IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

GRADY EDWARD BYRD) Supreme Court Electronically Filed Jul 06 2020 04:01 p.m.
Appellant	Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court
V.)
CATERINA ANGELA BYRD)
Respondent)))

APPELLANT'S APPENDIX TO OPENING BRIEF - VOLUME II

Submitted by:

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on the 6th day of July, 2020, I caused to be served the instant APPELLANT'S APPENDIX TO OPENING BRIEF- VOLUME II to all interested parties as follows:

BY MAIL: Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I caused a true copy thereof to be placed in the U.S. Mail, enclosed in a sealed envelope, postage fully prepaid thereon, address as follows:

Anita A. Webster, Esq. **WEBSTER & ASSOCIATES** 6882 Edna Avenue Las Vegas, Nevada 89146 Attorneys for Respondent

XX BY ELECTRONIC MAIL: Pursuant to EDCR 7.26 and NEFCR Rule 9, I caused a true copy thereof to be served via electronic mail, via Odyssey, to the following e-mail address:

Anita Webster, Esq. - anitawebster@embarqmail.com

MILLS & ANDERSON

The index of Appellants Appendix to Opening Brief is as follows:

DOCUMENT	BATES NO.
Decree of Divorce filed on June 5, 2014	AA001-012
Notice of Motion and Motion to Enforce the Decree of Divorce, for an Order to Show Cause, to Divide a Newly Discovered Asset, to Execute QDRO's, and for Attorney's Fees and Costs	AA013-034
filed on October 16, 2018	
Exhibit Appendix for Motion to Enforce the Decree of Divorce, for an Order to Show Cause, to Divide a Newly Discovered Asset, to Execute QDRO's, and for Attorney's Fees and Costs filed on October 16, 2018	AA035-063
Plaintiff's Errata to Motion to Enforce the Decree of Divorce, for an Order to Show Cause, to Divide a Newly Discovered Asset, to Execute QDRO's, and for Attorney's Fees and Costs filed on October 29, 2018	AA064-068
Order Striking Exhibits filed on November 14, 2018	AA069
Plaintiff's Opposition to Defendant's to Defendant's Ex Parte Motion for a Continuance of Plaintiff's Motion to Enforce the Decree of Divorce, for an Order to Show Cause, to Divide Newly Discovered Asset, to Execute QDRO's and for Attorney's Fees and Costs and Countermotion for Attorney Fees and Costs filed on December 19, 2018	AA070-091
Reply to Opposition and/or Countermotion filed on December 28, 2018	AA092-096
Transcript Re: Motion – January 23, 2019 filed on May 13, 2020	AA097-138
Order From the January 23, 2019 Hearing filed on April 5, 2019	AA139-147
Notice of Entry of Order From the January 23, 2019 Hearing filed on April 5, 2019	AA148-158
Defendant's Motion for Reconsideration filed on April 8, 2019	AA159-177
Appendix to Defendant's Motion for Reconsideration filed on April 8, 2019	AA178-198
Plaintiff's Opposition to Defendant's Motion for Reconsideration and Countermotion filed on April 23, 2019	AA199-237

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Transcript Re: Status Check – May 2, 2019 filed on May 13, 2020	AA238-252
Defendant's Reply and Opposition filed on May 14, 2019	AA253-278
Plaintiff's Reply to Defendant's Opposition to Plaintiff's	AA279-308
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Transcript Re: All Pending Motions – July 18, 2019 filed on	AA372-399
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Plaintiff's Motion for Reconsideration, Summary Judgment,	AA400-436
Joinder and to Continue the Evidentiary Hearing filed on	
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Schedule Arrearages for Support filed on October 9, 2019	AA437-440
Request to Appear by Audiovisual Transmission Equipment	AA441-448
filed on October 10, 2019	
Audiovisual Transmission Equipment Appearance Consent filed on October 10, 2019	AA449-450
Transcript Re: All Pending Motions - October 11, 2019 filed on	AA451-477
May 13, 2020	
Plaintiff's Objection to Defendant's Notice to Appear by	AA478-489
Audiovisual Transmission Equipment at the Trial Scheduled for	
October 21, 2019 filed on October 14, 2019	
Motion on Order Shortening Time to Reconsider Denial of	AA490-499
Audiovisual Appearance Request filed on October 15, 2019	
Appendix to Defendant's Motion for Order Time to Reconsider	AA500-507
Denial of Audiovisual Appearance filed on October 15, 2019	
Defendant's Pretrial Memo filed on October 16, 2019	AA508-517
Plaintiff's Opposition to Defendant's Motion on Order	AA518-536
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Attorney's Fees and Costs filed on October 16, 2019	
Exhibit Appendix filed on October 16, 2019	AA537-541
Plaintiff's Pretrial memorandum filed on October 16, 2019	AA542-562

Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion for Reconsideration and Countermotion for Fees filed on October 18, 2019	AA563-578
Plaintiff's Reply to Defendant's Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion for Reconsideration, Summary Judgment, Joinder and to Continue the Evidentiary Hearing filed on October 20, 2019	AA579-603
Transcript Re: All Pending Motions – October 21, 2019 filed on May 13, 2020	AA604-785
Defendant's Opposition to Plaintiff's Memorandum of Fees and Costs filed on December 4, 2019	AA786-789
Plaintiff's Reply to Defendant's Opposition to Plaintiff's Second memorandum of Fees and Costs from July 19, 2019 through the Date of the Evidentiary Hearing on October 21, 2019 filed on December 16, 2019	AA790-802
Plaintiff's Motion for Attorney Fees and Costs for the Appeal filed on December 16, 2019	AA803-814
Defendant's Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion for Attorney's Fees and Costs for the Appeal filed on January 2, 2020	AA815-821
Plaintiff's Reply to Defendant's Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion for Attorney's Fees and Costs During the Appeal filed on January 9, 2020	AA822-832
Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order filed on January 23, 2020	AA833-853
Notice of Entry of Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order filed on January 23, 2020	AA854-876
Judgment for Attorney Fees filed on March 17, 2020	AA877-880
Notice of Entry of Judgment for Attorney Fees filed on March 18, 2020	AA881-886
Order From February 27, 2020 Hearing filed on March 26, 2020	AA887-889
Notice of Entry of Order From the February 27, 2020 Hearing filed on March 27, 2020	AA890-894
Request for Continuance filed on November 16, 2018	AA895-896
Order From the November 27, 2018 Hearing filed on December 17, 2019	AA897-900

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Transcript Re: Motion – January 23, 2019 filed on May 13, 2020	AA097-138
Transcript Re: Status Check – May 2, 2019 filed on May 13, 2020	AA238-252

1 | this problem so we don't have to come here. But now we're in front of you and he's in contempt of court. And she's paid thousands of dollars to come here. She's had to borrow money from friends and family to pay a mor -- the mortgage alone is \$1933. She's had to borrow that for five months, Your Honor. She's had no money for living expenses. And this all could have been prev -- prevented. We don't -- we shouldn't have to be here on these contemptuous thing. These documents should have been provided. So we -- we respectfully are requesting attorney fees. I can do a memorandum of fees and costs with the

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Brunzell factors, Your Honor.

(COUNSEL AND CLIENT CONFER BRIEFLY)

MS. LAMBERTSEN: Okay. Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. Mr. Byrd?

MR. BYRD: Ma'am, good morning. I'm not that organized. I really don't know how to present it in such a manner. I'll just go down some of the notes.

First of all, we should not be here at all. This case is past the three year statute of limitations for reopening a divorce case and discussing this.

THE COURT: But this is to enforce the decree, so it is not past the statute of limitations.

MR. BYRD: If this -- yes, ma'am. I'm not disputing

anything you say. I'm just giving you my opinion for the record. If this case is past three years, which it is, it's been reopened --

THE COURT: I don't need argument on that. I've already told you it is not -- the -- the statute of limitations does not prevent her from coming back to enforce the provisions of the decree. That's what we're here on. Please move on to your next point.

MR. BYRD: Yes, ma'am. Shelton vs. Shelton was mentioned. Shelton vs. Shelton is -- is now moot. NRS 125.150, 125.210, 125.165, all were past that date of Shelton v. Shelton and at that time the Nevada Legislature has already decreed that none of my disability benefits can be attached, levy, assigned --

THE COURT: There's --

MR. BYRD: -- or divided.

THE COURT: -- new case law. There's new case law. And yes, it can be attached because you have a continuing contracted obligation under the decree to pay her \$15 -- \$1500 a month. And, oh, by the way, they haven't moved to set aside the decree based upon fraud and fraudulent misrepresentations. I don't know if they would prevail on that, but I can tell you that if they file it and do prevail, you're going to be paying her a lot more money than \$1500 because she was entitled to

half of the payments that you're receiving, not \$1500. You're getting a hundred and sixteen thousand a year?

MR. BYRD: Somewhere around that. Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: She should have been receiving half of that.

MR. BYRD: Not according to the Supreme Court of the United States of America.

THE COURT: She should have been receiving half of that, sir. So we can go through this one-by-one --

MR. BYRD: Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: -- but your obligation to pay that \$1500 continues. You have to pay that. The only thing that was cut off was her ability to have the Army pay her directly. You also have an obligation to pay that \$1500 support that is alimony even though you tried to get around calling it alimony. And that will be paid until you come in with a proper motion to modify that payment based upon an improved financial condition which based on what I've seen you're not going to be able to show at this point because you've left her basically penniless. You don't get to do that. You have obligations under that decree and those obligations continue, sir. So we can enforce it. And one way we can enforce it is by putting you in jail until those payments are reinstated and continue to be made.

1	Now the other items, I'll hear your argument on the
2	other items.
3	MR. BYRD: I'm not sure which ones are which. I'd
4	like to
5	THE COURT: The insurance.
6	MR. BYRD: The main thing I'd like to do is am I
7	able to pass on documents to the Court here at this time?
8	THE COURT: What documents do you wish to pass on?
9	MR. BYRD: Every document that I have listed inside
10	of any of my filings I am providing them right now to the
11	Court.
12	MS. LAMBERTSEN: And
13	MR. BYRD: They're available right now.
14	MS. LAMBERTSEN: And Your Honor, I would object. I
15	I don't know what it is he intends to pass and I wouldn't
16	have an opportunity to really, you know, defend her interest
17	and whatever is contained in there.
18	THE COURT: You may provide a copy to the attorney.
19	MR. BYRD: I do have a copy. Every document there
20	is listed in something that I filed. That's all my evidence
21	that I have cited.
22	THE COURT: All right. Before we go further, swear
23	in both parties.
24	THE CLERK: Please stand and raise your right hand.

You and each of you do solemnly swear the testimony you're about to give in this action shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

MS. BYRD: Yes.

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MR. BYRD: I do.

THE COURT: All right. You may continue, sir. I'll remind you you're under oath.

MR. BYRD: Yes, ma'am. Some of the money, I'm not sure if I said this, too much stuff for me to take in at one time. And they want reimbursements to them -- some of that money comes straight from the government, like these ins --

THE COURT: That's fine. You get it. It's your obligation to pay. You pay it.

MR. BYRD: You -- I'm saying I don't get it. It -- it comes before I ever get it. To enroll in the program it automatically means it's deducted from the top.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. BYRD: So I don't have that money to give the majority going before I get paid. But that's just the point I want to bring up.

I don't know how to say it. I don't know what I can say. I -- I know you say we moved along. I don't -- what the decree says does not say and prove circumstances. It says change circumstances. And change can mean a lot of things

which I'm sure we will get to that --2 THE COURT: When --3 MR. BYRD: -- at another time. THE COURT: -- it changes from 3,000 a month down to zero because you guit paying what she's entitled to under the decree, that is not going to give you relief from your obligations. It has to be an improved change. MR, BYRD: I don't really know what to say. I'll 8 just -- I'll wait for my appeal. THE COURT: All right. 10 MS. LAMBERTSEN: Your Honor, he -- you know, it 11 would take me quite awhile to go through here, but since he 12 put it together, can he direct us to which document talks 13 about how much this \$225,000 Prudential life insurance is? 14 What -- can he point to -- I'd be happy to look at it. What 15 -- what in here is talking about this \$225 -- this is --16 THE COURT: That's --17 MS. LAMBERTSEN: -- the email attachment you gave 18 19 me. 20 MR. BYRD: There's nothing in there other than the 21 fact that I am providing what you've asked for. MS. LAMBERTSEN: What --22 MR. BYRD: That's what she's asked for and I gave it 23

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to her.

THE COURT: You need a copy --1 2 MR. BYRD: That's --3 THE COURT: -- of the policy. That's not a copy of the policy. We need to know what the monthly payment is. 4 MR. BYRD: Okay. 5 THE COURT: Counsel, you need to --6 MR. BYRD: Yeah, just make another --7 THE COURT: -- contact the insurance company and 8 find out if there's a way that she can be informed if payment is ever missed. 10 MS. LAMBERTSEN: Okay. So I'm wondering if -- so is 11 the Court inclined to have him give a release where we can 12 communicate with the Prudential company? 13 THE COURT: I can order that. 14 MS. LAMBERTSEN: And -- and so she will know if it's 15 being paid. Is the Court inclined to do that as opposed to 16 adding the payment onto her al -- or alimony --17 THE COURT: Yes. 18 MS. LAMBERTSEN: -- and letting -- okay. All right. 19 THE COURT: Just call the insurance company. Find 20 out what they require. If they require a release of 21 information or a consent by the Defendant, then he is to sign 22

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that paper. If he refuses to sign the paper, we can hold him

in contempt and we can also order the Clerk to sign the paper

on his --

MS. LAMBERTSEN: Okay.

THE COURT: -- behalf. Sir.

MS. LAMBERTSEN: I -- I don't know --

THE COURT: You may -- your ordered to get a copy of the policy, get a copy of the paperwork from the insurance company showing what the premium is and provide that to your exwife. You are also to cooperate in any matter needed in order for the insurance company to be able to keep her informed that the premiums are being paid. And that is an ongoing obligation on your part to pay that. If you fail to pay, you can be held in contempt for failure to pay that.

The Office of Personnel Management Death Benefits, is that being taken out of your check to keep the death benefits intact or is that just the survivor benefits that are being kept --

MR. BYRD: That is being --

THE COURT: -- out of your check?

MR. BYRD: -- taken off --

THE COURT: Do you have a copy of your last

disability payment?

MR. BYRD: Yes, I -- I submitted it with all of my other documents and my financial disclosure form. I don't know if there's -- there's one -- there should be one in this

packet also. And then we have the issue of the omitted assets, the Federal Employees Retirement plan. 2 MS. LAMBERTSEN: Yes. Yes, Your Honor. That --3 that is the one when -- that -- that is not listed anywhere in 1 the decree of divorce. And he went frm the army to the 5 Department of Defense. And with that, there is the FERS 6 Federal Employees -- Federal Employment Retirement System. She has no information on that. That was never divided. And he -- he kept -- kept that from her. Now he -- in his reply, he's pointing to the fact 10 that she knows what the words -- she sends in -- in an email I 11 don't know what OPM means. And he says that means Office of 12 Personnel Management. He then declares in his reply well that 13 means that she knew about the Federal Employee Retirement System. 15 Your Honor, she -- she does not have the basis to 16 even -- I --17 THE COURT: So you received --18 MS. LAMBERTSEN: -- wouldn't even think they would 19 20 be the same, you know. THE COURT: Have you received any documentation on 21 the Federal Employment Retirement --22

> D-18-577701-Z BYRD 01/23/19 TRANSCRIPT VERBATIM REPORTING & TRANSCRIPTION, LLC (520) 303-7356

MS. LAMBERTSEN: None --

THE COURT: -- plan?

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1	MS. LAMBERTSEN: Your Honor.
2	THE COURT: Sir, you are to provide
3	(COUNSEL AND CLIENT CONFER BRIEFLY)
4	THE COURT: those to her within 10 days.
5	MR. BYRD: Ma'am, it's all right there.
6	MS. LAMBERTSEN: No, it
7	MR. BYRD: I've given it to her before. This is
8	not
9	MS. LAMBERTSEN: No.
L 0	MR. BYRD: the first time. Everything is like
11	the
12	THE COURT: Okay.
١3	MR. BYRD: third time.
. 4	THE COURT: Handing those documents back and have
. 5	him show you where
. 6	MS. LAMBERTSEN: Okay.
٦ ا	THE COURT: that document is.
.8	MS. LAMBERTSEN: Show me where the Federal
. 9	Employment Retirement System plan is. I'm and I'm
20	wondering Your Honor on his financial disclosure form he has
1	this it's not included this I wonder if he was getting
2	\$1300 a month. Here it is. This I'm wondering if if or
3	his on his financial disclosure form Your Honor he has
4	something that he wrote on the top Department of Defense

1 retirement disability. But it's actually an annuity and he's getting paid 1315 a month on this annuity. I'm -- I'm curious if that is the FERS program. Way down at the bottom in the event of your death, 729 is payable to Caterin -- or Caterina. What -- we --

THE COURT: And --

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MS. LAMBERTSEN: -- need to have this policy. is this and what is this 1315 that he's getting a month ever -- she -- it was divided with her. She's not getting -- -she's not getting that. The only thing she's getting is the U.S. Army. She's not getting -- getting this. She's not getting the survivor benefits. She's not getting this CRSC where he gets 3,363 a month on that. What --

THE COURT: Okay. Further than conduct discovery here in the courtroom, I'm going to enter some interim orders.

MS. LAMBERTSEN: Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: You will be allowed to --

MR. BYRD: The --

THE COURT: -- do your discovery, do a deposition of him. Sir, you are required to get copies of statements for the last year of all accounts that you are receiving monies from including the annuity payment and any documents to show where the monies originated before you purchase the annuity. Any other accounts that you have that you're receiving monies

from. Copies of any insurance policies and documentation showing payments on those policies.

Now in regards to the healthcare, the wife can't just walk in -- the exwife can't just walk in and throw up her hands and say I didn't know any of this information and she had an obligation to follow through on that. And if benefits were lost as a result of that, that's not necessarily going to be something that he's going to be responsible for. So I am not ruling today. I'm going to wait until you've done your discovery. We may need to do an evidentiary hearing. You may decide after you've done your discovery whether or not there's a basis to move to set aside the decree based upon fraud. That's a very high standard to me though and it's pretty hard to prove. But I think there is a possibility. But I'll leave that up to you.

And in the meantime, sir, your are ordered to pay the \$1500 a month that you are obligated to pay her as her share of the benefits that you're receiving. Should have been more. But unless you move to set aside the decree of divorce, I can't look behind that. You're ordered to pay the \$1500 per month in the support payments. And those past payments that you didn't pay are re-awarded in the amount of 7500 for the 1500 you're not paying out of the benefits and 7500 for the

reduce that to judgment.

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And then as to the other issues, you need to get the proper documentation. And if he doesn't provide it, come in with your proper motion to hold him in contempt and we'll do it and contempt. And that situation will be sir, you'll sit in custody until you provide the proper documents that she's requested.

And any other documents regarding -- like I said, any other income that you've got including the Federal Employment Retirement plan and any other plans that you had set up at the time of the divorce. So the -- and attorney's fees in the amount of \$7,000 are to be paid to her within the next 45 days.

MR. BYRD: May I ask a question? Do you want these documents? This is everything I got. Everything that's been discussed here is there --

THE COURT: Then --

MR. BYRD: -- with the exception of policies.

THE COURT: Go get some more.

MS. LAMBERTSEN: I -- I'd be --

THE COURT: But got to be a --

MS. LAMBERTSEN: -- happy to --

THE COURT: -- matter of --

MS. LAMBERTSEN: -- take those. They're -- they're

probably deficient, Your Honor --1 2 MR. BYRD: But --3 MS. LAMBERTSEN: -- but I'd hap -- I'd be --MR. BYRD: But I -- I'll just --4 THE COURT: She'll take a look --5 6 MS. LAMBERTSEN: -- I can take them. 7 MR. BYRD: Okay. THE COURT: -- at it. 8 9 MR. BYRD: I'll just keep them. 10 MS. LAMBERTSEN: Okay. Your Honor, do we have a 11 ruling on the contempt there? He's not disputing that he did not pay her. Do we have a --12 THE COURT: I'm not going to hold him in contempt at 13 this point, but if he fails to get caught up on the payments 14 and pay the attorney's fees in a timely manner, then you may 15 renew your motion and we'll set it for a hearing at that time. 16 17 And --18 MS. LAMBERTSEN: Because --THE COURT: -- that can --19 MR. BYRD: Yes, ma'am. 20 THE COURT: -- include jail time. 21 MR. BYRD: I understand. 22 MS. LAMBERTSEN: We -- because she needs that 7500 23 24 and 75 -- I mean, she is in desperate -- and so it's going --

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1	THE COURT: When can you have that paid, sir?
2	MS. LAMBERTSEN: That's she needs it like now.
3	MR. BYRD: Ma'am, when am I going to pay that?
4	THE COURT: \$15,000 plus another 7 is 22,000.
5	MR. BYRD: Af after my appeal is when I'm going
6	to pay it.
7	THE COURT: No, sir. You're going to pay it before
8	your appeal.
9	MR. BYRD: Oh, I am?
10	THE COURT: Or you're going to sit in jail.
11	MR. BYRD: Well, I have if I can get the money
12	up, I will pay it. I will do my best.
13	THE COURT: How much do you get a month, sir?
14	MR. BYRD: Approximately \$9,000 a month,
15	approximately. I'm not sure the exact figures.
16	THE COURT: And I'll remind you you're under oath.
17	MR. BYRD: Yes, ma'am,
18	THE COURT: You are to pay at least 4500 each month
19	to her until that sum is paid. So half of what you're
20	receiving is to be be paid to her. And if you fail to do
21	so, we'll hold you in contempt
22	MR. BYRD: Yes, ma'am.
23	THE COURT: and to put you in jail.
24	MR. BYRD: When am I supposed to pay that?

THE COURT: By the 1st of each month.

MR. BYRD: I won't -- I won't have that money the lst of this month.

MS. LAMBERTSEN: Well, he -- he's sitting on 15,000 that should have gone to her, you know. So to say he doesn't have 4500 plus her -- her payments doesn't seem --

THE COURT: How much do you --

MS. LAMBERTSEN: -- credible.

