#### IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

\*\*\*

AEROGROW INTERNATIONAL, INC..

Petitioner,

VS.

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, IN AND FOR CLARK COUNTY, THE HONORABLE ELIZABETH GONZALEZ,

Respondents,

and

BRADLEY LOUIS RADOFF, FRED M. ADAMCYZK, THOMAS C. ALBANESE, WILLIAM A. ALMOND, III, MICHAEL S. BARISH, GEORGE C. BETKE, JR. 2019 TRUST, DIANA BOYD, ANNE CAROL DECKER, THOMAS H. DECKER, THE DEUTSCH FAMILY TRUST, JOHN C. FISCHER, ALFREDO GOMEZ, ALFREDO GOMEZ FMT CO CUST IRA ROLLOVER, LAWRENCE GREENBERG, PATRICIA GREENBERG, KAREN HARDING, H.L. SEVERANCE, INC. PROFIT SHARING PLAN & TRUST, H.L. SEVERANCE, INC. PENSION PLAN & TRUST, DANIEL G. HOFSTEIN, KEVIN JOHNSON, CANDICE KAYE, LAURA J. KOBY, CAROLE

Case Number: Electronically Filed May 13 2021 11:49 a.m.

Elizabeth A. Brown

District Court Case Nemeror Supreme Court A-21-827665-B (Lead Case), Dept. XI

PETITIONERS' APPENDIX (VOLUME 12 OF 12)

FOR WRIT OF MANDAMUS TO REVERSE DISTRICT COURT'S ORDER GRANTING JOINT MOTION TO COMPEL L. MCLAUGHLIN, BRIAN PEIERLS, JOSEPH E. PETER, ALEXANDER PERELBERG, AMY PERELBERG. DANA PERELBERG, GARY PERELBERG, LINDA PERELBERG, THE REALLY COOL GROUP. RICHARD ALAN RUDY REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST. JAMES D. RICKMAN, JR., JAMES D. RICKMAN, JR. IRREVOCABLE TRUST, PATRICIA D. RICKMAN IRREVOCABLE TRUST, ANDREW REESE RICKMAN TRUST, SCOTT JOSEPH RICKMAN IRREVOCABLE TRUST, MARLON DEAN ALESSANDRA TRUST, BRYAN ROBSON, WAYNE SICZ IRA, WAYNE SICZ ROTH IRA, THE CAROL W. SMITH REVOCABLE TRUST, THOMAS K. SMITH, SURAJ VASANTH, CATHAY C. WANG, LISA DAWN WANG, DARCY J. WEISSENBORN, THE MARGARET S. WEISSENBORN REVOCABLE TRUST, THE STANTON F. WEISSENBORN IRA, THE STANTON F. WEISSENBORN REVOCABLE TRUST, THE STANTON F. WEISSENBORN IRREVOCABLE TRUST, THE NATALIE WOLMAN LIVING TRUST, ALAN BUDD ZUCKERMAN, JACK WALKER, STEPHEN KAYE, THE MICHAEL S. BARISH IRA, AND THE ALEXANDER PERELBERG IRA.

Real Parties in Interest.

## BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK, LLP

KIRK B. LENHARD, ESQ. NV Bar No. 1437 MAXIMILIEN D. FETAZ, ESQ. NV Bar No. 12737 TRAVIS F. CHANCE, ESQ. NV Bar No. 13800 100 North City Parkway, Suite 1600 Las Vegas, NV 89106-4614

#### JONES DAY

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Pursuant to Nev. R. App. P. 25, I certify that I am an employee of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP, and that on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021, I electronically filed, served, and sent via United States Mail a true and correct copy of the above and forgoing that, in accordance therewith, I caused a copy of the PETITIONERS' APPENDIX (VOLUME 12 of 12) FOR WRIT OF MANDAMUS TO REVERSE DISTRICT COURT'S ORDER GRANTING JOINT MOTION TO COMPEL to be hand delivered, in a sealed envelope, on the date and to the addressee(s) shown below:

#### **Court:**

Judge Elizabeth Gonzalez
Eighth Judicial District of Clark County
Regional Justice Center
200 Lewis Ave.
Las Vegas, NV 89155

#### **Real Parties in Interest:**

Terry A. Coffing, Esq. Marquis Aurbach Coffing 10001 Park Run Drive Las Vegas, Nevada 89145

Attorneys for Real Party in Interest BRADLEY LOUIS RADOFF J. Robert Smith SIMONS HALL JOHNSTON PC 6490 S. McCarran Blvd., Ste. F-46 Reno, Nevada 89509

Attorneys for Real Parties in Interest FRED M. ADAMCYZK, THOMAS C. ALBANESE, WILLIAM A. ALMOND, III, MICHAEL S. BARISH, GEORGE C. BETKE, JR. 2019 TRUST, DIANA BOYD, ANNE CAROL DECKER,

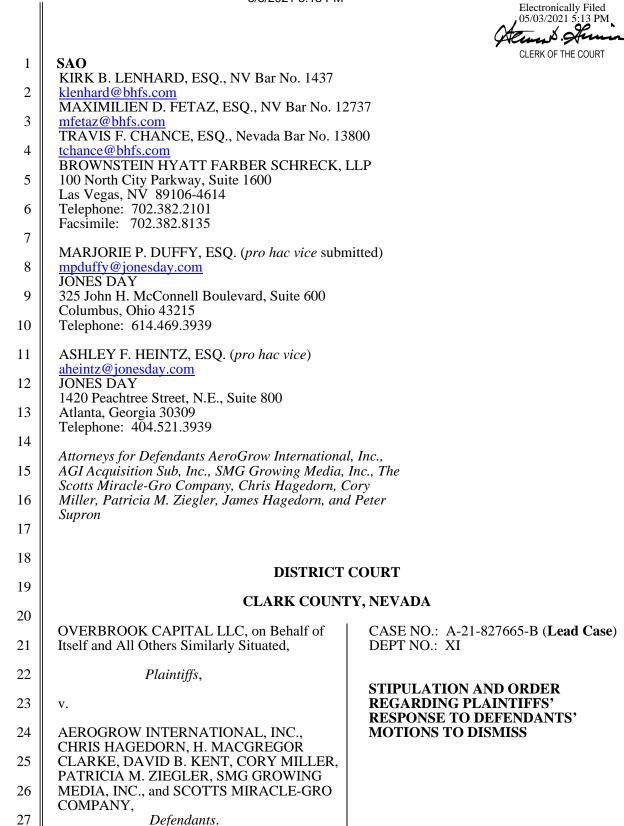
THOMAS H. DECKER, THE DEUTSCH FAMILY TRUST. JOHN C. FISCHER, ALFREDO GOMEZ, ALFREDO GOMEZ FMT CO CUST IRA ROLLOVER, LAWRENCE GREENBERG, PATRICIA GREENBERG, KAREN HARDING, H.L. SEVERANCE, INC. PROFIT SHARING PLAN & TRUST, H.L. SEVERANCE, INC. PENSION PLAN & TRUST, DANIEL G. HOFSTEIN, KEVIN JOHNSON, CANDICE KAYE, LAURA J. KOBY, CAROLE L. MCLAUGHLIN, BRIAN PEIERLS, JOSEPH E. PETER, ALEXANDER PERELBERG, AMY PERELBERG, DANA PERELBERG, GARY PERELBERG, LINDA PERELBERG, THE REALLY COOL GROUP. RICHARD ALAN RUDY REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST, JAMES D. RICKMAN. JR.. JAMES D. RICKMAN. JR. IRREVOCABLE TRUST. PATRICIA D. RICKMAN IRREVOCABLE TRUST, ANDREW REESE RICKMAN TRUST, SCOTT JOSEPH RICKMAN IRREVOCABLE TRUST, MARLON DEAN ALESSANDRA TRUST, BRYAN ROBSON, WAYNE SICZ IRA, WAYNE SICZ ROTH IRA, THE CAROL W. SMITH REVOCABLE TRUST. THOMAS K. SMITH, SURAJ VASANTH, CATHAY C. WANG, LISA DAWN WANG, DARCY J. WEISSENBORN, THE MARGARET S. WEISSENBORN REVOCABLE TRUST, THE STANTON F. WEISSENBORN IRA, THE STANTON F. WEISSENBORN REVOCABLE

TRUST, THE STANTON F. WEISSENBORN IRREVOCABLE TRUST, THE NATALIE WOLMAN LIVING TRUST, ALAN BUDD ZUCKERMAN, JACK WALKER, STEPHEN KAYE, THE MICHAEL S. BARISH IRA, AND THE ALEXANDER PERELBERG IRA

/s/ Wendy Cosby

/s/ Wendy Cosby
An employee of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LL

#### ELECTRONICALLY SERVED 5/3/2021 5:13 PM



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Lead Plaintiff, the "Parties"), by and through their respective counsel of record, stipulate and agree as follows:

WHEREAS, on February 26, 2021, pursuant to this Court's February 18, 2021 order, Plaintiffs filed a Consolidated Class Action Complaint against Defendants, asserting claims (1) for breach of fiduciary duty against The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, James Hagedorn, and SMG Growing Media, Inc., as alleged controlling stockholders; (2) for breach of fiduciary duty against Chris Hagedorn, H. MacGregor Clarke, David B. Kent, Cory Miller, and Patricia M. Ziegler; (3) and for aiding and abetting breach of fiduciary duty against James Hagedorn, Peter Supron, AeroGrow International, Inc., AGI Acquisition Sub, Inc., Chris Hagedorn, H. MacGregor Clarke, David B. Kent, Cory Miller, and Patricia M. Ziegler.

WHEREAS, the Parties agreed on a briefing schedule for Defendants' responses to the Consolidated Complaint and submitted a stipulation and proposed order, which the Court entered on March 17, 2021;

WHEREAS, on April 16, 2021, Defendants filed the following two motions to dismiss directed to the Consolidated Complaint: (1) AeroGrow International, Inc., Chris Hagedorn, H. Macgregor Clarke, David B. Kent, Cory Miller & Patricia M. Ziegler's Motion to Dismiss the Consolidated Class Action Complaint (the "AeroGrow and Directors' Motion to Dismiss"); and (2) SMG Growing Media, Inc., The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, AGI Acquisition Sub, Inc., James Hagedorn, & Peter Supron's Motion to Dismiss the Consolidated Class Action Complaint (the "Scotts Defendants' Motion to Dismiss");

WHEREAS, the motions to dismiss assert arguments under Rule 12(b)(5), and the Scotts Defendants' Motion to Dismiss also asserts arguments under Rule 12(b)(2) as to certain defendants;

WHEREAS, both motions to dismiss are currently subject to the same briefing schedule and are both set for hearing on June 21, 2021;

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs have advised Defendants that they believe they are entitled to discovery in order to oppose the Rule 12(b)(2) arguments in the Scotts' Defendants' Motion to Dismiss:

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WHEREAS, Defendants dispute that Plaintiffs are entitled to discovery at this time, including, but not limited to, in order to oppose the Rule 12(b)(2) arguments asserted in the Scotts Defendants' Motion to Dismiss;

WHEREAS, the Parties have met and conferred about Plaintiffs' request to conduct discovery relevant to the Rule 12(b)(2) arguments asserted in the Scotts Defendants' Motion to Dismiss, and any potential effect of that request on the previously ordered briefing schedule;

