Supreme Court of the State of Nevada

MARC E. RADOW and KELLEY L. RADOW, Husband and Wife,

Appellants,

VS.

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, as trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, as trustee for Wells Fargo Asset Securities Corporation, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-AR1.

Respondent.

No.: 81021 Electronically Filed

May 08 2020 11:50 a.m.

Elizabeth A. Brown

Clerk of Supreme Court

Docketing Statement

General Information

Appellants must complete this docketing statement in compliance with NRAP 14(a). The purpose of the docketing statement is to assist the Supreme Court in screening jurisdiction, identifying issues on appeal, assessing presumptive assignment to the Court of Appeals under NRAP 17, scheduling cases for oral argument and settlement conferences, classifying cases for expedited treatment and assignment to the Court of Appeals, and compiling statistical information.

Warning

This statement must be completed fully, accurately and on time. NRAP 14(c). The Supreme Court may impose sanctions on counsel or appellant if it appears that the information provided is incomplete or inaccurate. Id. Failure to fill out the statement completely or to file it in a timely manner constitutes grounds for the imposition of sanctions, including a fine and/or dismissal of the appeal.

A complete list of the documents that must be attached appears as Question 27 on this docketing statement. Failure to attach all required documents will result in the delay of your appeal and may result in the imposition of sanctions.

This court has noted that when attorneys do not take seriously their obligations under NRAP 14 to complete the docketing statement properly and conscientiously, they waste the valuable judicial resources of this court, making the imposition of sanctions appropriate. *See KDI Sylvan Pools v. Workman*, 107 Nev. 340, 344, 810 P.2d 1217, 1220 (1991). Please use tab dividers to separate any attached documents.

l.	Judicial Distr	ict:	Second Judicial District	<u>t</u>	Department:	<u>1</u>
	County:		<u>Washoe</u>		Judge: <u>Hon. l</u>	Kathleen Drakulich
	District Ct. Ca	ase No.	CV19-01604			
2.	Attorney fili	ng this	docketing statement:			
	Attorney:	Theod	lore Chrissinger		Telephone:	(775) 786-8000
	Firm:	Hoy C	hrissinger Kimmel Vallas	s PC		
	Address:		Liberty Street, Suite 840 Nevada 89501)		
	Clients:	Marc 1	E. Radow and Kelley L. R	Radov	<u>v</u>	
3.	Attorneys re	eprese	nting respondent:			
	Attorneys:		an Patten J. Nielson		Telephone:	(702) 258-8200
	Firm:	<u>Tiffan</u>	y & Bosco P.A.			
	Address:) W. Charleston Blvd., Su egas, Nevada 89135	ite 2	20	
	Client:	U.S. Ba	ank National Association	ı, as t	rustee, succe	ssor in interest to
		Wach	ovia Bank, National Asso	ociati	on, as trustee	for Wells Fargo Asset
		Secur	ities Corporation, Mortga	age P	ass-Through	Certificates, Series
		2005-	AR1			
ł.	Nature of di	spositi	on below (check all tha	at ap	ply):	
	□ Judgment :	after be	ench trial \Box	Disi	missal	
	□ Judgment a	after ju	ry verdict		Lack of Juris	diction
	□ Summary j	judgme	nt	☐ Failure to state a claim		

	□ Default judgment		□ Failure to pro	secute
	☐ Grant/Denial of NRCP 60(b) relief		□ Other (specify	y)
	☐ Grant/Denial of injunction		Divorce Decree:	
	☐ Grant/Denial of declaratory relief		□ Original □ M	odification
	□ Review of agency determination	×	Other dispositio	n: Order denying Motion for Relief under FMR 20(2) and Ordering Issuance of a Foreclosure Certificate
5.	Does this appeal raise issues concerning	ng a	ny of the following	ng:
	☐ Child Custody			
	□ Venue			
	$\hfill\Box$ Termination of parental rights			
6.	Pending and prior proceedings in this on number of all appeals or original proceed before this court which are related to this	ings	presently or prev	
	N/A			
7. Pending and prior proceedings in other courts. List the case name, number court of all pending and prior proceedings in other courts which are related to appeal (e.g., bankruptcy, consolidated or bifurcated proceedings) and their day disposition:		h are related to this		
	None.			
8.	Nature of the action. Briefly describe the	e na	ture of the action	and the result below:
	After Respondent recorded a notice of def	fault	, Appellants filed	a petition in district
court f	for foreclosure mediation. The parties atte	ende	d the foreclosure	mediation, and the
media	tor issued her statement (1) finding that R	espo	ondent failed to p	rovide all of the
docum	nentation required by the Foreclosure Med	iatio	on Rules (the "FM	R's"), (2)

recommending that a foreclosure certificate not issue, and (3) recommending that Respondent be sanctioned.

Under FMR 20(2), Appellants moved the court for appropriate relief. The Court denied Appellants' motion, and ordered that a foreclosure certificate issue, ending the petition proceedings. The Court found that, despite the mediator's finding, Respondents did supply the required documents, and if they did not, the missing document was not essential, and if it was, the fact the Appellants had a copy of the missing document at the mediation sufficed.

- **9. Issues on appeal.** State concisely the principal issue(s) in this appeal (attach separate sheets as necessary):
- 1. Whether the district court erred by determining that although Respondent failed to provide one of the assignments of the deed of trust, that specific deed of trust was invalid, and therefore did not need to be provided.
- 2. Whether the district court erred by finding that even if the deed of trust assignment was required to be produced, the fact Appellants had a copy of it at the mediation met the requirements set forth in *Einhorn v. BAC Home Loans Services, LP*, 128 Nev. 689, 290 P.3d 249 (2012).
- **10. Pending proceedings in this court raising the same or similar issues.** If you are aware of any proceedings presently pending before this court which raises the same or similar issues raised in this appeal, list the case name and docket numbers and identify the same or similar issue raised:
 - None of which Appellants are aware.
- **11. Constitutional issues.** If this appeal challenges the constitutionality of a statute, and the state, any state agency, or any officer or employee thereof is not a party to this appeal, have you notified the clerk of this court and the attorney general in accordance with NRAP 44 and NRS 30.130?
 - **⋈** N/A

	□ Yes
	□ No
	If not, explain:
	N/A
12.	Other issues. Does this appeal involve any of the following issues:
	☐ Reversal of well-settled Nevada precedent (identify the case(s))
	$\hfill\Box$ An issue arising under the United States and/or Nevada Constitutions
	$\ \square$ A substantial issue of first impression
	☐ An issue of public policy
	$\hfill\Box$ An issue where en banc consideration is necessary to maintain the uniformity of this court's decisions
	□ A ballot question
	If so, explain:
	N/A
13.	Assignment to the Court of Appeals or retention in the Supreme Court. Briefly set forth whether the matter is presumptively retained by the Supreme Court or assigned to the Court of Appeals under NRAP 17, and cite the subparagraph(s) of the Rule under which the matter falls. If appellant believes the Supreme Court should retain the case despite its presumptive assignment to the Court of Appeals, identify the specific issue(s) or circumstance(s) that warrant retaining the case, and include an explanation of their importance or significance:
	This is an appeal from a case arising from the foreclosure mediation program, and is
theref	ore presumptively assigned to the Court of Appeals under NRAP 17(b)(15).
14.	Trial. If this action proceeded to trial, how many days did it last? N/A
	Was it a bench or jury trial? N/A

Judicial Disqualification. Do you intend to file a motion to disqualify or have a justice recuse him/herself from participation in this appeal? If so, which Justice?

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Appellants do not intend to file a motion to disqualify or have a justice recuse him/herself from participation in this appeal.