THE COURT: -- have in the bank right now, sir?

MR. BYRD: In the bank right now, I have a grand total of everything together is maybe \$2,000, maybe. And I've got to go home. So that's going to -- I got to pay my hotel bill.

THE COURT: And she's got to --

MR. BYRD: On the --

THE COURT: -- live. You left her penniless, sir. You don't get to do that.

MS. LAMBERTSEN: He can sell his car. He's got three cars. He only needs ones -- you know, sell the -- I -- his spending is not -- his post-divorce spending is -- is out of control and -- and to her demise. And -- and Your Honor, he admitted he's going to go back to the Philippines. What do we have to guarantee this payment? I mean, I -- I -- how -- he needs --

THE COURT: I'm --1 MS. LAMBERTSEN: -- to be able to --2 THE COURT: -- not going to put him in jail until he 3 makes the payment, Counsel. 4 MR. BYRD: I have surgery scheduled for Friday. I'm 5 going in for my next surgery on Friday. 6 7 THE COURT: Sir --MR. BYRD: And -- and --8 THE COURT: -- I don't feel sorry for you. 9 10 MR. BYRD: Yes, ma'am. THE COURT: You left her penniless. You don't get 11 to do that. 12 MR. BYRD: I -- I --13 THE COURT: All right? 14 MR. BYRD: -- didn't ask? I wouldn't ask her --15 THE COURT: You owe her the money. 16 MR. BYRD: Yes, ma'am. 17 THE COURT: She's having to get by bor -- borrowing 18 from friends. You can do the same thing. Get the money put 19 together, get her paid, or you're going to jail. 20 MR. BYRD: I understand that, Your Honor. 21 THE COURT: Now 4500 out of each pay that you 22 receive per month is to be paid to her until that full amount 23 |

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is paid and -- and you continue to accrue the obligations so

you -- it'll be the 2200 plus the 3,000 per month --

MR. BYRD: Yes, ma'am. The --

THE COURT: -- that's supposed to go to her anyway.

MR. BYRD: Yes, ma'am. May I clarify? You ordered

me to pay her \$4500 a month. I -- I don't know for how long,

6 | but --

THE COURT: Until you have paid the 2200. The -- or the 22,000 for the back support and payments that she was entitled to plus 7,000 for attorney's fees. That's 22,000. Plus you owe a monthly payment to her from this day going forward of 3,000.

MR. BYRD: Yes, ma'am. Yes, ma'am.

THE COURT: So you pay that 3,000. You pay the additional 1500 on top of that. That will go towards the 22,000 that you've got -- now have an obligation to pay until that 22,000 is paid. Once you've paid the 22,000, it goes back down to 3,000 a month unless there's further order from the Court.

MR. BYRD: Yes, ma'am. I -- I understand that. My -- my -- what I'm trying to get on the record is that you're ordering me to pay \$4500 from the amount of money which I collect every month which I have fully disclosed. And two, financial disclosure forms to this Court. All of that money is federal disability pay. You're --

THE COURT: It doesn't --1 MR. BYRD: -- ordering --2 THE COURT: -- matter. 3 MR. BYRD: -- me to pay from that money. 4 5 THE COURT: I can't order the Army to pay her half, but I can order you to pay that half, sir, because you owe it 6 to her under the decree of divorce. Yes, that is my order. MR. BYRD: Yes, ma'am. I just needed that on the 8 9 record. THE COURT: So -- and you are to provide 10 documentation. Like I said, if any other accounts that you 11 didn't disclose before and it didn't get properly adjudicated 12 in the decree, if there was that one retirement plan and that 13 accrued before the divorce, that was left out and that's going 14 to get decided upon. 15 MR. BYRD: That's -- everything that's being stated 16 here today will -- is being -- is being recorded, so I can --17 THE COURT: There's a transcript. 18 MR. BYRD: -- read it and see what all this --19 THE COURT: You'll have to --20 MR. BYRD: -- what I'm required to do? 21 THE COURT: You'll have to pay to -- she'll prepare 22 an order and if you want the transcript, you can pay to have 23

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the cran -- transcript --

MR. BYRD: Now I'm --1 2 THE COURT: -- prepared. MR. BYRD: -- I'm going to need something. I -- I 3 don't know what all this stuff is. I -- I need -- I need 1 5 it --THE COURT: Well, then --6 MR. BYRD: -- in writing. 7 THE COURT: -- go hire an attorney yourself, sir. 8 MR. BYRD: Do you know what -- how long I -- before 9 I can get a transcript? I -- does that come out daily or --10 THE COURT: You can get a copy of the disc within a 11 12 couple of days and you can take it to a transcriber to have it 13 transcribed. MR. BYRD: Okay. Thank you. 14 THE COURT: All right. So you do your discovery. 15 MS. LAMBERTSEN: Yes, Your Honor. 16 17 THE COURT: Bring any appropriate motions. If he 18 fails to cooperate and provide the information needed, you make sure you do not miss one more payment of the \$3,000. If 19 he doesn't make the payment of the 4500 next month and it's --20 when do you get paid, sir? By the 12th of each month? 21 MR. BYRD: Oh, that's -- that was my reason I said 22 I'm not going to have \$4500. Some of my pay is not paid until 23 the third of the month. I won't have \$4500 before the third.

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1	THE COURT: All right.
2	MR. BYRD: So that
3	THE COURT: Well, that's going to happen.
4	MR. BYRD: can be ordered, but you might as well
5	put
6	THE COURT: And if
7	MR. BYRD: me in jail because I ain't going to
8	have \$4500.
9	THE COURT: By the February 15th or by the 15th
10	of each month you are to pay her 4500.
11	MS. LAMBERTSEN: Now he's going to get his he
12	THE COURT: But if you do not make that payment, if
13	you miss one payment, she can come in on a motion to hold you
14	in contempt and I'll put you in jail.
15	MR. BYRD: I I understand that, Your Honor.
16	THE COURT: All right.
17	MR. BYRD: I understand, Your Honor.
18	MS. LAMBERTSEN: Can we address the direct deposit?
19	He was paying her by direct deposit into a checking account.
20	And on September 1st he closed that account. Is he going to
21	reopen that checking account so that's how she's going to
22	receive her money? Because he's well, I kind of
23	THE COURT: It's to be
21	MS LAMBERTSEN: need to know.

1	THE COURT: in her account by the 15th of each
2	month.
3	MR. BYRD: She
4	THE COURT: Not I mailed a check and oh, gee, I
5	don't know where it went. So direct deposit into her account.
6	MR. BYRD: Yes, Your Honor. She has an account
7	there. The money that she is owed, I have paid her since
8	September since October the 1st when my Army retirement pay
9	changed. I have put her 50 percent of her money in her
10	savings accounts since that time. I have informed them of
11	that. This has been in all my filings.
12	MS. LAMBERTSEN: What is
13	MR. BYRD: It's been in
14	MS. LAMBERTSEN: What dollar
15	MR. BYRD: my filings?
16	MS. LAMBERTSEN: amount is he talking about?
17	There has been no no
18	MR. BYRD: It's in it's in my filings. It's in
19	my filings.
20	MS. LAMBERTSEN: What what is the doc may
21	THE COURT: Yeah, How much? Do you have any
22	documentation showing what you've paid?
23	MR. BYRD: No, ma'am.
24	THE COURT: That's what I thought.
	The state of the s

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MR. BYRD: I've -- I've got the latest copy. I've
   got the most latest copy where it just changed again. I
   brought a copy for the Court because it's not in my --
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             THE COURT: Providing your --
 4
             MR. BYRD: -- my financial --
 5
             THE COURT: -- account number.
 6
             MR. BYRD: -- disclosure form.
 7
             MS. BYRD: Yeah, he --
 8
             THE COURT: Providing your account number. You are
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   to place it into the account at the bank --
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             MS. BYRD: He put $68.
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             THE COURT: Is it $68?
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             MS. BYRD: That's what he was giving me.
13
             MS. LAMBERTSEN: What -- how -- how much -- how --
14
    for how many months?
15
             THE COURT: You are to pay that.
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             MS. BYRD: Altogether --
17
             THE COURT: And she will --
18
             MS. BYRD: -- yeah, 200.
19
             THE COURT: -- provide you the account number.
20
   you have the account number with you?
21
             MS. BYRD: Yes.
22
             THE COURT: All right. Providing the account number
23
   so that we've got it on the record that he's received the
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account numbers.
             (COUNSEL AND CLIENT CONFER BRIEFLY)
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             THE COURT: Sir, you are to make -- you are to make
 3
    immediate steps to make arrangements to have that 4500
    deposited in her account by the 15th of each month.
             MS. LAMBERTSEN: Okay. So Your Honor --
             MR. BYRD: She has an account, Your Honor.
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             MS. LAMBERTSEN: -- she has a -- a Bank of America
 8
   account.
             MS. BYRD: You closed my checking account. All I
10
   have is --
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             MS. LAMBERTSEN: Oh, no.
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             MS. BYRD: -- savings.
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             MS. LAMBERTSEN: No, don't talk to him directly,
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   please. Do I --
15
16
             THE COURT: Okay.
             MS. LAMBERTSEN: -- just write void on this and then
17
18 he has the routing --
             THE COURT: Yes.
19
             MS. LAMBERTSEN: -- and -- okay.
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             THE COURT: That way --
21
             MS. LAMBERTSEN: So --
22
             THE COURT: -- he'll have the bank.
23
24
             MS. LAMBERTSEN: Okay.
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THE COURT: He'll have the --

MS. LAMBERTSEN: So --

THE COURT: -- routing number. He'll have the account number.

MS. LAMBERTSEN: For the record, the -- it's a Bank of America. The routing is 122400724. And the account is 501017183024. And I'm handing him a copy of this, if I --

THE COURT: You may.

MR. BYRD: Okay. Good. Thank you.

THE COURT: Madam, I would encourage you to go down to the V.A. and see what you can find out as take a copy of your divorce decree, see if there's someone down there who can help you understand what you need to do regarding any of the benefits you were entitled to under the decree. Time limits may have run. I don't know. The Army has — the military has their own rules. So all right.

MR. BYRD: Your Honor, I have provided them documentation showing that she's able to do all this; however, what I want to get on the record here --

THE COURT: And you are to cooperate, sir, with her if it -- if there's anything that they need such as a release of information or a consent form or something like that for her to get the information she needs to know what her rights are in terms to those benefits, you are to cooperate and

provide that. MR. BYRD: I'll be happy to cooperate. THE COURT: All right. 3 MR. BYRD: For the -- for the Court record, I have a 4 -- this is the latest effective 1 February to pay my 5 retirement -- retiree account statement from the Department of 6 Defense. This shows that my pay has gone to zero again. It had changed to a -- a couple hundred dollars, something like that. I'm not sure what the numbers were. But it has gone to zero again. And I'd like that to reflect in the --10 MS. LAMBERTSEN: Well --11 MR. BYRD: -- Court record that --12 THE COURT: It doesn't matter. 13 MR. BYRD: -- my United States Army --14 THE COURT: You're still receiving --15 MR. BYRD: -- retirement is zero. 16 MS. LAMBERTSEN: No. 17 THE COURT: That may be retirement because you 18 changed it to disability. That does not negate your obligation to pay her the 1500 that's in the decree. She just 20

MR. BYRD: Okay.

from you. That's all that means.

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THE COURT: So --

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can't collect it from the military. She has to collect it

1	MR. BYRD: I'll put this in a new FDF that I will
2	file.
3	THE COURT: All right. So do your deposition, do
4	your request for documents, and you can put it do you want
5	to set it for how long do you need to do all this? I'd
6	like I always try and keep it future action date on the
7	MS. LAMBERTSEN: Yes.
8	THE COURT: case so that
9	MS. LAMBERTSEN: Yes.
10	THE COURT: it doesn't get lost.
11	MS, LAMBERTSEN: A return hearing. I I would say
12	60 days, maybe 60 days to do this infor get this
13	information.
14	THE COURT: Why don't we do 90?
15	MS. LAMBERTSEN: 90.
16	THE COURT: Like I
17	MS. LAMBERTSEN: Okay.
18	THE COURT: said, if he doesn't make the February
19	payments, you can file your motion to hold him in contempt
20	MS. LAMBERTSEN: Okay.
21	THE COURT: and we'll go
22	MS. LAMBERTSEN: Okay.
23	THE COURT: from there. If you don't show up at
2.4	the hearing, there will be a no bail bench warrant issued for

your arrest. So if you come back into the country, that'll show up and they'll pick you up at the airport. All right? So make sure you --

MR. BYRD: Yes, ma'am.

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THE COURT: -- show up, make sure you cooperate, and make sure you make those payments.

MS. LAMBERTSEN: One last thing, Your Honor. If we can kindly have you -- we're respectfully requesting it placed on the record that he's not to contact the mortgage company and change the mailing address of the mortgage payments. They go directly to her home. And I do have an exhibit where in --

MS. BYRD: Last month it changed.

MS. LAMBERTSEN: -- the last month she didn't get the payment and she became alarmed. And I provided as an exhibit where it's changed to his residence. If he wants to get his own, fine, but he can't meddle with her getting the statement going to her home. That seemed to be a -- an issue of harassment. I don't know what he was trying to do, but she didn't get it. It got mailed to the East Craig address. So have him please not do that.

THE COURT: And the other thing the parties can do is cooperate with each other, setup an online account so that both parties have access to the statements online. I'm sure the mortgage company allows that. And so she can see each

month what the --1 MS. BYRD: It comes out of my --2 THE COURT: -- statement is. You can see each month 3 what the statement is. 4 MR. BYRD: She used that word harassment again. I 5 6 have an email from the --THE COURT: I --7 8 MR. BYRD: -- Nationstar bank which specifically states I provided the Nationstar bank six -- what is it? 2120 Lookout Point Circle, Las Vegas, Nevada 89117. That's from me 10 to Nationstar in July of this year. I did not ask for any 11 documents from anybody. 12 THE COURT: All right. 13 MR. BYRD: I got it in writing. 14 THE COURT: Setup the online account so both parties 15 can have access and do not interfere with each other's ability 16 to get a copy of the statements at any time. Is your name the 17 only one on the loan? 18 MR. BYRD: No. ma'am. 19 THE COURT: So it's in both names? 20 MR. BYRD: Every document has --21 THE COURT: All right. 22 MR. BYRD: -- her name on it. 23 24 THE COURT: You have a right to request a copy.

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MS. BYRD: I get a bill every month for the past 1 four years I've been paying it. It comes out of my bank 3 account. THE COURT: Okay. Δ (COUNSEL AND CLIENT CONFER BRIEFLY) THE COURT: So set it up online so both of you can 6 access it. And both of you will agree that you will not interfere with the other side having access. You'll provide the necessary usernames, passwords, and will not change the username or password without notice to the other party. 10 MR. BYRD: For the record, Your Honor, I don't know 11 anything about that mortgage other than that it -- I signed 12 for it. I don't want a copy of it, I'm not interested, and I've never requested anything. And I don't need an account. 14 I don't know nothing about it. I don't want to know anything 15 about it. 16 THE COURT: Okay. 17 MS. LAMBERTSEN: Well --18 THE COURT: Then since your name's on the loan, you 19 have a right to set it up, so --20 MS. BYRD: Yeah. And I just didn't get it --21 THE COURT: Okay. 22

and they said that he request the statement to go to his

23

MS. BYRD: -- in my statement and I called the bank

address so I can --2 THE COURT: Well --3 MS, BYRD: -- change it over again. THE COURT: -- we've resolved that. I don't --4 MS. BYRD: Yeah. 5 6 THE COURT: -- need to hear more argument on that issue. All right. Anything else we need to resolve today besides give you a return date? And let's make it about 90 days out other than 60. 9 THE CLERK: May 2nd at 11:00 a.m. 10 THE COURT: So we'll see you back here then. 11 MS. LAMBERTSEN: Thank you, Your Honor. 12 MS. BYRD: Thank you. 13 MR, BYRD: Yes. 14 (PROCEEDINGS CONCLUDED AT 11:23:45) 15 16 ATTEST: I do hereby certify that I have truly and 17 correctly transcribed the digital proceedings in the aboveentitled case to the best of my ability. 19 20 Adrian Medromo 21 22 Adrian N. Medrano 23 24

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DISTRICT COURT

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

CATERINA ANGELA BYRD) CASE NO.: D-18-577701-Z) DEPT NO.: G

Plaintiff.

ORDER FROM THE JANUARY 23, 2019 HEARING

GRADY EDWARD BYRD

Defendant.

This matter having come before the court on the 23rd day of January 2019, continued from the November 27, 2018 hearing, for Plaintiff's Motion to Enforce the Decree of Divorce, Plaintiff, CATERINA ANGELA BYRD (hereinafter "Plaintiff"), by and through her unbundled attorney, JEANNE F. LAMBERTSEN, ESQ., of the law firm of WEBSTER & ASSOCIATES and Defendant, GRADY EDWARD BYRD (hereinafter "Defendant"), appearing in proper person, the Court having heard the argument of counsel, finds and orders the following:

Argument by Attorney Lambertsen regarding Defendant's non-payment of the \$1,500.00 monthly Alimony, which is currently in arrears in the amount of

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\$7,500,00 from September 1, 2018 through January 2018, and arrearages in the amount of \$7,500.00 for Plaintiff's portion of Defendant's US Army Pension to be paid in the amount of \$1,500.00 monthly from September 1, 2018 through January 2018. Plaintiffs' interest in insurance policies, Military Health care and long-term health care and other accounts or policies awarded to Plaintiff in the Decree that have either been lost or lapsed, or moved to different accounts by Defendant, Further Argument regarding Attorney's Fees and Costs and contempt of Court. Argument in opposition by Defendant.

COURT NOTES that the Court reviewed the Motions, Oppositions, Replies, Financial Disclosure Forms, and Exhibits, and reviewed the parties' Decree of Divorce. The Court noted and Defendant acknowledged that Defendant's income is around \$116,000.00 per year (VT 10:52:40). Within the Decree of Divorce, there is language that provides for \$1,500.00 per month to be paid to Plaintiff for life that can be changed when her financial condition improves or if the marital house is sold. The Court deems that the \$1,500.00 per month to Plaintiff is and should be deemed alimony. This is supported by Lake v. Bender, 18 Nev. 361, 20 4 Pac. 711, 7 Pac. 74 (1884), and Shydler v. Shydler, 114 Nev. 192, 954 P.2d 37 (1998).

COURT FINDS that Defendant has no right to unilaterally stop the \$1,500.00 per month alimony payments to Plaintiff. Even though Defendant's payment status has changed, Defendant is still responsible in the Decree to pay the Plaintiff.

COURT FURTHER FINDS that within the Decree there is language that

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provides that Plaintiff is entitled to 50% of Defendant's United States Army Retired Pay as long as Defendant lives, that Plaintiff is entitled to her marital portion of Defendant's United States Army Retired Pay, that performed and paid \$1,500.00 per month to Plaintiff for her interest in his United States Army Retired Pay, that the Defendant then began taking his United States Army Retired Pay as a tax-exempt disability payment, and that Defendant ceased his \$1,500.00 per month payments to Plaintiff. That the Defendant is now taking his retirement pay as a tax-exempt disability payment does not negate Defendant's obligation to pay Plaintiff the \$1,500.00 per month as and for her marital interest in his United States Army military retirement pay. (VT 11:19:20). Defendant must continue his obligation to pay the Plaintiff \$1,500.00 per month under the Decree of Divorce pursuant to Shelton v. Shelton, 78 P.3d 507, 119 Nev. 492 (Nev., 2003).

COURT FURTHER FINDS that Plaintiff had an obligation to follow up on some of the health care policies, and other items, therefore it is not necessarily something Defendant is going to be solely responsible for and Parties may need an Evidentiary Hearing.

Defendant sworn and testified.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Discovery is open.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant shall make himself available for a deposition with Plaintiff's attorney.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant shall provide Plaintiff with the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) Plan by February 4, 2019 (ten days).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant shall cooperate in any manner needed in order for the insurance company. Prudential Veterans' Group Life Insurance, Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance (FEGLI) to keep Plaintiff informed that the premiums are being paid. Defendant has an ongoing obligation to pay the insurance premiums and keep the policies up to date. Defendant shall be held in contempt of court for failure to do so.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant shall provide copies of statements from the last year (2018) of all accounts to present in which Defendant has received money, including annuity payments, the Federal Employees Retirement system, and all other sources of income that were set up at the time of the divorce (VT 11:07:00). Defendant shall provide documents showing where monies originated from, where and when Annuities were purchased and any other accounts defendant is receiving monies from.

insurance policies and documentation showing payment on those policies, including a copy of the Prudential Veterans Group Life Insurance, Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance (FEGLI) policy, what the monthly payment is, and other insurance policies that the Plaintiff is entitled to under the Decree of Divorce. The plaintiff shall contact the Prudential Veterans' Group Life Insurance, Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance (FEGLI) coverage and find out what they require for the Plaintiff to communicate directly with Prudential Veterans' Group Life Insurance, Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance (FEGLI) to make

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sure that the Defendant is paying the monthly premium, if they require a consent or release by the Defendant, he is to sign the consent or release. If Defendant refuses to sign the consent or release, or if Defendant fails to pay the premium on the Prudential Veterans Group Life Insurance, Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance (FEGLI), then Defendant can be held in contempt and the Clerk of the Court can sign the consent or release on his behalf. (VT 10:58:30) Defendant shall provide information regarding any undisclosed accounts accrued before the divorce.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant shall provide proper documentation of any other income including federal retirement plans and any other plans defendant had set up at the time of the divorce. Defendant shall be held in contempt of court if he does not provide appropriate documentation as requested by the court and shall be placed in custody.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Office of Personal Management Death Benefit for the Plaintiff as listed in the Decree of Divorce shall continue to be kept intact by the Defendant. (VT 10:59:45).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant's obligations to Plaintiff in the decree of divorce shall stand. Defendant shall pay Plaintiff \$1,500.00 per month as Plaintiff's share of the Defendant's United States Army military retirement benefit, and \$1,500.00 per month in spousal support payments.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that attorney fees in the amount \$7,000.00 shall be paid from Defendant to Plaintiff as described below. Attorney fees are awarded pursuant to Wright v. Osburn, 114 Nev. 1367, 970 P.2d 1071 (1998),

wherein disparity in income is a factor to be considered in awarding attorney fees. Hornwood v. Smith Food King, 105 Nev. 188, 192, 772 P.2d 1284 (1989) awarding attorney fees to the prevailing party if they succeed on a significant number of issues. Hornwood v. Smith's Food King, 105 Nev. 188, 192, 772 P.2d 1284 (1989) (quoting Women's Federal S & L Ass'n. v. Nevada Nat. Bank, 623 F.Supp. 469, 470 (D.Nev.1985). Awards of attorney fees are within the sound discretion of the Court. See Love v. Love, 959 P.2d 523, 114 Nev. 572 (1998), Fletcher v. Fletcher, 89 Nev. 540, 542-43, 516 P.2d. 103,104 (1973), Leeming v. Leeming, 87 Nev. 530, 532, 490 P.2d 342, 343 (1971), and Halbrook v. Halbrook, 114, Nev. 1455, 971 P.2d 1262 (1998).