WHEREAS, the Parties believe the compromise reflected in this stipulation represents a mutually-agreeable and efficient way to resolve the Parties' differences by holding in abeyance further briefing and the hearing on the portion of the Scotts Defendants' Motion to Dismiss asserting arguments under Rule 12(b)(2)—specifically, Argument Part II therein (pages 6-13) while otherwise maintaining the current briefing schedule and hearing date on all other arguments presented in both motions to dismiss—i.e., the arguments pursuant to Rule 12(b)(5) in both motions;

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED, by and between the undersigned counsel for Lead Plaintiff and Defendants that:

- 1. The Parties agree that The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company and James Hagedorn have preserved those defenses and objections under Rule 12(b)(2) contained in their previously-filed motion to dismiss, and are in compliance with Rule 12(h) with respect to such motion;
- 2. The Parties agree that, at this time, Plaintiffs need not answer, respond to, or otherwise address the Rule 12(b)(2) arguments presented in the Scotts Defendants' Motion to Dismiss;
- 3. If the Court denies the Rule 12(b)(5) arguments in the pending motions to dismiss as to The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company and James Hagedorn, or grants the motion with leave to amend, the Parties will further meet and confer about the necessary discovery, if any, to oppose the Rule 12(b)(2) arguments in the Scotts Defendants' Motion to Dismiss;
- 4. The current briefing schedule and hearing date for the pending Rule 12(b)(5) motions to dismiss shall remain in effect; and

5. 1 The Parties further agree that this Stipulation shall not operate to waive, release, 2 compromise, or prejudice any rights, defenses, arguments or claims Plaintiffs and Defendants may 3 have, including any concerning any right to discovery, the scope of any such right to discovery, 4 and the ability of this Court to exercise jurisdiction over Defendants. 5 IT IS SO STIPULATED. 6 DATED this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2021. DATED this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2021. 7 **BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER KEMP JONES LLP** SCHRECK, LLP 8 9 By: /s/ Maximilien D. Fetaz By: /s/ Don Springmeyer KIRK B. LENHARD, ESQ. DON SPRINGMEYER, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 1437 10 Nevada Bar No. 1021 MAXIMILIEN D. FETAZ, ESQ. MICHAEL GAYAN, ESQ. 11 Nevada Bar No. 12737 Nevada Bar No. 11135 TRAVIS F. CHANCE, ESQ. 12 Nevada Bar No. 13800 **BOTTINI & BOTTINI, INC.** 13 **JONES DAY** FRANCIS A. BOTTINI, JR., ESO. MARJORIE P. DUFFY, ESO. (pro hac vice forthcoming) 14 (pro hac vice submitted) YURY A. KOLESNIKOV, ESQ. ASHLEY F. HEINTZ, ESO. (pro hac vice forthcoming) 15 (admitted *pro hac vice*) Attorneys for Lead Plaintiff Nicoya Capital 16 Attorneys for Defendants AeroGrow LLC International, Inc., AGI Acquisition Sub, Inc., 17 SMG Growing Media, Inc., The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, Chris Hagedorn, 18 Cory Miller, Patricia M. Ziegler, James Hagedorn, and Peter Supron 19 DATED this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2021. 20 PISANELLI BICE PLLC 21 By: /s/M. Magali Mercera JAMES J. PISANELLI, ESQ. 22 Nevada Bar No. 4027 23 M. MAGALI MERCERA, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 11742 24 **BRYAN CAVE LEIGHTON** 25 PAISNER LLP TIMOTHY R. BEYER, ESQ. 26 (pro hac vice forthcoming) 27 Attorneys for Defendants H. Macgregor Clarke and David B. Kent 28

# BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK, LLP 100 North City Parkway, Suite 1600 Las Vegas, NV 89106-4614 702.382.2101

#### **ORDER**

The above stipulation having been considered and good cause appearing therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendants The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company and James Hagedorn have preserved all defenses and objections under Rule 12(b)(2) asserted in their previously-filed and pending motion, and are in compliance with Rule 12(h) with respect to such motion;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiffs, at this time, need not answer, respond to, or otherwise address the Rule 12(b)(2) arguments presented in the Scotts Defendants' Motion to Dismiss;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that after the Court rules on the pending Rule 12(b)(5) motions filed by Defendants, and if at that time any claims remain against The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company and James Hagedorn, the Parties will further meet and confer about the necessary discovery, if any, to oppose the Rule 12(b)(2) arguments in the Scotts Defendants' Motion to Dismiss;

#### [ORDER CONTINUED ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE]

	1	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the current briefing schedule and hearing date for the
	2	pending Rule 12(b)(5) motions to dismiss shall remain in effect.
	3	IT IS SO ORDERED.
	4	DATED this day of, 2021 Dated this 3rd day of May, 2021
	5	EI. HALLO. D
	6	
	7	Submitted by:
	8	BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK79LRDA F907 ACFC Elizabeth Gonzalez
	9	By: <u>/s/ Maximilien D. Fetaz</u> <b>District Court Judge</b> KIRK B. LENHARD, ESQ., Nevada Bar No. 1437
	10	MAXIMILIEN D. FETAZ, ESQ., Nevada Bar No. 12737 TRAVIS F. CHANCE, ESQ., Nevada Bar No. 13800
te 1600 14	11	JONES DAY
way, Suii 89106-46 2101	12	MARJORIE P. DUFFY, ESQ. (pro hac vice submitted) ASHLEY F. HEINTZ, ESQ. (pro hac vice)
100 North City Parkway, Suite 1600 Las Vegas, NV 89106-4614 702.382.2101	13	Attorneys for Defendants AeroGrow International, Inc., AGI
	14 15	Acquisition Sub, Inc., SMG Growing Media, Inc., The Scotts Miracle- Gro Company, Chris Hagedorn, Cory Miller, Patricia M. Ziegler,
001	16	James Hagedorn, and Peter Supron
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#### Cosby, Wendy C.

**From:** Fetaz, Maximilien

**Sent:** Monday, May 3, 2021 4:21 PM **To:** Magali Mercera; Don Springmeyer

Cc: Lenhard, Kirk B.; Chance, Travis F.; Heintz, Ashley F.; Duffy, Marjorie P.; James Pisanelli;

Beyer, Tim; Michael Gayan; Frank Bottini

Subject: RE: [External] AeroGrow adv. Overbrook: SAO re Pltf's Response to Defts' Motions to

**Dismiss** 

Thank you Don. And I appreciate the close read Magali. I will make that change. Appreciate you both.

#### Maximilien D. Fetaz

Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP 100 North City Parkway, Suite 1600 Las Vegas, NV 89106 702.464.7083 tel MFetaz@BHFS.com

From: Magali Mercera <mmm@pisanellibice.com>

Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 4:16 PM

**To:** Don Springmeyer <d.springmeyer@kempjones.com>; Fetaz, Maximilien <MFetaz@BHFS.com>

Cc: Lenhard, Kirk B. <KLenhard@BHFS.com>; Chance, Travis F. <tchance@bhfs.com>; Heintz, Ashley F.

<aheintz@jonesday.com>; Duffy, Marjorie P. <mpduffy@jonesday.com>; James Pisanelli <jjp@pisanellibice.com>;

Beyer, Tim <tim.beyer@bclplaw.com>; Michael Gayan <m.gayan@kempjones.com>; Frank Bottini

<fbottini@bottinilaw.com>

Subject: RE: [External] AeroGrow adv. Overbrook: SAO re Pltf's Response to Defts' Motions to Dismiss

Max -

There is an extra space and comma on page 4, line 24. Other than that correction, you may apply my e-signature.

Thanks,

#### M. Magali Mercera

PISANELLI BICE, PLLC

Telephone: (702) 214-2100

mmm@pisanellibice.com | www.pisanellibice.com



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From: Don Springmeyer <d.springmeyer@kempjones.com>

Sent: Monday, May 3, 2021 2:16 PM

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Cc: Lenhard, Kirk B. <<u>KLenhard@BHFS.com</u>>; Chance, Travis F. <<u>tchance@bhfs.com</u>>; Heintz, Ashley F.

<a href="mailto:aheintz@jonesday.com">">; James Pisanelli < jip@pisanellibice.com">">; James Pisanelli < jip@pisanellibice.com</a>

Beyer, Tim <<u>tim.beyer@bclplaw.com</u>>; Michael Gayan <<u>m.gayan@kempjones.com</u>>; Frank Bottini

#### <fbottini@bottinilaw.com>

Subject: RE: [External] AeroGrow adv. Overbrook: SAO re Pltf's Response to Defts' Motions to Dismiss

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Don Springmeyer, Esq.



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Frank Bottini

Subject: [External] AeroGrow adv. Overbrook: SAO re Pltf's Response to Defts' Motions to Dismiss

Don/Magali,

Attached is the final of the Stipulation and Order re Plaintiffs' response to Defendants' Motion to Dismiss. Please advise if we may affix your respective e-signature to the attached. Thank you,

#### Maximilien D. Fetaz

Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP 100 North City Parkway, Suite 1600 Las Vegas, NV 89106 702.464.7083 tel MFetaz@BHFS.com

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1	CSERV				
2	DISTRICT COURT				
3	CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA				
4					
5					
6	Overbrook Capital, LLC, Plaintiff(s)	CASE NO: A-21-827665-B			
7	Vs.	DEPT. NO. Department 11			
8	Aerogrow International, Inc.,				
9	Defendant(s)				
10					
11	AUTOMATED CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE				
12	This automated certificate of service was generated by the Eighth Judicial District				
13	Court. The foregoing Stipulation and Order was served via the court's electronic eFile system to all recipients registered for e-Service on the above entitled case as listed below:				
14	Service Date: 5/3/2021				
15					
16	Ali Augustine	a.augustine@kempjones.com			
17	Michael Gayan	m.gayan@kempjones.com			
18	Travis Chance	tchance@bhfs.com			
19 20	Maximillen Fetaz	mfetaz@bhfs.com			
21	Terry Coffing	tcoffing@maclaw.com			
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24	Sean Connell	sean@mlolegal.com			
25	Pamela Montgomery	p.montgomery@kempjones.com			
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1	Alexander Calaway	acalaway@maclaw.com
2 3	Kirk Lenhard	klenhard@bhfs.com
4	Don Springmeyer	d.springmeyer@kempjones.com
5	M Mercera	mmm@pisanellibice.com
6	James Pisanelli	lit@pisanellibice.com
7	Cinda Towne	cct@pisanellibice.com
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14	Michael Paslavsky	mpaslavsky@jonesday.com
15	Elizabeth Benshoff	ebenshoff@jonesday.com
16	Roxanne Argabrite	rfargabrite@jonesday.com
17 18	Patricia Avery	pavery@wolfpopper.com
19	Chet Waldman	cwaldman@wolfpopper.com
20	Antoinette Adesanya	aadesanya@wolfpopper.com
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**Electronically Filed** 5/4/2021 7:48 AM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT 1 **NTSO** KIRK B. LENHARD, ESQ., NV Bar No. 1437 2 klenhard@bhfs.com MAXIMILIEN D. FETAZ, ESQ., NV Bar No. 12737 3 mfetaz@bhfs.com TRAVIS F. CHANCE, ESQ., Nevada Bar No. 13800 4 tchance@bhfs.com BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK, LLP 5 100 North City Parkway, Suite 1600 Las Vegas, NV 89106-4614 Telephone: 702.382.2101 6 Facsimile: 702.382.8135 7 MARJORIE P. DUFFY, ESQ. (pro hac vice submitted) 8 mpduffy@jonesday.com JONES DAY 9 325 John H. McConnell Boulevard, Suite 600 Columbus, Ohio 43215 Telephone: 614.469.3939 10 ASHLEY F. HEINTZ, ESQ. (pro hac vice) 11 aheintz@jonesday.com 12 JONES DAY 1420 Peachtree Street, N.E., Suite 800 13 Atlanta, Georgia 30309 Telephone: 404.521.3939 14 Attorneys for Defendants AGI Acquisition Sub, Inc., SMG 15 *Growing Media, Inc., The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company,* AeroGrow International, Inc., Chris Hagedorn, Cory Miller, Patricia M. Ziegler, James Hagedorn, and Peter 16 Supron 17 18 DISTRICT COURT 19 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 20 OVERBROOK CAPITAL LLC, on Behalf of CASE NO.: A-21-827665-B (**Lead Case**) 21 Itself and All Others Similarly Situated, DEPT NO.: XI 22 Plaintiffs, NOTICE OF ENTRY OF STIPULATION AND ORDER **REGARDING PLAINTIFFS'** 23 v. RESPONSE TO DEFENDANTS' 24 AEROGROW INTERNATIONAL, INC., MOTIONS TO DISMISS CHRIS HAGEDORN, H. MACGREGOR 25 CLARKE, DAVID B. KENT, CORY MILLER, PATRICIA M. ZIEGLER, SMG GROWING MEDIA, INC., and SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO 26 COMPANY, 27 Defendants. 28

