IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

MATTHEW MORONEY an Individual,

Appellant,

vs.

BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG, individually; POINT MINING & MILLING CONSOLIDATED, INC.; Respondents CASE NO.: 82948

Electronically Filed District Court Case May. 18v20923 1108:45 a.m. Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court Appeal from the Fifth Judicial District Court, Esmeralda County, Nevada

APPELLANT'S APPENDIX VOLUME 1

KIMBALL JONES, ESQ. Nevada Bar No.: 12982 **BIGHORN LAW** 3675 W. Cheyenne Ave., Suite 100 North Las Vegas, Nevada 89032 Telephone: (702) 333-1111 Email: kimball@bighornlaw.com

Attorney for Appellant

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CHRONOLOGICAL INDEX TO APPENDIX

FILED MAR 1 9 2019 COMP 1 **JACQUELINE BRETTELL, ESQ. ESMERALDA COUNTY CLERK** Nevada Bar No. 12335 2 MICHAEL T. NIXON, ESO. Nevada Bar No. 12839 3 **BIGHORN LAW** 4 716 S. Jones Boulevard Las Vegas, Nevada 89107 5 Phone: (702) 333-1111 Fax: (702) 507-0092 6 jacqueline@bighornlaw.com 7 michael@bighornlaw.com Attorney for Plaintiff 8 FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT 9 10 **ESMERALDA COUNTY, NEVADA** 11 MATTHEW MORONEY, an individual, 12 Plaintiff, CASE NO: CV-19-5103 13 v. DEPT. NO: 🚺 14 BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG; individually; 15 POINT MINING & MILLING CONSOLIDATED, INC.; DOES I through X; 16 inclusive, 17 Defendant. 18 **COMPLAINT** 19 20 Plaintiff, MATTHEW MORONEY, by and through his counsel, JACQUELINE BRETTELL, 21 ESO., and MICHAEL T. NIXON, ESQ., of the law firm of BIGHORN LAW, and for his causes of action 22 against Defendants, and each of them, alleges as follows: 23 Plaintiff MATTHEW MORONEY (hereinafter referred to as "Plaintiff") was, at all times relevant 1. 24 to this action, a resident of Esmeralda County, Nevada. 25 26

APP1

2.

3.

Upon information and belief, at all times relevant to this action, BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG (hereinafter referred to as "Defendant") was, at all times relevant to this action, a resident of Esmeralda County, Nevada.

Upon information and belief, at all times relevant to this action, POINT MINING & MILLING, INC. is a domestic corporation that was licensed to do business in the State of Nevada.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION (Negligence)

4. Based upon information and belief, at all times relevant to this action, Defendants were the owners or lessees and occupied, operated, maintained and controlled those premises located at HC 71 Box 3013, Goldpoint, Nevada 89013, located in Esmeralda County, Nevada, wherein Defendants actively reside and/or conduct business at said location.

5. Defendants owed Plaintiff, an invitee onto the premises, a duty of care to ensure that the premises were reasonably safe, including free from the risk of foreseeable harm caused by criminal, malicious, and/or violent conduct.

6. On or about the March 19, 2017, Plaintiff was an invitee on Defendants' property, when Defendant BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG negligently and carelessly attacked Plaintiff inflicting bodily harm at Defendant's premises located at HC 71 Box 3013, Goldpoint, Nevada 89013.

Defendants breached their duty to keep the premises reasonably safe when they, and each of them, allowed an attack to occur, causing severe bodily injury to the Plaintiff, an invitee on the premises.
 By reason of the premises and as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence and carelessness of Defendants, Plaintiff was otherwise injured and caused to suffer great pain of body and mind, all or some of the same are chronic conditions which may result in permanent disability

and are disabling, all to Plaintiff, damage in an amount in excess of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00).

9. By reason of the premises, and as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid negligence and carelessness of Defendants, Plaintiff has been caused to incur medical expenses, and will in the future be caused to expend monies for medical expenses and additional monies for miscellaneous expenses incidental thereto, in a sum presently unascertainable. Plaintiff will pray leave of Court to insert the total amount of the medical and miscellaneous expenses when the same have been fully determined at the time of the trial for this action.

10. Prior to the injuries complained of herein, Plaintiff, was an able-bodied male, capable of engaging in all activities for which she was otherwise suited. By reason of the condition of the premises described herein, and as a direct and proximate result of the negligence of the said Defendants, Plaintiff was caused to be disabled and limited and restricted in Plaintiff's occupations and activities, which caused to Plaintiff a loss of wages in a presently unascertainable amount, the allegations of which Plaintiff prays leave of Court to insert herein when the same shall be fully determined.

11. Plaintiff has been required to retain the law firm of BIGHORN LAW to prosecute this action and is entitled to a reasonable attorneys' fee.

<u>SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION</u> (Gross Negligence, Malice, Carelessness, Battery and Punitive Damages)

 Plaintiff incorporates by this reference all of the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 10, above, as though completely set forth herein.

- 13. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that Defendants, and each of them, owed Plaintiff the duties of care, as set forth hereinabove.
- 14. Upon information and belief, at all times relevant to this action, Defendants intentionally, maliciously, willfully, oppressively, deliberately, in gross negligence and with a conscious

disregard for the rights and/or safety of others, breached said duties and thereby caused serious injuries to Plaintiff, as described hereinabove.

15. Upon information and belief, at all times relevant to this action, Defendant BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG intentionally, maliciously, willfully deployed the use of force or violence upon the Plaintiff, causing a harmful and/or offensive contact with Plaintiff, which caused serious bodily injury.

16. By reason of the premises and as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid gross negligence, malice, and carelessness of Defendants, Plaintiff was injured in his health, strength and activity, and sustained shock and injury to his body, nervous system, including extensive scars to his person, all of which have caused, and will continue to cause Plaintiff physical, mental, and nervous pain, suffering, and disability.

17. By reason of the premises and as a direct and proximate result of the aforesaid gross negligence, malice, carelessness of Defendants, Plaintiff has incurred medical expenses, believed to now exceed FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$15,000.00), and all to Plaintiff's general and special damages in an amount in excess of FIFTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$15,000.00).

18. That punitive and exemplary damages are appropriate as a means of punishing Defendants, and each of them, and as a means of deterring others, including Defendants, and each of them, from engaging in such behaviors.

19. That Plaintiff has been compelled to retain the services of an attorney at BIGHORN LAW to prosecute this action and is, therefore, entitled to reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred herein.

CLAIMS FOR RELIEF:

1.

General damages for Plaintiff in an amount in excess of \$15,000.00;

1 . a .		
1	2.	Special damages for said Plaintiff's medical and miscellaneous expenses as of this date, plus
1		future medical expenses and the miscellaneous expenses incidental thereto in a presently
3		unascertainable amount;
4	3.	Special damages for lost wages in a presently unascertainable amount, and/or diminution of the
5		earning capacity of said Plaintiff, plus possible future loss of earnings and/or diminution of said
6		Plaintiff's earning capacity in a presently unascertainable amount;
7		
8	4.	Punitive damages in an amount in excess of \$15,000;
9	5.	Costs of this suit and interest;
10	6.	Attorneys' fees; and
11	7.	For such other and further relief as to the Court may seem just and proper in the premises.
12 13		DATED this Can day of March, 2019.
13		BIGHORN LAW
15		χ_{max} (a) (a) (b)
16		By: / //////////////////////////////////
17		Nevada Bar No. 12335 MICHAEL T. NIXON, ESQ.
18		Nevada Bar No. 12839 716 S. Jones Blvd.
19		Las Vegas, Nevada 89107 Attorney for Plaintiff
20		MATTHEW MORONEY
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8	ACQUELINE R. BRETELL, ESQ. Nevada Bar No.: 12335 MICHAEL G. TRIPPIEDI, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 13937 BIGHORN LAW 716 S. Jones Boulevard Las Vegas, Nevada 89107 Telephone: (702) 333-1111 Email: <u>Micahaelt@Bighornlaw.com</u> Attorneys for Plaintiff FIFTH JUDICIAL	FILED JUL 17 2019 ESMERALDA COUNTY CLERK
9	MATTHEW MORONEY, an individual,	
10	Plaintiff,	
11	V.	CASE NO: CV-19-5103
12	BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG; individually;	DEPT. NO: 1
13	POINT MINING & MILLING CONSOLIDATED, INC.; DOES I through X;	
14	inclusive,	
15	Defendant.	
16	EX-PARTE MOTION TO ENLARGE TH	ME FOR SERVICE OF DEFENDANTS
1 7	COMES NOW, Plaintiff MATTHEW M	ORONEY, by and through attorneys of record,
18	JACQUELINE R. BRETELL, ESQ. and MICHAE	L G. TRIPPIEDI, ESQ., with the Law Offices of
19	BIGHORN LAW and hereby moves this Honorab	
20	Defendants.	Û. Û. III I DER KO MIN
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28	Page 1 c	of 9
11		APP6

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	This Motion is based upon the following Memorandum of Points and Authorities and any oral
2	argument this Court may wish to entertain at the hearing of this Motion.
3	DATED this day of July, 2019.
4	BIGHORN LAW
5	DIGITORI LAW
6	By: m
7	JACQUELINE Ř. BRETELL, ESQ. Nevada Bar No.: 12335
8	MICHAEL G. TRIPPIEDI, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 13937
9	716 S. Jones Blvd. Las Vegas, Nevada 89107
10	Attorneys for Plaintiff
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28	Page 2 of 9
11	APP7

AFFIDAVIT FOR ADDITIONAL TIME FOR SERVICE AND

STATE OF NEVADA) SS: COUNTY OF CLARK)

MICHAEL G. TRIPPIEDI, ESQ., being duly sworn, states; that affiant is the attorney for Plaintiff in the above-entitled action; wherein a verified Complaint was filed and a Summons directed to Defendants.