That the <u>Brunzell v. Golden Gate Nat'l Bank</u>, 85 Nev. 345 (1969), factors were considered; (1) The qualities of Plaintiff's counsel, Ms. Lambertsen has been practicing for over 13 years (2) The character and difficulty of the work performed was moderate to extensive and included Plaintiff's papers and pleadings to change venue from Churchill County to Clark County Nevada, Plaintiff's Motion to Enforce the Decree of Divorce, Schedule of Arrearages, Reply and Opposition, Reply, Financial Disclosure Form, Exhibit Index, attendance at the November 27, 2018 hearing, preparation of the Order from the November 27, 2018 hearing and this instant hearing January 23, 2019; (3) The work actually performed by the attorney as described herein and (4) The result obtained is in favor of the Plaintiff.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant's arrears and attorneys' fees shall be reduced to judgment: arrearages in spousal support of \$7,500.00 from

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September 2018 through January 2019; arrearages in Plaintiff's half of Defendant's United States Army military retirement benefits of \$7,500.00 from September 2018 through January 2019, and Attorneys' fees in the amount of \$7,000.00, for a total of \$22,000.00 reduced to judgment.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that effective February 15, 2019, Defendant shall pay Plaintiff \$4,500.00 per month and \$4,500.00 thereafter each month on the 15th of each month until Defendant has the \$22,000.00 in arrears paid in full. The \$4,500.00 is the sum of Defendant's \$3,000.00 per month obligation to the Plaintiff plus \$1,500,00 toward the arrears. (VT 11:11:50). Once the \$22,000.00 is paid, Defendant's monthly payment to the Plaintiff goes back down to \$3,000.00 per month unless further order from the court. Defendant shall deposit the \$4,500.00 into Plaintiff's Bank of America account such that the \$4,500.00 is to be in the Plaintiff's bank account by the 15th of each month. (VT 11:15:20). The Plaintiff's bank account was placed on the record. The plaintiff also provided the Defendant a voided check in open court to set up automatic deposits.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant shall be held in contempt of court if he does not pay Plaintiff the \$4,500.00 per month and catch up on the payments due to the Plaintiff. The Defendant's \$3,000.00 monthly obligation to the Plaintiff for spousal support (\$1,500.00) and her interest in his United States Army Military retirement pay (\$1,500.00) shall continue to accrue as the \$4,500.00 monthly payments are being made as described above.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that contempt of court shall be deferred. If Defendant fails to pay Plaintiff of if he fails to catch up the arrearages or pay

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant shall not miss one (1) more payment to Plaintiff. Should Defendant miss a payment and the Court finds Defendant is in Contempt, the Court will incarcerate Defendant. A no-bail arrest warrant will be issued if necessary. (VT 11:20:00).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff can file a Motion for Contempt and the Court will incarcerate Defendant if found in contempt.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that parties shall not change any information relating to the mortgage account for the Plaintiff's residence and both parties shall have online access to the mortgage statements, and neither party shall interfere with the other parties' ability to have on-line access to the mortgage account; user names and passwords shall not be changed by either party.(VT 11:21:07).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff shall take a copy of the parties' Divorce Decree and go and inquire regarding the Insurance Policies and other benefits that she may be entitled to under the Decree of Divorce. Defendant is to cooperate if a release or consent is needed for Plaintiff to get the information she needs.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that status check re: discovery set on May, 2, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. in department G. If Defendant does not appear at the return hearing on May 2, 2019, a no-bail bench warrant will be issued for his arrest. (VT 11:20:08).

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WiFamiy/Dyrd: Catennal/Pleadergs/Oralts/Order from 1.12.19 bearing 2.14.19 wpd

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CASE NO.: D-18-577701-Z Byrd, Caterina v. Byrd, Grady

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Attorney Lambertsen is to prepare the Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that chamber review re: order from (1-23-19

hearing) set for 2-19-19

day of

2019.

DISTRICT COURT JUDGE KATHY HARDCASTLE

Submitted by: WEBSTER & ASSOCIATES

03

JEANNE F. LAMBERTSEN, Nevada Bar No. 9460 6882 Edna Ave.

Las Vegas, Nevada 89146 Tel No: (702) 562-2300 Counsel for Plaintiff, unbundled

Reviewed as to form and content: MILLS & ANDERSON

BYRON L. MILLS, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 006745 703 S. 8th Street
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
Tel No.: (702) 386-0030
Counsel for Defendant

		4/5/2019 11:11 AM Steven D. Grierson				
1	NEO	CLERK OF THE COURT				
2	WEBSTER & ASSOCIATES	College				
3	ANITA A. WEBSTER, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 1221					
4	JEANNE F. LAMBERTSEN, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 9460					
5	6882 Edna Ave.					
6	Las Vegas, Nevada 89146 Tel No: (702) 562-2300					
7	# Fax No: (702) 562-2303					
8	e-mail: ilambertsen@embargmail.com					
9	Unbundled Attorney for Plaintiff					
10	DIS	TRICT COURT				
11	CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA					
12	CATERINA ANGELA BYRD) CASE NO.: D-18-577701-Z				
13	Plaintiff,) DEPT NO.: G)				
14	V.	NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER FROM THE JANUARY 23, 2019 HEARING				
15	16					
16		>				
17	Defendant.)				
18	PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an Order was entered in the above-entitled					
19	action on the 5 th day of April, 2019, a copy of which is attached.					
20	1					
21	Dated this <u>5</u> day of April,	, 2019.				
22		WEBSTER & ASSOCIATES				
23		Down 1/2 to				
24		FANNE F. LAMBERTSEN, ESQ.				
25		Unbundled Attorney for Plaintiff				
26						
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WEBSTER SOCIATES 600 Edn Acome et as Vers, Nevelt 1974 14cphone 1773 362 2301 Facund. 72, 52 2303

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Certificate of Service

Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I certify that I am employed in the Law Offices of WEBSTER & ASSOCIATES, and that on this ______ day of April, 2019, I caused the above and foregoing document to be served as follows:

- [X] pursuant to EDCR 8.05(a), EDCR 8.05(f) NRCP (b)(2)(D) and Administrative Order 14-2 Captioned "In the Administrative Matter of Mandatory Electronic Service in the Eighth Judicial District Court." by mandatory electronic service through the Eighth Judicial District Court's electronic filing system;
- [X] by placing the same to be deposited for mailing in the United States Mail, in a sealed envelope upon which first class postage was prepaid in Las Vegas, Nevada;
- [] pursuant to EDCR 7.26 to be sent via facsimile, by duly executed consent for service by electronic means;
- [] by hand-delivery with signed Receipt of Copy.

To the attorney(s)/person(s) listed below at the address, email address, and/or facsimile number indicated below:

Grady E. Byrd 5330 E. Craig Rd. Las Vegas, NV 89115

E-mail: cbsmail2006@yahoo.com

Byron Mills, Esq. Modonnell@millsnv.com

An employee of Webster & Associates

NEBSTER & ASSOCIATES
AME fain Arone - Les Vega, Novemb 89146
Telephone (102) 562-2000 - Facsunie (202) 562-200

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Electronically Filed
4/5/2019 10:24 AM
Steven D. Grierson
CLERK OF THE COURT

ORDR WEBSTER & ASSOCIATES ANITA A. WEBSTER, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 1221

JEANNE F. LAMBERTSEN, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 9460

6882 Edna Ave. Las Vegas, Nevada 89146

Tel No: (702) 562-2300 Fax No: (702) 562-2303

e-mail: <u>anitawebster@embarqmail.com</u> e-mail: <u>jlambertsen@embarqmail.com</u>

Attorney for Plaintiff, unbundled

DISTRICT COURT

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

CATERINA ANGELA BYRD) CASE NO.: D-18-577701-Z) DEPT NO.: G

Plaintiff,

ORDER FROM THE JANUARY 23, 2019 HEARING

GRADY EDWARD BYRD

Defendant.

This matter having come before the court on the 23rd day of January 2019, continued from the November 27, 2018 hearing, for Plaintiff's Motion to Enforce the Decree of Divorce, Plaintiff, CATERINA ANGELA BYRD (hereinafter "Plaintiff"), by and through her unbundled attorney, JEANNE F. LAMBERTSEN, ESQ., of the law firm of WEBSTER & ASSOCIATES and Defendant, GRADY EDWARD BYRD (hereinafter "Defendant"), appearing in proper person, the Court having heard the argument of counsel, finds and orders the following:

Argument by Attorney Lambertsen regarding Defendant's non-payment of the \$1,500.00 monthly Alimony, which is currently in arrears in the amount of

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\$7,500,00 from September 1, 2018 through January 2018, and arrearages in the amount of \$7,500.00 for Plaintiff's portion of Defendant's US Army Pension to be paid in the amount of \$1,500.00 monthly from September 1, 2018 through January 2018. Plaintiffs' interest in insurance policies, Military Health care and long-term health care and other accounts or policies awarded to Plaintiff in the Decree that have either been lost or lapsed, or moved to different accounts by Defendant, Further Argument regarding Attorney's Fees and Costs and contempt of Court. Argument in opposition by Defendant.

COURT NOTES that the Court reviewed the Motions, Oppositions, Replies, Financial Disclosure Forms, and Exhibits, and reviewed the parties' Decree of Divorce. The Court noted and Defendant acknowledged that Defendant's income is around \$116,000.00 per year (VT 10:52:40). Within the Decree of Divorce, there is language that provides for \$1,500.00 per month to be paid to Plaintiff for life that can be changed when her financial condition improves or if the marital house is sold. The Court deems that the \$1,500.00 per month to Plaintiff is and should be deemed alimony. This is supported by Lake v. Bender, 18 Nev. 361, 19 4 Pac. 711, 7 Pac. 74 (1884), and Shydler v. Shydler, 114 Nev. 192, 954 P.2d 20 37 (1998).

COURT FINDS that Defendant has no right to unilaterally stop the \$1,500.00 per month alimony payments to Plaintiff. Even though Defendant's payment status has changed, Defendant is still responsible in the Decree to pay 26 the Plaintiff.

COURT FURTHER FINDS that within the Decree there is language that

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provides that Plaintiff is entitled to 50% of Defendant's United States Army Retired Pay as long as Defendant lives, that Plaintiff is entitled to her marital portion of Defendant's United States Army Retired Pay, that Defendant performed and paid \$1,500.00 per month to Plaintiff for her interest in his United States Army Retired Pay, that the Defendant then began taking his United States Army Retired Pay as a tax-exempt disability payment, and that Defendant ceased his \$1,500.00 per month payments to Plaintiff. That the Defendant is now taking his retirement pay as a tax-exempt disability payment does not negate Defendant's obligation to pay Plaintiff the \$1,500.00 per month as and for her marital interest in his United States Army military retirement pay. (VT 11:19:20). Defendant must continue his obligation to pay the Plaintiff \$1,500.00 per month under the Decree of Divorce pursuant to Shelton v. Shelton, 78 P.3d 507, 119 Nev. 492 (Nev., 2003).

COURT FURTHER FINDS that Plaintiff had an obligation to follow up on some of the health care policies, and other items, therefore it is not necessarily something Defendant is going to be solely responsible for and Parties may need an Evidentiary Hearing.

Defendant sworn and testified.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Discovery is open.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant shall make himself available for a deposition with Plaintiff's attorney.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant shall provide Plaintiff with the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) Plan by February 4, 2019 (ten days).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant shall cooperate in any manner needed in order for the insurance company, Prudential Veterans' Group Life Insurance, Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance (FEGLI) to keep Plaintiff informed that the premiums are being paid. Defendant has an ongoing obligation to pay the insurance premiums and keep the policies up to date. Defendant shall be held in contempt of court for failure to do so.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant shall provide copies of statements from the last year (2018) of all accounts to present in which Defendant has received money, including annuity payments, the Federal Employees Retirement system, and all other sources of income that were set up at the time of the divorce (VT 11:07:00). Defendant shall provide documents showing where monies originated from, where and when Annuities were purchased and any other accounts defendant is receiving monies from.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant shall provide copies of any insurance policies and documentation showing payment on those policies, including a copy of the Prudential Veterans Group Life Insurance, Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance (FEGLI) policy, what the monthly payment is, and other insurance policies that the Plaintiff is entitled to under the Decree of Divorce. The plaintiff shall contact the Prudential Veterans' Group Life Insurance, Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance (FEGLI) coverage and find out what they require for the Plaintiff to communicate directly with Prudential Veterans' Group Life Insurance, Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance (FEGLI) to make

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sure that the Defendant is paying the monthly premium, if they require a consent or release by the Defendant, he is to sign the consent or release. If Defendant refuses to sign the consent or release, or if Defendant fails to pay the premium on the Prudential Veterans Group Life Insurance, Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance (FEGLI), then Defendant can be held in contempt and the Clerk of the Court can sign the consent or release on his behalf. (VT 10:58:30) Defendant shall provide information regarding any undisclosed accounts accrued before the divorce.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant shall provide proper documentation of any other income including federal retirement plans and any other plans defendant had set up at the time of the divorce. Defendant shall be held in contempt of court if he does not provide appropriate documentation as requested by the court and shall be placed in custody.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Office of Personal Management Death Benefit for the Plaintiff as listed in the Decree of Divorce shall continue to be kept intact by the Defendant. (VT 10:59:45).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant's obligations to Plaintiff in the decree of divorce shall stand. Defendant shall pay Plaintiff \$1,500.00 per month as Plaintiff's share of the Defendant's United States Army military retirement benefit, and \$1,500.00 per month in spousal support payments.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that attorney fees in the amount \$7,000.00 shall be paid from Defendant to Plaintiff as described below. Attorney fees are awarded pursuant to Wright v. Osburn, 114 Nev. 1367, 970 P.2d 1071 (1998),

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wherein disparity in income is a factor to be considered in awarding attorney fees. Hornwood v. Smith Food King, 105 Nev. 188, 192, 772 P.2d 1284 (1989). awarding attorney fees to the prevailing party if they succeed on a significant number of issues. Hornwood v. Smith's Food King, 105 Nev. 188, 192, 772 P.2d 1284 (1989) (quoting Women's Federal S & L Ass'n, v. Nevada Nat. Bank, 623 F.Supp. 469, 470 (D.Nev. 1985). Awards of attorney fees are within the sound discretion of the Court. See Love v. Love, 959 P.2d 523, 114 Nev. 572 (1998), Fletcher v. Fletcher, 89 Nev. 540, 542-43, 516 P.2d. 103,104 (1973), Leeming v. Leeming, 87 Nev. 530, 532, 490 P.2d 342, 343 (1971), and Halbrook v. Halbrook, 114, Nev. 1455, 971 P.2d 1262 (1998).

That the Brunzell v. Golden Gate Nat'l Bank, 85 Nev. 345 (1969), factors were considered; (1) The qualities of Plaintiff's counsel, Ms. Lambertsen has been practicing for over 13 years (2) The character and difficulty of the work performed was moderate to extensive and included Plaintiff's papers and pleadings to change venue from Churchill County to Clark County Nevada, Plaintiff's Motion to Enforce the Decree of Divorce, Schedule of Arrearages, Reply and Opposition, Reply, Financial Disclosure Form, Exhibit Index, attendance at the November 27, 2018 hearing, preparation of the Order from the November 27, 2018 hearing and this instant hearing January 23, 2019; (3) The work actually performed by the attorney as described herein and (4) The result obtained is in favor of the Plaintiff.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant's arrears and attorneys' fees shall be reduced to judgment: arrearages in spousal support of \$7,500.00 from

September 2018 through January 2019; arrearages in Plaintiff's half of Defendant's United States Army military retirement benefits of \$7,500.00 from September 2018 through January 2019, and Attorneys' fees in the amount of \$7,000.00, for a total of \$22,000.00 reduced to judgment.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that effective February 15, 2019, Defendant shall pay Plaintiff \$4,500.00 per month and \$4,500.00 thereafter each month on the 15th of each month until Defendant has the \$22,000.00 in arrears paid in full. The \$4,500.00 is the sum of Defendant's \$3,000.00 per month obligation to the Plaintiff plus \$1,500.00 toward the arrears. (VT 11:11:50). Once the \$22,000.00 is paid, Defendant's monthly payment to the Plaintiff goes back down to \$3,000.00 per month unless further order from the court. Defendant shall deposit the \$4,500.00 into Plaintiff's Bank of America account such that the \$4,500.00 is to be in the Plaintiff's bank account by the 15th of each month. (VT 11:15:20). The Plaintiff's bank account was placed on the record. The plaintiff also provided the Defendant a voided check in open court to set up automatic deposits.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant shall be held in contempt of court if he does not pay Plaintiff the \$4,500.00 per month and catch up on the payments due to the Plaintiff. The Defendant's \$3,000.00 monthly obligation to the Plaintiff for spousal support (\$1,500.00) and her interest in his United States Army Military retirement pay (\$1,500.00) shall continue to accrue as the \$4,500.00 monthly payments are being made as described above.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that contempt of court shall be deferred. If Defendant fails to pay Plaintiff of if he fails to catch up the arrearages or pay

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attorney's fees, Plaintiff's Motion for Contempt of court may be renewed.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendant shall not miss one (1) more payment to Plaintiff. Should Defendant miss a payment and the Court finds Defendant is in Contempt, the Court will incarcerate Defendant. A no-bail arrest warrant will be issued if necessary. (VT 11:20:00).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff can file a Motion for Contempt and the Court will incarcerate Defendant if found in contempt.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that parties shall not change any information relating to the mortgage account for the Plaintiff's residence and both parties shall have online access to the mortgage statements, and neither party shall interfere with the other parties' ability to have on-line access to the mortgage account; user names and passwords shall not be changed by either party.(VT 11:21:07).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff shall take a copy of the parties' Divorce Decree and go and inquire regarding the Insurance Policies and other benefits that she may be entitled to under the Decree of Divorce. Defendant is to cooperate if a release or consent is needed for Plaintiff to get the information she needs

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that status check re: discovery set on May, 2, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. in department G. If Defendant does not appear at the return hearing on May 2, 2019, a no-bail bench warrant will be issued for his arrest. (VT 26 11:20:08).

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UEBSTIER & ASSOCIATES 6882 Edna Avenur • Las Vegas, Nivada 99146 Telephone (192) 562 2300 • Encumic (192) 562-2301 2

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CASE NO.: D-18-577701-Z Byrd, Caterina v. Byrd, Grady

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Attorney Lambertsen is to prepare the Order.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that chamber review re: order from (1-23-19

hearing) set for 2-19-19

2019.

THY HARDCASTLE

Submitted by: WEBSTER & ASSOCIATES

Nevada Bar No. 9460 6882 Edna Ave.

Las Vegas, Nevada 89146 Tel No: (702) 562-2300 Counsel for Plaintiff, unbundled

Reviewed as to form and content: MILLS & ANDERSON

Nevada Bar No. 006745 703 S. 8th Street Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 Tel No.: (702) 386-0030 Counsel for Defendant

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Electronically Filed 4/8/2019 4:31 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE CO 1 MOT BYRON L. MILLS, ESO. State Bar #6745 3 MILLS & ANDERSON 703 S. 8th Street Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 5 (702) 386-0030 6 Attorney for Defendant 7 DISTRICT COURT 8 FAMILY DIVISION CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 9 10 CATERINA ANGELA BYRD. 11 Plaintiff. 12 13 vs. CASE NO.: D-18-577701-Z DEPT. NO.: G 14 GRADY EDWARD BYRD, 15 DATE OF HEARING: Defendant, 16 TIME OF HEARING: 17 18 DEFENDANT'S MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION 19 COMES NOW the Defendant, GRADY EDWARD BYRD, by and through 20 his attorney, BYRON L. MILLS, ESQ., of MILLS & ANDERSON., and pursuant 21 to the Nevada Revised Statutes and Eighth Judicial District Court Rules cited 22 hereinbelow, hereby respectfully moves this Honorable Court for the following: 23 For the Court to reconsider its order granting Plaintiff's motion to Enforce 24 the Divorce Decree and confirm that: 25 a. No alimony is due to Plaintiff under the Decree of Divorce, and 26 b. Caterina is awarded 50% of only Grady's military retired pay. 27 For such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper in the

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premises.