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2	NICOYA CAPITAL, LLC, on behalf of itself and all other similarly situated,	CASE NO.: A-21-827745-B
3	•	
4	Plaintiffs,	
5	V.	
6	CHRIS HAGEDORN, H. MACGREGOR CLARKE, DAVID B. KENT, CORY MILLER, PATRICIA M. ZIEGLER, JAMES	
7	HAGEDORN, PETER SUPRON,	
8	and	
9	AEROGROW INTERNATIONAL, INC., a Nevada Corporation, and AGI ACQUISITION	
10	SUB, INC., a Nevada Corporation, SMG GROWING MEDIA, INC., an Ohio	
11	Corporation, and SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY, an Ohio Corporation,	
12	Defendants.	
13	BRADLEY LOUIS RADOFF,	CASE NO.: A-21-829854-B
14	Plaintiff,	
15	V.	
16	CHRIS HAGEDORN, an individual; H. MACGREGOR CLARKE, an individual;	
17	DAVID B. KENT, an individual; CORY MILLER, an individual; PATRICIA M.	
18	ZIEGLER, individual; JAMES HAGEDORN, an individual; PETER SUPRON, an individual;	
19	AEROGROW INTERNATIONAL, INC., a Nevada Corporation; AGI ACQUISITION	
20	SUB, INC., a Nevada Corporation; SMG GROWING MEDIA, INC., an Ohio	
21	Corporation; THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY, an Ohio Corporation; DOES I	
22	through X, inclusive; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive.	
23	Defendants.	
24	Dejenums.	
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PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Stipulation and Order Regarding Plaintiffs' Response to Defendants' Motions to Dismiss was entered on May 3, 2021. A copy of said order is attached hereto. DATED this 4<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021. BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK, LLP BY: /s/ Maximilien D. Fetaz KIRK B. LENHARD, ESQ. MAXIMILIEN D. FETAZ, ESQ. TRAVIS F. CHANCE, ESQ. MARJORIE P. DUFFY, ESQ. (pro hac vice submitted) ASHLEY F. HEINTZ, ESQ. (admitted *pro hac vice*) **JONES DAY** Attorneys for Defendants AGI Acquisition Sub, Inc., SMG Growing Media, Inc., The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, AeroGrow International, Inc., Chris Hagedorn, Cory Miller, Patricia M. Ziegler, James Hagedorn, and Peter Supron 

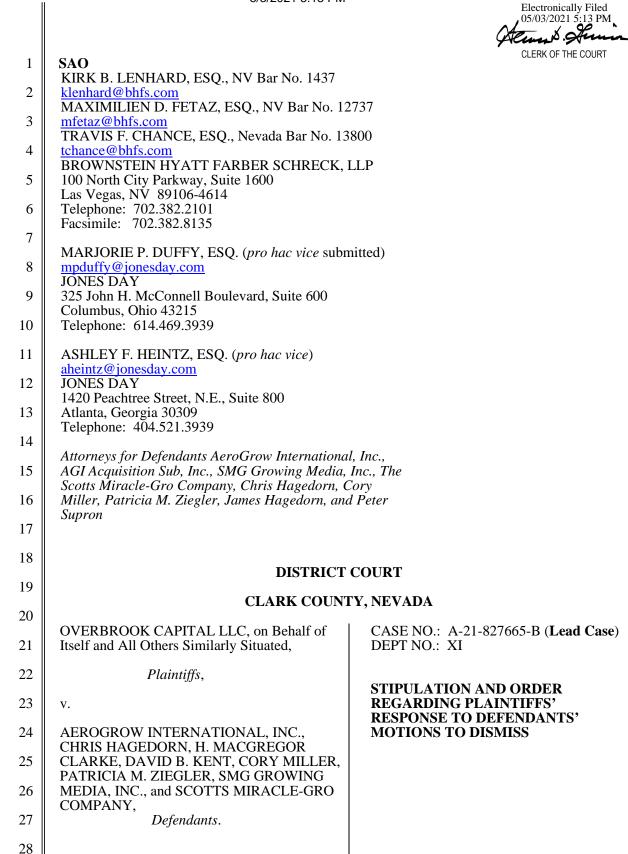
## <u>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</u>

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I am an employee of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP and pursuant to NRCP 5(b), EDCR 8.05, Administrative Order 14-2, and NEFCR 9, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing **NOTICE OF ENTRY OF STIPULATION AND ORDER REGARDING PLAINTIFFS' RESPONSE TO DEFENDANTS' MOTIONS TO DISMISS** to be submitted electronically to all parties currently on the electronic service list on May 4, 2021.

/s/ Wendy Cosby

an employee of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP

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Lead Plaintiff, the "Parties"), by and through their respective counsel of record, stipulate and agree as follows:

WHEREAS, on February 26, 2021, pursuant to this Court's February 18, 2021 order, Plaintiffs filed a Consolidated Class Action Complaint against Defendants, asserting claims (1) for breach of fiduciary duty against The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, James Hagedorn, and SMG Growing Media, Inc., as alleged controlling stockholders; (2) for breach of fiduciary duty against Chris Hagedorn, H. MacGregor Clarke, David B. Kent, Cory Miller, and Patricia M. Ziegler; (3) and for aiding and abetting breach of fiduciary duty against James Hagedorn, Peter Supron, AeroGrow International, Inc., AGI Acquisition Sub, Inc., Chris Hagedorn, H. MacGregor Clarke, David B. Kent, Cory Miller, and Patricia M. Ziegler.

WHEREAS, the Parties agreed on a briefing schedule for Defendants' responses to the Consolidated Complaint and submitted a stipulation and proposed order, which the Court entered on March 17, 2021;

WHEREAS, on April 16, 2021, Defendants filed the following two motions to dismiss directed to the Consolidated Complaint: (1) AeroGrow International, Inc., Chris Hagedorn, H. Macgregor Clarke, David B. Kent, Cory Miller & Patricia M. Ziegler's Motion to Dismiss the Consolidated Class Action Complaint (the "AeroGrow and Directors' Motion to Dismiss"); and (2) SMG Growing Media, Inc., The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, AGI Acquisition Sub, Inc., James Hagedorn, & Peter Supron's Motion to Dismiss the Consolidated Class Action Complaint (the "Scotts Defendants' Motion to Dismiss");

WHEREAS, the motions to dismiss assert arguments under Rule 12(b)(5), and the Scotts Defendants' Motion to Dismiss also asserts arguments under Rule 12(b)(2) as to certain defendants;

WHEREAS, both motions to dismiss are currently subject to the same briefing schedule and are both set for hearing on June 21, 2021;

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs have advised Defendants that they believe they are entitled to discovery in order to oppose the Rule 12(b)(2) arguments in the Scotts' Defendants' Motion to Dismiss:

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WHEREAS, Defendants dispute that Plaintiffs are entitled to discovery at this time, including, but not limited to, in order to oppose the Rule 12(b)(2) arguments asserted in the Scotts Defendants' Motion to Dismiss;

WHEREAS, the Parties have met and conferred about Plaintiffs' request to conduct discovery relevant to the Rule 12(b)(2) arguments asserted in the Scotts Defendants' Motion to Dismiss, and any potential effect of that request on the previously ordered briefing schedule;

WHEREAS, the Parties believe the compromise reflected in this stipulation represents a mutually-agreeable and efficient way to resolve the Parties' differences by holding in abeyance further briefing and the hearing on the portion of the Scotts Defendants' Motion to Dismiss asserting arguments under Rule 12(b)(2)—specifically, Argument Part II therein (pages 6-13) while otherwise maintaining the current briefing schedule and hearing date on all other arguments presented in both motions to dismiss—i.e., the arguments pursuant to Rule 12(b)(5) in both motions;

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED, by and between the undersigned counsel for Lead Plaintiff and Defendants that:

- 1. The Parties agree that The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company and James Hagedorn have preserved those defenses and objections under Rule 12(b)(2) contained in their previously-filed motion to dismiss, and are in compliance with Rule 12(h) with respect to such motion;
- 2. The Parties agree that, at this time, Plaintiffs need not answer, respond to, or otherwise address the Rule 12(b)(2) arguments presented in the Scotts Defendants' Motion to Dismiss;
- 3. If the Court denies the Rule 12(b)(5) arguments in the pending motions to dismiss as to The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company and James Hagedorn, or grants the motion with leave to amend, the Parties will further meet and confer about the necessary discovery, if any, to oppose the Rule 12(b)(2) arguments in the Scotts Defendants' Motion to Dismiss;
- 4. The current briefing schedule and hearing date for the pending Rule 12(b)(5) motions to dismiss shall remain in effect; and

5. 1 The Parties further agree that this Stipulation shall not operate to waive, release, 2 compromise, or prejudice any rights, defenses, arguments or claims Plaintiffs and Defendants may 3 have, including any concerning any right to discovery, the scope of any such right to discovery, 4 and the ability of this Court to exercise jurisdiction over Defendants. 5 IT IS SO STIPULATED. 6 DATED this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2021. DATED this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2021. 7 **BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER KEMP JONES LLP** SCHRECK, LLP 8 9 By: /s/ Maximilien D. Fetaz By: /s/ Don Springmeyer KIRK B. LENHARD, ESQ. DON SPRINGMEYER, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 1437 10 Nevada Bar No. 1021 MAXIMILIEN D. FETAZ, ESQ. MICHAEL GAYAN, ESQ. 11 Nevada Bar No. 12737 Nevada Bar No. 11135 TRAVIS F. CHANCE, ESQ. 12 Nevada Bar No. 13800 **BOTTINI & BOTTINI, INC.** 13 **JONES DAY** FRANCIS A. BOTTINI, JR., ESQ. MARJORIE P. DUFFY, ESO. (pro hac vice forthcoming) 14 (pro hac vice submitted) YURY A. KOLESNIKOV, ESQ. ASHLEY F. HEINTZ, ESO. (pro hac vice forthcoming) 15 (admitted *pro hac vice*) Attorneys for Lead Plaintiff Nicoya Capital 16 Attorneys for Defendants AeroGrow LLC International, Inc., AGI Acquisition Sub, Inc., 17 SMG Growing Media, Inc., The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, Chris Hagedorn, 18 Cory Miller, Patricia M. Ziegler, James Hagedorn, and Peter Supron 19 DATED this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2021. 20 PISANELLI BICE PLLC 21 By: /s/M. Magali Mercera JAMES J. PISANELLI, ESQ. 22 Nevada Bar No. 4027 23 M. MAGALI MERCERA, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 11742 24 **BRYAN CAVE LEIGHTON** 25 PAISNER LLP TIMOTHY R. BEYER, ESQ. 26 (pro hac vice forthcoming) 27 Attorneys for Defendants H. Macgregor Clarke and David B. Kent 28

# BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK, LLP 100 North City Parkway, Suite 1600 Las Vegas, NV 89106-4614 702.382.2101

#### **ORDER**

The above stipulation having been considered and good cause appearing therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendants The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company and James Hagedorn have preserved all defenses and objections under Rule 12(b)(2) asserted in their previously-filed and pending motion, and are in compliance with Rule 12(h) with respect to such motion;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiffs, at this time, need not answer, respond to, or otherwise address the Rule 12(b)(2) arguments presented in the Scotts Defendants' Motion to Dismiss;

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that after the Court rules on the pending Rule 12(b)(5) motions filed by Defendants, and if at that time any claims remain against The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company and James Hagedorn, the Parties will further meet and confer about the necessary discovery, if any, to oppose the Rule 12(b)(2) arguments in the Scotts Defendants' Motion to Dismiss;

#### [ORDER CONTINUED ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE]

1	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the current briefing schedule and hearing date for the
2	pending Rule 12(b)(5) motions to dismiss shall remain in effect.
3	IT IS SO ORDERED.
4	DATED this day of, 2021
5	E, 1411-0
6	- Caronslar
7	Submitted by:
8	BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK79LADA F907 ACFC
9	By: <u>/s/ Maximilien D. Fetaz</u> Elizabeth Gonzalez District Court Judge
10	KIRK B. LENHARD, ESQ., Nevada Bar No. 1437 MAXIMILIEN D. FETAZ, ESQ., Nevada Bar No. 12737
11	TRAVIS F. CHANCE, ESQ., Nevada Bar No. 13800
12	JONES DAY MARJORIE P. DUFFY, ESQ. (pro hac vice submitted)
13	ASHLEY F. HEINTZ, ESQ. (pro hac vice)
14	Attorneys for Defendants AeroGrow International, Inc., AGI Acquisition Sub, Inc., SMG Growing Media, Inc., The Scotts Miracle-
15	Gro Company, Chris Hagedorn, Cory Miller, Patricia M. Ziegler, James Hagedorn, and Peter Supron
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## Cosby, Wendy C.

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Cc: Lenhard, Kirk B.; Chance, Travis F.; Heintz, Ashley F.; Duffy, Marjorie P.; James Pisanelli;

Beyer, Tim; Michael Gayan; Frank Bottini

Subject: RE: [External] AeroGrow adv. Overbrook: SAO re Pltf's Response to Defts' Motions to

**Dismiss** 

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### Maximilien D. Fetaz

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Thanks,

## M. Magali Mercera

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Telephone: (702) 214-2100

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Beyer, Tim <<u>tim.beyer@bclplaw.com</u>>; Michael Gayan <<u>m.gayan@kempjones.com</u>>; Frank Bottini

## <fbottini@bottinilaw.com>

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Don Springmeyer, Esq.



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Don/Magali,

Attached is the final of the Stipulation and Order re Plaintiffs' response to Defendants' Motion to Dismiss. Please advise if we may affix your respective e-signature to the attached. Thank you,

### Maximilien D. Fetaz

Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP 100 North City Parkway, Suite 1600 Las Vegas, NV 89106 702.464.7083 tel MFetaz@BHFS.com

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2	DISTRICT COURT		
3		K COUNTY, NEVADA	
4			
5			
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7	Vs.	DEPT. NO. Department 11	
8	Aerogrow International, Inc.,		
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13	Court. The foregoing Stipulation and Order was served via the court's electronic eFile system to all recipients registered for e-Service on the above entitled case as listed below:		
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15			
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17	Michael Gayan	m.gayan@kempjones.com	
18	Travis Chance	tchance@bhfs.com	
19 20	Maximillen Fetaz	mfetaz@bhfs.com	
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22	Sherri Mong	smong@maclaw.com	
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Attorneys for Proposed Plaintiff-Intervenors

## **DISTRICT COURT**

## CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

OVERBROOK CAPITAL LLC, on Behalf of Itself and All Others Similarly Situated,

Plaintiffs,

V.

A-21-827665-B (Lead)

A-21-829854-B (Sub)

A-21-827745-B (Sub)

AEROGROW INTERNATIONAL, INC., CHRIS HAGEDORN, H. MACGREGOR CLARKE, DAVID B. KENT, CORY MILLER, PATRICIA M. ZIEGLER, SMG GROWING MEDIA, INC., and SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY,

Defendants.

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Page 1 of 6

Las Vegas. Nevada 89145 382-0711 FAX: (702) 382-5816

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## [PROPOSED] ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFF'S AND PLAINTIFF-INTERVENORS' JOINT MOTION TO COMPEL/DETERMINE COMPLIANCE

This matter came before the Court on Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors' Motion to Compel/Determine Compliance with NRS 92A, or Alternatively, Injunctive Relief, on an Order Shortening Time ("Motion"), filed on March 24, 2021. The Court considered the Motion in Chambers on April 19, 2021 and without oral argument pursuant to Adm. Order 21-03.

NOW, THEREFORE, having reviewed the Motion, all briefing related thereto, the papers, pleadings, and evidence on file herein, being fully advised on the matter, the Court, with good cause appearing therefore, grants the Motion based upon the following:

- AeroGrow International, Inc. ("AeroGrow") entered into an Agreement and 1. Plan of Merger entitling AeroGrow stockholders to dissenter's rights under NRS Chapter 92A.
- Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors have identified themselves as former 2. beneficial stockholders of AeroGrow.
- Prior to the vote on the merger, and in accordance with NRS 92A.420(1)(a), 3. Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors delivered to AeroGrow written notices of their intent to demand payment for their shares if the merger is effectuated.
- Pursuant to NRS 92A.430, AeroGrow was required to deliver dissenter's 4. notices to "any beneficial stockholder who has previously asserted dissenter's rights pursuant to NRS 92A.400" no later than 10 days after the effective date of the merger.
  - 5. The effective date of the merger was February 26, 2021.
- The stockholders must then decide whether to exercise dissenter's rights by 6. making a demand for payment in accordance with NRS 92A.440.
- Unlike stockholders who hold certificated shares, beneficial stockholders must 7. "[s]ubmit[] to the subject corporation the written consent of the stockholder of record to the

Page 2 of 6

Las Vegas, Nevada 89145 382-0711 FAX: (707) 382-5816

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dissent not later than the time the beneficial stockholder asserts dissenter's rights." NRS 92A.440(2)(a).

- Shortly after the effective date of the merger, AeroGrow paid Plaintiff and 8. Plaintiff-Intervenors through their brokers and other institutions the merger consideration of \$3.00 per share.
- After being paid the merger consideration, most of the Plaintiff and Plaintiff-9. Intervenors were unable to obtain written consent from their respective stockholder of record.
- AeroGrow did not send Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors dissenter's notices 10. pursuant to NRS 92A.430.
- 11. Pursuant to NRS 92A.400(2)(a) beneficial stockholders were not required to provide Aerogrow with written consent from the stockholders of record prior to the merger
- Beneficial stockholders must provide written consent from the stockholders of 12. record "not later than the time the beneficial stockholder asserts dissenter's rights," which is when a dissenter demands payment pursuant to NRS 92A.440.
- Aerogrow failed to comply with Chapter NRS 92A by: (1) paying Plaintiff and 13. Plaintiff-Intervenors the merger consideration prior to the deadline to submit a demand for payment, after which Plaintiff and the majority of Plaintiff-Intervenors could not obtain the written consent from the stockholders of record; and (2) failing to send Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors dissenter's notices no later than 10 days after the effective date of the merger.
- Therefore, Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors' Motion and requested relief is 14. GRANTED in full.
- 15. Further, the Court recognizes that certain judicial relief is required for the parties to proceed with the dissenter's rights process.

## ACCORDINGLY, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED:

That Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors' Motion is GRANTED; 1.

Page 3 of 6

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2. That Defendant AeroGrow International, Inc. failed to comply with Chapter NRS 92A by paying Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors the merger consideration prior to the deadline to submit a demand for payment, after which Plaintiff and the majority of Plaintiff-Intervenors could not obtain the written consent from the stockholders of record;

- 3. That Defendant AeroGrow International, Inc. violated Chapter NRS 92A by failing to send Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors dissenter's notices no later than 10 days after the effective date of the merger;
- 4. That any requirement of Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors to obtain consent letters pursuant to NRS 92A.400(2)(a) is hereby waived;
- That any requirement of Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors to deposit the 5. stockholder's certificates, if any, pursuant to NRS 92A.440 is hereby waived;
- 6. That Defendant Aerogrow International, Inc. is compelled to provide Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors' with dissenter's notices in accordance with NRS 92A.430 no later than ten (10) days after entry of this order;
- That the dissenter's notices must identify new deadlines by which the demand 7. for payment forms must be submitted in compliance with NRS 92A.430(2)(d); and
- 8. That, although beneficial stockholders the Michael S. Barish IRA and the Alexander Perelberg IRA did not move to intervene, the related individual stockholders were included in the motion to intervene and were presumably intended to cover the related IRA entities; accordingly, both the Michael S. Barish IRA and the Alexander Perelberg IRA are subject to this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED this day of Dated this 5th day of May, 2021

> EAA 80A 2343 8BC5 Elizabeth Gonzalez

District Count Judge 4353150\_4 5/5/2021 2:30 PM

## 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 MARQUIS AURBACH COFFING 12 10001 Park Run Drive Las Vegas. Nevada 89145 7001382-0711 FAX: (7001380-5816 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

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Submitted by:

## MARQUIS AURBACH COFFING

/s/ Terry A. Coffing
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Alexander K. Calaway, Esq.
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Attorneys for Plaintiff

## SIMONS HALL JOHNSTON PC

/s/ J. Robert Smith
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6490 S. McCarran Blvd., Ste. F-46
Reno, Nevada 89509
Attorneys for Plaintiff-Intervenors

Page 5 of 6

# MARQUIS AURBACH COFFING

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Approved as to form:

## **BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER** SCHRECK, LLP

/s/ Maximilien D. Fetaz KIRK B. LENHARD, ESQ. MAXIMILIEN D. FETAZ, ESQ. TRAVIS F. CHANCE, ESQ.

JONES DAY MARJORIE P. DUFFY, ESQ. (pro hac vice submitted) ÀSHLEY F. HEINTZ, ESQ. (pro hac vice)

Attorneys for Defendants AeroGrow International, Inc., AGI Acquisition Sub, Inc., SMG Growing Media, Inc., The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, Chris Hagedorn, Cory Miller, Patricia M. Ziegler, James Hagedorn, and Peter Supron

Page 6 of 6

### Marie Jorczak

From:

Chance, Travis F. <tchance@bhfs.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, May 05, 2021 2:03 PM

To:

Robert Smith; Alexander K. Calaway; Fetaz, Maximilien; Duffy, Marjorie P.; Heintz, Ashley

F

Cc:

Terry Coffing; Marie Jorczak; Jennifer P. Case

Subject:

RE: [External] Proposed Order E-Signatures [IWOV-iManage.FID1135574]

You can file with my signature.

