if Mr. Huffman s role in assisting the R.J. rose to the level of functional equivalent of an employee and thus subject to attorney client privilege. Additionally, Defendant R.J. alleges that Mr. Huffman was retained as a litigation consultant resulting in the application of the work product doctrine. Considering the totality of the arguments presented, without a more developed record, it is uncertain as to whether the functional equivalent doctrine applies at this time. However, it is patently apparent that Mr. Huffman has been retained by Defendant R.J. in the dual capacity to work on the newspaper redesign and as a litigation

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 9 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

consultant. As a result of Mr. Huffman's dual capacity, the Court will take a cautious approach to the production of documents in Mr. Huffman's possession. In order to prevent the inadvertent disclosure of privileged documents, the Court feels that in order to save time and expedite discovery in this matter and without the necessity of an evidentiary hearing, the Court shall require Mr. Huffman to supply all documents in his possession to Defendant R.J., who then shall be required to prepare a privilege log identifying all documents with particularity and assert the basis, if any for privileged documents for the record. The privileged log shall be prepared and exchanged by counsel within ten days from entry of this Court's order. In addition, the Court shall set a status check on 10/16/2019 at 9:00AM to expedite the discovery and to address the applicability of any asserted privileges. Consequently, Defendant R.J. s Motion for Protective Order shall be Granted in Part as to potential work product privileged based on work as a litigation consultant and Denied in Part as to the functional equivalent employer classifications.

Counsel for Defendant R.J. shall prepare a detailed Order, Findings of Facts, and Conclusions of Law, based not only on the foregoing Minute Order, but also on the record on file herein. This is to be submitted to adverse counsel for review and approval and/or submission of a competing Order or objections, prior to submitting to the Court for review and signature.

CLERK'S NOTE: The above Minute Order has been corrected with regards to the status check date as was brought to the Court's attention. The initial 10/4/19 setting was a date on which the Court is unavailable; the correct status check date is 10/16/19 at 9:00 a.m. as reflected above. This Minute Order has been electronically served to the parties through Odyssey eFile. /cd 9-26-19/

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 10 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

**COURT MINUTES** 

September 25, 2019

A-18-772591-B

**Other Business Court Matters** 

Las Vegas Sun Inc, Plaintiff(s)

VS.

News+Media Capital Group LLC, Defendant(s)

September 25, 2019 9:00 AM Motion for Leave

**HEARD BY:** Williams, Timothy C. **COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 03H

**COURT CLERK:** Christopher Darling

**RECORDER:** 

**REPORTER:** Peggy Isom

**PARTIES** 

**PRESENT:** Gayan, Michael J Attorney

Jones, Jon Randall Attorney
Martini, Kristen L. Attorney
Pisanelli, James J Attorney
Reid, Leif Attorney
Scott, Nicole Attorney
Smith, Jordan T., ESQ Attorney

#### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- APPEARANCES CONTINUED: Representatives of Pltf. present: Brian Greenspun, Myra Greenspun, and Amy Greenspun. Benjamin Lipman, Esq. present as General Counsel for Deft. Las Vegas Review-Journal. Attorney David Singer, Pro Hac pending, present for Defts.

Matter of Defendants News+Media Capital Group LLC and Las Vegas Review-Journal, Inc.'s Motion for Leave to Amend Answer and Assert Counterclaim on Order Shortening Time. Mr. Jones requested pending Motions to Associate Counsel David Singer, Amy Gallegos, and Richard Stone be granted. Mr. Reid advised no opposition to the Motions. COURT ORDERED, Motions to Associate Counsel GRANTED. Arguments by Mr. Jones and Mr. Pisanelli regarding Motion for Leave. COURT ORDERED, Motion for Leave GRANTED; no rights have been waived. Mr. Jones advised will prepare the order and circulate to counsel.

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 11 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

A-18-772591-B Las Vegas Sun Inc, Plaintiff(s)
vs.
News+Media Capital Group LLC, Defendant(s)

October 22, 2019 1:30 PM All Pending Motions

**HEARD BY:** Williams, Timothy C. **COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 03H

**COURT CLERK:** Christopher Darling

**RECORDER:** 

**REPORTER:** Peggy Isom

**PARTIES** 

**PRESENT:** Gayan, Michael J Attorney

Jones, Jon Randall Attorney
Martini, Kristen L. Attorney
Pisanelli, James J Attorney
Reid, Leif Attorney
Scott, Nicole Attorney
Smith, Jordan T., ESQ Attorney
Stone, Richard L. Attorney

### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- APPEARANCES CONTINUED: Benjamin Lipman, Esq. present as General Counsel for Deft. Las Vegas Review-Journal.

PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE OR, ALTERNATIVELY, MODIFY OR CORRECT THE AWARD, IN PART...DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO VACATE ARBITRATION AWARD

Argument by Mr. Reid. CONFERENCE AT BENCH. Arguments by Mr. Reid and Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones provided document for Court's review. Colloquy regarding scheduling other pending matters from today. As to the Arbitration Motions, Court stated will issue decision after review of issues regarding exceeding powers, common law, sufficient evidence, and manifest disregard. COURT

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 12 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

ORDERED, outstanding pending matters from today CONTINUED.

CONTINUED TO: 10/31/19 1:00 PM PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL AS TO MOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE OR, ALTERNATIVELY, MODIFY OR CORRECT THE AWARD...DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL AS TO MOTION TO VACATE...PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL AS TO OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO AMEND ANSWER AND ASSERT COUNTERCLAIM...PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO COMPEL PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS...STATUS CHECK: EXPEDITED DISCOVERY AND APPLICABILITY OF ASSERTED PRIVILEGES

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 13 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Other Business Court Matters COURT MINUTES October 31, 2019

A-18-772591-B Las Vegas Sun Inc, Plaintiff(s)

VS.

News+Media Capital Group LLC, Defendant(s)

October 31, 2019 1:00 PM All Pending Motions

**HEARD BY:** Williams, Timothy C. **COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 03H

**COURT CLERK:** Christopher Darling

**RECORDER:** 

**REPORTER:** Peggy Isom

**PARTIES** 

**PRESENT:** Jones, Jon Randall Attorney

Kaveh, Mona Attorney
Martini, Kristen L. Attorney
Pisanelli, James J Attorney
Reid, Leif Attorney
Smith, Jordan T., ESQ Attorney

#### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

### - PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO COMPEL PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS

Arguments by Ms. Martini and Mr. Jones. COURT ORDERED, Motion GRANTED; documents must be provided; no sanctions at this time in light of third-party issues. Colloquy regarding a status check as to outstanding issues and electronically stored information ("ESI"). COURT FURTHER ORDERED, Status Check regarding same SET for time of 11/6/19 matters hearing.

PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL AS TO MOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE OR, ALTERNATIVELY, MODIFY OR CORRECT THE AWARD...PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL AS TO OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO AMEND ANSWER AND ASSERT COUNTERCLAIM...DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL

Arguments by Mr. Smith and Mr. Jones. Discussion regarding an appendix with tabs for submission

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 14 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

of the Motions. Court directed the supplement delivered by Monday next week for a decision.

STATUS CHECK: EXPEDITED DISCOVERY AND APPLICABILITY OF ASSERTED PRIVILEGES Court noted matter previously addressed.

11/4/19 3:00 AM (CHAMBERS) STATUS CHECK: SUPPLEMENT TO MOTIONS FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL

11/6/19 9:00 AM STATUS CHECK: OUTSTANDING DISCOVERY AND ESI

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 15 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Other Business Court Matters COURT MINUTES November 06, 2019

A-18-772591-B Las Vegas Sun Inc, Plaintiff(s)

VS.

News+Media Capital Group LLC, Defendant(s)

November 06, 2019 9:00 AM All Pending Motions

**HEARD BY:** Williams, Timothy C. **COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 03H

**COURT CLERK:** Christopher Darling

**RECORDER:** 

**REPORTER:** Peggy Isom

**PARTIES** 

**PRESENT:** Gayan, Michael J Attorney

Jones, Jon Randall Attorney
Kaveh, Mona Attorney
Martini, Kristen L. Attorney
Reid, Leif Attorney
Scott, Nicole Attorney
Smith, Jordan T., ESQ Attorney

### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- APPEARANCES CONTINUED: Robert Cauthorn, COO of Las Vegas Sun, also present.

DEFENDANTS MOTION TO SEAL OPPOSITION AND EXHIBITS A-K...MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL [THE SUN'S OPPOSITION AND EXHIBITS TO DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO VACATE ARBITRATION AWARD]

Arguments by Mr. Smith and Mr. Jones. Court stated will review matters and issue detailed minute order shortly. Court further stated records at issue remain in their current state until time of the order. Colloquy regarding supplementation provided today by counsel as relates to forthcoming decision on sealing Motions. Court stated it sought documents Arbitrator was relying upon, namely, the joint operating agreements. Court also stated no preclusion from supplementing the matter further. Mr. Gayan advised will provide a supplement by tomorrow or Friday.