1	This Motion is made and based upon the papers and pleadings on file herein,			
2	Points and Authorities cited below, Affidavit of Defendant, GRADY EDWARD			
3	BYRD, attached hereto and oral argument of counsel to be heard at the time of			
4	hearing.			
5	DATED this 12 day of March, 2019.			
6				
7	MILLS & ANDERSON.			
8	BY: B 2Mpc			
9	FRON L. MILLS, ESQ.			
0	Bar No. 6745			
1	703 S. 8th Street Las Vegas, Nevada 89101			
2	Attorney for Defendant			
3				
4	NIOTH OF MACTION			
.5	NOTICE OF MOTION			
6	TO: ALL PARTIES IN INTEREST			
7	YOU, AND EACH OF YOU, WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the			
8	undersigned will bring the foregoing MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION filed			
9	in the above-captioned matter on for hearing in the above-entitled Court on the			
:0	day of, 2019, at the hour of o'clockm., in			
1	Department No. G or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard. You are required			
2	to attend if you wish to oppose said Motions.			
.3	DATED this 12 day of March 2019			
4	MILLS & ANDERSON			
.5	Fr - 2M2			
:6	By: BYRON L. MILLS.ESQ.			
.7	Névada Bar No. 6745 703 S. 8 TH Street			
:8	Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 Attornevs for Defendant			

POINTS AND AUTHORITIES I. STATEMENT OF FACTS

GRADY EDWARD BYRD (hereinafter "Grady") and CATERINA ANGELA BYRD (hereinafter "Caterina") were divorced by Decree of Divorce dated June 5, 2014. The Decree of Divorce contained inter alia, an order that Grady pay Caterina 50% of his United States Army Retired Pay as long as he lives. The Decree also contained an order that Grady would continue to pay Caterina \$1500.00 extra per month to assist with her home mortgage. However, the Decree specifically stated that the \$1500.00 is not an alimony payment and it is not required. Additionally, the Decree included an agreement that neither party shall be required to pay spousal support to the other party.

On October 16, 2018, Caterina filed a Motion to Enforce the Decree of Divorce. In her motion Caterina claimed that the \$1500.00 per month was truly spousal support despite the clear waiver in the Decree stating that neither party would pay alimony. Caterina further claimed that it was possible the other half of the \$3000.00 Grady had been depositing was Caterina's 50% share of Grady's retirement pay.

On January 23, 2019, the matter of Caterina's Motion to Enforce the Decree of Divorce came before the Court. The Court determined that the \$1500.00 per month voluntary payment was alimony. The Court also agreed with Caterina regarding the additional \$1500.00 that Grady had voluntarily been paying was one half of his military retired pay and ordered him to continue paying it.

According to the Court's findings, the amount of alimony was premised on

¹ Exhibit A: Decree of Divorce pgs 2-3

² Exhibit A: Decree of Divorce pg 3

- 1. The Court believed the parties' Decree included language that provided for \$1,500.00 to be paid to Caterina as spousal support despite the Decree stating otherwise.
- 2. The Court believed that Grady was paying Caterina \$3000.00 per month because the additional \$1500.00 was Caterina's 50% share of the United States Retired Pay Grady was receiving.
- 3. The Court found it could not order the military to pay Caterina the \$1500.00 in military benefits directly. However, the Court concluded it could order Grady to pay Caterina directly after receiving the money from the military.
- 4. The Court found that Grady had no right to unilaterally stop payments to Caterina because, even though his payment status changed, his responsibility to make payments to Caterina pursuant to the Decree remained.

These findings appear to be the primary impetus of the alimony and property award from Grady to Caterina in the amount of \$3,000.00 per month indefinitely as well as the award of a \$4,500.00 deposit from Grady until he pays the alleged \$22,000.00 in arrears. The Court's order granting Caterina's motion contains the following statement:

Within the Decree there is language that provides for \$1,500.00 to be paid to Plaintiff for life that can be changed when her financial condition improves or if the marital house is sold. The Court deems that the \$1,500.00 to Plaintiff is and should be deemed alimony.

The foregoing findings of the Court are erroneous in two respects. First; much of the foregoing was not what was agreed to by the parties in the Decree. This is particularly true with respect to spousal support. The Decree specifically states the \$1500.00 per month to assist Caterina with the home mortgage is not alimony and is not required. While the Court made brief mention of this, it does not appear to have factored into the Court's decision at all. This is especially important in the

context of enforcement of a divorce decree where the parties explicitly agreed that there would be no spousal support to either party. Second, the United States Retired Pay, which the Court deemed payable to Caterina in the amount of \$1500.00 per month, is actually VA military disability pay from which Grady was voluntarily paying Caterina an additional \$1,500 per month.

Grady's military retired pay shortly after the Decree was entered was only \$128.40 per month. This was the sole divisible retirement asset at the time the Decree was entered. The other payments that Grady was receiving were all from sources of federal retirement disability pay that, under federal law, CANNOT be divided as a community asset under any state law. Below is a table that shows all of Grady's income and whether it was a divisible asset in 2014:

Description	Amount	Divisible/non-divisible
Net Military Retired Pay	\$128.40	Divisible under state law and 10 USC § 1408
(Ex. A)		
Combat Related Special	\$3,007.60	Non-divisible pursuant to 38 USC § 5301
Compensation (Ex. A)		
VA Disability Payments	\$2,858.24	Non-divisible pursuant to 10 USC § 1408, 38
(Ex. A and B)		USC 5301, Mansell v. Mansell, 490 U.S. 581,
		109 S.Ct. 2023, 104 L.Ed.2d 675 (1989) and
		Howell v. Howell, 137 S.Ct. 1400, 197
		L.Ed.2d 781 (2017).
OPM (Department of	\$1,057.72	2BDoD 7000.14-R Financial Management
Defense) disability		Regulation Volume 7B, Chapter 29 * June
(Ex. C)		2017 29-1 VOLUME 7B, CHAPTER 29:
		"FORMER SPOUSE PAYMENTS FROM
		RETIRED PAY"
Social Security Disability	\$2,584.56	Non-divisible pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 407
(Ex. D)		

Because Grady's income was almost entirely sourced from federal disability payments at the time of the divorce, the Court's finding that Grady owed \$1,500 as one half of his military retired pay to Caterina was clearly erroneous. The only divisible retired pay that Grady has received since the divorce is military retired pay of between \$128.40 (2014) and, as of February 1, 2019, his pay is -0-. Under the terms of the decree of divorce, 50% this amount is all that Caterina was entitled to.

Indeed, as more fully explained below, 50% of the military retired pay is all that the Court could have ordered then, because the balance of the pay that Grady was receiving was federal disability pay.

That fact remains true today. Below is a chart showing all of Grady's sources of income as they exist today:

Description	Amount	Divisible/non-divisible		
Net Military Retired Pay (Exhibit E)	-0-	Divisible under state law and 10 USC § 1408		
Combat Related Special Compensation (Grady's FDF)	\$3,227.58	Non-divisible pursuant to 38 USC § 5301		
VA Disability Payments (Grady's FDF)	\$2,896.67	Non-divisible pursuant to 10 USC § 1408, 38 USC 5301, Mansell v. Mansell, 490 U.S. 581, 109 S.Ct. 2023, 104 L.Ed.2d 675 (1989) and Howell v. Howell, 137 S.Ct. 1400, 197 L.Ed.2d 781 (2017).		
OPM (Department of Defense) disability (Grady's FDF)	\$1,315.00	Non-divisible pursuant to 2BDoD 7000.14-R Financial Management Regulation Volume 7B, Chapter 29 * June 2017 29-1 VOLUME 7B, CHAPTER 29: "FORMER SPOUSE PAYMENTS FROM RETIRED PAY"		
Social Security Disability (Grady's FDF)	\$2,176.00	Non-divisible pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 407		

Again, the only divisible community asset from which Caterina could receive a portion of Grady's income is the military retired pay, which is currently in the amount of -0-.

The payments that Grady has made to Caterina since the decree of divorce above 50% of -0- have been completely voluntary. As the decree of divorce states, there is no spousal support order to either party. The decree further states that Grady can terminate the \$1,500 per month payment toward the mortgage at any time. Finally, regarding the retired military pay, the Decree only awards 50% of the military retired pay to Caterina. There is no specific amount set, meaning that any payments Grady made to Caterina above the 50% threshold were not obligatory in any way.

Notwithstanding these facts, the Court ordered Grady to continue to pay \$1,500 in alimony (which does not exist under the decree and therefore cannot be modified) and \$1,500 as 50% of his military retired pay, (which is \$1,500 more than the Court can legally order him to pay). As such, Grady has no choice but to request rehearing and reconsideration of the Court's orders resulting from Caterina's motion as clearly erroneous.

Π

ARGUMENT

A. The Court should Reconsider its Order Granting Caterina's Motion to Enforce the Decree of Divorce and Eliminate Grady's Alimony Order.

This Court has the authority to reconsider its previous orders pursuant to EDCR 2.24, and NRCP 59e, which read as follows:

Rule 2.24. Rehearing of motions.

- (a) No motions once heard and disposed of may be renewed in the same cause, nor may the same matters therein embraced be reheard, unless by leave of the court granted upon motion therefor, after notice of such motion to the adverse parties.
- (b) A party seeking reconsideration of a ruling of the court, other than any order which may be addressed by motion pursuant to N.R.C.P. 50(b), 52(b), 59 or 60, must file a motion for such relief within 10 days after service of written notice of the order or judgment unless the time is shortened or enlarged by order. A motion for rehearing or reconsideration must be served, noticed, filed and heard as is any other motion. A motion for reconsideration does not toll the 30-day period for filing a notice of appeal from a final order or judgment.
- (c) If a motion for rehearing is granted, the court may make a final disposition of the cause without reargument or may reset it for reargument or resubmission or may make such other orders as are deemed appropriate under the circumstances of the particular case.

NRCP 59:

(a) Grounds. A new trial may be granted to all or any of the parties and on all or part of the issues for any of the following causes or grounds materially affecting the substantial rights of an aggrieved party: (1) Irregularity in the proceedings of the court, jury, master, or

adverse party, or any order of the court, or master, or abuse of discretion by which either party was prevented from having a fair trial; (2) Misconduct of the jury or prevailing party; (3) Accident or surprise which ordinary prudence could not have guarded against; (4) Newly discovered evidence material for the party making the motion which the party could not, with reasonable diligence, have discovered and produced at the trial; (5) Manifest disregard by the jury of the instructions of the court; (6) Excessive damages appearing to have been given under the influence of passion or prejudice; or, (7) Error in law occurring at the trial and objected to by the party making the motion. On a motion for a new trial in an action tried without a jury, the court may open the judgment if one has been entered, take additional testimony, amend findings of fact and conclusions of law or make new findings and conclusions, and direct the entry of a new judgment.

(e) Motion to Alter or Amend a Judgment. A motion to alter or amend the judgment shall be filed no later than 10 days after service of written notice of entry of the judgment.

Grady respectfully submits that this Court should reconsider its decision based on the foregoing statutes due to clear errors of law that occurred. As indicated in the chart above and statutes and case law set forth below, Federal law and U.S. Supreme Court decisions completely preclude this Court from dividing or assigning any and all of Grady's disability benefits. Furthermore, pursuant to the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Howell*, this Court cannot order Grady to pay a portion of those benefits to Caterina as compensation for any loss of retired pay that she might have received but for Grady receiving disability pay. Furthermore, the Court does not have the authority to create an alimony order where one does not exist under NRS 125.150.

A. The Decree of Divorce Specifically States There is No Alimony or Obligation of Spousal Support

As explained above, the Court relied on its finding that the Decree implied a responsibility of alimony payments from Grady to Caterina. The Court's implication is not supported by the language in the Decree. The Court appears to

have come to its conclusion based solely on the relative circumstances of the parties rather than their agreement, to create an alimony order where none existed. This is not authorized under Nevada law.

NRS 125.150(8) states:

8. If a decree of divorce, or an agreement between the parties which was ratified, adopted or approved in a decree of divorce, provides for specified periodic payments of alimony, the decree or agreement is not subject to modification by the court as to accrued payments. Payments pursuant to a decree entered on or after July 1, 1975, which have not accrued at the time a motion for modification is filed may be modified upon a showing of changed circumstances, whether or not the court has expressly retained jurisdiction for the modification. In addition to any other factors the court considers relevant in determining whether to modify the order, the court shall consider whether the income of the spouse who is ordered to pay alimony, as indicated on the spouse's federal income tax return for the preceding calendar year, has been reduced to such a level that the spouse is financially unable to pay the amount of alimony the spouse has been ordered to pay.

NRS 125.150(8)(emphasis added).

NRS 125.150(8) makes it clear that any change of circumstance in the finances of either party can trigger a modification of an existing alimony order. In this case, however, there was no order of alimony in the Decree, which means there is no existing alimony. The Court's authority under NRS 125.150(8) is limited to existing alimony orders. Caterina specifically agreed that no spousal support would be required and that the mortgage assistance was not alimony and was also not required.

The Court's reliance on Lake v. Bender, 18 Nev. 361 (1884), and Shydler v. Shydler, 114 Nev. 192 (1998) is completely misplaced. The Lake case stands only for the proposition that the trial court has legal discretion regarding the division of property and was decided over 100 years ago. The Shydler case, with respect to alimony did nothing more than make a finding that the Court abused its discretion

by denying the wife alimony in the initial trial determination. It has nothing to do with whether this Court can determine, after the fact, that Grady owes alimony when the parties agreed and the decree confirms that he does not.

Grady therefore requests that the Court reconsider its order granting Caterina's Motion to Enforce the Decree of Divorce, and immediately eliminate Grady's alimony obligation.

B. VA Military Disability is Not Divisible Upon Divorce and the Court Cannot Arbitrarily order Grady to Pay \$1,500 per month.

The Court's order regarding Grady's obligation to Caterina for military retired pay states the following:

That the Defendant is now taking his retirement pay as a tax-exempt disability payment does not negate Defendant's obligation to pay Plaintiff 1500 per month as and for her marital interest in his United States Army military retirement pay. Defendant must continue his obligation to pay the Plaintiff 1500 per month under the decree of divorce pursuant to Shelton v. Shelton, 78 P3d. 5, 119 Nevada 492 (Nev. 2003).

This order is clearly erroneous. First, the Court's reliance on *Shelton* is misplaced. In *Shelton*, the Court determined that the parties' agreement awarding the wife with 50% of the husband's retirement benefits in the amount of \$577 per month was ambiguous. In order to resolve the ambiguity, the Court interpreted the agreement to mean that husband had contractually agreed to the payment of \$577 per month to wife, and that he could not avoid that obligation simply because he elected to reduce is military retired pay in favor of receiving VA benefits. As such, the *Shelton* case was decided on principals of contract law and did not address the question of whether the Court could order the husband to reimburse the wife for any reduction in military retired pay because of his VA election. If that had been the issue, the Nevada Supreme Court would have clearly found (as explained below) that it had no authority to do so.

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Second, Grady did not reduce his military retired pay in favor of VA benefits. At the time the decree was entered, Grady was already receiving disability benefits. His military retired pay, which began in late 2014, started at \$128.40. There was never a reduction that could have triggered a Shelton analysis in the first place. Even if Shelton had been triggered, the parties' agreement in this case is not ambiguous. It clearly states that Caterina is to receive 50% of Grady's U.S. Army Retired Pay. There was no specified amount and therefore no basis to assert that Grady guaranteed a specific payment amount on the basis of contract.

Finally, under Federal law, even if Grady had elected VA benefits and by so doing reduced the amount that Caterina was receiving, this Court CANNOT order Grady to indemnify Caterina for the loss veteran's retirement pay caused by the veteran's waiver of retirement pay to receive service-related disability benefits. 10 U.S.C. § 1408 states:

Authority for court to treat retired pay as property of the member and spouse.--(1) Subject to the limitations of this section, a court may treat disposable retired pay payable to a member for pay periods beginning after June 25, 1981, either as property solely of the member or as property of the member and his spouse in accordance with the law of the jurisdiction of such court. A court may not treat retired pay as property in any proceeding to divide or partition any amount of retired pay of a member as the property of the member and the member's spouse or former spouse if a final decree of divorce, dissolution, annulment, or legal separation (including a court ordered, ratified, or approved property settlement incident to such decree) affecting the member and the member's spouse or former spouse (A) was issued before June 25, 1981, and (B) did not treat (or reserve jurisdiction to treat) any amount of retired pay of the member as property of the member and the member's spouse or former spouse. § 1408(c)(1)(emphasis added).

10 U.S.C § 1408 further states:

The term "disposable retired pay" means the total monthly retired pay to which a member is entitled less amounts which--

(i) are owed by that member to the United States for previous overpayments of retired pay and for recoupments required by law resulting from entitlement to retired pay;

(ii) are deducted from the retired pay of such member as a result of forfeitures of retired pay ordered by a court-marital or as a result of a waiver of retired pay required by law in order to receive compensation under title 5 or title 38. § 1408 (a)(4)(A)(cmphasis added).

Grady respectfully submits that this Court should reconsider its decision based on the foregoing statutes. As Grady's income is entirely federal disability, it does not constitute income that can be awarded to pay alimony. Thus, it cannot be used to make up for any inequitable result of the Decree.

U.S. Supreme Court caselaw on this point could not be clearer. In Mansell v. Mansell, the U.S. Supreme Court held that military retirement pay that had been waived by the former husband in order to receive veterans' disability benefits was not community property divisible upon divorce. 490 U.S. 581, 109 S. Ct. 2023, 104 L. Ed. 2d 675 (1989). The Court held that federal law completely pre-empts the States from treating waived military retirement pay as divisible community property. Id., at 594-595. The Court acknowledged that Title 10 had the capacity to inflict economic harm on former spouses, but it refused to overlook the legislative history which, read as a whole, indicates the intent by Congress to protect military retirees. Id. Furthermore, even in the absence of legislative history, the plain and precise language of the statue is enough to make the intent of Congress clear.

Under § 1408(c)(1), the term "disposable retired or retainer pay," is used specifically to limit the extent to which state courts may treat military retirement pay as community property. *Id.* at 590. The Court noted that veterans who became disabled as a result of military service are eligible for disability benefits under Title 38, *Id.* at 583, which are explicitly excluded from the definition of disposable retired pay and therefore could not be divided by a state court.

The Mansell Court's holding was recently confirmed in Howell v. Howell, 137 S.Ct. 1400, 197 L.Ed.2d 781 (2017). The Howell decision reaffirms that under the McCarty³ holding, federal retirement benefits are not divisible unless specifically authorized by federal statute. While federal law was amended subsequent to McCarty to allow states to divide military retired pay under 10 USC § 1408, that statute specifically exempted VA pay. This was confirmed in Mansell and again in Howell.

The facts and decision in the *Howell* case are particularly relevant to this Court's decision. In *Howell*, the Arizona court attempted to "restore" a portion of the wife's retirement payment by ordering the husband to repay her the amount she was receiving that was reduced after the husband's military retired pay was reduced in lieu of receiving tax free VA pay. The Howell court held that such an order was a violation of federal law, stating the following:

Neither can the State avoid *Mansell* by describing the family court order as an order requiring John to "reimburse" or to "indemnify" Sandra, rather than an order that divides property. The difference is semantic and nothing more. The principal reason the state courts have given for ordering reimbursement or indemnification is that they wish to restore the amount previously awarded as community property, i.e., to restore that portion of retirement pay lost due to the post divorce waiver. And we note that here, the amount of indemnification mirrors the waived retirement pay, dollar for dollar. Regardless of their form, such reimbursement and indemnification orders displace the federal rule and stand as an obstacle to the accomplishment and execution of the purposes and objectives of Congress. All such orders are thus preempted.

The basic reasons *McCarty* gave for believing that Congress intended to exempt military retirement pay from state community property laws apply a fortiori to disability pay. See 453 U.S., at 232–235, 101 S.Ct. 2728 (describing the federal interests in attracting and retaining military personnel). And those reasons apply with equal force to a veteran's

³ McCarty v. McCarty, 453 U.S. 210, 211–215, 101 S.Ct. 2728, 69 L.Ed.2d 589 (1981)

post-divorce waiver to receive disability benefits to which he or she has become entitled.

We recognize, as we recognized in *Mansell*, the hardship that congressional pre-emption can sometimes work on divorcing spouses. See 490 U.S., at 594, 109 S.Ct. 2023. But we note that a family court, when it first determines the value of a family's assets, remains free to take account of the contingency that some military retirement pay might be waived, or, as the petitioner himself recognizes, take account of reductions in value when it calculates or recalculates the need for spousal support. See Rose v. Rose, 481 U.S. 619, 630–634, and n. 6, 107 S.Ct. 2029, 95 L.Ed.2d 599 (1987); 10 U.S.C. § 1408(e)(6).

Howell at 137 S.Ct. at 1406. While the Howell case leaves open the possibility that a reduction in retired pay could trigger a review of prospective alimony, that is impossible in this case because, 1) Grady's military retired pay has never substantially changed: it was \$128 in 2104 and is -0- now, and 2) there is no alimony order that can be modified. The decree of divorce specifically states that neither party will receive alimony and that Grady's contributions toward Caterina's mortgage were completely voluntary.

Nevada's law is also explicit in preventing the Court from awarding any portion of disability pay to Caterina AND prohibiting the assignment of the pay to Caterina after Grady receives it.

NRS 125.165 states the following:

Federal disability benefits awarded to veteran for service-connected disability: Attachment, levy, seizure, assignment and division prohibited.

Unless the action is contrary to a premarital agreement between the parties which is enforceable pursuant to chapter 123A of NRS, in making a disposition of the community property of the parties and any property held in joint tenancy by the parties, and in making an award of alimony, the court shall not:

1. Attach, levy or seize by or under any legal or equitable process

either before or after receipt by a veteran, any federal disability benefits awarded to a veteran for a service-connected disability pursuant to 38 U.S.C. §§ 1101 to 1151, inclusive.

2. Make an assignment or otherwise divide any federal disability benefits awarded to a veteran for a service-connected disability pursuant to 38 U.S.C. §§ 1101 to 1151, inclusive.

NRS 125.165 (emphasis added). The Court order entered on January 23, 2019, is impermissible under Nevada law. Furthermore, even if Nevada law allowed the Court to order Grady to pay a portion of his disability to Caterina, federal law and United States Supreme Court jurisprudence forbid it. This Court's order directing Grady to pay Caterina \$1,500 at her portion of his retirement is invalid under Nevada law, federal law and according the holdings in *McCarty*, *Mansell* and *Howell*.

Based on the foregoing facts and argument, the Court should reconsider and modify its order. The Court should order that no alimony is due to Caterina and confirm that Caterina is awarded and eligible to receive 50% of Grady's military retired pay.

III CONCLUSION

Wherefore, based on the above and foregoing, the Defendant respectfully requests the following:

- 1. For the Court to reconsider its order granting Plaintiff's motion to Enforce the Divorce Decree and confirm that:
 - a. No alimony is due to Plaintiff under the Decree of Divorce, and
 - b. Caterina is awarded 50% of Grady's military retired pay.

