## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

CHRISTOPHER KHORSANDI, M.D., an individual, CHRISTOPHER KHORSANDI, M.D., PLLC, a Nevada Professional LLC, CATHERINE LE KHORSANDI, an individual, CECILY S., a pseudonym used by CATHERINE LE KHORSANDI, Does I – X, and Roe Corporations I – X, SMITH PLASTIC SURGERY, INC, a Nevada Corporation, and LANE F. SMITH, M.D., an individual,

Appellants/Cross-Respondents,

vs.

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SMITH PLASTIC SURGERY, INC, a Nevada Corporation, and LANE F. SMITH, M.D., an individual,

Respondents/Cross-Appeallants.

No. 80049

Electronically Filed May 06 2020 06:07 p.m. Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court

## CASE APPEAL STATEMENT

1. Name of appellants filing this case appeal statement:

Respondents/Cross-Appellants, Smith Plastic Surgery, Inc., and Lane Smith, M.D.

2. The judge issuing the decision, judgment, or order appealed from:

The Honorable Eric Johnson; Dept. No. XX

3. Parties to the district court proceedings:

Plaintiffs: Smith Plastic Surgery, Inc. and Lane F. Smith, M.D.

Defendants: Christopher Khorsandi, M.D., Christopher Khorsandi, M.D., PLLC, and Catherine Le Khorsandi.

4. Parties involved in this appeal:

Respondents/Cross-Appellants: Smith Plastic Surgery, Inc. and Lane F. Smith, M.D.

Appellants/Cross-Respondents: Christopher Khorsandi, M.D., Christopher Khorsandi, M.D., PLLC, and Catherine Le Khorsandi.

1	5.	Name, law firm, address and telephone number of all counsel on appeal:		
2		Counsel for Respondents/Cross-Appellants:		
3		Anthony P. Sgro, Esq., Bar No. 3811 Jennifer Willis Arledge, Esq., Bar No. 8729		
4		SGRO & ROGER		
5		720 South 7th Street, Third Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89101		
6		Telephone: 702.384.9800 Facsimile: 702.665,4120		
7				
8		Counsel for Appellants/Cross-Respondents:  James J. Pisanelli, Esq., Bar No. 4027		
9		Emily A. Buchwald, Esq., Bar No. 13442		
10		PISANELLI BICE PLLC 400 South 7th Street, Suite 300		
11		Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 Telephone: 702.214.2100		
12		Facsimile: 702.214.2101		
13	6.	Whether cross-appellant is represented by appointed or retained counsel in the		
14		district court:		
15		Cross-appellant is represented by retained counsel in the district court.		
16	7.	Whether cross-appellant is represented by appointed or retained counsel on		
17		appeal:		
18		Cross-Appellant is represented by retained counsel on appeal.		
19	8.	Whether cross-appellant was granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis and the		
20		date of entry of the district court order granting such leave:		
21		Cross-Appellant is not proceeding in forma pauperis.		
22	9.	The date the proceedings commenced in the district court:		
23		November 4, 2019		
24	10. Brief description of the nature of the action and result in the district court,			
25	including the type of judgment or order being appealed and the relief granted by			
26		the district court:		
27		Respondents/Cross-Appellants' action is based upon multiple disparaging		
28		statements pertaining to Dr. Smith and his business which Respondents/Cross-		

Appellants alleged were made by Catherine Khorsandi, posing under pseudonyms such as "Cecily S." and You Tuber. Neither Catherine Khorsandi nor a "Cecily S." has ever been a patient of Dr. Smith. Instead, it is alleged that these reviews were posted by Catherine Khorsandi, the wife of plastic surgeon Dr. Khorsandi, in an attempt to harm Dr. Smith's reputation and business. On November 4, 2019, Plaintiffs filed a Complaint in District Court bringing fourteen (14) causes of action: (1) Slander Per Se; (2) Libel Per Se; (3) Libel Per Se; (4) Libel Per Se; (5) Libel Per Se; (6); Libel Per Se; (7) Libel Per Se; (8) Concert of Action, Aiding and Abetting, Civil Conspiracy; (9); Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress; (10) False Light; (11) Punitive Damages; (12) Negligent Hiring Supervision and Training; (13) Wrongful Interference with Prospective Economic Advantage; (14) Preliminary Injunction.

Appellants/Cross-Respondents filed their Special Motion to Dismiss Pursuant to NRS 41.660, or in the Alternative, Motion to Dismiss Pursuant to NRCP 12(b)(5) ("Special Motion"). On March 4, 2020, the District Court entered its Order on Defendant's Special Motion to Dismiss Pursuant to NRS 41.660 (hereinafter "Order"). The Order denied Appellants/Cross-Respondents' Special Motion, finding that Appellants/Cross-Respondents could not demonstrate that the statements were good faith communications as required by Nevada's anti-SLAPP statute and denied Appellants/Cross-Respondents' motion to dismiss pursuant to NRCP 12(b)(5). Despite denial of the dismissal, the Court ordered an expedited discovery plan on the question of whether Defendants made the statements to allow the Court to determine whether summary judgment should be granted on that bases.

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

This case has not previously been the subject of an appeal or an original writ proceeding.

III

1	12.	Whether the appeal involves child custody or visitation:
2	***************************************	This appeal does not involve child custody or visitation.
3	13.	Whether the appeal involves the possibility of settlement:
4		A settlement conference may assist the parties in reaching a settlement.
5		DATED this day of May, 2020.
6		Respectfully submitted,
7		SGRO & ROGER
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9	***************************************	ANTHONY P. SGRO, ESQ.
10		Vevada State Bar No. 3811
11		ĴENNIFER WILLIS ARLEDGE, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 8729
12		720 South 7 <sup>th</sup> Street, Third Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
13		Attorneys for Respondents/Cross-Appellants
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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

2	I hereby certify that the foregoing CASE APPEAL STATEMENT was submitted				
3	electronically for filing and/or service with the Supreme Court of Nevada on the Way of				
4	May, 2020.				
5					
6	I further certify that I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing document as				
	follow	<b>7</b> 8:			
7					
8	X Pursuant to NRAP 25, electronic service of the foregoing document shall be made in				
9		accordance with the CM/ECF E-Service	: List.		
10			aled envelope, first-class postage fully prepaid		
		thereon, and depositing the envelope in	the U.S. mail at Las Vegas, Nevada.		
11		Pursuant to a filed Consent for Service b	by Facsimile in this matter, by sending the		
12		document by facsimile transmission.			
13		Wie hand delivery to the addresses lister	1 balow		
14	Via hand-delivery to the addresses listed below;				
15	By transmitting via email the document listed above to the email address set forth				
		below on this date before 5:00 p.m.			
16					
17	1 1	es J. Pisanelli, Esq.	Thomas J. Tanksley		
18		ly A. Buchwald, Esq. ANELLI BICE, PLLC	10161 Park Run Dr., Suite 150   Las Vegas, NV 89145		
19		S. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 300	Settlement Judge		
	Las Vegas, Nevada 89101				
20	Attorneys for Defendants Christopher				
21		rsandi, M.D., Christopher Khorsandi, D., PLLC, and Catherine Le Khorsandi			
22			1		

BY. <u>Celeste Hernandez</u>
An Employee of Sgro & Roger
Attorneys for Plaintiffs