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 16 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO AMEND COMPLAINT...DEFENDANTS' (1) LIMITED OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO AMEND COMPLAINT AND (2) COUNTERMOTION TO CONTINUE TRIAL

Arguments by Mr. Reid and Mr. Jones. COURT ORDERED, Motion for Leave to Amend Complaint GRANTED. Prevailing party to prepare the order. Discussion and argument by counsel regarding Countermotion to Continue Trial in light of two new claims. As to the Countermotion, COURT FURTHER ORDERED, case schedule as follows: Initial Experts 1/20/20; Rebuttal Experts 2/19/20; Close of Discovery 4/20/20; Dispositive Motions 5/18/20; Trial 6/15/20. Department to issue amended trial order.

STATUS CHECK: OUTSTANDING DISCOVERY AND ESI...DEFENDANTS NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC AND LAS VEGAS REVIEW JOURNAL, INC'S OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE OR ALTERNATIVELY, MODIFY OR CORRECT THE AWARD, IN PART, AND CONDITIONAL COUNTERMOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE THE AWARD, IN PART

Colloquy regarding rescheduling remaining matters from today as well as 11/13/19 matters. COURT ORDERED, today's pending matters CONTINUED to 11/12/19 afternoon; 11/13/19 matters RESET to same 11/12/19 session.

CONTINUED TO: 11/12/19 1:15 PM STATUS CHECK: OUTSTANDING DISCOVERY AND ESI...DEFENDANTS NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC AND LAS VEGAS REVIEW JOURNAL, INC'S OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE OR ALTERNATIVELY, MODIFY OR CORRECT THE AWARD, IN PART, AND CONDITIONAL COUNTERMOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE THE AWARD, IN PART

11/12/19 1:15 PM DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL...MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL [EXHIBITS 3-6 TO REPLY TO OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE OR, ALTERNATIVELY, MODIFY OR CORRECT THE AWARD, IN PART, AND REFERENCES THERETO]

5/28/20 10:30 AM PRETRIAL/CALENDAR CALL

6/15/20 9:30 AM JURY TRIAL

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 17 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

**COURT MINUTES** 

November 12, 2019

A-18-772591-B

**Other Business Court Matters** 

Las Vegas Sun Inc, Plaintiff(s)

VS.

News+Media Capital Group LLC, Defendant(s)

November 12, 2019 1:15 PM All Pending Motions

**HEARD BY:** Williams, Timothy C. **COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 03H

**COURT CLERK:** Christopher Darling

**RECORDER:** 

**REPORTER:** Dana J. Tavaglione

**PARTIES** 

**PRESENT:** Gayan, Michael J Attorney

Jones, Jon Randall Attorney
Pisanelli, James J Attorney
Reid, Leif Attorney
Scott, Nicole Attorney
Smith, Jordan T., ESQ Attorney

### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL [EXHIBITS 3-6 TO REPLY TO OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE OR, ALTERNATIVELY, MODIFY OR CORRECT THE AWARD, IN PART, AND REFERENCES THERETO]...DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE DOCUMENTS UNDER SEAL.

Matters submitted. Court stated will decide all seal issues together and notify counsel if assistance needed.

DEFENDANTS NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC AND LAS VEGAS REVIEW JOURNAL, INC'S OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE OR ALTERNATIVELY, MODIFY OR CORRECT THE AWARD, IN PART, AND CONDITIONAL COUNTERMOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD, IN PART, AND TO VACATE THE AWARD, IN PART

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 18 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

Mr. Gayan presented binder of materials for Court's review. Court noted receipt of materials needed for decision on the confirmation or vacate matter; decision anticipated before Thanksgiving Holiday.

### STATUS CHECK: OUTSTANDING DISCOVERY AND ESI

Mr. Reid advised Ms. Martini unable to attend due to health issue. Mr. Gayan reviewed history of issues with vendor, the rational review, and custodians. Upon inquiry by Mr. Reid as to prior production compelled, Mr. Gayan advised will provide within two (2) weeks and earlier if possible. Court so noted. Discussion and arguments by counsel regarding custodians, search terms with respect to those involved in redesign, and second set of outstanding discovery. Mr. Jones presented documents for Court's review. Mr. Jones advised will perform search as discussed. Colloquy regarding special setting for results of ESI search and related issues as well as the Motion to Dismiss previously set 11/20. COURT ORDERED, Motion to Dismiss REST from 11/20/19 9:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.; Status Check SET 11/20/19 at 10:00 a.m. as to the ESI search, custodian issues, and second set of outstanding discovery. Mr. Reid advised will prepare order from today's hearing.