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1 2 For such other and further relief as this Court dooms just and pro-	
1 2. For such other and further relief as this Court deems just and pro	per in the
premises.	-
DATED this Day of More, 2019.	
MILLS & ANDERSON.	
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BYRON L. MILLS, ESQ.	
7 E. Willes, E.S.	
703 S. 8th Street	
Las Vegas NV 89101 9 Attorney for Defendant	
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AFFIDAVIT OF GRADY EDWARD BYRD

PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL)
) ss
COUNTRY OF PHILIPPINES)

GRADY EDWARD BYRD, being first duly sworn according to law, deposes and says:

- 1. I am the Defendant in the above-entitled action;
- 2. I have provided all the information, dates and incidents for use in this Motion and state under oath that the information contained therein and which I have read, corrected and approved, is true and correct and approved, is true and correct to the best of my knowledge;
- 3. That based on my knowledge, belief and information and as though repeated herein by my affidavit, I incorporate the facts and incidents of the opposition as though fully reprinted in this affidavit.

WHEREFORE, I respectfully request that this Court grant the relief requested.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT

GRADY EDWARD BYRD

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
) S.S.
CITY OF DUMAGUETE
)

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL.

SUBCRIBED AND SWORN TO before me this MAR 1 2 2019 in Dumaguete, Negros Oriental, Philippines, affiants exhibiting to me his valid proofs of identification.

Doc. No. 73;
Page No. 16;
Book No. 64;
Series of 2019.

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DISTRICT COURT FAMILY DIVISION

CLARK COL	INTY, NEVADA				
Plaintiff/Petitioner Plaintiff/Petitioner	Case No. 18-57170/- Z Dept. 9				
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BYRON L. MILLS, ESQ. State Bar #6745 MILLS & ANDERSON 703 S. 8th Street Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 (702) 386-0030 Attorney for Defendant

> DISTRICT COURT FAMILY DIVISION CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

CATERINA ANGELA BYRD,)	
Plaintiff,)	
vs.)	CASE NO.: D-18-577701-Z
GRADY EDWARD BYRD,)	DEPT. NO.: G
Defendant,)	
)	

APPENDIX TO DEFENDANT'S MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

Defendant, GRADY BYRD, by and through his attorney, BYRON L.

MILLS, ESQ. of MILLS & ANDERSON hereby submits and files his Appendix to the Motion for Reconsideration.

EXHIBIT	BATE NO.	DESCRIPTION
A	106	Net Military Retired pay
В	80-85	VA Disability payments
C	125-128, 131	OPM Disability

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D	120	Social Security Disablity
E	151	DFS account statement 2/1/19
		Submitted by:
		MILLS & ANDERSON
		Ph 2/19
		BYRON L. MILLS, ESQ. DATED
		BYRON L. MILLS, ESQ. DATED Nevada Bar No. 6745 703 S, 8 TH STREET Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 (702) 386-0030 Attornevs for Defendant
		Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 (702) 386-0030
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EXHIBIT "A"

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Auda Caror Workshoots (AEWs)
CRSCCCODP AEWAVETSHET Award Appropriate Payment Due

DEF106

EXHIBIT "B"



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

September 9, 2014

MR GRADY E BYRD PSC 517 BOX RCV FPO AP 96517 in Reply Refer To: 358/21

. 330/21

Dear Mr. Byrd:

We recently sent you an Employment Questionnaire asking whether you were employed by Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), others or self-employed during the past twelve months. We did not receive a response. Therefore, we propose to reduce your compensation payments.

What We Propose to Do

We propose to reduce your compensation benefits from the 100% rate to your current schedular 80% evaluation as of the day following the date of last payment as shown below:

From	То	Effective Date
\$3,017.60	\$1,652.55	December 1, 2014

We won't do anything to reduce your benefits until November 9, 2014, unless you ask us to reduce them now. We're giving you this time so that you can show us why we shouldn't reduce your compensation.

We have enclosed a copy of our Rating Decision for your review. It provides a detailed explanation about our proposal, the reason for it, and the evidence considered.

When and Where Do You Send the Information or Evidence

Complete each item that applies to you on the enclosed Employment Questionnaire. Please return the form right away. If we don't hear from you by November 9, 2014, we must reduce your payments from December 1, 2014.

As we've said, the only reason we're proposing to reduce your payments is that you haven't told us whether you were employed by VA, others or self-employed during the past twelve months. The best way to show us why we shouldn't reduce your payments is to complete the questionnaire we've enclosed.





DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS Mantla Regional Office 1501 Roxas Blvd Pasay City 1302

GRADY E. BYRD



Rating Decision December 02, 2014

INTRODUCTION

The records reflect that you are a veteran of the Vietnam Era, Peacetime and Gulf War Era. You served in the Army from November 26, 1973 to November 24, 1976 and from May 17, 1977 to June 30, 1999. Rating Decision dated September 5, 2014 proposed to discontinue entitlement to certain benefits. Since the last review of your claim, we received additional evidence on November 6, 2014 and November 10, 2014. Based on a review of the evidence listed below, we have made the following decisions.

DECISION

- 1. Entitlement to Individual Unemployability is continued.
- 2. Entitlement to Dependents' Educational Assistance under 38 USC Chapter 35 is continued.

EVIDENCE

- · With reference to Rating Decision dated September 5, 2014.
- · VA Letter dated September 9, 2014.
- VA Form 21-4140, Employment Questionnaire, received on November 6, 2014 and November 10, 2014.

DEF081



REASONS FOR DECISION

1. Continued entitlement to individual unemployability.

Your continued entitlement to total disability based on individual unemployability is established.

Total disability ratings for compensation may be assigned, where the schedular rating is less than total, when the disabled person is unable to secure or follow a substantially gainful occupation as a result of service-connected disabilities. The VA Form 21-4140, Employment Questionnaire, initially received on November 6, 2014 noted that you have not been employed at any time during the past 12 months. Based on this information, your entitlement to total disability based on individual unemployability is continued.

If your employment status changes at any time, please inform the regional office nearest your residence right away.

2. Continued entitlement to Dependents' Educational Assistance under 38 USC Chapter 35.

Your entitlement to Dependents' Education Assistance was established because the records on file noted your service-connected conditions are permanent and total, total disability being based on individual unemployability.

Since entitlement to total disability based on individual unemployability has been continued, eligibility requirements for entitlement to Dependents' Educational Assistance also continue to be met.

REFERENCES:

Title 38 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Pensions, Bonuses and Veterans' Relief contains the regulations of the Department of Veterans Affairs which govern entitlement to all veteran benefits. For additional information regarding applicable laws and regulations, please consult your local library, or visit us at our web site, www.va.gov.



How Submitting Evidence May Affect Payments

Your payments will continue at the present rate for 60 days following the date of this notice so that you may, if you wish, submit evidence to show that the proposed action should not be taken. You may submit evidence in person, through the mail or through your accredited representative.

If you wait more than 60 days to submit evidence, we will carefully consider whatever you submit, but the adjustment of benefits described above will already have gone into effect and your adjusted benefits will continue while we review the additional evidence.

Be sure to send your evidence, with your full name and VA file number, to the address at the top of this letter.

How to Obtain a Personal Hearing

If you desire a personal hearing to present evidence or argument on any point in your claim, notify this office and we will arrange a time and place for the hearing. If you want, you may bring witnesses and their testimony will be entered in the record. VA will furnish the hearing room and provide hearing officials. VA cannot pay for other expenses of the hearing since a personal hearing is held only on your request.

If, within 30 days from the date of this notice, VA receives your hearing request, we will continue payments at the present rate until we have held the hearing and reviewed the testimony. Continuing to receive the current rate of payment until a hearing is conducted could result in the creation of an overpayment, which you must repay. If you request a hearing but wish to minimize any overpayment which could result, you should submit a statement asking that we reduce or suspend your benefits beginning with your next check.

After 30 days, you may request a hearing, but we will have already adjusted your benefits as explained earlier in this notice.

How to Obtain Representation

An accredited representative of a Veterans' organization or other service organization recognized by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs may represent you, without charge. An accredited agent or attorney may also represent you. However, under 38 U.S.C. 5904(c), an accredited agent or attorney may only charge you for services performed after the date you file a notice of disagreement. If you desire representation, let us know and we will send you the necessary forms. If you have already designated a representative, no further action is required on your part.



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

December 2, 2014

MR GRADY E BYRD PSC 517 BOX RS/CC FPO AP 96517 In Reply Refer To: 358/21

178/21

Dear Mr. Byrd:

Our letter of September 9, 2014 told you that we planned to reduce your compensation benefits effective December 1, 2014.

We have reconsidered our proposed action based on your submitted VA Form 21-4140-1, Employment Questionnaire, received on November 6, 2014 and November 10, 2014.

Entitlement to Individual Unemployability is continued.

Entitlement to Dependents' Educational Assistance under 38 USC Chapter 35 is continued,

You will continue to receive \$3,068.90 monthly. This includes additional benefits due to the cost of living adjustment.

What You Should Do If You Disagree With Our Decision

If you do not agree with our decision, please download and complete VA Form 21-0958, "Notice of Disagreement". You can download the form at http://www.va.gov/vaforms or you can call us at 1-800-827-1000. You have one year from the date of this letter to appeal the decision. 'The enclosed VA Form 4107, "Your Rights to Appeal Our Decision," explains your right to appeal.

How Can You Contact Us?

If you have any questions or need assistance with this claim, you may contact us by telephone, email, or letter,

If you	Here is what to do
Telephone:	Call or visit the nearest American Embassy or Consulate for
	assistance. In Canada, call or visit the local office of Veterans Affairs Canada. From Guam, call us by dialing toll free, 475-387.
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	From American Samoa and N. Marianas, call us at 1-800-844-7928. If you use a Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD), the number is 1-800-829-4833.
Use the Internet:	Send electronic inquires through the Internet at https://iris.va.gov.
Write:	VA now uses a centralized mail system. For all written communications, put your full name and VA file number on the letter. Please mail or fax all written correspondence to the appropriate address listed on the attached Where to Send Your Written Correspondence chart, below.

In all cases, be sure to refer to your VA file number CSS 424 80 0049.

If you are looking for general information about benefits and eligibility, you should visit our website at https://www.va.gov, or search the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) at https://iris.va.gov.

We have no record of you appointing a service organization or representative to assist you with your claim. You can contact us for a listing of the recognized Veterans' service organizations and/or representatives. Veterans' service organizations, which are recognized or approved to provide services to the Veteran community, can also help you with any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Regional Office Director VA Regional Office

Enclosure(s): Rating Decision

VA Form 4107

Where to Send Your Written Correspondence

211B/336/nga

EXHIBIT "C"



United States Office of

Personnel Management Washington, DC 20415-0001

November 12, 2010

Grady B. Byrd PSC-517, Box RCV PPO-AP 96517 CSA: 8454444

Dear Mr. Byrd:

This letter is to inform you that your application for disability retirement under the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) has been approved and to provide information that will be helpful in your transition from employment to retirement. It explains the steps that must be taken before you can begin receiving annuity payments. It provides important information on other factors that may have a major impact on your disability retirement.

Interim Payments

According to the information we received from your agency, you have not been separated from Federal service. We will notify your agency that your disability retirement has been approved and ask them to separate you from Federal service. We will also ask your agency to forward-your final records to us, including your last day in a pay status. Once we are advised of your last day in a pay status we will authorize interim payments, which are usually about 80 percent of the amount of your actual monthly annuity payments. You should receive your first interim payment within 10 days of your agency certifying your last day in pay to us. You will continue to receive interim payments on the first business day of each month until we complete the processing of your application for a disability retirement.

Social Security Administration Awards

We cannot start your annuity payments until we receive confirmation that you have applied for Social Security disability benefits. If you have not already done so, you must apply for them now and send us a copy of the receipt that they will send to you. If you have already sent us a copy of the receipt, you do not need to take any action.

If the Social Security Administration awards you monthly benefits, you must immediately notify us of the amount and the effective date of the monthly benefit. You can do this by sending us a photocopy of their award notice or their statement showing the monthly benefit amount and the effective date they determined your eligibility began. We conduct periodic checks against Social Security records to discover unreported awards.

You should send their application receipt and notification that you have been approved for Social Security benefits to the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, Federal Employees Retirement System, Boyers, PA 16017.

We will continue processing your claim after we receive the final records from your employing agency and a receipt or other confirmation that you have applied for Social Security benefits.

If you are under age 62, your FERS disability benefits for the first 12 months will be equal to 60 percent of your high-three year average salary minus 100 percent of your Social Security benefit for any month in which you are entitled to Social Security disability benefits. After the first year, your disability annuity will be equal to 40 percent of your high-three year average salary minus 60 percent of your Social Security benefit for any month in which you are entitled to Social Security disability benefits. FERS disability benefits usually begin before the claim for Social Security benefits is fully processed. Because the FERS disability benefit must be reduced by 100 percent of any Social Security benefit payable for 12 months, Social Security checks should not be negotiated until the FERS benefit has been reduced. The Social Security checks will be needed to pay OPM for the reduction which should have been made in the FERS annuity.

U.S. Dept. of Labor's Office of Workers' Compensation Program (OWCP) Benefits In general, you may not receive annuity payments from both OPM and OWCP for the same period of time. However, if you are oligible to receive a civil service annuity and an OWCP Non-Scheduled Total or Partial Award for the same period of time, you may elect which benefit you want to receive. You may receive payments from both OPM and OWCP for the same period of time only if, (1) you are receiving OWCP payments for a Scheduled (loss of limb or function) Award, (2) you are receiving OWCP payments due to the death of another person and you are eligible for receiving an annuity on the basis of your own Federal service, or (3) in place of receiving an OWCP Non-Scheduled Total or Partial Award, you are receiving a Third Party Settlement from the party directly responsible for your injury. If you are receiving OWCP payments but not for one of the three reasons stated above and are also receiving payments from OPM, please contact us by calling 1(888) 767-6738, or by writing to the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, Retirement Operations Center, Boyers, PA 16017.

Recovery Situations

If you are under age 60, we may ask you from time to time to submit detailed medical evidence to show your condition continues to be disabling. If the medical evidence shows your condition has improved to the point where you can again perform the duties of your previous position, we will find that you are recovered from your disabling medical condition. With such a finding, annuity payments will stop on the first day of the month beginning one year after the date of the medical examination showing your recovery.

Furthermore, we will honor a written and signed statement of medical recovery that you voluntarily submit if the medical documentation on file does not demonstrate mental incompetency. Disability anouity payments will stop on the first day of the month beginning one year after the date of your voluntary statement.

If you are reemployed into a permanent position with the Federal Government at any time before age 60 at the same or higher grade/pay level and tenure as the position from which you retired, you will be found recovered. Disability annuity payments will stop on the first day of the month following the month of the recovery finding.

If you are found recovered from any of these situations, your former employing agency is not obligated to rehire you into your former position, or any other position. If your annuity payments are stopped because you are found medically recovered, you may be eligible for a deferred annuity at age 62, or at an earlier date if you meet the service criteria for a discontinued service retirement.

Restoration of Earning Capacity

If you are under age 60 and working in a non-federal position, there is a limit on the amount you can carn from wages and self-employment and still be entitled to your annuity payment. If your earnings in any calendar year equal at least 80 percent of the current salary of the position from which you retired, we will find your earning capacity to have been restored. Disability annuity payments will stop six months from the end of the calendar year in which your earning capacity is restored.

Medicare

If you believe you qualify for Medicare, you should contact the Social Security Administration promptly at 1-800-772-1213 to make urrangements for filing an application. A delay in filing could result in a delay in the date your Medicare entitlement may begin.

Reporting Responsibilities

Be sure to notify us if you are reemployed with the Federal Government, your marital status changes, or there is a change in either the address where your payments are sent or the address where you wish us to send correspondence and notices. You can report these events and ask questions concerning this letter to our Retirement Information Office at 1(888) 767-6738, or by writing to the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, Retirement Operations Center, Boyers, PA 16017. Be sure to include your Civil Service Annuity (CSA) claim number on any correspondence and keep this letter for future reference.

For more information about disability retirement you can visit our website at http://www.opm.gov/retire.

Carla D. Stevenson

Legal Administrative Specialist

Disability Branch

Disability, Reconsideration

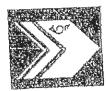
And Appeals Group

U.S. OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT Natirement Sources Program PO Box 45 Boyers, PA 16017-0045

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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o Establish, change, or stop an allotment to an organization

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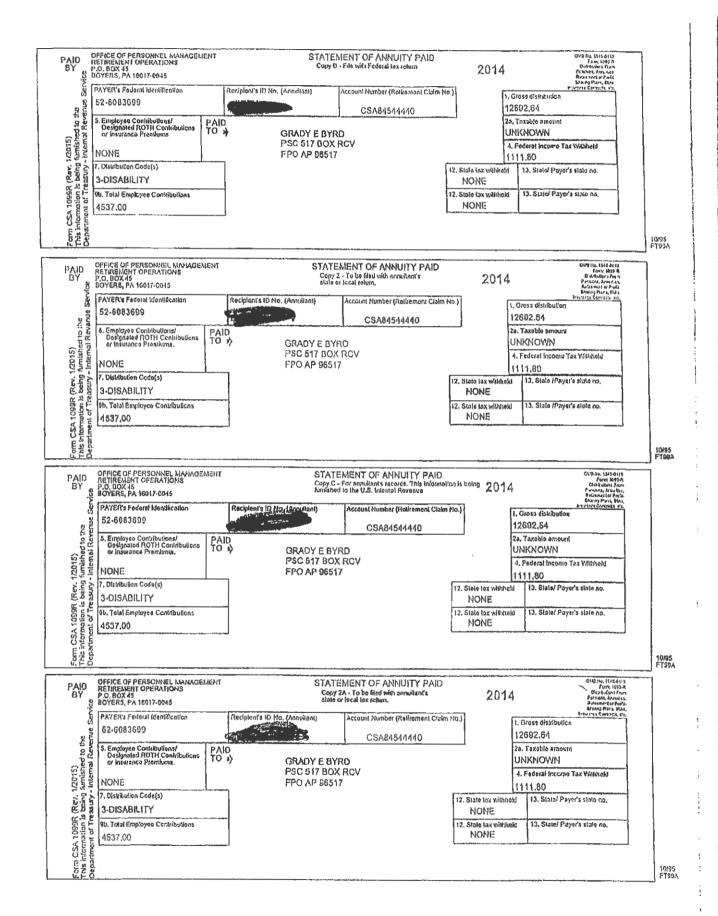


EXHIBIT "D"

FORM SSA-1099 -- SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFIT STATEMENT

2014

 PART OF YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS SHOWN IN BOX 5 MAY BE TAXABLE INCOME.
 SEE FACTS ABOUT YOUR 2014 SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFIT STATEMENT AND NOTICE 703 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Box 1. Name GRADY E BYRD

Box 2. Beneficiary's Social Securily Number

Box 3, Denefits paid in 2014 \$31,014.80

Box 4. Benefits Repaid to SSA in 2014

Box 5. Net Benefits for 2014 (Box 3 mlnus Box 4) \$31, 014.60

DESCRIPTION OF AMOUNT IN BOX 3
Paid by check or Direct deposit \$29,756.00
Medicare Part B premiums
deducted from your benefits \$1,258.80
Total Additions \$31,014.80
Benefits for 2014 \$31,014.80

DESCRIPTION OF AMOUNT IN BOX 4

NOME

Box B. Voluntary Federal Income Tax Withheld พอพธ

Box 7. Address GRADY E BYRD PSC 571 BOX RCV FPO AP 96517

Box 8, Claim Number (Use this number if you need to contact SSA.)

Form SSA-1099-R-OP1 (01-2015) Destroy Prior Editions DO NOT RETURN THIS FORM TO SSA OR IRS

EXHIBIT "E"

RETIREE ACCOUNT	STATEMENT					
	FEB 01, 2019		1	SSN		
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					INTS OF CONTACT	
5330 E C	ADY E BYRD USA 1 PANG ROAD	Defense Finance and Accounting Service US Military Retirement Pay 8399 E 56th Stroot Indianapolis, IN 46249-1200				
LAS VEC	GAS NV 89115-2215			COMMERCIAL TOLL FREE 1 YOLL FREE F	L (210) 522-5955 -B00-321-1080 AX 1-B00-469-8559	ļ
				myPay https://myPay	lin.ealb.	
PAY ITEM DESCRIPTION						
ITEM	OLD	NEW	ITEM		OLD	NEW
GROSS PAY VA WAIVER SBP COSTS TAXABLE INCOME	3,363.00 3,227,58 .00 135.42	3,363,00 3,227.58 135,42 .00				
			NET PAY		135,42	.00
PAYMENT ADDRESS		YEAR TO DATE	SUMMARY (F	OR INFORM	ATION ONLY)	
DIRECT DEPOSIT ROUTING NUMBER - 101108 ACCT NUMBER ENOING IN	3319 - 9025					
TAXES						
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SBP COVERAGE TYPE: SPOUSE ONLY COST:		820052 ONL 219.36	Annuity 84	14A 58		3,374,79
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4/23/2019 3:54 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT **OPPC WEBSTER & ASSOCIATES** 2 ANITA A. WEBSTER, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 1221 JEANNE F. LAMBERTSEN, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 9460 6882 Edna Ave. Las Vegas, Nevada 89146 Tel No: (702) 562-2300 Fax No: (702) 562-2303 e-mail: anitawebster@embargmail.com e-mail: ilambertsen@embargmail.com 8 Attorney for Plaintiff, Unbundled 9 DISTRICT COURT 10 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 11 CATERINA ANGELA BYRD CASE NO.: D-18-577701-Z DEPT NO.: G 12 Plaintiff, Hearing Date: May 22, 2019 13 Hearing Time: 9:00 a.m. V. 14 **GRADY EDWARD BYRD** Hearing Requested: Yes 15 16 Defendant. 17 Plaintiff's Opposition to Defendant's Motion for Reconsideration and Countermotion 18

COMES NOW Plaintiff, CATERINA ANGELA BYRD (hereafter "Caterina"), by and through her attorneys, ANITA A. WEBSTER, ESQ., and JEANNE F. LAMBERTSEN, ESQ., of the law offices of WEBSTER & ASSOCIATES, in an Unbundled Capacity, and does hereby file *Plaintiff's Opposition to Defendant's Motion for Reconsideration and Countermotion*. This Opposition and Countermotion is made and based upon the pleadings and papers on file herein,

¹This constitutes our request to file a motion, opposition or reply in excess of 30 pages pursuant to EDCR 5.503(4) due to the number of issues in this matter.