1. Process server was given the assignment to complete service on Defendant BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG at his last known addresses: HC 71 3013, Gold Point, Nevada 89013 and 233 Crook Avenue, Goldfield, Nevada 89013. Process server confirmed that Defendant was unable to be served at the last know addresses see "Exhibit 1," Affidavit of Non-Service.

2. That pursuant to the process server's Affidavit wherein process server spoke to Defendant's neighbor and was told by the neighbor that Defendant BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG "would not be interested in receiving a court Summons." That indicates to Plaintiff's counsel that Defendant is, or is inclined to be, evading service.

3. That Affiant therefore requests the Court to sign an Order granting additional time to be able to properly serve BRUCE ARTHUR VOLING

4. That furthermore, the Plaintiff's Counsel's employee was out of the country visiting family during the applicable time period for serving Defendants.

5. That due to the extensive additional steps brought on, Plaintiffs requests an additional 120 days of time from this Court to complete service upon Defendants. Plaintiff argues these special circumstances warrant extensive extra time for service.

5. That the additional 120 days needed for service of the Complaint is November 14, 2019. 6. That all other known Defendants in this matter were timely served by Plaintiff. DATED this 17 day of July 2019 A MICHAEL G. TRIPPIEDI, ESQ. SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this IST day of July. 2019. JESSICA AGUILAR Public State of N PUBLIC in and for said M ARY 10.18-3 net 19; 2020 STATE and COUNTY Page 4 of 9

1	MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES				
2	I. <u>RELIEF REQUESTED</u>				
3	Plaintiff MATTHEW MORONEY requests an additional time to enlarge the time for service				
4	upon all Defendants in the amount of 120 days, as Plaintiff will continue to serve Defendants.				
5	II. <u>FACTS</u>				
6	This incident occurred or about July 3, 2017. Plaintiff was an invitee on Defendants' property,				
7	when Defendant BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG negligently and carelessly attacked Plaintiff, inflicting				
8 9	bodily harm, at Defendant's premises located at HC 71 Box 3013, Goldpoint, Nevada 89013. Plaintiff				
10	was caused to be injured and seeks to recovery for medical treatment.				
11	III. LEGAL ANALYSIS				
12	Under Nev. R. Civ. P. 4(i), this Court has the discretion to enlarge the time for service if the				
13	party on whose behalf such service was required files a motion to enlarge the time for service and				
14	shows good cause why such service was not made within that period.				
15 16	NRCP 4(i):				
17	Summons: Time Limit for Service. If a service of the summons and complaint is not				
18	made upon a defendant within 120 days after the filing of the complaint, the action shall be dismissed as to that defendant without prejudice upon the court's own initiative with potice to such party or upon motion, upless the party or and a label 16				
19	with notice to such party or upon motion, unless the party on whose behalf such service was required files a motion to enlarge the time for service and shows good cause why such service was not made within that partial. If the party on whose he had had				
20	such service was not made within that period. If the party on whose behalf such service was required fails to file a motion to enlarge the time for service before the 120-day				
21	service period expires, the court shall take that failure into consideration in determining good cause for an extension of time. <i>Upon a showing of good cause, the court shall</i>				
22 23	extend the time for service and set a reasonable date by which service should be made. (emphasis added).				
24	The purpose of NRCP 4(i) is to encourage diligent prosecution of complaints once they are				
25	filed. Moore v. Shreck, 102 Nev. 163, 717 P.2d 49 (1986). To ensure diligent prosecution of				
26	complaints, NRCP 4(i) requires that Plaintiff serve his Complaint and Summons within 120 days.				
27	Page 5 of 0				
28	Page 5 of 9				

However, this time requirement will be extended where a showing of good cause is made and the motion is brought within the 120 day time period for service. *Saavedra-Sandoval v. Wal-Mart Stores*, 126 Nev. 592, 595, 245 P.3d 1198, 1200 (2010).

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The factors to be considered by Nevada courts when determining whether or not a Plaintiffs have made a showing of good cause are outlined in *Scrimer v. Eighth Judicial District Court*, 998 P.2d 1190 (2000):

We conclude that a number of considerations may govern a district court's analysis of good cause under NRCP 4(i), and we emphasize that no single consideration is controlling. Appropriate considerations include: (1) difficulties in locating the defendant, (2) the defendant's efforts at evading service or concealment of improper service until after the 120-day period has lapsed, (3) the plaintiff's diligence in attempting to serve the defendant, (4) difficulties encountered by counsel, (5) the running of the applicable statute of limitations, (6) the parties' good faith attempts to settle the litigation during the 120-day period, (7) the lapse of time between the end of the 120-day period and the actual service of process on the defendant, (8) the prejudice to the defendant caused by the plaintiff's delay in serving process, (9) the defendant's knowledge of the existence of the lawsuit, and (10) any extensions of time for service granted by the district court.

The Scrimer Court indicated that Nevada courts should use a flexible approach when

determining motions to dismiss under NRCP 4(i). Moreover, they explained that even a single listed

factor could, in some instances, prove sufficient grounds to establish good faith:

We specifically disavow and overrule *Lacey* to the extent that it stands for the proposition that "settlement negotiations alone will not constitute good cause for a plaintiff's failure to serve process within 120 days of the filing of the complaint." *Lacey*, 109 Nev. at 345, 849 P.2d at 262. Negotiations with an eye to settlement, undertaken in good faith in a serious effort to settle the litigation during the 120-day period, may constitute good cause for untimely service under NRCP 4(i). Additionally, we renounce our dictum in *Dougan*, which suggests that an inflexible approach should be used in assessing motions to dismiss under Rule 4(i).

The Scrimer Court went on to explain that the policy behind NRCP 4(i) is partially to ensure

diligent prosecution of complaints, but was not meant to become an automatic sanctioning mechanism.

26 Moreover, it should still allow for cases to be heard on their merits:

Underlying these considerations is the policy behind Rule 4(i)—to encourage the diligent prosecution of complaints. *Rule 4(i) was not adopted, however, to become an automatic sanction when a plaintiff fails to serve the complaint within 120 days of filing. When making a determination under NRCP 4(i), the district court should recognize that "good public policy dictates that cases be adjudicated on their merits."* Kahn v. Orme, 108 Nev. 510, 516, 835 P.2d 790, 794 (1992) (citing Hotel Last Frontier v. Frontier Prop., 79 Nev. 150, 155-56, 380 P.2d 293, 295 (1963)). (emphasis added).

Plaintiff has met the Scrimer factors, thus giving the Court good cause to extend the time for service.

SCRIMER FACTOR 1: Plaintiff MATTHEW MORONEY has been forced to retain counsel and file suit in this matter. Plaintiff's counsel did extensive research into the parties to be named prior to the filing of the Complaint herein—yet, only on July 9, 2019, did Plaintiff learn that Defendant would be evading or attempting to evade service. See Exhibit 1.

Plaintiff requests an additional 120 days of time from this Court to properly serve the Defendant. Plaintiff argues these special circumstances warrant extensive extra time for service.

SCRIMER FACTOR 2: Defendant proved difficult to find, a fact which Plaintiff was unaware of prior to attempting service.

SCRIMER FACTORS 3 & 4: Plaintiff performed his diligence in attempting to serve Defendant. Prior to filing of the Complaint, Plaintiff's counsel performed extensive research to determine all the proper Defendant parties. Plaintiff was able to properly serve all named parties in this matter.

SCRIMER FACTOR 5: The statute of limitations in this matter has expired, and denying this request for extension of service to receive the returned certified copy of letter would severely prejudice Plaintiff. Plaintiff's 120 days expires on July 17, 2019, yet Plaintiff has made good faith attempts to serve during the 120-day period, including successfully serving all other Defendants in this matter.

SCRIMER FACTOR 7: In Scrimer, the Nevada Supreme Court concluded that the district court had not exceeded its jurisdiction or abused its discretion when it refused to dismiss Plaintiff's claim, even though the request for extension of time to serve was made 16 days after the 120-day period had expired and there had been less than diligent efforts to serve the Defendant. Still, the court found there was little or no prejudice to Defendants and any dismissal would have effectively been with prejudice since the statute of limitations had run.

Here, there has yet to be a lapse of time as the end of the 120 period is not until July 17, 2019, after the filing of the present Motion.

SCRIMER FACTORS 8 and 9: There will be no prejudice to Defendant BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG in granting an extension for service as they have had knowledge of the existence of Plaintiff's claim since before filing Plaintiff's complaint, Defendant's insurance had been put on notice of Plaintiff's claims against Defendants.

SCRIMER FACTOR 10: This is Plaintiff's first request for an extension of service. Plaintiff has diligently worked to located and serve Defendant BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG.

Plaintiff requests that the Court allow Plaintiff additional time of 120 days to serve the Defendant.

IV. THIS COURT SHOULD ENLARGE SERVICE SINCE PLAINTIFF'S ACTIONS SHOW GOOD CAUSE; MOREOVER, ENLARGING SERVICE SERVES THE INTERESTS OF JUSTICE BY MINIMIZING PREJUDICE

The standard for service under NRCP 4(i), outlined in *Scrimer*, lists ten factors to be used when determining whether a Plaintiff's actions demonstrate good cause. *See supra*. The applicability of only one of these ten factors can be sufficient to show good cause in some cases. *Id*.

In Scrimer, the Nevada Supreme Court concluded that the district court had not exceeded its jurisdiction or abused its discretion when it refused to dismiss Plaintiff's claim, even though the request for extension of time to serve was made 16 days after the 120-day period had expired and there

prejudice to Defendants and any dismissal would have effectively been with prejudice since the statute of limitations had run.

As described above, the *Scrimer* factors have been demonstrated in the instant case. Here, Plaintiff has made diligent efforts as aforementioned, to locate and serve the proper parties prior to service of process and to dismiss out any unnecessary parties if warranted before the expiration of the 120-day deadline to serve the Complaint in this matter.

V. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

Based on the above, Plaintiff MATTHEW MORONEY respectfully requests this Court grant her Motion to Enlarge Time for Service on Order Shortening Time upon all Defendants to confirm certain representations made by opposing counsel. Plaintiff respectfully requests an additional 120 days of time to allot for the determining whether all of the named parties should remain in this action, or be dismissed out prior to effectuating service of process.

