

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST;
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,

Appellants,

v.

DANIEL S. SIMON, AND THE
LAW OFFICE OF DANIEL S.
SIMON, A PROFESSIONAL
CORPORATION,

Respondents.

Electronically Filed
Aug 13 2021 07:36 p.m.
Elizabeth A. Brown
Clerk of Supreme Court

Supreme Court Case Nos. 83260

District Court Case Nos.
A-16-738444-C and
A-18-767242-C

**DOCKETING STATEMENT
CIVIL APPEALS**

GENERAL INFORMATION

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

WARNING

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

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

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

1. Judicial District Eighth Department X

County Clark Judge Tierra Jones

District Court Case No. A-16-738444-C consolidated with A-18-767242-C

2. Attorney filing this docketing statement:

Attorney: Steve Morris (1543) Telephone: 702-474-9400

Firm: MORRIS LAW GROUP

Address: 801 South Rancho Dr., Ste. B4
Las Vegas, Nevada 89106
(702) 474-9400

Client: Edgeworth Family Trust and American Grating, LLC

If this is a joint statement by multiple appellants, add the names and addresses of other counsel and the names of their clients on an additional sheet accompanied by a certification that they concur in the filing of this statement.

3. Attorneys representing respondents:

Attorney: Peter S. Christiansen and Kendelea L. Works

Firm: Christiansen Law Offices

Address: 810 S. Casino Center Blvd., Ste. 104, Las Vegas, Nevada
89101

Clients: Respondents Daniel S. Simon, Law Office of Daniel S. Simon

Attorney: James R. Christensen

Firm: n/a

Address: 601 S. Third Street, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

Clients: Respondents Daniel S. Simon, Law Office of Daniel S. Simon

4. Nature of disposition below (check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Judgment after bench trial | <input type="checkbox"/> Dismissal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Judgment after jury verdict | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Jurisdiction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Summary Judgment | <input type="checkbox"/> Failure to state a claim |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Default Judgment | <input type="checkbox"/> Failure to prosecute |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant/Denial of NRCP 60(b) relief | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) Failure to Properly Adjudicate Lien Amount on Remand and Denial of Motion to Release Client Funds Not Subject to Lien and Client File |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant/Denial of injunction | <input type="checkbox"/> Divorce Decree: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant/Denial of declaratory relief | <input type="checkbox"/> Original <input type="checkbox"/> Modification |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Review of agency determination | <input type="checkbox"/> Other disposition (specify)____ |

5. Does this appeal raise issues concerning any of the following? No.

- ☐ Child custody
☐ Venue
☐ Termination of parental rights

6. Pending and prior proceedings in this court. List the case name and docket number of all appeals or original proceedings presently or previously pending before this court which are related to this appeal:

- (1) *Edgeworth Family Trust; and American Grating, LLC, Appellants v. Daniel S. Simon and Law Office of Daniel S. Simon, Appeal, Respondents*, Case No. 77678;
- (2) *Edgeworth Family Trust; and American Grating, LLC, Appellants v. Daniel S. Simon and Law Office of Daniel S. Simon, Appeal* Case No. 78176; and
- (3) *Law Office of Daniel S. Simon, Petitioner; Eighth Judicial District Court, the Hon. Tierra Jones, Respondent, Writ Proceeding*, Case No. 79821.

7. **Pending and prior proceedings in other courts.** List the case name, number and court of all pending and prior proceedings in other courts which are related to this appeal (e.g., bankruptcy, consolidated or bifurcated proceedings) and their dates of disposition: N/A.
8. **Nature of the action.** Briefly describe the nature of the action and the result below:

This appeal, like the proceedings referenced in #6 above, arise from the attorney lien adjudication proceedings that followed settlement of the underlying action. This Court affirmed the district court's lien adjudication, its finding that the attorney, Daniel Simon, was constructively discharged, and remanded for the district court to (1) explain the basis of the \$200,000 quantum meruit award of an attorney fee and its reasonableness under *Brunzell*; and (2) to also explain the reasonableness under *Brunzell* of the \$50,000 attorney's fees award entered by the district court.

On remand, the district court entered an order explaining the basis of the \$50,000 attorney fee award and remitted the \$5,000 in costs to the actual amount incurred (\$2,520). With respect to No. 1, however, the district court entered an amended order awarding the same \$200,000 in quantum meruit that was the subject of remand without offering any explanation as to its basis or its reasonableness under *Brunzell*, as the Supreme Court expressly directed it to do. The district court also refused to enter an order releasing the excess between the more than \$2M in funds being withheld from Appellants since 2018, and the unpaid judgments arising out of liens as adjudicated by the district court. The district court also refused to order Respondents to turn over the complete Edgeworth client file to Appellants, despite the fact that Respondent Simon's fees were fully secured.

9. **Issues on appeal.** State concisely the principal issue(s) in this appeal (attach separate sheets as necessary):
 1. Did the district court err in merely restating its prior decision rather than responding to this Court's mandate to state the basis for and the reasonableness of its \$200,000 *quantum meruit* award in the face of evidence provided by the respondent that a "reasonable" fee under *Brunzell* would not be more than \$33,811.25.

2. Did the district court err in refusing to release to the Appellants the \$1.5M+, which is the difference between funds withheld from the client due to the amount of the amended charging lien and \$484,982.50, which is the amount that the district court entered as a judgment on the lien after hearing Respondent Simon's evidence.
 3. Did the district court err in refusing to release, pursuant to NRS 7.055, the complete client file to the appellants, who have provided more than adequate security for the attorney fees in dispute and who are bound by the protective order in the substantive action.
10. **Pending proceedings in this court raising the same or similar issues.** If you are aware of any proceedings presently pending before this court which raises the same or similar issues raised in this appeal, list the case name and docket number and identify the same or similar issue raised:

Appellants are not aware of any pending proceedings raising the same or similar issues.

11. **Constitutional issues.** If this appeal challenges the constitutionality of a statute, and the state, any state agency, or any officer or employee thereof is not a party to this appeal, have you notified the clerk of this court and the attorney general in accordance with NRAP 44 and NRS 30.130?

- ☒ N/A
☐ Yes
☐ No

If no, explain:

12. **Other Issues.** Does this appeal involve any of the following issues?
- ☐ Reversal of well-settled Nevada precedent (identify the case(s))
☐ An issue arising under the United States and/or Nevada Constitutions.
☒ A substantial issue of first impression
☒ An issue of public policy

- ☒ An issue where en banc consideration is necessary to maintain uniformity of this court's decisions
☐ a ballot question

13. **Assignment to the Court of Appeals or retention in the Supreme Court.** Briefly set forth whether the matter is presumptively retained by the Supreme Court or assigned to the Court of Appeals under NRAP 17, and cite the subparagraph(s) of the Rule under which the matter falls. If appellant believes that the Supreme Court should retain the case despite its presumptive assignment to the Court of Appeals, identify the specific issue(s) or circumstance(s) that warrant retaining the case, and include an explanation of their importance or significance:

The Nevada Supreme Court should retain this appeal under NRAP 17(a)(12), because it involves the district court's failure to adhere to this Court's mandate in Case Nos. 77678 and 78176. *Edgeworth Family Trust v. Simon*, 477 P.3d 1129 (table) 2020 WL 7828800 (unpublished) (Nev. 2020). This appeal also raises important questions of first impression and statewide importance that the Court has not previously reached concerning two issues. First, what is the length of time that an attorney can encumber client funds under NRS 18.015 when the lien amount claimed was not based on a written agreement, was unreasonable when filed, and was adjudicated by the district court in a five-day hearing for a fraction of the amount for which the lien was filed. Second, whether NRS 7.055 permits an attorney who is adequately secured for his/her attorney fees to refuse to produce a complete client file under the guise that he has not been paid or that portions of the file are protected under a standard confidentiality and protective order to which he and his client are parties.

NRS 18.015 allows attorneys the protection of a charging lien. The statute tries to balance the rights of the attorney and client by requiring that liens be imposed only for the amount of the fee agreed to by the parties or, if no agreement, for a reasonable amount *and* by requiring prompt adjudication of the parties' respective rights. NRS 18.015(2) (lien may be for amount agreed or reasonable amount); and

NRS 18.015(6) (the "court shall, **after five days** notice to all interested parties, adjudicate the rights of the attorney, client, or other parties and enforce the lien."). The purpose of the lien is not to give license to lawyers to tie up client funds **for years** when they do not acquiesce to an attorney's unreasonable demands for more money than he agreed to accept as a fee, as Respondent threatened and has done here.

14. **Trial.** If this action proceeded to trial, how many days did the trial last? N/A.

Was it a bench or jury trial? N/A

15. **Judicial Disqualification.** Do you intend to file a motion to disqualify or have a justice recuse him/her from participation in this appeal? If so, which Justice? No.

TIMELINESS OF NOTICE OF APPEAL

16. **Date of entry of written judgment or order appealed from**

The district court entered its decision and orders on June 17, 2021 and notice of entry of the orders was given on June 18, 2021.

If no written judgment or order was filed in the district court, explain the basis for seeking appellate review: N/A.

17. **Date written notice of entry of judgment or order was served**

June 18, 2021.

Was service by:

- ☐ Delivery
☒ Mail/electronic/fax

18. **If the time for filing the notice of appeal was tolled by a post-judgment motion (NRCP 50(b), 52(b), or 59)**

(a) Specify the type of motion, the date and method of service of the motion, and the date of filing: Motion for Reconsideration

- ☐ NRCP _____
☐ NRCP 52(b)

Date of filing _____
Date of filing _____

☐ NRCP 59

Date of filing: N/A

NOTE: Motions made pursuant to NRCP 60 or motions for rehearing or reconsideration may toll the time for filing a notice of appeal *See AA Primo Builders v. Washington*, 126 Nev. ___, 245 P.3d 1190 (2010)

(b) Date of entry of written order resolving tolling motion: N/A.

(c) Date written notice of entry of order resolving tolling motion was served: N/A.

Was service by:

☐ Delivery

☐ Mail/electronic/fax

19. Date notice of appeal filed

July 17, 2021.

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

NRAP 4(a).

SUBSTANTIVE APPEALABILITY

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

- (a) ☒ NRAP 3A(b)(1) ☐ NRS 38.205
☐ NRAP 3A(b)(2) ☐ NRS 233B.150
☐ NRAP 3A(b)(3) ☐ NRS 703.376
☐ Other (specify) NRAP 3A(b)(8) _____

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

Under NRAP 3A(b)(1), an appeal may be taken from a "final judgment entered in an action . . . commenced in the court in which the judgment is rendered." The Edgeworth Family Trust and American Grating, LLC (collectively the "Edgeworths") commenced this case in the Eighth Judicial District Court. On June 18, 2021, the district court entered its Decision and Order Denying the

Edgeworth's motion styled Plaintiff's Renewed Motion for Reconsideration of April 19, 2021 Third-Amended Decision and refusing to obey the mandate this Court expressed in its Order of December 30, 2020 (Remittitur Issued April 13, 2021) in Case Nos. 77678/78176). Also on June 18, 2021, the district court entered its order denying the Edgeworths' Motion for Order Releasing Client funds in Excess of the Judgment and Requiring Production of Complete Client File.

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

(a) Parties: Plaintiffs Edgeworth Family Trust and American Grating, LLC

Lange Plumbing, LLC; Viking Automatic Sprinkler Co., Doe and Roe Defendants (Defendants in Case No. A-16-738444-C);

Daniel S. Simon and Law Office of Daniel S. Simon (Defendants in Case No. A-18-767242-C).

(b) If all parties in the district court are not parties to this appeal, explain in detail why those parties are not involved in this appeal, *e.g.*, formally dismissed, not served, or other:

All claims against all defendants, including Lange Plumbing, LLC and Viking Automatic Sprinkler Co., in Case No. A-16-738444-C were fully adjudicated in the district court. The issues that remain and that form the basis for this appeal is from the dispute between plaintiffs and their original attorney that arose following settlement of the substantive claims.

23. Give a brief description (3 to 5 words) of each party's separate claims, counterclaims, cross-claims, or third-party claims and the date of formal disposition of each claim.

Plaintiffs' Claims for Relief:

- (1) Plaintiff's original claims for conversion, declaratory relief, breach of contract, and breach of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing were dismissed, and that dismissal was affirmed in the prior appellate proceedings; the case was remanded in part for reconsideration of the basis and reasonableness of the

quantum meruit award for an attorney fee and a separate attorney fee award. The issues that remain and that form the basis for this appeal are from the dispute between plaintiffs and their original attorney that arose following settlement of the substantive claims.

- (2) Motion to Release Client Funds and Client File – appellants challenge the district court's refusal to release amounts in excess of the judgments she entered, and refusal to order the release of the complete client file.
24. Did the judgment or order appealed from adjudicate ALL the claims alleged below and the rights and liabilities of ALL the parties to the action or consolidated actions below:
- ☒ Yes
☐ No
25. If you answered "No" to question 23, complete the following:
- N/A
26. If you answered "No" to any part of question 24, explain the basis for seeking appellate review (*e.g.* order is independently appealable under NRAP 3A(b)):
- N/A.
27. Attach file-stamped copies of the following documents:
- The latest-filed complaint, counterclaims, cross-claims, and third-party claims.
 - Any tolling motion(s) and order(s) resolving tolling motion(s)
 - Orders of NRCP 41(a) dismissals formally resolving each claim, counterclaims, cross-claims and/or third-party claims asserted in the action or consolidated action below, even if not at issue on appeal.
 - Any other order challenged on appeal
 - Notices of entry for each attached order

VERIFICATION

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

Edgeworth Family Trust;
American Grating, LLC

Name of Appellant

Steve Morris

Name of counsel of record

August 12, 2021

Date

/s/ STEVE MORRIS

Signature of counsel of record

Clark County, Nevada

State and county where signed

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to Nev. R. App. P. 25 and NEFR 9(f), I certify that I am an employee of Morris Law Group; that on this date I electronically filed the foregoing **DOCKETING STATEMENT CIVIL APPEALS** with the Clerk of the Court for the Nevada Supreme Court by using the Nevada Supreme Court's E-Filing system (Eflex). Participants in the case who are registered with Eflex as users will be served by the Eflex system as follows:

TO:

James R. Christensen, Bar No. 3861
601 S. 6th Street
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Peter S. Christiansen, Bar No. 5254
Kendele L. Works, Bar No. 9611
CHRISTIANSEN LAW OFFICES
810 S. Casino Center Blvd., Ste. 104
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Attorneys for Respondent Law Office of Daniel S. Simon, A Professional Corporation; and Daniel S. Simon

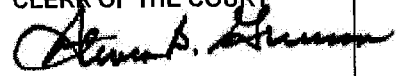
Dated this 13nd day of August, 2021.

/s/ GABRIELA MERCADO

AMENDED COMPLAINT IN CASE NO. A-18-767242-C¹

**(These Claims Were Dismissed and Dismissal Affirmed in Prior
Appellate Procedures)**

¹Complaint in Case No. A-16-738444-C is not included as all claims were fully resolved in District Court.



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12 *Attorneys for Plaintiffs*

13 **DISTRICT COURT**

14 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

15 EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; AMERICAN
16 GRATING, LLC,

17 Plaintiffs,

18 vs.

19 DANIEL S. SIMON; THE LAW OFFICE OF
20 DANIEL S. SIMON, A PROFESSIONAL
21 CORPORATION; DOES I through X, inclusive,
22 and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X,
23 inclusive,

24 Defendants.

CASE NO.: A-18-767242-C
DEPT NO.: XIV

Consolidated with

CASE NO.: A-16-738444-C
DEPT. NO.: X

AMENDED COMPLAINT

25 Plaintiffs EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST (EFT) and AMERICAN GRATING, LLC
26 (AGL), by and through their undersigned counsel, ROBERT D. VANNAH, ESQ., and JOHN B.
27 GREENE, ESQ., of VANNAH & VANNAH, and for their causes of action against Defendants,
28 complain and allege as follows:

1. At all times relevant to the events in this action, EFT is a legal entity organized
under the laws of Nevada. Additionally, at all times relevant to the events in this action, AGL is a
domestic limited liability company organized under the laws of Nevada. At times, EFT and AGL
are referred to as PLAINTIFFS.

2. PLAINTIFFS are informed, believe, and thereon allege that Defendant DANIEL S. SIMON is an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Nevada. Upon further information and belief, PLAINTIFFS are informed, believe, and thereon allege that Defendant THE LAW OFFICE OF DANIEL S. SIMON, A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION, is a domestic professional corporation licensed and doing business in Clark County, Nevada. At times, Defendants shall be referred to as SIMON.

3. The true names of DOES I through X, their citizenship and capacities, whether individual, corporate, associate, partnership or otherwise, are unknown to PLAINTIFFS who therefore sue these defendants by such fictitious names. PLAINTIFFS are informed, believe, and thereon allege that each of the Defendants, designated as DOES I through X, are or may be, legally responsible for the events referred to in this action, and caused damages to PLAINTIFFS, as herein alleged, and PLAINTIFFS will ask leave of this Court to amend the Complaint to insert the true names and capacities of such Defendants, when the same have been ascertained, and to join them in this action, together with the proper charges and allegations.

4. That the true names and capacities of Defendants named herein as ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive, are unknown to PLAINTIFFS, who therefore sue said Defendants by such fictitious names. PLAINTIFF are informed, believe, and thereon allege that each of the Defendants designated herein as a ROE CORPORATION Defendant is responsible for the events and happenings referred to and proximately caused damages to PLAINTIFFS as alleged herein. PLAINTIFFS ask leave of the Court to amend the Complaint to insert the true names and capacities of ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive, when the same have been ascertained, and to join such Defendants in this action.

5. DOES I through V are Defendants and/or employers of Defendants who may be liable for Defendant's negligence pursuant to N.R.S. 41.130, which states:

[e]xcept as otherwise provided in N.R.S. 41.745, whenever any person shall suffer personal injury by wrongful act, neglect or default of another, the person causing the injury is liable to the person injured for damages; and where the person causing the injury is employed by another person or corporation responsible for his conduct, that person or corporation so responsible is liable to the person injured for damages.

6. Specifically, PLAINTIFFS allege that one or more of the DOE Defendants was and is liable to PLAINTIFFS for the damages they sustained by SIMON'S breach of the contract for services and the conversion of PLAINTIFFS personal property, as herein alleged.

7. ROE CORPORATIONS I through V are entities or other business entities that participated in SIMON'S breach of the oral contract for services and the conversion of PLAINTIFFS personal property, as herein alleged.

FACTS COMMON TO ALL CLAIMS FOR RELIEF

8. On or about May 1, 2016, PLAINTIFFS retained SIMON to represent their interests following a flood that occurred on April 10, 2016, in a home under construction that was owned by PLAINTIFFS. That dispute was subject to litigation in the 8th Judicial District Court as Case Number A-16-738444-C (the LITIGATION), with a trial date of January 8, 2018. A settlement in favor of PLAINTIFFS for a substantial amount of money was reached with defendants prior to the trial date.

9. At the outset of the attorney-client relationship, PLAINTIFFS and SIMON orally agreed that SIMON would be paid for his services at an hourly rate of \$550 and that fees and costs would be paid as they were incurred (the CONTRACT). The terms of the CONTRACT were never reduced to writing.

10. Pursuant to the CONTRACT, SIMON sent invoices to PLAINTIFFS on December 16, 2016, May 3, 2017, August 16, 2017, and September 25, 2017. The amount of fees and costs SIMON billed PLAINTIFFS totaled \$486,453.09. PLAINTIFFS paid the invoices in full to SIMON. SIMON also submitted an invoice to PLAINTIFFS in October of 2017 in the amount of

1 \$72,000. However, SIMON withdrew the invoice and failed to resubmit the invoice to
2 PLAINTIFFS, despite a request to do so. It is unknown to PLAINTIFFS whether SIMON ever
3 disclosed the final invoice to the defendants in the LITIGATION or whether he added those fees
4 and costs to the mandated computation of damages.

5
6 11. SIMON was aware that PLAINTIFFS were required to secure loans to pay
7 SIMON'S fees and costs in the LITIGATION. SIMON was also aware that the loans secured by
8 PLAINTIFFS accrued interest.

9 12. As discovery in the underlying LITIGATION neared its conclusion in the late fall
10 of 2017, and thereafter blossomed from one of mere property damage to one of significant and
11 additional value, SIMON approached PLAINTIFFS with a desire to modify the terms of the
12 CONTRACT. In short, SIMON wanted to be paid far more than \$550.00 per hour and the
13 \$486,453.09 he'd received from PLAINTIFFS over the previous eighteen (18) months. However,
14 neither PLAINTIFFS nor SIMON agreed on any terms.

15
16 13. On November 27, 2017, SIMON sent a letter to PLAINTIFFS setting forth
17 additional fees in the amount of \$1,114,000.00, and costs in the amount of that \$80,000.00, that he
18 wanted to be paid in light of a favorable settlement that was reached with the defendants in the
19 LITIGATION. The proposed fees and costs were in addition to the \$486,453.09 that PLAINTIFFS
20 had already paid to SIMON pursuant to the CONTRACT, the invoices that SIMON had presented
21 to PLAINTIFFS, the evidence produced to defendants in the LITIGATION, and the amounts set
22 forth in the computation of damages disclosed by SIMON in the LITIGATION.

23
24 14. A reason given by SIMON to modify the CONTRACT was that he purportedly
25 under billed PLAINTIFFS on the four invoices previously sent and paid, and that he wanted to go
26 through his invoices and create, or submit, additional billing entries. According to SIMON, he
27 under billed in the LITIGATION in an amount in excess of \$1,000,000.00. An additional reason
28 given by SIMON was that he felt his work now had greater value than the \$550.00 per hour that

1 was agreed to and paid for pursuant to the CONTRACT. SIMON prepared a proposed settlement
2 breakdown with his new numbers and presented it to PLAINTIFFS for their signatures.

3 15. Some of PLAINTIFFS' claims in the LITIGATION were for breach of contract and
4 indemnity, and a material part of the claim for indemnity against Defendant Lange was the fees
5 and costs PLAINTIFFS were compelled to pay to SIMON to litigate and be made whole following
6 the flooding event.
7

8 16. In support of PLAINTIFFS' claims in the LITIGATION, and pursuant to NRCP
9 16.1, SIMON was required to present prior to trial a computation of damages that PLAINTIFFS
10 suffered and incurred, which included the amount of SIMON'S fees and costs that PLAINTIFFS
11 paid. There is nothing in the computation of damages signed by and served by SIMON to reflect
12 fees and costs other than those contained in his invoices that were presented to and paid by
13 PLAINTIFFS. Additionally, there is nothing in the evidence or the mandatory pretrial disclosures
14 in the LITIGATION to support any additional attorneys' fees generated by or billed by SIMON, let
15 alone those in excess of \$1,000,000.00.
16

17 17. Brian Edgeworth, the representative of PLAINTIFFS in the LITIGATION, sat for a
18 deposition on September 27, 2017. Defendants' attorneys asked specific questions of Mr.
19 Edgeworth regarding the amount of damages that PLAINTIFFS had sustained, including the
20 amount of attorneys fees and costs that had been paid to SIMON. At page 271 of that deposition, a
21 question was asked of Mr. Edgeworth as to the amount of attorneys' fees that PLAINTIFFS had
22 paid to SIMON in the LITIGATION prior to May of 2017. At lines 18-19, SIMON interjected:
23 "They've all been disclosed to you." At lines 23-25, SIMON further stated: "The attorneys' fees
24 and costs for both of these plaintiffs as a result of this claim have been disclosed to you long ago."
25 Finally, at page 272, lines 2-3, SIMON further admitted concerning his fees and costs: "And
26 they've been updated as of last week."
27
28

18. Despite SIMON'S requests and demands for the payment of more in fees, PLAINTIFFS refuse, and continue to refuse, to alter or amend the terms of the CONTRACT.

19. When PLAINTIFFS refused to alter or amend the terms of the CONTRACT, SIMON refused, and continues to refuse, to agree to release the full amount of the settlement proceeds to PLAINTIFFS. Additionally, SIMON refused, and continues to refuse, to provide PLAINTIFFS with either a number that reflects the undisputed amount of the settlement proceeds that PLAINTIFFS are entitled to receive or a definite timeline as to when PLAINTIFFS can receive either the undisputed number or their proceeds.

20. PLAINTIFFS have made several demands to SIMON to comply with the CONTRACT, to provide PLAINTIFFS with a number that reflects the undisputed amount of the settlement proceeds, and/or to agree to provide PLAINTIFFS settlement proceeds to them. To date, SIMON has refused.

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Breach of Contract)

21. PLAINTIFFS repeat and reallege each allegation set forth in paragraphs 1 through 20 of this Complaint, as though the same were fully set forth herein.

22. PLAINTIFFS and SIMON have a CONTRACT. A material term of the CONTRACT is that SIMON agreed to accept \$550.00 per hour for his services rendered. An additional material term of the CONTRACT is that PLAINTIFFS agreed to pay SIMON'S invoices as they were submitted. An implied provision of the CONTRACT is that SIMON owed, and continues to owe, a fiduciary duty to PLAINTIFFS to act in accordance with PLAINTIFFS best interests.

23. PLAINTIFFS and SIMON never contemplated, or agreed in the CONTRACT, that SIMON would have any claim to any portion of the settlement proceeds from the LITIGATION.

24. PLAINTIFFS paid in full and on time all of SIMON'S invoices that he submitted pursuant to the CONTRACT.

25. SIMON'S demand for additional compensation other than what was agreed to in the CONTRACT, and than what was disclosed to the defendants in the LITIGATION, in exchange for PLAINTIFFS to receive their settlement proceeds is a material breach of the CONTRACT.

26. SIMON'S refusal to agree to release all of the settlement proceeds from the LITIGATION to PLAINTIFFS is a breach of his fiduciary duty and a material breach of the CONTRACT.

27. SIMON'S refusal to provide PLAINTIFFS with either a number that reflects the undisputed amount of the settlement proceeds that PLAINTIFFS are entitled to receive or a definite timeline as to when PLAINTIFFS can receive either the undisputed number or their proceeds is a breach of his fiduciary duty and a material breach of the CONTRACT.

28. As a result of SIMON'S material breach of the CONTRACT, PLAINTIFFS incurred compensatory and/or expectation damages, in an amount in excess of \$15,000.00.

29. As a result of SIMON'S material breach of the CONTRACT, PLAINTIFFS incurred foreseeable consequential and incidental damages, in an amount in excess of \$15,000.00.

30. As a result of SIMON'S material breach of the CONTRACT, PLAINTIFFS have been required to retain an attorney to represent their interests. As a result, PLAINTIFFS are entitled to recover attorneys' fees and costs.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Declaratory Relief)

31. PLAINTIFFS repeat and reallege each allegation and statement set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 30, as set forth herein.

32. PLAINTIFFS orally agreed to pay, and SIMON orally agreed to receive, \$550.00 per hour for SIMON'S legal services performed in the LITIGATION.

33. Pursuant to four invoices, SIMON billed, and PLAINTIFFS paid, \$550.00 per hour for a total of \$486,453.09, for SIMON'S services in the LITIGATION.

34. Neither PLAINTIFFS nor SIMON ever agreed, either orally or in writing, to alter or amend any of the terms of the CONTRACT.

35. The only evidence that SIMON produced in the LITIGATION concerning his fees are the amounts set forth in the invoices that SIMON presented to PLAINTIFFS, which PLAINTIFFS paid in full.

36. SIMON admitted in the LITIGATION that the full amount of his fees incurred in the LITIGATION was produced in updated form on or before September 27, 2017. The full amount of his fees, as produced, are the amounts set forth in the invoices that SIMON presented to PLAINTIFFS and that PLAINTIFFS paid in full.

37. Since PLAINTIFFS and SIMON entered into a CONTRACT; since the CONTRACT provided for attorneys' fees to be paid at \$550.00 per hour; since SIMON billed, and PLAINTIFFS paid, \$550.00 per hour for SIMON'S services in the LITIGATION; since SIMON admitted that all of the bills for his services were produced in the LITIGATION; and, since the CONTRACT has never been altered or amended by PLAINTIFFS, PLAINTIFFS are entitled to declaratory judgment setting forth the terms of the CONTRACT as alleged herein, that the CONTRACT has been fully satisfied by PLAINTIFFS, that SIMON is in material breach of the CONTRACT, and that PLAINTIFFS are entitled to the full amount of the settlement proceeds.

THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Conversion)

38. PLAINTIFFS repeat and reallege each allegation and statement set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 37, as set forth herein.

1 39. Pursuant to the CONTRACT, SIMON agreed to be paid \$550.00 per hour for his
2 services, nothing more.

3 40. SIMON admitted in the LITIGATION that all of his fees and costs incurred on or
4 before September 27, 2017, had already been produced to the defendants.

5 41. The defendants in the LITIGATION settled with PLAINTIFFS for a considerable
6 sum. The settlement proceeds from the LITIGATION are the sole property of PLAINTIFFS.

7 42. Despite SIMON'S knowledge that he has billed for and been paid in full for his
8 services pursuant to the CONTRACT, that PLAINTIFFS were compelled to take out loans to pay
9 for SIMON'S fees and costs, that he admitted in court proceedings in the LITIGATION that he'd
10 produced all of his billings through September of 2017, SIMON has refused to agree to either
11 release all of the settlement proceeds to PLAINTIFFS or to provide a timeline when an undisputed
12 amount of the settlement proceeds would be identified and paid to PLAINTIFFS.

13 43. SIMON'S retention of PLAINTIFFS' property is done intentionally with a
14 conscious disregard of, and contempt for, PLAINTIFFS' property rights.

15 44. SIMON'S intentional and conscious disregard for the rights of PLAINTIFFS rises
16 to the level of oppression, fraud, and malice, and that SIMON has also subjected PLAINTIFFS to
17 cruel, and unjust, hardship. PLAINTIFFS are therefore entitled to punitive damages, in an amount
18 in excess of \$15,000.00.

19 45. As a result of SIMON'S intentional conversion of PLAINTIFFS' property,
20 PLAINTIFFS have been required to retain an attorney to represent their interests. As a result,
21 PLAINTIFFS are entitled to recover attorneys' fees and costs.

22 ///

23 ///

FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Breach of the Implied Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing)

46. PLAINTIFFS repeat and reallege each and every statement set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 45, as though the same were fully set forth herein.

47. In every contract in Nevada, including the CONTRACT, there is an implied covenant and obligation of good faith and fair dealing.

48. The work performed by SIMON under the CONTRACT was billed to PLAINTIFFS in several invoices, totaling \$486,453.09. Each invoice prepared and produced by SIMON prior to October of 2017 was reviewed and paid in full by PLAINTIFFS within days of receipt.

49. Thereafter, when the underlying LITIGATION with the Viking defendant had settled, SIMON demanded that PLAINTIFFS pay to SIMON what is in essence a bonus of over a million dollars, based not upon the terms of the CONTRACT, but upon SIMON'S unilateral belief that he was entitled to the bonus based upon the amount of the Viking settlement.

50. Thereafter, SIMON produced a super bill where he added billings to existing invoices that had already been paid in full and created additional billings for work allegedly occurring after the LITIGATION had essentially resolved. The amount of the super bill is \$692,120, including a single entry for over 135 hours for reviewing unspecified emails.

51. If PLAINTIFFS had either been aware or made aware during the LITIGATION that SIMON had some secret unexpressed thought or plan that the invoices were merely partial invoices, PLAINTIFFS would have been in a reasonable position to evaluate whether they wanted to continue using SIMON as their attorney.

52. When SIMON failed to reduce the CONTRACT to writing, and to remove all ambiguities that he claims now exist, including, but not limited to, how his fee was to be

1 determined, SIMON failed to deal fairly and in good faith with PLAINTIFFS. As a result,
2 SIMON breached the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing.

3 53. When SIMON executed his secret plan and went back and added substantial time to
4 his invoices that had already been billed and paid in full, SIMON failed to deal fairly and in good
5 faith with PLAINTIFFS. As a result, SIMON breached the implied covenant of good faith and
6 fair dealing.

7 54. When SIMON demanded a bonus based upon the amount of the settlement with the
8 Viking defendant, SIMON failed to deal fairly and in good faith with PLAINTIFFS. As a result,
9 SIMON breached the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing.

10 55. When SIMON asserted a lien on PLAINTIFFS property, he knowingly did so in an
11 amount that was far in excess of any amount of fees that he had billed from the date of the
12 previously paid invoice to the date of the service of the lien, that he could bill for the work
13 performed, that he actually billed, or that he could possible claim under the CONTRACT. In doing
14 so, SIMON failed to deal fairly and in good faith with PLAINTIFFS. As a result, SIMON
15 breached the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing.

16 56. As a result of SIMON'S breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair
17 dealing, PLAINTIFFS are entitled to damages for SIMON denying PLAINTIFFS to the full access
18 to, and possession of, their property. PLAINTIFFS are also entitled to consequential damages,
19 including attorney's fees, and emotional distress, incurred as a result of SIMON'S breach of the
20 implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, in an amount in excess of \$15,000.00.

21 57. SIMON'S past and ongoing denial to PLAINTIFFS of their property is done with a
22 conscious disregard for the rights of PLAINTIFFS that rises to the level of oppression, fraud, or
23 malice, and that SIMON subjected PLAINTIFFS to cruel and unjust, hardship. PLAINTIFFS are
24 therefore entitled to punitive damages, in an amount in excess of \$15,000.00.

50. PLAINTIFFS have been compelled to retain an attorney to represent their interests in this matter. As a result, PLAINTIFFS are entitled to an award of reasonable attorneys fees and costs.


PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Wherefore, PLAINTIFFS pray for relief and judgment against Defendants as follows:

1. Compensatory and/or expectation damages in an amount in excess of \$15,000;
2. Consequential and/or incidental damages, including attorney fees, in an amount in excess of \$15,000;
3. Punitive damages in an amount in excess of \$15,000;
4. Interest from the time of service of this Complaint, as allowed by N.R.S. 17.130;
5. Costs of suit; and,
6. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem appropriate.

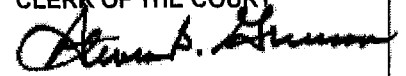
DATED this 15 day of March, 2018.

VANNAH & VANNAH


ROBERT D. VANNAH, ESQ. (4279)

**AMENDED DECISION AND ORDER ON MOTION TO
DISMISS**

(not at issue in this appeal)



1 **ORD**

2
3
4 **DISTRICT COURT**
5 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

6 **EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; and**
7 **AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,**

8 **Plaintiffs,**

9 **vs.**

CASE NO.: A-18-767242-C
DEPT NO.: XXVI

10 **LANGE PLUMBING, LLC; THE VIKING**
11 **CORPORATION, a Michigan Corporation;**
12 **SUPPLY NETWORK, INC., dba VIKING**
13 **SUPPLYNET, a Michigan Corporation; and**
14 **DOES 1 through 5; and, ROE entities 6 through**
15 **10;**

16 **Defendants.**

Consolidated with

CASE NO.: A-16-738444-C
DEPT NO.: X

17 **EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; and**
18 **AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,**

19 **Plaintiffs,**

20 **vs.**

DECISION AND ORDER ON MOTION
TO DISMISS NRCP 12(B)(5)

21 **DANIEL S. SIMON; THE LAW OFFICE OF**
22 **DANIEL S. SIMON, a Professional Corporation**
23 **d/b/a SIMON LAW; DOES 1 through 10; and,**
24 **ROE entities 1 through 10;**

25 **Defendants.**

26 **AMENDED DECISION AND ORDER ON MOTION TO DISMISS NRCP 12(B)(5)**

27 This case came on for an evidentiary hearing August 27-30, 2018 and concluded on
28 September 18, 2018, in the Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County, Nevada, the Honorable
Tierra Jones presiding. Defendants and movant, Daniel Simon and Law Office of Daniel S. Simon
d/b/a Simon Law ("Defendants" or "Law Office" or "Simon" or "Mr. Simon") having appeared in
person and by and through their attorneys of record, Peter S. Christiansen, Esq. and James

1 Christensen, Esq. and Plaintiff Edgeworth Family Trust and American Grating, ("Plaintiff" or
2 "Edgeworths") having appeared through Brian and Angela Edgeworth, and by and through their
3 attorneys of record, the law firm of Vannah and Vannah, Chtd. Robert Vannah, Esq. and John
4 Greene, Esq. The Court having considered the evidence, arguments of counsel and being fully
5 advised of the matters herein, the **COURT FINDS:**

6
7 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

8 1. The Court finds that the Law Office of Daniel S. Simon represented the Plaintiffs,
9 Edgeworth Family Trust and American Grating in the case entitled Edgeworth Family Trust and
10 American Grating v. Viking, et al., case number A-16-738444-C. The representation commenced on
11 May 27, 2016 when Brian Edgeworth and Daniel Simon Esq. met at Starbucks. This representation
12 originally began as a favor between friends and there was no discussion of fees, at this point. Mr.
13 Simon and his wife were close family friends with Brian and Angela Edgeworth.

14 2. The case involved a complex products liability issue.

15 3. On April 10, 2016, a house the Edgeworths were building as a speculation home
16 suffered a flood. The house was still under construction and the flood caused a delay. The
17 Edgeworths did not carry loss insurance if a flood occurred and the plumbing company and
18 manufacturer refused to pay for the property damage. A fire sprinkler installed by the plumber, and
19 within the plumber's scope of work, caused the flood; however, the plumber asserted the fire
20 sprinkler was defective and refused to repair or to pay for repairs. The manufacturer of the sprinkler,
21 Viking, et al., also denied any wrongdoing.

22 4. In May of 2016, Mr. Simon agreed to help his friend with the flood claim and to send
23 a few letters. The parties initially hoped that Simon drafting a few letters to the responsible parties
24 could resolve the matter. Simon wrote the letters to the responsible parties, but the matter did not
25 resolve. Since the matter was not resolved, a lawsuit had to be filed.

26 5. On June 14, 2016, a complaint was filed in the case of Edgeworth Family Trust; and
27 American Grating LLC vs. Lange Plumbing, LLC; the Viking Corporation; Supply Network Inc.,
28

1 dba Viking Supplynet, in case number A-18-738444-C. The cost of repairs was approximately
2 \$500,000. One of the elements of the Edgeworth's damages against Lange Plumbing LLC ("Lange")
3 in the litigation was for reimbursement of the fees and costs that were paid by the Edgeworths.

