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NRAP 26.1 DISCLOSURE

The undersigned counsel of record certifies that the following are persons and entities as described in NRAP 26.1(a), and must be disclosed:

- 1. The Appellant, CCMSI (CANNON COCHRAN MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.), states that it does not have any parent corporation, or any publicly held corporation that owns 10% or more of its stock, nor any publicly held corporation that has a direct financial interest in the outcome of the litigation. NRAP 26.1(a).
- The Appellant LAS VEGAS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT is a governmental party and therefore exempt from the NRAP 26.1 disclosure requirements.
- 3. The undersigned counsel of record for LAS VEGAS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT, CANNON COCHRAN MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC has appeared in this matter before District Court. DANIEL L. SCHWARTZ, ESQ. have also appeared for the same at the administrative proceedings before Department of Administration.

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33307-610

These representations are made in order that the judges of this court may evaluate possible disqualifications or recusal. DATED this ______ day of May, 2021. LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP By: JOELP, REEVES, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 013231 2300/W. Sahara Ave., Ste. 900, Box 28 Las Vegas, NV 89102 Attorneys for the Appellants

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& SMITH LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

MOTION FOR STAY OF DISTRICT COURT ORDER

COMES NOW Appellants LAS VEGAS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT and CANNON COCHRAN MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Appellants"), by and through their attorneys of record, DANIEL L. SCHWARTZ and JOEL P. REEVES, ESQ. of LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH, and hereby submits their Motion For Stay Of the District Court's Decision and Order. Appellants respectfully request that this Court stay the subject April 6, 2021 District Court Order while this Court considers and issues a ruling on Appellants' pending appeal of the same.

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The Claimant, ROBERT HOLLAND, (hereinafter referred to as "Claimant"), a retired police officer, alleges that on May 26, 2019, "while washing my vehicle I began to experience chest pain that radiated into my left arm. On Monday, 5/27/2019, I experienced the same symptoms occurred [sic] as I was leaving the gym." Dr. Wattoo completed two separate C-4 forms both indicating that the Claimant had two heart attacks. The Claimant was taken off of work from May 27, 2019 to June 17, 2019, (Exhibit C pp. 48-49)

During his tenure with the Employer, the Claimant was consistently

informed of elevated triglycerides and the need to correct the same.

On February 12, 2008, Claimant's examining physician ordered Claimant to correct elevated triglycerides. (Exhibit C pp. 51-57)

On March 9, 2009, the Claimant was ordered to correct elevated triglyceride and cholesterol levels. (Exhibit C pp. 58-65)

On February 22, 2010, the Claimant was ordered to correct abnormal labs including low HDL. (Exhibit C pp. 66-72)

On January 24, 2011, the Claimant was informed of the need to correct elevated triglycerides, which were at 159, and the Claimant was again advised to have a low fat diet. (Exhibit C pp. 73-81)

On April 9, 2012, the Claimant was again informed of the need to correct elevated triglycerides, which had risen to 181 since the last examination, and was advised to have a low fat diet and increased "cardio + 4 gm/day omega 2." (Exhibit C pp. 82-91)

Claimant retired on December 29, 2012.

The Claimant was hospitalized at the Summerlin Hospital Medical Center from May 29, 2019, through June 4, 2019 due to heart attack. Dr. Chaudry performed cardiac catheterization procedures on June 3, 2019. Claimant's triglycerides were noted as being 348, almost double what they were in 2012 when he was last informed to correct the same. (Exhibit C pp. 92-118; 70)

On July 23, 2019, a claim denial determination was issued. (Exhibit C pp. 128-131) Claimant appealed. (Exhibit C p. 134)

Following Hearing No. 2001960-JK, a Decision and Order was issued on September 17, 2019, which affirmed the denial of the claim. (Exhibit C pp. 136-137.) Claimant appealed. (Exhibit C p. 138.)

On July 27, 2020, after receiving written briefs, the Appeals Officer affirmed claim denial given that Claimant was ordered on multiple occasions to correct his triglycerides while he was employed but let them rise to almost double what they were when he was last warned. (Exhibit C pp. 3-12) Claimant filed a Petition for Judicial Review with the Clark County District Court.

On April 5, 2021, after receiving written briefs and hearing oral argument, the District Court reversed the Appeals Officer, finding that: (1) although Claimant was explicitly instructed to correct predisposing conditions, the instructions did not inform Claimant as to how he might correct those conditions; (2) that there was no evidence that correction was within Claimant's ability; (3) that Claimant was deemed able to continue employment despite being warned of conditions which would predispose him to heart disease; and (4) Claimant had proven a good faith attempt to correct his predisposing conditions because he was never prescribed medication for any heart condition. (Exhibit A) Notice of entry of order was filed on April 6, 2021.