DATED this day of July, 2019.

BIGHORN LAW

Bx

JACQUELINE R. BRETELL, ESQ. Nevada Bar No.: 12335 MICHAEL G. TRIPPIEDI, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 13937 716 S. Jones Blvd. Las Vegas, Nevada 89107 Attorneys for Plaintiff

EXHIBIT 1

ä			
1		FIFTH JUDICIAL	DISTRICT COURT
2		ESMERALDA C	OUNTY, NEVADA
3	MAT	THEW MORONEY, an individual,	1
4		Plaintiff.	
5	v.	* **********	CASE NO: cv-19-5103
6	BRU	CE ARTHUR YOUNG; individually;	DEPT. NO: 1
8	POR	IT MINING & MILLING SOLIDATED, INC.; DOES I through X;	
9	linclu		AFFIDAVIT OF NON-SERVICE
10		Defendant.	MIDANII OF NON-SERVICE
11	Estela	a Sandoval, being first duly sworn and depose	s and says:
12	1.	That Affiant is lawfully entitled to work in the	ne United States, over eighteen years of age, employed
13		by Elite Investigations, Nevada Private Inve	estigator's License Number 873-C, and not a party to,
14		nor interested in the within action.	
15	2.	I have personal knowledge of the facts refer	renced herein, and if called as a witness could testify
16		competently thereto.	
17	3.	On July 2, 2019, I was given the assignment	of completing service upon Bruce Arthur Young with
19		last known address listed as HC 71 3013, Go	
20			
21	4.		ocate the aforementioned address and was unable to
22			ed Esmeralda County Assessor's office via telephone
23		number (775) 485-3450, and spoke with "Sha	wna", who indicated that the aforementioned address
24		was an invalid address. Shawna indicated tha	t in Gold Point, homeowners choose any address they
25		want; however, they were not recorded on a r	nap. Shawna suggested that the Affiant contacted the
26		Sheriff's Office and he would show the Affian	nt where Bruce Arthur Young's property was located.
27		She also stated that the Sheriff might even dri	ve the Affiant to the location. Shawna suggested that
		the Affiant ask for "Lieutenant Matthew".	The Affiant contacted Esmeralda County Sheriff's

office via telephone number (775) 485-3450, and was told that Lieutenant Matthew and the Sheriff were not in the office; however, they would be in July 9, 2019, at 10:00 a.m.

That on July 9, 2019, the Affiant traveled to Esmeralda County Sheriff's Office located at 233 5. Crook Avenue, Goldfield, Nevada 89013. Lieutenant Matthew stated that he would only show the Affiant where Bruce Arthur Young's property was located; however, Lieutenant Matthew did not drive the Affiant to the location. The Affiant traveled to Gold Point, Nevada and knocked on Bruce Arthur Young's door; however, no one answered the door. A burgundy Ford SUV with Nevada license plate number 087G18, and a red Dodge pickup with Nevada license plate number 126G42 were parked on the property. An unidentified neighbor stated that Bruce Arthur Young was not home and would not be interested in receiving a court Summons. According to the neighbor Bruce Arthur Young was "out shopping" and did not know when Bruce Arthur Young would be home. I have read the foregoing Affidavit and know the contents thereof, as the same is true of my own 6. knowledge, except for those matters therein contained upon information in belief. In so those matters, I believe them to be true.

FURTHER YOUR AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.

IN AND FOR SAID

19 State of Nevada 20 County of Clark

NOTARY

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Estela Sandoval

Subscribed and sworn to before On this 10 day of July, 2019, by Estela Sundaval

COUNTY AND STATE

SHAYLA WHITAKER Notary Public-State + evada APPT. NO. 14-14679-1 My Apol. Expires September 4, 2022

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1	АСОМ	
2	JACQUELINE R. BRETELL, ESQ. Nevada Bar No.: 12335	
3	MATTHEW B. BECKSTEAD, ESQ. Nevada Bar No.: 14168	
4	BIGHORN LAW 716 South Jones Boulevard	
5	Las Vegas, Nevada 89107	FILED
6	Phone: (702) 333-1111 jacqueline@bighornlaw.com	APR 2 7 2020
7	matthew@bighornlaw.com Attorneys for Plaintiff	M. Harcia
8		ESMERALDA COUNTY CLERK
9	FIFTH JUDICIAL	DISTRICT COURT
10	ESMERALDA CO	DUNTY, NEVADA
11	MATTHEW MORONEY,	CASE NO: CV-19-5103
12	Plaintiff,	DEPT. NO: 1
13	v.	
14	BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG,	
15	Defendant.	
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17	AMENDED CO	MPLAINT
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		APP18

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1	COMES NOW Plaintiff Matthew Moroney ("Plaintiff"), by and through his attorneys
2	Jacqueline R. Bretell, Esq. and Matthew B. Beckstead, Esq., of the law firm Bighorn Law, and hereby
3	brings the claims below, based upon the following allegations:
4	I. <u>PARTIES, JURISDICTION, AND VENUE</u>
5	1. Plaintiff is, and at all times relevant herein was, a resident of Esmeralda County, Nevada;
6	2. Defendant Bruce Arthur Young ("Defendant") is, and at all times relevant herein was, a
7	resident of Esmeralda County, Nevada;
8	II. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS
9	3. On March 19, 2017, Defendant threatened to initiate a physical altercation with Plaintiff
10	eventually punching Plaintiff twice and taking Plaintiff to the ground ("Subject Incident");
11	4. Defendant never obtained Plaintiff's consent to initiate or engage in physical contact with
12	Plaintiff;
13	5. At the time of the Subject Incident, Plaintiff was recovering from neck surgery;
14	6. At the time of the Subject Incident, Defendant knew that Plaintiff was recovering from neck
15	surgery;
16	7. Prior to the physical altercation, Defendant verbally threatened to hit or punch Plaintiff;
17	8. As a result of the Subject Incident, Plaintiff sustained physical injuries;
18	III. <u>FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF</u>
19	(BATTERY)
20	9. Plaintiff incorporates by reference each and every foregoing paragraph as if fully set forth
21	herein;
22	10. Defendant intentionally punched Plaintiff in the face, twice, and wrestled Plaintiff to the
23	ground;
24	11. Defendant knew that Plaintiff had neck surgery prior to the Subject Incident;
25	12. Plaintiff has suffered physical injury, incurred medical expenses, experienced pain and
26	suffering, and may incur future medical expenses and experience future pain and suffering as
27	a result of the Subject Incident;
28	13. Plaintiff is entitled to damages in excess of \$15,000.00;

л., ⁽⁵⁾.,

	PRAYER FOR RELIEF
	WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment from this Honorable Court, as follows:
1.	General damages for Plaintiff, in excess of \$15,000.00;
2.	Special damages for Plaintiff's medical and other expenses, plus future medical and other
	expenses incidental thereto, in an amount to be determined by the trier of fact, in excess
	\$15,000.00;
3.	Punitive damages for Plaintiff under NRS 42.005, in excess of \$15,000.00;
4.	Any and all additional relief in Plaintiff's favor as the Court deems just and proper on t
	premises.
	DATED this 21 st day of April, 2020.
	Respectfully submitted,
	BIGHORN LAW
	The
	JACQUELINE R. BRETELL, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 12335
	MATTHEW B. BECKSTEAD, ESQ. Nevada Bar No.: 14168
	716 S. Jones Blvd.
	Las Vegas, Nevada 89107 (702) 333-1111
	Attorneys for Plaintiff



:	 ANS BRUCE YOUNG HC 71 3013 Goldfield, Nevada 89013 Phone: (775) 340-4313 Defendant in Proper Person 	FILED UL 0 7 2020 ESMERALDA COUNTY CLERK
	FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRI	CT COIDT
e	ESMERALDA COUNTY,	NEVADA
7	MATTHEW MORONEY	
8	Plaintiff,	CASE NO. : CV-19-5103 DEPT. NO.: 1
9	BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG,	
10	·	DEFENDANT'S ANSWER TO PLAINTIFF'S AMENDED COMPLAINT
11 12	Derendants.)	COMPLAINI
12		
14	COMES NOW, Defendant, BRUCE ARTHUR YO	UNG, in-Proper Person, as an
15	individual, and in answer to the allegations contained in Pla	aintiff's Amended Complaint
16	Defendant generally denies each and every allegation cont	ained in Plaintiff's Complaint.
17	It is expressly noted by this answering Defendant the	at the only " <i>subject incident</i> " known
18	by this Defendant, pertains to Plaintiff, MATTHEW MORG	ONEY, physically attacking this
19	named Defendant on the date referenced. Plaintiff, MATTI	HEW MORONEY, was the aggressor
20	and Defendant, BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG, was attemptin behavior".	ng to avoid Plaintiff's "out of control
21	BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG is the only named Defe	and and a Construction of the
22	Complaint and therefor, responds as to himself only.	in the Amended
23		
24	1. Defendant admits the allegations contained in	Paragraphs 2. C. C.
25	extent that the subject incident refers to Plain	tiff's attack on D. C. is in the
26	Plaintiff's Amended Complaint;	and s attack on Defendant), of
27	Tt,	
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	1	2.	Defendant denies the allegations in Paragraphs 3, 4 (to the extent that Plaintiff
	2		never initiated any physical contact with Plaintiff), 7,10, 13, and 14 of Plaintiff's
	3		Amended Complaint and denies Plaintiff's Prayer, in total, for Judgment;
	4	3.	Defendant does not have sufficient knowledge to either admit or deny those
	5		allegations contained in Paragraphs 1,8,12 (to the extent that the subject incident
	6		refers to Plaintiff's attack on Defendant), of Plaintiff's Amended Complaint and
	7		accordingly denies said allegations.
	8		AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES
	9	As	and for this answering Defendant's Affirmative Defenses, Defendant alleges as
1	0	follows:	alleges as
1	1		FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
1	2	4.	Plaintiff's Complaint fails to state a cause of action upon which relief can be
1	3		granted.
1	4		SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
1:	5.	` 5,	As a second affirmative defense, Defendant denies that he ever initiated any
16	5		contact with Plaintiff as alleged in Plaintiff's Amended Complaint;
17	<u>,</u>		THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
18		6.	Plaintiff's Complaint is based on false and misleading information pertaining to
19			this answering Defendant.
20			FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
21		7.	Damages if any, that were allegedly sustained by Plaintiff as a result of the acts
22			contained in Plaintiff's Amended Complaint, were caused in whole or part, or
23		G	were contributed to by reason of the acts, omissions, negligence and/or intentional
24			misconduct of Plaintiff.
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	1		FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
	2	8.	a reasonable time of the alleged incident, the existence
	3	ť	of which is denied, to provide notification of the alleged Amended Complaint.
	4		SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
	5	9.	Plaintiff has, through its own acts and /or omissions, failed to mitigate his
	6		damages, the existence of which is denied, and Defendant has therefore been
	7		released any discharged from any liability.
	8		SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
	9	10.	All losses, if any, suffered by the Plaintiff at the times and places referred to in
1(the Amended Complaint on file herein, were caused in whole or in part, or were
11			contributed to by the negligence or fault or want of due care of the Plaintiff, and
12	2		such negligence, fault and want of due care of said Plaintiff was greater than that,
13			if any of Defendant.
14			EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
15		11.	By his own conduct, Plaintiff is estopped from making those claims herein as
16			asserted by the Doctrine of Unclean Hands.
17			NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
18		12.	Plaintiff's claims, which Defendant denies, are barred by the Statute of
19			Limitations.
20			TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES
21		13.	Pursuant to Rule 11 of Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure as amended, all possible
22			affirmative defenses may not have been alleged herein insofar as sufficient facts
23			are not available after reasonable inquiry and the filing of Plaintiff's Amended
24			Complaint and therefore, these Answering Defendant reserves the right to amend
25	-		his Answer to allege additional affirmative defenses or to delete affirmative
26			defenses, as subsequent investigation warrants.
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WHEREFORE, Defendant prays as follows:

1. That the Plaintiff take nothing by way of his Amended Complaint.

2. That Defendant be awarded with costs and professional Assistance fees.

3. For such other relief as the Court deems appropriate in the premises

DATED this <u>7</u> day of July, 2020.

BRUCE YOUNG HC 71 3013 Goldfield, Nevada 89013 Phone: (775) 340-4313 Defendant in Proper Person

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1	VERIFICATION		
2	STATE OF NEVADA))ss.		
3	COUNTY OF NYG		
4	BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG, under penalties of perjury, being first duly sworn, deposes and		
5	says:		
6	That he is the Defendant, in the above entitled matter; that he has read the foregoing		
7	Defendant's Answer to Plaintiff's Amended Complaint and knows the contents thereof; that the		
8	same is true of his own knowledge, except for those matters therein contained stated upon		
9	information and belief, and as to those matters, he believes them to be true.		
10	DATED this <u>07</u> day of July, 2020.		
11	Bruce Arthur young BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG		
12	WITNESS my hand and official seal		
13	mand and official seal		
14	NOTARY PUBLIC		
15	STATE OF NEVADA APPT. NO: 20-2785-14 MY APPT. EXPIRES: 08/02/2023		
16			
17	STATE OF NEVADA)		
18	COUNTY OF MYE)ss.		
19	On this n , day of July 2020 before me the understand by the part of the		
20	On this <u>01</u> day of July, 2020, before me, the undersigned Notary Public in and for the said County and State, personally appeared BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG known to me to be the person		
21	described in and who executed the foregoing Defendant's Answer to Plaintiff's Amended		
	Complaint, and who acknowledged to me that he did so freely and voluntarily and for the uses and		
	purposes therein mentioned.		
24	WITNESS my hand and official seal.		
25			
26	CE Diali-		
27	NOTARY PUBLIC		
28	EMILY DUNIPHIN NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF NEVADA APPT. NO: 20-2785-14		
	MY APPT. EXPIRES: 08/02/2023		

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2	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE	
3	I hereby certify that on the dow of Lub open and	
4	I hereby certify that on the <u>1</u> day of July, 2020, I deposited and sent a true and correct copy the foregoing DEFENDANT'S ANSWER TO BE TO BE AN ANSWER TO BE AN ANSWER TO BE AN ANSWER TO BE AN	of
5	the foregoing DEFENDANT'S ANSWER TO PLAINTIFF'S AMENDED COMPLAINT by U.S. fir	st
6	class Mail, postage pre-paid, to the following address of Attorney for Plaintiff as follows:	
7		
8	JACQUELINE R. BRETELL, ESQ. MATTHEW B. BECKSTEAD, ESQ. BIGHORN LAW	
9	716 South Jones Blud	
10	Las Vegas, Nevada 89107	
11	8	
12	DATED this 7 day of July, 2020.	
13	INAM 1 50	1
14	AVIA X Com	
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	COPY				
1	MTD MICHAEL M. DELEE, ESQ.				
2	Nevada Bar No. 011948				
3	DELEE LAW OFFICES, LLC P.O. Box 96, 18 South Powerline Road Amargosa Valley, Nevada 89020	FILED			
4	Telephone: (775) 372-1999 Facsimile: (775) 372-1234	SEP 0 1 2020			
5	E-Mail: michael@deleelaw.com Attorney for Bruce Arthur Young	ESMERI - Sucia			
6	The undersigned does hereby affirm that this	LSMERALDA COUNTY CLERK			
7	document does not contain the social security number of any person.				
3	a borther on theorems				
	FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT				
	ESMERALDA COUNTY, S	TATE OF NEVADA			
	MATTHEW MORONEY,				
	Plaintiff,	Case No. : CV-19-5103			
	v.)	Dept. No.: I			
	BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG,				
5	Defendant.				
6 7 8 9	NOTICE OF MOTION AND N	<u>IOTION TO DISMISS</u>			
	Defendant BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG ("Yo	ung"), by and through his counsel of record,			
	DeLee Law Offices, LLC, hereby files his Motion to Dismiss the action filed by Plaintiff				
2	MATTHEW MORONEY ("Moroney") because the compliant fails to state a claim upon which				
3	relief can be granted and was improperly filed.				
4	This Motion is made and based upon all papers and pleadings on file herein, the following				
5	Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the Declaration of Michael DeLee filed in support of				
7	this Motion, and any oral argument required by this Court at the time set for hearing in this				
8	///	of a human special Transfer and gapes which			
		APP28			

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1	matter.		
2	DATED this 151 day of September, 2020.		
3	DELEE LAW OFFICES, LLC		
4			
5	By MICHAEL M. DELEE		
6	Attorney for Bruce Arthur Young		
7			
8	NOTICE OF MOTION		
9	TO: PLAINTIFF MATTHEW MORONEY		
10	AND: HIS RESPECTIVE COUNSEL:		
10	YOU, AND EACH OF YOU, WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the undersigned will		
12	bring the above and foregoing Motion to Dismiss Pursuant to NRCP $12(b)(5)$ and NRCP $4(e)(2)$,		
13	on for hearing before the above-entitled Court on the 6^{-1} day of 0.240024 , 2020 at 10^{-1}		
14			
15	A.m. of said day, in Department I, or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard.		
16	DATED this $/ 5/$ day of September, 2020.		
17	DELEE LAW OFFICES, LLC		
18			
19	By MCHAEL M. DELEE		
20	Attorney for Bruce Arthur Young		
21	POINTS AND AUTHORITIES		
22	I.		
23	INTRODUCTION		
. 24	h a the Vound		
25			
26	"Original Complaint"). See Complaint on file in this case. There is no record of service of the		
27			
28	Original Complaint. The Original Complaint alleged a battery against Young that purportedly		
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took place exactly two years earlier, on March 19, 2017.¹ See Original Complaint Paragraph 6. The Original Complaint was filed on the very last day to file under NRS 11.190(4)(c). Exactly 120 days later, Plaintiff filed an Ex-Parte Motion to Enlarge Time For Service of Defendants, on July 17, 2019, (the "Ex Parte Motion"). On August 21, 2019, this Court set the Ex-Parte Motion for a hearing on September 3, 2019. At the hearing Moroney had no explanation as to why the local Esmeralda County Sherriff was not promptly hired to affect service after the Original Complaint was filed. This Court denied the Ex Parte Motion. On November 26, 2019, Moroney filed his first draft order reflecting the denial of the Ex Parte Motion.² The first draft order denying the motion was not signed by this Court. Moroney filed a second, identical draft order on December 30, 2019, which also does not appear to have been signed.³ Moroney did not appeal the denial of his Ex Parte Motion.

On April 27, 2020, Moroney amended the Original Complaint by dropping the defendants Point Mining & Milling Consolidated, Inc., and DOES I through X⁴. See Amended Complaint. Moroney did not just recycle the same vague allegations against Young but he provided more "details" of what had purportedly happened more than three years prior, including a brand-new theory of his purported medical "prior condition" that was nowhere mentioned in this Original Complaint (but presumably known) to Moroney. The Amended Complaint (but not the Original Complaint) was served upon Young who then answered, pro se, on July 13, 2020. Young raised affirmative defenses that Moroney "failed to state a cause of action upon which

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Ex-Parte Motion to Enlarge Time for Service. ³ Both the first draft order and the second draft order refer to the filing date of the Ex-Parte Motion to Enlarge Time for Service as July 15, 2019, when the file stamp was July 17, 2019.

¹ Young notes for the Court's attention the discrepancy between the date averred the Original Complaint and

Amended Complaint is March 19, 2017, yet the "incident" described in the Ex-Parte Motion to Extend Time for

² Young notes the irony that Moroney also included the remark that "no timely Opposition having been filed by any of the Defendants" when, naturally, none of the Defendants had any knowledge of the pending case much less the

Service is July 3, 2017. See Ex Parte Motion page 5, lines 6-7.