4 6. On August 9, 2017, Mr. Simon and Brian Edgeworth traveled to San Diego to meet
5 with an expert. As they were in the airport waiting for a return flight, they discussed the case, and
6 had some discussion about payments and financials. No express fee agreement was reached during
7 the meeting. On August 22, 2017, Brian Edgeworth sent an email to Simon entitled "Contingency."
8 It reads as follows:

9 We never really had a structured discussion about how this might be done.
10 I am more that happy to keep paying hourly but if we are going for punitive
11 we should probably explore a hybrid of hourly on the claim and then some
12 other structure that incents both of us to win an go after the appeal that these
13 scumbags will file etc.
14 Obviously that could not have been doen earlier snce who would have thoughth
15 this case would meet the hurdle of punitives at the start.
16 I could also swing hourly for the whole case (unless I am off what this is
17 going to cost). I would likely borrow another \$450K from Margaret in 250
18 and 200 increments and then either I could use one of the house sales for cash
19 or if things get really bad, I still have a couple million in bitcoin I could sell.
20 I doubt we will get Kinsale to settle for enough to really finance this since I
21 would have to pay the first \$750,000 or so back to Colin and Margaret and
22 why would Kinsale settle for \$1MM when their exposure is only \$1MM?

23 (Def. Exhibit 27).

24 7. During the litigation, Simon sent four (4) invoices to the Edgeworths. The first
25 invoice was sent on December 2, 2016, seven (7) months after the original meeting at Starbucks.
26 This invoice indicated that it was for attorney's fees and costs through November 11, 2016. (Def.
27 Exhibit 8). The total of this invoice was \$42,564.95 and was billed at a "reduced" rate of \$550 per
28 hour. Id. The invoice was paid by the Edgeworths on December 16, 2016.

8. On April 7, 2017 a second invoice was sent to the Edgeworths for attorney's fees and
costs through April 4, 2017 for a total of \$46,620.69, and was billed at a "reduced" rate of \$550 per
hour. (Def. Exhibit 9). This invoice was paid by the Edgeworths on May 3, 2017. There was no

1 indication on the first two invoices if the services were those of Mr. Simon or his associates; but the
2 bills indicated an hourly rate of \$550.00 per hour.

3 9. A third invoice was sent to the Edgeworths on July 28, 2017 for attorney's fees and
4 costs through July 28, 2017 totaling of \$142,080.20. (Def. Exhibit 10). This bill identified services
5 of Daniel Simon Esq. for a "reduced" rate of \$550 per hour totaling \$104,021.20; and services of
6 Ashley Ferrel Esq. for a "reduced" rate of \$275 per hour totaling \$37,959.00. Id. This invoice was
7 paid by the Edgeworths on August 16, 2017.

8 10. The fourth invoice was sent to the Edgeworths on September 19, 2017 in an amount
9 of \$255,186.25 for attorney's fees and costs; with \$191,317.50 being calculated at a "reduced" rate
10 of \$550 per hour for Daniel Simon Esq., \$60,981.25 being calculated at a "reduced" rate of \$275 per
11 hour for Ashley Ferrel Esq., and \$2,887.50 being calculated at a "reduced" rate of \$275 per hour for
12 Benjamin Miller Esq. (Def. Exhibit 11). This invoice was paid by the Edgeworths on September
13 25, 2017.

14 11. The amount of attorney's fees in the four (4) invoices was \$367,606.25, and
15 \$118,846.84 in costs; for a total of \$486,453.09.¹ These monies were paid to Daniel Simon Esq. and
16 never returned to the Edgeworths. The Edgeworths secured very high interest loans to pay fees and
17 costs to Simon. They made Simon aware of this fact.

18 12. Between June 2016 and December 2017, there was a tremendous amount of work
19 done in the litigation of this case. There were several motions and oppositions filed, several
20 depositions taken, and several hearings held in the case.

21 13. On the evening of November 15, 2017, the Edgeworth's settled their claims against
22 the Viking Corporation ("Viking").

23 14. Also on November 15, 2017, Brian Edgeworth sent an email to Simon asking for the
24 open invoice. The email stated: "I know I have an open invoice that you were going to give me at a
25 mediation a couple weeks ago and then did not leave with me. Could someone in your office send
26

27 ¹ \$265,677.50 in attorney's fees for the services of Daniel Simon; \$99,041.25 for the services of Ashley Ferrel; and
28 \$2,887.50 for the services of Benjamin Miller.

1 Peter (copied here) any invoices that are unpaid please?" (Def. Exhibit 38).

2 15. On November 17, 2017, Simon scheduled an appointment for the Edgeworths to
3 come to his office to discuss the litigation.

4 16. On November 27, 2017, Simon sent a letter with an attached retainer agreement,
5 stating that the fee for legal services would be \$1,500,000 for services rendered to date. (Plaintiff's
6 Exhibit 4).

7 17. On November 29, 2017, the Edgeworths met with the Law Office of Vannah &
8 Vannah and signed a retainer agreement. (Def. Exhibit 90). On this date, they ceased all
9 communications with Mr. Simon.

10 18. On the morning of November 30, 2017, Simon received a letter advising him that the
11 Edgeworths had retained the Vannah Law Firm to assist in the litigation with the Viking entities,
12 et.al. The letter read as follows:

13 "Please let this letter serve to advise you that I've retained Robert D. Vannah,
14 Esq. and John B. Greene, Esq., of Vannah & Vannah to assist in the litigation
15 with the Viking entities, et.al. I'm instructing you to cooperate with them in
16 every regard concerning the litigation and any settlement. I'm also instructing
17 you to give them complete access to the file and allow them to review
18 whatever documents they request to review. Finally, I direct you to allow
19 them to participate without limitation in any proceeding concerning our case,
20 whether it be at depositions, court hearings, discussions, etc."

21 (Def. Exhibit 43).

22 19. On the same morning, Simon received, through the Vannah Law Firm, the
23 Edgeworth's consent to settle their claims against Lange Plumbing LLC for \$25,000.

24 20. Also on this date, the Law Office of Danny Simon filed an attorney's lien for the
25 reasonable value of its services pursuant to NRS 18.015. (Def. Exhibit 3). On January 2, 2018, the
26 Law Office filed an amended attorney's lien for the sum of \$2,345,450, less payments made in the
27 sum of \$367,606.25, for a net lien in the sum of \$1,977,843.80. This lien includes court costs and
28 out-of-pocket costs advanced by the Law Office of Daniel S. Simon in the sum of \$76,535.93.

21. Mr. Edgeworth alleges that the fee agreement with Simon was only for an hourly

1 express agreement of \$550 an hour; and that the agreement for \$550 an hour was made at the outset
2 of the case. Mr. Simon alleges that he worked on the case always believing he would receive the
3 reasonable value of his services when the case concluded. There is a dispute over the reasonable fee
4 due to the Law Office of Danny Simon.

5 22. The parties agree that an express written contract was never formed.

6 23. On December 7, 2017, the Edgeworths signed a Consent to Settle their claims against
7 Lange Plumbing LLC for \$100,000.

8 24. On January 4, 2018, the Edgeworth Family Trust filed a lawsuit against Simon in
9 Edgeworth Family Trust; American Grating LLC vs. Daniel S. Simon, the Law Office of Daniel S.
10 Simon, a Professional Corporation, case number A-18-767242-C.

11 25. On January 24, 2018, the Law Office of Danny Simon filed a Motion to Adjudicate
12 Lien with an attached invoice for legal services rendered. The amount of the invoice was
13 \$692,120.00. The Court set an evidentiary hearing to adjudicate the lien.

14 15 **CONCLUSION OF LAW**

16 ***Breach of Contract***

17 The First Claim for Relief of the Amended Complaint alleges breach of an express oral
18 contract to pay the law office \$550 an hour for the work of Mr. Simon. The Amended Complaint
19 alleges an oral contract was formed on or about May 1, 2016. After the Evidentiary Hearing, the
20 Court finds that there was no express contract formed, and only an implied contract. As such, a
21 claim for breach of contract does not exist and must be dismissed as a matter of law.

22 23 ***Declaratory Relief***

24 The Plaintiff's Second Claim for Relief is Declaratory Relief to determine whether a contract
25 existed, that there was a breach of contract, and that the Plaintiffs are entitled to the full amount of
26 the settlement proceeds. The Court finds that there was no express agreement for compensation, so
27 there cannot be a breach of the agreement. The Plaintiffs are not entitled to the full amount of the
28

1 settlement proceeds as the Court has adjudicated the lien and ordered the appropriate distribution of
2 the settlement proceeds, in the Decision and Order on Motion to Adjudicate Lien. As such, a claim
3 for declaratory relief must be dismissed as a matter of law.

4 5 *Conversion*

6 The Third Claim for Relief is for conversion based on the fact that the Edgeworths believed
7 that the settlement proceeds were solely theirs and Simon asserting an attorney's lien constitutes a
8 claim for conversion. In the Amended Complaint, Plaintiffs allege "The settlement proceeds from
9 the litigation are the sole property of the Plaintiffs." Amended Complaint, P. 9, Para. 41.

10 Mr. Simon followed the law and was required to deposit the disputed money in a trust
11 account. This is confirmed by David Clark, Esq. in his declaration, which remains undisputed. Mr.
12 Simon never exercised exclusive control over the proceeds and never used the money for his
13 personal use. The money was placed in a separate account controlled equally by the Edgeworth's
14 own counsel, Mr. Vannah. This account was set up at the request of Mr. Vannah.

15 When the Complaint was filed on January 4, 2018, Mr. Simon was not in possession of the
16 settlement proceeds as the checks were not endorsed or deposited in the trust account. They were
17 finally deposited on January 8, 2018 and cleared a week later. Since the Court adjudicated the lien
18 and found that the Law Office of Daniel Simon is entitled to a portion of the settlement proceeds,
19 this claim must be dismissed as a matter of law.

20 21 *Breach of the Implied Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing*

22 The Fourth Claim for Relief alleges a Breach of the Implied Covenant of Good Faith and
23 Fair Dealing based on the time sheets submitted by Mr. Simon on January 24, 2018. Since no
24 express contract existed for compensation and there was not a breach of a contract for compensation,
25 the cause of action for the breach of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing also fails as a matter
26 of law and must be dismissed.

1 ***Breach of Fiduciary Duty***

2 The allegations in the Complaint assert a breach of fiduciary duty for not releasing all the
3 funds to the Edgeworths. The Court finds that Mr. Simon followed the law when filing the attorney's
4 lien. Mr. Simon also fulfilled all his obligations and placed the clients' interests above his when
5 completing the settlement and securing better terms for the clients even after his discharge. Mr.
6 Simon timely released the undisputed portion of the settlement proceeds as soon as they cleared the
7 account. The Court finds that the Law Office of Daniel Simon is owed a sum of money based on the
8 adjudication of the lien, and therefore, there is no basis in law or fact for the cause of action for
9 breach of fiduciary duty and this claim must be dismissed.

10
11 ***Punitive Damages***

12 Plaintiffs' Amended Complaint alleges that Mr. Simon acted with oppression, fraud, or
13 malice for denying Plaintiffs of their property. The Court finds that the disputed proceeds are not
14 solely those of the Edgeworths and the Complaint fails to state any legal basis upon which claims
15 may give rise to punitive damages. The evidence indicates that Mr. Simon, along with Mr. Vannah
16 deposited the disputed settlement proceeds into an interest bearing trust account, where they remain.
17 Therefore, Plaintiffs' prayer for punitive damages in their Complaint fails as a matter of a law and
18 must be dismissed.

19
20 **CONCLUSION**

21 The Court finds that the Law Office of Daniel Simon properly filed and perfected the
22 charging lien pursuant to NRS 18.015(3) and the Court adjudicated the lien. The Court further finds
23 that the claims for Breach of Contract, Declaratory Relief, Conversion, Breach of the Implied
24 Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing, Breach of the Fiduciary Duty, and Punitive Damages
25 must be dismissed as a matter of law.

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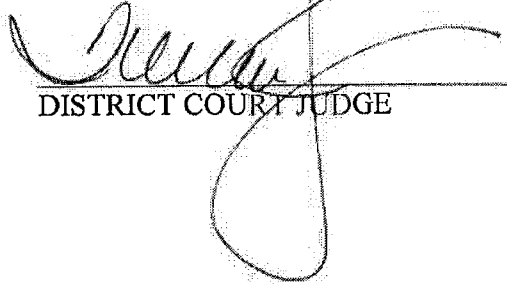
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ORDER

It is hereby ordered, adjudged, and decreed, that the Motion to Dismiss NRCP 12(b)(5) is GRANTED.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 19 day of November, 2018.


DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

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Electronically served on all parties as noted in the Court's Master Service List and/or mailed to any party in proper person.

Tess Driver
Judicial Executive Assistant
Department 10

**NEVADA SUPREME COURT DECISION AND
REMITTITUR**

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; AND
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC;
Appellants/Cross-Respondents,
vs.
DANIEL S. SIMON; AND THE LAW OFFICE
OF DANIEL S. SIMON, A PROFESSIONAL
CORPORATION,
Respondents/Cross-Appellants.

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; AND
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,
Appellants,
vs.
DANIEL S. SIMON; AND THE LAW OFFICE
OF DANIEL S. SIMON, A PROFESSIONAL
CORPORATION,
Respondents.

Supreme Court No. 77678
District Court Case No. A738444

FILED

APR 13 2021

Elizabeth A. Brown
CLERK OF COURT

Supreme Court No. 78176
District Court Case No. A738444

CLERK'S CERTIFICATE

STATE OF NEVADA, ss.

I, Elizabeth A. Brown, the duly appointed and qualified Clerk of the Supreme Court of the State of Nevada, do hereby certify that the following is a full, true and correct copy of the Judgment in this matter.

JUDGMENT

The court being fully advised in the premises and the law, it is now ordered, adjudged and decreed, as follows:

"ORDER the judgement of the district court AFFIRMED in part and VACATED in part AND REMAND this matter to the district court for proceedings consistent with this order."

Judgment, as quoted above, entered this 30 day of December, 2020.

A-16-738444-C
CCJR
NV Supreme Court Clerks Certificate/Judgm
4951019

JUDGMENT



The court being fully advised in the premises and the law, it is now ordered, adjudged and decreed, as follows:

"Rehearing Denied."

Judgment, as quoted above, entered this 18 day of March, 2021.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed
my name and affixed the seal of the Supreme
Court at my Office in Carson City, Nevada this
April 12, 2021.

Elizabeth A. Brown, Supreme Court Clerk

By: Kaitlin Meetze
Administrative Assistant

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; AND
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,
Appellants/Cross-Respondents,

vs.

DANIEL S. SIMÓN; AND THE LAW
OFFICE OF DANIEL S. SIMON, A
PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION,
Respondents/Cross-Appellants.

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; AND
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,
Appellants,

vs.

DANIEL S. SIMON; AND THE LAW
OFFICE OF DANIEL S. SIMON, A
PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION,
Respondents.

No. 77678

FILED

DEC 30 2020

ELIZABETH A. BROWN
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
BY *[Signature]*
DEPUTY CLERK

No. 78176

***ORDER AFFIRMING IN PART, VACATING IN PART AND
REMANDING***

These consolidated matters include two appeals and a cross-appeal that challenge district court orders dismissing a complaint under NRCP 12(b)(5), adjudicating an attorney lien, and granting in part and denying in part a motion for attorney fees and costs.¹ Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County; Tierra Danielle Jones, Judge.²

Brian and Angela Edgeworth are business owners and managers. A fire sprinkler malfunctioned and flooded a home they were constructing, causing \$500,000 in damages. Both the fire-sprinkler

¹Pursuant to NRAP 34(f)(1), we have determined that oral argument is not warranted in this appeal.

²The Honorable Abbi Silver, Justice, did not participate in the decision of this matter.

manufacturer and plumbing company refused to pay for the damage. Daniel Simon, a Las Vegas attorney and close friend of the Edgeworths, offered to help. There was no written fee agreement, as Simon only planned to send a few letters. However, Simon eventually sued the responsible parties on the Edgeworths' behalf, billing the Edgeworths a "reduced" rate of \$550 per hour through four invoices totaling \$367,606, which the Edgeworths paid in full. Eventually, Simon helped secure a \$6 million settlement agreement, and when the Edgeworths asked Simon to provide any unpaid invoices, Simon sent them a letter with a retainer agreement for \$1.5 million beyond what they had already paid him for his services. The Edgeworths refused to pay and retained new counsel. Simon then filed an attorney lien. The Edgeworths responded by suing him for breach of contract and conversion.

Simon moved to dismiss the Edgeworths' complaint under both NRCP 12(b)(5) and Nevada's anti-SLAPP statutes and he moved for adjudication of the lien. The district court consolidated the cases. The district court first addressed Simon's attorney lien and held an extensive evidentiary hearing. After the hearing, the district court found that Simon and the Edgeworths did not have an express oral contract. Although the district court found that Simon and the Edgeworths had an implied contract for the hourly rate of \$550 per hour for Simon and \$275 per hour for Simon's associates, it also determined that the Edgeworths constructively discharged Simon when they retained new counsel. Therefore, the district court awarded Simon roughly \$285,000 for attorney services rendered from September 19 to November 29, 2017, and \$200,000 in quantum meruit for the services he rendered after November 29, the date of the constructive

discharge.³ Relying on the evidence presented at the hearing adjudicating the attorney lien, the district court dismissed the Edgeworths' complaint and awarded Simon \$55,000 in attorney fees and costs for defending the breach of contract action. It then denied Simon's anti-SLAPP motion as moot.

The constructive discharge for purposes of adjudicating attorney lien and \$200,000 quantum meruit award

We review a "district court's findings of fact for an abuse of discretion" and "will not set aside those findings unless they are clearly erroneous or not supported by substantial evidence." *NOLM, LLC v. Cty. of Clark*, 120 Nev. 736, 739, 100 P.3d 658, 660-61 (2004) (internal quotation marks omitted). The Edgeworths argue that substantial evidence does not support the district court's constructive discharge finding because Simon never withdrew from the case, continued working on it through its conclusion, and billed them after the date of the constructive discharge. We disagree.

A constructive discharge occurs when a party's conduct "dissolves the essential mutual confidence between attorney and client," *Brown v. Johnstone*, 450 N.E.2d 693, 695 (Ohio Ct. App. 1982) (holding that a client terminated the attorney-client relationship when he initiated grievance proceedings against and stopped contacting his attorney), or the client takes action that prevents the attorney from effective representation, *McNair v. Commonwealth*, 561 S.E.2d 26, 31 (Va. Ct. App. 2002) (explaining that in the criminal context, constructive discharge can occur where "the defendant place[s] his counsel in a position that precluded effective

³On appeal, the Edgeworths challenge only the \$200,000 award in quantum meruit.

representation"). Substantial evidence in the record demonstrates that the Edgeworths hired new counsel; stopped directly communicating with Simon; empowered their new counsel to resolve the litigation; and settled claims against Simon's advice at the urging of new counsel. Accordingly, we conclude that the district court acted within its sound discretion by finding that the Edgeworths constructively discharged Simon on November 29, 2017.

Although we conclude that the district court correctly found that Simon was entitled to quantum meruit for work done after the constructive discharge, *see Gordon v. Stewart*, 74 Nev. 115, 119, 324 P.2d 234, 236 (1958) (upholding an award in quantum meruit to an attorney after breach of contract), *rejected on other grounds by Argentina Consol. Min. Co. v. Jolley Urga Wirth Woodbury & Standish*, 125 Nev. 527, 537-38, 216 P.3d 779, 786 (2009), we agree with the Edgeworths that the district court abused its discretion by awarding \$200,000 in quantum meruit⁴ without making findings regarding the work Simon performed after the constructive discharge. *Gunderson v. D.R. Horton, Inc.*, 130 Nev. 67, 82, 319 P.3d 606, 616 (2014) (reviewing district court's attorney fee decision for an abuse of discretion).

A district court abuses its discretion when it bases its decision on an erroneous view of the law or clearly disregards guiding legal principles. *See Bergmann v. Boyce*, 109 Nev. 670, 674, 856 P.2d 560, 563 (1993), *superseded by statute on other grounds as stated in In re DISH Network Derivative Litig.*, 133 Nev. 438, 451 n.6, 401 P.3d 1081, 1093 n.6 (2017). "[T]he proper measure of damages under a *quantum meruit* theory

⁴The Edgeworths do not contest the validity of the attorney lien or the district court's jurisdiction to adjudicate it.

of recovery is the reasonable value of [the] services." *Flamingo Realty, Inc. v. Midwest Dev., Inc.*, 110 Nev. 984, 987, 879 P.2d 69, 71 (1994) (alteration in original) (internal quotation marks omitted). A district court must consider the *Brunzell* factors when determining a reasonable amount of attorney fees. *Logan v. Abe*, 181 Nev. 260, 266, 350 P.3d 1139, 1143 (2015). Those factors are: (1) the quality of the advocate; (2) the character of the work, e.g., its difficulty, importance, etc.; (3) the work actually performed by the advocate; and (4) the result. *Brunzell v. Golden Gate Nat'l Bank*, 85 Nev. 345, 349, 455 P.2d 31, 33 (1969). The Edgeworths challenge the third factor, arguing that the district court's order did not describe the work Simon performed after the constructive discharge. While the district court stated that it was applying the *Brunzell* factors for work performed only after the constructive discharge, much of its analysis focused on Simon's work throughout the entire litigation. Those findings, referencing work performed before the constructive discharge, for which Simon had already been compensated under the terms of the implied contract, cannot form the basis of a quantum meruit award. Although there is evidence in the record that Simon and his associates performed work after the constructive discharge, the district court did not explain how it used that evidence to calculate its award. Thus, it is unclear whether \$200,000 is a reasonable amount to award for the work done after the constructive discharge. Accordingly, we vacate the district court's grant of \$200,000 in quantum meruit and remand for the district court to make findings regarding the basis of its award.

The NRCP 12(b)(5) motion to dismiss

Following the evidentiary hearing regarding the attorney lien, the district court dismissed the Edgeworths' complaint. In doing so, the district court relied on the evidence presented at the evidentiary hearing to

find that there was no express contract and thus dismissed the breach of contract, declaratory relief, and breach of covenant of good faith and fair dealing claims. It further found that Simon complied with the statutory requirements for an attorney lien and therefore dismissed the conversion and breach of fiduciary duty claims, as well as the request for punitive damages.

The Edgeworths argue that the district court failed to construe the allegations in the amended complaint as true and instead considered matters outside the pleadings—facts from the evidentiary hearing. In effect, the Edgeworths argue that, under the NRCP 12(b)(5) standard, the district court was required to accept the facts in their complaint as true regardless of its contrary factual findings from the evidentiary hearing. Under the circumstances here, we are not persuaded that the district court erred by dismissing the complaint.

While the district court should have given proper notice under NRCP 12(d) that it was converting the NRCP 12(b)(5) motion to one for summary judgment, it did not err by applying its findings from the evidentiary hearing when ruling on the NRCP 12(b)(5) motion, as it had told the parties it was waiting to rule on this motion until after the lien adjudication hearing. Under the law-of-the-case doctrine, a district court generally should not reconsider questions that it has already decided. See *Reconstrust Co., N.A. v. Zhang*, 130 Nev. 1, 7-8, 317 P.3d 814, 818 (2014) (“The law-of-the-case doctrine ‘refers to a family of rules embodying the general concept that a court involved in later phases of a lawsuit should not re-open questions decided (i.e., established as law of the case) by that court or a higher one in earlier phases.’”) (quoting *Crocker v. Piedmont Aviation, Inc.*, 49 F.3d 735, 739 (D.C. Cir. 1995)); see also *United States v. Jingles*, 702 F.3d 494, 499 (9th Cir. 2012) (“Under the law of the case doctrine, a court is

ordinarily precluded from reexamining an issue previously decided by the same court, or a higher court, in the same case.”) (internal quotation marks omitted). The doctrine applies where “the issue in question [was] ‘decided explicitly . . . in [the] previous disposition.’” *Jingles*, 702 F.3d at 499 (second alteration in original) (quoting *United States v. Lummi Indian Tribe*, 235 F.3d 443, 452 (9th Cir. 2000)).

Because it was necessary for the district court to determine if there was an express contract when adjudicating the attorney lien, its finding that there was no express oral contract between Simon and the Edgeworths became the law of the case in the consolidated action. See NRS 18.015(6) (requiring the court where an attorney lien is filed to “adjudicate the rights of the attorney, client or other parties and enforce the lien”); NRCP 42(a) (allowing consolidation where actions “involve a common question of law or fact”). As it was the law of the case, that finding bound the district court in its adjudication of the NRCP 12(b)(5) motion.⁵ See *Awada v. Shuffle Master, Inc.*, 123 Nev. 613, 623, 173 P.3d 707, 714 (2007) (upholding a district court’s decision where the district court held a bench trial to resolve equitable claims and then applied those findings to dismiss the remaining legal claims). Similarly, the district court’s finding that Simon properly perfected the attorney lien became the law of the case and thus bound the district court during its adjudication of the NRCP 12(b)(5) motion. Accordingly, because the district court properly applied its past

⁵The Edgeworths do not argue that the district court’s finding of an implied contract could have formed the basis of their breach of contract and good faith and fair dealing claims.

findings to the present motion, it did not err in granting the NRCP 12(b)(5) motion.⁶

The \$50,000 attorney fee award under NRS 18.010(2)(b)

The Edgeworths argue that the district court abused its discretion by awarding attorney fees to Simon in the context of dismissing their conversion claim because their claim was neither groundless nor brought in bad faith and the district court failed to consider the *Brunzell* factors.

The district court awarded attorney fees under NRS 18.010(2)(b) for the Edgeworths' conversion claim alone because it found that the Edgeworths' conversion claim was not maintained upon reasonable grounds. Once Simon filed the attorney lien, the Edgeworths were not in exclusive possession of the disputed fees, *see* NRS 18.015(1), and, accordingly, it was legally impossible for Simon to commit conversion, *see M.C. Multi-Family Dev., LLC v. Crestdale Assocs., Ltd.*, 124 Nev. 901, 911, 193 P.3d 536, 543 (2008) (holding that to prevail on a conversion claim, the plaintiff must have an exclusive right to possess the property). We perceive no abuse of discretion in this portion of the district court's decision. *See* NRS 18.010(2)(b) (authorizing courts to award attorney fees for claims "maintained without reasonable ground or to harass the prevailing party"). As to the amount of the award, however, we conclude that the district court's order lacks support. The district court need not explicitly mention each

⁶In his cross-appeal in Docket No. 77678, Simon argues that the district court erred by denying his anti-SLAPP special motion to dismiss as moot. However, Simon failed to present cogent arguments and relevant authority in his opening brief. Accordingly, we do not consider his argument. *See Edwards v. Emperor's Garden Rest.*, 122 Nev. 317, 330 n.38, 130 P.3d 1280, 1288 n.38 (2006) (declining to consider issues that are not supported by cogent argument).

Brunzell factor in its order so long as the district court "demonstrate[s] that it considered the required factors, and the award [is] supported by substantial evidence." *Logan*, 131 Nev. at 266, 350 P.3d at 1143 (mandating that a district court consider the *Brunzell* factors, but explaining that "express findings on each factor are not necessary for a district court to properly exercise its discretion").

While the district court did not make explicit *Brunzell* findings, it satisfied the first prong under *Logan* by noting that it "[had] considered all of the factors pertinent to attorney's fees." However, the district court did not provide sufficient reasoning explaining how it arrived at \$50,000, and it is not obvious by our review of the record. Accordingly, we vacate the district court's order awarding attorney fees and remand for further findings.

The costs award

The Edgeworths challenge the award of costs, arguing that the district court failed to explain or justify the amount. Having considered the record and the parties' arguments, we conclude that the district court acted within its sound discretion in awarding Simon \$5,000 in costs. *Logan*, 131 Nev. at 267, 350 P.3d at 1144 (explaining that this court reviews an award of costs for an abuse of discretion). Here, the district court explained that it awarded \$5,000 of the requested \$18,434.74 because Simon only requested an award for work performed on the motion to dismiss, not the adjudication of the attorney lien. As Simon's counsel acknowledged, only \$5,000 of the requested costs related to the motion to dismiss and thus only that \$5,000 is recoverable. Because the cost award is supported by an invoice and memorandum of costs, we conclude that the district court acted within its sound discretion when it awarded \$5,000 in costs to Simon.

In sum, as to the Edgeworths' appeal in Docket No. 77678, we affirm the district court's order granting Simon's motion to dismiss as well as the order awarding \$5,000 in costs. However, we vacate the district court's order awarding \$50,000 in attorney fees and \$200,000 in quantum meruit and remand for further findings regarding the basis of the awards. As to Simon's cross-appeal in Docket No. 78176, we affirm the district court's order denying Simon's anti-SLAPP motion as moot.

For the reasons set forth above, we

ORDER the judgment of the district court AFFIRMED in part and VACATED in part AND REMAND this matter to the district court for proceedings consistent with this order.

Pickering C.J.
Pickering

Gibbons J.
Gibbons

Hardesty J.
Hardesty

Parraguirre J.
Parraguirre

Stiglich J.
Stiglich

Cadish J.
Cadish

cc: Hon. Tierra Danielle Jones, District Judge
Dana Jonathon Nitz, Settlement Judge
James R. Christensen
Vannah & Vannah
Christiansen Law Offices
Eighth District Court Clerk

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; AND
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,
Appellants/Cross-Respondents,

vs.

DANIEL S. SIMON; AND THE LAW
OFFICE OF DANIEL S. SIMON, A
PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION,
Respondents/Cross-Appellants.

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; AND
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,
Appellants,

vs.

DANIEL S. SIMON; AND THE LAW
OFFICE OF DANIEL S. SIMON, A
PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION,
Respondents.

No. 77678

FILED

MAR 18 2021

ELIZABETH A. BROWN
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
BY *[Signature]*
DEPUTY CLERK

No. 78176

ORDER DENYING REHEARING

Rehearing denied. NRAP 40(c).

It is so ORDERED.

[Signature] C.J.
Hardesty

[Signature] J.
Parraguirre

[Signature] J.
Cadish

[Signature] J.
Pickering

[Signature] J.
Stiglich

[Signature] J.
Silver

[Signature] J.
Herndon

cc: Hon. Tierra Danielle Jones, District Judge
Vannah & Vannah
James R. Christensen
Christiansen Law Offices
Eighth District Court Clerk

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; AND
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,
Appellants/Cross-Respondents,
vs.
DANIEL S. SIMON; AND THE LAW OFFICE
OF DANIEL S. SIMON, A PROFESSIONAL
CORPORATION,
Respondents/Cross-Appellants.

Supreme Court No. 77678
District Court Case No. A738444

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; AND
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,
Appellants,
vs.
DANIEL S. SIMON; AND THE LAW OFFICE
OF DANIEL S. SIMON, A PROFESSIONAL
CORPORATION,
Respondents.

Supreme Court No. 78176
District Court Case No. A738444

REMITTITUR

TO: Steven D. Grierson, Eighth District Court Clerk

Pursuant to the rules of this court, enclosed are the following:

Certified copy of Judgment and Opinion/Order.
Receipt for Remittitur.

DATE: April 12, 2021

Elizabeth A. Brown, Clerk of Court

By: Kaitlin Meetze
Administrative Assistant

cc (without enclosures):

Hon. Tierra Danielle Jones, District Judge
Vannah & Vannah
James R. Christensen
Christiansen Law Offices \ Peter S. Christiansen

RECEIPT FOR REMITTITUR

Received of Elizabeth A. Brown, Clerk of the Supreme Court of the State of Nevada, the
REMITTITUR issued in the above-entitled cause, on APR 13 2021.

HEATHER UNGERMANN

Deputy District Court Clerk

**RECEIVED
APPEALS**

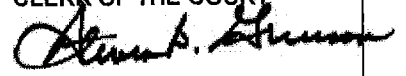
APR 13 2021

CLERK OF THE COURT

PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO RECONSIDER BASED ON
MANDATE

(STYLED AS PLAINTIFFS' RENEWED MOTION FOR
RECONSIDERATION OF THIRD-AMENDED² DECISION AND ORDER
GRANTING IN PART AND DENYING IN PART SIMON'S MOTION FOR
ATTORNEY'S FEES AND COSTS AND MOTION FOR
RECONSIDERATION OF THIRD AMENDED DECISION AND ORDER
ON MOTION TO ADJUDICATE LIEN)

²THE REFERENCE TO "THIRD-AMENDED" SHOULD HAVE ONLY
BEEN "AMENDED"



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Attorneys for Plaintiffs
Edgeworth Family Trust and
American Grating, LLC

DISTRICT COURT
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST;) Case No: A-16-738444-C
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,) Dept. No: X

Plaintiffs,

v.

LANGE PLUMBING, LLC
ET AL.,

Defendants.

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST;) Case No: A-18-767242-C
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,) Dept. No. X

Plaintiffs,

v.

DANIEL S. SIMON, AT AL.,

Defendants.

PLAINTIFFS' RENEWED
MOTION FOR
RECONSIDERATION OF
~~THIRD~~-AMENDED DECISION
AND ORDER GRANTING IN
PART AND DENYING IN PART
SIMON'S MOTION FOR
ATTORNEYS FEES AND

1) COSTS, and MOTION FOR
 2) RECONSIDERATION OF
 3) THIRD AMENDED DECISION
 4) AND ORDER ON MOTION TO
 5) ADJUDICATE LIEN
 6)
 7) HEARING REQUESTED
 8)

9 Plaintiffs Edgeworth Family Trust and American Grating, LLC
 10 (hereafter collectively referred to as "Edgeworths") respectfully move for
 11 reconsideration of this Court's Third Amended Decision and Order on
 12 Motion to Adjudicate Lien (hereafter "Third Lien Order"), which does not
 13 adhere to the instructions on remand, as more fully described below. The
 14 Edgeworths also renew their motion to reconsider the Court's Amended
 15 Decision and Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part Simon's Motion
 16 for Attorney's Fees and Costs (the "Fees Order") to conform to the actual cost
 17 amount.

18 This matter returns to the Court on remand for a limited purpose. The
 19 Supreme Court vacated this Court's prior order "awarding [Simon] \$50,000
 20 in attorney's fees and \$200,000 in *quantum meruit* and remand[ed] for
 21 further findings regarding the basis for the awards." The Supreme Court's
 22 remittitur that returned this matter to the Court for further proceedings
 23 issued on April 13, 2021. However, the Court *sua sponte*, and without
 24 explanation (or jurisdiction), entered a Second Amended Decision and
 25 Order on Motion to Adjudicate Lien (hereafter "Second Lien Order") on
 26 March 16, 2021. At the same time, the Court also entered an Amended
 27 Order on Simon's motion for attorney's fees and costs. These Orders
 28 prompted the Edgeworths to file a Motion for Reconsideration on March 30,
 2021.

The following day, the clerk of the Court issued a notice of hearing, for
 April 15, 2021, which deprived the Edgeworths of the right to reply to

1 Simon's opposition to reconsideration filed on April 13. Scheduling the
2 hearing was altogether unnecessary and inappropriate because jurisdiction
3 had not been returned to the Court when the incomplete briefing on
4 reconsideration was in progress and the minute order issued from the
5 Court's chambers. Nonetheless, on April 19, 2021, the Court issued a Third
6 Lien Order; the Court has not issued an updated Order on the attorney fee
7 issue since regaining jurisdiction.

8 For the reasons set out in detail below, reconsideration of both of April
9 19, 2021 Third Lien Order and the March 16, 2021 Amended Decision and
10 Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part Simon's Motion for Attorney's
11 Fees and Costs (hereafter the "Attorney Fee Order") is appropriate.

12 This Motion is based on the papers and pleadings on file, the
13 declaration of Rosa Solis-Rainey and exhibits submitted therewith, and any
14 argument the Court may consider, which the Edgeworths respectfully
15 request.

16 **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF**
17 **RENEWED MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION**

18 This case has a long and tortured history that will not be reiterated
19 except as necessary to address the narrow issues presented in this motion.
20 The time and effort expended to obtain a full and fair accounting of the fees
21 and costs claimed by Simon, in whom the Edgeworths misplaced their trust,
22 has been unnecessarily increased due to his failure to keep adequate
23 accurate billing records, and promptly bill the Edgeworths. His omission to
24 keep and produce proper billing records has allowed him to overreach for
25 much more in fees than were agreed to by the Edgeworths.

26 ***A. RELEVANT FACTS***

27 The underlying litigation brought by the Edgeworths against Lange
28 Plumbing, LLC, the Viking Corporation, Supply Network Inc., dba Viking

1 Supplynet. Daniel Simon represented the Edgeworths. From April 10, 2016
2 to September 18, 2017, his firm billed the Edgeworths \$368,588.70 in
3 attorney's fees, and \$114,864.39 in costs. The bills were based on *Simon's*
4 requested hourly rate of \$550 and \$275 for his associates.

5 Through mediation, the Edgeworths on November 15, 2017 agreed to
6 settle their claims against the Viking parties for \$6 million in exchange for
7 full dismissals. With these principal terms agreed-upon, all that remained
8 as to this portion of the case was to memorialize the settlement. Two days
9 later, however, Simon pressed the Edgeworths to renegotiate the basis of his
10 compensation structure from the hourly rates that had been confirmed and
11 paid under the parties' course of conduct, to one with contingent fee features
12 that would yield him more than a \$1M bonus. To coerce them into
13 acquiescing to his demands for more money, Simon threatened that the
14 settlement with Viking would fall apart because he claimed there remained
15 *many terms to still be negotiated*. Simon left for vacation in Peru shortly
16 thereafter, but made numerous calls to the Edgeworths from Peru to
17 pressure them into paying his desired but unagreed fees.

18 On November 27, 2017, Simon sent the Edgeworths a letter proposing
19 an agreement that would essentially provide him a bonus of over \$1M. Ex.
20 HH. Angela Edgeworth responded and asked Simon to provide her a copy
21 of the draft settlement document so that she could have her long-time
22 business lawyer review it. Ex. AA. Simon responded that he had not
23 received it, which was not true. *Id.* at 3:50 p.m. Since the principal terms for
24 settlement had been agreed to at the November 15 mediation and there
25 appeared to be urgency on all sides in finalizing the agreement, Mrs.
26 Edgeworth pressed Simon for the draft agreement. He responded that "Due
27 to the holiday they were probably not able to start on it. I will reach out to
28 lawyers tomorrow and get a status." *Id.* at 4.58 p.m. In his earlier letter, he

1 claimed that "*there [wa]s a lot of work left to be done* [to finalize the
2 settlement] and even hinted he might derail the agreement by not signing
3 off on "confidentiality provisions," likely required by Viking, which he
4 suggested "could expose [Simon] to future litigation." Ex HH at 0049. Mrs.
5 Edgeworth *again* pressed for settlement details, but Simon did not respond.
6 Ex. AA at 5:32 p.m.