W.\Femily\Dyrd Caterine\Pleadings\Oraffs\Opposition to M to Reconsider 4.23.19.wpd

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the following Points and Authorities and upon such oral argument as the Court may allow at the time of the hearing.

Caterina respectfully requests the following relief:

- 1. Deny Grady's Motion for Reconsideration in its entirety;
- 2. That Grady continue the \$1,500.00 per month payment to Caterina to assist her with her home mortgage because this is spousal support;
- 3. That Grady continue the \$1,500.00 per month payment to Caterina to satisfy his contractual obligations to Caterina for Caterina's interest in Grady's military income;
- 4. For an Order to Show Cause why Grady Should Not Be Held In Contempt Of Court for Failing to Comply with the Court's order from the January 23, 2019 Hearing, filed on or about April 5, 2019, and pay to Caterina \$4,500.00 by February 15, 2019, \$4,500.00 by March 15, 2019, and \$4,500.00 by April 15, 2019;
- 5. For an Order to Show Cause why Grady Should Not Be Held In Contempt Of Court for unilaterally reducing Caterina from 100% Beneficiary of the Veteran's Group Life Insurance awarded to her in the divorce to 89% and naming his new 25 year old wife an 11% beneficiary;
- 6. For An Order that Grady Voluntarily Designate Caterina the Beneficiary of his Military Survivor Benefit Plan (hereafter "SBP"), which was awarded to Caterina in the divorce;
- 7. That Grady name Caterina 100% Beneficiary of the VyStar \$1,000.00 free life insurance on Grady's life that was awarded to Caterina in the divorce;
- 8. For Attorney's Fees and Costs; and
- 9. For any further orders that the court deems just and equitable under the premises.

Dated: April <u>23</u>, 2019.

WEBSTER & ASSOCIATES

By:

JEANNE LAMBERTSEN, ESQ.

Attorneys for Plaintiff, Unbundled

W:\\Family\Byrd, Caterina\Pleadings\Drafts\Opposition to M to Reconsider 4.23 19.wpd

POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I. INTRODUCTION

The Court's findings and orders filed on April 8, 2019, are based on the totality of the papers and pleadings on file, oral argument, Grady's sworn testimony, and applicable law. The Court's findings and orders are just and proper and should remain. Grady's request that no alimony is due to Caterina should be denied. His request that he does not have to follow the principles of contract law and continue the other \$1,500.00 payments to Caterina for his military pay, should also be denied. He admitted he had been giving Caterina \$3,000.00 per month because it is the right thing to do.² Grady must continue to do the right thing.

II. OPPOSITION

The parties were married for 31 years, divorcing on June 5, 2014, by way of a Joint Petition that Grady arranged to have prepared. The last time they resided together was in 2008 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Caterina was about 19 years old when the parties met and married shortly thereafter. During marriage, Grady was in the U. S. Army, and after retiring from the U.S. Army in 1999 as a CSM E-9, he became a high-ranking Department of Defense GS-14, in charge of 3 military bases. Grady retired from the Department of Defense and earns more than \$116,000.00 annually. Grady is 63, lives in the Phillippines, married a 25-year old girl, and is trying to eliminate his financial obligations to Caterina.

Caterina has a high school education. English is her 2nd language. Grady

² Exhibit "1".

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took care of all financial matters, especially all things military. During the marriage, Caterina supported Grady as he earned two Masters Degrees, a "War College" degree, a FEMA certification education and furthered his career. She moved approximately 16 times as a military wife. She only worked part-time during the parties' 31 years of marriage. The most she ever earned was \$17,084.00 in 1989. The last time she worked was in 2006 as a nail manicurist. The military base in Germany closed and they moved again. The money that she earned barely covered her supplies and leased space. She couldn't hold a job and earn a retirement on her own. Grady reassured her that he was advancing his career so he could take care of her. She relies on the \$3,000.00 per month that Grady pays her. After his death, she will rely on the military SBP and Life Insurance that Grady gave her in the divorce. She is 55 years old, single, and remains in the marital residence. Her expenses are more than \$3,745 a month. Grady left Caterina completely destitute when, on September 1, 2018, he stopped paying her \$3,000.00 per month in retaliation for Caterina asking him for copies of the life insurances and benefits he gave her in the decree. She had no choice but to seek the Court's assistance.

"Grady E. Byrd will continue to pay Caterina A. Byrd 1500 dollars extra a month to assist with her home mortgage. If her financial situation changes or if the home is sold or paid off this payment may cease." 3

The plain language that Grady placed in the joint petition for summary decree of divorce clearly demonstrates that Grady was already making \$1,500.00 monthly payments to Caterina at the time of divorce (i.e. "continue to

Joint petition attached to the decree of divorce filled 06-05-14, pg 4. Ln 3-5.

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pay") and that the \$1,500.00 a month is an ongoing financial obligation because its termination is conditional upon the occurrence of specific subsequent events. The specific subsequent events are that Caterina's financial situation changes or the home is sold or the home is paid off. Grady cannot cease the payments unless he proves a condition for cessation of the payments occurred. None of the cessation-triggering events occurred. The Court correctly found that Grady had no right to unilaterally stop the payments. The next sentence in the decree is "This is not an alimony payment and is not required." The Court correctly found that the \$1,500.00 per month that Grady pays Caterina is alimony because it is financial assistance to his former wife consistent with applicable law defining what spousal support is and the purpose of spousal support. Grady arranged for all the financing of the home, threatened Caterina to not speak to the loan officers4 and then 6 months after escrow closed, he announced he wanted a divorce. The mortgage was about \$1,933.07 per month.⁵ It was extremely important to Caterina that she receive assistance with her home mortgage. She never would have signed the decree otherwise. Any language in the decree that the parties waived alimony correctly did not control the Court's decision when compared to the specific and unique language that Grady placed in the decree. A waiver requires a knowing and voluntary relinquishment of a right which Caterina did not do. Additionally, Grady was the drafter of the joint petition and any ambiguity must be held against the drafter. His e-mails to

⁴ Exhibit "2".

⁵ Exhibit "3", (also previously submitted as Exhibit "21" on 01/15/19).

Caterina around the time of divorce include: "I'm sending you the papers. You sign or I will hire a lawyer and take you to court," and "This is your last warning, take the deal I'm offering or you can ask a lawyer to try and get me to put what you want in writing. I gurantee [sic] you your lawyer will tell you that you should have taken what I was offering. Last chance." The Court orders regarding Grady's ongoing obligation to pay Caterina alimony are just and proper and should not be reconsidered. Grady's motion should be denied.

"Caterina A. Byrd is entitled to 50% of Grady E. Byrd's United States Army Retired Pay as long as he lives."⁸

Nothing in the 2017 U.S. Supreme Court case of Howell prohibits the principals of contract law described in Shelton⁹ from applying. *At the time of divorce*, Grady admits that he advised Caterina that "My retired pay is 3017 a month after they deduct the payment for SBP [Survivor Benefit Plan]. You are entitled to half of that which is 1508. You are not entitled to any more money. I give you 3000 a month because I think it is the right thing to do. If I was only going to give you 1500, I would not be giving you 3000 all these years." Thus, Grady informed Caterina that she was entitled to the amount of \$1,508.00 from his retirement pay, he paid her a total of \$3,000.00 each month, of which \$1,500.00 was for assistance with her home mortgage. She relied on these

⁶ Exhibit "1".

⁷ Exhibit "1".

^a Joint Petition decree of divorce filled 06-05-14, attachment, pg 3. Ln 24-25.

⁹Shelton v. Shelton 78, P.3d 507, 119 Nev. 492 (2003).

¹⁰ Exhibit "2" and Exhibit "1",

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funds to pay her bills and when he unilaterally terminated the payments on Setpember 1, 2018, he left her destitute. Grady can continue to pay Caterina \$3,000.00 per month when he testified that he earns more than \$116,000.00 annually. 11 Grady then argues that in September 2018, his army retire pay changed to disability and because he doesn't have to give her any of his disability money, he stopped paying Caterina. 12 Now, in his Motion for Reconsideration, Grady claims that he already waived his army retirement pay to receive it as disability pay at the time the decree was entered. 13 This new information actually fortifies the Court's order that Grady must continue the \$1,500.00 payments under contract principles. By claiming that his army retire pay was only \$128.40 around the time of divorce, he misled Caterina. The \$3,017.00 pay that Grady said that he received each month at the time of divorce was not retired pay. The \$3,017 that Grady received each month was disability pay. Contract principal analysis would include: If his only dividable retired pay at the time of divorce is \$128.40¹⁴ and she gets 50% (\$64.20), then why was Grady paying Caterina a total of \$3,000.00 per month for over 4 years? Because \$1,500.00 is what he agreed to pay Caterina, she accepted, he performed and he has wrongfully breached the contract. The Court correctly found that under contract principles of law that Grady must continue these

¹¹Grady's FDF filed 10-02-19 and testimony at 01-23-19 hearing, see order filed 04-05-19, pg. 2 ln 19.

¹² Grady's Reply to Opposition and Countermotion filed 12-28-18, pg. 7, In 131-132.

¹³Defendant's Motion for Reconsideration, page 11, line 2.

¹⁴Defendant's Exhibit "A", page number DEF 106.

\$1,500.00 per month payments and that he wrongfully terminated the payments in September 2018. Nothing in the 2017 U.S. Supreme Court case of Howell v. Howell prohibits a state court from enforcing an agreement by ordering a service member, who unilaterally stops making payments the service member was legally obligated to make, to resume those payments and pay arrearages. Lesh v. Lesh, 809 S.E. 2d 890 (N.C.Appl. 2018). The Court did not order Grady to indemnify Caterina. The Court did not divide disability pay. The Court did not assign disability benefits. The Court did not arbitrarily order Grady to pay \$1,500.00 per month to Caterina. Rather, the Court ordered Grady to resume monthly payments to Caterina that he was already making. There was no error of law. Grady's Motion for Reconsideration should be denied.

III. ARGUMENT

No Error in the Court order that Grady wrongfully terminated the \$1,500.00 monthly payments to Caterina to assist with her home mortgage

Grady wrongfully continues to assert the reason that he stopped the \$1,500.00 payment to Caterina is that he can stop it any time that he wants to because it is not required. The Court correctly found that the Joint Petition for a Summary Decree of Divorce clearly and unambiguously states that he is required to pay it unless Caterina's financial condition changes or if her home is sold or paid off. Grady never addresses these precedents that must occur before assistance can be terminated.

If contract language is clear, it will be enforced as written. <u>Buzz Stew, LLC v. City of N. Las Vegas</u>, 131 Nev., Adv. Op. 1, 341 P.3d 646, 650 (2015).

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Caterina's financial condition has not changed. She has \$3,745.13 in monthly expenses. She provided Grady receipts showing that she now must pay \$102.97 per month for health insurance (she previously was covered for free under military TriCare), and that she now must pay \$128.01 for Federal Long Term Care Insurance (Grady previously paid it). Caterina's largest expense is the home mortgage of \$1,933.07 per month. Grady is fully aware that the home has not been sold because he is listed on the mortgage statement and can view the statement anytime he wants. When Caterina asked for the Court's assistance that Grady cease changing the mailing address for the mortgage statements from her home to his address because she was worried about missing a payment, the Court issued orders allowing Grady continued access to view the mortgage statement:

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that parties shall not change any information relating to the mortgage account for the Plaintiff's residence and both parties shall have online access to the mortgage statements, and neither party shall interfere with the other parties' ability to have on-line access to the mortgage account; user names and passwords shall not be changed by either party.(VT 11:21:07).

The court correctly found that Grady cannot unilaterally terminate the \$1,500.00 payments to Caterina to assist with her home mortgage. Grady wrongfully terminated these payments September 2018 and owed Caterina 5 months of arrears which was \$7,500.00. He was ordered to begin resuming the payments

¹⁵ Caterina's FDF filed 10-18-18.

¹⁶ Exhibit "4" (also previously submitted as Exhibit "16" on 01/15/19)

¹⁷ Exhibit "5"

¹⁸ Exhibit "3"

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on February 15, 2019, which he failed to do. As discussed below, Caterina is seeking an order to show cause why he should not be held in contempt of court.

No Error in the Court order that the \$1,500.00 payments from Grady to Caterina to assist with her home mortgage is alimony

The Court did not err in finding that Grady's \$1,500.00 monthly payments to Caterina to assist with her home mortgage are deemed alimony. Lake offers guidance in defining alimony and Shydler explains that alimony is an economic right that arises out of the marital relationship and provides the dependent spouse with a level of support and standard of living similar to the quality of economic life that existed during the marriage. Lake v. Bender, 18 Nev. 361, 4 Pac. 711, 7 Pac. 74 (1884), and Shydler v. Shydler, 114 Nev. 192, 954 P.2d 37 (1998). Under Lake and Shydler, an analysis, Grady's \$1,500.00 monthly payments to Caterina to assist with her home mortgage is alimony. The monthly assistance with mortgage payments is even consistent with the federal definition of alimony 42 U.S.C. §659 (2)(i)(3):

The term "alimony", when used in reference to the legal obligations of an individual to provide the same, means periodic payments of funds for the support and maintenance of the spouse (or former spouse) of the individual, and (subject to and in accordance with State law) includes separate maintenance, alimony pendente lite. maintenance, and spousal support, and includes attorney's fees, interest, and court costs when and to the extent that the same are expressly made recoverable as such pursuant to a decree, order, or judgment issued in accordance with applicable State law by a court of competent jurisdiction."

The Nevada Supreme Court held in Lake, that "support" is a word of broad signification. It includes everything, necessities and luxuries, which the wife in UEBSTUR & ASSOCIATUS 6002 Fight with the trees of the State North 2014 Telephone (2015) 50.2 Fight Paramile (2015) 50.2 Fig. 2 State - Paramile (2015) 50.2 Fig. 2 State - Paramile (2015) 50.2 Fig. 2 State - Paramile (2015) 50.2 Fig.

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like circumstances is entitled to have and enjoy. In determining the amount necessary for such support, all of the circumstances surrounding the parties, including the financial condition of the husband and the requirements of the wife, should be considered. Lake v. Bender, 18 Nev. 361, 4 Pac, 711, 7 Pac, 74 (1884). Paying the mortgage on a home is a necessity. The Nevada Supreme Court held in Shydler, that the two primary purposes of spousal support are to narrow any large gaps between the post-divorce earning capacities of the spouses and to allow the recipient spouse to live as nearly as possible to the station in life enjoyed before the divorce. Shydler v. Shydler, 114 Nev. 192, 954 P.2d 37 (1998).

The papers and pleadings that the Court reviewed for the January 23, 2019, hearing revealed that Caterina and Grady were married for nearly twice the length of time as the parties in Shydler, hence, they had a marriage of significant length. Like the husband in Shydler, Grady earns more than \$100,000 per year. Grady testified to annual earnings around \$116,000.00. Caterina's earning capacity was only \$17,084 in 1989¹⁹ which is far less than the wife in Shydler. Grady admits that he paid Caterina \$36,000.00 per year. This is only about 30% of Grady's income.

Grady wrongfully claims that the Lake case stands only for the proposition that the trial court has legal discretion regarding the division of property, and erroneously claims that the Shydler case did nothing more than find that the trial

¹⁹ Exhibit "6" (also previously submitted as Exhibit "17" on 01/15/19)

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court abused its discretion in denying the wife alimony. Grady cannot cherry-pick the Nevada Supreme Court's findings and rulings in Lake and Shydler. These cases stand for more than what Grady describes. The definition and purpose of spousal support discussed in Lake and Shydler has not been overruled and is relevant to the case at bar. Grady also complains that Lake was decided over 100 years ago, as if this somehow reduces the legal authority of the case. The fact that Lake was decided over 100 years ago actually fortifies the Court's order that his assistance with the home mortgage is alimony. This is because Lake demonstrates that alimony is not a new concept to Nevada law, rather, it is a long-standing law and Lake has been cited as authority since it was decided.

[t]he amount which may be awarded in divorce action to the wife form the husband's separate property for her support and that of the children is left to the legal discretion of the trial court and its award should not be disturbed upon appeal in the absence of abuse of discretion. Lake v. Bender, 18, Nev. 361, 4 Pac. 711, 7 Pac. 74 (1884), cited, Powell v. Campbell, 20 Nev. 232, at 238, 20 Pac. 156 (19888), Phillips v. Phillips, 42 Nev. 460, at 466, 180 Pac. 907 (1919), Greinstein v. Greinstein, 44 Nev. 174, at 178, 191 Pac. 1082 (1920), Foy v. Estate of Smith, 58 Nev. 371, at 376, 81 P.2d 1065 (1938), Herzog v. Herzog, 69 Nev. 286, at 290, 249 P.2d 533 (1952).

Gardner v. Gardner, 881 P.2d 645, 110 Nev. 1053 (Nev., 1994):

" In <u>Heim</u> we stated that in deciding matters concerning alimony, the judge must "form a judgment as to what is equitable and just, having

²⁰ In <u>Johnson v. Johnson</u>, 89 Nev. 244, 247, 510 P.2d 625, 626-627 (1973), the Nevada Supreme Court departed from the all-or-nothing approach to the division of separate and community property of <u>Lake v. Bender</u>, 18 Nev. 361, 7P.74 (1884) and announced the rule that the increase in the value of separate property during marriage should be apportioned between the separate property of the owner and the community property of the spouses. The description of spousal support in <u>Lake</u> was not altered.

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regard to the respective merits of the parties and to the condition in which they will be left by the divorce." Id. at 609, 763 P.2d at 680. Moreover, we noted that the "'Buchanan guidelines' (Buchanan v. Buchanan, 90 Nev. 209, 215, 523 P.2d 1, 5 (1974)) are simply an inexhaustive list of such common sense considerations as the financial condition of the parties (property, income, relative earning capacity), duration of the marriage, age and health of the parties" and the contribution each has made to the property owned by the community. Id. at 608-09, 763 P.2d at 680. Finally, in Heim, we emphasized that an award of alimony must be fair. Id. at 610, 763 P.2d at 681.

Our case law thus reflects the clear legislative mandate that authorizes the district courts to award alimony to the wife or husband in an amount that "appears just and equitable." NRS 125.150(1)(a).

Lawrimore v. Lawrimore, 381 P.3d 632(Table) (Nev., 2012):

"The district court has wide discretion in determining spousal support issues, and this court will not disturb the district court's award of alimony absent an abuse of discretion. Lawrimore citing: Wolff v. Wolff, 112 Nev. 1355 1359, 929 P.2d 916, 918-19 (1996) (explaining that an award of spousal support will not be disturbed on appeal unless it appears from the record that the district court abused its discretion). The court "[m]ay award such alimony to the wife or to the husband, in a specified principal sum or as specified periodic payments, as appears just and equitable." NRS 125.150(I)(a). A district court's factual findings will be upheld if supported by substantial evidence in the record. Gepford v. Gepford, 116 Nev. 1033 1036, 13 P.3d 47, 49 (2000). Substantial evidence is that which a sensible person may accept as adequate to sustain a judgment. See Schmanski v. Schmanski, 115 Nev. 247, 251, 984 P.2d 752, 755 (1999). This court generally defers to the district court regarding witness credibility and will not reweigh evidence. Castle v. Simmons, 120 Nev. 98, 103, 86 P.3d 1042, 1046 (2004) (noting that this court "will not reweigh the credibility of witnesses on appeal; that duty rests within the trier of fact's sound discretion")." [emphasis added]

Consistent with <u>Lake</u> and <u>Buchanan</u>, alimony includes an inexhaustible list of everything, necessities and luxuries, which Caterina is entitled to have and enjoy. Mortgage payments are a necessity for Caterina. Consistent with <u>Gepford</u>, the Court's factual findings and orders are supported by substantial evidence in the record and should be upheld. Substantial evidence is that which a sensible

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person may accept as adequate to sustain a judgment. Schmanski. A sensible person would accept the evidence is adequate to sustain the Court's orders. The Court used common sense principles in deeming Grady's financial assistance with Caterina's home mortgage alimony, consistent with Gardner and Lawrimore. Further, Grady is the drafter of the decree, he selected the terms for the decree, hired the legal staff to prepare the decree, and sent it to Caterina to sign telling her "I will always give the money to you but I do it because I want to not because anybody can make me do it. If I put everything in writing that you want I will never be able to get a loan in my own name. I will never be able to get ahead of my present life. I will have to live poor until I die" and "I will always keep my word" and "I am ensuring that you are taken care of for your entire life I do not understand why you are not satisfied."21 Any vagueness or ambiguity must be interpreted against the drafter. Basic principles of contract law hold the drafter to a higher standard. Williams v. Waldman, 108 Nev. 466, 473, 836 P.2d 614, 619 (1992) ("[I]t is a well settled rule that '[i]n cases of doubt or ambiguity, a contract must be construed most strongly against the party who prepared it, and favorably to a party who had no voice in the selection of its language." (alteration in original) (quoting Jacobson v. Sassower, 66 N.Y.2d 991, 499 N.Y.S.2d 381, 489 N.E.2d 1283, 1284 (1985))). Golden Rd. Motor Inn. inc. v. Islam, 376 P.3d 151, 132 Nev. Adv. Op. 49 (Nev., 2016).

Also, NRS 125.150(9)(e) analysis of income of the parties supports the \$1,500.00 per month is alimony. Grady earns about \$116,000.00 annually, was

²¹ Exhibit "1" and Exhibit "2"

paying Caterina about 30% of this amount.

The Nevada Supreme Court held "this court generally defers to the district court regarding witness credibility and will not reweigh evidence" Castle and "this court "will not reweigh the credibility of witnesses on appeal; that duty rests within the trier of fact's sound discretion." Lawrimore. This Court properly considered Grady's sworn testimony at the hearing in determining that the \$1,500.00 per month payments are alimony.