Thanks,

### Travis F. Chance

Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP 100 North City Parkway, Suite 1600 Las Vegas, NV 89106 702.464.7096 tel 423.355.2635 cell Ichancemblus coni

From: Robert Smith <rsmith@shjnevada.com> Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 1:35 PM

To: Alexander K. Calaway <acalaway@maclaw.com>; Chance, Travis F. <tchance@bhfs.com>; Fetaz, Maximilien

<MFetaz@BHFS.com>; Duffy, Marjorie P. <mpduffy@jonesday.com>

Cc: Terry Coffing <tcoffing@maclaw.com>; Marie Jorczak <mjorczak@MACLAW.com>; Jennifer P. Case

<icase@maclaw.com>

Subject: RE: Proposed Order E-Signatures [IWOV-iManage.FID1135574]

You have my authorization.

## J. Robert Smith

Partner

## SIMONS HALL JOHNSTON PC

RSmith@SHJNevada.com

6490 S. McCarran Blvd., Ste. F-46

Reno, NV 89509 T: (775) 785-0088 F: (775) 785-0087

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From: Alexander K. Calaway <acalaway@maclaw.com>

Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 1:33 PM

To: Chance, Travis F. < tchance@bhfs.com>; Fetaz, Maximilien < MFetaz@BHFS.com>; Duffy, Marjorie P.

<mpduffy@jonesday.com>; Robert Smith <rsmith@shjnevada.com>

Cc: Terry Coffing < tcoffing@maclaw.com >; Alexander K. Calaway < acalaway@maclaw.com >; Marie Jorczak

<mjorczak@MACLAW.com>; Jennifer P. Case <jcase@maclaw.com> Subject: Proposed Order E-Signatures [IWOV-iManage.FID1135574]

Counsel,

Please confirm we may submit the attached proposed order to the Court with your e-signature.

Thanks,

Alex



## Alexander K. Calaway, Esq.

10001 Park Run Drive Las Vegas, NV 89145 t | 702.207.6069 f | 702.382.5816 acalaway@maclaw.com

maclaw.com



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1	CSERV		
2	DISTRICT COURT		
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6	Overbrook Capital, LLC, Plaintiff(s)	CASE NO: A-21-827665-B	
7	Vs.	DEPT. NO. Department 11	
8	Aerogrow International, Inc.,		
9	Defendant(s)		
10			
11	AUTOMATED CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE		
13	This automated certificate of service was generated by the Eighth Judicial District		
14	recipients registered for a Service on the shave entitled each as listed below.		
15	Service Date: 5/5/2021		
16	Ali Augustine	a.augustine@kempjones.com	
17	Michael Gayan	m.gayan@kempjones.com	
18	Travis Chance	tchance@bhfs.com	
19	Maximillen Fetaz	mfetaz@bhfs.com	
20	Terry Coffing	tcoffing@maclaw.com	
21	Sherri Mong	smong@maclaw.com	
22 23	Andrew Muehlbauer	andrew@mlolegal.com	
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25	Sean Connell	sean@mlolegal.com	
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27	Witty Huang	witty@mlolegal.com	
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1	Alexander Calaway	acalaway@maclaw.com
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5	M Mercera	mmm@pisanellibice.com
6	James Pisanelli	lit@pisanellibice.com
7	Cinda Towne	cct@pisanellibice.com
8	James Pisanelli	lit@pisanellibice.com
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**Electronically Filed** 5/6/2021 3:46 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT 1 | MARQUIS AURBACH COFFING Terry A. Coffing, Esq. 2 Nevada Bar No. 4949 Alexander K. Calaway, Esq. 3 Nevada Bar No. 15188 10001 Park Run Drive 4 Las Vegas, Nevada 89145 5 Telephone: (702) 382-0711 Facsimile: (702) 382-5816 6 tcoffing@maclaw.com acalaway@maclaw.com Attorneys for Plaintiff 8 SIMONS HALL JOHNSTON PC 9 J. Robert Smith, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 10992 10 Kendra J. Jepsen, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 14065 6490 S. McCarran Blvd., Ste. F-46 11 Reno, Nevada 89509 12 Telephone: (775) 785-0088 rsmith@shjnevada.com 13 kjepsen@shjnevada.com Attorneys for Proposed Plaintiff-Intervenors 14 DISTRICT COURT 15 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 16 OVERBROOK CAPITAL LLC, on Behalf 17 of Itself and All Others Similarly Situated, Case No.: A-21-827665-B (Lead) 18 Plaintiffs. A-21-829854-B (Sub) 19 A-21-827745-B (Sub) 20 AEROGROW INTERNATIONAL, INC., CHRIS HAGEDORN, H. MACGREGOR 21 CLARKE, DAVID B. KENT, CORY

MILLER, PATRICIA M. ZIEGLER, SMG

GROWING MEDIA, INC., and SCOTTS

MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY,

Defendants.

Page 1 of 3

MAC:16419-001 4357470\_1 5/6/2021 3:21 PM

Case Number: A-21-827665-B

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## NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFF'S AND PLAINTIFF-INTERVENORS' JOINT MOTION TO COMPEL/DETERMINE COMPLIANCE **WITH NRS 92A**

Please take notice that an Order Granting Plaintiff's and Plaintiff-Intervenors' Joint Motion to Compel/Determine Compliance with NRS 92A was entered in the above-captioned matter on the 5th day of May, 2021, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Dated this 6th day of May, 2021.

## MARQUIS AURBACH COFFING

By <u>/s/ Alexander Calaway</u> Terry A. Coffing, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 4949 Alexander K. Calaway, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 15188 10001 Park Run Drive Las Vegas, Nevada 89145 Attorney(s) for Plaintiff

Page 2 of 3

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# MARQUIS AURBACH COFFING 10001 Park Run Drive

Las Vegas, Nevada 89145 382-0711 FAX: (702) 382-5816

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that the foregoing **NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER GRANTING** 

PLAINTIFF'S AND PLAINTIFF-INTERVENORS' JOINT MOTION TO

**COMPEL/DETERMINE COMPLIANCE WITH NRS 92A** was submitted electronically

for filing and/or service with the Eighth Judicial District Court on the 6th day of May, 2021.

Electronic service of the foregoing document shall be made in accordance with the E-Service

7 List as follows:1

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J. Robert Smith, Esq. Kendra Jepsen, Esq. SIMONS HALL JOHNSTON PC 6490 S. McCarran Blvd., Ste. F-46 Reno, Nevada 89509 Attorneys for Plaintiff-Intervenors

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The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, Chris Hagedorn,
Cory Miller, Patricia M. Ziegler, James Hagedorn, and
Peter Supron

/s/ Marie Jorczak
An employee of Marquis Aurbach Coffing

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Pursuant to EDCR 8.05(a), each party who submits an E-Filed document through the E-Filing System consents to electronic service in accordance with NRCP 5(b)(2)(D).

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Attorneys for Proposed Plaintiff-Intervenors

## **DISTRICT COURT**

## CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

OVERBROOK CAPITAL LLC, on Behalf of Itself and All Others Similarly Situated,	Case No.:	A-21-827665-B (Lead)
Plaintiffs,		A-21-829854-B (Sub)
v.		A-21-827745-B (Sub)
AEROGROW INTERNATIONAL, INC., CHRIS HAGEDORN, H. MACGREGOR CLARKE, DAVID B. KENT, CORY MILLER, PATRICIA M. ZIEGLER, SMG GROWING MEDIA, INC., and SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY,		
Defendants.		

Page 1 of 6

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This matter came before the Court on Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors' Motion to Compel/Determine Compliance with NRS 92A, or Alternatively, Injunctive Relief, on an Order Shortening Time ("Motion"), filed on March 24, 2021. The Court considered the Motion in Chambers on April 19, 2021 and without oral argument pursuant to Adm. Order 21-03.

NOW, THEREFORE, having reviewed the Motion, all briefing related thereto, the papers, pleadings, and evidence on file herein, being fully advised on the matter, the Court, with good cause appearing therefore, grants the Motion based upon the following:

- AeroGrow International, Inc. ("AeroGrow") entered into an Agreement and 1. Plan of Merger entitling AeroGrow stockholders to dissenter's rights under NRS Chapter 92A.
- Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors have identified themselves as former 2. beneficial stockholders of AeroGrow.
- Prior to the vote on the merger, and in accordance with NRS 92A.420(1)(a), 3. Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors delivered to AeroGrow written notices of their intent to demand payment for their shares if the merger is effectuated.
- Pursuant to NRS 92A.430, AeroGrow was required to deliver dissenter's 4. notices to "any beneficial stockholder who has previously asserted dissenter's rights pursuant to NRS 92A.400" no later than 10 days after the effective date of the merger.
  - 5. The effective date of the merger was February 26, 2021.
- The stockholders must then decide whether to exercise dissenter's rights by 6. making a demand for payment in accordance with NRS 92A.440.
- Unlike stockholders who hold certificated shares, beneficial stockholders must 7. "[s]ubmit[] to the subject corporation the written consent of the stockholder of record to the

Page 2 of 6

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- Shortly after the effective date of the merger, AeroGrow paid Plaintiff and 8. Plaintiff-Intervenors through their brokers and other institutions the merger consideration of \$3.00 per share.
- After being paid the merger consideration, most of the Plaintiff and Plaintiff-9. Intervenors were unable to obtain written consent from their respective stockholder of record.
- AeroGrow did not send Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors dissenter's notices 10. pursuant to NRS 92A.430.
- 11. Pursuant to NRS 92A.400(2)(a) beneficial stockholders were not required to provide Aerogrow with written consent from the stockholders of record prior to the merger
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- Aerogrow failed to comply with Chapter NRS 92A by: (1) paying Plaintiff and 13. Plaintiff-Intervenors the merger consideration prior to the deadline to submit a demand for payment, after which Plaintiff and the majority of Plaintiff-Intervenors could not obtain the written consent from the stockholders of record; and (2) failing to send Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors dissenter's notices no later than 10 days after the effective date of the merger.
- Therefore, Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors' Motion and requested relief is 14. GRANTED in full.
- 15. Further, the Court recognizes that certain judicial relief is required for the parties to proceed with the dissenter's rights process.

## ACCORDINGLY, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED:

That Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors' Motion is GRANTED; 1.

Page 3 of 6

<u>۾</u> 17

- 2. That Defendant AeroGrow International, Inc. failed to comply with Chapter NRS 92A by paying Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors the merger consideration prior to the deadline to submit a demand for payment, after which Plaintiff and the majority of Plaintiff-Intervenors could not obtain the written consent from the stockholders of record;
- 3. That Defendant AeroGrow International, Inc. violated Chapter NRS 92A by failing to send Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors dissenter's notices no later than 10 days after the effective date of the merger;
- 4. That any requirement of Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors to obtain consent letters pursuant to NRS 92A.400(2)(a) is hereby waived;
- 5. That any requirement of Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors to deposit the stockholder's certificates, if any, pursuant to NRS 92A.440 is hereby waived;
- 6. That Defendant Aerogrow International, Inc. is compelled to provide Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors' with dissenter's notices in accordance with NRS 92A.430 no later than ten (10) days after entry of this order;
- 7. That the dissenter's notices must identify new deadlines by which the demand for payment forms must be submitted in compliance with NRS 92A.430(2)(d); and
- 8. That, although beneficial stockholders the Michael S. Barish IRA and the Alexander Perelberg IRA did not move to intervene, the related individual stockholders were included in the motion to intervene and were presumably intended to cover the related IRA entities; accordingly, both the Michael S. Barish IRA and the Alexander Perelberg IRA are subject to this Order.