7 Notwithstanding his denials to the contrary, the record suggests that
8 Simon had a draft of the settlement agreement by November 21, 2017. Ex.
9 BB (email exchange between counsel for Viking suggesting issues had arisen
10 regarding confidentiality and disparagement provisions; because these are
11 provisions Simon said Viking wanted, such issues could have been raised
12 only by Simon). Because of Simon's coercive tactics with respect to revising
13 his compensation structure and his refusal to provide the draft agreement to
14 Mrs. Edgeworth and his hourly bill, the Edgeworths retained other counsel
15 on November 29, Robert Vannah, to work with Simon to finalize the
16 agreements.¹ Ex. CC.

17 Simon provided the Edgeworth's with a draft of the settlement
18 agreement, *for the first time*, at 8:39 a.m. on November 30. Ex. DD.
19 Approximately an hour later, Vannah sent Simon a fax notifying him that
20 the Edgeworths had retained him to assist in finalizing the settlement. Ex.
21 CC. About eight hours later (at 5:31 pm) Simon sent a "final" version of the
22 settlement agreement with terms he claimed to have negotiated that day. Ex.
23 EE. In that same email, he also reported that he had re-negotiated the Lange
24
25

26 ¹ Without waiver of any rights, the Edgeworths accept that the Court
27 has found that the circumstances leading up to and retaining other counsel
28 were a constructive discharge of Simon, notwithstanding that he remained
counsel of record.

1 Plumbing settlement amount, and acknowledged receipt of instructions to
2 settle the Lange claim. *Id.*

3 On November 30, 2017, Simon also filed a Notice of Attorney Lien
4 against the Viking settlement claiming \$80,326.86 in outstanding costs. *See*
5 Ex. L to 3/30/21 Mot. for Recon. He filed an Amended Lien on January 2,
6 claiming costs of \$76,535.93² and attorney fees totaling \$2,345,450 less
7 payments received, for a net of \$1,977,843.80 due in fees, presumably based
8 on a contingent fee agreement that the Edgeworths had rejected. *See* Ex. M
9 to 3/30/21 Mot. for Recon. The Viking settlement was signed the next day,
10 December 1. Ex. N to 3/30/21 Mot. for Recon. The Edgeworths asked
11 Simon to agree to the Lange terms at the same time. Ex. EE.

12 On December 12, 2017, Viking notified Simon that it had inadvertently
13 overlooked the *certified check* provision in the settlement agreement, but
14 provided they could obtain the stipulation to dismiss, they had *regular*
15 *checks* cut and available for exchange that day in order to allow time for the
16 payment to clear by the agreed-upon date. Ex. FF. Simon *did not* notify the
17 Edgeworths of this option. On December 18, 2017, Simon notified Vannah,
18 the Edgeworths other counsel, that he had received the checks, but did not
19 disclose the checks were not certified, as required by the settlement
20 agreement. The parties disagreed on how the checks should be handled and
21 ultimately deposited them in an account that required the signatures of both
22 Vannah and Simon. The portion of the Viking money in excess of Simon's
23 claimed lien was paid to the Edgeworths. The settlement agreement with
24

25
26 ² The Court acknowledged that the Edgeworths promptly paid the
27 outstanding costs claimed by Simon as soon as he provided invoices
28 substantiating costs. *See* Nov. 19, 2018 Decision and Order on Motion to
Adjudicate Lien at 17:12-13 ("there are no outstanding costs remaining
owed").

1 Lange Plumbing was slow-played until February 5, 2018, when it was
2 signed. *See* Ex. O to 3/30/21 Mot. for Recon.

3 Due to the manner in which the settlement was handled, and the
4 attempted extortion of additional fees from them, the Edgeworths initiated
5 litigation against Simon on January 4, 2018. The Court ultimately dismissed
6 their claim for conversion and awarded fees and costs under NRS
7 18.010(2)(b) to Simon in the amount of \$5,000 for the claimed expert fee to
8 David Clark; and \$50,000 in fees for Simon's lawyer for defending the
9 conversion action. In his opposition to the Motion for Reconsideration,
10 Simon acknowledges that David Clark's expert fee was only \$2,520. *See*
11 April 13, 2021 Opp'n to Mot to Reconsider at 19:24.

12 Despite repeatedly claiming to the Edgeworths that a bill for actual
13 time spent would exceed the amount fees claimed in his lien, Simon refused
14 to provide billing records for fees he claimed were outstanding. Instead, he
15 moved to adjudicate the lien, and in support offered a "super bill" alleging
16 that between May 27, 2016 and January 8, 2018, his firm provided a total of
17 1,650.60 hours in legal services (866.20 hours Simon; 762.60 for Farrell; and
18 21.80 for Miller) for a grand total of \$692,120 in fees. Ex. II Excerpts of
19 "super bill." Included among Simon's hours is a single undated entry for
20 137.80 hours (or \$75,790 in fees) with the line entry explanation of "Review
21 all Emails concerning service of all pleadings (679 emails)." *See* Ex. II at
22 SIMONEH0000240 (last entry before totals).

23 The Court held an evidentiary hearing with respect to the lien and
24 concluded that the accuracy of the "super bill" provided by Simon could *not*
25 be established. *See* Nov. 19, 2018 Decision and Order on Motion to
26 Adjudicate Lien at 14:19-27 (pointing to testimony that the "'super bill' was
27 not necessarily accurate" because it was created after the fact); at 15:5 – 9
28 ("The court reviewed the billings of the 'super bill' in comparison to the

1 previous bills and determined that it was necessary to discount the items
2 that has not been previously billed for; such as text messages, reviews with
3 the court reporter, and reviewing, downloading, and saving documents
4 because the Court is uncertain of the accuracy of the 'super bill'); at 15:19
5 ("This argument does not persuade the court of the accuracy of the 'super
6 bill.>"). The Court determined that for the period from September 19 to
7 November 29, 2017 (which Simon had not billed despite requests from the
8 Edgeworths to do so), Simon was owed \$284,982.50. *Id.* at 17:3-4.
9 Notwithstanding that this amount did *not* reflect the "discounting" that the
10 Court said was required, or the fact the work was not well substantiated in
11 the invoices, the Edgeworths accepted this finding.

12 With respect to services performed from after the date the Court
13 determined Simon was constructively discharged, the Court awarded Simon
14 \$200,000, without providing any detail to show how that amount was
15 determined. Nov. 19, 2018 Decision and Order on Motion to Adjudicate
16 Lien at 21:18. The Court confirmed that the case was "not a contingent fee
17 case, and the Court is not awarding a contingency fee." *Id.* at 21. In
18 justifying the amount, the basis of which is never explained, the Court
19 discusses the *Brunzell* factors, but does so only in the context of *pre-*
20 *constructive discharge work*.

21 The Edgeworths appealed the amount awarded Simon in *quantum*
22 *meruit*, as well as the fees and costs awarded under NRS 18.010. Although
23 the Supreme Court affirmed the \$5,000 cost award, it did so because it
24 believed that 'the cost award [was] supported by an invoice and
25 memorandum of costs,' (Dec. 30, 2020 Nev. Sup. Ct. Order at 9, last
26 sentence) which Simon's recent briefing confirms was inaccurate. David
27 Clark's charged only \$2,520 for his work as an expert.
28

1 With respect to the fees awarded, both under NRS and under
2 *quantum meruit*, the Nevada Supreme Court held that the \$50,000 attorney
3 fee award "lacks support" because the Order awarding the fees did not
4 demonstrate that the *Brunzell* factors were even considered. *Id.* at 8-9. With
5 respect to the \$200,000 award, the Supreme Court held that the Court erred
6 in making the award "without making findings regarding the work Simon
7 performed after the constructive discharge." *Id.* at 4. The Supreme Court
8 emphasized that the proper measure of recovery is the "reasonable value of
9 [the] services." *Id.* at 5 (citations omitted). And the Court went on to say
10 that in determining the reasonable value, the Court must consider the
11 *Brunzell* factors. *Id.* The Supreme Court said:

12 While the district court stated that it was applying the *Brunzell*
13 factors for work performed only after the constructive discharge, much of
14 its analysis focused on Simon's work throughout the litigation. Those
15 findings, referencing *work performed before the constructive discharge*,
16 for which Simon had already been compensated under the terms of the
17 implied contract, *cannot form the basis of a quantum meruit award*. . . .
Accordingly, we vacate the district court's grant of \$200,000 in *quantum*
meruit and remand for the district court to make findings regarding the
basis of its award.

18 *Id.* at 5 (emphasis added). The Court's latest Order does not satisfy the
19 Supreme Court mandate. It merely repeats the same inadequate *Brunzell*
20 analysis. *See* Third Lien Order at 19-20; and compare it with the identical
21 analysis on pages 18-19 of the November 19, 2018 Order that was the subject
22 of the appeal.

23 The only evidence in the record of work Simon claims to have
24 performed post-discharge is set forth in the "super bill"; the accuracy of
25 which the Court has acknowledged is questionable, at best. *See* Excerpts
26 Showing Post-Discharge Portions of "super bill" Ex. JJ and KK. The work
27
28

1 described in these billings includes one hearing³ and several administrative
2 tasks, including over seven hours of Mr. Simon's time post discharge to
3 open the bank account for deposit of the Viking settlement checks. Ex. LL at
4 3 (entries in green on Jan 2, 3 4, 5 and 8, 2018). Even crediting the time
5 outlined in his "super bill," applying the *Brunzell* factors to that work does
6 not justify the bonus payment the Court awarded him.

7 ***B. STANDARD FOR RECONSIDERATION***

8 A party may seek reconsideration within 14 days after service of
9 written notice of the order. E.D.C.R. 2.24. Reconsideration is appropriate
10 when the Court has misapprehended or overlooked important facts when
11 making its decision, *Matter of Ross*, 99 Nev. 657, 659, 668 P.2d 1089, 1091
12 (1983), when new evidence is presented, or when the decision is "clearly
13 erroneous." *Masonry and Tile Contractors Ass'n of Southern Nevada v.*
14 *Jolley, Urga & Wirth, Ltd.*, 113 Nev. 737, 741, 941 P.2d 486, 489 (1997). Here,
15 this motion for reconsideration of the Court's Third Lien Order, entered on
16 April 19, 2021, is timely brought. The Order is clearly erroneous because it
17 does not comply with the mandate returned from the Nevada Supreme
18 Court. The Order also followed briefing that was cut short due to the early
19 hearing setting when the Court lacked jurisdiction.

20 The Amended Order on the attorney fee issue, was entered on March
21 16, 2021, nearly one month before the Nevada Supreme Court returned
22 jurisdiction of this case to the district court. It is thus *void ab initio* because
23 it was entered without jurisdiction, but it also warrants reconsideration
24 because the cost award was entered based on an incorrect amount
25

26
27 ³ A hearing on Viking's Motion for Good Faith Settlement is listed on
28 the "super bill" for December 12, 2017. *See* Ex. JJ at 77. The hearing was
necessary only because the Lange settlement was not promptly finalized.
See Ex. N to 3/30/21 Mot. for Recon. at 2, Section III.D.

1 presented, which Defendants now acknowledge in their April 13 opposition
2 to the earlier motion for reconsideration.

3 ***C. RECONSIDERATION OF THE COSTS AWARDED IN THE***
4 ***AMENDED ATTORNEY FEES AND COSTS MOTION IS***
5 ***WARRANTED.***

6 This Court entered its Amended Order attorney's fees and costs on
7 March 16, 2021. Jurisdiction was not returned to the district court until April
8 13, 2021. The Amended Order awarded Simon's counsel some of the
9 attorney fees and costs in claimed to have been incurred in defense of the
10 conversion cause of action. The claimed costs of \$5,000 were for expert fees
11 paid to David Clark. The Edgeworths appealed this award on the basis that
12 the costs were not necessarily incurred. Although the Nevada Supreme
13 affirmed the \$5,000 cost award, it did so because it believed that "the cost
14 award [was] supported by an invoice and memorandum of costs." Dec. 30,
15 2020 Nev. Sup. Ct. Order at 9, last sentence. Given the confirmation by
16 Simon that the \$5,000 was actually the retainer amount, which was not
17 exhausted, it is appropriate to remit the amount of the cost award to the
18 actual cost (\$2,520) incurred.

19 ***D. THE BASIS FOR THE QUANTUM MERUIT ALLOWED BY THE***
20 ***COURT REMAINS UNSUPPORTED, AND, IN FACT, CANNOT BE***
21 ***SUPPORTED.***

22 The Third Amended Decision on the lien matter suffers from the same
23 defects as those in the prior amended order considered by the Nevada
24 Supreme Court. The Supreme Court found that the district court had not
25 provided an adequate basis to support how it came up with a \$200,000
26 award for Simon's post-constructive termination services, and pointed out
27 that to the extent the *Brunzell* analysis was done, it relied on pre-termination
28 work, *which has been compensated* under the contract.

1 According to the record and Simon's own testimony, the settlement
2 terms in the underlying dispute with Viking were agreed on by November
3 15, 2017. By Simon's unequivocal testimony in response to questions from
4 the Court, the Viking Settlement Agreement was finished *before* November
5 30. Ex. GG at 15-17.

6 Notwithstanding that he finished the settlement agreement
7 negotiations on November, 27, 2017, when Mrs. Edgeworth requested drafts
8 of the agreement that same day, Simon claimed he had not yet seen any
9 drafts of the settlement agreement. And despite his later testimony that he
10 was completely done hammering out the agreement on November 27, 2017,
11 he did not share any versions of the settlement agreement with the
12 Edgeworths until November 30th, ignoring their request for all drafts. The
13 draft he initially presented them (with terms he unequivocally testified he
14 had negotiated out) was sent shortly before he was notified the Edgeworths
15 had hired Vannah to help finalize the agreement. At the close of day on
16 November 30, he sent Vannah the final draft, which he acknowledged to the
17 Court he finished negotiating three days prior yet misrepresented to Vannah
18 and the Edgeworths that he had negotiated it that day. Ex. EE.

19 Notwithstanding the gamesmanship in sharing the settlement
20 agreement while seeking a new fee arrangement, it is reasonable to conclude
21 that Simon's testimony to the Court is accurate: *all negotiations were*
22 *complete by November 27*, and little, if anything, of substance remained to
23 be done *after* the claimed notice of termination to obtain the payment and
24 dismiss the Viking claims. This conclusion is supported by the fact the
25 Viking Settlement Agreement was in fact executed the next day, December
26 1. A review of the billing entries offered by Simon for the post-discharge
27 period confirm that negligible substantive work was performed by him with
28 regard to the Viking claims.

1 Likewise, according to Simon's own evidence, the negotiation of the
2 Lange Plumbing settlement terms were done by November 30, 2017,
3 although the agreement memorializing these terms was inexplicably not
4 presented to the Edgeworths for signature until February 5, 2018. The actual
5 agreement eventually signed demonstrates that it was final by early
6 December 2017. *See* Ex O at 1 (on line 2 of page 1, Mr. Edgeworth had to
7 interlineate the earlier date contemplated when he signed the agreement; it
8 said "... Agreement ... is entered on December __, 2017"); (on page 2, at
9 subsections "a." to "c." agreement called for document exchanges by end of
10 December, payment by end of January, and dismissal within 10 days of
11 payment, demonstrating the agreement it was prepared in December). To
12 the extent this agreement was slow-played by Simon to support his
13 contention that much work remained, the fact is that the basic terms were
14 agreed on or before November 30 and *no substantive work remained* to
15 finalize it.

16 Little else of substance remained. And although Simon claims *never*
17 to work on an hourly basis, he billed the Edgeworths on an hourly basis,
18 and they paid him as they had agreed. The Court found that they had no
19 reason to believe that was not the fee agreement since Simon had not
20 memorialized the terms of the engagement, as he should have if it were
21 otherwise. He also billed them for the substantial costs, which the Court
22 found they promptly paid. Having so determined the basis for payment to
23 Simon, the best evidence before the Court of the "reasonable value" of the
24 *quantum meruit* services is Simon's own billings, which outline the work
25 performed, albeit inadequately. This would be consistent with the
26 compensation structure confirmed by the parties' course of conduct.
27 Although the Court has consistently called into question the accuracy of the
28 "super bill" Simon created to justify his exorbitant lien, the Court

1 nonetheless accepted the "super bill" for purpose of establishing the hours
2 Simon claimed for work between September 19, 2017 through November 29,
3 2017, and for which she awarded Simon over \$284K, without the
4 discounting the Court itself recognized was required. The Edgeworths
5 accepted this determination, and intend to pay that amount from the
6 moneys being held.

7 There is no reason for the Court to now reject the "super bill" for
8 evaluating the work performed post-discharge. For the period starting
9 November 30 to the end of his lien, Simon's "super bill" lists a total of 71.10
10 hours (51.85 hours for Simon; and 19.25 for his associate). Using the hourly
11 rates established Simon himself and confirmed by the parties' course of
12 conduct, that number of hours translates to \$33,811.25 in fees at his agreed
13 rates. If the work on that listing were justifiable, it would be reasonable
14 under a *Brunzell* analysis, but the Court's award of \$200,000 is *more than six*
15 *times* that amount. No reason is given in the Third Lien Order as to how
16 that amount was computed or supported under a *Brunzell* analysis. The
17 Court's decision, in fact, does not specifically discuss the nature of the post-
18 termination work. The Court's *entire discussion* of the *Brunzell* factors is
19 based on pre-termination work covered by the prior invoices and the Court's
20 pre-termination computation. This is the same deficiency the Nevada
21 Supreme Court found with the appealed order.

22 Furthermore, much of the claimed work was not justified as having
23 been done for the benefit of the Edgeworths. It is also not work requiring
24 ...
25 ...
26 ...
27 ...
28

1 special skill. A rough summary of the post-discharge work "billed" is
2 depicted in the table below:

SUMMARY OF POST-DISCHARGE WORK BILLED BY SIMON LAW	
Admin tasks re Lange Settlement	21.55
Admin tasks re Viking Settlement, including one hearing	26.65
Preparation of Attorney Lien	4.85
Opening Bank Account & Depositing Settlement Checks	7.25
Undetermined - not sufficient description	10.80

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10 None of this work justifies the bonus awarded. A consolidated listing
11 of the hours Simon's firm billed post-termination is attached hereto as
12 Exhibit LL. The descriptions and information in Exhibit LL were taken
13 directly from the "super bill" produced by Simon, the relevant excerpts of
14 which are attached hereto as Exhibits JJ and KK. A substantial portion of
15 Simon's bill for post-termination work does not provide adequate
16 descriptions to enable informed evaluations of work performed.
17 Furthermore, the Edgeworths' ability to challenge the validity of the work
18 Simon claims to have performed is also limited because Simon has refused
19 repeated demands to turn over their entire file to them.⁴ While the Court is
20 free to determine the reasonable value of the services provided, it needs to
21 identify the bases on which it is valuing it to show that the amount is
22 reasonable under *Brunzell*. Billing over seven hours to set up a simple local

23
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⁴ Simon claims to have turned over the file to the Edgeworths. However, the file he produced does not include drafts of the settlement agreements; is stripped of all email attachments, all emails discussing the Edgeworths settlements with third-parties, expert reports, and email and other communications with experts, opposing counsel. In view of this Court's finding that Simon was discharged, and the affirmance of that determination, it cannot be reasonably disputed that the Edgeworths are fully entitled to their full client file, as set forth in NRS 7.055, and demand is hereby made again for the Edgeworths' *complete* file.

1 bank account with two signers and deposit two checks, for example, is not
2 facially reasonable under *Brunzell*. See Ex. LL, entries coded in green.
3 Likewise, billing the Edgeworths 4.60 hours for the preparation of Simon's
4 own attorney lien was of no benefit to the Edgeworths and therefore not
5 facially reasonable. *Id.*, entries coded in pink. And even if the Court
6 determined the hours were justified, a reasonable rate for that work must be
7 explained.

8 The Court's basis for the *quantum meruit* award remains deficient, for
9 the same reasons the Supreme Court found it lacking in the first instance. It
10 should be corrected consistent with the mandate. On the basis of the record
11 before the Court, the Court's \$200,000 *quantum meruit* award would not be
12 correct.

13 ***E. THE COURT INADVERTENTLY INCLUDED PAID COSTS IN THE***
14 ***OUTSTANDING AMOUNT DUE.***

15 The Court's Third Lien Order also contains a scrivener's error to the
16 tune of \$71,594.93. Consistent with its prior Orders recognizing that the
17 Edgeworths had paid all outstanding costs, the Court on page 18 of the
18 Third Lien Order acknowledged all costs have been paid. However, on
19 page 23 of the Third Lien Order, the Court inadvertently added the
20 \$71,594.93 to the amount due. That error should be corrected, and any
21 judgment entered on the lien claim should exclude any amount for costs
22 because the costs have been paid.

23 ***F. CONCLUSION***

24 Because the Court's latest order does not comply with the mandate
25 returned by the Nevada Supreme Court, it should be reconsidered. The
26 basis for the *quantum meruit* award should be fully disclosed, and its
27 reasonableness under the *Brunzell* analysis should be examined in light only
28 of the post-termination work. Taking Simon's own "super bill" for guidance,
that would come out to \$33,811.25.

1 The \$71,594.93 scrivener error resulting from the inadvertent inclusion
2 of costs already paid should be corrected, and the prior \$5,000 awarded on
3 the attorney's fees and costs motion, which was upheld only because it was
4 believed to be the amount incurred, should be remitted to the amount of
5 actual costs incurred, \$2,520.

6
7 MORRIS LAW GROUP

8 By: /s/ STEVE MORRIS

9 Steve Morris, Bar No. 1543
10 Rosa Solis-Rainey, Bar No. 7921
11 801 S. Rancho Dr., Ste. B4
12 Las Vegas, Nevada 89106

13 Attorneys for Plaintiffs
14 Edgeworth Family Trust and
15 American Grating, LLC
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to Nev. R. Civ. P. 5(b) and NEFCR 9, I certify that I am an employee of MORRIS LAW GROUP, and that I caused the following to be served via the Court's mandatory e-filing and service system to those persons designated by the parties in the E-Service Master list for the above-referenced matter: PLAINTIFFS' RENEWED MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF THIRD-AMENDED DECISION AND ORDER GRANTING IN PART AND DENYING IN PART SIMON'S MOTION FOR ATTORNEYS FEES AND COSTS, and MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF THIRD AMENDED DECISION AND ORDER ON MOTION TO ADJUDICATE LIEN

DATED this 3rd day of May, 2021.

By: /s/ TRACI K. BAEZ
An employee of Morris Law Group

**DECLARATION OF ROSA SOLIS-RAINEY IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS'
RENEWED MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF THIRD-AMENDED
DECISION AND ORDER GRANTING IN PART AND DENYING IN PART
SIMON'S MOTION FOR ATTORNEYS FEES AND COSTS, and MOTION FOR
RECONSIDERATION OF THIRD AMENDED DECISION AND ORDER ON
MOTION TO ADJUDICATE LIEN**

I, Rosa Solis-Rainey, declare as follows:

1. I am an attorney and counsel of record in this matter in this matter and competent to testify as to the following matters.
2. I have reviewed documents on file with the Court and state the following based on this review.
3. Attached as Exhibit AA is a November 27, 2017 email thread between Angela Edgeworth and Daniel Simon. I was informed and believe the email thread begun at 2:26 p.m. when Simon sent an email with a letter and proposed retainer agreement setting forth his desired compensation.
4. Attached as Exhibit BB is a November 21, 2017 email exchange between counsel for Viking, suggesting there are issues with some of the proposed terms.
5. Attached as Exhibit CC is a November 30, 2017 facsimile from Vannah to Simon transmitting a November 29, 2017 Letter of Direction from the Edgeworths.
6. Attached as Exhibit DD is a November 30, 2017 8:39 a.m. email from Simon to the Edgeworths with the Viking Settlement Agreement.
7. Attached as Exhibit EE is a November 30, 2017 5:31 p.m. email from Simon to the Edgeworths and counsel with the final Viking Settlement Agreement.
8. Attached as Exhibit FF is a December 12, 2017 a.m. email from Viking's counsel to Simon offering to exchange the checks for the stipulation to dismiss.

9. Attached as Exhibit GG are excerpts from Day 4 of the Evidentiary Hearing conducted in this matter on 8/30/18.
10. Attached as Exhibit HH is a November 27, 2017 letter sent by Simon to the Edgeworths outlining his desired compensation, and including a proposed retainer agreement.
11. Attached as Exhibit II are excerpts of Simon's "super bill" – it was broken into parts based on the billing attorney, thus the totals were added to determine the total attorneys fees billed, which came to \$692,120.00.
12. Attached as Exhibit JJ are the portions of the "super bill" showing "post-discharge" entries for Daniel Simon, who billed a total of 51.85 hours at \$550 per hour, or \$28,517.50 in attorney fees.
13. Attached as Exhibit KK are the portions of the "super bill" showing "post-discharge" entries for Ashley Ferrel, who billed a total of 19.25 hours at \$275 per hour, or \$5,293.75 in attorney fees. The third biller on the file, Mr. Miller, had no "post-discharge" entries. Mr. Simon and Ms. Ferrell collectively billed 71.10 hours for \$33,811.25 in fees.
14. Attached as Exhibit LL is a demonstrative I compiled taking the entries from Exhibits JJ and KK into one spreadsheet so that I could add them, and compile a breakdown by the estimated purpose, as set forth in the document.

I declare the foregoing under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Nevada.

Dated his 3th day of May, 2021.

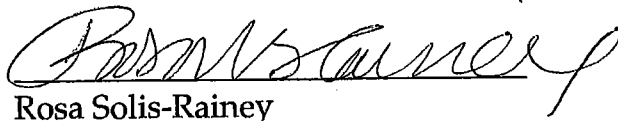

Rosa Solis-Rainey

EXHIBIT AA

11/27/17 EMAIL THREAD BETWEEN
ANGELA EDGEWORTH & DANIEL
SIMON

From: Angela Edgeworth <angela.edgeworth@pediped.com>
Sent: Monday, November 27, 2017 3:20 PM
To: Daniel Simon
Cc: Brian Edgeworth (brian@pediped.com)
Subject: Re: Edgeworth v. Viking, et al

Danny,

As you know, Brian is out of town and in China at the moment. I will need a couple of days to discuss this with him. We will be glad to meet once he is back.




We would need to have our attorney look at this agreement before we sign.

In the meantime, please send us the Viking Agreement immediately, so we review it.

Angela Edgeworth



Angela Edgeworth
D 702.352.2585 | T 702.567.0311 | F 702.567.0319
1191 Center Point Drive | Henderson, NV 89074
angela.edgeworth@pediped.com | www.pediped.com

Let's get social...   

On Mon, Nov 27, 2017 at 2:26 PM, Daniel Simon <dan@simonlawlv.com> wrote:

Please review and advise me of your position at your earliest possible convenience. If you would like to discuss, please call me anytime. Thanks

From: Daniel Simon <dan@simonlawlv.com>
Sent: Monday, November 27, 2017 3:50 PM
To: Angela Edgeworth
Cc: Brian Edgeworth (brian@pediped.com)
Subject: RE: Edgeworth v. Viking, et al

I have not received the Viking agreement. When I receive I will forward. Let me know as soon as you can. Thanks

From: Angela Edgeworth [mailto:angela.edgeworth@pediped.com]
Sent: Monday, November 27, 2017 3:20 PM
To: Daniel Simon <dan@simonlawlv.com>
Cc: Brian Edgeworth (brian@pediped.com) <brian@pediped.com>
Subject: Re: Edgeworth v. Viking, et al

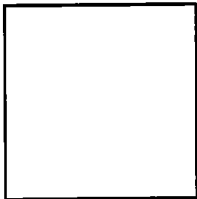
Danny,

As you know, Brian is out of town and in China at the moment. I will need a couple of days to discuss this with him. We will be glad to meet once he is back.

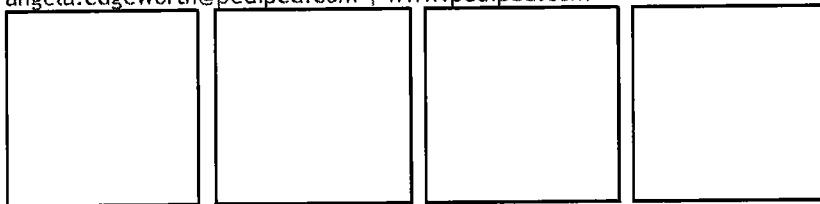
We would need to have our attorney look at this agreement before we sign.

In the meantime, please send us the Viking Agreement immediately, so we review it.

Angela Edgeworth



Angela Edgeworth
D 702.352.2585 | T 702.567.0311 | F 702.567.0319
1191 Center Point Drive | Henderson, NV 89074
angela.edgeworth@pediped.com | www.pediped.com



On Mon, Nov 27, 2017 at 2:26 PM, Daniel Simon <dan@simonlawlv.com> wrote:

Please review and advise me of your position at your earliest possible convenience. If you would like to discuss, please call me anytime. Thanks

From: Angela Edgeworth <angela.edgeworth@pediped.com>
Sent: Monday, November 27, 2017 4:14 PM
To: Daniel Simon
Cc: Brian Edgeworth (brian@pediped.com)
Subject: Re: Edgeworth v. Viking, et al

Did you agree to the settlement? Why have they not sent it yet and when is it coming? Please clarify.

From: Daniel Simon <dan@simonlawlv.com>
Sent: Monday, November 27, 2017 4:58 PM
To: Angela Edgeworth
Cc: Brian Edgeworth (brian@pediped.com)
Subject: Re: Edgeworth v. Viking, et al

It appears that you have a lot of questions about the process which is one reason I wanted to meet with you. If you would like to come to the office or call me tomorrow I will be happy to explain everything in detail. My Letter also explains the status of the settlement and what needs to be done. Due to the holiday they probably were not able to start on it. I will reach out to lawyers tomorrow and get a status. I am also happy to speak to your attorney as well. Let me know. Thx

On Nov 27, 2017, at 4:14 PM, Angela Edgeworth <angela.edgeworth@pediped.com> wrote:

Did you agree to the settlement? Why have they not sent it yet and when is it coming? Please clarify.

From: Angela Edgeworth <angela.edgeworth@pediped.com>
Sent: Monday, November 27, 2017 5:32 PM
To: Daniel Simon
Cc: Brian Edgeworth (brian@pediped.com)
Subject: Re: Edgeworth v. Viking, et al

I do have questions about the process, and am quite confused. I had no idea we were on anything but an hourly contract with you until our last meeting.

I am glad to meet once Brian gets back unless you think it's urgent and we meet right away.

If the contract is not drawn yet, we still have some time to hash things out.

I want a complete understanding of what has transpired so I can consult my attorney. I do not believe I need to have her involved at this time.

Please let me know what the terms of the settlement are to your knowledge at this point if they are not detailed in your letter. Please send over whatever documentation you have or tell us what they verbally committed to. Otherwise, I will review the letter in detail and get back to you in a couple days.

In the meantime, I trust we are still progressing with Lange et al and any other immediate concerns that should be addressed.

As I mentioned at our last meeting, we should still be progressing as originally planned. I would hate to see a delay for any reason. Until we see an agreement, no agreement exists. Please let me know if there are any upcoming delays that you can foresee.

I think everyone has been busy over the holidays and has not had a lot of time to process everything.

To confirm, you have not yet agreed to the settlement. Is this correct?

Angela

On Mon, Nov 27, 2017 at 4:58 PM Daniel Simon <dan@simonlawlv.com> wrote:

It appears that you have a lot of questions about the process which is one reason I wanted to meet with you. If you would like to come to the office or call me tomorrow I will be happy to explain everything in detail. My Letter also explains the status of the settlement and what needs to be done. Due to the holiday they probably were not able to start on it. I will reach out to lawyers tomorrow and get a status. I am also happy to speak to your attorney as well. Let me know. Thx

On Nov 27, 2017, at 4:14 PM, Angela Edgeworth <angela.edgeworth@pediped.com> wrote:

Did you agree to the settlement? Why have they not sent it yet and when is it coming? Please clarify.

--

Angela

EXHIBIT BB

**11/21/17 EMAIL BETWEEN VIKING
COUNSEL RE ISSUES ON DRAFT
SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

From: Janet Pancoast
To: dpolsenberg@lrrc.com
Cc: Jessica Rogers; robinson (robinson@mms-law.com)
Subject: Edgeworth - REL DRAFT Edgeworth Draft Release to DP
Date: Tuesday, November 21, 2017 10:53:56 AM
Attachments: REL DRAFT Edgeworth Draft Release to DP.docx

Dan —

Attached is the draft Release. I highlighted the "Confidentiality" and "No Disparagement" clauses on pages 4 and 5.

As we discussed, at this time, I'll ignore the letter regarding the Motions in Limine.

Please send me a copy of anything you get confirming this settlement in writing.

Thanks,

Janet C. Pancoast, Esq.
Dir: 702.562.7616
Cell: 702.325.7876

***** PLEASE NOTE *****

This message, along with any attachments, is for the designated recipient(s) only and may contain privileged, proprietary, or otherwise confidential information. If this message has reached you in error, kindly destroy it without review and notify the sender immediately. Any other use of such misdirected e-mail by you is prohibited. Where allowed by local law, electronic communications with Zurich and its affiliates, including e-mail and instant messaging (including content), may be scanned for the purposes of information security and assessment of internal compliance with company policy.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND RELEASE

This Settlement Agreement and Release (hereinafter the "Agreement"), by and between Plaintiffs EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST and its Trustees Brian Edgeworth & Angela Edgeworth, AMERICAN GRATING, LLC, and its managers Brian Edgeworth & Angela Edgeworth (hereinafter "PLAINTIFFS"), Defendants THE VIKING CORPORATION, SUPPLYNETWORK, INC. & VIKING GROUP, INC. (hereinafter "VIKING") for damages sustained by PLAINTIFFS arising from an incident that occurred on or about April 10, 2016, at a residential property located at 645 Saint Croix Street, Henderson, Nevada (Clark County), wherein Plaintiff alleges damages were sustained due to an unanticipated activation of a sprinkler head (hereinafter "INCIDENT"). The foregoing parties are hereinafter collectively referred to as "SETTLING PARTIES."

I. RECITALS

A. On June 14, 2016, a Complaint was filed by Plaintiff Edgeworth Family Trust, in the State of Nevada, County of Clark, Case Number A-16-738444-C against Defendants LANGE PLUMBING, LLC and VIKING AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER CO. On August 24, 2016, an amended Complaint was filed against Defendants LANGE PLUMBING, LLC, THE VIKING CORPORATION, SUPPLYNETWORK, INC. On March 7, 2017, a Second Amended Complaint was filed adding Plaintiff AMERICAN GRATING, LLC as a Plaintiff against Defendants LANGE PLUMBING, LLC, THE VIKING CORPORATION, SUPPLYNETWORK, INC. On November 1, 2017, an Order was entered permitting PLAINTIFFS to VIKING GROUP, INC. as a Defendant (hereinafter "SUBJECT ACTION").

B. The SETTLING PARTIES, after extensive, arms-length negotiations, have reached a complete and final settlement of the PLAINTIFFS claims against VIKING, and warrant that they are presently the sole and exclusive owners of their respective claims, demands, causes of action, controversies, obligations or liabilities as set forth in the SUBJECT ACTION and that no other party has any right, title, or interest whatsoever in said causes of action and other matters referred to therein, and that there has been no assignment, transfer, conveyance, or other disposition by them of any said causes of action and other matters referred to therein; and

C. The SETTLING PARTIES now wish to settle any and all claims, known and unknown, and dismiss with prejudice the entire SUBJECT ACTION as between the SETTLING PARTIES. The SETTLING PARTIES to this Agreement have settled and compromised their disputes and differences, based upon, and subject to, the terms and conditions which are further set forth herein.

II. DEFINITIONS

A. "SETTLING PARTIES" shall mean, collectively, all of the following individuals and entities, and each of them:

//

B. "PLAINTIFFS" shall mean EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST and its Trustees Brian Edgeworth & Angela Edgeworth, AMERICAN GRATING, LLC, and its managers Brian Edgeworth & Angela Edgeworth, as Trustees, Managers, individually, and their past, present and future agents, partners, associates, joint venturers, creditors, predecessors, successors, heirs, assigns, insurers, representatives and attorneys, and all persons acting by or in concert with each other.

C. "VIKING" shall mean THE VIKING CORPORATION, SUPPLYNETWORK, INC. & VIKING GROUP, INC., and all their respective related legal entities, employees, affiliates, agents, partners, associates, joint venturers, parents, subsidiaries, sister corporations, directors, officers, stockholders, owners, employers, employees, predecessors, successors, heirs, assigns, insurers, bonding companies, representatives and attorneys, and all persons acting in concert with them, or any of them.

D. "CLAIM" or "CLAIMS" shall refer to any and all claims, demands, liabilities, damages, complaints, causes of action, intentional or negligent acts, intentional or negligent omissions, misrepresentations, distress, attorneys' fees, investigative costs and any other actionable omissions, conduct or damage of every kind in nature whatsoever, whether seen or unforeseen, whether known or unknown, alleged or which could have at any time been alleged or asserted between the SETTLING PARTIES in the SUBJECT ACTION.

E. The "SUBJECT ACTION" refers to the litigation arising from the Complaints filed by PLAINTIFFS in the Eighth Judicial District Court, County of Clark, Case Number A-16-738444-C, State of Nevada, with respect to and between PLAINTIFFS and DEFENDANTS.

III. SETTLEMENTTERMS

A. The total settlement amount for PLAINTIFFS EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST & AMERICAN GRATING, LLC is Six Million Dollars and Zero-Cents (\$6,000,000).

B. This Settlement is contingent upon Court approving a Motion for Good Faith Settlement pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute 17.245, and dismissing any claims being asserted against the Viking by Lange Plumbing, LLC.

D. The settlement funds will be held in trust until completion of all necessary paperwork, including a Voluntary Dismissal of the SUBJECT ACTION with Prejudice.

E. The SETTLING PARTIES agree to bear their own attorneys' fees and costs.

IV. AGREEMENT

A. In consideration of the mutual assurances, warranties, covenants and promises set forth herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, each of the SETTLING PARTIES agree with every other SETTLING PARTY hereto to perform each of the terms and conditions stated herein, and to abide by the terms of this Agreement.

B. Each of the SETTLING PARTIES warrant to each other the truth and correctness of the foregoing recitals, which are incorporated in this paragraph by reference.

