## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

GREG ELLIOT PELKOLA,

Appellant,

VS.

HEIDI MARIE PELKOLA,

Respondent.

No. 80763

FILED

JUN 15 7920

BY DEPUTY CLERK

## ORDER RECALLING REMITTITUR AND REINSTATING APPEAL

On April 13, 2020, this court dismissed this appeal based on appellant's failure to pay the filing fee. The remittitur issued on May 8, 2020. On May 15, 2020, appellant filed a motion to reopen the appeal, explaining that he believed that, due to the COVID-19 related closures and the restricted access to court facilities, that the clerk's office was inaccessible during the shutdown. Counsel further believed that, due to the inaccessibility of the clerk's office, the time to submit the filing fee and case appeal statement was extended until the courts re-opened. Respondent opposes the motion.

In light of this court's preference for deciding cases on their merits, and the confusion surrounding the ongoing pandemic, the motion is granted. See Stoecklein v. Jonson Elec., Inc., 109 Nev. 268, 271, 849 P.2d 305, 307 (1993) (noting that this state's general underlying fundamental policy is to decide cases on the merits whenever possible). The clerk is directed to recall the remittitur, and this appeal is reinstated.

Appellant shall have 7 days from the date of this order to pay the filing fee. Failure to timely pay the filing fee may result in dismissal of

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this appeal. No further action will be taken on this appeal until the filing fee is paid.

It is so ORDERED.

Pickering, C.J.

cc: Hon. David S. Gibson, Jr., District Judge The Grimes Law Office Radford J. Smith, Chartered Eighth District Court Clerk