16.	Date of entry of written judgment or order appealed from: March 10, 2020				
	If no written judgment or order was filed in the district court, explain the basis for seeking appellate review:				
	N/A				
17 .	Date written notice of entry of judgment or order was served: March 16, 2020				
	Was service by:				
	□ Delivery ☑ Mail/electronic/fax				
18.	If the time for filing the notice of appeal was tolled by a post-judgment motion (NRCP 50(b), 52(b), or 59)				
	(a) Specify the type of the motion, the date and method of service of the motion, and the date of filing.				
	□ NRCP 50(b) Date of filing				
	□ NRCP 52(b) Date of filing				
	(b) Date of entry of written order resolving tolling motion				
	(c) Date written notice of entry of order resolving tolling motion was served				
	Was service by:				
	□ Delivery				
	□ Mail				
19.	Date notice of appeal filed: April 13, 2020				

If more than one party has appealed from the judgment or order, list the date each notice of appeal was filed and identify by name the party filing the notice of appeal: N/A

20. Specify the statute or rule governing the time limit for filing the notice of appeal, e.g., NRAP 4(a) or other:

NRAP 4(a)

Substantive Appealability

21. Specify the statute or other authority granting this court jurisdiction to review the judgment or order appealed from:

(a)

■ NRAP 3A(b)(1)

□ NRS 38.205

 \square NRAP 3A(b)(2)

□ NRS 233B.150

 \square NRAP 3A(b)(3)

□ NRS 703.376

☑ Other (specify) FMR 24

(b) Explain how each authority provides a basis for appeal from the judgment or order:

NRAP 3A(b)(1) – The Court's order is a final judgment in a Petition for Mediation Assistance, because the Court's order directed issuance of foreclosure certificate, ending the petition procedure.

FRM 24 – FMR 24 provides, "Appeals of the decisions of the District Court will follow appropriate civil appeals processes.

22. List all parties involved in the action or consolidated actions in the district court:

(a) Parties:

Marc E. Radow and Kelley L. Radow, Appellants

U.S. Bank National Association, as trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank, National Association, as trustee for Wells Fargo Asset

Securities Corporation, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-AR1, Respondent

		iose pa	ties in the district court are not parties to this appeal, explain in rties are not involved in this appeal, e.g., formally dismissed, not		
	All the partie	es in the	e district court are parties to this appeal.		
23.	. Give a brief description (3 to 5 words) of each party's separate claims, counterclaims, cross-claims, or third-party claims and the date of formal disposition of each claim.				
Appel	lants:	1. 2.	Petition for Mediation Assistance Motion for Appropriate Relief		
Respo	ondent:	No Cl	aims		
24.	Did the judgment or order appealed from adjudicate ALL the claims alleged below and the rights and liabilities of ALL the parties to the action or consolidated actions below?				
	▼ Yes				
	□ No				
25.	If you answered "No" to question 24, complete the following:				
	(a) Specify the claims remaining pending below:				
	N/A				
	(b) Specify the parties remaining below:				
	N/A				
	` ,		court certify the judgment or order appealed from as a final to NRCP 54(b)?		
	□ Yes				
	□ No				

	appellate review (e.g., order is independently appealable under NRAP 3A(b))
26.	If you answered "No" to any part of question 25, explain the basis for seeking
	\square No
	□ Yes
	(d) Did the district court make an express determination, pursuant to NRCP 54(b), that there is no just reason for delay and an express direction for the entry of judgment?

27. Attach file stamped copies of the following documents:

- The latest-filed complaint, counterclaims, cross-claims, and third-party claims
- Any tolling motion(s) and order(s) resolving tolling motion(s)
- Orders of NRCP 41(a) dismissals formally resolving each claim, counterclaims, cross-claims and/or third-party claims asserted in the action or consolidated action below, even if not at issue on appeal
- Any other order challenged on appeal
- Notices of entry for each attached order

See Attached Documents

Verification

I declare under penalty of perjury that I have read this docketing statement, that the information provided in this docketing statement is true and complete to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, and that I have attached all required documents to this docketing statement.

Marc E. Radow and Kelley L. Radow Name of appellants <u>Theodore Chrissinger</u> Name of counsel of record

May 8, 2020 Date

Signature of counsel of record

Nevada, Washoe County
State and county where signed

Certificate of Service

I certify that on the 8th day of May, 2020, I served a copy of this completed docketing statement upon all counsel of record by filing this docketing statement with the electronic filing system which will serve all counsel of record electronically on the following:

Krista Neilson Ace Van Patten

May 8, 2020

Shondel Seth

Attachment to Docketing Statement - Civil Appeals - Case No. 80843

27. Attach file-stamped copies of the following documents:

* Attach latest filed complaint, counterclaims, cross-claims, and third-party claims.

The following are attached:

Exhibit 1 – The Radows' Petition for Foreclosure Mediation Assistance

* Any tolling motion(s) and order(s) resolving tolling motion(s)

N/A

* Orders of NRCP 41(a) dismissals formally resolving each claim, counterclaims, cross-claims and/or third-party claims asserted in the action or consolidated action below, even if not at issue on appeal

N/A

* Any other order challenged on appeal

Exhibit 2 – Order Denying Motion for Relief

* Notices of entry for each attached order

Exhibit 3 – Notice of Entry of Order re Exhibit 2

Exhibit 1

Exhibit 1

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Clerk of the Court
Transaction # 7431930 : csulezic

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HOY | CHRISSINGER KIMMEL | VALLAS attorneys and counselors at lam



Code: \$3645

HOY | CHRISSINGER | KIMMEL | VALLAS
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mkimmel@nevadalaw.com

Attorneys for: Petitioners Marc and Kelley Radow

In the Second Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada In and For the County of Washoe

Marc E. Radow and Kelley L. Radow, husband and wife,

Petitioners,

VS.

U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank, National Association, as Trustee for Wells Fargo Asset Securities Corporation, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-AR1

Respondent.

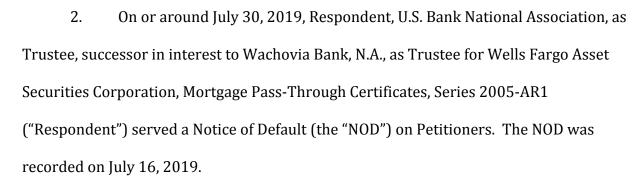
Case No.:

Dept. No.:

Petition for Foreclosure Mediation Assistance

Marc E. Radow and Kelley L. Radow (collectively, "Petitioners") hereby petition for Foreclosure Mediation under Chapter 107 of the NRS. Petitioners allege:

1. Petitioners are the owners of, and currently reside at, the real property located at 1900 Joy Lake Road in Washoe County, Nevada 89511, APN 047-072-03 (the "Residence"). The Residence is currently encumbered by a deed of trust.



- 3. The NOD purports to initiate foreclosure proceedings on the Residence.
- 4. Petitioners meet all of the requirements for the foreclosure mediation program.
 - 5. Petitioners hereby demand mediation under NRS 107.086.

Request for Relief

Petitioners request the following relief:

- 1. Assignment to the foreclosure mediation program as provided in NRS 107.
- 2. Any other relief the Court deems just and proper.

August 16, 2019

Hoy | Chrissinger | Kimmel | Vallas

Theodore Chrissinger Attorneys for Petitioners

Privacy Affirmation

I hereby affirm that this document does not contain and social security numbers or other private information.

August 16, 2019

Theodore Chrissinger

Exhibit 2

Exhibit 2

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Jacqueline Bryant
Clerk of the Court
Transaction # 7783562

/

VS.

2005-AR1,

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IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

Marc E. Radow and Kelley L. Radow, husband and wife,

Petitioners,

Case No.:

CV19-01604

Dept. No.:

U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank, National Association, as Trustee for Wells Fargo Asset Securities Corporation, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series

Respondent.

ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR RELIEF (FMR 20(2))

Currently before the Court is Petitioner Marc E. Radow and Kelley L. Radow's (Petitioners) *Motion for Relief (FMR 20(2))* ("Motion") filed December 16, 2019. On December 18, 2019, Respondent U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank, National Association, as Trustee for Wells Fargo Asset Securities Corporation, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-AR1 ("Respondent") filed an *Opposition to Petitioners' Motion for Relief and Countermotion for Appropriate Relief* ("Opposition"). On January 3, 2020, Petitioners filed a *Reply in Support of Motion for Relief (FMR 20(2))* ("Reply") and submitted the Motion to the Court for consideration.

I. Procedural History

This matter concerns a property located at 1900 Joy Lake Road, Reno, Nevada ("Property"). On August 16, 2019, Petitioners Marc E. Radow and Kelley L. Radow filed a *Petition for Foreclosure Mediation Assistance*. On September 4, 2019, Respondent filed an *Answer to Petition for Foreclosure Mediation Assistance* and on September 9, 2019, Linda J. Linton, Esq. was assigned as the mediator. A foreclosure mediation took place on November 25, 2019. On December 5, 2019, Mediator Linda J. Linton, Esq. filed a *Mediator's Statement*. Petitioners and Respondent now bring motions requesting relief in accordance with FMR 20(2).

II. Relevant Legal Authority

Nevada Foreclosure Mediation Rule ("NFMR") provides in relevant part:

- 7. The beneficiary of the deed of trust must prepare and submit, at least 10 days prior to the mediation, the following documents to the mediator and the homeowner:
- (a) The original mortgage note or a certified copy of the mortgage note, together with each assignment or endorsement of said note, the original or a certified copy of the deed of trust, and a certified copy of each assignment of the deed of trust.
- (b) The original or certified copy, if one was utilized, of any document utilized to assign or endorse the mortgage note or the deed of trust.
- 8. The requirement for a certified copy of the original mortgage note, deed of trust, each assignment of the deed of trust and each assignment and endorsement of the mortgage note, power of attorney, or other documents required by these rules is only satisfied when the mediator receives:
- (a) A statement under oath signed before a notary public pursuant to the provisions of NRS 240.1655(2), which includes:
- (1) The name, address, company, capacity, and authority of the person making the certification;
- (2) The person making the certification on behalf of the beneficiary is in actual possession of the original mortgage note, deed of trust, and each assignment and any endorsement of the mortgage note and assignment of deed of trust; and
- (3) The attached copy of the mortgage note, deed of trust, and each assignment and any endorsement of the mortgage note and deed of trust are a true and correct copy of the original mortgage note, deed of trust, and assignment of the deed of trust in the possession of the person making the certification.
- (b) The certification shall contain the original signature of the certifying party and the original seal and signature of the notary public. Each certified document must contain a separate certification.

III. Analysis

Following the Mediation, Mediator Linton issued a Mediator's Statement finding that the parties were unable to agree to a loan modification or make other arrangements and the Mediation was terminated. Med. Stmt. at Part 2B. The Mediator's Statement further noted that the Homeowners (Grantor), who have been delinquent for ten years, failed to exchange all required documents. Id. at Part 2C. The Mediator found that although neither party produced all documents that are required, the parties participated in good faith with Respondent offering alternatives to foreclosure other than a retention option. Med. Stmt. Comments, Part 2C and 2E. The Comments state that the assignment of the deed of trust dated March 24, 2011, which was not produced by Respondents either ten days before the Mediation or at the Mediation, and the assignment of the deed of trust dated July 28, 2011 (recorded July 24, 2012, nearly one year later) which was produced, were nearly identical with the latter having a typographical error corrected for the word "Securities." Id. Pursuant to NRS 107.086(5), the Mediator relied upon the mandatory language of the statute, namely that "[t]he beneficiary of the deed of trust shall bring to the mediation the original or certified copy of the deed of trust, the mortgage note, each assignment of the deed of trust" to recommend as a sanction that a certificate not issue and that Respondents pay for Petitioners' costs as they related to the mediation including the \$200 filing fee for the Petition. *Id*.

The Motion sets forth the background related to five previous foreclosure mediations for the Property, identifying in each instance the shortcomings of the Respondent. Mot. at 2:13-5:19. As to the current Mediation, Petitioners contend that they should not have had to resubmit the financial documents sought by Respondent, since Respondent was never going to offer a loan modification. *Id.* at 5:21-6:12. Petitioners further contend that like the five prior mediations, Respondent failed to provide a certified copy of the March 24, 2011, deed of trust assignment and that Respondent's claimed lack of knowledge of the assignment belies Respondent's use of if to successfully lift the stay on Petitioner Marc Radow's bankruptcy eight years ago. *Id.* at 6:13-21. The Motion states that Respondents have violated NFMR 20(3) and therefore, sanctions are required. *Id.* at 7:1-18. Petitioners seek their attorney fees in the amount of \$3990 incurred subsequent to the filing of the Notice of Default through the end of Mediation; \$3290 in attorney fees incurred in the preparation of

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the Motion; \$275 in filing fees; and an order that the certificate of foreclosure not issue. *Id.* at 7:26-8:5. Petitioners further seek their attorney fees for the previous five mediations in the amount of \$24,889.55; attorney fees in the amount of \$2135 incurred when Mr. Chrissinger took over the Petition for Judicial Review, and \$250 for each of the previous mediations. *Id.* at 8:15-25.

The Motion contends that Respondent "now conjures new bases to deny a modification" including the time delinquency based on the last payment made by Petitioners. *Id.* at 10:1-7. Petitioners contend that the Court should sanction Respondent \$50,000 as recommended by Mediator Hamilton after the Second Mediation which also pertained to Respondent's failure to provide the March 24, 2011 deed of trust assignment which was produced in Petitioner's Marc Radow's bankruptcy, but which Respondents have failed to produce here. *Id.* at 10:23-12:2.

The Opposition states that the NFMR 13 requirement that the beneficiary produce a certified copy of all assignments of the deed of trust, applies only to valid assignments and the March 24, 2011 assignment ("Invalid Assignment") contained a typographical error as noted by the Mediator that was corrected in the valid version that was ultimately recorded (dated July 28, 2011 and recorded July 24, 2012) ("Assignment"). *Id.* at 4:4-8. The Invalid Assignment was not an effective transfer and could not and did not assign any interest in the deed of trust, so it was unnecessary to produce it as part of the chain of title. *Id.* at 4:8-11. Respondent contends that it provided appropriate certifications and copies of the Note, Deed of Trust, and the related endorsements and assignments and successfully proved its chain of title. *Id.* at 4:11-13. Further, Respondent disputes that it is prevented from arguing that the Invalid Assignment is rogue because it was attached to the Motion for Relief in Petitioner Marc Radow's bankruptcy proceeding. *Id.* at 4:24-26. Respondent contends that the Motion for Relief does not adjudicate any parties' rights and only seeks to balance the equities necessary to release a creditor from stay. Id. at 4:26-28. Respondent contends that the Invalid Assignment was being used to show that a colorable claim existed in the bankruptcy proceeding and the recorded version, which is identical, except for the typographical error, reflect a colorable claim. *Id.* at 5:12-17. Further, there is no preclusive effect because a document was produced in a bankruptcy proceeding eight years ago, nor was there any intentional wrongdoing on behalf Respondent. Id. at 5:17-20. Even if the document should have been provided, Petitioners satisfied the requirement when 1
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they produced a copy to the Mediator, emulating the exact scenario in *Einhorn v. BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP*, 128 Nev. 689, 290 P.3d 249 (2012). *Id.* at 5:24-28. In *Einhorn*, the court noted that satisfaction of the rule was not dependent on who brought the documents, and ultimately, Respondent contends, a certificate issued on nearly identical facts. *Id.* at 5:28-6:3.