On April 16, 2021, Appellants submitted to the District Court a Motion for Stay Pending Supreme Court Appeal and Motion for Order Shortening Time. The Motion for Order Shortening Time was granted and the Motion for Stay was filed on April 20, 2021.

On April 23, 2021, the Motion for Stay came on for hearing before the District Court. The Court denied the stay, stating that it did not believe that Appellants would suffer irreparable harm absent a stay and that the Court did not believe that Appellants would enjoy a likelihood of success on the merits. (Minutes from April 23, 2021 Hearing, attached hereto as Exhibit B)

On April 27, 2021, Appellants filed this appeal.

Appellants hereby file the instant Motion for Stay.

II.

LEGAL ARGUMENT

A. Reasons Given By District Court For Its Action, As Required By NRAP 8(a)(2)(A)(ii)

N.R.A.P. 8(a)(2)(A) states the following:

- (A) The Motion [for Stay] shall:
 - (i) show that moving first in the district court would be impracticable; or
 - (ii) state that, a motion having been made, the district court denied the motion or failed to afford the relief requested and state any reasons given by the district court for its action.

Here, Appellants moved for a stay in the District Court before filing the instant Motion. The District Court denied the Motion for Stay, stating that it did not believe that Appellants would suffer irreparable harm absent a stay and that the Court did not believe that Appellants would enjoy a likelihood of success on the merits. However, Appellants will suffer irreparable harm and believe that they do have a substantial likelihood of success on the merits given the legal errors of the District Court and the fact that Appeals Officer's Decision was based on substantial evidence.

B. This Court Should Grant The Stay Because All Four Factors In NRAP 8(c) Weigh In Favor Of Granting Appellants' Stay Request

In deciding whether to issue a stay, the following four factors are considered: 1) whether the object of the appeal or writ petition will be defeated if the stay is denied; 2) whether appellant/petitioner will suffer irreparable or serious injury if the stay is denied; 3) whether respondent/real party in interest will suffer irreparable or serious injury if the stay is granted; and 4) whether appellant/petitioner is likely to prevail on the merits in the appeal or writ petition. N.R.A.P. 8(c); see also, Kress v. Corey, 65 Nev. 1, 189 P.2d 353 (1948). These four factors weigh in favor of granting Appellants' stay request. Appellants will address each factor in turn.

LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP

1. The Object Of Appellants' Petition Will Be Defeated If The Stay Is Denied

Here, the object of the instant Petition for Judicial Review is the acceptance of this claim for workers' compensation benefits. Absent a stay of the Appeal Officer's Decision, Appellant Administrator is required to accept this claim, administer benefits, and could potentially be required to issue unrecoverable benefits such as a permanent partial disability award. As this case proceeds without a stay, Appellant will be required to issue benefits that it is not guaranteed to recoup even if it is successful on the merits of this Petition.

This Court held in Ransier v. SIIS, 104 Nev. 742, 766 P.2d 274 (1988), that an insurer may not seek recoupment of benefits paid to a claimant that were later found to be unwarranted on appeal. However, it must be noted that NRS 616C.138 was recently modified to allow insurers to recover amounts paid during the pendency of an appeal from a health or casualty insurer if the insurer is found to be entitled to the same. However, if there is no health or casualty insurer, Ransier applies and insurers cannot recover anything at all. Here, just as in most cases, there is nothing to indicate whether Petitioner has health or casualty insurance. Furthermore, under no circumstances could an insurer recover non-medical benefits. As such, without a stay, Appellant Administrator will be forced to pay out benefits which it cannot later recover directly from the Respondent even if Appellants are successful on the instant Petition. As such, the first factor weighs in

LEWIS 8 BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SVITH LLP favor of Appellants' request for a stay.

2. A Stay Is Necessary To Prevent Irreparable Or Serious Harm To Appellants

Given that Administrator will be required to administer this claim and may be required to issue benefits that it cannot recover, that harm is indeed irreparable. This factor weighs in favor of granting a Stay.

3. A Stay Would Not Cause Irreparable Or Serious Harm To Respondents

Here, there is no irreparable injury to Respondent. This is not a case involving something time sensitive such as emergency medical care. Indeed, it appears that Respondent has been seeking routine medical care on his own without issue. If, after this Honorable Court has decided this issue and Respondent is ultimately deemed to be entitled to benefits, he will receive them. There would be no reduction or withholding of any benefits just because a stay was granted.