C. As a material part of this Agreement, except as otherwise provided herein, all claims held by and between the SETTLING PARTIES relating to the SUBJECT ACTION, including, but not limited to, those for property damage, stigma damages, remediation costs, repair costs, diminution in value, punitive damages, shall be dismissed, with prejudice, including any and all claims for attorneys' fees and costs of litigation. This shall include, but is not limited to, any and all claims asserted by PLAINTIFFS or which could have at any time been alleged or asserted against VIKING, by way of PLAINTIFFS Complaint and any amendments thereto.

V. RELEASE

A. In consideration of the settlement payment and promises described herein, PLAINTIFFS, on behalf of their insurers, agents, successors, administrators, personal representatives, heirs and assigns do hereby release and forever discharge VIKING and any of VIKING's affiliates, as well as its insurers, all respective officers, employees and assigns, agents, successors, administrators, heirs and assigns, predecessors, subsidiaries, attorneys and representatives as to any and all demands, claims, assignments, contracts, covenants, actions, suits, causes of action, costs, expenses, attorneys' fees, damages, losses, controversies, judgments, orders and liabilities of whatsoever kind and nature, at equity or otherwise, whether now known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, and whether or not concealed or hidden, which have existed or may have existed, or which do exist, or which hereafter can, shall, or may exist between the SETTLING PARTIES with respect to the SUBJECT ACTION, including, but not limited to, the generality of the foregoing, any and all claims which were or might have been, or which could have been, alleged in the litigation with regard to the SUBJECT ACTION.

B. It is the intention of the SETTLING PARTIES hereto that this AGREEMENT shall be effective as a bar to all claims, with respect to the INCIDENT that PLAINTIFFS may have against DEFENDANTS, their affiliates, and any other entity that was involved in the INCIDENT, of whatsoever character, nature and kind, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, and whether or not concealed or hidden, herein above specified to be so barred; and in furtherance of this intention, PLAINTIFFS and their related persons and entities expressly, knowingly and voluntarily waive any and all rights which they do not know or suspect to exist in their favor with regard to the INCIDENT at the time of executing this AGREEMENT.

C. SETTLING PARTIES hereto expressly agree that this AGREEMENT shall be given full force and effect in accordance with each and all of its expressed terms and provisions, relating to unknown and unsuspected claims, demands, causes of action, if any, between PLAINTIFF and DEFENDANTS, with respect to the INCIDENT, to the same effect as those terms and provisions relating to any other claims, demands and causes of action herein above specified. This AGREEMENT applies as between PLAINTIFFS and VIKING and their related persons and entities.

D. PLAINTIFFS represent their counsel of record has explained the effect of a release of any and all claims, known or unknown and, based upon that explanation and their independent judgment by the reading of this Agreement, PLAINTIFFS understand and acknowledge the legal significance and the consequences of the claims being released by this Agreement. PLAINTIFFS further represents that they understand and acknowledges the legal significance and consequences of a release of unknown claims against the SETTLING PARTIES set forth in, or arising from, the INCIDENT and hereby assume full responsibility for any injuries, damages, losses or liabilities that hereafter may occur with respect to the matters released by this Agreement.

E. PLAINTIFF hereby agrees to indemnify and hold harmless VIKING and their insurers to include from, against and in connection with, any liens of any type whatsoever pertaining to the SUBJECT ACTION including, but not necessarily limited to attorneys' liens, mechanics liens, expert liens and/or subrogation claims.

VI. GOOD FAITH SETTLEMENT

PLAINTIFFS and VIKING agree and stipulate that the settlement herein is made in good faith pursuant to the provisions of Nevada Revised Statute 17.245.

VII. DISMISSAL

The SETTLING PARTIES agree to execute any and all necessary papers to effectuate dismissal of the claims in the SUBJECT ACTION. Each party shall bear its own attorneys' fees and costs associated with prosecuting and/or defending this matter. Concurrently with the execution of this Settlement Agreement, and receipt of the settlement funds, counsel for PLAINTIFF shall provide a copy to VIKING and file a fully executed Dismissal with Prejudice of the Complaints.

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

A. COMPROMISE:

This AGREEMENT is the compromise of doubtful and disputed claims and nothing contained herein is to be construed as an admission of liability on the part of the SETTLING PARTIES, or any of them, by whom liability is expressly denied, or as an admission of any absence of liability on the part of the SETTLING PARTIES, or any of them.

B. CONFIDENTIALITY

This Agreement, and all terms and conditions set forth therein, shall remain confidential and the SETTLING PARTIES and their counsel agree not to make any statement to anyone including the press, regarding the terms of their settlement except to the extent that it may be disclosed to their respective attorneys, consultants, auditors, accountants or insurance carriers or as any Party may hereafter be required to by law or in response to a properly issued subpoena for other court process or order, or as necessary to enforce the terms of this

Agreement or in connection with the proceedings in the Action as either Party may deem appropriate.

C. SATISFACTION OF LIENS:

PLAINTIFFS do herein specifically further agree to satisfy all liens, claims and subrogation rights of any contractor incurred as a result of the SUBJECT ACTION and to hold harmless and indemnify VIKING and their affiliates, insurers, employees, agents, successors, administrators, personal representatives, heirs and assigns from and against all said liens, claims and subrogation rights of any construction or repair services and material providers.

D. NO DISPARAGEMENT:

The SETTLING PARTIES agree that they shall make no disparaging or defamatory statements, either verbally or in writing, and shall not otherwise make, endorse, publicize or circulate to any person or entity, any statements or remarks that can reasonably be construed as disparaging or defamatory regarding PLAINTIFF or VIKING.

E. GOVERNING LAW:

This Agreement shall be governed by, construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Nevada.

F. TERMS OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND RELEASE INTERDEPENDENT:

It is further agreed by the SETTLING PARTIES that all portions and sections of this Settlement Agreement and Release are interdependent and necessary to the voluntary settlement of the aforementioned litigation.

G. INDIVIDUAL AND PARTNERSHIP AUTHORITY:

Any individual signing this Agreement on behalf of another individual, a corporation, a limited liability company or partnership, represents or warrants that he/she has full authority to do so.

H. GENDER AND TENSE:

Whenever required by the context hereof, the singular shall be deemed to include the plural, and the plural shall be deemed to include the singular, and the masculine and feminine and neuter gender shall be deemed to include the other.

I. ENTIRE AGREEMENT:

This Agreement constitutes the entire Agreement between the SETTLING PARTIES hereto pertaining to the subject matter hereof, and fully supersedes any and all prior understandings, representations, warranties and agreements between the SETTLING PARTIES hereto, or any of them, pertaining to the subject matter hereof, and may be modified only by written agreement signed by all of the SETTLING PARTIES hereto.

J. INDEPENDENT ADVICE OF COUNSEL:

The SETTLING PARTIES hereto, and each of them, represent and declare that in executing this AGREEMENT, they rely solely upon their own judgment, belief and knowledge, and the advice and recommendations of their own independently selected counsel.

K. VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT:

The SETTLING PARTIES hereto, and each of them, further represent and declare that they have carefully read this Agreement and know the contents thereof, and that they have signed the same freely and voluntarily.

L. ADMISSIBILITY OF AGREEMENT:

In an action or proceeding related to this Agreement, the SETTLING PARTIES stipulate that a fully executed copy of this Agreement may be admissible to the same extent as the original Agreement.

M. COUNTERPARTS:

This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall constitute a duplicate original. A facsimile or other non-original signatures shall still create a binding and enforceable agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the SETTLING PARTIES agree hereto and this Agreement is executed as of the date and year noted below.

On behalf of The Edgeworth Family Trust & American Grating, LLC

DATED this ____ day of _____, 2017 DATED this ____ day of _____, 2017

BRIAN EDGEWORTH as Trustee of
The Edgeworth Family Trust &
Manager of American Grating, LLC

ANGELA EDGEWORTH as Trustee of
The Edgeworth Family Trust &
Manager of American Grating, LLC

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2017.

SIMON LAW

Daniel S. Simon, Esq.
810 South Casino Center Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89101
Attorney for Plaintiffs

EXHIBIT CC

11/30/17 FAX FROM VANNAH TO
SIMON RE EDGEWORTHS' 11/29/17
LETTER OF DIRECTION

November 29, 2017

VIA FACSIMILE: (702) 364-1655

Daniel S. Simon, Esq.
LAW OFFICE OF DANIEL S. SIMON
810 S. Casino Center Blvd.
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

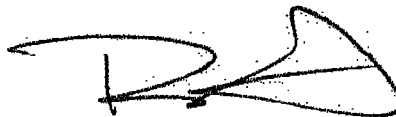
RE: Letter of Direction

Dear Mr. Simon:

Please let this letter serve to advise you that I've retained Robert D. Vannah, Esq., and John B. Greene, Esq., of Vannah & Vannah to assist in the litigation with the Viking entities, et.al. I'm instructing you to cooperate with them in every regard concerning the litigation and any settlement. I'm also instructing you to give them complete access to the file and allow them to review whatever documents they request to review. Finally, I direct you to allow them to participate without limitation in any proceeding concerning our case, whether it be at depositions, court hearings, discussions, etc.

Thank you for your understanding and compliance with the terms of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Edgeworth', with a stylized, looped flourish at the end.

Brian Edgeworth

FAX**Date:** 11/30/2017**Pages including cover sheet:** 2

To:	
Phone	
Fax Number	(702) 364-1655

From:	Jessie Romero
	Vannah & Vannah
	400 S. 7th Street
	Las Vegas
	NV 89101
Phone	(702) 369-4161 * 302
Fax Number	(702) 369-0104

NOTE:

EXHIBIT DD

11/30/17 8:39 A.M. EMAIL FROM SIMON
TO EDGEWORTHS WITH VIKING
SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

brian@pediped.com

From: Daniel Simon <dan@simonlawlv.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2017 8:39 AM
To: Brian Edgeworth; angela.edgeworth@pediped.com
Subject: Settlement
Attachments: Edgeworth -- Settlement Agreement (redline v. 2).docx; ATT00001.txt

Attached is the proposed settlement release. Please review and advise when you can come in to discuss. I am available today anytime from 11-1pm to meet with you at my office. Thx

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND RELEASE

This Settlement Agreement and Release (hereinafter the "Agreement"), by and between Plaintiffs EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST and its Trustees Brian Edgeworth & Angela Edgeworth, AMERICAN GRATING, LLC, and its managers Brian Edgeworth & Angela Edgeworth (hereinafter "PLAINTIFFS"), Defendants THE VIKING CORPORATION, SUPPLY NETWORK, INC. & VIKING GROUP, INC. (hereinafter "VIKING") for damages sustained by PLAINTIFFS arising from an incident that occurred on or about April 10, 2016, at a residential property located at 645 Saint Croix Street, Henderson, Nevada (Clark County), wherein Plaintiff alleges damages were sustained due to an unanticipated activation of a sprinkler head (hereinafter "INCIDENT"). The foregoing parties are hereinafter collectively referred to as "SETTLING PARTIES."

I. RECITALS

A. On June 14, 2016, a Complaint was filed by Plaintiff Edgeworth Family Trust, in the State of Nevada, County of Clark, Case Number A-16-738444-C against Defendants LANGE PLUMBING, LLC and VIKING AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER CO. On August 24, 2016, an amended Complaint was filed against Defendants LANGE PLUMBING, LLC, THE VIKING CORPORATION, SUPPLY NETWORK, INC. On March 7, 2017, a Second Amended Complaint was filed adding Plaintiff AMERICAN GRATING, LLC as a Plaintiff against Defendants LANGE PLUMBING, LLC, THE VIKING CORPORATION, SUPPLY NETWORK, INC. On November 1, 2017, an Order was entered permitting PLAINTIFFS to VIKING GROUP, INC. as a Defendant (hereinafter "SUBJECT ACTION").

B. The SETTLING PARTIES now wish to settle any and all claims, known and unknown, and dismiss with prejudice the entire SUBJECT ACTION as between the SETTLING PARTIES. The SETTLING PARTIES to this Agreement have settled and compromised their disputes and differences, based upon, and subject to, the terms and conditions which are further set forth herein.

II. DEFINITIONS

A. "SETTLING PARTIES" shall mean, collectively, all of the following individuals and entities, and each of them:

B. "PLAINTIFFS" shall mean EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST and its Trustees Brian Edgeworth & Angela Edgeworth, AMERICAN GRATING, LLC, and its managers Brian Edgeworth & Angela Edgeworth, as Trustees, Managers, individually, and their past, present and future agents, partners, associates, joint venturers, creditors, predecessors, successors, heirs, assigns, insurers, representatives and attorneys, and all persons acting by or in concert with each other.

B. "VIKING" shall mean THE VIKING CORPORATION, SUPPLY NETWORK, INC. & VIKING GROUP, INC., and all their respective related legal entities, employees, affiliates, agents, partners, associates, joint venturers, parents, subsidiaries, sister corporations, directors, officers, stockholders, owners, employers, employees, predecessors, successors, heirs,

assigns, insurers, bonding companies, representatives and attorneys, and all persons acting in concert with them, or any of them.

C. "CLAIM" or "CLAIMS" shall refer to any and all claims, demands, liabilities, damages, complaints, causes of action, intentional or negligent acts, intentional or negligent omissions, misrepresentations, distress, attorneys' fees, investigative costs and any other actionable omissions, conduct or damage of every kind in nature whatsoever, whether seen or unforeseen, whether known or unknown, alleged or which could have at any time been alleged or asserted between the SETTLING PARTIES relating in any way to the SUBJECT ACTION.

D. The "SUBJECT ACTION" refers to the litigation arising from the Complaints filed by PLAINTIFFS in the Eighth Judicial District Court, County of Clark, Case Number A-16-738444-C, State of Nevada, with respect to and between PLAINTIFFS and DEFENDANTS.

III. SETTLEMENT TERMS

A. VIKING will pay PLAINTIFFS Six Million Dollars and Zero-Cents (\$6,000,000) by December 21, 2017. The \$6,000,000 settlement proceeds shall be delivered via a certified check made payable to the "EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST and its Trustees Brian Edgeworth & Angela Edgeworth; and AMERICAN GRATING, LLC; and Law Office of Daniel S. Simon."

B. PLAINTIFFS will execute a stipulation to dismiss all of their claims against the VIKING entities with prejudice, which will state that each party is to bear its own fees and costs. PLAINTIFFS will provide an executed copy of the stipulation to VIKING upon receipt of a certified check.

C. PLAINTIFFS agree to fully release any and all claims against the VIKING entities (as defined below § IV.C). The RELEASE included in this document (§ V) shall become effective and binding on PLAINTIFFS upon their receipt of the \$6,000,000 settlement funds.

D. This settlement is based upon a mutual acceptance of a Mediator's proposal which makes this settlement subject to the District Court approving a Motion for Good Faith Settlement pursuant to NRS 17.245, dismissing any claims against the Viking entities by Lange Plumbing, LLC.

E. The SETTLING PARTIES will bear their own attorneys' fees and costs.

IV. AGREEMENT

A. In consideration of the mutual assurances, warranties, covenants and promises set forth herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, each of the SETTLING PARTIES agree with every other SETTLING PARTY hereto to perform each of the terms and conditions stated herein, and to abide by the terms of this Agreement.

B. Each of the SETTLING PARTIES warrant to each other the truth and correctness of the foregoing recitals, which are incorporated in this paragraph by reference.

C. As a material part of this Agreement, except as otherwise provided herein, all claims held by and between the SETTLING PARTIES relating to the SUBJECT ACTION, including, but not limited to, those for property damage, stigma damages, remediation costs, repair costs, diminution in value, punitive damages, shall be dismissed, with prejudice, including any and all claims for attorneys' fees and costs of litigation. This shall include, but is not limited to, any and all claims asserted by PLAINTIFFS or which could have at any time been alleged or asserted against VIKING, by way of PLAINTIFFS Complaint and any amendments thereto.

V. RELEASE

A. In consideration of the settlement payment and promises described herein, PLAINTIFFS, on behalf of their insurers, agents, successors, administrators, personal representatives, heirs and assigns do hereby release and forever discharge VIKING and any of VIKING's affiliates, as well as its insurers, all respective officers, employees and assigns, agents, successors, administrators, heirs and assigns, predecessors, subsidiaries, attorneys and representatives as to any and all demands, claims, assignments, contracts, covenants, actions, suits, causes of action, costs, expenses, attorneys' fees, damages, losses, controversies, judgments, orders and liabilities of whatsoever kind and nature, at equity or otherwise, whether now known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, and whether or not concealed or hidden, which have existed or may have existed, or which do exist, or which hereafter can, shall, or may exist between the SETTLING PARTIES with respect to the SUBJECT ACTION, including, but not limited to, the generality of the foregoing, any and all claims which were or might have been, or which could have been, alleged in the litigation with regard to the SUBJECT ACTION.

B. It is the intention of the SETTLING PARTIES hereto that this AGREEMENT shall be effective as a bar to all claims, with respect to the INCIDENT that PLAINTIFFS may have against DEFENDANTS, their affiliates, and any other entity that was involved in the INCIDENT, of whatsoever character, nature and kind, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, and whether or not concealed or hidden, herein above specified to be so barred; and in furtherance of this intention, PLAINTIFFS and their related persons and entities expressly, knowingly and voluntarily waive any and all rights which they do not know or suspect to exist in their favor with regard to the INCIDENT at the time of executing this AGREEMENT.

C. SETTLING PARTIES hereto expressly agree that this AGREEMENT shall be given full force and effect in accordance with each and all of its expressed terms and provisions, relating to unknown and unsuspected claims, demands, causes of action, if any, between PLAINTIFF and DEFENDANTS, with respect to the INCIDENT, to the same effect as those terms and provisions relating to any other claims, demands and causes of action herein above specified. This AGREEMENT applies as between PLAINTIFFS and VIKING and their related persons and entities.

D. PLAINTIFFS represent their counsel of record has explained the effect of a release of any and all claims, known or unknown and, based upon that explanation and their independent judgment by the reading of this Agreement, PLAINTIFFS understand and acknowledge the legal significance and the consequences of the claims being released by this Agreement.

PLAINTIFFS further represent that they understand and acknowledge the legal significance and consequences of a release of unknown claims against the SETTLING PARTIES set forth in, or arising from, the INCIDENT and hereby assume full responsibility for any injuries, damages, losses or liabilities that hereafter may occur with respect to the matters released by this Agreement.

VI. GOOD FAITH SETTLEMENT

PLAINTIFFS and VIKING each warrant that they enter this settlement in good faith, pursuant to the provisions of NRS 17.245.

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

A. COMPROMISE:

This AGREEMENT is the compromise of doubtful and disputed claims and nothing contained herein is to be construed as an admission of liability on the part of the SETTLING PARTIES, or any of them, by whom liability is expressly denied, or as an admission of any absence of liability on the part of the SETTLING PARTIES, or any of them.

B. CONFIDENTIALITY:

The amount of this Agreement shall remain confidential and the SETTLING PARTIES and their counsel (Daniel Simon) agree not to make any statement to anyone, including the press, regarding the amount of this settlement except to the extent that it may be disclosed to their respective attorneys, consultants, auditors, accountants or insurance carriers, or as any Party may hereafter be required to by law or in response to a properly issued subpoena for other court process or order, or as necessary to enforce the terms of this Agreement or in connection with the proceedings in the Action as either Party may deem appropriate.

C. SATISFACTION OF LIENS:

1. PLAINTIFFS warrant that they are presently the sole and exclusive owners of their respective claims, demands, causes of action, controversies, obligations or liabilities as set forth in the SUBJECT ACTION and that no other party has any right, title, or interest whatsoever in said causes of action and other matters referred to therein, and that there has been no assignment, transfer, conveyance, or other disposition by them of any said causes of action and other matters referred to therein.

2. PLAINTIFFS do herein specifically further agree to satisfy all liens, claims and subrogation rights of any contractor incurred as a result of the SUBJECT ACTION and to hold harmless and indemnify VIKING and their affiliates, insurers, employees, agents, successors, administrators, personal representatives, heirs and assigns from and against, and in connection with, any liens of any type whatsoever pertaining to the SUBJECT ACTION including, but not necessarily limited to attorneys' liens, mechanics liens, expert liens and/or subrogation claims.

D. GOVERNING LAW:

This Agreement shall be governed by, construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Nevada.

E. INDIVIDUAL AND PARTNERSHIP AUTHORITY:

Any individual signing this Agreement on behalf of another individual, a corporation, a limited liability company or partnership, represents or warrants that he/she has full authority to do so.

F. GENDER AND TENSE:

Whenever required by the context hereof, the singular shall be deemed to include the plural, and the plural shall be deemed to include the singular, and the masculine and feminine and neuter gender shall be deemed to include the other.

G. ENTIRE AGREEMENT:

This Agreement constitutes the entire Agreement between the SETTLING PARTIES hereto pertaining to the subject matter hereof, and fully supersedes any and all prior understandings, representations, warranties and agreements between the SETTLING PARTIES hereto, or any of them, pertaining to the subject matter hereof, and may be modified only by written agreement signed by all of the SETTLING PARTIES hereto.

H. INDEPENDENT ADVICE OF COUNSEL:

The SETTLING PARTIES hereto, and each of them, represent and declare that in executing this AGREEMENT, they rely solely upon their own judgment, belief and knowledge, and the advice and recommendations of their own independently selected counsel.

I. VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT:

The SETTLING PARTIES hereto, and each of them, further represent and declare that they have carefully read this Agreement and know the contents thereof, and that they have signed the same freely and voluntarily.

J. ADMISSIBILITY OF AGREEMENT:

In an action or proceeding related to this Agreement, the SETTLING PARTIES stipulate that a fully executed copy of this Agreement may be admissible to the same extent as the original Agreement.

K. COUNTERPARTS:

This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall constitute a duplicate original. A facsimile or other non-original signatures shall still create a binding and enforceable agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the SETTLING PARTIES agree hereto and this Agreement is executed as of the date and year noted below.

On behalf of The Edgeworth Family Trust & American Grating, LLC

DATED this ____ day of _____, 2017 DATED this ____ day of _____, 2017

BRIAN EDGEWORTH as Trustee of
The Edgeworth Family Trust &
Manager of American Grating, LLC

ANGELA EDGEWORTH as Trustee of
The Edgeworth Family Trust &
Manager of American Grating, LLC

Agreeing to bind himself to the confidentiality obligation set forth in Section VIII.B..

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2017.

SIMON LAW

Daniel S. Simon, Esq.
810 South Casino Center Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89101
Attorney for Plaintiffs

On behalf of The Viking Corporation, Supply Network, Inc. and Viking Group, Inc.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2017.

SCOTT MARTORANO
Vice President-Warranty Management

EXHIBIT EE

11/30/17 5:31 P.M. EMAIL FROM SIMON
TO EDGEWORTHS AND COUNSEL
WITH FINAL VIKING SETTLEMENT
AGREEMENT

brian@pediped.com

From: Daniel Simon <dan@simonlawlv.com>
Sent: Thursday, November 30, 2017 5:31 PM
To: jgreene@vannahlaw.com
Cc: Brian Edgeworth; angela.edgeworth@pediped.com; Daniel Simon
Subject: Edgeworth -- Settlement Agreement
Attachments: Settlement Release Final.pdf

Please find attached the final settlement agreement. Please have clients sign as soon as possible to avoid any delay in processing payment. This shall also confirm that your office is advising them about the effects of the release and representing them to finalize settlement through my office.

Also, I first received a call from you this morning advising the clients wanted to sign the initial draft of the settlement agreement "as is." Since this time, I spent substantial time negotiating more beneficial terms to protect the clients. Specifically, I was able to get the Defendants to agree to omit the Confidentiality provision, provide a mutual release and allow the opportunity to avoid a good faith determination from the court if the clients resolve the Lange claims, providing Lange will dismiss its claims against Viking. Just so we are clear, your office did not ask for these substantial additional beneficial terms to protect the clients.

Additionally, this morning you asked me to approach Lange to accept the \$25,000 offer from the mediation. Since this time, I was able to secure a \$100,000 offer less all money Lange is claiming they are owed. Lange would then dismiss their Claims against Viking allowing the client to avoid the motion for determination of good faith settlement as part of the settlement. Please advise if the clients want me to move forward to finalize the settlement with Lange pursuant to these terms.

Please have the clients sign the release and return originals to my office to avoid delays in payment and finalizing this matter.

Thank You!

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND RELEASE

This Settlement Agreement and Release (hereinafter the "Agreement"), by and between Plaintiffs EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST and its Trustees Brian Edgeworth & Angela Edgeworth, AMERICAN GRATING, LLC, and its managers Brian Edgeworth & Angela Edgeworth, Defendants THE VIKING CORPORATION, SUPPLY NETWORK, INC. & VIKING GROUP, INC. for damages sustained by PLAINTIFFS arising from an incident that occurred on or about April 10, 2016, at a residential property located at 645 Saint Croix Street, Henderson, Nevada (Clark County), wherein Plaintiff alleges damages were sustained due to an unanticipated activation of a sprinkler head (hereinafter "INCIDENT"). The foregoing parties are hereinafter collectively referred to as "SETTLING PARTIES."

I. RECITALS

A. On June 14, 2016, a Complaint was filed by Plaintiff Edgeworth Family Trust, in the State of Nevada, County of Clark, Case Number A-16-738444-C against Defendants LANGE PLUMBING, LLC and VIKING AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER CO. On August 24, 2016, an amended Complaint was filed against Defendants LANGE PLUMBING, LLC, THE VIKING CORPORATION, SUPPLY NETWORK, INC. On March 7, 2017, a Second Amended Complaint was filed adding Plaintiff AMERICAN GRATING, LLC as a Plaintiff against Defendants LANGE PLUMBING, LLC, THE VIKING CORPORATION, SUPPLY NETWORK, INC. On November 1, 2017, an Order was entered permitting PLAINTIFFS to VIKING GROUP, INC. as a Defendant (hereinafter "SUBJECT ACTION").

B. The SETTLING PARTIES now wish to settle any and all claims, known and unknown, and dismiss with prejudice the entire SUBJECT ACTION as between the SETTLING PARTIES. The SETTLING PARTIES to this Agreement have settled and compromised their disputes and differences, based upon, and subject to, the terms and conditions which are further set forth herein.

II. DEFINITIONS

A. "SETTLING PARTIES" shall mean, collectively, all of the following individuals and entities, and each of them:

B. "PLAINTIFFS" shall mean EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST and its Trustees Brian Edgeworth & Angela Edgeworth, AMERICAN GRATING, LLC, and its managers Brian Edgeworth & Angela Edgeworth, as Trustees, Managers, individually, and their past, present and future agents, partners, associates, joint venturers, creditors, predecessors, successors, heirs, assigns, insurers, representatives and attorneys, and all persons acting by or in concert with each other.

C. "VIKING ENTITIES" shall mean THE VIKING CORPORATION, SUPPLY NETWORK, INC. & VIKING GROUP, INC., and VIKING GROUP, INC. (the "VIKING ENTITIES") and all their respective related legal entities, employees, affiliates, agents, partners, associates, joint venturers, parents, subsidiaries, sister corporations, directors, officers, stockholders, owners,

employers, employees, predecessors, successors, heirs, assigns, insurers, bonding companies, representatives and attorneys, and all persons acting in concert with them, or any of them.

D. "CLAIM" or "CLAIMS" shall refer to any and all claims, demands, liabilities, damages, complaints, causes of action, intentional or negligent acts, intentional or negligent omissions, misrepresentations, distress, attorneys' fees, investigative costs and any other actionable omissions, conduct or damage of every kind in nature whatsoever, whether seen or unforeseen, whether known or unknown, alleged or which could have at any time been alleged or asserted between the SETTLING PARTIES relating in any way to the SUBJECT ACTION.

E. The "SUBJECT ACTION" refers to the litigation arising from the Complaints filed by PLAINTIFFS in the Eighth Judicial District Court, County of Clark, Case Number A-16-738444-C, State of Nevada, with respect to and between PLAINTIFFS and DEFENDANTS.

III. SETTLEMENT TERMS

A. The VIKING ENTITIES will pay PLAINTIFFS Six Million Dollars and Zero-Cents (\$6,000,000) within 20 days of PLAINTIFFS' execution of this AGREEMENT, assuming resolution of the condition set out in § III.D below. The \$6,000,000 settlement proceeds shall be delivered via a certified check made payable to the "EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST and its Trustees Brian Edgeworth & Angela Edgeworth; AMERICAN GRATING, LLC; and Law Office of Daniel S. Simon."

B. PLAINTIFFS will execute a stipulation to dismiss all of their claims against the VIKING ENTITIES with prejudice, which will state that each party is to bear its own fees and costs. PLAINTIFFS will provide an executed copy of the stipulation to the VIKING ENTITIES upon receipt of a certified check.

C. PLAINTIFFS agree to fully release any and all claims against the VIKING ENTITIES (as defined below § IV.C). The RELEASE included in this document (§ V) shall become effective and binding on PLAINTIFFS upon their receipt of the \$6,000,000 settlement funds.

D. This settlement is based upon a mutual acceptance of a Mediator's proposal which makes this settlement subject to the District Court approving a Motion for Good Faith Settlement pursuant to NRS 17.245, dismissing any claims against the VIKING ENTITIES by Lange Plumbing, LLC. Alternatively, this condition would be satisfied in the event that Lange Plumbing, LLC voluntarily dismisses all claims with prejudice against the VIKING ENTITIES and executes a full release of all claims, known or unknown.

E. The SETTLING PARTIES will bear their own attorneys' fees and costs.

IV. AGREEMENT

A. In consideration of the mutual assurances, warranties, covenants and promises set forth herein and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, each of the SETTLING PARTIES agree with every other SETTLING PARTY

hereto to perform each of the terms and conditions stated herein, and to abide by the terms of this Agreement.

B. Each of the SETTLING PARTIES warrant to each other the truth and correctness of the foregoing recitals, which are incorporated in this paragraph by reference.

C. As a material part of this Agreement, except as otherwise provided herein, all claims held by and between the SETTLING PARTIES relating to the SUBJECT ACTION, including, but not limited to, those for property damage, stigma damages, remediation costs, repair costs, diminution in value, punitive damages, shall be dismissed, with prejudice, including any and all claims for attorneys' fees and costs of litigation. This shall include, but is not limited to, any and all claims asserted by PLAINTIFFS or which could have at any time been alleged or asserted against the VIKING ENTITIES, by way of PLAINTIFFS Complaint and any amendments thereto.

V. MUTUAL RELEASE

A. In consideration of the settlement payment and promises described herein, PLAINTIFFS, on behalf of their insurers, agents, successors, administrators, personal representatives, attorneys, heirs and assigns do hereby release and forever discharge the VIKING ENTITIES and any of its affiliates, as well as its insurers, all respective officers, employees and assigns, agents, attorneys, successors, administrators, heirs and assigns, predecessors, subsidiaries, attorneys and representatives as to any and all demands, claims, assignments, contracts, covenants, actions, suits, causes of action, costs, expenses, attorneys' fees, damages, losses, controversies, judgments, orders and liabilities of whatsoever kind and nature, at equity or otherwise, whether now known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, and whether or not concealed or hidden, which have existed or may have existed, or which do exist, or which hereafter can, shall, or may exist between the SETTLING PARTIES with respect to the SUBJECT ACTION, including, but not limited to, the generality of the foregoing, any and all claims which were or might have been, or which could have been, alleged in the litigation with regard to the SUBJECT ACTION.

B. Reciprocally, in consideration of the settlement payment and promises described herein, the VIKING ENTITIES, on behalf of their insurers, agents, successors, administrators, personal representatives, attorneys, heirs and assigns do hereby release and forever discharge PLAINTIFFS and any of PLAINTIFFS' affiliates, as well as its insurers, all respective officers, employees and assigns, agents, attorneys, successors, administrators, heirs and assigns, predecessors, subsidiaries, attorneys and representatives as to any and all demands, claims, assignments, contracts, covenants, actions, suits, causes of action, costs, expenses, attorneys' fees, damages, losses, controversies, judgments, orders and liabilities of whatsoever kind and nature, at equity or otherwise, whether now known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, and whether or not concealed or hidden, which have existed or may have existed, or which do exist, or which hereafter can, shall, or may exist between the SETTLING PARTIES with respect to the SUBJECT ACTION, including, but not limited to, the generality of the foregoing, any and all claims which were or might have been, or which could have been, alleged in the litigation with regard to the SUBJECT ACTION. C. This AGREEMENT shall be effective as a bar to all claims, relating to or arising from the INCIDENT or the SUBJECT ACTION, which PLAINTIFFS may

have against the VIKING ENTITIES, their affiliates, insurers, attorneys, or any other entity that was involved in the INCIDENT or SUBJECT ACTION, of whatsoever character, nature and kind, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, and whether or not concealed or hidden, herein above specified to be so barred; and in furtherance of this intention, PLAINTIFFS and their related persons and entities expressly, knowingly and voluntarily waive any and all rights which they do not know or suspect to exist in their favor with regard to the INCIDENT or the SUBJECT ACTION at the time of executing this AGREEMENT.

C. Reciprocally, this AGREEMENT shall be effective as a bar to all claims, relating to or arising from the INCIDENT or the SUBJECT ACTION, which the VIKING ENTITIES may have against PLAINTIFFS, their affiliates, insurers, attorneys, or any other entity that was involved in the INCIDENT or SUBJECT ACTION, of whatsoever character, nature and kind, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, and whether or not concealed or hidden, herein above specified to be so barred; and in furtherance of this intention, the VIKING ENTITIES and their related persons and entities expressly, knowingly and voluntarily waive any and all rights which they do not know or suspect to exist in their favor with regard to the INCIDENT or the SUBJECT ACTION at the time of executing this AGREEMENT.

D. SETTLING PARTIES hereto expressly agree that this AGREEMENT shall be given full force and effect in accordance with each and all of its expressed terms and provisions, relating to unknown and unsuspected claims, demands, causes of action, if any, between PLAINTIFF and DEFENDANTS, with respect to the INCIDENT, to the same effect as those terms and provisions relating to any other claims, demands and causes of action herein above specified. This AGREEMENT applies as between PLAINTIFFS and the VIKING ENTITIES and their related persons and entities.

E. PLAINTIFFS represent that their independent counsel, Robert Vannah, Esq. and John Greene, Esq., of the law firm Vannah & Vannah has explained the effect of this AGREEMENT and their release of any and all claims, known or unknown and, based upon that explanation and their independent judgment by the reading of this Agreement, PLAINTIFFS understand and acknowledge the legal significance and the consequences of the claims being released by this Agreement. PLAINTIFFS further represent that they understand and acknowledge the legal significance and consequences of a release of unknown claims against the SETTLING PARTIES set forth in, or arising from, the INCIDENT and hereby assume full responsibility for any injuries, damages, losses or liabilities that hereafter may occur with respect to the matters released by this Agreement.

VI. GOOD FAITH SETTLEMENT

PLAINTIFFS and the VIKING ENTITIES each warrant that they enter this settlement in good faith, pursuant to the provisions of NRS 17.245.

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

A. COMPROMISE:

This AGREEMENT is the compromise of doubtful and disputed claims and nothing contained herein is to be construed as an admission of liability on the part of the SETTLING PARTIES, or any of them, by whom liability is expressly denied, or as an admission of any absence of liability on the part of the SETTLING PARTIES, or any of them.

B. SATISFACTION OF LIENS:

1. PLAINTIFFS warrant that they are presently the sole and exclusive owners of their respective claims, demands, causes of action, controversies, obligations or liabilities as set forth in the SUBJECT ACTION and that no other party has any right, title, or interest whatsoever in said causes of action and other matters referred to therein, and that there has been no assignment, transfer, conveyance, or other disposition by them of any said causes of action and other matters referred to therein.

2. PLAINTIFFS do herein specifically further agree to satisfy all liens, claims and subrogation rights of any contractor incurred as a result of the SUBJECT ACTION and to hold harmless and indemnify the VIKING ENTITIES and their affiliates, insurers, employees, agents, successors, administrators, personal representatives, heirs and assigns from and against, and in connection with, any liens of any type whatsoever pertaining to the SUBJECT ACTION including, but not necessarily limited to attorneys' liens, mechanics liens, expert liens and/or subrogation claims.

C. GOVERNING LAW:

This Agreement shall be governed by, construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Nevada.

D. INDIVIDUAL AND PARTNERSHIP AUTHORITY:

Any individual signing this Agreement on behalf of another individual, a corporation, a limited liability company or partnership, represents or warrants that he/she has full authority to do so.

E. GENDER AND TENSE:

Whenever required by the context hereof, the singular shall be deemed to include the plural, and the plural shall be deemed to include the singular, and the masculine and feminine and neuter gender shall be deemed to include the other.

F. ENTIRE AGREEMENT:

This Agreement constitutes the entire Agreement between the SETTLING PARTIES hereto pertaining to the subject matter hereof, and fully supersedes any and all prior understandings, representations, warranties and agreements between the SETTLING PARTIES

hereto, or any of them, pertaining to the subject matter hereof, and may be modified only by written agreement signed by all of the SETTLING PARTIES hereto.

G. INDEPENDENT ADVICE OF COUNSEL:

The SETTLING PARTIES hereto, and each of them, represent and declare that in executing this AGREEMENT, they rely solely upon their own judgment, belief and knowledge, and the advice and recommendations of their own independently selected counsel. For PLAINTIFFS, that independent attorney is Robert Vannah, Esq. and John Greene, Esq., of the law firm Vannah & Vannah.

H. VOLUNTARY AGREEMENT:

The SETTLING PARTIES hereto, and each of them, further represent and declare that they have carefully read this Agreement and know the contents thereof, and that they have signed the same freely and voluntarily.

I. ADMISSIBILITY OF AGREEMENT:

In an action or proceeding related to this Agreement, the SETTLING PARTIES stipulate that a fully executed copy of this Agreement may be admissible to the same extent as the original Agreement.

J. COUNTERPARTS:

This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall constitute a duplicate original. A facsimile or other non-original signatures shall still create a binding and enforceable agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the SETTLING PARTIES agree hereto and this Agreement is executed as of the date and year noted below.

On behalf of The Edgeworth Family Trust & American Grating, LLC

DATED this ____ day of _____, 2017 DATED this ____ day of _____, 2017

BRIAN EDGEWORTH as Trustee of
The Edge worth Family Trust &
Manager of American Grating, LLC

ANGELA EDGEWORTH as Trustee of
The Edge worth Family Trust &
Manager of American Grating, LLC

On behalf of The Viking Corporation, Supply Network, Inc. and Viking Group, Inc.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2017.