Respondent further argues that Petitioners did not produce the documents requested by the NFMR which Respondent sought from Petitioner prior to the Mediation and therefore, sanctions should not issue. *Id.* at 6:8-28. Lastly, Respondent contends that Petitioners are not entitled to recover the attorney fees and costs incurred in prior mediations as this would bypass the statute of limitations and this Court's determination in this case is limited to the instant Mediation. *Id.* at 7:12-8:22.

The Reply argues that Respondent does not provide any legal authority to contend that the Invalid Assignment is somehow "invalid" noting that in the Assignment the typographical error was corrected by hand and it was signed by a different person. *Id.* at 2:6-23. As to the use of the Invalid Assignment in Bankruptcy Court, Petitioners argue that Respondents should not be able to change its position to satisfy it current needs and that this Court should employ the doctrine of judicial estoppel and prevent Respondent from arguing that a document previously labeled valid is invalid. *Id.* at 3:3-24. Further, Petitioners contend that *Einhorn* is not applicable since in *Einhorn* the borrower's attorney provided a copy of a recorded assignment and here Respondents failed to provide an unrecorded assignment. *Id.* at 4:3-13. Petitioners do not dispute that they provided the unrecorded, invalid assignment at the Mediation. *Id.* at 4:15-17.

Petitioners further contend that they provided all of the required documents and if they had not, it would not have mattered as they were advised at the Mediation that they would not be eligible for any loan modification regardless of what their financial statements showed. *Id.* at 5:3-21. Lastly, Petitioners contend that they are entitled to past attorney fees since the Motion is not a traditional post-judgment motion; it is a motion for sanctions and the court is not limited to crafting an appropriate sanction to deter future violations. *Id.* at 6:3-13.

Having reviewed the pleading on file and considered the facts and law applicable to this case, this Court finds good cause to deny the Motion. Exhibit 3 to the *Mediator's Statement* is the Corporation Assignment of Deed of Trust for the Property, i.e., the Assignment". It "grants, assigns

and transfers to US Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank, National Association as Trustee for Wells Fargo Asset Securities *Securities Corporation, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-ARI [Respondent] all beneficial interest under that certain Deed of Trust dated 11/15/2004 executed by Kelley L. Radow and Marc E. Radow, husband and wife as joint tenants, (Trustor) to United Title of Nevada (Trustee) and recorded on 11/23/2004 as DOC#3132996 in Washoe County, NV describing the land therein..." The Assignment is signed by Samuel Kremer, Vice President Loan Documentation, Wells Fargo Bank N.A. and dated July 28, 2011. The signature is notarized by Julie Ann Prieto who acknowledges that Mr. Kremer personally appeared before her and is personally known to her. The Assignment is accompanied by a Certification of Loan Documents for Mediation from Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. dated October 15, 2019, executed by Fatime Bare, certifying that the Assignment is a true and correct copy of original document that is in her actual possession. Petitioners do not contest that the Assignment was timely provided. As to the Assignment, Respondent has met the requirement of NFMR 13(7)–(8) and NRS 107.086(5).

Petitioners contest the use of the Assignment since Respondents used the Invalid Assignment at a Bankruptcy proceeding eight years ago and because Respondents failed to produce the Invalid Assignment at the Mediation. Pursuant to NFMR 13(7)(a), respondents are required to produce a "certified copy of each assignment of the deed of trust." There is no requirement in the NFMRs that the beneficiary produce an invalid document that was not recorded and that did not effectuate an assignment of the deed of trust. Even if there was, not only were Petitioners in possession of the Invalid Assignment in advance of the Mediation, they produced a copy at the Mediation. In *Einhorn*, the Nevada Supreme Court addressed the circumstance where the homeowner brought the missing assignment to the mediation that was needed to make the chain of transfers complete and opined as follows:

In NRS 107 08

In NRS 107.086(4), the Legislature directed that certified copies of the note, deed of trust and all assignments be present at the mediation to ensure that the

¹ NRS 107.086(5) provides in relevant part, "[t]he beneficiary of the deed of trust shall bring to the mediation the original or a certified copy of the deed of trust, the mortgage note, each assignment of the deed of trust or mortgage note and any documents created in connection with a loan modification." There is no requirement that invalid assignments be provided.

party seeking to foreclose is the person entitled to enforce the note and to proceed with foreclosure and hence the party authorized to negotiate a modification of either or both. While *Leyva* properly holds that strict compliance with the statute's document mandate is required, who brings which documents, assuming they are all present, authenticated and accounted for, is a matter of form. *Leven*, 123 Nev. at 408, 168 P.3d at 718. Only if a specified document is missing does it matter who has the burden of providing it. Here, Einhorn [borrower] brought the missing assignment needed to complete BAC's chain of title. Since the assignment includes a certificate of acknowledgment before a notary public, it carries a presumption of authenticity, NRS 52.165, that makes it "self- authenticating."

128 Nev. at 696-97.

Accordingly, Petitioners delivery of the Invalid Assignment at the Mediation satisfies the governing law. Further, this Court disagrees with Petitioners that the unrecorded nature of the Invalid Assignment means that *Einhorn* does not apply. Petitioners offer no legal support for this assertion. Moreover, any allegations by Petitioners that the Invalid Deed was presented at a bankruptcy proceeding, should have been addressed with the Bankruptcy Court. As there is no evidence in the record that Respondent perpetrated deceit on the Bankruptcy Court as opposed to providing the Invalid Assignment in error, this Court does not undertake any further discussion of Petitioners' claim on this issue.

The mediator acknowledges that the only assignment that was not produced was the one that was not recorded, i.e., the Invalid Assignment. The Mediator's stated reason for recommending that sanctions be imposed and that a certificate not issue was based on her finding that Respondent failed to bring "all assignments" to the Mediation. Based on NFMR 13(7)–(8), NRS 107.086(5) and *Einhorn*, this Court finds that the Mediator erred. Respondent was not required to bring the Invalid Assignment and even if Respondent was, Petitioners' act of producing it at the Mediation met the requirements for the Mediation as set forth in *Einhorn*. The Assignment and the certifications and copies of the Note, Deed of Trust, and the related endorsements and other assignments produced by Respondent at the Mediation, none of which are contested by Petitioners, successfully prove the chain of title and establish Respondent as the person entitled to enforce the Note (NRS 104.3301) and to foreclose on the deed of trust.