⁴ By this time, more than thirteen (13) months had passed since the Original Complaint was filed, and an equally long time has elapsed beyond the statute of limitations, as well as more than half a year past this Court's denial of Moroney's Ex Parte Motion.

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relief can be granted," that Moroney failed "within a reasonable time of the alleged incident to provide notification," and that Mornoey's claims "are barred by the Statue of Limitations." See Answer, pages 2-3. This hearing is brings Young's pro se objections from his Answer into focus for the Court to dismiss the matter.

ARGUMENT

A. STANDARDS OF REVIEW

<u>NRCP 12(b)(5)</u>

The standard of review for a dismissal under NRCP 12(b)(5) is rigorous as this court "must construe the pleading liberally and draw every fair intendment in favor of the [nonmoving partyl." Squires v. Sierra Nev. Educational Found., 107 Nev. 902, 905, 823 P.2d 256, 257 (1991) (citations omitted). All factual allegations of the complaint must be accepted as true. Capital Mort. Holding v. Hahn, 101 Nev. 314, 315, 705 P.2d 126, 126 (1985). A complaint will not be dismissed for failure to state a claim "unless it appears beyond a doubt that the plaintiff could prove no set of facts which, if accepted by the trier of fact, would entitle him [or her] to relief." Edgar v. Wagner, 101 Nev. 226, 228, 699 P.2d 110, 112 (1985) (citing Conley v. Gibson, 355 U.S. 41, 45-46, 78 S.Ct. 99, 102, 2 L.Ed.2d 80 (1957)). In evaluating a motion to dismiss, courts primarily focus on the allegations in the complaint. Baxter v. Dignity Health, 131 Nev. Adv. Op. 76 (September 24, 2015). See Buzz Stew, LLC v. City of N. Las Vegas, 124 Nev. 224, 228, 181 P.3d 670, 672 (2008). But "the court is not limited to the four corners of the complaint." Id., quoting 5B Charles Alan Wright & Arthur Miller, Federal Practice & Procedure: Civil § 1357, at 376 (3d ed. 2004). Under NRCP 10(c), "a copy of any written instrument which is an exhibit to a pleading is a part thereof for all purposes." Id. If documents are physically attached to the complaint, then a court may consider them if their "authenticity

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is not contested" and "the plaintiff's complaint necessarily relies on them." *Lee v. City of L.A.*, 250 F.3d 668, 688 (9th Cir. 2001). Facts admitted in the pleadings do not require independent proof. *Richards v. Steele*, 60 Nev. 66, 71, 99 P.2d 641, 644 (1940). In the context of a NRCP 12(b)(5) motion, "[a]ll factual allegations of the complaint must be accepted as true. *Capital Mort. Holding v. Hahn*, 101 Nev. 314, 315, 705 P.2d 126, 126 (1985). A dismissal with prejudice without leave to amend is appropriate, where, as is the case here, amendment of the complaint or claim in question would be futile. *See Steckman v. Hart Brewing, Inc.*, 143 F.3d 1293, 1298 (9th Cir. 1998) (dismissal with prejudice is appropriate where "any amendment would be an exercise in futility, or where the amended complaint would also be subject to dismissal" (citations omitted)); *Saul v. United States*, 928 F.2d 829, 842 (9th Cir. 1991) (leave to amend need not be granted when amendment would be futile).

Statute of Limitations

The applicable Statute of Limitations provides as follows:

Except as otherwise provided in NRS 40.4639, 125B.050 and 217.007, actions other than those for the recovery of real property, unless further limited by specific statute, may only be commenced as follows:

Within 2 years:

(c) An action for libel, slander, assault, <u>battery</u>, false imprisonment or seduction.
NRS 11.190(4)(c) (emphasis added). When the defense of the statute of limitations appears on the face of the complaint, a motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim is appropriate. *Shupe & Yost, Inc. v. Fallon Nat'l Bank*, 109 Nev. 99, 100, 847 P.2d 720, 720 (Nev. 1993); *Kellar v. Snowden*, 87 Nev. 488, 489 P.2d 90) (Nev. 1971); *Paso Builders, Inc. v. Hebard*, 83 Nev. 165,

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426 P.2d 731 (Nev. 1967). The issue of when the statute of limitations commenced may be

determined as a matter of law. Day v. Zubel, 922 P.2d 536, 539 (Nev. 1996).

<u>NRCP 4(e)(2)</u>

The rules are explicit that the action must be dismissed unless there is an extension of the

time to serve.

If service of the summons and complaint is not made upon a defendant before the 120day service period — or any extension thereof — expires, <u>the court must dismiss the</u> <u>action</u>, without prejudice, as to that defendant upon motion or upon the court's own order to show cause.

NRCP (4)(e)(2) (emphasis added). The rule is jurisdictional as the mandatory "must" language is used.

<u>NRCP 15(c)</u>

The rules for amending a complaint provide an illustration that a complaint may not be amended after a motion to enlarge the time is denied, or if no motion is actually made. For example, if a party is to be added, that party must have had notice within the 120-day time period:

(c) An amendment to a pleading relates back to the date of the original pleading when:

(2) the amendment changes a party or the naming of a party against whom a claim is asserted, if Rule 15(c)(1) is satisfied and if, within the period provided by Rule 4(e) for serving the summons and complaint, the party to be brought in by amendment:

(A) <u>received such notice</u> of the action that it will not be prejudiced in defending on the merits; and

(B) knew or should have known that the action would have been brought against it, but for a mistake concerning the proper party's identity.

NRCP 15(c)(2). The federal courts, in interpreting the provisions of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4(j), have stated:

The courts have made clear that plaintiff's amendment of the complaint <u>does not</u> justify delay in service of the original complaint unless the amended complaint names a new party defendant. If the amended complaint adds a defendant, then a new 120-day timetable begins to run as to the added defendant. However, the amendment does not toll the 120-day period as to defendants already named. The appropriate course is for plaintiff to amend the original complaint after serving it upon the original defendants.

Lacey v. Wen-Neva, Inc., 849 P. 2d 260, 264 (Nev. 1993), citing Baden v. Craig-Hallum, Inc., 115 F.R.D. 582, 586 n. 3 (D.Minn.1987).

ANALYSIS

As discussed in NRCP 4(e) and the language above from *Lacey*, because Moroney's Ex Parte Motion was denied, and the denial was never appealed, Moroney did not have a a 2019 case left in which to "amend" his complaint. Moreover, the Amended Complaint was different in character and alleges elaborate causes of action than the Original Complaint. Finally, the caption of the Amended Complaint differs from the Original Complaint.

Moroney is seeking an end-run around this Court's denial of his Ex-Parte Motion. Moroney waited until the last possible second to file his Original Complaint. He then waited an unexplainably long time to begin to service of process (and inexplicably avoided using the services of the Esmeralda County Sheriff). Finally, he waited until the last possible moment to file the Ex Parte Motion. Moroney rightfully received little sympathy from this Court at the September 3, 2019, hearing. Now, almost exactly one year later, Moroney effectively contends that he didn't have to appeal this Court's order and instead can just ignore it by amending the complaint and starting over, which would render NRCP 4(e) a nullity and mock the Court's explicit instructions and Moroney's own two draft orders filed in 2019 that acknowledge the denial of the Ex Parte Motion. There is no issue of waiver of any defense because there was no viable case left and the improper nature of the Amended Complaint was noted in Young's pro se Answer.

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2	CONCLUSION
3	The Court should for the purposes of this Motion accept the Complaint's allegations
4	regarding the timing of the alleged incident as true, that it occurred on March 19, 2017, and that
5	Moroney knew, or should have known, that he needed to act with diligence to present his
6	allegations promptly rather than repeatedly tempt the running of the statute of limitations and
7 8	make such a lackluster effort to serve Young. The Court should further find that the case ended
9	when this Court denied his Ex Parte Motion and therefore there was no viable complaint to be
10	amended. With this finding, the Court should dismiss the Complaint, with prejudice, as barred
11	by the statute of limitations and award reasonable fees and costs to the moving party herein.
12	DATED this $\cancel{51}$ day of September, 2020.
13	DELEE LAW OFFICES, LLC
14	By
15	MICHAENM. DELEE Attorney for Bruce Arthur Young
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1	DECLARATION OF MICHAEL DELEE IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO DISMISS		
2	I, Michael DeLee, under penalty of perjury, declare that if called as a witness, I would and		
3 4	could competently testify of my own personal knowledge as follows:		
5	1. I am a resident of the State of Nevada. I am over the age of 18 and mentally competent.		
6	2. I am now and at all times relevant have been an attorney of record for Bruce Arthur Young. In		
7	that role I have personal knowledge of the matters stated herein and could testify competently		
8	to them if called upon to do so.		
9	3. I am making this Declaration in support of the above Motion to Dismiss, filed in the Fifth		
10 11	Judicial District Court, Esmeralda County, Nevada.		
12	4. I have reviewed the Complaint, the Amended Complaint, the Answer, and other documents		
13	and its Exhibits in this matter.		
14	5. I have drafted the Motion to Dismiss in good faith and not as a means to harass or delay the		
15	litigation.		
16	6. I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true		
17 18	and correct.		
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21	DATED this $/$ $/$ day of September, 2020.		
22	DELEE LAW OFFICES, LLC		
23	By		
24 25	Attorney for Bruce Arthur Young		
25 26			
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1	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
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4	I HEREBY CERTIFY that, on the $\frac{1}{57}$ day of September, 2020, and pursuant to NRCP
5	5(b), I caused to be served a true and correct copy of the foregoing NOTICE OF MOTION AND
6	MOTION TO DISMISS by emailing to <u>matthew@bighornlaw.com</u> and mailing, postage prepaid,
7	a copy to the following named individual at the following address:
8	Jacqueline Bretell
9	BIG HORN LAW 2225 E. Flamingo Road, Bld 2, Ste 300
10	Las Vegas, Nevada 89119
11	Michael M. DeLee, Esq.
12	Attorney for Bruce Arthur Young
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1 2 3 4 5 6 7	OPP JACQUELINE R. BRETELL, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 12335 MATTHEW B. BECKSTEAD, ESQ. Nevada Bar No.: 14168 BIGHORN LAW 2225 E. Flamingo Rd., Bldg. 2, Ste. 300 Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 Phone: (702) 333-1111 jacqueline@bighornlaw.com matthew@bighornlaw.com Attorneys for Plaintiff	ΤΡΙΟΤ ΟΩΙΙΡΤ
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9	ESMERALDA COUN	
10	MATTHEW MORONEY,	CASE NO: CV-19-5103 DEPT. NO: 1
11	Plaintiff, v.	
12		
13	BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG,	
14	Defendant.	
15		
16	PLAINTIFF'S OPPOSITION TO DEFE	NDANT'S MOTION TO DISMISS
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	1	APP

COMES NOW Plaintiff Matthew Moroney, by and through attorneys Jacqueline R. Bretell, Esq. and Matthew B. Beckstead, Esq., of the law firm Bighorn Law, and files *Plaintiff's Opposition to Defendant's Motion to Dismiss*, based upon the pleadings and other papers on file in this action, the Memorandum of Points and Authorities below, and any oral argument the Court considers on Defendant's *Motion to Dismiss*.