SCOTT MARTORANO
Vice President-Warranty Managment

EXHIBIT FF

12/12/17 EMAIL FROM VIKING
COUNSEL TO SIMON OFFERING
CHECKS FOR DISMISSAL

From: [Janet Pancoast](#)
To: [Daniel Simon \(dan@simonlawlv.com\)](#); [Henriod, Joel D. \(JHenriod@lrrc.com\)](#)
Cc: [Jessica Rogers](#)
Subject: Edgeworth - Checks -
Date: Tuesday, December 12, 2017 11:51:13 AM
Attachments: [201712121048.pdf](#)
[SPT 171212 Edgeworth SAO to Dismiss - Plaintiff.pdf](#)

Danny –

I was using the Plaintiff's release to prepare a release for Giberti and came across the provision that required "certified checks." I was not aware of that provision and neither was the claims representative. I have the checks (attached) and am willing to give them to you in exchange for the signed stipulation for dismissal. However, there multiple parties that will delay the final entry of a joint stipulation for dismissal. Hence, to give me sufficient comfort level to release these checks, I request that you sign the attached stipulation for dismissal which is *only* for Plaintiff's claims against the Viking entities. Additionally, I ask that you sign the Stipulation for a Global Dismissal I emailed earlier. That way, I can file the dismissal with the Plaintiffs now and release the checks so that you can get the check in the bank and they can be cleared by 12/21/17. Getting the checks re-issued will take longer and the claims representative is not even sure if he can issue a certified check.

Hence, if you want to pick up these checks. Please sign **both** stipulations. Thanks.

Janet C. Pancoast, Esq.

CISNEROS & MARIAS

(Not a Partnership – Employee of Zurich American Insurance Company)

1160 No. Town Center Dr., Suite 130

Las Vegas, NV 89144

Off: 702.233.9660

Dir: 702.562.7616

Cell: 702.325.7876

Fax: 702.233.9665

janet.pancoast@zurichna.com

***** PLEASE NOTE *****

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Las Vegas, NV 89144
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6 *in Association with*

7 S. Seth Kershaw, Esq.
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10 Fax: 1-310-312-0656
11 kershaw@mmrs-law.com

12 Attorneys for Defendant/Cross-Defendant
Cross-Claimant/Third Party Plaintiffs
13 The Viking Corporation & Supply Network, Inc.
14 d/b/a Viking Supplynet

15
16 **DISTRICT COURT**

17 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

18 EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST, and)	CASE NO.: A-16-738444-C
19 AMERICAN GRATING, LLC)	
Plaintiffs,)	DEPT. NO.: X
20 vs.)	
21 LANGE PLUMBING, LLC; THE VIKING)	
22 CORPORATION, a Michigan corporation;)	STIPULATION FOR DISMISSAL
SUPPLY NETWORK, INC. d/b/a VIKING)	WITH PREJUDICE OF PLAINTIFFS
23 SUPPLYNET, a Michigan corporation; and)	CLAIMS AGAINST VIKING
DOES I through V and ROE CORPORATIONS)	ENTITIES
24 VI through X, inclusive,)	
25 Defendants.)	

26 *Edge worth Family Trust v. Lange Plumbing, LLC, et. al.* Case No. A-16-738444-
27 Stipulation and Order for Dismissal of Viking Entities by Plaintiffs

1	LANGE PLUMBING, LLC,)
	Cross-Claimant,)
2)
	vs.)
3)
	THE VIKING CORPORATION, a Michigan)
4	corporation; SUPPLY NETWORK, INC. d/b/a)
	VIKING SUPPLYNET, a Michigan corporation;)
5	and DOES I through V and ROE)
	CORPORATIONS VI through X, inclusive.)
6	Cross-Defendants)
7	<hr/>	
	THE VIKING CORPORATION, a Michigan)
8	corporation; SUPPLY NETWORK, INC. d/b/a)
	VIKING SUPPLYNET, a Michigan corporation)
9	LANGE PLUMBING, LLC,)
	Counter-Claimant,)
10)
	vs.)
11)
	LANGE PLUMBING, LLC, and DOES I through)
12	V and ROE CORPORATIONS VI through X,)
	inclusive.)
13	Counter-Defendant)
14	<hr/>	
	THE VIKING CORPORATION, a Michigan)
15	corporation; SUPPLY NETWORK, INC. d/b/a)
	VIKING SUPPLYNET, a Michigan corporation,)
16	Defendants/Third Party Plaintiffs,)
)
17	v.)
)
18	GIBERTI CONSTRUCTION, LLC, a Nevada)
19	Limited Liability Company and DOES I through)
	V and ROE CORPORATIONS VI through X,)
20	inclusive,)
	Third Party Defendant.)

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1 GIBERTI CONSTRUCTION, LLC, a Nevada)
Limited Liability Company,)

2 Counter-Claimant)

3 v.)

4 THE VIKING CORPORATION, a Michigan)
5 corporation; SUPPLY NETWORK, INC. d/b/a)
6 VIKING SUPPLYNET, a Michigan corporation,)

7 Counter-Defendant.)

8 GIBERTI CONSTRUCTION, LLC, a Nevada)
Limited Liability Company,)

9 Cross-Claimant)

10 v.)

11 LANGE PLUMBING, LLC, and DOES I through)
12 V and ROE CORPORATIONS VI through X,)
13 inclusive.)

14 Cross-Defendant.)

15 COMES NOW, PLAINTIFFS EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST & AMERICAN
16 GRATING, LLC by and through their attorney of record Daniel Simon, Esq. of SIMON LAW;
17 DEFENDANTS/CROSS-DEFENDANTS/CROSS-CLAIMANTS THE VIKING CORPORATION
18 & SUPPLY NETWORK, INC. d/b/a VIKING SUPPLYNET by and through their attorney of record,
19 Janet C. Pancoast, Esq. of the law firm of CISNEROS & MARIAS, in association with counsel of
20 MEYERS MCCONNELL REISZ SIDERMAN P.C. and LEWIS ROCA ROTHGERBER
21 CHRISTIE, LLP; hereby stipulate that:

22
23 All claims asserted in any and all Complaints filed herein by PLAINTIFFS EDGEWORTH
24 FAMILY TRUST & AMERICAN GRATING, LLC and each and every cause of action alleged

25
26 *Edge worth Family Trust v. Lange Plumbing, LLC, et. al.* Case No. A-16-738444-
27 Stipulation and Order for Dismissal of Viking Entities by Plaintiffs

1 therein against THE VIKING CORPORATION & SUPPLY NETWORK, INC. d/b/a VIKING
2 SUPPLYNET and VIKING GROUP, shall be dismissed with prejudice.

3 Each party shall bear their own fees and costs.

4 Dated this ____ day of December, 2017.

Dated this ____ day of December, 2017.

5 SIMON LAW

CISNEROS & MARIAS

6
7 _____
8 Daniel S. Simon, Esq.
9 810 South Casino Center Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89101
Attorney for Plaintiff

Janet C. Pancoast, Esq.
1160 Town Center Drive, Suite 130
Las Vegas, Nevada 89144

In Association with and with the agreement of
MEYERS REISZ SIDERMAN P.C. &
LEWIS ROCA ROTHGERBER CHRISTIE,
LLP
Attorneys for Viking Defendants

13 **ORDER**

14 Based on the Stipulation of the parties and good cause appearing, it is:

15
16 HEREBY ORDERED that all claims asserted in any and all Complaints filed herein by
17 PLAINTIFFS EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST & AMERICAN GRATING, LLC and each and
18 every cause of action alleged therein against THE VIKING CORPORATION & SUPPLY
19 NETWORK, INC. d/b/a VIKING SUPPLYNET and VIKING GROUP, shall be dismissed with
20 prejudice. Each party shall bear their own fees and costs.

21 Dated this ____ day of _____, 2017

22
23 _____
24 DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

25 //

26 *Edge worth Family Trust v. Lange Plumbing, LLC, et. al.* Case No. A-16-738444-
27 Stipulation and Order for Dismissal of Viking Entities by Plaintiffs

Submitted by:

CISNEROS & MARIAS

BY: _____

Janet C. Pancoast, Esq.
1160 N. Town Center Drive, Suite 130
Las Vegas, NV 89144
Attorneys for Viking Defendants

EXHIBIT GG

08/30/18 EXCERPTS OF TRANSCRIPT OF
DAY 4 OF EVIDENTIARY HEARING



1 RTRAN

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3
4
5 DISTRICT COURT
6 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

7 EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST;
8 AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,

9 Plaintiffs,

10 vs.

11 LANGE PLUMBING, LLC, ET AL.,

12 Defendants.

CASE#: A-16-738444-C

DEPT. X

13 EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST;
14 AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,

15 Plaintiffs,

16 vs.

17 DANIEL S. SIMON, ET AL.,

18 Defendants.

CASE#: A-18-767242-C
DEPT. X

19 BEFORE THE HONORABLE TIERRA JONES, DISTRICT COURT JUDGE
20 THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 2018

21 **RECORDER'S TRANSCRIPT OF EVIDENTIARY HEARING - DAY 4**

22 APPEARANCES:

23 For the Plaintiff:

ROBERT D. VANNAH, ESQ.
JOHN B. GREENE, ESQ.

24 For the Defendant:

JAMES R. CHRISTENSEN, ESQ.
PETER S. CHRISTIANSEN, ESQ.

25 RECORDED BY: VICTORIA BOYD, COURT RECORDER

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WITNESSES FOR THE PLAINTIFF

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1 A Correct.

2 Q Okay. There was a Settlement Agreement between
3 Edgeworth Family Trust, American Grating, LLC, and Viking?

4 A Yes.

5 Q That's Office Exhibit Number 5. This is the lead page, which
6 is bated -- I believe the Bate is 36; do you see that?

7 A Yes.

8 Q Now, on page 4 of the release, which is bates number 39 of
9 Exhibit 5, there's a paragraph E. Obviously, that paragraph mentions
10 Vannah and Vannah as attorneys for the Edgeworth's; fair to say?

11 A Yes. Can you show me the date of this release? I think it's
12 December 1st, but I just want to confirm.

13 Q On page 42 of Exhibit 5 -- I'm sorry, bated 42 of Exhibit 5, I
14 can show you the dates that both Brian and Angela signed the release,
15 December 1 of 2017; is that correct?

16 A Yes.

17 Q So after that -- and that's after the date you felt -- after the
18 date that you felt you had been fired, correct?

19 A Yeah. So, if I can just explain briefly. I get back on 9-20 -- or
20 11-27. I am basically negotiating, not torpedoing any settlement, not
21 making any threats. I'm basically getting this release where they omitted
22 the confidentiality clause and preserved the Lange claim, and I get the
23 Edgeworths, which is a very uncommon term, as a mutual release
24 because this case was so contentious, all right?

25 And Mr. Edgeworth was I'm going to use the word scared,

1 nervous, you know, whatever you want to use, he was very nervous that
2 Viking was ultimately going to come after him if they had some type of
3 opportunity. So that's why the confidentiality clause was not a good
4 idea, and we wanted to preserve the Lange claim, as well, and I got a
5 mutual release, I think, for them, on or about 11-27.

6 THE COURT: And you got the mutual release on 11-27?

7 THE WITNESS: Right in that range, yeah. It was -- it was
8 before I got the Letter of Direction, and I was out of the case.

9 BY MR. CHRISTENSEN:

10 Q Did Mr. -- a Viking sprinkler flooded Mr. Edgeworth's house
11 that he was building as an investment, and he thought Viking was going
12 to sue him?

13 A If they had -- if they had some type of basis, they probably
14 would have.

15 Q Okay. Now, you did reach out to Mr. Edgeworth on
16 December 5?

17 THE COURT: Okay, and I'm sorry, Mr. Christensen, before
18 you move on, on December 1, when that Settlement Agreement is
19 signed, the one that's Exhibit 5, how did you -- when's the first time you
20 saw that document?

21 THE WITNESS: That was a prior one that was proposed.

22 THE COURT: That had the confidentiality and all that?

23 THE WITNESS: Yeah, it had all of that.

24 THE COURT: Okay.

25 THE WITNESS: And so, you know, the Edgeworth's were

1 pressing me, right. There's an email from -- while Brian's in -- well,
2 Brian's in China, unavailable, no phone calls, no emails with me. He now
3 has Angela stepping up, typing all these emails, saying hey, where's the
4 Viking Settlement Release, where is it, where is it, where is it, get it to us.
5 And I just got back in town from a vacation over Thanksgiving.

6 So right when I get back there was probably the, you know,
7 proposed release. And so, I went over to the office with Mr. Henriod,
8 who was Viking counsel, and I have a great relationship with him, and
9 we basically just hammered out the terms of the release right there. And
10 then I was done, I was out of it.

11 THE COURT: Okay. But you hammered out the terms of the
12 release of that final agreement?

13 THE WITNESS: Before I was fired, yeah.

14 THE COURT: Okay. So, this is before 11-30?

15 THE WITNESS: Yes.

16 THE COURT: And then were you present when the
17 Edgeworth's signed that document?

18 THE WITNESS: Nope.

19 THE COURT: Okay. So, when did you see the signed copy?

20 THE WITNESS: When Mr. Vannah's office delivered it to me
21 to then forward it to Viking counsel.

22 THE COURT: But you received it from Vannah's office?

23 THE WITNESS: Correct.

24 THE COURT: Okay.

25 THE WITNESS: And just one other note. I didn't explain any

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MR. VANNAH: Thank you.

THE COURT: No problem.

MR. VANNAH: That's been great.

[Proceedings adjourned at 4:16 p.m.]

ATTEST: I do hereby certify that I have truly and correctly transcribed the audio-visual recording of the proceeding in the above entitled case to the best of my ability.



Maukele Transcribers, LLC
Jessica B. Cahill, Transcriber, CER/CET-708

EXHIBIT HH

11/27/17 LETTER FROM SIMON TO
EDGEWORTHS RE DESIRED
COMPENSATION AGREEMENT

LAW OFFICE OF
DANIEL S. SIMON
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
810 SOUTH CASINO CENTER BOULEVARD
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89101

TELEPHONE (702)364-1650

FACSIMILE (702)364-1655

November 27, 2017

Pursuant to your request, please find attached herewith the agreement I would like signed, as well as the proposed settlement breakdown, if a final settlement is reached with the Viking entities. The following is to merely clarify our relationship that has evolved during my representation so you are not confused with my position.

I helped you with your case and went above and beyond for you because I considered you close friends and treated you like family

As you know, when you first asked me to look at the case, I did not want to take it as I did not want to lose money. You already met with Mr. Marquis who wanted a 50k retainer and told you it would be a very expensive case. If Mr. Marquis did the work I did, I have no doubt his billing statements would reflect 2 million or more. I never asked you for a retainer and the initial work was merely helping you. As you know, you received excellent advice from the beginning to the end. It started out writing letters hoping to get Kinsale to pay your claim. They didn't. Then this resulted in us filing a lawsuit.

As the case progressed, it became apparent that this was going to be a hard fight against both Lange and Viking who never offered a single dollar until the recent mediations. The document production in this case was extremely voluminous as you know and caused my office to spend endless late night and weekend hours to push this case through the system and keep the current trial date.

As you are aware, we asked John to get involved in this case to help you. The loss of value report was sought to try and get a favorable negotiation position. His report was created based on my lawyering and John's willingness to look at the information I secured to support his position. As you know, no other appraiser was willing to go above and beyond as they believed the cost of repairs did not create a loss. As you know, John's opinion greatly increased the value of this case. Please do not think that he was paid a fee so he had to give us the report. His fee was very nominal in light of the value of his report and he stepped up to help you because of us and our close relationship. Securing all of the other experts and working with them to finalize their opinions were damaging to the defense was a tremendous factor in securing the proposed settlement amount. These experts were involved because of my contacts. When I was able to retain Mr. Pomerantz and work with him to finalize his opinions, his report was also a major factor. There are very few lawyer's in town that would approach the case the way I did to get the results I did for you. Feel free to call Mr. Hale or any other lawyer or judge in town to verify this. Every time I went to court I argued for you as if you were a family member taking the arguments against you personal. I made every effort to protect you and your family during the process. I

was an exceptional advocate for you. It is my reputation with the judiciary who know my integrity, as well as my history of big verdicts that persuaded the defense to pay such a big number. It is also because my office stopped working on other cases and devoted the office to your case filing numerous emergency motions that resulted in very successful rulings. My office was available virtually all of the time responding to you immediately. No other lawyer would give you this attention. I have already been complimented by many lawyers in this case as to how amazing the lawyering was including Marks lawyer who told me it was a pleasure watching me work the way I set up the case and secured the court rulings. Feel free to call him. The defense lawyers in this case have complimented me as well, which says a lot. My work in my motions and the rulings as an exceptional advocate and the relationships I have and my reputation is why they are paying this much. The settlement offer is more than you ever anticipated as you were willing to take 4-4.5 at the first mediation and you wanted the mediator's proposal to be 5 million when I advised for the 6 million. One major reason they are likely willing to pay the exceptional result of six million is that the insurance company factored in my standard fee of 40% (2.4 million) because both the mediator and the defense have to presume the attorney's fees so it could get settled. Mr. Hale and Zurich both know my usual attorney's fees. This was not a typical contract case your other hourly Lawyers would handle. This was a major fight with a world-wide corporation and you did not get billed as your other hourly lawyers would have billed you. This would have forced you to lay out substantially more money throughout the entire process. Simply, we went above and beyond for you.

I have lost money working on your case.

As you know, when I was working on your case I was not working on many other cases at my standard fee and I told you many times that I can't work hourly because I would be losing too much money. I felt it was always our understanding that my fee would be fair in light of the work performed and how the case turned out. I do not represent clients on an hourly basis and I have told this to you many times.

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Value of my Services

The attached agreement reflects a greatly reduced sum for the value of my services that I normally charge in every case. I always expected to be compensated for the value of my services and not lose money to help you. I was troubled at your statements that you paid me hourly and you now want to just pay me hourly when you always knew this was not the situation. When I brought this to your attention you acknowledged you understood this was not just an hourly fee case and you were just playing devil's advocate. As you know, if I really treated your case as only an hourly case, I would have included all of the work my staff performed and billed you at a full hourly fee in 30 day increments and not advance so much money in costs. I would have had you sign just an hourly contract retainer just as Mr. Pomerantz had you sign. I never did this because I trusted you would fairly compensate me for the value of my services depending on the outcome. In the few statements I did send you I did not include all of the time for my staff time or my time, and did not bill you as any other firm would have. The reason is that this was not just an hourly billing situation. We have had many discussions about this as I helped you through a very difficult case that evolved and changed to a hotly contested case demanding full attention. I am a trial attorney that did tremendous work, and I expect as you would, to be paid for the value of my service. I did not have you sign my initial standard retainer as I treated you like family to help you with your situation.

Billing Statements

I did produce billing statements, but these statements were never to be considered full payment as these statements do not remotely contain the full time myself or my office has actually spent. You have acknowledged many times that you know these statements do not represent all of my time as I do not represent clients on an hourly basis. In case you do not recall, when we were at the San Diego Airport, you told me that a regular firm billing you would likely be 3x my bills at the time. This was in August. When I started filing my motions to compel and received the rulings for Viking to produce the information, the case then got substantially more demanding. We have had many discussions that I was losing money but instead of us figuring out a fair fee arrangement, I did continue with the case in good faith because of our relationship focusing on winning and trusted that you would fairly compensate me at the end. I gave you several examples of why I was losing money hourly because my standard fee of 40% on all of my other cases produced hourly rates 3-10 times the hourly rates you were provided. Additionally, just some of the time not included in the billing statement is many phone calls to you at all hours of the day, review and responses of endless emails with attachments from you and others, discussions with experts, substantial review the filings in this case and much more are not contained in the bills. I also spent substantial time securing representation for Mark Giberti when he was sued. My office continued to spend an exorbitant amount of time since March and have diligently litigated this case having my office virtually focus solely on your case. The hourly fees in the billing statements are much lower than my true hourly billing. These bills were generated for several reasons. A few reasons for the billing statements is that you wanted to justify your loans and use the bills to establish damages against Lange under the contract, and this is the why all of my time was not included and why I expected to be paid fairly as we worked through the case.

I am sure you will acknowledge the exceptional work, the quality of my advocacy, and services performed were above and beyond. My services in every case I handle are valued based on results not an hourly fee. I realize that I didn't have you sign a contingency fee agreement and am not asserting a contingency fee, but always expected the value of my services would be paid so I would not lose money. If you are going to hold me to an hourly arrangement then I will have to review the entire file for my time spent from the beginning to include all time for me and my staff at my full hourly rates to avoid an unjust outcome.

How I handle cases

I want you to have a full understanding as to how my office works in every other case I am handling so you can understand my position and the value of my services and the favorable outcome to you.

My standard fee is 40% for a litigated case. I have told you this many times. That is what I get in every case, especially when achieving an outcome like this. When the outcome is successful and the client gets more and I will take my full fee. I reduce if the outcome is not as expected to make sure the client shares fairly. In this case, you received more than you ever anticipated from the outset of this case. I realize I do not have a contract in place for percentages and I am not trying to enforce one, but this merely shows you what I lost by taking your case and given the outcome of your case, and what a value you are receiving. Again, I have over 5 other big cases that have been put on the back burner to handle your case. The discovery period in these cases were continued several times for me to focus on your case. If I knew you were going to try and treat me unfairly by merely asserting we had an hourly agreement after doing an exceptional work with an exceptional result, I wouldn't have continued. The reason is I would lose too much money. I would hope it was never your intention to cause me hardship and lose money when helping you achieve such an exceptional result. I realize I did not have you sign a fee agreement because I trusted you, but I did not have you sign an hourly agreement either.

Finalizing the settlement

There is also a lot of work left to be done. As you know, the language to the settlement must be very specific to protect everyone. This will need to be negotiated. If this cannot be achieved, there is no settlement. The Defendant will require I sign the confidentiality provisions, which could expose me to future litigation. Depending on the language, I may not be comfortable doing this as I never agreed to sign off on releases. Even if the language in the settlement agreement is worked out, there are motions to approve the settlement, which will be strongly opposed by Lange. If the Court does not grant the motion, then there is no settlement. If there is an approved settlement and Viking does not pay timely, then further motions to enforce must be filed.

Presently, there are many things on calendar that I need to address. We have the following depositions: Mr. Carnahan, Mr. Garelli, Crane Pomerantz, Kevin Hastings, Gerald Zamiski, and the UL deposition in Chicago. We have the Court hearings for Zurich's motions for protective order, our motion to de-designate the documents as confidential, our motion to make Mr. Pomerantz an initial expert, as well as the summary judgment motions involving Lange, who has

recently filed a counter motion and responses need to be filed. Simply, there is a substantial amount of work that still needs to be addressed. Since you knew of all of the pending matters on calendar, it is unfortunate that you were obligated to go to China during a very crucial week to attempt to finalize the case. When I asked if you would be available to speak if necessary, you told me that you are unavailable to discuss matters over the phone. This week was very important to make decisions to try and finalize a settlement.

I understand that the way I am looking at it may be different than the way your business mind looks at things. However, I explained my standard fees and how I work many times to you and the amount in the attached agreement is beyond fair to you in light of the exceptional results. It is much less than the reasonable value of my services. I realize that because you did not sign my retainer that you may be in a position to take advantage of the situation. However, I believe I will be able to justify the attorney fee in the attached agreement in any later proceeding as any court will look to ensure I was fairly compensated for the work performed and the exceptional result achieved.

I really want us to get this breakdown right because I want you to feel like this is remarkable outcome while at the same time I don't want to feel I didn't lose out too much. Given what we have been through and what I have done, I would hope you would not want me to lose money, especially in light of the fact that I have achieved a result much greater than your expectations ever were in this case. The attached agreement should certainly achieve this objective for you, which is an incredible reduction from the true value of my services.

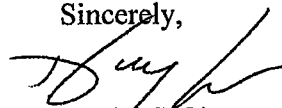
Conclusion

If you are agreeable to the attached agreement, please sign both so I can proceed to attempt to finalize the agreement. I know you both have thought a lot about your position and likely consulted other lawyers and can make this decision fairly quick. We have had several conversations regarding this issue. I have thought about it a lot and this the lowest amount I can accept. I have always felt that it was our understanding that that this was not a typical contract lawyer case, and that I was not a typical contract lawyer. In light of the substantial work performed and the exceptional results achieved, the fee is extremely fair and reasonable.

If you are not agreeable, then I cannot continue to lose money to help you. I will need to consider all options available to me.

Please let me know your decisions as to how to proceed as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Daniel S. Simon

RETAINER AGREEMENT

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3 THAT Brian Edgeworth and Angela Edgeworth on behalf of Edgeworth Family Trust
4 and American Grating have retained and does by this instrument retain the Law Offices of
5 Daniel S. Simon, as his/her attorneys; said attorneys to handle on his/her behalf, all claims for
6 damages arising out of and resulting from an incident on or about April 9, 2016 involving the
7 flood caused by a failed sprinkler head, which clients now have, and which might hereafter
8 accrue against Viking Corporation, Viking Group and Viking Supply Net, for damages arising
9 out of said incident to Brian Edgeworth and Angela Edgeworth on behalf of Edgeworth Family
10 Trust and American Grating that the parties have respectively agreed as follows:

11 1. THE FEE FOR LEGAL SERVICES SHALL BE IN THE SUM OF 1,500,000 for
12 services rendered to date. This sum includes all past billing statements, the substantial time that
13 is not included in past billing statements, the current outstanding billing statements and any
14 further billing statements that may accrue to finalize and secure the settlement with the Viking
15 Entities only. Any future services performed prosecuting Lange Plumbing will be determined
16 by a separate agreement. However, all past services performed prosecuting Lange Plumbing
17 will be included in the above fee. The above sum will be reduced by all payments already made
18 toward the attorneys fees. If for some reason, the settlement cannot be finalized with the Viking
19 Entities, this agreement shall be void as it only contemplates a reasonable fee for services
20 performed and to finalize the settlement agreement.

21 2. ALL COSTS, INCLUDING ARBITRATION COSTS, COSTS OF
22 OBTAINING EXPERTS TO ANALYZE AND EVALUATE THE CAUSE OF
23 THE ACCIDENT, COSTS OF EXPERT TESTIMONY, COSTS OF WITNESS
24 FEES, TRAVEL COSTS, DEPOSITION COSTS, COURT COSTS, AND ALL
25 COSTS OF LITIGATION, INCLUDING LONG DISTANCE PHONE CALLS,
26 COPYING EXPENSES, REGARDLESS OF THE OUTCOME, ARE TO BE
27 PAID BY THE CLIENT, AND IF ANY OF THEM SHALL HAVE BEEN
28 ADVANCED BY THE ATTORNEY, HE SHALL BE REIMBURSED FOR THE

The Law Office of Daniel S. Simon
810 S. Casino Center Blvd.
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
702-364-1650 Fax: 702-364-1655

1 SAME. THE ATTORNEY IS AUTHORIZED TO PAY ANY OF SAID
2 EXPENSES OUT OF THE SHARE OF THE SETTLEMENT ACCRUING TO
3 THE CLIENT.

4 SIGNED this ____ day of _____, 2017.
5

6 LAW OFFICES OF DANIEL S. SIMON Brian Edgeworth on behalf of Edgeworth Family
7 Trust and American Grating
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9 Angela Edgeworth on behalf of Edgeworth Family
10 Trust and American Grating
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LAW OFFICE OF
DANIEL S. SIMON
A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
810 SOUTH CASINO CENTER BOULEVARD
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89101

TELEPHONE (702)364-1650

FACSIMILE (702)364-1655

SETTLEMENT BREAKDOWN

Date: November 27, 2017

Re: EFT AND AMERICAN GRATING v. ALL VIKING ENTITIES

Settlement	\$ 6,000,000.00
Attorney's Fees	1,114,000.00 (1,500,000 Less payments made of 367,606.25)
Costs	80,000.00 (200,000 Less payments made of 118,846.84)

Balance to Clients **\$ 4,806,000.00**

Clients hereby agree to the above distribution from the settlement proceeds if a settlement is finally reached and finalized. The costs may be adjusted depending on the actual costs incurred and paid. A final accounting will be made at the time of final distribution.

Dated this _____ day of November, 2017.

**Brian Edgeworth on behalf of Edgeworth Family
Trust and American Grating**

**Angela Edgeworth on behalf of Edgeworth Family
Trust and American Grating**

EXHIBIT II

EXCERPTS FROM SIMON "SUPER BILL"

Bates SIMONEH0000240 (Daniel Simon - 866.20 hrs. @ \$550/hr)	\$476,410.00
Bates SIMONEH0000342 (Ashley Ferrel – 762.60 hrs. @ \$275/hr)	209,715.00
Bates SIMONEH0000344 (Benjamin Miller- 21.80 hrs. @ \$275/hr)	5,995.00
TOTAL FEES BILLED	\$692,120.00

INVOICE FOR DANIEL S. SIMON
EDGEWORTH v. LANGE, ET AL.

Date	Description	Time
5/27/16	Email Chain with Client Re: Representation	.25
5/28/16	Email Chain with Client Re: Client Meeting	.40
5/31/16	Receive, Review and Analyze Email From Client	.40
6/1/16	Receive, Review and Analyze Email From Client	.40
6/2/16	Receive, Review and Analyze Email From Client	.40
6/2/16	Email Chain with Client	.40
6/3/16	Email Chain with Client with Attachment	.50
6/3/16	Email Chain From Client with Website Attachment	.40
6/3/16	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Viking and to Client	.40
6/5/16	Email Chain with Client	.40
6/10/16	Email Chain with Client	.75
6/13/16	Draft and Send Email to Client	.25
6/14/16	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Client	.25
6/22/16	Email Chain with Client	.40
7/11/16	Email Chain with AD, SC, SR; Re: Representation of Lange	.25
7/12/16 - 7/13/16	Email Chain with Client	1.25
7/14/16	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Client	.25
7/14/16	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Viking, Forward to Client with Attachments; Receive, Review and Analyze Response from Client; Review File; Email Chain with Client	1.75
7/18/16	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Client with Attachment	.75
7/19/16	Email Chain with Client	.50
7/19/16	Draft and Send Email to AD; Re: SAO Amend Complaint	.25

1/3/18	T/C w/ S. Guindy at Bank of Nevada; Received, reviewed and analyzed email with attachments	.75
1/3/18	Analyze , review schedule and additional emails from S. Guindy	.50
1/4/18	Analyze, receive and send emails to S. Guindy at Bank of Nevada; Review Emails from J. Christensen and Bank , J. Greene	.75
1/4/18	Email from T. Parker (E Nunez) re Joint MGFS, sign and return to T. Parker	.50
1/4/18	Email to T. Parker and E. Nunez regarding revisions to release	.50
1/4/18	Travel to Bank of Nevada for bank account requested by client	1.50
1/4/18	Email E. Nunez releases again per her request	.25
1/5/18	Email from S. Guindy and response	.25
1/5/18	Email from Nunez	.15
1/5/18	Review Court filing of MGFS Lange	.25
1/8/18	T/C with S. Guindy; receive, review and analyze letter from Vannah	.50
1/8/18	Travel to Bank of Nevada 2x re Trust deposit	2.5
	Review all Emails concerning service of all pleadings (679 emails)	135.80
	Total Hours	866.20
	Total Fees at \$550 per hour	\$476,410.00

INVOICE FOR ASHLEY M. FERREL
EDGEWORTH v. LANGE PLUMBING, ET AL.

DATE	DESCRIPTION	TIME
12.20.16	Review, Download & Save Defendants the Viking Corporation and Supply Network, Inc.'s Substitution of Counsel	0.30
1.4.17	Review, Download & Save Joint Case Conference Report	0.30
1.6.17	Email to DSS re Lange K inserts added to MSJ	0.15
1.9.17	Review email from DSS re phone call to Pancoast	0.15
1.9.17	Review, Download & Save Defendant The Viking Corporation and Supply Network , Inc.'s Demand for Prior Pleadings and Discovery	0.30
1.10.17	Review, Download & Save Plaintiffs Response to Defendants The Viking Corporation and Supply Network Inc.'s Demand for Prior Pleadings and Discovery	0.30
1.11.17	Review email from DSS re making small changes to MSJ	0.15
1.13.17	Review, Download & Save Plaintiffs Motion for Summary Judgment	0.30
1.17.17	Review email from DSS re preparing written discovery and depo notices	0.15
1.17.17	Review email from DSS to Pancoast re moving MSJ hearing and Opp date	0.15
1.18.17	Review, Download & Save Defendant The Viking Corporation and Supply Network, Inc.'s Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment	0.30
1.19.17	Email chain with DSS re Viking's Opposition to MSJ	0.50
1.20.17	Email chain with DSS re Stackiewicz case	0.15
1.20.17	Review, Download & Save Notice of Video Deposition of Shelli Lange	0.30
1.20.17	Review, Download & Save Subpoena for Shelli Lange	0.30
1.20.17	Review, Download & Save Notice of Video Deposition Bernie Lange	0.30
1.20.17	Review, Download & Save Subpoena for Bernie Lange	0.30
1.20.17	Review, Download & Save Notice of Video Deposition of Tracey Garvey	0.30
1.20.17	Review, Download & Save Subpoena for Tracy Garvey	0.30

INVOICE FOR ASHLEY M. FERREL
EDGEWORTH v. LANGE PLUMBING, ET AL.

12.8.17	Review, Download & Save Lange Plumbing 14 th Supp to 16.1ECC List of Witnesses and Docs	0.30
12/11/17	Discussion with DSS re client's release of claims	0.20
12.11.17	Review email from DSS re Lange's 15 th ECC Supplement and response	0.25
12.11.17	Review email from DSS re Lange's 15 th ECC Supplement and response	0.25
12/12/17	Review Order granting Giberti Motion for Good Faith Settlement and discussion with DSS	0.25
12.12.17	Review, Download & Save Ltr. To Discovery Commissioner Bulla Re. Settlement	0.30
12.13.17	Review, Download & Save NEO Granting Third Party Def. Giberti Construction LLC Motion for Good Faith Settlement	0.30
1/2/18	Draft Notice of Amended Attorney Lien, serve and prepare & send all liens certified mail return receipt requested	1.5
TOTAL HOURS x \$275 per hour (reduced)		762.6
TOTAL FEES		\$209,715.00

INVOICE FOR BENJAMIN J. MILLER
EDGEWORTH v. LANGE, ET AL.

Date	Description	Time
8/16/17	Research and review prior cases and brief bank for written discovery on punitive damages	0.75
8/16/17	Send interoffice email regarding punitive damage discovery from other cases	0.25
8/17/17	Research and review licensing standards and regulations from California Board of Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists for possible use in upcoming expert depositions	1.5
8/30/17	Send interoffice email regarding punitive damages written discovery from other cases	0.25
11/6/17	Draft email regarding case research for diminution in value damages to include in additional research for memoranda on admissibility	0.35
11/13/17	Draft interoffice email regarding summary of memo on admissibility of litigation conduct as bad faith at trial	0.30
11/16/17	Receipt and read interoffice email regarding instruction to prepare draft response regarding admissibility of litigation conduct as bad faith	0.25
11/16/17	Send response interoffice email confirming instruction to prepare draft response regarding admissibility of litigation conduct as bad faith	0.25
11/6/17	Research Nevada case law regarding cost of repair damages and diminution in value damages	0.75
11/6/17	Research case law of surrounding jurisdictions regarding cost of repair damages and diminution in value damages	1.5
11/6/17	Research various law review articles, restatements of law, jury instructions and other legal authorities regarding cost of repair damages and diminution in value damages	1.25
11/6/17	Draft email regarding case research for diminution in value damages to include in additional research for memoranda on admissibility	0.35

11/8/17	Prepare memo regarding cost of repair damages and diminution in value damages	2.0
11/9/17	Discussion with DSS re: Memo	0.5
11/13/17	Research Nevada law regarding admissibility of litigation conduct for bad faith	0.5
11/13/17	Research case law of surrounding jurisdictions regarding admissibility of litigation conduct for bad faith	3.25
11/13/17	Research various law review articles and other legal authorities regarding admissibility of litigation conduct for bad faith	1.75
11/13/17	Prepare memo regarding admissibility of litigation conduct for bad faith	1.75
11/13/17	Draft email regarding summary of memo on admissibility of litigation conduct as bad faith at trial	0.30
11/14/17	Research Contract Validity within NRS Chapter 624 and Nevada case law for summary judgment briefing	2.75
11/16/17	Confer regarding recoverable damages within breach of contract vs. products liability	0.75
11/16/17	Receipt and read interoffice email regarding instruction to prepare draft response regarding admissibility of litigation conduct as bad faith	0.25
11/16/17	Send response interoffice email confirming instruction to prepare draft response regarding admissibility of litigation conduct as bad faith	0.25
	Total Hours x's \$275 per hour (reduced)	21.8
	Total Fees	\$5,995.00

EXHIBIT JJ

EXCERPTS FROM "SUPER BILL" WITH
SIMON POST-DISCHARGE ENTRIES

INVOICE FOR DANIEL S. SIMON
EDGEWORTH v. LANGE, ET AL.