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Based on these findings this Court declines to undertake Petitioners' requests for sanctions in the form of attorney fees and costs for this Mediation and the mediations that preceded the November 25, 2019 mediation. Based upon the foregoing and good cause appearing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Petitioner Marc E. Radow and Kelley L. Radow's (Petitioners) *Motion for Relief (FMR 20(2))* is DENIED. IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that a certificate of foreclosure issue for the Property. DATED this 10th day of March, 2020. KATHLEEN DRAKULICH **DISTRICT JUDGE**

1	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
2	CASE NO. CV19-01604
3	I certify that I am an employee of the SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT of the
4	STATE OF NEVADA, COUNTY OF WASHOE; that on the 10 th day of March, 2020, I electronically
5	filed the ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR RELIEF (FMR 20(2)) with the Clerk of the Court
6	by using the ECF system.
7	I further certify that I transmitted a true and correct copy of the foregoing document by the
8	method(s) noted below:
9	Electronically filed with the Clerk of the Court by using the ECF system which will send a notice
10	of electronic filing to the following:
11	HOME MEANS NEVADA
12	THEODORE CHRISSINGER, ESQ. for KELLEY RADOW, MARC RADOW
13	LINDA LINTON, ESQ.
14	Deposited to the Second Judicial District Court mailing system in a sealed envelope for postage
15	and mailing by Washoe County using the United States Postal Service in Reno, Nevada:
16	ACE C. VAN PATTEN, ESQ.
17	KRISTA J. NIELSON, ESQ.
18	10100 W. CHARLESTON BOULEVARD, SUITE 220 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89135
19	
20	
21	Applied Rode of
22	DANIELLE RELMOND
23	Department 1 Judicial Assistant
24	
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26	

Exhibit 3

Exhibit 3

FILED Electronically CV19-01604 2020-03-16 12:54:51 PM Jacqueline Bryant 1 Clerk of the Court TB TIFFANY&BOSCO Transaction # 7793969 2 Ace C. Van Patten, Esq. (SB No. 11731) avp@tblaw.com 3 Krista J. Nielson, Esq. (SB No. 10698) knielson@tblaw.com 4 10100 W. Charleston Boulevard, Suite 220 5 Las Vegas, Nevada 89135 Telephone: (702) 258-8200 6 Facsimile: (702) 258-8787 7 Attorneys for Respondent 8 14-74051 9 IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA 10 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE 11 Marc E. Radow and Kelley L. Radow, Case No. CV19-01604 12 Petitioners. Dept. No. 1 13 NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER v. 14 **DENYING MOTION FOR RELIEF (FMR** U.S. Bank National Association, as 20(2) 15 Trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank, National Association, as Trustee for 16 Wells Fargo Asset Securities Corporation, 17 Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-AR1, 18 Respondent. 19 20 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an Order Denying Motion for Relief (FMR 20(2)) was 21 entered in the above-captioned matter on the 10th day of March, 2020. A true and correct copy of 22 said Order is attached hereto. 23 /././ 24 25 /././ /././ 26 /././ 27 /././ 28

AFFIRMATION Pursuant to NRS 239B.030, I hereby certify that the foregoing document does not contain the social security number of any person. Dated: March 16, 2020 Tiffany & Bosco, P.A. By: /s/ Ace C Van Patten Ace C Van Patten, Esq. NV Bar No. 11731 Attorneys for Respondent(s)

1	<u>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</u>			
2	I, Lynda D. Groneman, the undersigned, hereby certify that I served the foregoing			
3	NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR RELIEF (FMR 20(2)) on all			
4	parties on the 16th day of March, 2020, by electronic service via the e-Flex filing and serve			
5	system, including those parties, identified below:			
6	Hoy Chrissinger Kimmel Vallas			
7	Theodore E. Chrissinger 50 W. Liberty St., Suite 840			
8	Reno, NV 89501			
9	Petitioner(s) Counsel			
10				
11	/s/ Lynda D. Groneman			
12	An Employee of Tiffany & Bosco, P.A			
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27 Court for consideration.

IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

Marc E. Radow and Kelley L. Radow, husband and wife,

vs.

Petitioners.

Case No.:

CV19-01604

Dept. No.:

1

U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank, National Association, as Trustee for Wells Fargo Asset Securities Corporation, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-AR1,

Respondent.

ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR RELIEF (FMR 20(2))

Currently before the Court is Petitioner Marc E. Radow and Kelley L. Radow's (Petitioners) Motion for Relief (FMR 20(2)) ("Motion") filed December 16, 2019. On December 18, 2019, Respondent U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank, National Association, as Trustee for Wells Fargo Asset Securities Corporation, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-AR1 ("Respondent") filed an Opposition to Petitioners' Motion for Relief and Countermotion for Appropriate Relief ("Opposition"). On January 3, 2020, Petitioners filed a Reply in Support of Motion for Relief (FMR 20(2)) ("Reply") and submitted the Motion to the

I. Procedural History

This matter concerns a property located at 1900 Joy Lake Road, Reno, Nevada ("Property"). On August 16, 2019, Petitioners Marc E. Radow and Kelley L. Radow filed a *Petition for Foreclosure Mediation Assistance*. On September 4, 2019, Respondent filed an *Answer to Petition for Foreclosure Mediation Assistance* and on September 9, 2019, Linda J. Linton, Esq. was assigned as the mediator. A foreclosure mediation took place on November 25, 2019. On December 5, 2019, Mediator Linda J. Linton, Esq. filed a *Mediator's Statement*. Petitioners and Respondent now bring motions requesting relief in accordance with FMR 20(2).

II. Relevant Legal Authority

Nevada Foreclosure Mediation Rule ("NFMR") provides in relevant part:

- 7. The beneficiary of the deed of trust must prepare and submit, at least 10 days prior to the mediation, the following documents to the mediator and the homeowner:
- (a) The original mortgage note or a certified copy of the mortgage note, together with each assignment or endorsement of said note, the original or a certified copy of the deed of trust, and a certified copy of each assignment of the deed of trust.
- (b) The original or certified copy, if one was utilized, of any document utilized to assign or endorse the mortgage note or the deed of trust.
- 8. The requirement for a certified copy of the original mortgage note, deed of trust, each assignment of the deed of trust and each assignment and endorsement of the mortgage note, power of attorney, or other documents required by these rules is only satisfied when the mediator receives:
- (a) A statement under oath signed before a notary public pursuant to the provisions of NRS 240.1655(2), which includes:
- (1) The name, address, company, capacity, and authority of the person making the certification;
- (2) The person making the certification on behalf of the beneficiary is in actual possession of the original mortgage note, deed of trust, and each assignment and any endorsement of the mortgage note and assignment of deed of trust; and
- (3) The attached copy of the mortgage note, deed of trust, and each assignment and any endorsement of the mortgage note and deed of trust are a true and correct copy of the original mortgage note, deed of trust, and assignment of the deed of trust in the possession of the person making the certification.
- (b) The certification shall contain the original signature of the certifying party and the original seal and signature of the notary public. Each certified document must contain a separate certification.

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III. Analysis

Following the Mediation, Mediator Linton issued a Mediator's Statement finding that the parties were unable to agree to a loan modification or make other arrangements and the Mediation was terminated. Med. Stmt. at Part 2B. The Mediator's Statement further noted that the Homeowners (Grantor), who have been delinquent for ten years, failed to exchange all required documents. Id. at Part 2C. The Mediator found that although neither party produced all documents that are required, the parties participated in good faith with Respondent offering alternatives to foreclosure other than a retention option. Med. Stmt. Comments, Part 2C and 2E. The Comments state that the assignment of the deed of trust dated March 24, 2011, which was not produced by Respondents either ten days before the Mediation or at the Mediation, and the assignment of the deed of trust dated July 28, 2011 (recorded July 24, 2012, nearly one year later) which was produced, were nearly identical with the latter having a typographical error corrected for the word "Securities." Id. Pursuant to NRS 107.086(5), the Mediator relied upon the mandatory language of the statute, namely that "[t]he beneficiary of the deed of trust shall bring to the mediation the original or certified copy of the deed of trust, the mortgage note, each assignment of the deed of trust" to recommend as a sanction that a certificate not issue and that Respondents pay for Petitioners' costs as they related to the mediation including the \$200 filing fee for the Petition. Id.