11/20/19 10:00 AM STATUS CHECK: RESULTS OF ESI SEARCH/CUSTODIAN ISSUES/SECOND SET OF OUTSTANDING DISCOVERY

CONTINUED TO: 11/20/19 10:00 AM MOTION TO DISMISS COUNTERCLAIMS OR, ALTERNATIVELY, TO STAY COUNTERCLAIMS PENDING FEDERAL COURT ACTION

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 19 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Other Business Court Matters COURT MINUTES November 20, 2019

A-18-772591-B Las Vegas Sun Inc, Plaintiff(s)

VS

News+Media Capital Group LLC, Defendant(s)

November 20, 2019 10:00 AM All Pending Motions

**HEARD BY:** Williams, Timothy C. **COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 03H

**COURT CLERK:** Christopher Darling

**RECORDER:** 

**REPORTER:** Peggy Isom

**PARTIES** 

**PRESENT:** Gayan, Michael J Attorney

Jones, Jon Randall Attorney
Pisanelli, James J Attorney
Reid, Leif Attorney
Scott, Nicole Attorney
Smith, Jordan T., ESQ Attorney
Stone, Richard L. Attorney

### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- APPEARANCES CONTINUED: Benjamin Lipman, Esq. present as General Counsel for Deft. Las Vegas Review Journal.

MOTION TO DISMISS COUNTERCLAIMS OR, ALTERNATIVELY, TO STAY COUNTERCLAIMS PENDING FEDERAL COURT ACTION...STATUS CHECK: RESULTS OF ESI SEARCH/CUSTODIAN ISSUES/SECOND SET OF OUTSTANDING DISCOVERY

Arguments by Mr. Pisanelli and Mr. Jones regarding the Motion. COURT ORDERED, as to Motion to Dismiss Counterclaims, claims have merit until final adjudication; as to alternative Motion to Stay, matter stayed; will reserve ruling on subject matter jurisdiction and defer to pending resolution of action in Federal Court; Status Check SET in ninety (90) days regarding stay as to federal action. Colloquy regarding stay of entire case in light of anticipated issues with discovery. Court stated

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 20 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

counsel may file appropriate motion for stay on order shortening time with setting not less than ten (10) days for response. Court directed Mr. Pisanell prepare today's Motion order and circulate to counsel. As to today's Status Check, Mr. Reid advised the production outstanding of six months is promised next week. Court stated today's stay is not for purpose of the production. Mr. Gayan reviewed extensive search results, advised parties have agreed on certain terms and anticipates parties will meet and confer on issues. There being agreement, COURT ORDERED, Status Check matter CONTINUED to 12/4/19.

CONTINUED TO: 12/4/19 9:00 AM STATUS CHECK: RESULTS OF ESI SEARCH/CUSTODIAN ISSUES/SECOND SET OF OUTSTANDING DISCOVERY

2/19/20 9:00 AM STATUS CHECK: STAY FOR FEDERAL ACTION

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 21 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

A-18-772591-B Las Vegas Sun Inc, Plaintiff(s)
vs.
News+Media Capital Group LLC, Defendant(s)

November 27, 2019 9:42 AM Minute Order

**HEARD BY:** Williams, Timothy C. COURTROOM: Chambers

**COURT CLERK:** Christopher Darling

**RECORDER:** 

**REPORTER:** 

PARTIES PRESENT:

## **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- At the prior hearing in the instant matter, the Court restated its intention to publish a decision by a minute order on Defendants , New+MEDIA Capital Group LLC; Las Vegas Review Journal, Inc. (The RJ), Motion to Vacate the Arbitration Award, and the Plaintiff s, Las Vegas Sun, Inc., Countermotion to Confirm the Arbitration Award, in Part and to Vacate the Award in Part before November 28, 2019. The Court has reviewed the parties submissions and has finalized its decision and minute order. However, in light of the recent filing by the RJ seeking to stay all aspects of this case, the Court believes out of fairness it cannot publish its decision until after a hearing on the merits of the RJ s Motion to Stay is held.

CLERK'S NOTE: This Minute Order has been electronically served to the parties through Odyssey eFile.

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 22 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

A-18-772591-B Las Vegas Sun Inc, Plaintiff(s)
vs.
News+Media Capital Group LLC, Defendant(s)

December 04, 2019 9:30 AM All Pending Motions

**HEARD BY:** Williams, Timothy C. **COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 03H

**COURT CLERK:** Christopher Darling

**RECORDER:** 

**REPORTER:** Peggy Isom

**PARTIES** 

**PRESENT:** Gayan, Michael J Attorney

Jones, Jon Randall Attorney
Martini, Kristen L. Attorney
Pisanelli, James J Attorney
Reid, Leif Attorney
Singer, David R. Attorney
Smith, Jordan T., ESQ Attorney

### **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- APPEARANCES CONTINUED: Robert Cauthorn, COO for Pltf. Las Vegas Sun, present. Representatives of Pltf. present: Brian Greenspun and Myra Greenspun. Benjamin Lipman, Esq. present as General Counsel for Deft. Las Vegas Review-Journal. Representative of Deft. Las Vegas Review-Journal, Keith Moyer, present.

EWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC AND LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC.'S EMERGENCY MOTION TO STAY CASE AND POSTPONE ACTION ON ARBITRATION-RELATED MOTIONS ON ORDER SHORTENING TIME...LAS VEGAS SUN, INC.'S OPPOSITION TO NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC AND LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC.'S EMERGENCY MOTION TO STAY CASE AND POSTPONE ACTION ON ARBITRATION-RELATED MOTIONS ON ORDER SHORTENING TIME AND COUNTERMOTION TO STAY DEFENDANTS' TENTH, TWENTY-SIXTH AND TWENTY-SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES (REDACTED)...STATUS CHECK:

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 23 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

DECISION ON MOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION AWARD; MOTION TO VACATE ARBITRATION AWARD...STATUS CHECK: RESULTS OF ESI SEARCH/CUSTODIAN ISSUES/SECOND SET OF OUTSTANDING DISCOVERY

Arguments by Mr. Jones and Mr. Pisanelli. COURT ORDERED, Motion GRANTED IN PART and DENIED IN PART; DENIED as to issue with respect to decision on arbitration; will stay all other case matters. Prevailing party to submit the order. Court stated a minute order is anticipated today as to arbitration confirmation or vacation. Further stated will issue decision without prejudice as to sealing motions, maintaining status quo, subject to future briefing as discussed.

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 24 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Other Business Court Matters		COURT MINUTES	December 04, 2019
A-18-772591-B	Las Vegas Sı	ın Inc, Plaintiff(s)	
	vs.		
	News+Medi	a Capital Group LLC, Defendant(s)	

December 04, 2019 5:11 PM Minute Order

**HEARD BY:** Williams, Timothy C. COURTROOM: Chambers

**COURT CLERK:** Christopher Darling

**RECORDER:** 

**REPORTER:** 

PARTIES PRESENT:

## **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- After a review and consideration of the points and authorities on file herein, the Court determined as follows:

First, the Court will address collectively Defendant News + Media Capital Group, LLC s and the Review Journal s (Review Journal) Motion to Vacate the Arbitration Award, and then Plaintiff Las Vegas Sun, Inc. s (LV Sun) Motion to confirm the Arbitration Award, in Part and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award in Part.

The first issue raised by the Review Journal as the basis to vacate the Arbitrator's Award, focused on whether the Arbitrator disregarded the plain language of the Joint Operating Agreement (JOA) by failing to subtract editorial expenses from revenues in order to calculate EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization) for the purposes of determining the LV Sun's share of profits under the JOA.

Under Nevada Law, [t]he party seeking to attack the validity of an arbitration award has the burden of proving, by clear and convincing evidence, the statutory or common-law ground relied upon for challenging the award. Washoe Cty. Sch. Dist. v. White, 133 Nev. 301, 303, 396 P.3d 834, 838 (2017) quoting Health Plan of Nev., Inc. v. Rainbow Med., LLC, 120 Nev. 689, 695, 100 P.3d 172, 176 (2004).

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 25 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

Additionally, [t]here are two common-law grounds recognized in Nevada under which a court may review private binding arbitration award: (1) whether the award is arbitrary, capricious, or unsupported by the agreement; and (2) whether the arbitrator manifestly disregarded the law. Id. at 306. The Nevada Supreme Court explained the distinction between the two as: the former standard ensures that the arbitrator does not disregard the facts or the terms of the arbitration agreement, while the latter standard ensures that the arbitrator recognizes applicable law. Id.

Moreover, [j]udicial inquiry under the manifest-disregard-of-the-law standard is extremely limited. Id. When a party seeks to vacate an arbitration award based on manifest disregard of the law, they must show more than a mere objection to the results of the arbitration. Id. Consequently, the Court s focus is not on whether the Arbitrator correctly interpreted the law, but whether the arbitrator, knowing the law and recognizing that the law required a particular result, simply disregarded the law. Id.