4. Appellants Will Prevail On The Merits Of This Petition

Put simply, the District Court committed reversible error by reweighing the evidence and by adding new requirements to claims filed under NRS 417.457. It is Appellants' position that the Appeals Officer properly weighed the evidence, properly applied the law, and was therefore entitled to deference. The District Court's decision to essentially retry this case was itself reversible error and Appellants should not be forced to comply the same while this appeal is pending.

This is a claim for workers' compensation benefits under the police officer/fire fighter heart/lung bill. Specifically, this matter is governed by NRS 617.457 which provides in pertinent part as follows:

11. Failure to correct predisposing conditions which lead to heart disease when so ordered in writing by the examining physician subsequent to a physical examination required pursuant to subsection 4 or 5 excludes the employee from the benefits of this section if the correction is within the ability of the employee.

Here, Appellants do not dispute that Claimant has been diagnosed with a heart disease, that he was disabled by his heart disease, or that he has the necessary service with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department. Indeed, the Appeals Officer properly concluded that Claimant has made the necessary initial showing to qualify for the conclusive presumption of claim compensability afforded by NRS 617.457. However, under NRS 617.457(11), Claimants are excluded from that conclusive presumption if their annual examining physician orders them in writing to correct a condition which predisposes them to heart disease, they fail to correct the condition, and fail to prove that correction was not within their ability.

This Court has addressed this topic in the case of Emplrs. Ins. Co. of Nev. v. Daniels, 122 Nev. 1009, 145 P.3d 1024 (2006), holding that "[a]n employer can defend a claim by showing that the employee failed to correct a predisposing condition, such as smoking or being overweight, after being warned to do so in writing." If the employer can make that showing, per the last clause of NRS

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617.457(11), it is then incumbent upon the Claimant to prove that correction of the predisposing condition was not within his/her ability.

Here, between 2008 and 2012, Claimant was consistently warned about his high triglycerides and ordered to correct the same. Indeed, in 2011, Claimant was warned in writing to lower his triglycerides, which were at 159. Claimant, however, not only failed to do this, but in 2012, his triglycerides were even higher, at 181. Claimant was again notified in writing of the need to lower this figure. Then, according to the hospital records from 2019 when he filed the claim, Claimant's triglycerides were noted to be 348, almost double what they were in 2012.

There is no evidence that Claimant took any steps to either correct his preexisting conditions or even attempt to improve his health. Indeed, although Claimant was assessed with high blood pressure in 2015 and he began taking medication for the same, there is no indication that Claimant has done anything to lower his triglycerides which he has been informed are predisposing him to heart disease.

As was found by the Appeals Officer, it is undisputed that in the years before his retirement, Claimant was ordered to correct his triglycerides and was explicitly informed that failure to correct the same would exclude him from benefits under NRS 617.457. It is also undisputed that Claimant's triglycerides

were almost two times more when he filed this claim and there is no evidence that Claimant took any steps to correct the same. The Appeals Officer's decision was proper and supported by substantial evidence.

III.

CONCLUSION

Based upon all of the above, it is the belief of Appellants, LAS VEGAS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT and CANNON COCHRAN MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC., that a stay of the District Court's decision, dated April 5, 2021, is necessary to prevent irreparable harm to Appellants.

WHEREFORE, Appellants, LAS VEGAS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT and CANNON COCHRAN MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC., respectfully requests that this Court grant its Motion For Stay.

Dated this _____ day of May, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

LEWIS, BRISBOIS, BISGAARD & SMITH, LLP

DANIEL E. SCHWARTZ, ESQ.

Nevada Bar No. 005125

JOEL P. REEVES, ESQ.

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- 1. I hereby certify that this brief complies with the formatting requirements of NRAP 32(a)(4), the typeface requirements of NRAP 32(a)(5) and the type style requirements of NRAP 32(a)(6) because this brief has been prepared in a proportionally spaced typeface using Microsoft Word in Times New Roman font size 14.
- 2. I further certify that this brief complies with the type-volume limitations of NRAP 27(d) because, excluding the parts of the brief exempted by NRAP 32(a)(7)(C), it is proportionally spaced, has a typeface of 14 points or more, and is ten (10) pages in length.
- 3. Finally, I hereby certify that I have read this appellate brief, and to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, it is not frivolous or interposed for any improper purpose. I further certify that this brief complies with all applicable Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure, in particular NRAP 28(e)(1), which requires every assertion in the brief regarding matters in the record to be supported by a reference to the page and volume number, if any, of the transcript or appendix where the matter relied on is to be found. I understand that I may be subject to

sanctions in the event that the accompanying brief is not in conformity with the requirements of the Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure.