The Motion sets forth the background related to five previous foreclosure mediations for the Property, identifying in each instance the shortcomings of the Respondent. Mot. at 2:13-5:19. As to the current Mediation, Petitioners contend that they should not have had to resubmit the financial documents sought by Respondent, since Respondent was never going to offer a loan modification. *Id.* at 5:21-6:12. Petitioners further contend that like the five prior mediations, Respondent failed to provide a certified copy of the March 24, 2011, deed of trust assignment and that Respondent's claimed lack of knowledge of the assignment belies Respondent's use of if to successfully lift the stay on Petitioner Marc Radow's bankruptcy eight years ago. *Id.* at 6:13-21. The Motion states that Respondents have violated NFMR 20(3) and therefore, sanctions are required. *Id.* at 7:1-18. Petitioners seek their attorney fees in the amount of \$3990 incurred subsequent to the filing of the Notice of Default through the end of Mediation; \$3290 in attorney fees incurred in the preparation of

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the Motion; \$275 in filing fees; and an order that the certificate of foreclosure not issue. *Id.* at 7:26-8:5. Petitioners further seek their attorney fees for the previous five mediations in the amount of \$24,889.55; attorney fees in the amount of \$2135 incurred when Mr. Chrissinger took over the Petition for Judicial Review, and \$250 for each of the previous mediations. *Id.* at 8:15-25.

The Motion contends that Respondent "now conjures new bases to deny a modification" including the time delinquency based on the last payment made by Petitioners. *Id.* at 10:1-7. Petitioners contend that the Court should sanction Respondent \$50,000 as recommended by Mediator Hamilton after the Second Mediation which also pertained to Respondent's failure to provide the March 24, 2011 deed of trust assignment which was produced in Petitioner's Marc Radow's bankruptcy, but which Respondents have failed to produce here. *Id.* at 10:23-12:2.

The Opposition states that the NFMR 13 requirement that the beneficiary produce a certified copy of all assignments of the deed of trust, applies only to valid assignments and the March 24, 2011 assignment ("Invalid Assignment") contained a typographical error as noted by the Mediator that was corrected in the valid version that was ultimately recorded (dated July 28, 2011 and recorded July 24, 2012) ("Assignment"). Id. at 4:4-8. The Invalid Assignment was not an effective transfer and could not and did not assign any interest in the deed of trust, so it was unnecessary to produce it as part of the chain of title. Id. at 4:8-11. Respondent contends that it provided appropriate certifications and copies of the Note, Deed of Trust, and the related endorsements and assignments and successfully proved its chain of title. Id. at 4:11-13. Further, Respondent disputes that it is prevented from arguing that the Invalid Assignment is rogue because it was attached to the Motion for Relief in Petitioner Marc Radow's bankruptcy proceeding. Id. at 4:24-26. Respondent contends that the Motion for Relief does not adjudicate any parties' rights and only seeks to balance the equities necessary to release a creditor from stay. Id. at 4:26-28. Respondent contends that the Invalid Assignment was being used to show that a colorable claim existed in the bankruptcy proceeding and the recorded version, which is identical, except for the typographical error, reflect a colorable claim. Id. at 5:12-17. Further, there is no preclusive effect because a document was produced in a bankruptcy proceeding eight years ago, nor was there any intentional wrongdoing on behalf Respondent. Id. at 5:17-20. Even if the document should have been provided, Petitioners satisfied the requirement when

they produced a copy to the Mediator, emulating the exact scenario in *Einhorn v. BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP*, 128 Nev. 689, 290 P.3d 249 (2012). *Id.* at 5:24-28. In *Einhorn*, the court noted that satisfaction of the rule was not dependent on who brought the documents, and ultimately, Respondent contends, a certificate issued on nearly identical facts. *Id.* at 5:28-6:3.

Respondent further argues that Petitioners did not produce the documents requested by the NFMR which Respondent sought from Petitioner prior to the Mediation and therefore, sanctions should not issue. *Id.* at 6:8-28. Lastly, Respondent contends that Petitioners are not entitled to recover the attorney fees and costs incurred in prior mediations as this would bypass the statute of limitations and this Court's determination in this case is limited to the instant Mediation. *Id.* at 7:12-8:22.

The Reply argues that Respondent does not provide any legal authority to contend that the Invalid Assignment is somehow "invalid" noting that in the Assignment the typographical error was corrected by hand and it was signed by a different person. *Id.* at 2:6-23. As to the use of the Invalid Assignment in Bankruptcy Court, Petitioners argue that Respondents should not be able to change its position to satisfy it current needs and that this Court should employ the doctrine of judicial estoppel and prevent Respondent from arguing that a document previously labeled valid is invalid. *Id.* at 3:3-24. Further, Petitioners contend that *Einhorn* is not applicable since in *Einhorn* the borrower's attorney provided a copy of a recorded assignment and here Respondents failed to provide an unrecorded assignment. *Id.* at 4:3-13. Petitioners do not dispute that they provided the unrecorded, invalid assignment at the Mediation. *Id.* at 4:15-17.

Petitioners further contend that they provided all of the required documents and if they had not, it would not have mattered as they were advised at the Mediation that they would not be eligible for any loan modification regardless of what their financial statements showed. *Id.* at 5:3-21. Lastly, Petitioners contend that they are entitled to past attorney fees since the Motion is not a traditional post-judgment motion; it is a motion for sanctions and the court is not limited to crafting an appropriate sanction to deter future violations. *Id.* at 6:3-13.

Having reviewed the pleading on file and considered the facts and law applicable to this case, this Court finds good cause to deny the Motion. Exhibit 3 to the *Mediator's Statement* is the Corporation Assignment of Deed of Trust for the Property, i.e., the Assignment". It "grants, assigns

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and transfers to US Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank, National Association as Trustee for Wells Fargo Asset Securities *Securities Corporation, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-ARI [Respondent] all beneficial interest under that certain Deed of Trust dated 11/15/2004 executed by Kelley L. Radow and Marc E. Radow, husband and wife as joint tenants, (Trustor) to United Title of Nevada (Trustee) and recorded on 11/23/2004 as DOC#3132996 in Washoe County, NV describing the land therein..." The Assignment is signed by Samuel Kremer, Vice President Loan Documentation, Wells Fargo Bank N.A. and dated July 28, 2011. The signature is notarized by Julie Ann Prieto who acknowledges that Mr. Kremer personally appeared before her and is personally known to her. The Assignment is accompanied by a Certification of Loan Documents for Mediation from Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. dated October 15, 2019, executed by Fatime Bare, certifying that the Assignment is a true and correct copy of original document that is in her actual possession. Petitioners do not contest that the Assignment was timely provided. As to the Assignment, Respondent has met the requirement of NFMR 13(7)–(8) and NRS 107.086(5).

Petitioners contest the use of the Assignment since Respondents used the Invalid Assignment at a Bankruptcy proceeding eight years ago and because Respondents failed to produce the Invalid Assignment at the Mediation. Pursuant to NFMR 13(7)(a), respondents are required to produce a "certified copy of each assignment of the deed of trust." There is no requirement in the NFMRs that the beneficiary produce an invalid document that was not recorded and that did not effectuate an assignment of the deed of trust. Even if there was, not only were Petitioners in possession of the Invalid Assignment in advance of the Mediation, they produced a copy at the Mediation. In *Einhorn*, the Nevada Supreme Court addressed the circumstance where the homeowner brought the missing assignment to the mediation that was needed to make the chain of transfers complete and opined as follows:

In NRS 107.086(4), the Legislature directed that certified copies of the note, deed of trust and all assignments be present at the mediation to ensure that the

¹ NRS 107.086(5) provides in relevant part, "[t]he beneficiary of the deed of trust shall bring to the mediation the original or a certified copy of the deed of trust, the mortgage note, each assignment of the deed of trust or mortgage note and any documents created in connection with a loan modification." There is no requirement that invalid assignments be provided.

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Jacqueline Bryant
Clerk of the Court
Transaction # 7783562

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vs.