IT IS SO ORDERED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

Dated this 5th day of May, 2021

EAA 80A 2343 8BC5
Elizabeth Gonzalez

Bistrict Count Judge 4353150\_4 5/5/2021 2:30 PM

## 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 MARQUIS AURBACH COFFING 12 10001 Park Run Drive Las Vegas. Nevada 89145 7001382-0711 FAX: (7001380-5816 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

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Submitted by:

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Page 5 of 6

# MARQUIS AURBACH COFFING

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Approved as to form:

## **BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER** SCHRECK, LLP

/s/ Maximilien D. Fetaz KIRK B. LENHARD, ESQ. MAXIMILIEN D. FETAZ, ESQ. TRAVIS F. CHANCE, ESQ.

JONES DAY MARJORIE P. DUFFY, ESQ. (pro hac vice submitted) ÀSHLEY F. HEINTZ, ESQ. (pro hac vice)

Attorneys for Defendants AeroGrow International, Inc., AGI Acquisition Sub, Inc., SMG Growing Media, Inc., The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, Chris Hagedorn, Cory Miller, Patricia M. Ziegler, James Hagedorn, and Peter Supron

Page 6 of 6

### Marie Jorczak

From:

Chance, Travis F. <tchance@bhfs.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, May 05, 2021 2:03 PM

To:

Robert Smith; Alexander K. Calaway; Fetaz, Maximilien; Duffy, Marjorie P.; Heintz, Ashley

F.

Cc:

Terry Coffing; Marie Jorczak; Jennifer P. Case

Subject:

RE: [External] Proposed Order E-Signatures [IWOV-iManage.FID1135574]

You can file with my signature.

Thanks,

### Travis F. Chance

Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP 100 North City Parkway, Suite 1600 Las Vegas, NV 89106 702.464.7096 tel 423.355.2635 cell Ichancemblus coni

From: Robert Smith <rsmith@shjnevada.com> Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 1:35 PM

To: Alexander K. Calaway <acalaway@maclaw.com>; Chance, Travis F. <tchance@bhfs.com>; Fetaz, Maximilien

<MFetaz@BHFS.com>; Duffy, Marjorie P. <mpduffy@jonesday.com>

Cc: Terry Coffing <tcoffing@maclaw.com>; Marie Jorczak <mjorczak@MACLAW.com>; Jennifer P. Case

<icase@maclaw.com>

Subject: RE: Proposed Order E-Signatures [IWOV-iManage.FID1135574]

You have my authorization.

## J. Robert Smith

Partner

## SIMONS HALL JOHNSTON PC

RSmith@SHJNevada.com

6490 S. McCarran Blvd., Ste. F-46

Reno, NV 89509 T: (775) 785-0088 F: (775) 785-0087

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From: Alexander K. Calaway <acalaway@maclaw.com>

Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 1:33 PM

To: Chance, Travis F. < tchance@bhfs.com>; Fetaz, Maximilien < MFetaz@BHFS.com>; Duffy, Marjorie P.

<mpduffy@jonesday.com>; Robert Smith <rsmith@shjnevada.com>

Cc: Terry Coffing < tcoffing@maclaw.com >; Alexander K. Calaway < acalaway@maclaw.com >; Marie Jorczak

<mjorczak@MACLAW.com>; Jennifer P. Case <jcase@maclaw.com> Subject: Proposed Order E-Signatures [IWOV-iManage.FID1135574]

Counsel,

Please confirm we may submit the attached proposed order to the Court with your e-signature.

Thanks,

Alex



## Alexander K. Calaway, Esq.

10001 Park Run Drive Las Vegas, NV 89145 t | 702.207.6069 f | 702.382.5816 acalaway@maclaw.com

maclaw.com



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1	CSERV		
2	DISTRICT COURT		
3	CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA		
4			
5			
6	Overbrook Capital, LLC, Plaintiff(s)	CASE NO: A-21-827665-B	
7		DEPT. NO. Department 11	
8	VS.		
9	Aerogrow International, Inc., Defendant(s)		
10			
11	AUTOMATED	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE	
12			
13	This automated certificate of service was generated by the Eighth Judicial District Court. The foregoing Order was served via the court's electronic eFile system to all		
14	recipients registered for e-Service on the above entitled case as listed below:		
15	Service Date: 5/5/2021		
16	Ali Augustine	a.augustine@kempjones.com	
17	Michael Gayan	m.gayan@kempjones.com	
18	Travis Chance	tchance@bhfs.com	
19	Maximillen Fetaz	mfetaz@bhfs.com	
20	Terry Coffing	tcoffing@maclaw.com	
22	Sherri Mong	smong@maclaw.com	
23	Andrew Muehlbauer	andrew@mlolegal.com	
24	Sean Connell	sean@mlolegal.com	
25	Pamela Montgomery	p.montgomery@kempjones.com	
26	Witty Huang	witty@mlolegal.com	
27			
20			

1	Alexander Calaway	acalaway@maclaw.com
2 3	Kirk Lenhard	klenhard@bhfs.com
4	Don Springmeyer	d.springmeyer@kempjones.com
5	M Mercera	mmm@pisanellibice.com
6	James Pisanelli	lit@pisanellibice.com
7	Cinda Towne	cct@pisanellibice.com
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12	Ashley Heintz	aheintz@jonesday.com
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14	Michael Paslavsky	mpaslavsky@jonesday.com
15	Elizabeth Benshoff	ebenshoff@jonesday.com
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21	Marie Jorczak	mjorczak@maclaw.com
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## ELECTRONICALLY SERVED 5/10/2021 3:43 PM

05/10/2021 3:43 PM CLERK OF THE COURT **MSTY** 1 KIRK B. LENHARD, ESQ., NV Bar No. 1437 2 klenhard@bhfs.com MAXIMILIEN D. FETAZ, ESO., NV Bar No. 12737 3 mfetaz@bhfs.com TRAVIS F. CHANCE, ESO., NV Bar No. 13800 4 tchance@bhfs.com BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK, LLP 5 100 North City Parkway, Suite 1600 Las Vegas, NV 89106-4614 Telephone: 702.382.2101 Facsimile: 702.382.8135 6 7 MARJORIE P. DUFFY, ESQ. (pro hac vice submitted) 8 mpduffy@jonesday.com JONES DAY 9 325 John H. McConnell Boulevard, Suite 600 Columbus, OH 43215 Telephone: 614.469.3939 10 ASHLEY F. HEINTZ, ESQ. (pro hac vice) 11 aheintz@jonesday.com 12 JONES DAY 1420 Peachtree Street, N.E., Suite 800 Atlanta, GA 30309 13 Telephone: 404.521.3939 14 Attorneys for Defendants AeroGrow International, Inc., AGI Acquisition Sub, Inc., SMG Growing Media, Inc., The 15 Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, Chris Hagedorn, Cory Miller, Patricia M. Ziegler, James Hagedorn, and Peter 16 Supron 17 18 DISTRICT COURT 19 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 20 OVERBROOK CAPITAL LLC, on Behalf of CASE NO.: A-21-827665-B (**Lead Case**) 21 Itself and All Others Similarly Situated, DEPT NO.: XI AEROGROW INTERNATIONAL, 22 Plaintiffs, INC.'S MOTION TO STAY ORDER 23 **GRANTING JOINT MOTION TO** v. COMPEL PENDING RESOLUTION OF WRIT PURSUANT TO NRAP 8 ON 24 AEROGROW INTERNATIONAL, INC., CHRIS HAGEDORN, H. MACGREGOR **ORDER SHORTENING TIME** CLARKE, DAVID B. KENT, CORY MILLER. 25 **HEARING REQUESTED** PATRICIA M. ZIEGLER, SMG GROWING MEDIA, INC., and SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO 26 COMPANY, 27 Defendants. 28

Electronically Filed

1		
2	NICOYA CAPITAL, LLC, on behalf of itself and all other similarly situated,	CASE NO.: A-21-827745-B
3	Plaintiffs,	
4	V.	
5	CHRIS HAGEDORN, H. MACGREGOR	
6	CLARKE, DAVID B. KENT, CORY MILLER, PATRICIA M. ZIEGLER, JAMES	
7	HAGEDORN, PETER SUPRON,	
8	and	
9	AEROGROW INTERNATIONAL, INC., a Nevada Corporation, and AGI ACQUISITION	
10	SUB, INC., a Nevada Corporation, SMG GROWING MEDIA, INC., an Ohio	
11	Corporation, and SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY, an Ohio Corporation,	
12	_	
13	Defendants. BRADLEY LOUIS RADOFF,	CASE NO.: A-21-829854-B
14	Plaintiff	
15	CUDIC HACEDODN on individual H	
16	CHRIS HAGEDORN, an individual; H. MACGREGOR CLARKE, an individual;	
17	DAVID B. KENT, an individual; CORY MILLER, an individual; PATRICIA M.	
18	ZIEGLER, individual; JAMES HAGEDORN, an individual; PETER SUPRON, an individual;	
19	AEROGROW INTERNATIONAL, INC., a Nevada Corporation; AGI ACQUISITION	
20	SUB, INC., a Nevada Corporation; SMG GROWING MEDIA, INC., an Ohio	
21	Corporation; THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY, an Ohio Corporation; DOES I	
22	through X, inclusive; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive.	
23	Defendants.	
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Defendant AEROGROW INTERNATIONAL, INC. ("Defendant"), by and through its counsel of record, the law firms of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP and Jones Day, hereby files this Motion to Stay Order Granting Joint Motion to Compel Pending Resolution of Writ Pursuant to NRAP 8 on Order Shortening Time (the "Motion"). This Motion is made and based upon the attached memorandum of points and authorities, the exhibits attached hereto, the pleadings and papers on file herein, the declaration of Maximilien D. Fetaz, Esq., and the argument of counsel to be made at the hearing on the Motion.

DATED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021.

## BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK, LLP

BY: /s/Maximilien D. Fetaz
KIRK B. LENHARD, ESQ.
MAXIMILIEN D. FETAZ, ESQ.
TRAVIS F. CHANCE, ESQ.