In the instant action, the Arbitrator recognized the JOA s plain language, considered its EBITDA, and determined that under the JOA deductions should be calculated for editorial expenses. Thus, there appears to be, at a minimum, a colorable justification for the Arbitrator's findings on this issue. The Arbitrator concluded:

The term Retention was very similar to earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA). The prior (pre-2005) computation of Retention included Editorial Expenses of the RJ as allowable deductible expenses. On the other hand, a specific provision of the JOA (4.2), a provision which was new to the calculation in the 2005 JOA, specifically indicates that the RJ and Sun would each bear their own editorial costs meaning that the RJ would not, in keeping the books of the JOA, be permitted to deduct editorial expenses of the RJ in computing EBITDA of the JOA and the subsequent annual profits payments (if any) to the Sun. The weight of the evidence leads to the conclusion that the RJ has improperly deducted the RJ editorial expenses reducing the EBITDA of the JOA resulting in improperly low annual profits payments to the Sun.

Arbitrator s Decision at page 5.

Consequently, the Court finds that the Defendant Review Journal has failed to meet its burden by clear and convincing evidence that the Arbitrator manifestly disregarded the JOA's contract provisions as to the deduction of editorial expenses.

Next, the Arbitrator focused on Section 5.1.4 of the JOA to determine the impact of promotional activities and expense on the EBITDA. After he weighed the evidence, he concluded that under his interpretation of Section 5.1.4 there was evidence of impermissible deductions. The Arbitrator noted:

The weight of the evidence indicated that the RJ charged all promotional expenses to the JOA (both expenses that would be allowed as promotion of both the RJ and Sun in equal prominence and additional promotional activities expenses of the RJ only) resulting in lower EBITDA and payments

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 26 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

to the Sun. There was not enough evidence presented in this matter to make a definitive damages calculation of wrongfully charged additional promotional activities expenses by the RJ. A crucial element of a breach of contract action is the proof of damages beyond speculation. Fortunately, the audit awarded in this matter could determine the damages (and additional profits payments due), if any, from the RJ s charging of all (both proper and additional) promotional expenses to the JOA EBITDA. It is the finding of this tribunal that additional promotional activities may not be included in the expenses charged to the JOA EBITDA.

Arbitrator s Decision at page 6.

In light of the Arbitrator's analysis and reliance of Section 5.1.4 of the JOA, the Court finds that there is not clear and convincing evidence that the Arbitrator manifestly disregarded the JOA's contract provisions as to promotional activities and expenses.

Next, the Court reviews Defendant Review Journal's contentions that the Arbitrator exceeded his authority when he issued a two-page supplementary non-binding interpretation regarding the ordered audit.

In determining the grounds for invalidating an arbitration award based on the assertion that an Arbitrator exceeded his authority, in Washoe, the Nevada Supreme Court noted:

"The Nevada Arbitration Act provides specific grounds for invalidating an arbitration award. NRS 38.241(1)(d) dictates that a court shall vacate an arbitration award if the arbitrator exceeded his powers." Health Plan of Nev., Inc., 120 Nev. at 697, 100 P.3d at 178 (internal citation omitted). In particular, "[a]rbitrators exceed their powers when they address issues or make awards outside the scope of the governing contract." Id. "However, allegations that an arbitrator misinterpreted the agreement or made factual or legal errors do not support vacating an award as being in excess of the arbitrator's powers." Id. Moreover, "[a]rbitrators do not exceed their powers if their interpretation of an agreement, even if erroneous, is rationally grounded in the agreement." Id. at 698, 100 P.3d at 178. As such, "[t]he question is whether the arbitrator had the authority under the agreement to decide an issue, not whether the issue was correctly decided." Id. Therefore, "[a]n award should be enforced so long as the arbitrator is arguably construing or applying the contract" and "there is a colorable justification for the outcome." Id. Nonetheless, "[t]he deference accorded an arbitrator . . . is not limitless; he is not free to contradict the express language of the contract." Int l Ass'n of Firefighters, Local 1285 v. City of Las Vegas, 107 Nev. 906, 910, 823 P.2d 877, 879 (1991).

Washoe, 133 Nev. at 304.

It must be pointed out that Appendix D to the JOA provide that Plaintiff LV Sun has a right to a yearly audit as the Arbitrator noted:

Appendix D to the JOA allowing for the Claimant to appoint an certified public accounting firm or law firm as Sun's representative to examine and audit the books and records of the Review-Journal

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 27 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

and the other publications whose earnings are included in EBITDA for the purposes of verifying the determinations of the changes to the Annual Profit Payments (this provision has been referred to by both parties as audit). Respondent indicated that an audit has never been refused however the conduct of Respondent certainly has done just about everything possible to blunt, avoid, deter and postpone an audit. In accordance with the scope of this tribunal s authority, Claimant s request for an audit is granted. Claimant may undertake the audit for the periods covered by this award (December 15, 2015 through March 31, 2018) and forward per the declaratory relief granted. Respondent had requested that this award, if an audit be directed, limit the scope and/or party to conduct the audit. This award does not define the scope of the audit as part of the award as such specificity may be beyond the scope of the tribunal s authority. Arbitrator s Decision, page 6.