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IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

Marc E. Radow and Kelley L. Radow, husband and wife,

Petitioners,

Case No.:

CV19-01604

Dept. No.:

U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank, National Association, as Trustee for Wells Fargo Asset Securities Corporation, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-AR1,

Respondent.

ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR RELIEF (FMR 20(2))

Currently before the Court is Petitioner Marc E. Radow and Kelley L. Radow's (Petitioners) Motion for Relief (FMR 20(2)) ("Motion") filed December 16, 2019. On December 18, 2019, Respondent U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank, National Association, as Trustee for Wells Fargo Asset Securities Corporation, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-AR1 ("Respondent") filed an Opposition to Petitioners' Motion for Relief and Countermotion for Appropriate Relief ("Opposition"). On January 3, 2020, Petitioners filed a Reply in Support of Motion for Relief (FMR 20(2)) ("Reply") and submitted the Motion to the Court for consideration.

I. Procedural History

This matter concerns a property located at 1900 Joy Lake Road, Reno, Nevada ("Property"). On August 16, 2019, Petitioners Marc E. Radow and Kelley L. Radow filed a *Petition for Foreclosure Mediation Assistance*. On September 4, 2019, Respondent filed an *Answer to Petition for Foreclosure Mediation Assistance* and on September 9, 2019, Linda J. Linton, Esq. was assigned as the mediator. A foreclosure mediation took place on November 25, 2019. On December 5, 2019, Mediator Linda J. Linton, Esq. filed a *Mediator's Statement*. Petitioners and Respondent now bring motions requesting relief in accordance with FMR 20(2).

II. Relevant Legal Authority

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- 7. The beneficiary of the deed of trust must prepare and submit, at least 10 days prior to the mediation, the following documents to the mediator and the homeowner:
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- (b) The original or certified copy, if one was utilized, of any document utilized to assign or endorse the mortgage note or the deed of trust.
- 8. The requirement for a certified copy of the original mortgage note, deed of trust, each assignment of the deed of trust and each assignment and endorsement of the mortgage note, power of attorney, or other documents required by these rules is only satisfied when the mediator receives:
- (a) A statement under oath signed before a notary public pursuant to the provisions of NRS 240.1655(2), which includes:
- (1) The name, address, company, capacity, and authority of the person making the certification;
- (2) The person making the certification on behalf of the beneficiary is in actual possession of the original mortgage note, deed of trust, and each assignment and any endorsement of the mortgage note and assignment of deed of trust; and
- (3) The attached copy of the mortgage note, deed of trust, and each assignment and any endorsement of the mortgage note and deed of trust are a true and correct copy of the original mortgage note, deed of trust, and assignment of the deed of trust in the possession of the person making the certification.
- (b) The certification shall contain the original signature of the certifying party and the original seal and signature of the notary public. Each certified document must contain a separate certification.

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III. Analysis

Following the Mediation, Mediator Linton issued a Mediator's Statement finding that the parties were unable to agree to a loan modification or make other arrangements and the Mediation was terminated. Med. Stmt. at Part 2B. The Mediator's Statement further noted that the Homeowners (Grantor), who have been delinquent for ten years, failed to exchange all required documents. Id. at Part 2C. The Mediator found that although neither party produced all documents that are required, the parties participated in good faith with Respondent offering alternatives to foreclosure other than a retention option. Med. Stmt. Comments, Part 2C and 2E. The Comments state that the assignment of the deed of trust dated March 24, 2011, which was not produced by Respondents either ten days before the Mediation or at the Mediation, and the assignment of the deed of trust dated July 28, 2011 (recorded July 24, 2012, nearly one year later) which was produced, were nearly identical with the latter having a typographical error corrected for the word "Securities." Id. Pursuant to NRS 107.086(5), the Mediator relied upon the mandatory language of the statute, namely that "[t]he beneficiary of the deed of trust shall bring to the mediation the original or certified copy of the deed of trust, the mortgage note, each assignment of the deed of trust" to recommend as a sanction that a certificate not issue and that Respondents pay for Petitioners' costs as they related to the mediation including the \$200 filing fee for the Petition. *Id.*

The Motion sets forth the background related to five previous foreclosure mediations for the Property, identifying in each instance the shortcomings of the Respondent. Mot. at 2:13-5:19. As to the current Mediation, Petitioners contend that they should not have had to resubmit the financial documents sought by Respondent, since Respondent was never going to offer a loan modification. *Id.* at 5:21-6:12. Petitioners further contend that like the five prior mediations, Respondent failed to provide a certified copy of the March 24, 2011, deed of trust assignment and that Respondent's claimed lack of knowledge of the assignment belies Respondent's use of if to successfully lift the stay on Petitioner Marc Radow's bankruptcy eight years ago. *Id.* at 6:13-21. The Motion states that Respondents have violated NFMR 20(3) and therefore, sanctions are required. *Id.* at 7:1-18. Petitioners seek their attorney fees in the amount of \$3990 incurred subsequent to the filing of the Notice of Default through the end of Mediation; \$3290 in attorney fees incurred in the preparation of

the Motion; \$275 in filing fees; and an order that the certificate of foreclosure not issue. *Id.* at 7:26-8:5. Petitioners further seek their attorney fees for the previous five mediations in the amount of \$24,889.55; attorney fees in the amount of \$2135 incurred when Mr. Chrissinger took over the Petition for Judicial Review, and \$250 for each of the previous mediations. *Id.* at 8:15-25.

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The Opposition states that the NFMR 13 requirement that the beneficiary produce a certified copy of all assignments of the deed of trust, applies only to valid assignments and the March 24, 2011 assignment ("Invalid Assignment") contained a typographical error as noted by the Mediator that was corrected in the valid version that was ultimately recorded (dated July 28, 2011 and recorded July 24, 2012) ("Assignment"). Id. at 4:4-8. The Invalid Assignment was not an effective transfer and could not and did not assign any interest in the deed of trust, so it was unnecessary to produce it as part of the chain of title. Id. at 4:8-11. Respondent contends that it provided appropriate certifications and copies of the Note, Deed of Trust, and the related endorsements and assignments and successfully proved its chain of title. Id. at 4:11-13. Further, Respondent disputes that it is prevented from arguing that the Invalid Assignment is rogue because it was attached to the Motion for Relief in Petitioner Marc Radow's bankruptcy proceeding. Id. at 4:24-26. Respondent contends that the Motion for Relief does not adjudicate any parties' rights and only seeks to balance the equities necessary to release a creditor from stay. Id. at 4:26-28. Respondent contends that the Invalid Assignment was being used to show that a colorable claim existed in the bankruptcy proceeding and the recorded version, which is identical, except for the typographical error, reflect a colorable claim. Id. at 5:12-17. Further, there is no preclusive effect because a document was produced in a bankruptcy proceeding eight years ago, nor was there any intentional wrongdoing on behalf Respondent. Id. at 5:17-20. Even if the document should have been provided, Petitioners satisfied the requirement when 2
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they produced a copy to the Mediator, emulating the exact scenario in *Einhorn v. BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP*, 128 Nev. 689, 290 P.3d 249 (2012). *Id.* at 5:24-28. In *Einhorn*, the court noted that satisfaction of the rule was not dependent on who brought the documents, and ultimately, Respondent contends, a certificate issued on nearly identical facts. *Id.* at 5:28-6:3.

Respondent further argues that Petitioners did not produce the documents requested by the NFMR which Respondent sought from Petitioner prior to the Mediation and therefore, sanctions should not issue. *Id.* at 6:8-28. Lastly, Respondent contends that Petitioners are not entitled to recover the attorney fees and costs incurred in prior mediations as this would bypass the statute of limitations and this Court's determination in this case is limited to the instant Mediation. *Id.* at 7:12-8:22.