Date	Description	Time
5/27/16	Email Chain with Client Re: Representation	.25
5/28/16	Email Chain with Client Re: Client Meeting	.40
5/31/16	Receive, Review and Analyze Email From Client	.40
6/1/16	Receive, Review and Analyze Email From Client	.40
6/2/16	Receive, Review and Analyze Email From Client	.40
6/2/16	Email Chain with Client	.40
6/3/16	Email Chain with Client with Attachment	.50
6/3/16	Email Chain From Client with Website Attachment	.40
6/3/16	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Viking and to Client	.40
6/5/16	Email Chain with Client	.40
6/10/16	Email Chain with Client	.75
6/13/16	Draft and Send Email to Client	.25
6/14/16	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Client	.25
6/22/16	Email Chain with Client	.40
7/11/16	Email Chain with AD, SC, SR; Re: Representation of Lange	.25
7/12/16 - 7/13/16	Email Chain with Client	1.25
7/14/16	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Client	.25
7/14/16	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Viking, Forward to Client with Attachments; Receive, Review and Analyze Response from Client; Review File; Email Chain with Client	1.75
7/18/16	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Client with Attachment	.75
7/19/16	Email Chain with Client	.50
7/19/16	Draft and Send Email to AD; Re: SAO Amend Complaint	.25

11/11/17	Email Chain with Client with Attachment; Review and Analyze Mediator Proposal	.50
11/13/17	Draft and send email with attachments to AF	.15
11/13/17	Review Viking Motion for MSC and Stay all Rulings; Discussion with AF; Review Letter to DC Bulla; Telephone Conference with Floyd Hale; Telephone Conference with J. Olivas Re: Deposition	2.25
11/13/17	Email chain with AF re complaint filed against Harold Rodgers	.25
11/13/17	Draft and send email to AF re research re privilege log and confidentiality issues and review AF response	.75
11/13/17	Draft and send email to AF re supplementing Pomerantz opinion letter	.15
11/13/17	Email chain with AF re expert depositions noticed by Viking	.15
11/13/17	Prepare for 11/14/17 Hearings	2.25
11/13/17	Review Pomerantz Report and Produce; Discussion with Pomerantz; Discussion with Charles Rego from UL and Client	2.75
11/13/17	Receive, Review and Analyze Email From JO; Re: Additional Emails	.25
11/13/17	Email Chain with AF/CP with Attachments Re: Henderson	.15
11/13/17	Email from CP with Opinion letter	.75
11/13/17	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Client	.15
11/13/17	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Client; Discussion with Client	.25
11/13/17	Email Chain with Client with Attachment	.50
11/13/17	Draft and Send Email to Client	.15
11/13/17	Email Chain with Client	.15
11/13/17	Email Chain with Client	.50
11/13/17	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Client	.15
11/13/17	Draft and Send Email to Client with Attachment	.15

11/13/17	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Client	.25
11/13/17	Call with Client	.50
11/13/17	Call with Client	.25
11/14/17	Call with AMF	.10
11/14/17	Call with Client	.15
11/14/17	Call with Client	.10
11/14/17	Call with Client	.10
11/13/17	Email Chain with Client	.40
11/14/17	Email Chain with JP, AF, TP; Re: Inspection of Documents	.25
11/14/17	Email Chain with D. Holloman, JP, KR, JM; Re: Hale Settlement Matters	.25
11/14/17	Attend Hearings on MSJ; Review File with Client; Review Research; Prepare Emails to Pancoast Re: Depositions and Discovery Responses; Discussion with Attorney Olgivie Re: Retention; Email to Parker; Discussion with AF; Review Plaintiffs' 14 th ECC Supplement; Review files	7.5
11/14/17	Draft and Send Email to Ogilvie with Attachments	.75
11/14/17	Telephone Call with Ogilvie Regarding Retention	.50
11/15/17	Review cases re: validity of contract under NRS 624; discussion with AF and BM	2.75
11/15/17	Review research re: admissibility of litigation conduct; discussion with BJM	.75
11/15/17	Discussion with BJM re: recoverable damages w/ breach of contract vs. product liability	.75
11/15/17	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Client	.15
11/15/17	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Client	.25
11/15/17	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Client with Link	.40
11/15/17	Call with Client	.25
11/15/17	Call with Client	.50

11/15/17	Call with Client	.25
11/15/17	Call with Client	.10
11/15/17	Call with Client	.10
11/15/17	Call with Client	.75
11/16/17	Call with Client	.25
11/16/17	Call with Client	.25
11/16/17	Call with AMF	.15
11/16/17	Call with Client	.15
11/16/17	Call with Client	.10
11/17/17	Call with Client	.15
11/17/17	Call with Teddy Parker	.10
11/17/17	Call with Teddy Parker	.10
11/17/17	Call with Client	.50
11/17/17	Call with Client	.25
11/17/17	Call with Teddy Parker	.10
11/17/17	Call with Teddy Parker	.15
11/17/17	Call with Teddy Parker	.15
11/17/17	Call with Client	.65
11/17/17	Call with Client	.15
11/17/17	Email Chain with EC, JP, AF, MN, TP, KR; Re: Olivas Deposition	.15
11/17/17	Draft and Send Email to Ogilvie with Links	.25
11/17/17	Prepare and Attend Hearings	4.5
11/17/17	Several discussions with clients from office	.50
11/17/17	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Client with Link	.40
11/17/17	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from L. Rotert; Pomerantz Bill	.15
11/18/17	Draft and Send Email to Client with Links	.15

11/18/17	Email Chain with JP, AF, TP, BP, JH, KR; Re: MIL Meeting. Discovery with AF.	.50
11/20/17	Email chain with AF re outstanding expert bills	.25
11/20/17	Email chain with AF re meet and confer for MILS and hearing for Giberti's MGFS	.25
11/20/17	Email chain with AF re Knez letter and threat of motion to file protective order in CA for Rodgers and Rene Stone depositions	.25
11/20/17	Email Chain with Ogilvie and AF; Re: Permit App	.25
11/20/17	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Client; Forward to AF	.15
11/21/17	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Client	.25
11/21/17	Call with Client	.10
11/22/17	Draft and send email to AF re recent list of damages and review AF response	.15
11/22/17	Email Chain with Ogilvie, AF with Attachments; Re: Lange Supp Brief	.15
11/22/17	Draft and send email to AF re sending Lange responses brief to Ogilvie and review AF response	.15
11/22/17	Review notices of vacating deposition of Rene Stone and Harold Rodgers	.50
11/22/17	Review Lange's 12 th ECC Supplement	.25
11/24/17	Review correspondence from Dalacas	.25
11/24/17	Review email filings and depo emails	1.50
11/25/17	Call with Client	.10
11/25/17	Call with Client	.10
11/25/17	Call with Client	.15
11/26/17	Review Lange Discovery responses and attachments	1.50
11/27/17	T/C with J. Olivas re deposition	.35
11/27/17	Review hearing transcript from 11/14/17 hearing	1.50

11/27/17	T/C with T. Parker and Henriod (x3)	.75
11/27/17	Conference call with T. Parker, J. Pancoast and JEA to continue hearings; Emails	1.0
11/27/17	Receive, Review and Analyze Email From JO; Re: Final Invoice	.25
11/27/17	T/C's with Teddy Parker	.65
11/27/17	Email Chain with JP, TP, AF, KR, DP, JH; Re: MIL / Expert Depositions	.50
11/27/17	Email Chain with Bess White, TP, JP; Re: Edgeworth MOT for Summary Judgement	.35
11/27/17	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Client	.15
11/27/17	Draft and Send Email to Client	.15
11/27/17	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Client	.15
11/27/17	Draft and Send Email to Client	.25
11/27/17	Receive, Review and Analyze Email from Client	.25
11/27/17	Draft and send email to AF re Carnahan depo and review AF response	.15
11/28/17	Email Chain with JP, AF, KR, JH; Re: Outstanding Discovery	.15
11/28/17	Email Chain with EN, JP, KR, DP; Re: Letter from Parker	.50
11/28/17	Review Lange letter (11/28/17), analyze; discussion with AF	1.25
11/28/17	Review Amended Notice of Carnahan Depo	.25
11/28/17	Conference call with Judge Bulla chambers w/ Pancoast to reset December 1 st hearings to December 20 th and call with Pancoast separately	.50
11/28/17	Review notices of vacating depositions	.50
11/28/17	Email Chain with Ogilvie to Discuss Case	.15
11/29/17	Receive and analyze email from Ogilvie	1.50
11/29/17	Email Chain with EN, JP, TP; Re: Letter from Parker	.50
11/29/17	Email Chain with JP, AF; Re: Discovery Motions	.15

11/29/17	Draft and send email to AF re drafting reply to Lange's supplemental Opposition	1.50
11/29/17	Draft and send email to AF re drafting notice of attorney lien	.15
11/29/17	Draft and send email to AF re letter from Pancoast to Simon	.15
11/29/17	Review and analyze Lange's supplemental brief	2.50
11/29/17	Email from client Angela Edgeworth	.15
11/29/17	Email response to client Angela Edgeworth	.25
11/29/17	Review and analyze email from Oligilvie re: contractors license legal arguments and response email to Oligilvie; Discussion with AF	1.50
11/29/17	Draft reply to Lange's Supplemental Opposition to Plaintiffs' MSJ	2.75
11/29/17	Discussions w/ J. Henriod re moving hearings and settlement	.65
11/29/17	T/C with T. Parker	.50
11/29/17	Draft letter to Parker	.50
11/30/17	Review release; T/C J. Greene; T/C T. Parker; revise release	1.25
11/30/17	Call with Teddy Parker	.15
11/30/17	Call with Teddy Parker	.15
11/30/17	Call with Teddy Parker	.10
11/30/17	Call with AMF	.25
11/30/17	Call with Teddy Parker	.15
11/30/17	Call with AMF	.10
11/30/17	Call with AMF	.10
11/30/17	Call with AMF	.20
11/30/17	Call with AMF	.10
11/30/17	Review file for Lange bills, T/C to Parker re: settlement	.75
11/30/17	Negotiate release w/ Henriod (his office)	3.50
11/30/17	Conversation w/ Green; draft email, send release	.75
11/30/17	Receive and review letter dated 11-30-17	.25

11/30/17	Received and reviewed Lange letter (11-29-17) regarding scheduling discovery; Discussion with AF	.75
11/30/17 & 12/2/17	Email chain with AF re attorney lien	.15
12/1/17	Email Chain with JP, AF, DP, JH, MB, KR; Re: Discovery Motions	.15
12/1/17	Receive and review release email to Defendant	.75
12/1/17	Receive and review release email from Pancoast & discussion with AF	.50
12/1/17	Review Viking's 19 th ECC Supplement	.25
12/4/17	Received and reviewed DCCR; L/M for Green/Vannah	.75
12/4/17	Review notice vacating UL Depos	.25
12/4/17	Discussion with AF	.40
12/5/17	T/c with John Green; Email from John Green; Discussion with staff	.40
12/5/17	Review subpoena to Dalacas	.25
12/5/17	Emails to client and John Greene messages	.50
12/5/17	Draft and Send Email to Client and Response	.15
12/6/17	Draft and send email to AF re notice to vacate Caranahan depo	.15
12/6/17	Review file and gather materials requested by Vannah; email from John Greene	2.25
12/6/17	Email from AF re evidentiary hearing from Judge Jones law clerk and discussion with AF	.50
12/6/17	Review notice of vacating depo of Carnahan	.35
12/6/17	Receive and review email from Janet Pancoast; discussion with AF; response; forward to Vannah	.35
12/6/17	Received and reviewed Lange's 13 th ECC Supplement	.50
12/6/17	Email Chain with JP, AF; Re: Carnahan Deposition	.15
12/7/17	Email Chain with JP, AF, TP, KR, JM, JH, DP, SM; Re: Evidentiary Hearing	.35
12/7/17	T/C with Vannah	.50

12/7/17	Draft and revise letter; Review of file to Vannah w/ attachment	1.75
12/8/17	Received and reviewed Lange 14 th ECC Supplement	1.25
12/8/17	Review Motion for Good faith settlement; discussion with AF	.75
12/8/17	Received and review order granting Giberti Motion for Good Faith Settlement; T/C with Parker	.50
12/8/17	Email chain with AF re Order Granting Giberti MGFS	.15
12/11/17	Email from Zamiski; Response email	.15
12/11/17	Review/ Analyze Lange 15 th ECC Supplement	.50
12/11/17	T/C Parker & Pancoast; Email from T. Parker; Email from Crt	.75
12/11/17	Review client's release of claims; emails to J. Greene; Discussions with AF	.50
12/11/17	Draft and send email to AF re Lange's 15 th ECC Supplement and review AF response	.25
12/12/17	Draft and send email to AF re Stip to Dismiss and review AF response	.15
12/12/17	Attend hearing on Viking Motion for Good Faith Settlement	1.75
12/6/17- 12/12/17	Messages; Returned messages; discussions with Floyd Hale	.50
12/12/17	Email from J. Pancoast; Received/Reviewed/Analyze stip to dismiss; order on Good faith settlement; discussion with AF	1.25
12/12/17	Received letter from Pancoast to DC Bulla; Pancoast email re checks and signing stips	.50
12/14/17	Review both stips to dismiss; send to J. Pancoast; T/C to M. Nunez; Review email from J. Pancoast	.50
12/15/17	Review email from T.Ure; T/C to J. Pancoast re 2 nd stip to dismiss and arrange pick up of settlement checks	.50
12/18/17	Pick up settlement checks; exchange for stip; contact Vannah's office re signature	1.50
12/18/17	T/C and emails to J. Greene re checks; T/C to Pomerantz office re bill; emails; review bills from Pomerantz	1.0

12/18/17	Received, reviewed and analyze email from B. Vannah	.50
12/19/17	Emails to B. Vannah and J. Greene re checks	.25
12/19/17	Received and review email from B. Vannah to J. Christensen; Received and review email from J. Christensen and response from B. Vannah	.25
12/20/17	Request return of sprinklers from Volmer Grey	.25
12/20/17	Receive and review draft Motion for Good Faith Settlement; Lange release for \$100k and release for \$22k	1.50
12/21/17	Review emails from Pancoast and Parker; revise joint motion for good faith settlement and send back to Parker	.75
12/21/17	Receive, review and analyze email from B. Vannah (3:21pm)	.50
12/23/17	Received, reviewed and analyzed email from B. Vannah (10:45pm)	.50
12/26/17	Receive, review and analyze email from J. Christensen to B. Vannah (10:46am)	.25
12/26/17	Receive, review and analyze email from B. Vannah (12:18pm)	.75
12/26/17	Receive, review and analyze email from J. Christensen	.25
12/27/17	Receive, review and analyze email from JC w/e letter attached	.75
12/28/17	Receive, review and analyze email from B. Vannah (3:07pm)	.75
12/28/17	Receive, review and analyze email from B. Vannah (2:03pm)	.25
12/28/17	Receive, review and analyze email from B. Vannah (4:17am)	.75
12/29/17	Received and reviewed email re joint motion and revised joint motion	.40
1/2/18	Revise Lange release and send back to T. Parker	.75
1/2/18	Received/reviewed Viking stip to dismiss	.35
1/2/18	Received/reviewed email from J. Pancoast and T. Parker	.35
1/2/18	Received/reviewed and analyzed letters from Zurich re settlement checks	.25
1/2/18	Received, reviewed and analyzed email from J. Greene (3:45pm)	.25
1/2/18	T/C with S. Guidy at Bank of Nevada	.50

1/3/18	T/C w/ S. Guindy at Bank of Nevada; Received, reviewed and analyzed email with attachments	.75
1/3/18	Analyze , review schedule and additional emails from S. Guindy	.50
1/4/18	Analyze, receive and send emails to S. Guindy at Bank of Nevada; Review Emails from J. Christensen and Bank , J. Greene	.75
1/4/18	Email from T. Parker (E Nunez) re Joint MGFS, sign and return to T. Parker	.50
1/4/18	Email to T. Parker and E. Nunez regarding revisions to release	.50
1/4/18	Travel to Bank of Nevada for bank account requested by client	1.50
1/4/18	Email E. Nunez releases again per her request	.25
1/5/18	Email from S. Guindy and response	.25
1/5/18	Email from Nunez	.15
1/5/18	Review Court filing of MGFS Lange	.25
1/8/18	T/C with S. Guindy; receive, review and analyze letter from Vannah	.50
1/8/18	Travel to Bank of Nevada 2x re Trust deposit	2.5
	Review all Emails concerning service of all pleadings (679 emails)	135.80
	Total Hours	866.20
	Total Fees at \$550 per hour	\$476,410.00

EXHIBIT KK

EXCERPTS FROM "SUPER BILL" WITH
FERREL POST-DISCHARGE ENTRIES

INVOICE FOR ASHLEY M. FERREL
EDGEWORTH v. LANGE PLUMBING, ET AL.

11/27/17	Draft and serve notice to vacate deposition of Anthasia Dalacas	0.25
11/28/17	Draft and serve amended deposition notice and subpoena for Robert Carnahan	0.25
11/28/17	Review Letter from Lange and discussion with DSS	0.75
11.28.17	Review, Download & Save Subpoena Duces Tecum for Robert Carnahan PE	0.30
11.28.17	Review, Download & Save Amended Notice of Continued Video Deposition of Robert Carnahan P.E. Duces Tecum	0.30
11.29.17	Review, Download & Save Defendants The Viking Corporation and Supply Network, Inc.'s 19 th Supplemental NRCP 16.1 Disclosure	0.30
11.29.17	Review, Download & Save Correspondence to Counsel, dated November 29, 2017	0.30
11/29/17	Review Olgilvie response to Lange's Supplement to MSJ; Discussion with DSS re Reply	0.50
11.29.17	Review email from DSS re drafting reply to Lange's supplemental Opposition	1.50
11.29.17	Review email from DSS re drafting notice of attorney lien	0.15
11.29.17	Review email from DSS re letter from Pancoast to Simon	0.15
11.29.17	Email to Pancoast re hearing dates I front of DC Bulla in light of negotiations	0.15
11.30.17	Email to George Olgilvie instructing him to stop working on the case	0.15
11.30.17	Review, Download & Save Letter to Counsel	0.30
11.30.17	Review, Download & Save Correspondence to Discovery Commissioner Bulla regarding Hearings	0.30
11/30/17	Review Viking's 19 th ECC Supplement	1.0
11/30/17	Review Letter from Lange regarding discovery scheduling and discussion with DSS	0.75
11.30.17 & 12.2.17	Email chain with DSS re attorney lien	0.15
12/1/17	Draft Notice of Attorney Lien, serve and prepare & send all liens certified mail return receipt requested	2.5
12.1.17	Review, Download & Save Lange Plumbing Verification to Rogs	0.30

INVOICE FOR ASHLEY M. FERREL
EDGEWORTH v. LANGE PLUMBING, ET AL.

12.1.17	Review, Download & Save Notice of Attorney Lien	0.30
12/1/17	Review Release from Viking and discussion with DSS re release	0.50
12/4/17	Draft and serve notice to vacate deposition of UL Laboratories	0.25
12/4/17	Review Lange written discovery responses	1.5
12/4/17	Discussion with DSS re scheduling and status of case	0.40
12.4.17	Review, Download & Save Notice Vacating the 2 nd Amended Video Depo of NRCP30(b) (6) Designees of Underwriters Laboratories	0.30
12.4.17	Review, Download & Save Discovery Commissioners Report and Recommendations	0.30
12.5.17	Email chain with UL re vacating depo	0.15
12/6/17	Review Lange's 13 th ECC Disclosure	2.5
12.6.17	Review email from DSS re notice to vacate Caranahan depo	0.15
12/6/17	Draft and serve Notice to Vacate Robert Carnahan Deposition	0.50
12/6/17	TC with Judge Jones law clerk rehearing scheduling; Discussion with DSS	0.50
12.6.17	Review, Download & Save Service Only – Lange Plumbing 13 th Supp to NRCP 16.1 ECC	0.30
12.6.17	Review, Download & Save Service Only – Notice of Vacating the Continued Video Depo of Robert Carnahan	0.30
12.7.17	Review, Download & Save MDGF- Def The Viking Corporation & Supply Network MGF Settlement & Request for OST	0.30
12/8/17	Review Viking Motion for Good Faith Settlement, Analyze and discussion with DSS	0.75
12/8/17	Review Lange's 14 th and 15 th ECC Disclosure	0.50
12.8.17	Email chain with DSS re Order Granting Giberti MGFS	0.15
12/8/17	Review Stipulation to Dismiss from Viking and discussion with DSS	0.50
12.8.17	Review, Download & Save Lange Plumbing 15 th Supplement to 16.1 ECC List Witnesses and Docs	0.30

INVOICE FOR ASHLEY M. FERREL
EDGEWORTH v. LANGE PLUMBING, ET AL.

12.8.17	Review, Download & Save Lange Plumbing 14 th Supp to 16.1ECC List of Witnesses and Docs	0.30
12/11/17	Discussion with DSS re client's release of claims	0.20
12.11.17	Review email from DSS re Lange's 15 th ECC Supplement and response	0.25
12.11.17	Review email from DSS re Lange's 15 th ECC Supplement and response	0.25
12/12/17	Review Order granting Giberti Motion for Good Faith Settlement and discussion with DSS	0.25
12.12.17	Review, Download & Save Ltr. To Discovery Commissioner Bulla Re. Settlement	0.30
12.13.17	Review, Download & Save NEO Granting Third Party Def. Giberti Construction LLC Motion for Good Faith Settlement	0.30
1/2/18	Draft Notice of Amended Attorney Lien, serve and prepare & send all liens certified mail return receipt requested	1.5
TOTAL HOURS x \$275 per hour (reduced)		762.6
TOTAL FEES		\$209,715.00

EXHIBIT LL

DEMONSTRATIVE OF POST-
DISCHARGE BILLING BY SIMON AND
FERREL, WITH BREAKDOWN OF HOURS
BY ESTIMATED PURPOSE

POST-DISCHARGE BILLING FROM SIMON LAW (billing information taken from Ex. JJ and KK)		
DSS	11/30/2017 Review release; T/C J. Greene; T/C T. Parker; revise release	1.25
DSS	11/30/2017 Call with Teddy Parker	0.15
DSS	11/30/2017 Call with Teddy Parker	0.15
DSS	11/30/2017 Call with Teddy Parker	0.10
DSS	11/30/2017 Call with AMF	0.25
DSS	11/30/2017 Call with Teddy Parker	0.15
DSS	11/30/2017 Call with AMF	0.10
DSS	11/30/2017 Call with AMF	0.10
DSS	11/30/2017 Call with AMF	0.20
DSS	11/30/2017 Call with AMF	0.10
DSS	11/30/2017 Review file for Lange bills, T/C to Parker re: settlement	0.75
DSS	11/30/2017 Negotiate release w/Henriod (his office)	3.50
DSS	11/30/2017 Conversation w/Green; draft email, send release	0.75
DSS	11/30/2017 Receive and review letter dated 11-30-17	0.25
DSS	11/30/2017 Received and reviewed Lange letter (11-29-17) regarding scheduling discovery; Discussion with AF	0.75
11/30/2017 &		
DSS	12/2/2017 Email chain with AF re attorney lien	0.15
DSS	12/1/2017 Email Chain with JP, AF, DP, JH, MB, KR; Re: Discovery Motions	0.15
DSS	12/1/2017 Receive and review release email to Defendant	0.75
DSS	12/1/2017 Receive and review release email from Pancoast & discussion with AF	0.50
DSS	12/1/2017 Review Viking's 19th ECC Supplement	0.25
DSS	12/4/2017 Received and reviewed DCRR; L/M for Green/Vannah	0.75
DSS	12/4/2017 Review notice vacating UL Depos	0.25
DSS	12/4/2017 Discussion with AF	0.40
DSS	12/5/2017 T/c with John Green; Email from John Green; Discussion with staff	0.40
DSS	12/5/2017 Review subpoena to Dalacas	0.25
DSS	12/5/2017 Emails to client and John Greene messages	0.50
DSS	12/5/2017 Draft and Send Email to Client and Response	0.15
DSS	12/5/2017 Draft and send email to AF re notice to vacate Caranahan depo	0.15
DSS	12/6/2017 Review file and gather materials requested by Vannah; email from John Greene	2.25
DSS	12/6/2017 Email from AF re evidentiary hearing from Judge Jones law clerk and discussion with AF	0.50
DSS	12/6/2017 Review notice of vacating depo of Carnahan	0.35
DSS	12/6/2017 Receive and review email from Janet Pancoast; discussion with AF; response, forward to Vannah	0.35

POST-DISCHARGE BILLING FROM SIMON LAW (billing information taken from Ex. JJ and KK)		
DSS	12/6/2017 Received and reviewed Lange's 13th ECC Supplement	0.50
DSS	12/6/2017 Email Chain with JP, AF; Re: Carnahan Deposition	0.15
DSS	12/7/2017 Email Chain with JP, AF, TP, KR, JM, JH, DP, SM; Re: Evidentiary Hearing	0.35
DSS	12/7/2017 T/C with Vannah	0.50
DSS	12/7/2017 Draft and revise letter; Review of file to Vannah w/ attachment	1.75
DSS	12/8/2017 Received and reviewed Lange 14th ECC Supplement	1.25
DSS	12/8/2017 Review Motion for Good faith settlement; discussion with AF	0.75
DSS	12/8/2017 Received and review order granting Giberti Motion for Good Faith Settlement; T/C with Parker	0.50
DSS	12/8/2017 Email chain with AF re Order Granting Giberti MGFS	0.15
DSS	12/11/2017 Email from Zamiski; Response email	0.15
DSS	12/11/2017 Review/ Analyze Lange 15th ECC Supplement	0.50
DSS	12/11/2017 T/C Parker & Pancoast; Email from T Parker; Email from Crt	0.75
DSS	12/11/2017 Review client's release of claims; email to J. Green Discussion with AF	0.50
DSS	12/11/2017 Draft and send email to AF re Lange's 15th ECC Supplement and review AF response	0.25
DSS	12/12/2017 Draft and send email to AF re Stip to Dismiss and review AF response	0.15
DSS	12/12/2017 Attend hearing on Viking Motion for Good Faith Settlement	1.75
	12/6/2017-	
DSS	12/12/2017 Messages; Returned messages; discussions with Floyd Hale	0.50
	Email from J. Pancoast; Received/Reviewed/ Analyze stip to dismiss order on Good faith settlement; discussion with	
DSS	12/12/2017 AF	1.25
DSS	12/12/2017 Received letter from Pancoast to DC Bulla; Pancoast email re checks and signing stips	0.50
DSS	12/14/2017 Review both stips to dismiss; send to J. Pancoast; T/C to M. Nunez; Review mail from J. Pancoast	0.50
DSS	12/15/2017 Review email from T.Ure; T/C to J. Pancoast re 2nd stip to dismiss and arrange pick up of settlement checks	0.50
DSS	12/18/2017 Pick up settlement checks; exchange for stip; contact Vannah's office re signature	1.50
DSS	12/18/2017 T/C and emails to J. Greene re checks; T/C to Pomerantz office re bill; emails; review bills from Pomerantz	1.00
DSS	12/18/2017 Received, reviewed and analyze email from B. Vannah	0.50
DSS	12/19/2017 Emails to B. Vannah and J. Greene re checks	0.25
	Received and review email from B. Vannah to J. Christensen; Received and review email from J. Christensen and	
DSS	12/19/2017 response from B. Vannah	0.25
	12/20/2017 12/20/17 Request return of sprinklers from Volmer Grey .25	0.25

POST-DISCHARGE BILLING FROM SIMON LAW (billing information taken from Ex. JJ and KK)

DSS	12/20/2017	Receive and review draft Motion for Good Faith Settlement; Lange release for 100k and release for \$22k	1.50
DSS	12/21/2017	Review emails from Pancoast and Parker; revise joint motion for good faith settlement and send back to Parker	0.75
DSS	12/21/2017	Receive, review and analyze email from B. Vannah (3:21pm)	0.50
DSS	12/21/2017	Received, reviewed and analyzed email from B. Vannah (10:45pm)	0.50
DSS	12/26/2017	Receive, review and analyze email from J. Christensen to B. Vannah (10:45am)	0.25
DSS	12/26/2017	Receive, review and analyze email from B. Vannah (12:18pm)	0.75
DSS	12/26/2017	Receive, review and analyze email from J. Christensen	0.25
DSS	12/27/2017	Receive, review and analyze email from JC w/e letter attached	0.75
DSS	12/28/2017	Receive, review and analyze email from B. Vannah (3:07pm)	0.75
DSS	12/28/2017	Receive, review and analyze email from B. Vannah (2:03pm)	0.25
DSS	12/28/2017	Receive, review and analyze email from B. Vannah (4: 17am)	0.75
DSS	12/29/2017	Received and reviewed email re joint motion and revised joint motion	0.40
DSS	1/2/2018	Revise Lange release and send back to T. Parker	0.75
DSS	1/2/2018	Received/reviewed Viking stip to dismiss	0.35
DSS	1/2/2018	Received/reviewed email from J. Pancoast and T. Parker	0.35
DSS	1/2/2018	Received/reviewed and analyzed letters from Zurich re settlement checks	0.25
	1/2/2018	Received, reviewed and analyzed email from J. Greene (3:45pm)	0.25
DSS	1/2/2018	T/C with S. Guidy at Bank of Nevada	0.50
DSS	1/3/2018	T/C w/ S. Guindy at Bank of Nevada; Received, reviewed and analyzed email with attachments	0.75
DSS	1/3/2018	Analyze, review schedule and additional emails from S. Guindy	0.50
		Analyze, receive and send emails to S. Guindy at Bank of Nevada; Review emails from J. Christensen and bank, J.	
DSS	1/4/2018	Greene	0.75
DSS	1/4/2018	Email from T. Parker (E Nunez) re Joint MGFS, sign and return to T. Parker	0.50
DSS	1/4/2018	Email to T. Parker and E. Nunez regarding revisions to release	0.50
DSS	1/4/2018	Travel to Bank of Nevada for bank account requested by client	1.50
DSS	1/4/2018	Email E. Nunez releases again per her request	0.25
DSS	1/5/2018	Email from S. Guindy and response	0.25
DSS	1/5/2018	Email from Nunez	0.15
DSS	1/5/2018	Review Court filing of MGFS Lange	0.25
DSS	1/8/2018	T/C with S. Guindy; receive, review and analyze letter from Vannah	0.50
DSS	1/8/2018	Travel to Bank of Nevada 2x re Trust deposit	2.50

POST-DISCHARGE BILLING FROM SIMON LAW (billing information taken from Ex. JJ and KK)		
AMF	11/30/2017 Email to George Ogilvie instructing him to stop working on the case	0.15
AMF	11/30/2017 Review, Download & Save Letter to Counsel	0.30
AMF	11/30/2017 Review, Download & Save Correspondence to Discovery Commissioner Bulla regarding Hearings	0.30
AMF	11/30/2017 Review Viking's 19th ECC Supplement	1.00
AMF	11/30/2017 Review Letter from Lange regarding discovery scheduling and discussion with DSS	0.75
	11/30/2017-	
AMF	12/2/2017 Email chain with DSS re attorney lien	0.15
AMF	12/1/2017 Draft Notice of Attorney Lien, serve and prepare & send all liens certified mail return receipt requested	2.50
AMF	12/1/2017 Review, Download & Save Lange Plumbing Verification to Rogs	0.30
AMF	12/1/2017 Review, Download & Save notice of Attorney Lien	0.30
AMF	12/1/2017 Review Release from Viking and discussion with DSS re release	0.50
AMF	12/4/2017 Draft and serve notice to vacate deposition of UL Laboratories	0.25
AMF	12/4/2017 Review Lange written discovery responses	1.50
AMF	12/4/2017 Discussion with DSS re scheduling and status of case	0.40
	Review, Download & Save Notice Vacating the 2nd Amended Video Depo of NRCP30(b) (6) Designees of	
AMF	12/4/2017 Underwriters Laboratories	0.30
AMF	12/4/2017 Review, Download & Save Discovery Commissioners Report and Recommendations	0.30
AMF	12/5/2017 Email chain with UL re vacating depo	0.15
AMF	12/6/2017 Review Lange's 13th ECC Disclosure	2.50
AMF	12/6/2017 Review email from DSS re notice to vacate Caranahan depo	0.15
AMF	12/6/2017 Draft and serve Notice to Vacate Robert Carnahan Deposition	0.50
AMF	12/6/2017 TC with Judge Jones law clerk rehearing scheduling; Discussion with DSS	0.50
AMF	12/6/2017 Review, Download & Save Service Only -- Lange Plumbing 13th Supp to NRCP 16.1 ECC	0.30
AMF	12/6/2017 Review, Download & Save Service Only -- Notice of Vacating the Continued Video Depo of Robert Carnahan	0.30
AMF	12/7/2017 Review, Download & Save MDGF- Def The Viking Corporation & Supply Network MGF Settlement & Request for OST	0.30
AMF	12/8/2017 Review Viking Motion for Good Faith Settlement, Analyz and discussion with DSS	0.75
AMF	12/8/2017 Review Lange's 14th and 15th ECC Disclosure	0.50
AMF	12/8/2017 Email Chain with DSS re Order Granting Giberti MGFS	0.15
AMF	12/8/2017 Review Stipulation to Dismiss from Viking and Discussion with DSS	0.50
AMF	12/8/2017 Review, Download & Save Lange Plumbing 15th Supplement to 16.1 ECC List Witnesses and Docs	0.30

POST-DISCHARGE BILLING FROM SIMON LAW (billing information taken from Ex. JJ and KK)			
AMF	12/8/2017	Review, Download & Save Lange Plumbing 14th Supp to 16,1 ECC List of Witnesses and Docs	0.30
AMF	12/11/2017	Discussion with DSS re client's release of claims	0.20
AMF	12/11/2017	Review email from DSS re Lange's 15th ECC Supplement and response	0.25
AMF	12/11/2017	Review email from DSS re Lange's 15th ECC Supplement and response	0.25
AMF	12/12/2017	Review Order granting Giberti Motion for Good Faith Settlement and discussion with DSS	0.25
AMF	12/12/2017	Review, Download & Save Ltr. To Discovery Commissioner Bulla Re. Settlement	0.30
AMF	12/13/2017	Review, Download & Save NEO Granting Third Party Def. Giberti Construction LLC Motion for Good Faith Settlement	0.30
AMF	1/8/2018	Draft Notice of Amended Attorney Lien, serve and prepare & send all liens certified mail return receipt requested	1.50
DSS		HOURS BILLED FOR DANIEL S. SIMON @ \$550 RATE	51.85
AMF		HOURS BILLED FOR ASHLEY M. FERRELL @ \$275 RATE	19.25
		TOTAL HOURS BILLED	71.10
		SIMON FEES	28517.50
		FERRELL FEES	5293.75
		TOTAL POST-DISCHARGE FEES	33811.25
		SUMMARY OF POST-DISCHARGE WORK BILLED BY SIMON LAW	
		Admin tasks re Lange Settlement	21.55
		Admin tasks re Viking Settlement, including one hearing (1)	26.65
		Preparation of Attorney Lien	4.85
		Opening Bank Account & Depositing Settlement Checks	7.25
		Undetermined - not sufficient description	10.80
			71.10
		(1) For purpose of estimating category, all T/C with Vannah were added to this category.	

**EDGEWORTHS' MOTION FOR ORDER RELEASING
CLIENT FUNDS AND REQUIRING THE PRODUCTION
OF COMPLETE CASE FILE**

Attorneys for Defendant
Edgeworth Family Trust and
American Grating, LLC

Defendants.

) HEARING REQUESTED

MORRIS LAW GROUP
801 S. RANCHO DR., STE. B4 • LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89106
702/474-9400 • FAX 702/474-9422

Defendants Edgeworth Family Trust and American Grating, LLC (collectively referred to as "Edgeworths") respectfully move this Court for an order releasing the Edgeworths' settlement funds now being held in a Bank of Nevada Account, requiring the signatures of Robert Vannah and Daniel Simon for release, into the Morris Law Group Trust account, and ordering the release of over \$1.5M in the account that is not reasonably in dispute. The Edgeworths further move for an Order requiring Simon to produce their complete client file to them or, at a minimum, deposit the complete client file with the Court, as he said he would do nearly a year ago.

This Motion is based on the papers and pleadings on file, the declaration of Rosa Solis-Rainey and any argument the Court may consider on this matter.

**MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF
MOTION FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS AND MOTION FOR PRODUCTION
OF COMPLETE CLIENT FILE**

The Court is aware of the facts of this case; thus, only those facts necessary to address the narrow issues presented by this motion will be summarized.

I. *RELEVANT FACTS*

On November 30, 2017, Daniel Simon filed an attorney charging lien against settlement proceeds due to the Edgeworths for \$80,326.86 in costs that were "continuing to accrue." Ex. A. On January 2, 2018, he amended his lien, reducing the costs claimed to be accruing to \$76,535.93¹ and attorney fees totaling \$2,345,450 less payments received from the Edgeworths, for a net of \$1,977,843.80. *See* Ex. B. On January 8, 2018, the Viking settlement

¹ Simon again reduced the cost amount later, and the Edgeworths paid the costs, as the Court acknowledged. *See* Nov. 19, 2018 Decision and Order on Motion to Adjudicate Lien at 17:12-13 ("there are no outstanding costs remaining owed").

proceeds were deposited into a bank account that requires dual signatures for release, Mr. Simon's and Robert Vannah's, whom the Edgeworths had retained to help Simon finish finalizing the settlement. Settlement funds in excess of those that would satisfy Simon's claimed lien were released to the Edgeworths. Today, however, more than \$2M remains in that account, of which no more than \$537,502.50 would completely satisfy the amount this Court and the Nevada Supreme Court has ruled would pay Simon *all* he would be entitled to *if* the Edgeworths' pending motion to reconsider this Court's Third Amended Decision and Order is denied. Mr. Vannah has confirmed he will sign to transfer the funds now; Mr. Simon would not agree to the transfer or release of any funds to avoid this motion practice and judicial intervention. *See* Exs. C and D.

With respect to the case file, the Edgeworths requested in 2017 that Simon provide them with all documentation he had regarding the Viking settlement discussions. Ex. E. In response, he provided two settlement drafts on November 30, 2017. Ex. DD and EE to 5/3/21 Mot. for Recon. In 2018, Simon also provided the Edgeworths' "original file," but it was not complete and only included selected portions of the file. Ex. F. When the Edgeworths realized the file was incomplete, their counsel served Simon's counsel with a notice of intent to bring a motion to compel the production of the complete file under NRS 7.055(2). Ex. G. After much back and forth addressing Simon's alleged obstacles to producing the file, his office sent Mr. Edgeworth the file, minus "protected confidential material" and promised to deposit the balance of the file with the Court, which he did not do. Ex. H, May 27, 2020 Exchanges; *see also* Exs. 2 – 4 to Pl.'s Opp'n to Mot.for Recon. The files he did produce were on a portable hard drive; the files were disorganized and often indecipherable, which made review very difficult and time consuming. Solis-Rainey Decl. ¶6.

1 Because the file was still not complete, Edgeworths' counsel raised the
2 deficiencies in a telephone call to Simon's counsel, James Christensen. Solis-
3 Rainey Decl. ¶ 9. Mr. Christensen asked that a list of items identified as
4 missing be provided so he could discuss it with Mr. Simon. *Id.* As he
5 requested, a letter outlining the deficiencies noted thus far was sent to Mr.
6 Christensen on May 4, 2021. Ex. I. Among the deficiencies noted in the
7 allegedly "complete" file produced in 2020 was email produced between
8 Simon and opposing counsel or other third parties that had been stripped of
9 the referenced attachments. The file also did not include correspondence,
10 including email, with third parties regarding the settlement of the Viking
11 and Lange Plumbing claims. Also missing were earlier drafts of the
12 settlement agreements with Viking and Lange, complete communications to
13 and from the experts, including expert reports, if any, as well as research
14 memos (and much of the research) prepared on behalf of the Edgeworths.
15 *Id.*

16 In response to the letter he requested, Mr. Christensen resurrected the
17 same excuses raised by Simon's other counsel in 2020 for not producing the
18 file. Ex. J. These included the claimed retaining lien on the file and alleged
19 confidentiality issues for which he provided no substantiation, both excuses
20 raised and presumably resolved when Simon tendered the allegedly
21 complete, but in fact incomplete, file in 2020. Nevada law requires Mr.
22 Simon, a terminated attorney, to turn over the **complete** client file. His prior
23 productions of incomplete files suggest that the excuses offered for failure to
24 produce his complete file show gamesmanship to frustrate the Edgeworths
25 that is indicated by the folder Simon named "Finger for Edgeworth" in the
26 incomplete file he provided in 2020. Ex. K. The record also demonstrates
27 that when seeking to substantiate his "super bill," Simon and his office spent
28 extensive time going through what his associate described as a "huge" client

1 file, much of which was in paper form; with extensive email. *See, e.g.*, Ex. L
2 at 106, 108, 109, 111-12. During the August 29, 2018 hearing, in fact, Simon's
3 office claimed that all billed entries describing email "ha[d] all been
4 produced." Ex. L. at 197. Complete email is among the items missing from
5 the file Simon produced. *See* Ex. J.