Respectfully submitted,
LEWIS, BRISBOIS, BISGAARD & SMITH,
LLP

DANIEL L. SCHWARTZ, ESQ(005125)
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Attorneys for Appellants

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

2 Pursuant to Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure 5(b), I hereby certify that, on the 5th day of May, 2021, service of the attached MOTION FOR STAY OF 3 APPEAL OFFICER'S DECISION AND ORDER was made this date by 4 5 depositing a true copy of the same for mailing, first class mail, and/or electronic service as follows: 6 LISA M. ANDERSON GREENMAN, GOLDBERG, RABY & MARTINEZ 2770 S MARYLAND PKWY SUITE 100 LAS VEGAS, NV 89109 10 LVMPD- HEALTH DETAIL 11 ATTN: BERNADINE WELSH 400 S. MARTIN LUTHER KING BLVD. BUILDING B 12 LAS VEGAS, NV 89106 13 CCMSI 14 ATTN: STEPHANIE MACY 15 P.O. BOX 35350 LAS VEGAS, NV 89133 16 17 18

An employee of LEWIS, BRISBOIS, BISGAARD & SMITH, LLP

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EXHIBITA

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10	CLARK CO	OUNTY, NEVADA			
10	ROBERT HOLLAND,	`			
11	ROBERT HOLLAND,)			
12	Petitioner).			
13)	x 00 010054:		
	Vs.) CASE NO. :) DEPT. NO. :	A-20-818754-3 XXI		
14	LAS VEGAS METROPOLLITAN POLICE				
15	DEPARTMENT, CCMSI, and THE	ý			
16	DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION,) .			
	HEARINGS DIVISION,)			
17	Respondents.	<i>)</i>			

ORDER GRANTING PETITION FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW

This matter came before this Court on the Petition for Judicial Review filed by the Petitioner, ROBERT HOLLAND. Petitioner was represented by LISA M. ANDERSON, ESQ. of the law firm of GREENMAN GOLDBERG RABY & MARTINEZ. Respondents, LAS VEGAS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT and CCMSI, were represented by DANIAL L. SCHWARTZ. ESQ. and JOEL P. REEVES, ESQ. of the law firm LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH. No other parties were present or represented. After reviewing the record and considering the briefs, this matter is decided as follows:

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This matter came before this Court on March 10, 2021 for hearing on the July 29, 2020 Petition for Judicial Review. The Court has re-reviewed the December 29, 2020 Petitioner's Opening Brief, the February 1, 2021 Respondent's Answering Brief, and the March 2, 2021 Petitioner's Reply Brief, and the entirety of the record, including the November 20, 202+ Transmittal of Record on Appeal, which contains the Record on Appeal, and hereby FINDS that pursuant to NRS 233B.135, the Appeals Officer's July 27, 2020 Decision and Order is not supported by substantial evidence in the Record on Appeal.

Here, the parties agree that, pursuant to NRS 617.457(1), Petitioner meets the two (2) qualifications for the conclusive presumption that Petitioner's related heart condition has arisen out of and in the course of the employment: (1) Petitioner has related heart disease; and (2) Petitioner is a retired twenty-five (24) year veteran of Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department. However, the parties are in disagreement of whether or not pursuant to NRS 617.457(11), Petitioner failed to correct predisposing conditions after ordered to do so in writing, and that the correction was within the ability of Petitioner, such that Petitioner would no longer be entitled to the NRS 617.457(1) conclusive presumption.

Although the Appeals Officer's July 27, 2020 Decision and Order recite Petitioner's related medical history and that Petitioner did not correct the predisposing conditions of which he was warned, i.e. cholesterol, triglycerides, LDL, all of which contribute to heart disease, the Decision and Order does so summarily.

First, the Court FINDS that the medical records did contain written instructions to Petitioner to correct predisposing conditions. However, the Court notes that these written instructions were much too general in nature to effect change to Petitioner's cholesterol, triglycerides, LDL Levels, and not at all specific and pointed. Rather, specific and pointed

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advice would have included recommendations that Petitioner adopt a given regimented diet plan and/or given regimented exercise routine, both programs of which would have laid out diet specific instructions as to what Petitioner could and could not eat, and specific exercise instructions as to what exercises Petitioner needed to complete, frequency, duration, etc.