The Reply argues that Respondent does not provide any legal authority to contend that the Invalid Assignment is somehow "invalid" noting that in the Assignment the typographical error was corrected by hand and it was signed by a different person. *Id.* at 2:6-23. As to the use of the Invalid Assignment in Bankruptcy Court, Petitioners argue that Respondents should not be able to change its position to satisfy it current needs and that this Court should employ the doctrine of judicial estoppel and prevent Respondent from arguing that a document previously labeled valid is invalid. *Id.* at 3:3-24. Further, Petitioners contend that *Einhorn* is not applicable since in *Einhorn* the borrower's attorney provided a copy of a recorded assignment and here Respondents failed to provide an unrecorded assignment. *Id.* at 4:3-13. Petitioners do not dispute that they provided the unrecorded, invalid assignment at the Mediation. *Id.* at 4:15-17.

Petitioners further contend that they provided all of the required documents and if they had not, it would not have mattered as they were advised at the Mediation that they would not be eligible for any loan modification regardless of what their financial statements showed. *Id.* at 5:3-21. Lastly, Petitioners contend that they are entitled to past attorney fees since the Motion is not a traditional post-judgment motion; it is a motion for sanctions and the court is not limited to crafting an appropriate sanction to deter future violations. *Id.* at 6:3-13.

Having reviewed the pleading on file and considered the facts and law applicable to this case, this Court finds good cause to deny the Motion. Exhibit 3 to the *Mediator's Statement* is the Corporation Assignment of Deed of Trust for the Property, i.e., the Assignment". It "grants, assigns

and transfers to US Bank National Association, as Trustee, successor in interest to Wachovia Bank, 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

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National Association as Trustee for Wells Fargo Asset Securities *Securities Corporation, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-ARI [Respondent] all beneficial interest under that certain Deed of Trust dated 11/15/2004 executed by Kelley L. Radow and Marc E. Radow, husband and wife as joint tenants, (Trustor) to United Title of Nevada (Trustee) and recorded on 11/23/2004 as DOC#3132996 in Washoe County, NV describing the land therein..." The Assignment is signed by Samuel Kremer, Vice President Loan Documentation, Wells Fargo Bank N.A. and dated July 28, 2011. The signature is notarized by Julie Ann Prieto who acknowledges that Mr. Kremer personally appeared before her and is personally known to her. The Assignment is accompanied by a Certification of Loan Documents for Mediation from Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. dated October 15, 2019, executed by Fatime Bare, certifying that the Assignment is a true and correct copy of original document that is in her actual possession. Petitioners do not contest that the Assignment was timely provided. As to the Assignment, Respondent has met the requirement of NFMR 13(7)-(8) and NRS 107.086(5).¹

Petitioners contest the use of the Assignment since Respondents used the Invalid Assignment at a Bankruptcy proceeding eight years ago and because Respondents failed to produce the Invalid Assignment at the Mediation. Pursuant to NFMR 13(7)(a), respondents are required to produce a "certified copy of each assignment of the deed of trust." There is no requirement in the NFMRs that the beneficiary produce an invalid document that was not recorded and that did not effectuate an assignment of the deed of trust. Even if there was, not only were Petitioners in possession of the Invalid Assignment in advance of the Mediation, they produced a copy at the Mediation. In Einhorn, the Nevada Supreme Court addressed the circumstance where the homeowner brought the missing assignment to the mediation that was needed to make the chain of transfers complete and opined as follows:

> In NRS 107.086(4), the Legislature directed that certified copies of the note, deed of trust and all assignments be present at the mediation to ensure that the

¹ NRS 107.086(5) provides in relevant part, "[t]he beneficiary of the deed of trust shall bring to the mediation the original or a certified copy of the deed of trust, the mortgage note, each assignment of the deed of trust or mortgage note and any documents created in connection with a loan modification." There is no requirement that invalid assignments be provided.

party seeking to foreclose is the person entitled to enforce the note and to proceed with foreclosure and hence the party authorized to negotiate a modification of either or both. While *Leyva* properly holds that strict compliance with the statute's document mandate is required, who brings which documents, assuming they are all present, authenticated and accounted for, is a matter of form. *Leven*, 123 Nev. at 408, 168 P.3d at 718. Only if a specified document is missing does it matter who has the burden of providing it. Here, Einhorn [borrower] brought the missing assignment needed to complete BAC's chain of title. Since the assignment includes a certificate of acknowledgment before a notary public, it carries a presumption of authenticity, NRS 52.165, that makes it "self- authenticating."

128 Nev. at 696-97.

Accordingly, Petitioners delivery of the Invalid Assignment at the Mediation satisfies the governing law. Further, this Court disagrees with Petitioners that the unrecorded nature of the Invalid Assignment means that *Einhorn* does not apply. Petitioners offer no legal support for this assertion. Moreover, any allegations by Petitioners that the Invalid Deed was presented at a bankruptcy proceeding, should have been addressed with the Bankruptcy Court. As there is no evidence in the record that Respondent perpetrated deceit on the Bankruptcy Court as opposed to providing the Invalid Assignment in error, this Court does not undertake any further discussion of Petitioners' claim on this issue.

The mediator acknowledges that the only assignment that was not produced was the one that was not recorded, i.e., the Invalid Assignment. The Mediator's stated reason for recommending that sanctions be imposed and that a certificate not issue was based on her finding that Respondent failed to bring "all assignments" to the Mediation. Based on NFMR 13(7)–(8), NRS 107.086(5) and Einhorn, this Court finds that the Mediator erred. Respondent was not required to bring the Invalid Assignment and even if Respondent was, Petitioners' act of producing it at the Mediation met the requirements for the Mediation as set forth in Einhorn. The Assignment and the certifications and copies of the Note, Deed of Trust, and the related endorsements and other assignments produced by Respondent at the Mediation, none of which are contested by Petitioners, successfully prove the chain of title and establish Respondent as the person entitled to enforce the Note (NRS 104.3301) and to foreclose on the deed of trust.

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Based on these findings this Court declines to undertake Petitioners' requests for sanctions in the form of attorney fees and costs for this Mediation and the mediations that preceded the November 25, 2019 mediation. Based upon the foregoing and good cause appearing, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Petitioner Marc E. Radow and Kelley L. Radow's (Petitioners) Motion for Relief (FMR 20(2)) is DENIED. IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that a certificate of foreclosure issue for the Property. DATED this 10th day of March, 2020. ATHLEEN DRAKULICH DISTRICT JUDGE

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1	<u>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</u>
2	CASE NO. CV19-01604
3	I certify that I am an employee of the SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT of the
4	STATE OF NEVADA, COUNTY OF WASHOE; that on the 10 th day of March, 2020, I electronically
5	filed the ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR RELIEF (FMR 20(2)) with the Clerk of the Court
6	by using the ECF system.
7	I further certify that I transmitted a true and correct copy of the foregoing document by the
8	method(s) noted below:
9	Electronically filed with the Clerk of the Court by using the ECF system which will send a notice
10	of electronic filing to the following:
11	HOME MEANS NEVADA
12	THEODORE CHRISSINGER, ESQ. for KELLEY RADOW, MARC RADOW
13	LINDA LINTON, ESQ.
14	Deposited to the Second Judicial District Court mailing system in a sealed envelope for postage
15	and mailing by Washoe County using the United States Postal Service in Reno, Nevada:
16	ACE C. VAN PATTEN, ESQ.
17	KRISTA J. NIELSON, ESQ.
18	10100 W. CHARLESTON BOULEVARD, SUITE 220 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89135
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21	Taking R. a. g
22	DANIELLE REDMOND
23	Department 1 Judicial Assistant
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