6 II. *LEGAL STANDARD*

7 This Court found that Simon was discharged November 29, 2017, and
8 that he was entitled to the reasonable value of his services after he was
9 discharged, *from November 30 forward*. That decision has been appealed
10 and affirmed by the Nevada Supreme Court. In its December 30, 2020 Order
11 the Supreme Court said:

12

13 [w]e conclude that the district court acted within its sound
14 discretion by finding that the Edgeworths constructively
15 discharged Simon on November 29, 2017.

16 Although we conclude that the district court correctly
17 found that Simon was entitled to quantum meruit for work done
18 after the constructive discharge . . . we agree with the
19 Edgeworths that the district court abused its discretion by
20 awarding \$200,000 in quantum meruit without making findings
regarding the work Simon performed after the constructive
discharge.

21 12/30/20 Order, Nev. Sup. Ct. Case Nos. 77678/76176 *rehearing denied*)
22 (emphasis added and citations omitted). Simon challenged the amount
23 awarded to him in a writ proceeding in the Supreme Court, which was
24 consolidated with two other then-pending cases for most of the appellate
25 proceedings. It was deconsolidated for disposition on December 28, and on
26 December 30, 2020, the Supreme Court issued an Order denying the writ
27 petition as moot, because the issues had been adjudicated in the Court's
28 substantive order issued that same day in which this Court's award of
\$200,000 in *quantum meruit* was vacated and the case remanded for further

proceedings on the basis for awarding the \$200,000. 12/30/20 Order, Nev. Sup. Ct. 79821 (writ).

The Edgeworths did not challenge the roughly \$285K in fees the district court awarded for the period of September 19 to November 29, 2017. *Id.* at 2-3, and at n.3. The Supreme Court Order irrevocably establishes the law of the case and now controls in this Court. The law of the case doctrine prevents Simon from rearguing that he is entitled to more than the reasonable value of the limited services he provided *from November 30, 2017 forward*. *Hsu v. County of Clark*, 123 Nev. 625, 629-30, 173 P.3d 724, 728 (2007) ("[w]hen an appellate court states a principle or rule of law necessary to a decision, the principle or rule becomes the law of the case and must be followed throughout its subsequent progress, both in the lower court and upon subsequent appeal.")

With respect to Simon's client file, NRS 7.055 requires that "an attorney who has been discharged . . . upon demand and payment of the fee due from the client, immediately deliver to the client all papers, documents, pleadings and items of tangible personal property which belong to or were prepared for that client." The statute goes on to say that "if there is doubt as to the ownership" of any portions of the file, it may be deposited with the clerk of the court, which Simon said he would do, but did not.

III. *ARGUMENT*

A. The Client's Funds Should be Released to Them.

The Supreme Court remanded this case to this Court for a limited purpose: to explain the basis for the \$200K *quantum meruit* award, and its reasonableness.² In an effort to avoid this motion, the Edgeworths proposed to Simon that the account at Bank of Nevada be transferred to Morris Law

² The remand also required that the Court evaluate the reasonableness of the fees granted under NRS 18.010(2)(b), but that amount is not in issue in this Motion, and the fees will be satisfied from the proceeds once released.

Group's Trust Account, and that all *uncontested* amounts be paid at once to Simon and/or his counsel. The contested amount would be maintained in the Morris Law Group Trust account, and the balance disbursed to the Edgeworths. Simon refused this proposal, taking the position that if the Edgeworths could maintain the *quantum meruit* amount was less than awarded by the Court, he could take the position that he is owed more than \$200,000. This position is not credible under the law of the case. Simon was given a full opportunity to adjudicate the amount owed to him; his claim that he is entitled to \$2.4M in fees (less payments received) has been considered and rejected by this Court and affirmed by the Supreme Court. He has presented a list of the services performed between November 30 forward, and he cannot now reopen or enlarge the *quantum meruit* amount or period as he wishes to do. With his compensation issues conclusively decided but for the limited post-discharge period, Simon has no legitimate excuse for holding over \$2M of the Edgeworths' funds hostage. His belief that he was entitled to nearly \$2M that he alleged in his charging lien filed on January 2, 2018 has been conclusively rejected. He cannot, as a matter of law, reasonably maintain that he is entitled to more than the \$252,520 for attorney fees, costs, and *quantum meruit* that the Supreme Court directed this Court to justify would be reasonable.

Simon's repeated claims that the money is being held pursuant to orders of this Court are not substantiated by the record. *See* Ex. M, Excerpts of Simon's Opp'n to Edgeworths' Special Mot. to Dismiss in Case No. A-19-807433-C at 11:20-21 (stating that "disputed funds remain held in trust . . . because *the Court ordered that the money should not be distributed* pending *appeal*." (emphasis added)); at 27:22-23 ("Following the hearing, Judge Jones *ordered the funds remain in the account* after the Edgeworths *appealed* to the Supreme Court." (emphasis added)); *see also* Ex. N Excerpts

1 of Simon's Opp'n to Vannah's NRCP 12(b)(5) Mot. to Dismiss at 13:9-10
2 ("Only the disputed funds remain in the special trust account. *Simon is*
3 *following the District Court order* to keep the disputed funds safe pending
4 appeal."). The Edgeworths' former counsel brought a motion to release the
5 funds, *after* the appeal was noticed but *before* it was heard. Correctly,
6 however, this Court found that "the Court does not have jurisdiction as this
7 case has been appealed . . ." 2/5/19 Min. Order. Though the minute order
8 instructed plaintiff's counsel prepare the order and submit it to opposing
9 counsel for review, and then to the Court, there is no record that instruction
10 was followed. A disposition due to lack of jurisdiction is not an instruction
11 to withhold all of the funds in the account following appeal, as Simon
12 claims. In any event, the appeal has been decided and remand has been
13 issued with regard to not all that is held in trust, but only \$252,520 of those
14 funds.

15 Furthermore, Simon's insistence on unilaterally withholding over \$2M
16 from the settlement proceeds was inconsistent with NRS 18.015(1), which
17 permits a charging lien, but only in "the amount of any fee **which has been**
18 **agreed upon** by the attorney and client." NRS 18.015(1)(b)³; *see also, Hoff v.*
19 *Walters*, 129 Nev. 1122 (2013) (unpublished) (recognizing statute sets the
20 limit on amount of charging lien). Simon knew at the time he asserted the
21 lien that the fees he claimed were disputed, and he knew the time spent on
22 the file, and the hourly rates that had been established for his firm's work.
23 At most, Simon should have asserted a lien only for an amount equal to the
24 hours he billed at the rate that he requested and applied throughout his
25 relationship with the Edgeworths.

26
27 ³ NRS 18.015(1)(b) in its entirety says "A lien pursuant to subsection 1
28 is for the amount of any fee which has been agreed upon by the attorney
and client. In the absence of an agreement, the lien is for a reasonable fee for
the services which the attorney has rendered for the client."

1 Even if Simon legitimately believed that the amount of his lien "was
2 the reasonable fee for the services," once the Court determined that Simon
3 was not entitled to a contingency or flat fee, and that he was entitled to
4 approximately \$485,000 in fees, Simon should have immediately released
5 the balance of the settlement proceeds that Simon encumbered to the client.
6 Nothing in NRS 18.015(1)(b) permits a lawyer to withhold more of the
7 client's funds than what was agreed for fees and costs, and certainly not
8 more than the Court determined a lien was worth. This is especially true
9 when the dispute over the amount owed arises because of the attorney's
10 own failure to communicate the basis or rate of his compensation "to the
11 client, preferably in writing, before or within a reasonable time after
12 commencing the representation." RPC 1.5.

13 The approximately \$285K based on the implied contract at the hourly
14 rates he requested for work performed on or prior to November 29, 2017 has
15 been accepted and is not in issue, as the Supreme Court recognized. The
16 \$200K in *quantum meruit* for the reasonable value of the limited post-
17 discharge services provided is all that remains in issue.

18 The Edgeworths have sought reconsideration of the *quantum meruit*
19 award because they do not understand the basis for it, and because it does
20 not comport with the Supreme Court's mandate. Given the finality of the
21 findings that Simon is not entitled to a contingency fee, or a \$1M+ flat fee, it
22 is unreasonable for him to maintain that the amount held in trust (more than
23 \$2M) should be held as security for what *at most* is \$200,000 in issue. Please
24 remember that the reasonable value of the services Simon provided, post-
25 discharge, based on his own records, is less than \$34,000. He should not be
26 allowed to hold approximately \$1.5M hostage.

1 **B. The Edgeworths are Entitled to Their Complete Client File.**

2 Like he is doing with the trust funds on deposit, Simon continues to
3 hold the Edgeworths' *complete* file⁴ hostage. The Edgeworths have
4 requested missing portions of their file since 2017. *See* Ex. E. The missing
5 information from the file was requested in 2018 and Simon produced
6 *portions* of it. *See* F. Although Simon disputes the earlier request date, he
7 cannot dispute that the Edgeworths made clear and unambiguous demands
8 for their *complete* file by May 17, 2020. Ex. G.

9 Simon previously told this Court that the file had been produced.
10 4/13/21 Opp'n to Mot. for Reconsid. at 6 (under the heading "The
11 Edgeworths have the case file," they go on to say: "In 2020, a different
12 Edgeworth lawyer asked for the file and the file was given directly to Brian
13 Edgeworth as requested."). This representation to the Court was made in the
14 context of the Edgeworths' contention that they did not have their *complete*
15 *file*. *See* 3/30/21 Mot. for Recon. at 14. Following the 2020 demands for the
16 complete file, Simon again threw up obstacles to its production, claiming the
17 existence of a retaining lien (which he knew was secured many times over
18 by the amount of the settlement funds still tied up due to his refusal to
19 release the account) and demanding that counsel sign a protective order in
20 place in the underlying case. *See* Ex. G (re retaining lien); Ex. H at 3 (re
21 protective order issue). The Edgeworths' counsel properly reminded Simon
22 that the clients were already bound by the protective order and entitled to
23 receive their complete file, without counsel needing to sign the protective
24

25 ⁴ The 2020 exchanges concerning the file acknowledged that "internal
26 emails based on relevancy, work product privilege and proportionality" had
27 been withheld. *See* Ex. P. Without waiving any objections or rights
28 regarding those "internal" emails, that should nonetheless be preserved in
light of defamation litigation initiated by Simon, the strictly internal emails
are not the subject of this Motion.

1 order. Ex. H. Ultimately, Simon's counsel agreed to produce the file, sans the
2 "confidential material" from third-parties, and agreed he would deposit "the
3 balance of the file with the Clerk." Ex. H at 3. While an electronic drive with
4 a portion of the file was sent to Mr. Edgeworth, there is no indication in the
5 record that the rest of the file was deposited with the court clerk.

6 When Edgeworths' counsel again demanded the file pursuant to NRS
7 7.055, Ex. I, Mr. Christensen claimed it had been previously produced, and
8 when informed that significant gaps remained, he asked for a list of what
9 was believed to be missing. Ex. J. Simon's response to the latest demand for
10 the file confirms that despite his contention that the mostly-complete file
11 had been produced, is simply not true. *Id.* Simon's counsel again raises the
12 false retaining lien and confidentiality issues raised and addressed, and
13 presumably resolved, in 2020. Ex. H.

14 The retaining lien issue should be a non-starter given that Simon
15 refuses to sign off on releasing the \$2M+ funds that he is essentially now
16 controlling (Mr. Vannah has unequivocally agreed to sign off on the transfer
17 of the funds), despite the Edgeworths' offer to settle all undisputed balances
18 owed to him, and maintain the contested portion in trust. Simon is more
19 than adequately secured. He cannot legitimately use that excuse to withhold
20 the file. Simon resurrected contention that confidentiality issues that were
21 resolved nearly one year ago when he produced portions of the file also do
22 not support withholding it. The Edgeworths are bound by the
23 confidentiality terms in the underlying litigation, and they are entitled to
24 their complete client file, especially since Simon has sued them in a separate
25 lawsuit. Simon has offered no legitimate reason for continuing withholding
26 the Edgeworth's complete file; the Court should order it to be produced, at
27 once, consistent with NRS 7.055.
28

IV. *CONCLUSION*

For the foregoing reasons, the Edgeworths respectfully ask that the Court issue an order requiring Simon to sign off to transfer the withheld settlement trust funds into the Morris Law Group Trust Account, and thereafter authorize Morris Law Group to hold \$537,502.50 in the Trust Account to disburse as set forth below, and to release the remainder of the settlement funds to the Edgeworths:

- (1) \$284,982.50 to Simon as fees for the period between September 19 and November 29, 2017;
- (2) \$52,520 to Simon for attorney's fees (\$50,000) and costs (\$2,520) awarded under NRS 18.010(2)(b);
- (3) At least \$200,000 to be maintained in Trust pending a final disposition on the amount Simon is due under *quantum meruit*.

The Edgeworths further request pursuant to NRS 7.055, that the Court order Simon to turn over their complete client file to them; understanding they will remain bound by the confidentiality order for the duration stated therein.

MORRIS LAW GROUP

By: /s/ STEVE MORRIS

Steve Morris, Bar No. 1543
Rosa Solis-Rainey, Bar No. 7921
801 S. Rancho Dr., Ste. B4
Las Vegas, Nevada 89106

Attorneys for Defendants
Edgeworth Family Trust and
American Grating, LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to Nev. R. Civ. P. 5(b) and NEFCR 9, I certify that I am an employee of MORRIS LAW GROUP, and that I caused the following to be served via the Court's mandatory e-filing and service system to those persons designated by the parties in the E-Service Master list for the above-referenced matter: **EDGEWORTHS' MOTION FOR ORDER RELEASING CLIENT FUNDS AND REQUIRING THE PRODUCTION OF COMPLETE CLIENT FILE**

DATED this 13th day of May, 2021.

By: /s/ TRACI K. BAEZ
An employee of Morris Law Group

EXHIBIT O

May 11, 2021 Email from Rosa-Solis Rainey to
Jim Christensen in Response to his letter dated
5/7/2021

Rosa Solis-Rainey

From: Rosa Solis-Rainey
Sent: Tuesday, May 11, 2021 10:31 AM
To: 'jim@jchristensenlaw.com'
Cc: Steve Morris
Subject: Edgeworth Matter - Response to your letter dated 5/7/21

Jim:

I am in receipt of your response dated May 7, 2021. As I mentioned when we spoke and in my letter, Mr. Edgeworth was provided a part of his file but the file was by no means complete. The excuses raised in your letter for not producing the complete file are ones that were discussed ad nauseam in 2020, and since the files were ultimately produced to Mr. Edgeworth, were presumably abandoned or resolved. I do not see any benefit to either of our clients in rehashing those arguments. This includes the fees outstanding, which you know your client is fully secured for given the \$2M+ still held, essentially under his control.

Your letter references an NDA, but one is not included either in your letter or in the 2020 exchanges your letter directs me to. In either case, Ms. Lee properly responded to that issue when she reminded the sender that the Edgeworths are already parties to the confidentiality provisions, and confidentiality was therefore not an excuse for withholding the file. My position on that excuse for withholding the file is the same. You're welcome to send me a copy of the NDA you referenced, but I don't see that as a legitimate obstacle to avoid production. Point of fact, you produced the file (incomplete as it was) to Mr. Edgeworth without further signatures on the protective order, thus confirming that the confidentiality argument was resolved to everyone's satisfaction.

In any event, the Edgeworths are not seeking tax returns or proprietary company information from Viking or Lange, though I do believe it should be preserved. To the extent confidentiality is your client's excuse for withholding any part of the file, he should schedule the documents withheld on a log and deposit that portion of the file with the Court so that we can adequately challenge the propriety of him withholding those documents. Note that the email exchanges from last year indicate Mr. Christianssen said he would deposit the challenged portions of the file with the Court last year, but there is no indication in the record the deposit was made.

With respect to your request for clarification, I expect that all email exchanges pertaining to the litigation would be produced in their complete form, including attachments. That is not difficult task if the files were properly maintained, and the complete email with attachments is what would have been captured if you transferred the email onto the production drive from the custodians' email (i.e., it takes more work to remove attachments). As I told you on the phone, the representation in 2020 was that the complete file being produced would not include the strictly internal emails, and the Edgeworths accepted that for the time being. I did not raise internal email among the "missing" portions of the file because of that prior agreement, though I expect that your client will honor his obligation to preserve that internal email along with all other communications, as they may be discoverable in the subsequent litigation he commenced.

With respect to the settlement agreements, the only drafts I am aware your clients produced regarding the Viking settlement are the two drafts produced on November 30, 2017 and the copy ultimately signed. With respect to the Lange settlement, I am aware of a draft sent in early December 2017, which appears to be the draft ultimately signed. No email regarding the settlement discussions was produced.

Unrelated to the file but an open item nonetheless, you said you would get back to me regarding your client's position on transferring the money into our Trust Account, and have not yet done so. Please provide me a response on that issue. Also, you mentioned that the writ somehow left open the question of the quantum meruit period. Note that on

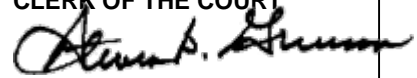
page 4 of the Supreme Court's Order on the appeal, it specifically affirmed the quantum meruit period as following the constructive discharge of November 29. Attempts to enlarge that period now are barred by the law of the case, so the only open question is the reasonable value of the November 30, 2017 forward services. I do not believe you can reasonably claim that is the \$2M+ your client is tying up by refusing the release the funds.

If you still have questions, please contact me. I would prefer to resolve the issue promptly and without judicial intervention, but if that is not possible, we will proceed with a motion.

Rosa Solis-Rainey
MORRIS LAW GROUP
801 S. Rancho Dr., Ste B4
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89106
(702) 474-9400 (Main)
(702) 759-8321 (Direct)
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This e-mail is sent by a law firm and contains information that may be privileged and confidential. If you are not the intended recipient, please delete the e-mail and notify us immediately.

**EDGEWORTHS' MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF
ORDER ON MOTION FOR ORDER RELEASING CLIENT
FUNDS AND REQUIRING THE PRODUCTION OF
COMPLETE CASE FILE**



MRCN
MORRIS LAW GROUP
Steve Morris, Bar No. 1543
Rosa Solis-Rainey, Bar No. 7921
801 S. Rancho Dr., Ste. B4
Las Vegas, NV 89106
Telephone: (702) 474-9400
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Email: sm@morrislawgroup.com
Email: rsr@morrislawgroup.com

Attorneys for Defendant
Edgeworth Family Trust and
American Grating, LLC

DISTRICT COURT
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST;
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,

Plaintiffs,

v.

LANGE PLUMBING, LLC ET AL.,

Defendants.

) Case No: A-16-738444-C

) Dept. No: X

)

) EDGEWORTHS' MOTION FOR
) RECONSIDERATION OF ORDER
) ON MOTION FOR ORDER
) RELEASING CLIENT FUNDS
) AND REQUIRING THE
) PRODUCTION OF COMPLETE
) CLIENT FILE

)

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST;
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DANIEL S. SIMON, AT AL.,

Defendants.

) AND

)

) MOTION TO STAY EXECUTION
) OF JUDGMENTS PENDING
) APPEAL

)

) Case No: A-18-767242-C

) Dept. No. X

)

) HEARING REQUESTED

)

Defendants Edgeworth Family Trust and American Grating, LLC (collectively referred to as "Edgeworths") respectfully move this Court for an reconsideration of its order filed on June 17, 2021, notice of entry filed on June 18, 2021, on the Edgeworths' motion for release of funds and for an order requiring production of the Edgeworths' complete client file.

The Edgeworths also move for an order staying execution of the Second Amended Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part Simon's Motion for Attorney's Fees and Costs, entered on May 24, 2021 and the Order Denying Plaintiff's Renewed Motion for Reconsideration of Third-Amended Decision and Order on Motion to Adjudicate Lien, entered on June 18, 2021. These Motions are based on the papers and pleadings on file, the exhibits referenced herein, and any argument the Court may permit.

**MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF
MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF ORDER ON MOTION FOR
RELEASE OF FUNDS AND MOTION FOR PRODUCTION OF COMPLETE
CLIENT FILE AND ENTRY OF ORDER STAYING ENFORCEMENT OF
JUDGMENTS PENDING APPEAL**

The Court is aware of the facts of this case; thus, they will not be set forth herein, but are incorporated from the underlying motions.

A. LEGAL STANDARDS

A party may seek reconsideration within 14 days after service of written notice of the order. E.D.C.R. 2.24. Reconsideration is appropriate when the Court has misapprehended or overlooked important facts when making its decision, *Matter of Ross*, 99 Nev. 657, 659, 668 P.2d 1089, 1091 (1983), when new evidence is presented, or when the decision is "clearly erroneous." *Masonry and Tile Contractors Ass'n of Southern Nevada v. Jolley, Urga & Wirth, Ltd.*, 113 Nev. 737, 741, 941 P.2d 486, 489 (1997). Here, the Court's Order denying the Edgeworths' request to maintain an amount equal to the full judgment in the undersigned's IOLTA account, disburse uncontested amounts, and release funds in excess of the judgment amounts

1 is clearly erroneous, and based on a misapprehension of the facts presented.
2 The Court's Order denying the release of the client's file is also clearly
3 erroneous and should be reconsidered.

4 In addition, and pursuant to Nev. R. Civ. P. 62, the Edgeworths seek
5 an order expressly staying the judgments entered by the Court in its Second
6 Amended Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part Simon's Motion for
7 Attorney's Fees and Costs, entered on May 24, 2021, resulting in a judgment
8 of \$52,520, as well as staying the Order Denying Plaintiff's Renewed Motion
9 for Reconsideration of Third Amended Decision and Order on Motion to
10 Adjudicate Lien, entered on June 18, 2021, resulting in a judgment of
11 \$484,982.50 (reconsideration denied June 18, 2021).¹

12 **B. THE COURT HAS ADJUDICATED THE LIEN AMOUNT AND HAS**
13 **NO AUTHORITY TO ENCUMBER MORE THAN THE JUDGMENT**
14 **AMOUNT.**

15 NRS 18.015(6) provides that "a court shall, after 5 days' notice to all
16 interested parties, adjudicate the rights of the attorney, client, or other
17 parties and enforce the lien." This Court has adjudicated Simon's lien, and
18 determined he is entitled to \$484,982.50 in attorney fees for the work
19 claimed under the lien. Of this amount, the Court determined \$284,982.50 is
20 due under the implied contract, and \$200,000 in quantum meruit. There is
21 no legal justification to encumber the Edgeworths' account for amounts in
22 excess of the Court's judgment "because the Court has not issued a final
23 order in this matter and the time for appeal has not run." Order at 2. As

24 ¹ The Third Amended Lien Order, filed on April 19, 2021 (in Case No.
25 A-18-767242-C) and again on April 28, 2021 (in Case No. A-16-738444-C)
26 resulted in a judgment of \$556,577.43; however, Simon and the Court have
27 both acknowledged that the costs included in the total (\$71,594.93) were
28 paid in 2018 and are no longer owed. *See* Third Am. Lien Order at 18 (Court
finds that there are no outstanding costs remaining owed); Nov. 19, 2018
Decision and Order on Motion to Adjudicate Lien at 17:12-13 (*same*). The
Court's entry of a judgment for amounts admittedly paid also exceeds its
jurisdiction.

another court recognized in addressing a lien question under NRS 18.015, "adjudication of the lien has obviously happened here. To wit, [the party's] motion to foreclose on the lien has been resolved, judgment on fees has been entered, and collection remedies are available for that judgment." *Guerrero v. Wharton*, Case No. 2:16-cv-01667-GMN-NJK, 2019 WL 4346571 at *2 (Sept. 12, 2019) (Slip Copy).

The same is true in this case. The Court has adjudicated the parties' rights under the lien, and the full judgment amount is secured. There remains nothing more for this Court to do. Should the Edgeworths wish to appeal, enforcement of the judgment can continue unless the Court stays enforcement. Nev. R. Civ. P. 62 provides a stay as a matter of right if a supersedeas bond in the full judgment amount is posted, unless the Court makes findings that a lesser amount is appropriate under the circumstances. *Nelson v. Heer*, 121 Nev. 832, 836, 122 P.3d 1252, 1254 (2005). The very purpose of a supersedeas bond is "to protect the judgment creditor's ability to collect the judgment if it is affirmed by preserving the status quo and preventing prejudice to the creditor arising from the stay" pending appeal. *Id.* at 835, 122 P.3d at 1254. Here, Simon is adequately secured. The Court has no authority to require security of nearly four times the judgment amount.

The Court's June 17, 2021 Order gave two reasons for requiring this excessive security: (1) "the Motion is premature"; and (2) "there is a bilateral agreement to hold the disputed funds in an interest-bearing account at the bank . . .". Neither of these reasons is supported by the law.

With respect to the prematurity issue, once the Court adjudicated the lien, which it did in 2018, and again in 2021, the Court's work was complete. *See* Ex. A, Excerpts of Court's Dockets, reflecting judgments totalling

1 \$609,097.40;² *see also Guerrero, supra*; NRCp 62 (providing for post-
2 judgment security).

3 To the extent that the Court's order was based on accepting Simon's
4 argument that the "a bilateral agreement to hold the disputed funds in an
5 interest-bearing account at the bank" controlled by Simon and Vannah, the
6 Edgeworths' former counsel, the Court's order is clearly erroneous, and
7 premised on misapprehended facts. The funds were placed in an interest-
8 bearing account at a bank because of the very lien dispute that the Court has
9 since adjudicated. The account was established because the Edgeworths
10 disputed Simon's claim on the funds under the liens he filed in 2017 and
11 2018, which the Court has since rejected. The purpose of the account was to
12 secure the funds pending adjudication of the lien, which the Court has done.
13 Since the lien has been adjudicated for a fraction of the amount Simon
14 claimed, there is no legal justification for withholding funds in excess of the
15 adjudicated lien amount. The excess funds should be immediately released
16 to the Edgeworths to use as they wish, including to satisfy the undisputed
17 portions of the judgment (\$52,520 on the attorney's fees and costs order) and
18 the undisputed \$284,982.50 awarded in the lien order, which this Court
19 entered and the Supreme Court affirmed. The "bilateral agreement" thus has
20 no application to the Court's decision, nor does it justify requiring securing
21 Simon for nearly four times the amount of the judgment simply because his
22 full lien amount has been wrongfully secured for nearly three years.

26 ² The Court may take judicial notice of its docket upon request, or *sua*
27 *sponte*. *See* NRS 47.150(1) (providing that a court may take judicial notice);
28 *see also*, NRS 47.130(2)(b) (providing that a judicially-noticed fact must be
"[c]apable of accurate and ready determination by resort to sources whose
accuracy cannot reasonably be questioned").

1 **C. THE COURT'S REFUSAL TO COMPEL SIMON TO PRODUCE THE**
2 **EDGEWORTHS' COMPLETE CLIENT FILE, OR DEPOSIT DISPUTED**
3 **PORTIONS, IS CLEARLY ERRONEOUS**

4 As to the Court's refusal to compel Simon's production of the
5 Edgeworths file, the Court's decision is erroneous. The Court's role in
6 adjudicating a common law retaining lien claim is to ensure that the
7 lawyer's fees are secured. *Figliuzzi v. Eighth Judicial Dist. Ct.*, 111 Nev. 338,
8 890 P.2d 798 (1995); *Fredianelli v. Fine Carman Price*, 133 Nev. 586, 589, 402
9 P.3d 1254, 1256 (2017) (recognizing that pre-2013 cases remain good law
10 with respect to common law retaining liens). Even if the Court believes that
11 the non-disclosure agreement ("NDA") has application at this point, the
12 Edgeworths are parties to the NDA and are bound by it. Thus they, not
13 Simon, would be responsible if they made any unauthorized disclosures.
14 Furthermore, to the extent the Court is denying the Edgeworths the
15 "complete" file because of the NDA (Order at 3), the legislature built the
16 remedy right into the statute. NRS 7.055 provides that if the right to a
17 portion of the file is disputed, that portion should be deposited with the
18 Court. Since adequate security has been in place since 2018, there was no
19 legal basis for the Court to refuse to compel Simon to produce the
20 Edgeworths' complete file or require him to deposit any disputed portions
21 of the file with the Court.

22 **D. MOTION TO STAY ENFORCEMENT OF JUDGMENTS PENDING**
23 **APPEAL**

24 Pursuant to Nev. R. Civ. P. 62, the Edgeworths move for an order to
25 stay the judgments for \$52,520 on the Court's Second Amended Order
26 Granting in Part and Denying in Part Simon's Motion for Attorney's Fees
27 and Costs, entered on May 24, 2021, and for \$556,577.43 on its Third
28 Amended Decision and Order on Motion to Adjudicate Lien, entered on
 June 18, 2021.

1 Rule 62(d)(2) provides that "a party is entitled to a stay by providing
2 bond or other security." Judgment was entered by the Court on the two
3 foregoing orders for a total of \$609,097.40 (of which Simon and the Court
4 acknowledge only \$537,502.50 remains outstanding). The Edgeworths do
5 not dispute the \$52,520 award or \$284,982.50 of the lien award and have
6 asked the Court to allow them to satisfy these amounts from the settlement
7 funds. Should the Court refuse to reconsider permitting them to pay these
8 undisputed portions from their settlements funds, staying enforcement of
9 the orders pending appeal of that order is appropriate. The purpose of the
10 security is to maintain the status quo, and secure the judgment creditor,
11 Simon, for payment of the judgment if the judgment is affirmed. *Nelson*, 121
12 Nev. at 835, 122 P.3d at 1254.

13 The Edgeworths respectfully ask that the Court enter a stay and either
14 (1) allow the Edgeworths to pay the undisputed portions of the judgments,
15 \$52,520 on the attorney's fees and costs order and \$284,982.50 on the lien
16 order from the settlement proceeds currently on deposit in Morris Law
17 Group's IOLTA account, and deposit of \$200,000 with the Court; or (2)
18 deposit of the entire \$537,502.50 unpaid judgment amount from the
19 settlement monies currently on deposit in Morris Law Group's IOLTA
20 Account while appeal is pending.

21 E. CONCLUSION

22 For the foregoing reasons, the Edgeworths respectfully ask that the
23 Court reconsider its Order compelling the Edgeworths to over-secure Simon
24 and order that security for the Court's judgment be provided, either by:

- 25 (1) depositing \$537,502.50 from the undisbursed settlement funds
26 into the Court; or
- 27 (2) authorizing the Edgeworths to permit Morris Law Group to
28 disburse the undisputed \$337,502.50 as described in this

1 Motion and depositing \$200,000 with the Court from the
2 undisbursed settlement proceeds,
3 and release the Edgeworths' excess funds. The Edgeworths further request
4 that the Court reconsider its order refusing to compel Simon to produce the
5 Edgeworths' entire client file or produce the complete undisputed portion of
6 the file and deposit the claimed "confidential" portions with the Court
7 pursuant to NRS 7.055.

8 Finally, the Edgeworths request an order staying execution of the
9 judgments pending appeal upon deposit with the Court of the full judgment
10 amount, unless disbursement is permitted as described above.

11
12 MORRIS LAW GROUP

13 By: /s/ STEVE MORRIS
14 Steve Morris, Bar No. 1543
15 Rosa Solis-Rainey, Bar No. 7921
16 801 S. Rancho Dr., Ste. B4
17 Las Vegas, Nevada 89106
18 Attorneys for Defendants Edgeworth
19 Family Trust and American Grating,
20 LLC
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to Nev. R. Civ. P. 5(b) and NEFCR 9, I certify that I am an employee of MORRIS LAW GROUP, and that I caused the following to be served via the Court's mandatory e-filing and service system to those persons designated by the parties in the E-Service Master list for the above-referenced matter: EDGEWORTHS' MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF ORDER ON MOTION FOR ORDER RELEASING CLIENT FUNDS AND REQUIRING THE PRODUCTION OF COMPLETE CLIENT FILE AND MOTION TO STAY EXECUTION OF JUDGMENTS PENDING APPEAL

DATED this 1st day of July, 2021.

By: /s/ CATHY SIMICICH
An employee of Morris Law Group

EXHIBIT A

Excerpts of Dockets in Case No. A-16-738444-C and
A-18-767242-C Showing Outstanding Judgments
totaling \$609,097.40

Case Information

A-16-738444-C | Edgeworth Family Trust, Plaintiff(s) vs. Lange Plumbing, L.L.C., Defendant(s)

Case Number	Court	Judicial Officer
A-16-738444-C	Department 10	Jones, Tierra
File Date	Case Type	Case Status
06/14/2016	Product Liability	Closed

Party

Plaintiff
Edgeworth Family Trust

Active Attorneys ▼
Attorney
Morris, Steve L.
Retained

Lead Attorney
Simon, Daniel S.,
ESQ
Retained

Attorney
FERREL, ASHLEY
Retained

Attorney
Christensen, James
R.
Retained

Attorney
Solis-Rainey, Rosa
Retained

05/24/2021 Judgment

Judicial Officer
Jones, Tierra

Judgment Type
Order

Monetary Judgment

Debtors: Edgeworth Family Trust (Plaintiff)

Creditors: Daniel S Simon (Defendant)

Judgment: 05/24/2021 Docketed: 02/08/2019

Total Judgment: \$52,520.00

Comment: In Part

Case Information

A-18-767242-C | Edgeworth Family Trust, Plaintiff(s) vs. Daniel Simon, Defendant(s)

Case Number	Court	Judicial Officer
A-18-767242-C	Department 10	Jones, Tierra
File Date	Case Type	Case Status
01/04/2018	Other Contract	Closed

Party

Plaintiff
Edgeworth Family Trust

Address
400 S. 7th St.
Las Vegas NV 89101

Active Attorneys ▼
Attorney
Morris, Steve L.
Retained

Attorney
Solis-Rainey, Rosa
Retained

Attorney
Atwood, Christine L.
Retained

Lead Attorney
Calvert, Lauren
Retained

Inactive Attorneys ▼
Attorney
Vannah, Robert D.
Retained

04/19/2021 Judgment

Judicial Officer
Jones, Tierra

Judgment Type
Judgment

Monetary Judgment

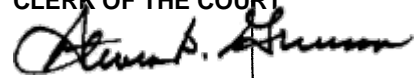
Debtors: Edgeworth Family Trust (Plaintiff), American Grating, LLC (Plaintiff)

Creditors: Law Office of Daniel S Simon (Defendant)

Judgment: 04/19/2021 Docketed: 04/21/2021

Total Judgment: \$556,577.43

**NOTICE OF ENTRY OF THIRD AMENDED DECISION
AND ORDER ON MOTION TO ADJUDICATE LIEN
(AND ORDER)**



James R. Christensen Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 3861
JAMES R. CHRISTENSEN PC
601 S. 6th Street
Las Vegas NV 89101
(702) 272-0406
(702) 272-0415 fax
jim@jchristensenlaw.com
Attorney for SIMON

Eighth Judicial District Court
District of Nevada

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST, and
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC

Plaintiffs,

vs.

LANGE PLUMBING, LLC; THE
VIKING CORPORATION, a Michigan
corporation; SUPPLY NETWORK,
INC., dba VIKING SUPPLYNET, a
Michigan Corporation; and DOES 1
through 5 and ROE entities 6 through
10;

Defendants.

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST;
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC

Plaintiffs,

vs.

DANIEL S. SIMON d/b/a SIMON
LAW; DOES 1 through 10; and, ROE
entities 1 through 10;

Defendants.

Case No.: A-16-738444-C

Dept. No.: 10

NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDERS

Date of Hearing: N/A

Time of Hearing: N/A

Case No.: A-18-767242-C

Dept. No.: 26

Date of Hearing: N/A

Time of Hearing: N/A

1
2 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, the following Orders were entered on the
3 docket:

4 1. March 16, 2021 – Amended Decision and Order Granting in
5 Part and Denying in Part, Simon’s Motion for Attorney’s Fees and Costs;
6

7 2. March 16, 2021 – Second Amended Decision and Order on
8 Motion to Adjudicate Lien;

9 3. April 19, 2021 – Third Amended Decision and Order on Motion
10 to Adjudicate Lien; and,
11

12 4. April 28, 2021 – Third Amended Decision and Order on Motion
13 to Adjudicate Lien.

14 A true and correct copy of each file-stamped order is attached hereto.
15

16 DATED this 16th day of May 2021.

17
18 /s/ James R. Christensen

19 James R. Christensen Esq.
20 Nevada Bar No. 3861
21 JAMES R. CHRISTENSEN PC
22 601 S. 6th Street
23 Las Vegas NV 89101
24 (702) 272-0406
25 (702) 272-0415 fax
jim@jchristensenlaw.com
Attorney for SIMON

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I CERTIFY SERVICE of the foregoing NOTICE OF ENTRY OF
ORDERS was made by electronic service (via Odyssey) this 16th day of
May 2021, to all parties currently shown on the Court's E-Service List.