Second, with regard to the NRS 617.457(11) requirement that correction of the predisposed conditions be within Petitioner's ability, the Court FINDS that Petitioner's medical records do not contain sufficient documentation that correcting the predisposing conditions was within Petitioner's ability as contemplated by NRS 617.457(11). Specifically, the physician's recommendations of diet change and exercise programs, i.e. low fat diet, cardio, and 4 mg/day omega 2, etc., coupled with recurring testing of cholesterol, triglycerides, LDL, which primarily yielded unchanging results, is an insufficient basis to support the NRS 617.457(11) requirement that correcting Petitioner's predisposed conditions: cholesterol, triglycerides, LDL, was within the ability of the employee to control.

Third, for the relevant period 2008 to 2012, the reviewing physicians that conducted Petitioner's annual physical examination concluded: 2008 - In conclusion with all the information that has been provided to me, it appears you are in good health and remain acceptable for employment; and for 2009 2012 - In conclusion with all the information that has been provided to me, it appears that the employee is in good health and remains acceptable for employment.

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The physician's minimal recommendations of a low fat diet, cardio, and 4 mg/day omega 2, combined with a finding that Petitioner was in good health suggest to this Court that Petitioner exercised good faith in adhering to the physician's recommendations. Additionally, there was no indication in the Record to the contrary. This, in fact, resulted in Petitioner receiving consecutive bills of good health from 2008 to 2012.

Lastly, the physicians did not prescribe any cholesterol, triglycerides, or LDL medication to further control Petitioner's cholesterol, triglycerides, LDL levels. This illustrates to this Court that Petitioner, in good faith, was doing what he was supposed to be doing, and despite following his physician's recommendations, Petitioner's inability to alter his cholesterol, triglycerides, or LDL levels suggests that Petitioner may have been incapable of correcting his predisposing conditions through diet and exercise alone. This negates the NRS 617.457(11) requirement that correction of the predisposed conditions be within Petitioner's ability.

BI

	1	Therefore, this Court FINDS that the Appeals Officer's July 27, 2020 Decision and			
	2	Order is not supported by substantial evidence and necessarily GRANTS Petitioner, Robert			
	3	Holland's, Petition for Judicial Review.			
	4.				
	5	Dated this day of, 2021.			
	6	Dated this 5th day of April, 2021			
	7	Alle			
	8	TARA CLARK NEWBER			
•		DISTRICT COURT JUDGE			
	.9	238 42F 3A34 07EE Tara Clark Newberry			
O CAMPA	10	Submitted by: District Court Judge			
16Z	11	GREENMAN GOLDBERG RABY & MARTINEZ			
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3by		LISA M. ANDERSON, ESQ.			
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Greenman Goldberg Raby Martinez	19	Approved as to form and content:			
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	21	LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH			
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		DANIEL I SCHWARTZ ESO			
	23	PANIEL L. SCHWARTZ, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 005125			
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		Las Vegas, Nevada 89102			
	27	Attorneys for Respondents			

DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Robert Holland, Petitioner(s)

CASE NO: A-20-818754-J

vs.

CSERV

DEPT. NO. Department 21

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Respondent(s)

Respondent(s)

AUTOMATED CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This automated certificate of service was generated by the Eighth Judicial District Court. The foregoing Order Granting was served via the court's electronic eFile system to all recipients registered for e-Service on the above entitled case as listed below:

Service Date: 4/5/2021

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EXHIBIT B

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4811-9278-1800,1 4828-0496-7697,1 33307-610

DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Worker's Compensation Appeal

COURT MINUTES

April 23, 2021

A-20-818754-I

Robert Holland, Petitioner(s)

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Respondent(s)

April 23, 2021

11:00 AM

Motion

HEARD BY: Clark Newberry, Tara

COURTROOM: RJC Courtroom 16C

COURT CLERK: Kathryn Hansen-McDowell

RECORDER:

Robin Page

REPORTER:

PARTIES

PRESENT:

Anderson, Lisa M

Reeves, Joel

Attorney

Attorney

JOURNAL ENTRIES

- Court noted it reviewed the Motion and the Opposition. Colloquy regarding whether the Respondent was seeking a reconsideration of the Court's decision granting the petition for judicial review and a stay. Mr. Reeves stated they had not specifically filed a motion for reconsideration but for a stay. Following arguments by counsel regarding the a stay pending an appeal; COURT stated its FINDINGS and ORDERED, Respondent's Motion for a Stay DENIED. Ms. Anderson to prepare the order, run it by opposing counsel and submit it to the Court.

PRINT DATE: 04/28/2021

Page 1 of 1

Minutes Date:

April 23, 2021