Dated this 9th Day of September, 2020.

Submitted by:

JACQUELINE R. BRETELL, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 12335 MATTHEW B. BECKSTEAD, ESQ. Nevada Bar No.: 14168 BIGHORN LAW 2225 E. Flamingo Rd., Bldg. 2, Ste. 300 Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 Phone: (702) 333-1111 jacqueline@bighornlaw.com matthew@bighornlaw.com Attorneys for Plaintiff

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

Because Defendant Bruce Arthur Young has already filed an answer, and because Defendant Young has waived the defenses of statute of limitations and insufficiency of process because he failed to bring them in the answer or timely filed Rule 12(b) motion, his motion to dismiss this action necessarily fails. Mr. Young obliterated any chance he had at making these arguments by filing is answer. Moreover, this Court never entered a formal, written order denying Plaintiff's motion to enlarge time for service, the original complaint was never effectively served upon Defendant Young, and Plaintiff's filing of the *Amended Complaint* was authorized under Rule 15(a). This litigation should now be allowed to proceed on the merits, rather than wasting the time and resources of all involved, including this Court, enmired in procedural debates that are easily remedied with a cursory review of the law provided and cited to hereinbelow.

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II. <u>LEGAL ANALYSIS</u>

A. Neither verbal orders issued from the bench nor a clerk's minute order have any legal effect

A motion is not formally decided upon unless and until the Court enters a formal, written
order signed by the judge. *See Rust v. Clark Cnty. School Dist.*, 103 Nev. 686, 689, 747 P.2d 1380,
1382 (1987). "The district court's oral pronouncement from the bench, the clerk's minute order,
and even an unfiled written order are ineffective for any purpose and cannot be appealed." *Id.*(citing *Farnham v. Farnham*, 80 Nev. 180, 391 P.2d 26 (1964); *Musso v. Triplett*, 78 Nev. 355,
372 P.2d 687 (1962)). The Supreme Court of Nevada reiterated this holding in its later decision in *Division of Child and Family Svcs. v. Eighth Judicial Dist. Court:*

While other courts have held that a mandate of the court need not be a formal written order to be effective, some Nevada precedent suggests that an order is not effective until the district court enters it. "Entry" involves the filing of a signed *written* order with the court clerk. Before the court reduces its decision to writing, signs it, and files it with the clerk, the nature of the judicial decision is impermanent. The court remains free to reconsider the decision and issue a different written judgment.

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120 Nev. 445, 451, 92 P.3d 1239, 1243 (2004) (footnotes omitted) (first emphasis in

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Here, the Court had never entered a formal, written order deciding Plaintiff's motion for enlargement of time to serve his original complaint with any finality. *See* Court Docket, attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**. Plaintiff's amended complaint was filed on April 27, 2020. The Court's verbal pronouncement from the bench and the clerk's minute order were legally insufficient to extinguish this legal action, the action was never dismissed or closed in any formal sort of way, and nothing from this Court prevented Plaintiff from filing his amended complaint.

Disappointingly, Defendant has argued that Plaintiff should have filed an appeal as to the Court's informal denial. *See* Motion, at 7:10-21. Plaintiff fails to mention, however, that *Rust* specifically states that a party cannot file an appeal as to a verbal pronouncement from the bench or a clerk's minute order.

B. A plaintiff has a right to file an amended complaint without permission from the Court or any other party when it does so prior to service of the original complaint Rule 15(a) allows a plaintiff to file an amended complaint without leave of court or another party's permission, provided the plaintiff meets the procedural requirement for doing so. See NRCP 15(a). Rule 15(a) states, in relevant part:

(1) Amending as a Matter of Course. A party may amend its pleading once as a matter of course within: (A) 21 days after serving it

19 || NRCP 15(a)(1)(A).

Here, as stated above and admitted in Defendant's motion to dismiss, Defendant had not yet been served with a copy of Plaintiff's original complaint. This means Plaintiff's exercise of his legal right to file an amended pleading "once as a matter of course," *i.e.*, without leave of court or written permission from another party, was totally legitimate.

24 25 26

C. A defendant must file a motion to dismiss under Rule 12(b) prior to filing an answer, otherwise that defendant waives the ability to bring a post-answer Rule 12(b) motion to dismiss

27 Rule 12(b) requires a party's defenses to be stated in the party's responsive pleading, but
28 allows for certain defenses to be made by motion:

1 Every defense to a claim for relief in any pleading must be asserted in the responsive pleading if one is required. But a party may assert the following 2 defenses by motion: 3 (1) lack of subject-matter jurisdiction; (2) lack of personal jurisdiction; 4 (3) insufficient process; (4) insufficient service of process; 5 (5) failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted; and (6) failure to join aa party under Rule 19. 6 A motion asserting any of these defenses must be made before pleading if a 7 responsive pleading is allowed. If a pleading sets out a claim for relief that does not require a responsive pleading, an opposing party may assert at trial any defense 8 to that claim. No defense or objection is waived by joining it with one or more other defenses or objections in a responsive pleading or motion. 9 10 NRCP 12(b) (emphases added). In other words, a Rule 12(b)(5) motion to dismiss is untimely 11 when it is filed after the moving party has already filed an answer. Moreover, the defense of 12 "insufficient service of process" is waived unless it is brought by a pre-answer motion or included 13 in the party's answer. See NRCP 12(h)(1). 14 Defendant filed his answer on July 7, 2020, and filed his Notice of Motion and Motion to Dismiss on September 1, 2020, well after his answer was filed with this Court. His motion to 15 16 dismiss for failure to state a claim and motion to dismiss for insufficiency of process both fail as a 17 matter of law. 18 D. Where a defendant fails to assert the affirmative defense that an action is 19 barred by the statute of limitations in defendant's answer, the statute-of-limitations 20 affirmative defense is waived and, therefore, unavailable as a matter of law 21 A defendant's failure to include an affirmative defense in an answer constitutes a waiver 22 of that defense. See NRCP 8(c) (stating that "a party must affirmatively state any avoidance or 23 affirmative defense, including . . . statute of limitations"); NRCP 12(b) (stating "Every defense to 24 a claim for relief in any pleading must be asserted in the responsive pleading if one is required."). 25 Lest there be any doubt, the Supreme Court of Nevada stated unequivocally that "NRCP 26 8(c) requires that all affirmative defenses be specifically asserted in the pleading," and that "[i]f 27 the affirmative defenses are not so pleaded, asserted by a Rule 12(b) motion[,] or tried by consent 28 they are waived. . . . There was no appropriate pleading in this case, thus the defense is waived." 5

See Second Baptist Church of Reno v. First Nat'l Bank of Nev., 89 Nev. 217, 220, 510 P.2d 630, 631-32 (1973) (citing Radio Corp. of Am. v. Radio Station KYFM, Inc., 424 F.2d 14 (10th Cir. 1970); Albee Homes, Inc. v. Lutman, 406 F.2d 11, 13 (3d Cir. 1969)).

Here, Defendant's answer fails to include an affirmative defense of statute of limitations, and it also fails to include an affirmative defense stating any defect with the original complaint or other proceedings leading up to the filing of the *Amended Complaint*. This failure to include those affirmative defenses constitutes a waiver thereof and renders those defenses unavailable to Defendant as a matter of law.

⁹ Even assuming, *arguendo* and without admitting, that Defendant had not waived the
statute-of-limitations defense, the Amended Complaint relates back to the original complaint
which was timely filed within the statute-of-limitations time limit. Defendant's motion to dismiss
conveniently left out the portion of Rule 15(c) which obviously relates the *Amended Complaint*back to the original complaint. Rule 15(c) states, in full:

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(c) Relation Back of Amendments. An amendment to a pleading relates back to the date of the original pleading when:

(1) the amendment asserts a claim or defense that arose out of the conduct, transaction, or occurrence set out — or attempted to be set out — in the original pleading; or

(2) the amendment changes a party or the naming of a party against whom a claim is asserted, if Rule 15(c)(1) is satisfied and if, within the period provided by Rule 4(e) for serving the summons and complaint, the party to be brought in by amendment:

(A) received such notice of the action that it will not be prejudiced in defending on the merits; and

(B) knew or should have known that the action would have been brought against it, but for a mistake concerning the proper party's identity.