In review of the Arbitrator's decision, the Arbitrator ordered an audit but recognized there is no provision for the creation of audit rules or guidelines in the JOA. Additionally, the Arbitrator noted that neither party requested any of audit rules or guidelines. It is clear in review of the Arbitrator's decision he was well aware of the limits of his authority and simply suggested a non-binding legal evaluation and recommendation as to the guideline for an audit. Thus, a non-binding legal opinion is not a sufficient basis to vacate an arbitration decision.

Next, the Court has to consider whether the Arbitrator issued an Award that was arbitrary and capricious. Under Nevada law, a court's review of the arbitrary-and-capricious standard is limited to whether the arbitrator's findings are supported by substantial evidence in the record. Washoe, 133 Nev. at 308. Further, The arbitrary-and-capricious standard does not permit a reviewing court to vacate an arbitrator's award based on a misinterpretation of the law. Id.

As this Court has already found, the Arbitrator based his rulings on his interpretations of the JOA. Under the facts of this case and the JOA, there is substantial evidence to support the Arbitrator's Award.

Finally, although the Court has addressed the primary contested issues raised by Defendant Review Journal in its Motion to Vacate the Arbitration Award, the Court will briefly address the issues raised by the LV Sun.

After reviewing Section 5.1.4, the Arbitrator determined that House Ads were not additional promotional activities and expenses. The LV Sun argues that the Arbitrator's ruling is arbitrary and capricious and a manifest disregard of the law. Nonetheless, the Court finds that the Arbitrator did consider section 5.1.4 in relation to House Ads, and as a result the Court Affirms the Arbitrator's ruling.

Additionally, after weighing the evidence in this matter, the Arbitrator denied the LV Sun s tortious breach claims. The Court again reiterates that its inquiry under the manifest-disregard-of-the law standard is extremely limited. Consequently, the Court will not reassess and weigh the evidence that the Arbitrator relied on to make his decision. It is clear to the Court that the Arbitrator understood

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 28 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

that there is a distinction between contract and tort claims, and the unique nature of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing as it relates to contracts vs. torts. Further, the Arbitrator noted the sections of the JOA that the tort claims potentially applied. Although it s not set forth in detail how the Arbitrator evaluated the party s unique relationship, it appears he determined there was insufficient evidence of intentional conduct on this issue, and therefore, he found that the party s conduct does not qualify for tortious breach. Consequently, the Court cannot find that the Arbitrator manifestly disregarded the law or the JOA or that the decision was arbitrary and capricious.

Also, the Arbitrator noted that both parties requested attorneys fees, costs, and the cost of arbitration; but, found that no provision in the JOA addressed awarding attorney s fees and costs in connection with this matter. Rather, the Arbitrator interpreted Appendix D of the JOA and found that Appendix D addressed the award of arbitration fees and costs. As a consequence, the Arbitrator awarded only fees and costs of the arbitration. Thus, the Court finds that the Arbitrator did consider the entire JOA and more specifically Appendix D to support his ruling. Accordingly, the Court Affirms the Arbitrator's ruling on costs and fees.

Lastly, the LV Sun argues that the Arbitrator failed to enter a ruling on whether the Review Journal breached the JOA audit provision. However, the Arbitrator noted that while the Review Journal has done just about everything possible to blunt, avoid, deter and postpone an audit, yet he determined that the Review Journal has never refused to conduct an audit. Therefore, the Arbitrator simply ordered that an audit be conducted and this decision is affirmed.

As a result of the foregoing, the Review Journal s Motion to Vacate Arbitration Award shall be DENIED. The LV Sun s Motion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate or, Alternatively, Modify or Correct the Award, in Part shall be GRANTED in Part and DENIED in Part. The LV Sun s motion is granted as to the request to confirm the Arbitration Award. The LV Sun s motion is denied as to all requests to vacate, modify, or correct the Arbitrator s Award. Lastly, the Review Journal s Conditional Countermotion to Confirm Arbitration Award, in Part, and to Vacate the Award, in Part shall be GRANTED in Part and DENIED in Part. The Review Journal s countermotion is granted as to the request to confirm the Arbitration Award. The Review Journal s countermotion is denied as to the request to vacate the Arbitration Award.

Lastly, in order to alleviate any potential misunderstanding in light of the confusing procedural posture of the pleadings and request for relief in this case, it is the Court's intention to AFFIRM the entire Arbitration Decision as written.

