## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

Damaso S. Puente, individually and on behalf of the Estate of Damaso I. Puente; Maria Puente; Daniel Malone; and Diane Malone, individually and on behalf of the Estate of Christa Puente, Appellants/Cross-Respondents, vs.

Dave & Buster's of Nevada, Inc., d/b/a Dave & Buster's, Respondent/Cross Appellant. Electronically Filed Supreme Court Court Elizabeth A, Brown District Court Clerk of Supreme Court

## **Motion for Extension**

Appellant moves the Court for an Extension of Time and asks the Court to consider the late filed Reply Brief that was filed in this case on December 3, 2021. The Reply Brief was originally due October 8, 2021. The parties previously stipulated to extend the deadline pursuant to NRAP 31(b)(2). As a result of that stipulation and resulting Order, the brief was due November 8, 2021. Appellants then moved for and the Court granted an extension of the deadline for filing the Reply Brief through November 22, 2021. NRAP 31(b)(3).

Unfortunately, the week of November 22, 2021, Appellants' counsel had several unforeseen and unexpected circumstances that resulted in an error in that the Reply Brief was not timely filed. First, since the pandemic, Appellant's counsel's office has necessarily reduced in size and now consists of only one

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support staff position and two attorneys. Over the weekend preceding the November 22, 2021 deadline, the daughter of the support staff was diagnosed with COVID-19 and was in the hospital. This resulted in guarantine of their entire family and concern about the office being exposed. No one was actually in the office on November 22, 2021 and the deadline was overlooked. Lead counsel was out of town that week for the Thanksgiving holiday; however, upon arrival at the family gathering, it was discovered that some members of the family also tested positive for COVID-19. This resulted in quarantine for some and rearrangement of plans for other members of the family. The one associate attorney in the office, although she remained in Las Vegas, was over burdened with support staff duties and also had to print, bind, prepare and mail extensive paper briefs requested by the 9th Circuit Court (on a 7 day deadline during this holiday week that only included three business days.) Appellant believes the totality of circumstances described above demonstrate extraordinary and compelling circumstances supporting a further extension of time.

Upon realizing that the deadline was missed, Appellant's counsel contacted the Respondent's counsel requesting agreement with the late filing of the brief. Respondent's counsel agreed that it should be filed by Friday, December 3, 2021 and that he did not plan to move to strike as untimely. Appellant served and filed the Reply brief on that day, however, it was rejected as untimely, prompting this Motion. Appellant believes the issues raised in this appeal are ones of public importance and that the matter should be fully heard and decided on the merits, including the Reply brief. Appellants and their counsel thank the Court in advance for its consideration of this request in light of these circumstances.

Dated this 6th day of December, 2021.

Christensen Law Offices, LLC

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## **Certificate of Service**

I hereby certify that on the 6th day of December, 2021, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was served upon Michael Lowry, Esq., by electronic service through the Nevada Supreme Court's electronic filing system. All registered users for the case were thereby served.

Dated this 6th day of December, 2021.

Christensen Law Offices, LLC

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