22 NRCP 15(c) (emphasis added).

Here, we are obviously dealing with a situation where "the amendment asserts a claim . . . that arose out of the conduct, transaction, or occurrence set out – or attempted to be set out – in the original pleading." NRCP 12(c)(1). Both the original complaint filed in this action and Plaintiff's *Amended Complaint* include a claim against Defendant Bruce Arthur Young for battery. The specifics alleged in each pleading are the substantively the same, too. Both pleadings specifically pertain to the battery Defendant Bruce Arthur Young committed against Plaintiff on or around

APP43

1	March 19, 2017. Compare Complaint ¶ 6 with Amended Complaint ¶ 3.
2	III. <u>CONCLUSION</u>
3	Accordingly, based upon the foregoing, Plaintiff asks that the Court DENY Defendant's
4	motion in its entirety.
5	Dated this 9 th Day of September, 2020.
6	
7	Submitted by:
8	An Ilm
9	JACQUELINE R. BRETELL, ESQ.
10	Nevada Bar No. 12335 MATTHEW B. BECKSTEAD, ESQ.
11	Nevada Bar No.: 14168 BIGHORN LAW
12	2225 E. Flamingo Rd., Bldg. 2, Ste. 300 Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 Phone: (702) 333, 1111
13	Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 Phone: (702) 333-1111 jacqueline@bighornlaw.com matthew@bighornlaw.com
14	Attorneys for Plaintiff
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1	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
2	Pursuant to NRCP 5, I hereby certify that I delivered a copy of the foregoing Plaintiff's Opposition
3	to Defendant's Motion to Dismiss as follows:
4	☑ E-mail – Via email, pursuant to the Consent to Email Service dated August 20,
5	2020 which is on file with this Court.
6	U.S. Mail—By depositing a true copy thereof in the U.S. mail, first class
7	postage prepaid and addressed as listed below; and/or
8	□ Facsimile
9	
10	Michael M. DeLee, Esq.
11	DeLee Law Offices, LLC P.O. Box 96 American Valley, NV 80020
12	Amargosa Valley, NV 89020 (775) 372-1999 (phone) (775) 372 1234 (fragimila)
13	(775) 372-1234 (facsimile) Attorney for Defendant Bruce Arthur Young
14	Artnur Toung
15	
16	An employee of BIGHORN LAW
17	
18	
19	
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25 26	
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20	8 APP45

	ROPP	FILED
11	MICHAEL M. DELEE, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 011948	SEP_1 5 2020
	DELEE LAW OFFICES, LLC	Shop
	P.O. Box 96, 18 South Powerline Road Amargosa Valley, Nevada 89020	ESMERALDA COUNTY CLERK
	Telephone: (775) 372-1999 Facsimile: (775) 372-1234	
	E-Mail: michael@deleelaw.com Attorney for Bruce Arthur Young	
	The undersigned does hereby affirm that this	
	document does not contain the social security number of any person.	
	FIFTH JUDICIA	AL DISTRICT COURT
	ESMERALDA COU	NTY, STATE OF NEVADA
	MATTHEW MORONEY,	}
	Plaintiff,) Case No. : CV-19-5103
	v .) Dept. No.: I
	BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG,	
	Defendant.	
		/
	REPLY TO OPPOSITIO	ON TO MOTION TO DISMISS
	Defendant BRUCE ARTHUR YOUR	NG ("Young"), by and through his counsel of recor
	DT T OCC IIC haushy files his	Reply to Opposition to Motion to Dismiss the action
	DeLee Law Offices, LLC, hereby files his I filed by Plaintiff MATTHEW MORONEY (
)		("Moroney") as follows.
9 0 1 2	filed by Plaintiff MATTHEW MORONEY (<u>Moroney's Failure to Timely Serve S</u>	("Moroney") as follows. Young was Fatal to His Case
9 0 1 2 3	filed by Plaintiff MATTHEW MORONEY (<u>Moroney's Failure to Timely Serve Y</u> The Opposition makes much of the	("Moroney") as follows. Young was Fatal to His Case e absence of a signed order denying Moroney's la
9 0 1 2 3 4	filed by Plaintiff MATTHEW MORONEY (<u>Moroney's Failure to Timely Serve Y</u> The Opposition makes much of the minute request to enlarge time to serve Your	("Moroney") as follows. <u>Young was Fatal to His Case</u> e absence of a signed order denying Moroney's la ng. This is a red herring because NRCP 4(e)(2), up
9 0 1 2 3 24 25	filed by Plaintiff MATTHEW MORONEY (<u>Moroney's Failure to Timely Serve Y</u> The Opposition makes much of the minute request to enlarge time to serve Your which the Motion to Dismiss is explicitly	("Moroney") as follows. Young was Fatal to His Case e absence of a signed order denying Moroney's la ng. This is a red herring because NRCP 4(e)(2), up y based, provides that the Court "must dismiss t
8 9 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	filed by Plaintiff MATTHEW MORONEY (<u>Moroney's Failure to Timely Serve Y</u> The Opposition makes much of the minute request to enlarge time to serve Your which the Motion to Dismiss is explicitly action." See Motion page 6, lines 6 – 8. It	

1	Court did not sign the two defective draft orders that Moroney submitted, entitled "Order	
2	Granting" because the Court clearly denied the motion and didn't grant the motion. The fact	
3	that no order granting an extension of time exists is the real issue here. Rule 4(e)(2) doesn't say	
4	"unless there is a written order denying a request." It says that unless there is "any extension	
5	thereof" [the 120 day time to serve] the "court must dismiss the action." Id.	
6	In his Opposition, Moroney is attempting to reassert the Ex-Parte Motion to Enlarge	
7	Time by creatively arguing that the Court was required to issue a written order. Moroney was	
8	under a obligation pursuant to DCR 21 to provide an accurate order (which he twice failed to	
9	do). ¹ He cannot now be heard to complain that the Court refused to sign the faulty written order	
10 11	when Moroney himself created the problem he now complains of. Furthermore, his efforts in the	
11	Opposition to revive the Ex Parte Motion to Enlarge Time runs afoul of DCR 13:	
13		
13 14	No motion once heard and disposed of shall be renewed in the same cause, nor shall the same matters therein embraced be reheard, unless by leave of the court granted upon motion therefor, after notice of such motion to the adverse parties.	
15		
16	Nevada District Court Rule 13(7). The matters embraced in Moroney's Opposition are clearly	
10	covered by the Ex Parte Motion to Enlarge Time. The Court properly administratively cleared its	
18	docket pursuant to its verbal order of September 3, 2019. No "notice" was required to Young as	
19	he was not served with the Original Complaint. If and when Moroney got around to fulfilling his	
20	duty under DCR 21 to provide an <i>accurate</i> written order for the Court to sign, there is little doubt	
21	that it would have been signed; however, it was, and is, not necessary to dispose of the case under	
22	Rule 4(e)(2), either sua sponte or pursuant to the instant motion.	
23	Moroney's Opposition Misstates Young's Averments in the Answer, Violating Rule 11	
24	woroney's Opposition wisstates roung s revenuents in the rule rule of a state and and	
25	L Division of the councel obtaining any order judgment or decree shall	
26	¹ District Court Rule 21 states, "The counsel obtaining any order, judgment or decree shall furnish the form of the same to the clerk or judge in charge of the court." When a Court denies a	
27	motion, Counsel cannot label the proposed order as "granting" the motion and expect the Court to sign the order.	
28		
	2 APP47	

	Morney's contention that Young waived his right to object to Moroney's improper filings	
1 2	is as irrelevant as it is improper. As cited in the Motion, Rule $4(e)(2)$ provides that either the	
2 3	"defendant upon motion or upon the court's own order to show cause" can address the fatal flaw	
4	of failing to serve or enlarge the time to serve. NRCP 4(e)(2). The Opposition is therefore	
5	irrelevant because Rule 4(e)(2) is a jurisdictional, docket-management issue, not an issue that	
6	arises later in the case that might necessitate a written order to be effective.	
7	Furthermore, Moroney improperly summarizes Young's Answer in an effort to divert the	
8	attention from this gatekeeping issue. Moroney's Opposition contention that the Answer did not	
9		
10	include a reference to the statute of limitations is just plain false and violates Rule 11:	
11	By presenting to the court a pleading, written motion, or other paper — whether by signing, filing, submitting, or later advocating it — an attorney or	
12	unrepresented party certifies that to the best of the person's knowledge, information, and belief, formed after an inquiry reasonable under the	
13	circumstances:	
14	(1) it is not being presented for any <u>improper purpose</u> , such as to	
15	harass, cause unnecessary delay, or needlessly increase the cost of litigation;	
16 17	(2) the <u>claims</u> , defenses, and <u>other legal contentions</u> are warranted	
17 18	by existing law or by a nonfrivolous argument for extending, modifying, or reversing existing law or for establishing new law;	
19	NRCP 11(b) (emphasis added). Aside from having filed the Amended Complaint for the	
20	improper purpose of continuing the case and with the intent and knowledge that he was violating	
21	the Court's order denying his motion to enlarge time, Moroney now mischaracterizes Young's	
22	Answer in Moroney's Opposition.	
23	The Answer, filed while Young was pro se, was combined with the essentials of a motion	
24		
25	to dismiss clear enough to preserve it (even though the Court has sua sponta powers under NRCP	
26	4(e)(2): "4. Plaintiff's Complaint fails to state a cause of action upon which relief can be	
27		
28		
	3 APP48	