Caterina Did Not Waive Her Right To Alimony

Contrary to Grady's assertions, Caterina did not waive her right to alimony.

A waiver "is the intentional relinquishment of a known right. It is a voluntary act, "and implies an election by the party to dispense with something of value, or to forego some advantage which he might at his option have demanded and insisted on." It is requisite to waiver of a legal right that there be "a clear, unequivocal, and decisive act of the party showing such a purpose or acts amounting to an estoppel on his part"; "A waiver, to be operative, must be supported by an agreement founded on a valuable consideration[.]" In order to establish a waiver, the intention to waive must clearly appear, Afriat v. Afriat, 61 Nev. 321, 117 P.2d 83, 119 P.2d 883, and the party relying upon 216*216 the waiver must have been misled to his prejudice. Union Central Life Ins. Co. v. Schultz, 45 Ida. 185, 261 P. 235; Universal Gas Co. v. Central Illinois Public Service Co., 7 Cir., 102 F.2d 164. Melahn v. Melahn, 370 P. 2d 213 - Nev: Supreme Court 1962.

Caterina agreed to receive assistance with her home mortgage. She did not knowingly and voluntarily agree to not receive any assistance. There was no clear, unequivocal, and decisive act by Caterina to waive alimony. Rather, the complete opposite occurred. She needed financial support to pay her bills. Her mortgage alone is \$1,933.07 per month, and Grady was fully aware at the time of divorce what her mortgage payment was. He arranged for all the financing and instructed Caterina to not talk to the loan agents, to ignore them and that he

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will "make up some information on money."22 The parties had been married 31 years. Grady paid her \$1,500.00 per month from June 2014 to August 2018. There was no waiver of alimony, given the parties conduct.

No Error in the court order regarding the \$1,500.00 payments from Grady to Caterina for her interest in his military pay

Grady initially claimed that in September 2018 he began to receive his U.S. Army military retirement funds via tax-free disability, therefore he can unilaterally cut off the \$1,500 that he was paying Caterina.²³ Now, in his Motion for Reconsideration, he states that at the time of divorce, he actually began receiving his disability pay. This new information actually fortifies the Court's application of contract law and the Court's order that Grady continue the \$1,500.00 per month payments to Caterina. This is because Grady willfully and knowingly applied for and received his disability pay around the time of divorce, and yet he continued to pay Caterina the dollar amount that he promised because "it is the right thing to do", which is in compliance with their contractual agreement.

Howell involved state court orders requiring a service member to reimburse a former spouse the a mount of retirement pay the former spouse was entitled to when thirteen (13) years after divorce, he waived his military pay to get tax free disability pay. Under Howell, such an order violates federal law. Howell v. Howell, 137 S.Ct. 1400, 197 L.Ed.2d 781 (2017). The case at bar is

²² Exhibit "2".

²³Grady's Reply to Opposition and/or Countermotion filed 12-28-18, pg. 7, in 131-132 and Grady's Exhibit "A" showing that the dollar amount was \$62.50.

distinguished from Howell.

We now learn in Grady's Motion for Reconsideration, that around the time of divorce, he had *already waived his retired pay* and was receiving disability pay. He did not make a post-divorce waiver 13 years after divorce that reduced retirement to receive disability pay. Nothing in <u>Howell</u> prohibits a state court from enforcing an agreement by ordering a service member, who unilaterally stops making payments the service member was legally obligated to make, to resume those payments and pay arrearages. <u>Lesh v. Lesh</u>, 809 S.E. 2d 890 (N.C.Appl. 2018). Also held by <u>Gross v. Wilson</u>, 424 P.3d 399 (Alaska 2018):

Under <u>Howell</u> a state court may not circumvent <u>Mansell</u> by ordering a service member to "indemnify" a former spouse for retirement benefits waived to receive disability pay. But <u>Howell</u> does not hold that a state court cannot enforce a property division by ordering a service member who unilaterally stops making payments the service member was legally obligated to make to resume those payments and pay arrearages. [emphasis added].

Under contract law principles, Grady was legally obligated to make the \$1,500.00 payments to Caternia and he must resume paying her.

Henson v. Henson, 130 Nev., Adv. Op. 79, 334 P.3d 933, 936 (2014):

An agreement to settle pending divorce litigation constitutes a contract and is governed by the general principles of contract law. <u>Grisham v. Grisham</u>, 128 Nev., Adv. Op. 60, 289 P.3d 230, 234 (2012). In the context of family law, parties are permitted to contract in any lawful manner. See <u>Rivero v. Rivero</u>, 125 Nev. 410, 429, 216 P.3d 213, 226 (2009). "Parties are free to contract, and the courts will enforce their contracts if they are not unconscionable, illegal, or in violation of public policy." Id. An enforceable contract requires "an offer and acceptance, meeting of the minds, and consideration." <u>May v. Anderson</u>, 121 Nev. 668, 672, 119 P.3d 1254, 1257 (2005). Further, this court views a contract as "ambiguous if it is reasonably susceptible to more than one interpretation." <u>Shelton v. Shelton</u>, 119 Nev. 492, 497, 78 P.3d 507, 510 (2003) (internal quotation and footnote omitted). When interpreting an ambiguous contract, this court looks beyond the express terms and analyzes the circumstances surrounding the contract to determine the

true mutual intentions of both parties. Id. (footnote omitted). Finally, this court has recognized that an interpretation that "results in a fair and reasonable contract is preferable to one that results in a harsh and unreasonable contract." Id. (internal quotation and footnote omitted). Holyoak v. Holyoak (Nev., 2016). [emphasis added]

Shelton v. Shelton, 78 P.3d 507, 119 Nev. 492 (Nev., 2003):

The property settlement agreement between Roland and Maryann is ambiguous. The agreement states that Roland's military disability is community property, but it awards the entire amount to Roland. The award of military retirement pay to Maryann describes the award as "[o]ne half of HUSBAND'S military retirement in the amount of \$577, until her demise," but the amount designated is more than one-half the amount of Roland's retirement pay at the time. Roland paid Maryann \$577 until the time he elected to take disability pay in lieu of retirement pay.

It appears, therefore, that the agreement of the parties was that Roland pay Maryann \$577 each month for her portion of the community asset, rather than pay her one-half of his retirement pay, since \$577 is more specific than "one-half." Moreover, the parties' subsequent conduct reinforces this conclusion, in that Roland ratified the terms of the agreement by performing his obligations under the decree for a period of two years. In addition, this interpretation yields a fair and reasonable result, as opposed to a harsh and unfair result. Roland cannot escape his contractual obligation by voluntarily choosing to forfeit his retirement pay. It appears that Roland possesses ample other assets from which to pay his obligation without even touching his disability pay. Even if he lacks these assets, nothing prevents him from using his disability payments to satisfy his contractual obligation.

Although states are precluded by federal law from treating disability benefits as community property, states are not precluded from applying state contract law, even when disability benefits are involved. The district court's order is reversed and this matter is remanded to the district court for further proceedings consistent with this opinion.

Grady's analysis of <u>Shelton</u> is incorrect. A Shelton analysis is not triggered by a reduction in retirement pay.²⁴ Rather, it is the assessment of the contract obligation between the parties that triggers a <u>Shelton</u> analysis. <u>Shelton</u> held that;

²⁴ Defendant's Motion for Reconsideration, page 11, line 4.

"The best approach for interpreting an ambiguous contract is to delve beyond its express terms and "examine the circumstances surrounding the parties' agreement in order to determine the true mutual intentions of the parties". This Court's analysis under Shelton was proper. Grady offered to pay Caterina \$3,000.00 per month (of which \$1,500.00 is for mortgage assistance), Caterina accepted, Grady paid from before June 2014 until September 1, 2018 and Caterina was harmed by the loss of payments. The Court did not order Grady to "indemnify" Caterina \$1,500.00 per month for the reduction in U.S. Military retirement pay. Rather, the Court applied state law of contract, which is not preempted by federal law. Grady was ordered to satisfy his contractual obligations to Caterina to pay her the \$1,500.00 that he unilaterally ceased paying her on September 1, 2018 from his other assets.

Grady may have divisible pay that is not precluded from division by <u>Howell</u>. For example, Title 10 assets are divisible under the Unformed Services Former Spouses' Protection Act (USFSPA) 10 U.S.C. 1408(c)(1). Grady receives combat related special compensation (CRSC) 10 U.S.C. 1413a. This is a Title 10 asset. CRSC is another form of military disability pay, separate from standard Veteran Administration disability benefits. Title 10 assets are distinguished from Title 38 assets. Military veterans generally are entitled to compensation for service connected disabilities under 38 U.S. C. 1101 et seq., and under <u>Mansell v. Mansell</u>, 490 U.S. 581, 594-595 (1989), a state cannot divide the waived portion of a veteran's retirement pay that is 38 U.S. C. 1101 et seq. disability pay. However, Grady has Title 10 assets which are not specifically addressed in

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Mansell or Howell as prohibited from being divided. The division of CRSC income was upheld the case of Foster v. Foster, No. 324853, unpublished (Mich. App, March 22, 2018):

Howell involved general service-connected disability benefits, and the Supreme Court's opinion rested squarely on the language in former 10 USC 1408(a)(4)(B), which provided and still provides in 10 USC 1408(a)(4)(A)(ii), that "disposable retired pay" means a member's total monthly retired pay less amounts that "are deducted from the retired pay . . . as a result of a waiver of retired pay required by law in order to receive compensation under title 5 or title 38[]" Howell, 137 S Ct at 1402-1404. CRSC (combat-related special disability pay), at issue in this appeal, is compensation under Title 10, not Title 5 or Title 38 as referenced when arriving at "disposable retired pay." In our earlier opinion, we relied on this Court's opinion in Megee, 290 Mich App 551, which distinguished CRSC from general service-connected disability pay found in title 38 on the basis that the panel was addressing a waiver of retirement pay in favor of title 10 CRSC compensation. Given that CRSC is at issue in the instant case, that Howell did not concern or analyze a waiver of retirement pay in favor of CRSC disability pay, and that Megee is on point and remains binding precedent, MCR 7.215(J)(1), we again affirm the trial court's ruling.

FN 1. The contempt order does not require payment from CRSC funds, nor do we construe the divorce judgment's offset provision as ordering payment from CRSC funds, and any such construction must be avoided.

Grady also receives annuity income. When he retired from the army in 1999, he went to work for the federal government. He receives Federal Employees Retirement System income. This income is seen as his US Office of Personnel Management (hereafter "OPM") in the form of annuity income of \$1,315.00 per month. This is not Title 5 or Title 38 income covered by the Howell and Mansell cases.

IV. COUNTERMOTION

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²⁵ Defendant's FDF filed on 01-02-19, proof of income attachments.

If, For The Sake Of Argument, the Court is inclined to eliminate the \$1,500.00 Payment for Caterina's interest in Grady's military pay, Caterina's Spousal Support Should Be Increased

The Supreme Court cases of <u>Howell</u> and <u>Rose</u> unequivocally stand for the premise that the harsh consequences of a former spouse's loss of income due to a military member electing to waive his retirement pay for disability pay, can be addressed by recalculating the former spouse's spousal support award. In recalculating Caterina's spousal support, all of Grady's income is eligible to be considered in determining his annual income. Under federal law, all of his income is eligible for garnishment of a spousal support order. 42 U.S.C. §§ 659. Grady knows this and that is why he is desperate to prevent this court from awarding spousal support. He should not be allowed to leave Caterina destitute. Howell v. Howell, 137 S.Ct. 1400, 197 L.Ed.2d 781 (2017)

We recognize, as we recognized in Mansell, the hardship that congressional pre-emption can sometimes work on divorcing spouses. See 490 U.S., at 594, 109 S.Ct. 2023. But we note that a family court, when it first determines the value of a family's assets, remains free to take account of the contingency that some military retirement pay might be waived, or, as the petitioner himself recognizes, take account of reductions in value when it calculates or recalculates the need for spousal support. See Rose v. Rose, 481 U.S. 619, 630–634, and n. 6, 107 S.Ct. 2029, 95 L.Ed.2d 599 (1987); 10 U.S.C. § 1408(e)(6).

n.6. Consistent with the distinction suggested in <u>Wissner v. Wissner,</u> 338 U.S. 655, 70 S.Ct. 398, 94 L.Ed. 424 (1950), Congress had amended the Social Security Act to **authorize garnishment** of certain federal benefits, including railroad retirement annuities, **for spousal and child support** but not for community property divisions. 42 U.S.C. §§ 659 and 662. **We construed these amendments to "expressly override" the anti-attachment provision for support claims, finding it "logical to conclude that Congress... thought that a family's need for support could justify garnishment, even though it deflected other federal benefit programs from their intended goals, but that**

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community property claims, which are not based on need, could not do so." Hisquierdo v. Hisquierdo, 439 U.S., at 587, 99 S.Ct., at 811; see also McCarty v. McCarty, 453 U.S., at 230, 101 S.Ct., at 2740. Rose v. Rose, 481 U.S. 619, 107 S.Ct. 2029, 95 L.Ed.2d 599 (1987).

Rose v. Rose, 481 U.S. 619, 107 S.Ct. 2029, 95 L.Ed.2d 599 (1987)

Veterans' disability benefits compensate for impaired earning capacity, H.R.Rep. No. 96-1155, p. 4 (1980), U.S. Code Cong. & Admin. News 1980, p. 3307, and are intended to "provide reasonable and adequate compensation for disabled veterans and their families. "S.Rep. No. 98-604, p. 24 (1984) (emphasis added), U.S.Code Cong. & Admin. News 1984, pp. 4479, 4488.

..[s]tate contempt proceedings to enforce a valid child support order coincide with Congress' intent to provide veterans' disability compensation for the benefit of both appellant and his dependents. Moreover, in reaching what was clearly an alternative holding in Wissner that a community property division of the insurance proceeds would constitute a "seizure" in violation of a provision against "attachment, levy, or seizure," the Court was careful to identify a possible exception for alimony and child support cases. Id., at 659-660, 70 S.Ct., at 400. The suggested basis for this exception was that family support obligations are deeply rooted moral responsibilities, while the community property concept is more akin to an amoral business relationship. ld., at 660, 70 S.Ct., at 400.

Cassinelli v. Cassinelli, 229 Cal Rptr. 3d 801, 20 Cal App. 5th 1267 (Cal. App. 2018):

"Arguably some or all of these funds would be exempt from an ordinary money judgment. However, they are not exempt from a spousal support order. Specifically, a spousal support order would be enforceable against Robert's:

- Veteran's disability benefits (although only up to the amount of his waiver of retired pay). (42 U.S.C. §§ 659(a), 659(h)(1)(A)(ii)(V), 659(h)(1)(B)(iii); 5 C.F.R. § 581.103; United States v. Murray (1981) 158 Ga.App. 781, 785, 282 S.E.2d 372, 375.)
- CRSC. (Fin. Mgmt. Reg., supra, § 630101(C)(2).) Social security benefits. (42 U.S.C. §§ 659(a), 659(h)(1)(A)(ii)(I); DeTienne v. DeTienne (D.Kan. 1993) 815 F.Supp. 394, 396-397.). 3.
- 4. State teacher's disability benefits. (Code Civ. Proc., § 704.110, subd. (c); Ed. Code, § 22006.).

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Similar to the husband in Cassinelli, Grady has multiple sources of income and they are not exempt from a spousal support order. All of this income, which comprises Grady's approximate \$116,000.00 annual income, can be considered when a spousal support obligation to Caterina is calculated. Pursuant to NRS 125.150 (4), the court may set apart a portion of the husband's separate property for the wife's support as is deemed just and equitable.

Should this Court eliminate Grady's \$1,500 per month payments to Caterinal as a result of her interest in his military pay, then an increase in spousal support to Caterina is justified based on her \$3,745.13 per month living expenses. Her mortgage is \$1,933.07. Grady knows this because he solely handled the financing of the home then asked for a divorce 6 months later. The United States Retired Military Health Care that Grady promised to Caterina vanished in 2016. unbeknownst to Caterina. She was left with thousands of dollars in uncovered medical bills and had to purchase insurance. She pays \$102.97 per month. The Long Term Health Insurance also promised to Caterina was about to vanish, but Caterina stepped in to make the payments. They are \$128.00 per month. Her spousal support should be increased.

Should this Court find that Caterina Waived Alimony and She also Lost Grady's Contractual Obligation to Pay Her the Pension, then the Unforeseeable loss of the Bargained-for Pension Invalidates the Waiver

If this Court finds that Caterina waived her right to alimony, then the alimony waiver should not be upheld if the Court also eliminates Caterina's interest in the parties' community property: the military pension. Grady left her destitute by stopping the payments. If the Court is inclined to eliminate these funds because

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Upholding the alimony waiver would be unjust.

Fick v. Fick, 851 P.2d 445, (1993)

Where the Nevada Supreme Court upheld the trial Court's invalidation of the parties alimony waiver provision of their prenuptial agreement.

<u>Fattore v. Fattore</u> Docket No. A-3727-16T1 Argued January 16, 2019 and February 5, 2019 (N.J. Super. App. Div., 2019), not for publication.

Grady waived his military pension to receive disability funds, then the

unforeseeable loss of the pension benefit should invalidate the alimony waiver.

"Here, we hold the alimony waiver was not a bar to a consideration of a post-judgment award of alimony to plaintiff. Although the waiver of alimony was mutual, we need not speculate what defendant's reasons for waiving it were because his waiver stands separate, and presumably had separate consideration, from plaintiff's waiver. However, the record readily demonstrates plaintiff gave valuable consideration for the waiver of alimony in exchange for the promise of the future ability to share in defendant's military pension. Moreover, as defendant notes in his reply brief, his earnings were approximately thirty-four percent greater than plaintiff's at the time of the divorce. Thus, there was valuable consideration given by plaintiff in exchange for the alimony waiver, and the unforeseeable loss of the bargained for pension benefit was a substantial and permanent change in circumstances, which invalidated the waiver. Upholding the alimony waiver in these circumstances would be wholly unfair.'

Caterina Should be Allowed to Modify the Joint Petition for Summary Decree of Divorce due to Grady's Misrepresentations

Grady admits that he advised Caterina at the time of divorce that "My retired pay is 3017 a month after they deduct the payment for SBP [Survivor Benefit Plan]. You are entitled to half of that which is 1508. You are not entitled to any more money. I give you 3000 a month because I think it is the right thing to do. If I was only going to give you 1500, I would not be giving you 3000 all these

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years."26 Grady informed Caterina that she was entitled to the amount of \$1,508.00 from his retirement pay. He paid her a total of \$3,000.00 each month, (of which \$1,500.00 was for assistance with her home mortgage), and she relied on these funds to pay her bills. When Grady unilaterally terminated the payments on Setpember 1, 2018, he left Caterina destitute. Grady now claims that he was already receiving disability benefits at the time the Decree was entered. Grady claims that his army retire pay actually was only \$128.40 around the time of divorce.27 Caterina should be allowed to modify the Decree of Divorce due to Grady's misrepresentations to Caterina and increase her spousal support.

Rule 60. Relief From a Judgment or Order

(b) Grounds for Relief From a Final Judgment, Order, or Proceeding, On motion and just terms, the court may relieve a party or its legal representative from a final judgment, order, or proceeding for the following reasons:

(1) mistake, inadvertence, surprise, or excusable neglect;

(2) newly discovered evidence that, with reasonable diligence, could not have been discovered in time to move for a new trial under Rule 59(b);

(3) fraud (whether previously called intrinsic or extrinsic), misrepresentation, or misconduct by an opposing party;

(4) the judgment is void;

(5) the judgment has been satisfied, released, or discharged; it is based on an earlier judgment that has been reversed or vacated; or applying it prospectively is no longer equitable; or

(6) any other reason that justifies relief.

[emphasis added]

Caterina should be granted NRCP 60(b)(6) relief from the Decree of Divorce. Subsection (b)(6) of this rule was enacted March 1, 2019. However, subsection (b)(6) has been active in Nevada Federal District Court for years and offer persuasive authority and guidance to its application to the instant case such

²⁶ Exhibit "1" and Exhibit "2".

²⁷Defendant's Appendix to Motion for Reconsideration, Exhibit A.

as the following:

Under Rule 60(b)(6), a district "court may relieve a party or its legal representative from a final judgment, order, or proceeding for . . . any . . . reason that justifies relief." However, such relief is generally warranted only under "extraordinary circumstances." Naylon v. Wittrig, No. 3:08-cv-00625-LRH-WGC, U.S.Dist.Ct., D. Nev (May 3, 2017) citing; Keeling v. Sheet Metal Workers Int'l Ass'n, Local Union 162, 937 F.2d 408, 410 (9th Cir. 1991) (citing United States v. Sparks, 685 F.2d 1128, 1129 (9th Cir. 1982)). In Keeling, the Ninth Circuit held that "repudiation" or "complete frustration" "of a settlement agreement that terminated litigation pending before a court constitutes an extraordinary circumstance" Id. at 410-11. The court ultimately deferred to the district court's conclusion that the defendant's "specific acts" of "bad faith noncompliance" with the settlement agreement caused its complete frustration and thus warranted Rule 60 relief.

Carlson v. Carlson, 832 P.2d 380, 108 Nev. 358 (Nev., 1992).

Trudy argues that Austin improperly received the bulk of the community property because he misrepresented the value of his pension. Trudy contends that she demonstrated that the divorce decree should be set aside based on either mutual mistake or fraud. We agree.

[t]he record clearly demonstrates that the representations were the result of either mistake or fraud. If both Austin and Trudy were mistaken about the pension's value, the parties entered the property settlement based upon a mutual mistake, namely, that they had essentially split their property equally. A mutual mistake entitles a party to relief from a judgment. NRCP 60(b)(1). If, however, Austin or his counsel knew the value of the pension, they fraudulently misrepresented the value of Austin's pension. Such fraud is grounds for relief from the judgment pursuant to NRCP 60(b)(2). Therefore, we conclude that Trudy was entitled to relief from the judgment. [emphasis added]

Like the husband in <u>Carlson</u>, Grady's misrepresentation of his military pay

is grounds for Caterina's relief from judgment.

Barelli v. Barelli, 944 P.2d 246, 113 Nev. 873 (Nev., 1997).