MARJORIE P. DUFFY, ESQ. (pro hac vice submitted)
ASHLEY F. HEINTZ, ESQ. (pro hac vice)
JONES DAY

Attorneys for Defendants AeroGrow International, Inc., AGI Acquisition Sub, Inc., SMG Growing Media, Inc., The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, Chris Hagedorn, Cory Miller, Patricia M. Ziegler, James Hagedorn, and Peter Supron

1	ORDER SHORTENING TIME
2	Good cause appearing, it is hereby ordered that the AEROGROW INTERNATIONAL,
3	INC.'S MOTION TO STAY ORDER GRANTING JOINT MOTION TO COMPEL
4	PENDING RESOLUTION OF WRIT PURSUANT TO NRAP 8 ON ORDER
5	SHORTENING TIME shall be heard before the above-entitled Court located at the Regional
6	Justice Center, 200 Lewis Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada 89155, in Department XI, on shortened time
7	on the 14 day of May, 2021 at the hour of Chamber S'clock
8	DATED this day of
9	E1. HAMO.D
10	ELIZABETH G. GONZALEZ, DISTRICT COURT NUDGE
11	
12	FE8 D69 C440 2B70
13	Respectfully Submitted By: Elizabeth Gonzalez District Court Judge
14	BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK, LLP
15	BY: <u>/s/ Maximilien D. Fetaz</u> KIRK B. LENHARD, ESQ.
16	MAXIMILIEN D. FETAZ, ESQ. TRAVIS F. CHANCE, ESQ.
17	MARJORIE P. DUFFY, ESQ.
18	(pro hac vice submitted) ASHLEY F. HEINTZ, ESQ.
19	(pro hac vice) JONES DAY
20	Attorneys for Defendants AeroGrow
21	International, Inc., AGI Acquisition Sub, Inc., SMG Growing Media, Inc., The Scotts Miracle-
22	Gro Company, Chris Hagedorn, Cory Miller, Patricia M. Ziegler, James Hagedorn, and Peter
23	Supron
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- 1	d Control of the Cont

# DECLARATION OF MAXIMILIEN D. FETAZ, ESQ. IN SUPPORT OF AEROGROW INTERNATIONAL, INC.'S MOTION TO STAY ORDER GRANTING JOINT MOTION TO COMPEL PENDING RESOLUTION OF WRIT PURSUANT TO NRAP 8 ON ORDER SHORTENING TIME

- I, Maximilien D. Fetaz, Esq., hereby declare as follows:
- 1. I am a shareholder with Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP, and local counsel of record for Defendant Aerogrow International, Inc. ("Defendant") in the above captioned case.
- 2. I make this declaration in support of Motion to Stay Order Granting Joint Motion to Compel Pending Resolution of Writ Pursuant to NRAP 8 on Order Shortening Time (the "Motion").
  - 3. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein.
  - 4. This request is made in good faith and without dilatory motive.
- 5. On March 15, 2021, Plaintiff Radoff amended his complaint to add a new count for declaratory relief, seeking the Court to determine: "(1) the rights and obligations of the parties under NRS Chapter 92A; and (2) that AeroGrow has violated the statute[.]" First Am. Compl. ¶ 201, Radoff v. Hagedorn, et al., No. A-21-829854-B (Dist. Ct. Nev. filed Mar. 15, 2021).
- 6. On March 24, 2021, Plaintiff Radoff and the Proposed Intervenors (collectively, "Movants") filed a motion titled "Motion to Compel/Determine Compliance with NRS 92A, or Alternatively, Injunctive Relief" (the "Motion to Compel").
- 7. On April 7, 2021, Defendant filed an opposition to the Motion (the "Opposition"), which was joined by Defendants H. MacGregor Clarke and David B. Kent, and Defendants AGI Acquisition Sub, Inc., SMG Growing Media, Inc., The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, Chris Hagedorn, Cory Miller, Patricia M. Ziegler, James Hagedorn, and Peter Supron.
  - 8. The Court held an in-chambers hearing on the Motion to Compel on April 19, 2021.
- 9. On May 5, 2021, the Court entered its Order granting in full Movants' Motion to Compel. See Order Granting Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors' Joint Motion to Compel/Determine Compliance with NRS 92A (the "Order"), filed herein on May 5, 2021.
- 10. The Order, in part, compelled Defendant to provide Movants with dissenter's notices in accordance with NRS 92A.420 no later than 10 days after entry of the Order. The

dissenter's notices must identify new deadlines by which demand for payment forms must be submitted pursuant to NRS 92A.430(2)(d).

- 11. Notice of Entry of the Order was filed on May 6, 2021.
- 12. Accordingly, the deadline for Defendant to provide Movants with dissenter's notices in accordance with NRS 92A.420 is Sunday, May 16, 2021, thereby resuming the dissenter's rights statutory process as to the Movants.
- 13. Defendant intends to file a petition seeking extraordinary relief to the Nevada Supreme Court related to the Court's Order (the "Writ Petition").
- 14. Absent an order shortening time, a hearing on this matter set in the regular course will not occur until after Defendant is required to provide Movants with dissenter's notices pursuant to the Order, and may not occur until after expiration of the statutory deadlines by which Movants must submit demands for payment. Thus, the undersigned submits that good cause exists to hear the Motion on an order shortening time.
- 15. Concurrently with sending the Motion to chambers for consideration, the undersigned's office provided a courtesy copy via email to Movants' counsel of record.
- 16. Defendant respectfully requests that the Court set the Motion for hearing on or before May 14, 2021, or the earliest available date that the Court's calendar permits.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

DATED this 10th day of May, 2021.

/s/ Maximilien D. Fetaz MAXIMILIEN D. FETAZ

## I. INTRODUCTION.

By the Court granting the Motion to Compel, Movants effectively obtained a declaration of their rights and an injunction against Defendant. Despite Movants' failure to establish the necessary elements for a declaratory judgment, the Court found that written consents of the stockholders of record are due when a dissenter demands payment pursuant to NRS 92A.440 and Defendant violated NRS Chapter 92A. The Court also ordered Defendant to resume the dissenter's rights process as to Movants by providing to them dissenter's notices, with revised deadlines for demands for payment, within 10 days from entry of the Order.

**MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES** 

Defendant respectfully disagrees with the Court's ruling and interpretation of NRS Chapter 92A, and, therefore, intends to file a writ petition to seek guidance from the Nevada Supreme Court (the "Writ Petition"). A writ is appropriate where, as here, "there is not a plain, speedy and adequate remedy in the ordinary course of law." NRS 34.170. Further, the Order presents a novel question of statutory interpretation and "an important issue of law [that] needs clarification"—specifically, when a record stockholder's consent to a beneficial stockholder's dissent must be delivered under NRS Chapter 92A. *Archon Corp. v. Eighth Jud. Dist. Court*, 133 Nev. 816, 820, 407 P.3d 702, 706 (2017) ("Advisory mandamus may be appropriate when 'an important issue of law needs clarification and considerations of sound judicial economy and administration militate in favor of granting the petition." (citation omitted)).

Because the Order requires Defendant to include Movants in the dissenter's rights process—by first providing dissenter's rights notices—in 10 days, Defendant seeks an order staying the Order pending resolution of the forthcoming Writ Petition. As explained below, the Court should enter a stay pending Defendant's forthcoming Writ Petition because (1) the purpose of the Writ Petition would be defeated without a stay because the dissenter's rights process as to the Movants would be well underway, and likely conclude, before the Nevada Supreme Court could consider the issue; (2) requiring Defendant to proceed with the dissenter's rights process (possibly to its resolution) with Movants who have not met a threshold statutory requirement would cause irreparable harm to Defendant; (3) Movants will suffer no harm, much less irreparable harm, from the stay because

they have already been paid and accepted the merger consideration and would be entitled to interest thereon in the event they prevail on the Writ Petition and later in a proceeding to determine fair value; and (4) Defendant is likely to succeed on the merits of the Writ Petition because a plain reading of the unambiguous statutes provide that a beneficial stockholder must submit consent of the stockholder of record before the vote on the transaction in order to receive the dissenter's notice and, thereafter, exercise its dissenter's rights to demand payment.

## II. PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND

As the Court is well versed in the factual background of this matter, Defendant sets forth the relevant procedural background: (A) Plaintiff Radoff's amended complaint for declaratory relief; (B) Movant's Motion to Compel; and (C) the Court's Order Granting the Motion to Compel.

## A. Plaintiff Radoff's Amended Complaint Added a Claim for Declaratory Relief.

On March 15, 2021, Plaintiff Radoff amended his complaint to add a new count for declaratory relief, seeking the Court to determine: "(1) the rights and obligations of the parties under NRS Chapter 92A; and (2) that AeroGrow has violated the statute[.]" First Am. Compl. ¶ 201, Radoff v. Hagedorn, et al., No. A-21-829854-B (Dist. Ct. Nev. filed Mar. 15, 2021).

On March 17, 2021, AeroGrow's counsel sent letters to counsel for Movants explaining that Movants had failed to comply with the statutory requirement in NRS Chapter 92A to submit record stockholder consents and, as a consequence of their failure to comply, had received the merger consideration. *See* Proposed Pl.-Intervenor's Mot. to Intervene on an Order Shortening Time ("Mot. to Intervene"), filed in Case No. A-21-829854-B on March 23, 2021, Ex. F (Mar. 17, 2021 Ltr. to J. Smith); Mot. to Compel, Ex. C (Mar. 17, 2021 Ltr. to T. Coffing). AeroGrow also requested that Plaintiff Radoff voluntarily dismiss or otherwise withdraw the First Amended Complaint's fourth claim for relief seeking declaratory relief. *See* Mot. to Compel, Ex. C.

## B. Movants Filed a Dispositive Motion on the Declaratory Relief Claim.

On March 24, 2021, Movants filed a motion titled "Motion to Compel/Determine Compliance with NRS 92A, or Alternatively, Injunctive Relief" (the "Motion"). On an order shortening time, Movants effectively asked the Court to enter final judgment on Movants' claim for declaratory relief and supplemental relief in the form of a permanent injunction.

On April 7, 2021, Defendant filed an opposition to the Motion (the "Opposition"), which was joined by Defendants H. MacGregor Clarke and David B. Kent, and Defendants AGI Acquisition Sub, Inc., SMG Growing Media, Inc., The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, Chris Hagedorn, Cory Miller, Patricia M. Ziegler, James Hagedorn, and Peter Supron.

On April 8, 2021, Movants filed a Supplement to Motion to Intervene amending their Motion to Intervene to include Jack Walker and Stephen Kaye (hereby included in "Movants"), two stockholders who were inadvertently excluded from the original Motion to Intervene.

On April 13, 2021, Movants filed their Reply in Support of the Motion.

## C. The Court Granted Movants' Motion.

After an in-chambers hearing on April 19, 2021, the Court granted in full Movants' Motion. See Order Granting Plaintiff and Plaintiff-Intervenors' Joint Motion to Compel/Determine Compliance with NRS 92A (the "Order"), filed herein on May 5, 2021, with notice of entry filed on May 6, 2021. The Order, in part, compelled Defendant to provide Movants with dissenter's notices in accordance with NRS 92A.420 *no later than 10 days* after entry of the Order. Further, the Court ordered that the dissenter's notices must identify new deadlines by which demand for payment forms must be submitted pursuant to NRS 92A.430(2)(d).

Defendant intends to file a petition seeking extraordinary relief to the Nevada Supreme Court related to the Court's Order (the "Writ Petition").

## III. ARGUMENT

NRAP 8(a)(1) provides that a party seeking a stay pending resolution of a writ must ordinarily first move the District Court for "a stay of the judgment or order of, or proceedings in, a district court pending appeal or resolution of a petition to the Supreme Court or Court of Appeals for an extraordinary writ" or "an order suspending, modifying, restoring or granting an injunction while an appeal or original writ petition is pending." NRAP 8(a)(1)(A), (C). A stay pending resolution of a writ is warranted when: (1) the object of the writ petition will be defeated if the stay is not granted; (2) the petitioner will suffer irreparable or serious injury if the stay is denied; (3) the real party in interest will not suffer irreparable or serious injury if the stay is granted; and (4) the petitioner has a likelihood of success on the merits of its appeal. *See Mikohn Gaming Corp. v.* 

McCrea, 120 Nev. 248, 251, 89 P.3d 36, 38 (2004); Hansen v. Eighth Jud. Dist. Court, 116 Nev. 650, 659, 6 P.3d 982, 986 (2000); see also NRAP 8(c). The Nevada Supreme Court has noted that no "one factor carries more weight than the others" but rather "recognized that if one or two factors are especially strong, they may counterbalance other weak factors." Mikohn Gaming Corp., 120 Nev. at 251; 89 P.3d at 38 (emphasis added).