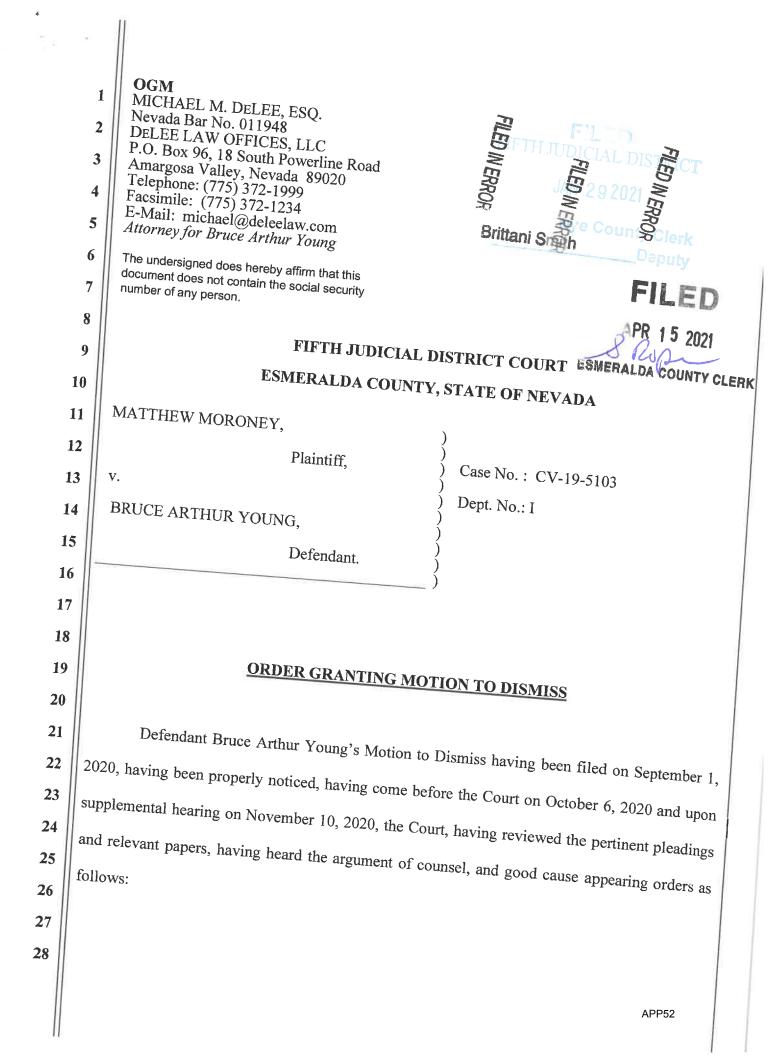
1	granted." See Answer page 2, paragraph 4. Likewise, the defense of statute of limitations was
2	also explicitly preserved:
3	8. Plaintiff has failed within a reasonable time of the alleged incident, the existence of which is denied, to provide notification of the alleged Amended
4	Complaint.
5	
6 7	12. Plaintiff's claims, which Defendant denies, are barred by the Statue of Limitations.
8	See Answer, page 3. Thus, Moroney's Opposition's contention that the statue of limitations was
9	somehow waived is just plain false as a plain reading of the Answer shows the Affirmative
10	Defense of the Statute of Limitations. This Court should grant sanctions to address the ongoing
11	and flagrant disrespect for the Court's instructions and, to the extent necessary to clarify any of
12	the wording in Young's Answer, Young may be granted leave to amend his pro se Answer in the
13	
14	event the case continues.
15	The Amended Complaint Does Not Relate Back
16	As discussed in the Motion to Dismiss, Rule 15(c) does not let Moroney escape the
17	Statute of Limitations when he failed to serve within the time allowed under Rule 4. Moroney's
18	"Amended Complaint" was not made pursuant to NRCP 15(a), which provides that:
19	[a] party may amend its pleading once as a matter of course within: (A) 21 days
20	<u>after serving</u> it; or (B) if the pleading is one to which a responsive pleading is required, 21 days <u>after service</u> of a responsive pleading or 21 days <u>after service</u> of
21	a motion under Rule 12(b), (e), or (f), whichever is earlier.
22 23	NRCP 15(a) (emphasis added). Moroney never served the Original Complaint on Young.
23 24	Accordingly, Rule 15 is not at issue here. We do not reach the relation-back portion of Rule
2 4 25	15(c) because the "Amendment" was not made pursuant to Rule 15(a).
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CONCLUSION

I []	
2	Moroney should not be rewarded for failing to serve his complaint then avoiding the
3	consequences of his failure by filing and serving an "Amended Complaint." Young's pro se
4	Answer did not waive the Court's requirement to dismiss the Complaint under Rule 4(e)(2), nor
5	did the lack of a written order operate to somehow grant the Ex-Parte Motion and revive the
6	Original Complaint. Nevertheless, the lack of proper service was identified under Young's
7	Affirmative Defenses and the Statute of Limitations was expressly discussed and preserved.
8	Moroney cannot rely upon an unserved complaint to satisfy the statute of limitations. When the
9 10	District Court denied Moroney's motion to enlarge the time to serve, Moroney had no basis to
10	argue that the causes of action relate back to the filing date of the original complaint because the
12	Young, as an unserved party, did not have notice of Moroney's claims until he was served much
13	later by the Amended Complaint. The Court should dismiss the case and award sanctions in this
14	matter.
15	DATED this $\frac{5}{h}$ day of September, 2020.
16 17	DELEE LAW OFFICES, LLC
17 18	By
19	MICHAEL M. DELEE Attorney for Bruce Arthur Young
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26 27	
27 28	
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	K

	COPY	
1	NEO MICHAEL M. DELEE, ESQ.	
2	Nevada Bar No. 011948 DELEE LAW OFFICES, LLC	
3	P.O. Box 96, 18 South Powerline Road Amargosa Valley, Nevada 89020 APR 1 5 2021	
4		
5	E-Mail: michael@deleelaw.com Attorney for Bruce Arthur Young	P No No I I I I
6 7	The undersigned does hereby affirm that this document does not contain the social security number of any person.	
8	FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT	
9	ESMERALDA COUNTY, STATE OF NEVADA	
10		
11	MATTHEW MORONEY,	
12	Plaintiff,) Case No. : CV-19-5103	
13	v.) Dept. No.: I	
14	BRUCE ARTHUR YOUNG,	
15	Defendant.	
16)	
17	YOU AND EACH OF YOU WILL PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that an	ORDER
18	GRANTING MOTION TO DISMISS was entered on the 15 day of April, 2021, in the	he above
19	entitled matter, a copy of which is attached hereto.	
20	DATED this 15 day of April, 2021.	
21	DELEE LAW OFFICES, LLC	
22		
23	By MICHAEL M. DELEE	-
24	Attorney for Bruce Arthur Youn	g
25		
26		
27		
28		

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BACKGROUND
Plaintiff Matthew Moroney ("Moroney") filed his Complaint on March 19, 2019, against
Defendants Bruce Arthur Young, individually, and Point Mining & Milling, Consolidated, Inc;
Does I through X, inclusive (the "Complaint"). The Complaint was never served, but the
Amended Complaint was, with Defendant Bruce Arthur Young filing an answer, in proper
person, on July 7, 2020. On July 17, exactly 120 days after the filing of the Complaint, Moroney
timely filed an Ex-Parte Motion to Enlarge Time For Service of Defendants (the "Ex Parte
Motion"). On August 21, 2019, this Court set the Ex-Parte Motion for a hearing on September 3,
2019.
At the hearing on the Ex Parte Motion on September 3, 2019, the Court found that
Moroney did not use reasonable efforts to affect service of process by unreasonably delaying and
failing to utilize the local Esmeralda County Sherriff to affect service. This Court denied
Plaintiff's Ex Parte Motion because of a lack of diligent effort to serve the Defendants and
entered a minute order to this effect, which this Court found was sufficient to terminate this case.
This Court further finds that a formal, written order was not necessary as to the Ex Parte Motion
and that the Court was justified in not entering such an order because the minute order was an
administrative, docket management order and there was, at the time of the hearing on the Ex
Parte Motion, no other party before the Court.
As mentioned above, Defendant Bruce Arthur Young filed his answer, in proper person,

to Moroney's amended complaint on July 7, 2020. Afterwards, on September 1, 2020, exactly
56 days after filing his amended complaint, he filed a motion to dismiss Moroney's amended
complaint by and through his attorney of record, Michael M. DeLee, Esq. This Court conducted
two hearings, on Defendant Bruce Arthur Young's motion to dismiss on October 6, 2020, and
November 10, 2020.

28

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• • • • •	
1	FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW
2	THE COURT HEREBY CONCLUDES that under NRCP 4(e)(2) the rules are
3	jurisdictional, explicit and mandatory that an action must be dismissed unless there is an
4	extension of the time to serve:
5	If service of the summons and complaint is not made upon a defendant before the
6	120-day service period — or any extension thereof — expires, the court must dismiss the action, without prejudice, as to that defendant upon motion or upon
7	the court's own order to show cause.
8	NRCP (4)(e)(2) (emphasis added). Defendant Bruce Arthur Young brought his motion to
9	dismiss on September 1, 2020. The Court, acting upon its own previously entered minute order
10	and not relying upon the motion, confirms the dismissal of the action;
11	THE COURT FURTHER CONCLUDES that Nevada law allowed the minute order as an
12	administrative, docket management tool, denying Plaintiff's Ex Parte Motion without the need
13 14	for a formal, written order.
14	
15	THE COURT FINDS that Moroney did not obtain an extension of time to effectuate
17	service of the original complaint filed on March 19, 2019;
18	THE COURT FURTHER FINDS that its minute order denying Plaintiff's Ex Parte
19	Motion was procedurally adequate to bar Moroney from filing and serving his amended
20	complaint;
21	THE COURT FURTHER FINDS that it is required to dismiss the action; THE COURT
22	FURTHER FINDS that Defendant Bruce Arthur Young was not procedurally barred from filing
23	his motion to dismiss Moroney's amended complaint;
24	
25	THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED the
26	
27	Plaintiff's claims set forth in his amended complaint are hereby DISMISSED . DATED this day of January, 2021.
28	DATED this \mathcal{O} day of January, 2021.

IT IS SO ORDERED. Honorable Judge Kimberly Wanker SUBMITTED BY Approved as to form and content: DELEE LAW OFFICES, LLC **BIG HORN LAW** Michael M. DeLcc, Esq. Nevada State Bar No. 011948 Matthew B. Beckstead, Esq. Nevada State Bar No. 14168 P.O. Box 96, 18 South Powerline Road 2225 E. Flamingo Rd. Bld. 2, Ste. 300 Amargosa Valley, Nevada 89020 Las Vegas, Nevada 89119 Attorney for Bruce Arthur Young Attorney for Matthew Moroney

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