Counsel for Plaintiff shall prepare a detailed Order, Findings of Facts, and Conclusions of Law, based not only on the foregoing Minute Order, but also on the record on file herein. This is to be submitted to adverse counsel for review and approval and/or submission of a competing Order or objections, prior to submitting to the Court for review and signature.

CLERK S NOTE: This Minute Order has been electronically served to the parties through Odyssey eFile.

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 29 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

A-18-772591-B Las Vegas Sun Inc, Plaintiff(s)
vs.
News+Media Capital Group LLC, Defendant(s)

January 10, 2020 11:45 AM Minute Order

**HEARD BY:** Williams, Timothy C. COURTROOM: Chambers

**COURT CLERK:** Christopher Darling

**RECORDER:** 

**REPORTER:** 

PARTIES PRESENT:

# **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- On January 9, 2020, a stay was entered in this case. Therefore, the Court hereby vacates the pending motions under submission regarding sealing of documents. In the event of the stay being lifted, these matters will renew for consideration and decision.

CLERK S NOTE: This Minute Order has been electronically served to the parties through Odyssey eFile.

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 30 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

# DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

**Other Business Court Matters** 

**COURT MINUTES** 

January 29, 2020

A-18-772591-B

Las Vegas Sun Inc, Plaintiff(s)

VS.

News+Media Capital Group LLC, Defendant(s)

January 29, 2020

9:00 AM

**Motion for Leave** 

**HEARD BY:** Williams, Timothy C.

**COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 03H

**COURT CLERK:** Christopher Darling

**RECORDER:** 

**REPORTER:** Peggy Isom

**PARTIES** 

**PRESENT:** Gayan, Michael J Attorney

Jones, Jon Randall Attorney
Martini, Kristen L. Attorney
Smith, Jordan T., ESQ Attorney

# **JOURNAL ENTRIES**

- Upon Court's inquiry as to federal action status, Mr. Gayan advised Motions to Dismiss fully briefed, hearings not set, his client moved to stay pending dismissal, conference report submitted, and there is a 2/4/20 hearing before Magistrate on stay issue and the report. Arguments by Mr. Gayan and Mr. Smith regarding the instant Motion. Court stated there appears jurisdiction on the issue. COURT ORDERED, Motion For Leave To File Additional Briefing Requested By Court GRANTED. Colloquy regarding briefing and hearing schedule as to sealing issue and modification of stipulated protective order. There being agreement, COURT FURTHER ORDERED, briefing and hearing as follows: Motion DUE 2/12/20; Opposition DUE 2/26/20; Reply DUE 3/4/20; Hearing SET 3/11/20. Court directed Mr. Gayan to prepare today's order. COURT FURTHER ORDERED, 2/19/20 Status Check matters VACATED.

### 3/11/20 9:30 AM HEARING ON SEALING AND MODIFICATION ISSUE

CLERK'S NOTE: Subsequent to proceedings, Court hereby clarifies as to the briefing there will be no strict page number limit; parties are to follow customary limit pursuant to the Rules. This Minute

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 31 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018

Order has been electronically served to the parties through Odyssey eFile.			

PRINT DATE: 01/30/2020 Page 32 of 32 Minutes Date: August 22, 2018



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

J. RANDALL JONES, ESQ. 3800 HOWARD HUGHES PKWY, 17<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR LAS VEGAS, NV 89169

> **DATE: January 30, 2020** CASE: A-18-772591-B

RE CASE: LAS VEGAS SUN, INC. vs. NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP, LLC; LAS VEGAS REVIEW-

JOURNAL, INC.

NOTICE OF APPEAL FILED: January 28, 2020

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)**
$\boxtimes$	\$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 (g) 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
County of Clark

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

NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC AND LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC.'S NOTICE OF APPEAL; NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP LLC AND LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC.'S CASE APPEAL STATEMENT; DISTRICT COURT DOCKET ENTRIES; CIVIL COVER SHEET; FINDINGS OF FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER AFFIRMING THE ARBITRATION AWARD; NOTICE OF ENTRY OF FINDINGS OF FACTS, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER AFFIRMING THE ARBITRATION AWARD; DISTRICT COURT MINUTES; NOTICE OF DEFICIENCY

LAS VEGAS SUN, INC.,

Plaintiff(s),

vs.

NEWS+MEDIA CAPITAL GROUP, LLC; LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL, INC.,

Defendant(s),

now on file and of record in this office.

Case No: A-18-772591-B

Dept No: XVI

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto Set my hand and Affixed the seal of the Court at my office, Las Vegas, Nevada This 30 day of January 2020.

Steven D. Grierson, Clerk of the Court

Amanda Hampton, Deputy Clerk