As demonstrated below, the requirements for a stay are satisfied in this case and, therefore, this Court should stay the Order pending resolution of the Writ Petition. Even if the Court continues to disagree with the merits of Defendant's position, the other factors weigh heavily in favor of a stay.

## A. The Object of the Writ Petition will be Defeated if the Stay is Not Granted.

The object of the Writ Petition is to obtain a determination as to whether NRS Chapter 92A requires a beneficial stockholder to submit to the subject corporation the written consent of the stockholder of record to the dissent prior to the vote on the transaction, in compliance with NRS 92A.400, in order to proceed in the dissenter's rights process. That object will be defeated if a stay is denied.

Indeed, without a stay, Movants would be proceeding in the dissenter's rights statutory process, where Nevada law otherwise precludes them from doing so, before the Writ Petition could be heard and decided. As a first step in that otherwise unavailable process, the Order requires Defendant to provide dissenter's notices *no later than May 16, 2021* to those 57 beneficial stockholders identified therein that did not comply with NRS Chapter 92A, where it would not otherwise be required to do so. As a result, without a stay here, Movants will be permitted to participate in the dissenter's rights process in a matter of days without satisfying the threshold requirement set forth in NRS 92A.400—thereby rendering the limitation on the right of dissent in NRS 92A.400 a nullity—and before the Nevada Supreme Court would have the chance to resolve the question as to whether Movants may participate in the dissenter's rights process.

Because the purpose of the Writ Petition will be defeated if a stay is not granted, this Court should immediately stay the Order.

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## B. Defendant Will Suffer Irreparable Harm if a Stay is Not Granted.

If a stay is not granted, Defendant will suffer irreparably because it will have no choice but to allow beneficial stockholders to dissent even though it has no record that a stockholder of record consented to the dissents. Thus, even though NRS 92A.400 clearly requires that a stockholder of record must consent to the dissent for a beneficial stockholder to assert dissenter's rights, Defendant will be forced to allow these beneficial stockholders to participate in the dissenter's rights process, unless a stay is granted. And, as discussed above, Defendant will be forced to do so no later than May 16, 2021, which is well before the Nevada Supreme Court would have the opportunity to decide whether the statute permits Movants' participation in the process.

Defendant will further suffer irreparable harm without a stay because the Writ Petition may not be decided prior to the statutory deadline for Defendant to file its petition for appraisal against Movants pursuant to NRS 92A.490. Given the Order's deadline for Defendant to send dissenter's notices by May 16, 2021, the latest Defendant could file a petition against Movants under NRS 92A.490 would be approximately November 12, 2021—which is based on the longest time periods allowable under NRS 92A.440 (60 days), NRS 92A.460 (30 days), NRS 9A.470 (30 days), as applicable, NRS 92A.480 (30 days), and NRS 92A.490 (60 days)—and the deadline for the petition could well be earlier. Thus, the entire appraisal process may reasonably occur and possibly reach a resolution before the Nevada Supreme Court has the opportunity to consider whether Movants were permitted to participate in the dissenter's rights process in the first place.

Moreover, Defendant must pursue the Writ Petition now—before the dissenter's rights process resumes for Movants—to avoid the risk that the Writ Petition will be denied on procedural grounds, such as by the equitable doctrine of laches. *See, e.g., Bldg. & Const. Trades Council of N. Nev. v. State ex rel. Pub. Works Bd.*, 108 Nev. 605, 611, 836 P.2d 633, 637 (1992) (finding that where the petitioner waited one month to file a writ, the doctrine of laches barred the writ because the petitioner "failed to take immediate legal action"). And if Defendant does not pursue a Writ Petition now, no other avenues for relief exist. Neither an appeal of the fiduciary suit nor an appeal of any (not yet filed) appraisal suit would address whether these "new dissenters" are entitled to be part of the dissenter's process because, by the time such an appeal could be heard, the dissenter's

process would already be complete. Because the Writ Petition is Defendant's only means to seek relief and clarification from the Nevada Supreme Court on this important and novel legal issue, Defendant should not be prejudiced by having to allow Movants to participate in the dissenter's rights process. *Cf. Archon Corp.*, 133 Nev. at 820, 407 P.3d at 706 (stating that advisory mandamus may be appropriate "to provide occasional appellate guidance on matters that often elude ordinary appeal, without establishing rules of appealability that will bring a flood of less important appeals in their wake." (citations omitted)).

For these reasons, a stay of the Order pending the outcome of the Writ Petition is warranted to avoid irreparable harm to Defendant.

## C. Movants Will Not Be Harmed by a Stay.

On the other hand, Movants will not be harmed by a stay. Indeed, their rights vis-à-vis the dissenter's rights process would be preserved pending the stay and the Writ Petition. Additionally, Defendant already paid Movants, just as it paid all other non-dissenting stockholders, the merger consideration of \$3.00 per share of common stock, which each Movant accepted. *See* Mot. to Intervene at 11. The Order presumably permits Movants to continue to keep the merger consideration while the Writ Petition is pending, as it provides no mechanism for Movants to return the merger consideration to Defendant even though, as dissenters, they would not be entitled to it. To the extent the Writ Petition is denied and to the extent legal proceedings to determine fair value conclude that value exceeds the merger consideration, Movants are further protected here because during the pendency of the Writ Petition, they will also be entitled to interest on any amount over the merger consideration they already hold. *See* NRS 92A.340. Thus, Movants will suffer little to no cognizable, much less irreparable, injury if the stay is granted.

# D. Defendant Will Likely Prevail Before the Nevada Supreme Court Because Movants' Interpretation of NRS Chapter 92A Runs Afoul to the Unambiguous Language of the Statute Governing Dissenter's Rights.<sup>1</sup>

The issue to be presented to the Nevada Supreme Court in the Writ Petition is whether, under Nevada law, in order to participate in the dissenter's rights process, a beneficial stockholder

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Defendant recognizes that the Court has previously considered these arguments. Defendant, however, respectfully presents them here in compliance with NRAP 8(c)(4).

must submit to Defendant the consent of the stockholder of record prior to the vote on the transaction in compliance with NRS 92A.400. Based on the language of the statute itself and relevant Nevada case law, Defendant is likely to succeed on its Writ Petition.

Movants contended that the time to submit record stockholder consents is when the stockholder submits their demand for payment form to Defendant pursuant to NRS 92A.440. But, as explained in Defendant's Opposition, the unambiguous language of NRS Chapter 92A, which governs the dissenter's rights process, precludes this interpretation.

NRS 92A.400 limits the right of beneficial stockholders who wish to *assert* dissenter's rights, and requires that beneficial stockholders submit record stockholder consents "not later than the time the beneficial stockholder *asserts* dissenter's rights." NRS 92A.400(2)(a) (emphasis added). NRS 92A.430 makes it clear that the time a "stockholder asserts dissenter's rights" (NRS 92A.400) precedes a company's delivery of dissenter's notices. Critically, a company must send dissenter's notices to "any beneficial stockholder *who has previously asserted dissenter's rights pursuant to NRS 92A.400*." NRS 92A.430(1) (emphasis added). The submission of record stockholder consents pursuant to NRS 92A.400, thus, must occur *prior to* the company's delivery of dissenter's notices.

The only deadline that NRS Chapter 92A imposes on stockholder submissions that precede the company's delivery of dissenter's notices is the deadline for "a stockholder who wishes to *assert* dissenter's rights" to submit a notice of intent to demand payment under NRS 92A.420. It sets the deadline for that requirement "*before the vote is taken*." NRS 92A.420(1)(a) (emphasis added). Thus, "before the vote is taken" is the only deadline NRS Chapter 92A provides for the submission of record stockholder consents under NRS 92A.400.

To give full force and effect to NRS 92A.400, NRS 92A.420, and NRS 92A.430, the timing outlined in NRS 92A.420 controls and applies to NRS 92A.400. *See Arguello v. Sunset Station, Inc.*, 127 Nev. 365, 370, 252 P.3d 206, 209 (requiring courts to read statutory provisions "in a way that would not render words or phrases superfluous"); *see also Figueroa-Beltran v. United States*, 136 Nev. Adv. Op. 45, 467 P.3d 615, 621 (2020) ("[Courts] avoid statutory interpretation that renders language meaningless or superfluous.") (internal citations omitted).

The plain language of NRS 92A.420(3), which expressly references NRS 92A.400, confirms that the timing outlined in NRS 92A.420 applies to the record stockholder consent in NRS 92A.400:

A stockholder who does not satisfy the requirements of subsection 1 or 2 and <u>NRS 92A.400</u> is not entitled to payment for his or her shares under this chapter.

(emphasis added). In sum, under a straightforward reading of the statute—which gives meaning to all words, accounts for all statutory steps of the dissenter's rights process, and does not create a conflict among statutory provisions—a beneficial stockholder who wishes to assert dissenter's rights must submit to the corporation the written record stockholder consent *before the vote is taken*. *See*, *e.g.*, *Edington v. Edington*, 119 Nev. 577, 582–83, 80 P.3d 1282, 1286 (2003) ("[W]hen a statute's language is clear and unambiguous, the apparent intent must be given effect, as there is no room for construction.").

Based on the foregoing, in addition to the further arguments set forth in Defendant's Opposition, Defendant is likely to succeed on the merits of the Writ Petition.

## IV. CONCLUSION

As set forth herein, a stay of the Order pending the decision of Defendant's forthcoming Writ Petition is appropriate under the controlling four-factor test. Moreover, because Defendant has no other avenue to appeal the Order and the Writ Petition involves purely legal issues of statutory interpretation, it is ripe for review by the Nevada Supreme Court. *See Archon Corp.*, 133 Nev. at 820, 407 P.3d at 706.

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Accordingly, Defendant respectfully requests that this Court grant the Motion and stay the Order pending the resolution of Defendant's Writ Petition. DATED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2021. BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK, LLP BY:\_ /s/ Maximilien D. Fetaz KIRK B. LENHARD, ESO. MAXIMILIEN D. FETAZ, ESQ. TRAVIS F. CHANCE, ESQ. MARJORIE P. DUFFY, ESQ. (pro hac vice submitted) ASHLEY F. HEINTZ, ÉSQ. (pro hac vice) **JONES DAY** Attorneys for Defendants AGI Acquisition Sub, Inc., SMG Growing Media, Inc., The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company, Chris Hagedorn, Cory Miller, Patricia M. Ziegler, James Hagedorn, and Peter Supron 

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I am an employee of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP and pursuant to NRCP 5(b), EDCR 8.05, Administrative Order 14-2, and NEFCR 9, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing **AEROGROW INTERNATIONAL**, INC.'S MOTION TO STAY ORDER GRANTING JOINT MOTION TO COMPEL PENDING RESOLUTION OF WRIT PURSUANT TO NRAP 8 ON ORDER SHORTENING TIME to be submitted electronically to all parties currently on the electronic service list on May 10, 2021.

/s/ Wendy Cosby

an employee of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP

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2	DISTRICT COURT		
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6	Overbrook Capital, LLC, Plaintiff(s)	CASE NO: A-21-827665-B	
7	VS.	DEPT. NO. Department 11	
8	Aerogrow International, Inc.,		
9	Defendant(s)		
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11	AUTOMATED	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE	
12	This automated certificate of service was generated by the Eighth Judicial District		
13	Court. The foregoing Motion to Stay was served via the court's electronic eFile system to all		
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