Parties divorced in 1988 and in 1992, the former wife, Madeline, filed a complaint in a district court of general jurisdiction, alleging that Anthony fraudulently induced her to waive alimony in return for lifetime employment with his medical practice. She asked the district court to reform the property settlement agreement so that she could receive monthly alimony and an additional \$250,000 in community property. Madeline has filed an action to

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reform (or, by seeking alimony, to rescind) the agreement.

We hold that actions regarding the resolution of the marriage filed independent of the divorce proceeding to reform or rescind unmerged property settlements fall within the jurisdiction of the family court pursuant to article 6, section 6(2)(b) of the Nevada Constitution, and NRS 3.223(1)(a). Even though Madeline brought a separate claim for contractual damages, the resolution of whether the property settlement agreement could be reformed or rescinded based on allegations of fraud was dependent on the resolution of whether, in fact, there was a contract ab initio (the oral side agreement). Therefore, because the reformation/rescission claim was dependent upon the existence of the contract. favorable and because а rulina reformation/rescission had a potential for resurrecting claims for alimony and community property, the family court also had jurisdiction to adjudicate its existence. [emphasis added]

Caterina did not knowingly and voluntarily waive alimony. He promised her \$3,000.00 per month like he had been paying. If Grady intended to get Caterina to waive alimony, then like the wife in <u>Barelli</u>, Grady fraudulently induced Caterina to waive alimony in return for \$1,500.00 monthly assistance with her home mortgage and \$1,500 per month for her interest in his military monthly pay. He misrepresented the value of his pension at the time of divorce and he misrepresented that he applied for and was receiving disability pay in lieu of military pay. Caterina should be allowed to resurrect her right to alimony.

NRS 125.040 Orders for support and cost of suit during pendency of action.

NRS 125.150 Alimony and adjudication of property rights; award of attorney's fee; postjudgment motion; subsequent modification by court:

1. In granting a divorce, the court:

^{2.} The court may make any order affecting property of the parties, or either of them, which it may deem necessary or desirable to accomplish the purposes of this section. Such orders shall be made by the court only after taking into consideration the financial situation of each of the parties.

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(a) May award such alimony to either spouse, in a specified principal sum or as specified periodic payments, as appears just and equitable:

If this Court is inclined to find that Caterina is not entitled to Grady's community property military funds under principles of contract law, then the Court should find that extraordinary circumstances exist to grant Caterina relief from judgment under 60(b)(6). Grady misinformed Caterina and led her to believe that she would receive her community interest in his army pension for his lifetime; Grady paid Caterina \$3,000.00 per month (of which \$1,500.00 is for mortgage) assistance) for over 4 years; Grady abruptly stopped paying her \$3,000.00 per month, claiming that she was only entitled to \$62.00 per month from his military pay; Caterina did not foresee this event because Grady did not tell her that he was electing the waiver of his military pay to receive disability pay; and Grady left her destitute since he also abruptly terminated her monthly assistance with her mortgage.

A favorable ruling on the recession of any alimony waiver can resurrect Caterina's claim for alimony. This Court has jurisdiction to adjudicate the existence of Grady's agreement to pay Caterina alimony in the form of \$1,500.00 per month to assist Caterina with her home mortgage (which is \$1,933.07/month). Like the case of Carlson, Grady misrepresented the value of his army pension to Caterina. It was not \$3,017.00 a month, rather it was only \$128.40 per month of which, she would receive 1/2 (\$62.00). The unforeseeable loss of the bargained for pension benefit plus Grady cutting off the \$1,500.00 mortgage assistance brutally claiming that "it wasn't required", was a substantial and permanent

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change in circumstances. These circumstances should be considered extraordinary circumstances sufficient to grant Caterina relief from judgment.

Grady Should Immediately Complete Documents Necessary to Voluntarily Keep Caterina as the Sole Beneficiary of the Survivor Benefit Plan

Caterina also received terrible news from the U.S. Military DFAS that she would not receive the SBP because the Decree of Divorce was not submitted to them within 12 months of the divorce. Grady promised her this benefit and told her that it was to be her income after he died. Her sporadic and part time work during marriage prevented her from acquiring a pension on her own. Caterina relied on this promise during marriage. Grady told Caterina:

"I have kept all of my promises to you and I will continue to do so while I live and after my death.You will receive \$3,000 a month as long as I live. After my death you will get SBP [Survivor benefit Plan] and all other payments you are entitled to."²⁸

"You get the same benefits whether we are married are not [sic]. SBP, SS, and insurance. There is no difference."

The approximate \$1,860.00 SBP Caterina would receive after Grady passed away would be a monthly income for her. The military recognizes spouses' sacrifices by offering the SBP on the day the military member retires to provide income for surviving spouses or ex-spouses. Grady took out the SBP for Caterina the day he retired in 1999, he continues to pay the approximate \$219 per month for it, has paid about 180 payments and in about 7 years, when Grady turns age 70, the \$219 payments cease. Knowing that the \$3,000.00 per month

²⁸ Exhibit "7"

²⁹ Exhibit "8"

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Grady was paying her would end when he passes. Caterina was relying on the SBP to survive on. Because Grady was always in charge of the parties financial matters, particularly all things military, Caterina had no clue that the decree needed to be sent to DFAS for processing. Apparently Grady didn't know either He wrote the DFAS on September 20, 2018 stating that he did not request a change, that this plan has been in effect for 20 years, it's mandated in the decree and to reinstate it. 30 The 12 months lapsed and Caterina is no longer listed as the beneficiary. Recently he sent correspondence to DFAS to reinstate Caterina. Luckily, he can.

In a document that Grady provided Caterina on or about April 2, 2019, a DFAS Representative, on states that:

"If you want to keep your Former Spouse on you will have to volunteer to keep her on the SBP on form DD2656-115

Thrilled with the news that Caterina could still receive her military SBP, about April 5, 2019, her counsel sent a written request to Grady's counsel to please have Grady complete the documents necessary to voluntarily keep Caterina as the sole beneficiary of the SBP and provide documents evidencing that she is the beneficiary. Just because the parties missed the 12 month deadline to submit the decree to DFAS does not mean that her right to the SBP is extinguished. She was awarded the SBP in the decree and this has not changed.32 Regrettably, Grady refuses to voluntarily name her on the SBP.

³⁰ Exhibit "9"

³¹ Exhibit "10"

³² Exhibit "11"

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Grady has once again forced Caterina to seek the Court's assistance for orders.

Grady Should List Caterina Beneficiary of the VyStar Credit Union Accidental Death Insurance

The VvStar Credit Union Accidental Death Insurance awarded to Caterinal in the Divorce vanished. Caterina believed that Grady was to make the payments. Grady believes otherwise. Fortunately, Grady has a "free" \$1,000.00 policy that currently exists. On or about April 5, 2019, Caterina's counsel sent Grady's counsel a written request that Grady list her as the sole beneficiary of the \$1,000.00 "free" VyStar life insurance plan and provide her a copy of the plan and proof that she is the beneficiary. Grady refused.

Federal Employees Group Life Insurance Proof of Beneficiary

Grady told Caterina that "when I die you [will] get my annuity just like sbp which will be around 50%." In the Decree, Grady gave her his OPM death benefits. She is concerned that he will unilaterally alter her beneficiary status. She has requested proof that she is the sole beneficiary. Grady provided a "Designation of Beneficiary" for the Federal Employees Group Life Insurance program that indicates the form was received by the OPM January 22, 2019. Grady has not provided Caterina any further documents proving that the form has been processed, that she is indeed listed as the sole beneficiary and confirmation of the dollar amount that she will receive.

Grady Is In Contempt Of Court For Failing To Deposit \$4,500.00 by February 15, 2019, \$4,500.00 by March 15, 2019, and \$4,500.00 by April 15, 2019, into Caterina's Bank of America Account

At the January 23, 2019, hearing, Grady was found to be in arrears of \$7,500.00 for spousal support from September 1, 2018, to January 30, 2019, and

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\$7,500.00 in arrears for Caterina's interest in retirement pay from the same time period. Attorney fees of \$7,000.00 were awarded to Caterina. The total amount of \$22,000.00 was reduced to judgment, payable at the rate of \$4,500.00 per month with the first \$4,500.00 payment due by February 15, 2019, and the 15th of each month thereafter until \$22,000.00 is paid in full. Grady was also ordered to continue the \$1,500.00 per month for spousal support and the \$1,500.00 per month for Caterina's interest in retirement pay. The \$4,500.00 is the sum of Grady's \$3,000.00 per month obligation to Caterina plus \$1,500.00 toward the arrears. Once the \$22,000.00 is paid, Grady's monthly payment to Caterina goes back down to \$3,000.00 per month, unless further order from the Court. Grady shall deposit the \$4,500.00 into Caterina's Bank of America account such that the \$4,500.00 is to be in Caterina's bank account by the 15th of each month. Caterina's bank account was placed on the record. Caterina also provided Grady a voided check in open court to set up automatic deposits. Grady failed to make the deposits. There is no "stay" of the court's orders. A letter was sent to Grady on February 19, 2019, April 5, 2019, and April 17, 2019, requesting the deposits. Grady refuses.

Caterina is Entitled to An Award of Attorney's Fees

Grady is in Contempt of Court for failing to pay Caterina \$4,500.00 February 15th, March 15th and April 15th of 2019. Grady has also not provided proof from the Federal OPM that Caterina is the beneficiary of his death benefits. They will not speak to Caterina. They want a Power of Attorney or for Grady to call. He hasn't. He claims that the form showing that they received the form is sufficient. His behavior is causing her increased attorney fees.

NRS 125.040:

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1. In any suit for divorce the court may, in its discretion, upon application by either party and notice to the other party, require either party to pay moneys necessary to assist the other party in accomplishing one or more of the following:

(a) To provide temporary maintenance for the other party;

(b) To provide temporary support for children of the parties; or(c) To enable the other party to carry on or defend such suit.

2. The court may make any order affecting property of the parties, or either of them, which it may deem necessary or desirable to accomplish the purposes of this section. Such orders shall be made by the court only after taking into consideration the financial situation of each of the parties.

NRS 18.010(2): a) When the prevailing party has not recovered more than \$20,000; or (b) Without regard to the recovery sought, when the court finds that the claim, counterclaim, cross-claim or third-party complaint or defense of the opposing party was brought or maintained without reasonable ground or to harass the prevailing party. The court shall liberally construe the provisions of this paragraph in favor of awarding attorney's fees in all appropriate situations. It is the intent of the Legislature that the court award attorney's fees pursuant to this paragraph and impose sanctions pursuant to Rule 11 of the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure in all appropriate situations to punish for and deter frivolous or vexatious claims and defenses because such claims and defenses overburden limited judicial resources, hinder the timely resolution of meritorious claims and increase the costs of engaging in business and providing professional services to the public.

NRS 22.100 Penalty for contempt.

1. Upon the answer and evidence taken, the court or judge or jury, as the case may be, shall determine whether the person proceeded against is guilty of the contempt charged.

2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 22.110, if a person is found guilty of contempt, a fine may be imposed on the person not exceeding \$500 or the person may be imprisoned not exceeding 25 days, or both.

3. In addition to the penalties provided in subsection 2, if a person is found guilty of contempt pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 22.010, the court may require the person to pay to the party seeking to enforce the writ, order, rule or process the reasonable expenses, including, without limitation, attorney's fees, incurred by the party as a result of the contempt.

Sargeant v. Sargeant, 88 Nev. 223, 227, 495 P.2d 618, 621 (1972). Equal footing so don't have to liquidate savings. The Nevada Supreme Court held that the district court did not abuse its discretion in awarding approximately

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\$50,000.00 in attorney fees to the wife in a divorce proceeding. The Court noted that without the district court's assistance, the wife would have been required to liquidate her savings and jeopardize her financial future in order to meet her adversary in court on an equal basis.

In Griffith v. Gonzales-Alpizar, 132 Nev. Adv. Op. 38 (May 26, 2016) the Appellate Court held that: Pursuant to NRS 125,040 the court can award attorney's fees from the start of the action through the appeal.

Wright v. Osburn, 114 Nev. 1367, 970 P.2d 1071 (1998). Disparity in income is a factor to be considered in awarding attorney fees.

Hornwood v. Smith Food King, attorney fees to prevailing party if that party succeeds on a significant number of issues. This court has held that "[a] plaintiff may be considered the prevailing party for attorney's fee purposes if it succeeds on any significant issue in litigation which achieves some of the benefit is sought in bringing the suit." Hornwood v. Smith's Food King, 105 Nev. 188, 192, 772 P.2d 1284 (1989) (quoting Women's Federal S & L Ass'n. v. Nevada Nat. Bank, 623 F. Supp. 469, 470 (D. Nev. 1985).

Awards of attorney fees are within the sound discretion of the Court. See Love v. Love, 959 P.2d 523, 114 Nev. 572 (1998), Fletcher v. Fletcher, 89 Nev. 540, 542-43, 516 P.2d. 103, 104 (1973), Leeming v. Leeming, 87 Nev. 530, 532, 490 P.2d 342, 343 (1971), and Halbrook v. Halbrook, 114, Nev. 1455, 971 P.2d 1262 (1998).

Pursuant to Brunzell v. Golden Gate Nat'l Bank, 85 Nev. 345 (1969), the Court should take into consideration the following factors when determining an award of attorney's fees. (1) The qualities of the advocate(s): Ms. Webster has 20 been practicing law for 33 years and Ms. Lambertsen has been practicing law for 14 years; the law firm's practice is dedicated to family law. (2) The character and difficulty of the work performed: The intricacy, importance, time and skill required to prepare this Opposition and Countermotion and Exhibit Index is moderate to high. (3) The work actually performed by the attorneys and legal assistants: 26 Approximately 15 hours were spent by counsel and legal assistants in fees (4) The result obtained is unknown but the Opposition and Countermotion demonstrates

WEBSTER & ASSOCIATES ONE that Avenue - La Vaga, North 1913 Telphone (702) 50,2 200 - Locambe (703) 50,2 303	
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Grady's, contempt, lack of cooperation and continuing control of Caterina.

Plaintiff, Caterina Byrd, respectfully requests the above relief.

Dated: April 23, 2019.

WEBSTER & ASSOCIATES

JEANNE F. LAMBERTSEN, ESC Attorney for Plaintiff, Unbundled

DECLARATION OF CATERINA BYRD

- 1. I, Caterina Byrd am the Plaintiff in the above-entitled action.
- 2. I have read the foregoing Opposition and Countermotion, and the factual averments contained therein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, except as to those matters based on information and belief, and as to those matters, I believe them to be true. Those factual averments contained in the preceding are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.
- 3. That I had been receiving payments of \$3,000.00 per month from the Defendant, Grady Byrd since before the filing of the Joint Petition for Summary Decree of Divorce on June 5, 2014. Around the time of divorce, in emails to me, Grady promised me that I would receive the \$3,000.00 per month. These payments ceased September 1, 2018. My last payment was August 2018.
- 4. That on September 4, 2018, I learned that the checking account that Grady Byrd had deposited my monthly payment into was closed. It was a joint checking account that had been established for 31 years. At the hearing on January 23, 2019, I gave Grady Byrd my Bank of America routing number and account number so that he could make deposits into my account.
- 5. That I did not receive a deposit of \$4,500.00 from Grady Byrd on or before February 15, 2019; I did not receive a deposit of \$4,500.00 from Grady Byrd on or before March 15, 2019; and I did not receive a deposit of \$4,500.00 from Grady Byrd on or before April 15, 2019, as ordered at the January 23, 2019 hearing.
 - 6. That I have not received any money from Grady since August 2018. I am

struggling to pay my bills and living expenses. I have had to borrow money from

- 7. That at the time of divorce, I was never told by Grady and never knew that the army pension was only about \$128.00 and my portion would be only about \$62.00. Based on what Grady did tell me, I believed the army pension that Grady was receiving was about \$3,017.00 per month and Grady was paying me \$1,500.00 per month since the time of divorce because of this.
- 8. That because the \$3,000.00 per month payments from Grady will cease upon his death. I will rely on the Military SBP to pay my bills once he passes. I am devastated that simply because neither one of us sent the decree to the military finance office within the 12 month deadline to do so, that he is refusing to voluntarily list me as the beneficiary. We were married for 31 years and he promised me the SBP.
- 9. Based upon the foregoing, I respectfully request that this Court grant the relief requested by me in this Opposition and Countermotion.

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

Executed this 23 day of April, 2019

CATERINA BYRD

Certificate of Service

Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I certify that I am employed in the Law Offices of WEBSTER & ASSOCIATES, and that on this 23rd day of April, 2019, I caused the above and foregoing to be served as follows:

[X] Electronic Service

To the Defendant listed below at the address, email address, and/or facsimile number indicated:

Byron L. Mills, Esq. attorneys@millsnv.com

An employee of Webster & Associates

MOFI

DISTRICT COURT FAMILY DIVISION CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

CATERINA ANGELA BYRD	Case No. D-18-577701-Z	
Plaintiff/Petitioner	_	
v.	Бера.	
GRADY EDWARD BYRD Defendant/Respondent	MOTION/OPPOSITION FEE INFORMATION SHEET	
Defendant Respondent	FEE INFORMATION SILEET	
Notice: Motions and Oppositions filed after entry of a final subject to the reopen filing fee of \$25, unless specifically ex Oppositions filed in cases initiated by joint petition may be accordance with Senate Bill 388 of the 2015 Legislative Ses Step 1. Select either the \$25 or \$0 filing fee in the	scluded by NRS 19.0312. Additionally, Motions and subject to an additional filing fee of \$129 or \$57 in ssion.	
□ \$25 The Motion/Opposition being filed with the		
OR- S0 The Motion/Opposition being filed with the fee because: ☐ The Motion/Opposition is being filed be entered. ☐ The Motion/Opposition is being filed so established in a final order. ☐ The Motion/Opposition is for reconsided within 10 days after a final judgment of entered on ☐ Other Excluded Motion (must specify)	oefore a Divorce/Custody Decree has been olely to adjust the amount of child support eration or for a new trial, and is being filed or decree was entered. The final order was	
Step 2. Select the \$0, \$129 or \$57 filing fee in the	his form is not subject to the \$129 or the in a case that was not initiated by joint petition.	
	subject to the \$129 fee because it is a motion r.	
☐ \$57 The Motion/Opposition being filing with	this form is subject to the \$57 fee because it is ust or enforce a final order, or it is a motion a fee of \$129.	
Step 3. Add the filing fees from Step 1 and Step 2	2.	
The total filing fee for the motion/opposition I am ☐\$0 ☐\$25 ☐\$57 ☐\$82 ☐\$129 ☐\$154	filing with this form is:	
Party filing Motion/Opposition: JEANNE F. LAMBI	ERTSEN Date 4/23/2019	
Signature of Party or Preparer Chance	on Belle	

TRANS

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FILED MAY 1 3 2020

CLEAK OF COURT

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT FAMILY DIVISION

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

9 IN THE MATTER OF THE

JOINT PETITION FOR
10 DIVORCE OF:

CATERINA BYRD and GRADY E. BYRD.

CASE NO. D-18-577701-Z

DEPT. G

APPEAL NO. 80548

GRADY E. BYRD.

BEFORE THE HONORABLE JAMES BIXLER DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

TRANSCRIPT RE: STATUS CHECK

THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2019

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APPEARANCES:

The Petitioner: For the Petitioner:

The Petitioner: For the Petitioner: CATERINA BYRD

JEANNE F. LAMBERTSEN, ESQ. 6882 Edna Avenue

Las Vegas, Nevada 89146 (702) 562-2300

GRADY E. BYRD (Not Present) BYRON L. MILLS, ESQ. 703 S. Eighth Street

Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 (702) 386-0030

D-18-577701-Z BYRD 5/02/2019 TRANSCRIPT VERBATIM REPORTING & TRANSCRIPTION, LLC (520) 303-7356 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2019

(THE PROCEEDINGS BEGAN AT 11:06:52)

PROCEEDINGS

THE COURT: All right. We are on the record. This is the matter of the joint petition for divorce, Catherine (sic) Byrd, Grady Byrd, and this is case number D-18-577701-Z.

Would everybody identify yourselves for the record, please.

MS. LAMBERTSEN: Yes. Good morning, Your Honor. My name is Jeanne Lambertsen, bar number 9460, on behalf of the Plaintiff, Caterina Byrd, who is present, Your Honor.

MR. MILLS: Good morning. Byron Mills, 6745, here on behalf of Mr. Byrd, Your Honor, who is not present.

THE COURT: And where are we here?

MS. LAMBERTSEN: Your Honor, I -- procedurally, I have a great concern regarding Mr. Byrd's absence. In the order from the January 23rd hearing, Judge Hardcastle was very clear that Mr. Byrd was to appear at the status check.

In fact, it's on page 8, line 22, 23 saying, "It is further ordered that the status check regarding discovery set on May 2nd, 2019, at 11:00 a.m. at Department G, if Defendant, Mr. Byrd, does not appear at the return hearing on May 2nd, a no bail bench warrant will be issued."

D-18-577701-Z BYRD 5/02/2019 TRANSCRIPT VERBATIM REPORTING & TRANSCRIPTION, LLC (520) 303-7356

The court was very concerned regarding keeping his compliance, keeping his understanding of the severity of these orders that were being issued. And this matter today has to deal with discovery, discovery documents, things that he was to be producing and provide for us, and also follow-up on other matters which are set for later this month. But it was very clear he was to be here today.

We received from Mr. Mills a notice of telephonic appearance for the May 22nd hearing, and we filed an application that Mr. Byrd appear in person, even at that hearing. The reason we're very concerned about his non-appearance is that he is in the Philippines. He's resided there since 2008. And he made it quite clear that, you know, he may not, you know, comply with things. So the court wanted him physically present.

As an exhibit index, Your Honor, that we filed on April 23rd, he fraudulently obtained a driver's license using Ms. Byrd's address. He obtained that on July 2018. They've been divorced since June of 2014, Your Honor. He received that; he went out and bought a car. That car was found abandoned at the Los Angeles Airport around -- I think that's April 18th was the time of the report -- and the license plates had been taken off. That is Exhibit Number 2 to our request that he personally appear even on the 22nd.