/s/ Dawn Christensen

an employee of
JAMES R. CHRISTENSEN, ESQ

EXHIBIT 1

1 **ORD**

2 **DISTRICT COURT**
3 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

4
5 **EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; and**
6 **AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,**

7 **Plaintiffs,**

8 **vs.**

9 **LANGE PLUMBING, LLC; THE VIKING**
10 **CORPORATION, a Michigan Corporation;**
11 **SUPPLY NETWORK, INC., dba VIKING**
12 **SUPPLYNET, a Michigan Corporation; and**
13 **DOES 1 through 5; and, ROE entities 6 through**
14 **10;**

15 **Defendants.**

16 **EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; and**
17 **AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,**

18 **Plaintiffs,**

19 **vs.**

20 **DANIEL S. SIMON; THE LAW OFFICE OF**
21 **DANIEL S. SIMON, a Professional Corporation**
22 **d/b/a SIMON LAW; DOES 1 through 10; and,**
23 **ROE entities 1 through 10;**

24 **Defendants.**

CASE NO.: A-18-767242-C

DEPT NO.: X

Consolidated with

CASE NO.: A-16-738444-C

DEPT NO.: X

AMENDED DECISION AND ORDER
GRANTING IN PART AND DENYING IN
PART, SIMON'S MOTION FOR
ATTORNEY'S FEES AND COSTS

25 **AMENDED DECISION AND ORDER ON ATTORNEY'S FEES**

26 This case came on for a hearing on January 15, 2019, in the Eighth Judicial District Court,
27 Clark County, Nevada, the Honorable Tierra Jones presiding. Defendants and movant, Daniel
28 Simon and Law Office of Daniel S. Simon d/b/a Simon Law ("Defendants" or "Law Office" or
"Simon" or "Mr. Simon") having appeared in person and by and through their attorneys of record,
Peter S. Christiansen, Esq. and James Christensen, Esq. and Plaintiff Edgeworth Family Trust and
American Grating, ("Plaintiff" or "Edgeworths") having appeared through Brian and Angela

1 Edgeworth, and by and through their attorneys of record, the law firm of Vannah and Vannah, Chtd.
2 The Court having considered the evidence, arguments of counsel and being fully advised of the
3 matters herein, the **COURT FINDS after review:**

4 The Motion for Attorney's Fees is GRANTED in part, DENIED in part.

5 1. The Court finds that the claim for conversion was not maintained on reasonable grounds, as
6 the Court previously found that when the complaint was filed on January 4, 2018, Mr. Simon was
7 not in possession of the settlement proceeds as the checks were not endorsed or deposited in the trust
8 account. (*Amended Decision and Order on Motion to Dismiss NRCP 12(b)(5)*). As such, Mr.
9 Simon could not have converted the Edgeworth's property. As such, the Motion for Attorney's Fees
10 is GRANTED under 18.010(2)(b) as to the Conversion claim as it was not maintained upon
11 reasonable grounds, since it was an impossibility for Mr. Simon to have converted the Edgeworth's
12 property, at the time the lawsuit was filed.

13 2. Further, The Court finds that the purpose of the evidentiary hearing was primarily on the
14 Motion to Adjudicate Lien. The Motion for Attorney's Fees is DENIED as it relates to other claims.
15 In considering the amount of attorney's fees and costs, the Court finds that the services of Mr. James
16 Christensen, Esq. and Mr. Peter Christiansen, Esq. were obtained after the filing of the lawsuit
17 against Mr. Simon, on January 4, 2018. However, they were also the attorneys in the evidentiary
18 hearing on the Motion to Adjudicate Lien, which this Court has found was primarily for the purpose
19 of adjudicating the lien by Mr. Simon. The Court further finds that the costs of Mr. Will Kemp,
20 Esq. were solely for the purpose of the Motion to Adjudicate Lien filed by Mr. Simon, but the costs
21 of Mr. David Clark, Esq. were solely for the purposes of defending the lawsuit filed against Mr.
22 Simon by the Edgeworths.

23 3. The court has considered all of the *Brunzell* factors pertinent to attorney's fees and attorney's
24 fees are GRANTED. In determining the reasonable value of services provided for the defense of the
25 conversion claim, the COURT FINDS that 64 hours was reasonably spent by Mr. Christensen in
26 preparation and defense of the conversion claim, for a total amount of \$25,600.00. The COURT
27 FURTHER FINDS that 30.5 hours was reasonably spent by Mr. Christiansen in preparation of the
28

1 defense of the conversion claim, for a total of \$24,400.00. As such, the award of attorney's fees is
2 **Dated this 16th day of March, 2021**
3 GRANTED in the amount of \$50,000.00 and costs are GRANTED in the amount of \$5,000.00.

4 IT IS SO ORDERED this 16th day of March, 2021.

5 
6 DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

7 4DA 7C0 B8B6 9D67
8 Tierra Jones
9 District Court Judge
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1 CSERV

2 DISTRICT COURT
3 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA
4

5
6 Edgeworth Family Trust,
7 Plaintiff(s)

CASE NO: A-16-738444-C

8 vs.

DEPT. NO. Department 10

9 Lange Plumbing, L.L.C.,
10 Defendant(s)

11 **AUTOMATED CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

12
13 This automated certificate of service was generated by the Eighth Judicial District
14 Court. The foregoing 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:

15 Service Date: 3/16/2021

16 Daniel Simon .	lawyers@simonlawlv.com
17 Rhonda Onorato .	ronorato@rlattorneys.com
18 Mariella Dumbrique	mdumbrique@blacklobello.law
19 Michael Nunez	mnunez@murchisonlaw.com
20 Tyler Ure	ngarcia@murchisonlaw.com
21 Nicole Garcia	ngarcia@murchisonlaw.com
22 Bridget Salazar	bsalazar@vannahlaw.com
23 John Greene	jgreene@vannahlaw.com
24 James Christensen	jim@jchristensenlaw.com
25 Daniel Simon	dan@danielsimonlaw.com

26
27
28

1 Michael Nunez mnunez@murchisonlaw.com

2 Gary Call gcall@rlattorneys.com

3 J. Graf Rgraf@blacklobello.law

4 Robert Vannah rvannah@vannahlaw.com

5 Christopher Page chrispage@vannahlaw.com

6 Jessie Church jchurch@vannahlaw.com

7
8
9 If indicated below, a copy of the above mentioned filings were also served by mail
10 via United States Postal Service, postage prepaid, to the parties listed below at their last
11 known addresses on 3/17/2021

12 Theodore Parker 2460 Professional CT STE 200
13 Las Vegas, NV, 89128
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EXHIBIT 2

1 **ORD**

2
3
4 **DISTRICT COURT**
5 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

6 EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; and
7 AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,

8 Plaintiffs,

9 vs.

CASE NO.: A-18-767242-C

DEPT NO.: X

10 LANGE PLUMBING, LLC; THE VIKING
11 CORPORATION, a Michigan Corporation;
12 SUPPLY NETWORK, INC., dba VIKING
13 SUPPLYNET, a Michigan Corporation; and
DOES 1 through 5; and, ROE entities 6 through
10;

14 Defendants.

Consolidated with

CASE NO.: A-16-738444-C

DEPT NO.: X

15 EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; and
16 AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,

17 Plaintiffs,

18 vs.

**SECOND AMENDED DECISION AND
ORDER ON MOTION TO ADJUDICATE
LIEN**

19 DANIEL S. SIMON; THE LAW OFFICE OF
20 DANIEL S. SIMON, a Professional Corporation
d/b/a SIMON LAW; DOES 1 through 10; and,
ROE entities 1 through 10;

21 Defendants.

22
23 **SECOND AMENDED DECISION AND ORDER ON MOTION TO**
24 **ADJUDICATE LIEN**

25 This case came on for an evidentiary hearing August 27-30, 2018 and concluded on
26 September 18, 2018, in the Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County, Nevada, the Honorable
27 Tierra Jones presiding. Defendants and movant, Daniel Simon and Law Office of Daniel S. Simon
28 d/b/a Simon Law ("Defendants" or "Law Office" or "Simon" or "Mr. Simon") having appeared in

1 person and by and through their attorneys of record, Peter S. Christiansen, Esq. and James
2 Christensen, Esq. and Plaintiff Edgeworth Family Trust and American Grating, ("Plaintiff" or
3 "Edgeworths") having appeared through Brian and Angela Edgeworth, and by and through their
4 attorneys of record, the law firm of Vannah and Vannah, Chtd. Robert Vannah, Esq. and John
5 Greene, Esq. The Court having considered the evidence, arguments of counsel and being fully
6 advised of the matters herein, the **COURT FINDS:**

7 8 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

9 1. The Court finds that the Law Office of Daniel S. Simon represented the Plaintiffs,
10 Edgeworth Family Trust and American Grating in the case entitled Edgeworth Family Trust and
11 American Grating v. Viking, et al., case number A-16-738444-C. The representation commenced on
12 May 27, 2016 when Brian Edgeworth and Daniel Simon Esq. met at Starbucks. This representation
13 originally began as a favor between friends and there was no discussion of fees, at this point. Mr.
14 Simon and his wife were close family friends with Brian and Angela Edgeworth.

15 2. The case involved a complex products liability issue.

16 3. On April 10, 2016, a house the Edgeworths were building as a speculation home
17 suffered a flood. The house was still under construction and the flood caused a delay. The
18 Edgeworths did not carry loss insurance if a flood occurred and the plumbing company and
19 manufacturer refused to pay for the property damage. A fire sprinkler installed by the plumber, and
20 within the plumber's scope of work, caused the flood; however, the plumber asserted the fire
21 sprinkler was defective and refused to repair or to pay for repairs. The manufacturer of the sprinkler,
22 Viking, et al., also denied any wrongdoing.

23 4. In May of 2016, Mr. Simon agreed to help his friend with the flood claim and to send
24 a few letters. The parties initially hoped that Simon drafting a few letters to the responsible parties
25 could resolve the matter. Simon wrote the letters to the responsible parties, but the matter did not
26 resolve. Since the matter was not resolved, a lawsuit had to be filed.

27 5. On June 14, 2016, a complaint was filed in the case of Edgeworth Family Trust; and
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1 American Grating LLC vs. Lange Plumbing, LLC; the Viking Corporation; Supply Network Inc.,
2 dba Viking Supplynet, in case number A-18-738444-C. The cost of repairs was approximately
3 \$500,000. One of the elements of the Edgeworth's damages against Lange Plumbing LLC ("Lange")
4 in the litigation was for reimbursement of the fees and costs that were paid by the Edgeworths.

5 6. On August 9, 2017, Mr. Simon and Brian Edgeworth traveled to San Diego to meet
6 with an expert. As they were in the airport waiting for a return flight, they discussed the case, and
7 had some discussion about payments and financials. No express fee agreement was reached during
8 the meeting. On August 22, 2017, Brian Edgeworth sent an email to Simon entitled "Contingency."
9 It reads as follows:

10
11 We never really had a structured discussion about how this might be done.
12 I am more than happy to keep paying hourly but if we are going for punitive
13 we should probably explore a hybrid of hourly on the claim and then some
14 other structure that incents both of us to win an go after the appeal that these
15 scumbags will file etc.
16 Obviously that could not have been done earlier since who would have
17 thought this case would meet the hurdle of punitive at the start.
18 I could also swing hourly for the whole case (unless I am off what this is
19 going to cost). I would likely borrow another \$450K from Margaret in 250
20 and 200 increments and then either I could use one of the house sales for cash
21 or if things get really bad, I still have a couple million in bitcoin I could sell.
22 I doubt we will get Kinsale to settle for enough to really finance this since I
23 would have to pay the first \$750,000 or so back to Colin and Margaret and
24 why would Kinsale settle for \$1MM when their exposure is only \$1MM?

25 (Def. Exhibit 27).

26 7. During the litigation, Simon sent four (4) invoices to the Edgeworths. The first
27 invoice was sent on December 2, 2016, seven (7) months after the original meeting at Starbucks.
28 This invoice indicated that it was for attorney's fees and costs through November 11, 2016. (Def.
Exhibit 8). The total of this invoice was \$42,564.95 and was billed at a "reduced" rate of \$550 per
hour. Id. The invoice was paid by the Edgeworths on December 16, 2016.

8. On April 7, 2017 a second invoice was sent to the Edgeworths for attorney's fees and
costs through April 4, 2017 for a total of \$46,620.69, and was billed at a "reduced" rate of \$550 per

1 hour. (Def. Exhibit 9). This invoice was paid by the Edgeworths on May 3, 2017. There was no
2 indication on the first two invoices if the services were those of Mr. Simon or his associates; but the
3 bills indicated an hourly rate of \$550.00 per hour.

4 9. A third invoice was sent to the Edgeworths on July 28, 2017 for attorney's fees and
5 costs through July 28, 2017 totaling of \$142,080.20. (Def. Exhibit 10). This bill identified services
6 of Daniel Simon Esq. for a "reduced" rate of \$550 per hour totaling \$104,021.20; and services of
7 Ashley Ferrel Esq. for a "reduced" rate of \$275 per hour totaling \$37,959.00. Id. This invoice was
8 paid by the Edgeworths on August 16, 2017.

9 10. The fourth invoice was sent to the Edgeworths on September 19, 2017 in an amount
10 of \$255,186.25 for attorney's fees and costs; with \$191,317.50 being calculated at a "reduced" rate
11 of \$550 per hour for Daniel Simon Esq., \$60,981.25 being calculated at a "reduced" rate of \$275 per
12 hour for Ashley Ferrel Esq., and \$2,887.50 being calculated at a "reduced" rate of \$275 per hour for
13 Benjamin Miller Esq. (Def. Exhibit 11). This invoice was paid by the Edgeworths on September
14 25, 2017.

15 11. The amount of attorney's fees in the four (4) invoices was \$367,606.25, and
16 \$118,846.84 in costs; for a total of \$486,453.09.¹ These monies were paid to Daniel Simon Esq. and
17 never returned to the Edgeworths. The Edgeworths secured very high interest loans to pay fees and
18 costs to Simon. They made Simon aware of this fact.

19 12. Between June 2016 and December 2017, there was a tremendous amount of work
20 done in the litigation of this case. There were several motions and oppositions filed, several
21 depositions taken, and several hearings held in the case.

22 13. On the evening of November 15, 2017, the Edgeworth's received the first settlement
23 offer for their claims against the Viking Corporation ("Viking"). However, the claims were not
24 settled until on or about December 1, 2017.

25 14. Also on November 15, 2017, Brian Edgeworth sent an email to Simon asking for the
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27 ¹ \$265,677.50 in attorney's fees for the services of Daniel Simon; \$99,041.25 for the services of Ashley Ferrel; and
28 \$2,887.50 for the services of Benjamin Miller.

1 open invoice. The email stated: "I know I have an open invoice that you were going to give me at
2 mediation a couple weeks ago and then did not leave with me. Could someone in your office send
3 Peter (copied here) any invoices that are unpaid please?" (Def. Exhibit 38).

4 15. On November 17, 2017, Simon scheduled an appointment for the Edgeworths to
5 come to his office to discuss the litigation.

6 16. On November 27, 2017, Simon sent a letter with an attached retainer agreement,
7 stating that the fee for legal services would be \$1,500,000 for services rendered to date. (Plaintiff's
8 Exhibit 4).

9 17. On November 29, 2017, the Edgeworths met with the Law Office of Vannah &
10 Vannah and signed a retainer agreement. (Def. Exhibit 90). On this date, they ceased all
11 communications with Mr. Simon.

12 18. On the morning of November 30, 2017, Simon received a letter advising him that the
13 Edgeworths had retained the Vannah Law Firm to assist in the litigation with the Viking entities,
14 et.al. The letter read as follows:

15 "Please let this letter serve to advise you that I've retained Robert D. Vannah,
16 Esq. and John B. Greene, Esq., of Vannah & Vannah to assist in the litigation
17 with the Viking entities, et.al. I'm instructing you to cooperate with them in
18 every regard concerning the litigation and any settlement. I'm also instructing
19 you to give them complete access to the file and allow them to review
20 whatever documents they request to review. Finally, I direct you to allow
21 them to participate without limitation in any proceeding concerning our case,
22 whether it be at depositions, court hearings, discussions, etc."

23 (Def. Exhibit 43).

24 19. On the same morning, Simon received, through the Vannah Law Firm, the
25 Edgeworth's consent to settle their claims against Lange Plumbing LLC for \$25,000.

26 20. Also on this date, the Law Office of Danny Simon filed an attorney's lien for the
27 reasonable value of its services pursuant to NRS 18.015. (Def. Exhibit 3). On January 2, 2018, the
28 Law Office filed an amended attorney's lien for the sum of \$2,345,450, less payments made in the
sum of \$367,606.25, for a net lien in the sum of \$1,977,843.80. This lien includes court costs and

1 out-of-pocket costs advanced by the Law Office of Daniel S. Simon in the sum of \$76,535.93.

2 21. Mr. Edgeworth alleges that the fee agreement with Simon was only for an hourly
3 express agreement of \$550 an hour; and that the agreement for \$550 an hour was made at the outset
4 of the case. Mr. Simon alleges that he worked on the case always believing he would receive the
5 reasonable value of his services when the case concluded. There is a dispute over the reasonable fee
6 due to the Law Office of Danny Simon.

7 22. The parties agree that an express written contract was never formed.

8 23. On December 7, 2017, the Edgeworths signed Consent to Settle their claims against
9 Lange Plumbing LLC for \$100,000.

10 24. On January 4, 2018, the Edgeworth Family Trust filed a lawsuit against Simon in
11 Edgeworth Family Trust; American Grating LLC vs. Daniel S. Simon, the Law Office of Daniel S.
12 Simon, a Professional Corporation, case number A-18-767242-C.

13 25. On January 24, 2018, the Law Office of Danny Simon filed a Motion to Adjudicate
14 Lien with an attached invoice for legal services rendered. The amount of the invoice was
15 \$692,120.00. The Court set an evidentiary hearing to adjudicate the lien.

16 17 **CONCLUSION OF LAW**

18 **The Law Office Appropriately Asserted A Charging Lien Which Must Be Adjudicated By The** 19 **Court**

20 An attorney may obtain payment for work on a case by use of an attorney lien. Here, the
21 Law Office of Daniel Simon may use a charging lien to obtain payment for work on case A-16-
22 738444-C under NRS 18.015.

23 NRS 18.015(1)(a) states:

24 1. An attorney at law shall have a lien:

25 (a) Upon any claim, demand or cause of action, including any claim for unliquidated
26 damages, which has been placed in the attorney's hands by a client for suit or
collection, or upon which a suit or other action has been instituted.

27 Nev. Rev. Stat. 18.015.

1 The Court finds that the lien filed by the Law Office of Daniel Simon, in case A-16-738444-C,
2 complies with NRS 18.015(1)(a). The Law Office perfected the charging lien pursuant to NRS
3 18.015(3), by serving the Edgeworths as set forth in the statute. The Law Office charging lien was
4 perfected before settlement funds generated from A-16-738444-C of \$6,100,000.00 were deposited,
5 thus the charging lien attached to the settlement funds. Nev. Rev. Stat. 18.015(4)(a); Golightly &
6 Vannah, PLLC v. TJ Allen LLC, 373 P.3d 103, at 105 (Nev. 2016). The Law Office's charging lien
7 is enforceable in form.

8 The Court has personal jurisdiction over the Law Office and the Plaintiffs in A-16-738444-C.
9 Argentina Consolidated Mining Co., v. Jolley, Urga, Wirth, Woodbury & Standish, 216 P.3d 779 at
10 782-83 (Nev. 2009). The Court has subject matter jurisdiction over adjudication of the Law Office's
11 charging lien. Argentina, 216 P.3d at 783. The Law Office filed a motion requesting adjudication
12 under NRS 18.015, thus the Court must adjudicate the lien.

13 14 *Fee Agreement*

15 It is undisputed that no express written fee agreement was formed. The Court finds that there
16 was no express oral fee agreement formed between the parties. An express oral agreement is
17 formed when all important terms are agreed upon. See, Loma Linda University v. Eckenweiler, 469
18 P.2d 54 (Nev. 1970) (*no oral contract was formed, despite negotiation, when important terms were*
19 *not agreed upon and when the parties contemplated a written agreement*). The Court finds that the
20 payment terms are essential to the formation of an express oral contract to provide legal services on
21 an hourly basis.

22 Here, the testimony from the evidentiary hearing does not indicate, with any degree of
23 certainty, that there was an express oral fee agreement formed on or about June of 2016. Despite
24 Brian Edgeworth's affidavits and testimony; the emails between himself and Danny Simon,
25 regarding punitive damages and a possible contingency fee, indicate that no express oral fee
26 agreement was formed at the meeting on June 10, 2016. Specifically in Brian Edgeworth's August
27 22, 2017 email, titled "Contingency," he writes:
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2
3 “We never really had a structured discussion about how this might be done. I
4 am more than happy to keep paying hourly but if we are going for punitive we
5 should probably explore a hybrid of hourly on the claim and then some other
6 structure that incents both of us to win and go after the appeal that these
7 scumbags will file etc. Obviously that could not have been done earlier since
8 who would have thought this case would meet the hurdle of punitive at the
9 start. I could also swing hourly for the whole case (unless I am off what this
10 is going to cost). I would likely borrow another \$450K from Margaret in 250
11 and 200 increments and then either I could use one of the house sales for cash
12 or if things get really bad, I still have a couple million in bitcoin I could sell. I
13 doubt we will get Kinsale to settle for enough to really finance this since I
14 would have to pay the first \$750,000 or so back to Colin and Margaret and
15 why would Kinsale settle for \$1MM when their exposure is only \$1MM?”

16 (Def. Exhibit 27).

17 It is undisputed that when the flood issue arose, all parties were under the impression that Simon
18 would be helping out the Edgeworths, as a favor.

19 The Court finds that an implied fee agreement was formed between the parties on December
20 2, 2016, when Simon sent the first invoice to the Edgeworths, billing his services at \$550 per hour,
21 and the Edgeworths paid the invoice. On July 28, 2017 an addition to the implied contract was
22 created with a fee of \$275 per hour for Simon’s associates. Simon testified that he never told the
23 Edgeworths not to pay the bills, though he testified that from the outset he only wanted to “trigger
24 coverage”. When Simon repeatedly billed the Edgeworths at \$550 per hour for his services, and
25 \$275 an hour for the services of his associates; and the Edgeworths paid those invoices, an implied
26 fee agreement was formed between the parties. The implied fee agreement was for \$550 per hour
27 for the services of Daniel Simon Esq. and \$275 per hour for the services of his associates.

28 *Constructive Discharge*

Constructive discharge of an attorney may occur under several circumstances, such as:

- Refusal to communicate with an attorney creates constructive discharge. Rosenberg v. Calderon Automation, 1986 Ohio App. LEXIS 5460 (Jan. 31, 1986).

- Refusal to pay an attorney creates constructive discharge. *See e.g., Christian v. All Persons Claiming Any Right*, 962 F. Supp. 676 (U.S. Dist. V.I. 1997).
- Suing an attorney creates constructive discharge. *See Tao v. Probate Court for the Northeast Dist. #26*, 2015 Conn. Super. LEXIS 3146, *13-14, (Dec. 14, 2015). *See also Maples v. Thomas*, 565 U.S. 266 (2012); *Harris v. State*, 2017 Nev. LEXIS 111; and *Guerrero v. State*, 2017 Nev. Unpubl. LEXIS 472.
- Taking actions that preventing effective representation creates constructive discharge. *McNair v. Commonwealth*, 37 Va. App. 687, 697-98 (Va. 2002).

Here, the Court finds that the Edgeworths constructively discharged Simon as their lawyer on November 29, 2017. The Edgeworths assert that because Simon has not been expressly terminated, has not withdrawn, and is still technically their attorney of record; there cannot be a termination. The Court disagrees.

On November 29, 2017, the Edgeworths met with the Law Firm of Vannah and Vannah and signed a retainer agreement. The retainer agreement was for representation on the Viking settlement agreement and the Lange claims. (Def. Exhibit 90). This is the exact litigation that Simon was representing the Edgeworths on. This fee agreement also allowed Vannah and Vannah to do all things without a compromise. *Id.* The retainer agreement specifically states:

Client retains Attorneys to represent him as his Attorneys regarding Edgeworth Family Trust and AMERICAN GRATING V. ALL VIKING ENTITIES and all damages including, but not limited to, all claims in this matter and empowers them to do all things to effect a compromise in said matter, or to institute such legal action as may be advisable in their judgment, and agrees to pay them for their services, on the following conditions:

- ...
- ...
- Client agrees that his attorneys will work to consummate a settlement of \$6,000,000 from the Viking entities and any settlement amount agreed to be paid by the Lange entity. Client also agrees that attorneys will work to reach an agreement amongst the parties to resolve all claims in the Lange and Viking litigation.

Id.

This agreement was in place at the time of the settlement of the Viking and Lange claims. Mr. Simon had already begun negotiating the terms of the settlement agreement with Viking during the

1 week of November 27, 2017 prior to Mr. Vannah's involvement. These negotiated terms were put
2 into a final release signed by the Edgeworths and Mr. Vannah's office on December 1, 2017. (Def.
3 Exhibit 5). Mr. Simon's name is not contained in the release; Mr. Vannah's firm is expressly
4 identified as the firm that solely advised the clients about the settlement. The actual language in the
5 settlement agreement, for the Viking claims, states:

6 PLAINTIFFS represent that their independent counsel, Robert Vannah, Esq.
7 and John Greene, Esq., of the law firm Vannah & Vannah has explained the
8 effect of this AGREEMENT and their release of any and all claims, known or
9 unknown and, based upon that explanation and their independent judgment by
10 the reading of this Agreement, PLAINTIFFS understand and acknowledge the
11 legal significance and the consequences of the claims being released by this
12 Agreement. PLAINTIFFS further represent that they understand and
13 acknowledge the legal significance and consequences of a release of unknown
14 claims against the SETTLING PARTIES set forth in, or arising from, the
15 INCIDENT and hereby assume full responsibility for any injuries, damages,
16 losses or liabilities that hereafter may occur with respect to the matters
17 released by this Agreement.

18 Id.

19 Also, Simon was not present for the signing of these settlement documents and never explained any
20 of the terms to the Edgeworths. He sent the settlement documents to the Law Office of Vannah and
21 Vannah and received them back with the signatures of the Edgeworths.

22 Further, the Edgeworths did not personally speak with Simon after November 25, 2017.
23 Though there were email communications between the Edgeworths and Simon, they did not verbally
24 speak to him and were not seeking legal advice from him. In an email dated December 5, 2017,
25 Simon is requesting Brian Edgeworth return a call to him about the case, and Brian Edgeworth
26 responds to the email saying, "please give John Greene at Vannah and Vannah a call if you need
27 anything done on the case. I am sure they can handle it." (Def. Exhibit 80). At this time, the claim
28 against Lange Plumbing had not been settled. The evidence indicates that Simon was actively
working on this claim, but he had no communication with the Edgeworths and was not advising
them on the claim against Lange Plumbing. Specifically, Brian Edgeworth testified that Robert
Vannah Esq. told them what Simon said about the Lange claims and it was established that the Law

1 Firm of Vannah and Vannah provided advice to the Edgeworths regarding the Lange claim. Simon
2 and the Law Firm of Vannah and Vannah gave different advice on the Lange claim, and the
3 Edgeworths followed the advice of the Law Firm of Vannah and Vannah to settle the Lange claim.
4 The Law Firm of Vannah and Vannah drafted the consent to settle for the claims against Lange
5 Plumbing (Def. Exhibit 47). This consent to settle was inconsistent with the advice of Simon. Mr.
6 Simon never signed off on any of the releases for the Lange settlement.

7 Further demonstrating a constructive discharge of Simon is the email from Robert Vannah
8 Esq. to James Christensen Esq. dated December 26, 2017, which states: "They have lost all faith and
9 trust in Mr. Simon. Therefore, they will not sign the checks to be deposited into his trust account.
10 Quite frankly, they are fearful that he will steal the money." (Def. Exhibit 48). Then on January 4,
11 2018, the Edgeworth's filed a lawsuit against Simon in Edgeworth Family Trust; American Grating,
12 LLC vs. Daniel S. Simon; the Law Office of Daniel S. Simon, a Professional Corporation d/b/a
13 Simon Law, case number A-18-767242-C. Then, on January 9, 2018, Robert Vannah Esq. sent an
14 email to James Christensen Esq. stating, "I guess he could move to withdraw. However, that
15 doesn't seem in his best interests." (Def. Exhibit 53).

16 The Court recognizes that Simon still has not withdrawn as counsel of record on A-16-
17 738444-C, the Law Firm of Vannah and Vannah has never substituted in as counsel of record, the
18 Edgeworths have never explicitly told Simon that he was fired, Simon sent the November 27, 2018
19 letter indicating that the Edgeworth's could consult with other attorneys on the fee agreement (that
20 was attached to the letter), and that Simon continued to work on the case after the November 29,
21 2017 date. The court further recognizes that it is always a client's decision of whether or not to
22 accept a settlement offer. However the issue is constructive discharge and nothing about the fact
23 that Mr. Simon has never officially withdrawn from the case indicates that he was not constructively
24 discharged. His November 27, 2017 letter invited the Edgeworth's to consult with other attorneys
25 on the fee agreement, not the claims against Viking or Lange. His clients were not communicating
26 with him, making it impossible to advise them on pending legal issues, such as the settlements with
27 Lange and Viking. It is clear that there was a breakdown in attorney-client relationship preventing
28

1
2 Simon from effectively representing the clients. The Court finds that Danny Simon was
3 constructively discharged by the Edgeworths on November 29, 2017.
4

5 **Adjudication of the Lien and Determination of the Law Office Fee**

6 NRS 18.015 states:

7 1. An attorney at law shall have a lien:

8 (a) Upon any claim, demand or cause of action, including any claim for
9 unliquidated damages, which has been placed in the attorney's hands by a
10 client for suit or collection, or upon which a suit or other action has been
11 instituted.

12 (b) In any civil action, upon any file or other property properly left in the
13 possession of the attorney by a client.

14 2. A lien pursuant to subsection 1 is for the amount of any fee which has
15 been agreed upon by the attorney and client. In the absence of an agreement,
16 the lien is for a reasonable fee for the services which the attorney has rendered
17 for the client.

18 3. An attorney perfects a lien described in subsection 1 by serving notice
19 in writing, in person or by certified mail, return receipt requested, upon his or
20 her client and, if applicable, upon the party against whom the client has a
21 cause of action, claiming the lien and stating the amount of the lien.

22 4. A lien pursuant to:

23 (a) Paragraph (a) of subsection 1 attaches to any verdict, judgment or
24 decree entered and to any money or property which is recovered on account of
25 the suit or other action; and

26 (b) Paragraph (b) of subsection 1 attaches to any file or other property
27 properly left in the possession of the attorney by his or her client, including,
28 without limitation, copies of the attorney's file if the original documents
received from the client have been returned to the client, and authorizes the
attorney to retain any such file or property until such time as an adjudication
is made pursuant to subsection 6, from the time of service of the notices
required by this section.

5. A lien pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1 must not be
construed as inconsistent with the attorney's professional responsibilities to
the client.

6. On motion filed by an attorney having a lien under this section, the
attorney's client or any party who has been served with notice of the lien, the
court shall, after 5 days' notice to all interested parties, adjudicate the rights of
the attorney, client or other parties and enforce the lien.

7. Collection of attorney's fees by a lien under this section may be
utilized with, after or independently of any other method of collection.

1 Nev. Rev. Stat. 18.015.

2 NRS 18.015(2) matches Nevada contract law. If there is an express contract, then the contract terms
3 are applied. Here, there was no express contract for the fee amount, however there was an implied
4 contract when Simon began to bill the Edgeworths for fees in the amount of \$550 per hour for his
5 services, and \$275 per hour for the services of his associates. This contract was in effect until
6 November 29, 2017, when he was constructively discharged from representing the Edgeworths.
7 After he was constructively discharged, under NRS 18.015(2) and Nevada contract law, Simon is
8 due a reasonable fee- that is, quantum meruit.
9

10 *Implied Contract*

11 On December 2, 2016, an implied contract for fees was created. The implied fee was \$550
12 an hour for the services of Mr. Simon. On July 28, 2017 an addition to the implied contract was
13 created with a fee of \$275 per hour for the services of Simon's associates. This implied contract was
14 created when invoices were sent to the Edgeworths, and they paid the invoices.
15

16 The invoices that were sent to the Edgeworths indicate that they were for costs and attorney's
17 fees, and these invoices were paid by the Edgeworths. Though the invoice says that the fees were
18 reduced, there is no evidence that establishes that there was any discussion with the Edgeworths as
19 to how much of a reduction was being taken, and that the invoices did not need to be paid. There is
20 no indication that the Edgeworths knew about the amount of the reduction and acknowledged that
21 the full amount would be due at a later date. Simon testified that Brian Edgeworth chose to pay the
22 bills to give credibility to his actual damages, above his property damage loss. However, as the
23 lawyer/counselor, Simon did not prevent Brian Edgeworth from paying the bill or in any way refund
24 the money, or memorialize this or any understanding in writing.

25 Simon produced evidence of the claims for damages for his fees and costs pursuant to NRCP
26 16.1 disclosures and computation of damages; and these amounts include the four invoices that were
27 paid in full and there was never any indication given that anything less than all the fees had been
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1 produced. During the deposition of Brian Edgeworth it was suggested, by Simon, that all of the fees
2 had been disclosed. Further, Simon argues that the delay in the billing coincides with the timing of
3 the NRCP 16.1 disclosures, however the billing does not distinguish or in any way indicate that the
4 sole purpose was for the Lange Plumbing LLC claim. Since there is no contract, the Court must
5 look to the actions of the parties to demonstrate the parties' understanding. Here, the actions of the
6 parties are that Simon sent invoices to the Edgeworths, they paid the invoices, and Simon Law
7 Office retained the payments, indicating an implied contract was formed between the parties. The
8 Court find that the Law Office of Daniel Simon should be paid under the implied contract until the
9 date they were constructively discharged, November 29, 2017.

10
11 *Amount of Fees Owed Under Implied Contract*

12 The Edgeworths were billed, and paid for services through September 19, 2017. There is
13 some testimony that an invoice was requested for services after that date, but there is no evidence
14 that any invoice was paid by the Edgeworths. Since the Court has found that an implied contract for
15 fees was formed, the Court must now determine what amount of fees and costs are owed from
16 September 19, 2017 to the constructive discharge date of November 29, 2017. In doing so, the
17 Court must consider the testimony from the witnesses at the evidentiary hearing, the submitted
18 billings, the attached lien, and all other evidence provided regarding the services provided during
19 this time.

20 At the evidentiary hearing, Ashley Ferrel Esq. testified that some of the items in the billing
21 that was prepared with the lien "super bill," are not necessarily accurate as the Law Office went back
22 and attempted to create a bill for work that had been done over a year before. She testified that they
23 added in .3 hours for each Wiznet filing that was reviewed and emailed and .15 hours for every
24 email that was read and responded to. She testified that the dates were not exact, they just used the
25 dates for which the documents were filed, and not necessarily the dates in which the work was
26 performed. Further, there are billed items included in the "super bill" that was not previously billed
27 to the Edgeworths, though the items are alleged to have occurred prior to or during the invoice
28

1 billing period previously submitted to the Edgeworths. The testimony at the evidentiary hearing
2 indicated that there were no phone calls included in the billings that were submitted to the
3 Edgeworths.

4 This attempt to recreate billing and supplement/increase previously billed work makes it
5 unclear to the Court as to the accuracy of this "recreated" billing, since so much time had elapsed
6 between the actual work and the billing. The court reviewed the billings of the "super bill" in
7 comparison to the previous bills and determined that it was necessary to discount the items that had
8 not been previously billed for; such as text messages, reviews with the court reporter, and reviewing,
9 downloading, and saving documents because the Court is uncertain of the accuracy of the "super
10 bill."

11 Simon argues that he has no billing software in his office and that he has never billed a client
12 on an hourly basis, but his actions in this case are contrary. Also, Simon argues that the Edgeworths,
13 in this case, were billed hourly because the Lange contract had a provision for attorney's fees;
14 however, as the Court previously found, when the Edgeworths paid the invoices it was not made
15 clear to them that the billings were only for the Lange contract and that they did not need to be paid.
16 Also, there was no indication on the invoices that the work was only for the Lange claims, and not
17 the Viking claims. Ms. Ferrel testified that the billings were only for substantial items, without
18 emails or calls, understanding that those items may be billed separately; but again the evidence does
19 not demonstrate that this information was relayed to the Edgeworths as the bills were being paid.
20 This argument does not persuade the court of the accuracy of the "super bill".

21 The amount of attorney's fees and costs for the period beginning in June of 2016 to
22 December 2, 2016 is \$42,564.95. This amount is based upon the invoice from December 2, 2016
23 which appears to indicate that it began with the initial meeting with the client, leading the court to
24 determine that this is the beginning of the relationship. This invoice also states it is for attorney's
25 fees and costs through November 11, 2016, but the last hourly charge is December 2, 2016. This

1 amount has already been paid by the Edgeworths on December 16, 2016.²

2 The amount of the attorney's fees and costs for the period beginning on December 5, 2016 to
3 April 4, 2017 is \$46,620.69. This amount is based upon the invoice from April 7, 2017. This
4 amount has already been paid by the Edgeworths on May 3, 2017.

5 The amount of attorney's fees for the period of April 5, 2017 to July 28, 2017, for the
6 services of Daniel Simon Esq. is \$72,077.50. The amount of attorney's fees for this period for
7 Ashley Ferrel Esq. is \$38,060.00. The amount of costs outstanding for this period is \$31,943.70.
8 This amount totals \$142,081.20 and is based upon the invoice from July 28, 2017. This amount has
9 been paid by the Edgeworths on August 16, 2017.³

10 The amount of attorney's fees for the period of July 31, 2017 to September 19, 2017, for the
11 services of Daniel Simon Esq. is \$119,762.50. The amount of attorney's fees for this period for
12 Ashley Ferrel Esq. is \$60,981.25. The amount of attorney's fees for this period for Benjamin Miller
13 Esq. is \$2,887.50. The amount of costs outstanding for this period is \$71,555.00. This amount
14 totals \$255,186.25 and is based upon the invoice from September 19, 2017. This amount has been
15 paid by the Edgeworths on September 25, 2017.

16 From September 19, 2017 to November 29, 2017, the Court must determine the amount of
17 attorney fees owed to the Law Office of Daniel Simon.⁴ For the services of Daniel Simon Esq., the
18 total amount of hours billed are 340.05. At a rate of \$550 per hour, the total attorney's fees owed to
19 the Law Office for the work of Daniel Simon Esq. is \$187,027.50. For the services of Ashley Ferrel
20 Esq., the total amount of hours billed are 337.15. At a rate of \$275 per hour, the total attorney's fees
21 owed to the Law Office for the work of Ashley Ferrel Esq. from September 19, 2017 to November
22 29, 2017 is \$92,716.25.⁵ For the services of Benjamin Miller Esq., the total amount of hours billed
23 are 19.05. At a rate of \$275 per hour, the total attorney's fees owed to the Law Office for the work
24

25 ²There are no billing amounts from December 2 to December 4, 2016.

26 ³ There are no billings from July 28 to July 30, 2017.

27 ⁴ There are no billings for October 8th, October 28-29, and November 5th.

28 ⁵ There is no billing for the October 7-8, October 22, October 28-29, November 4, November 11-12, November 18-19,
November 21, and November 23-26.

1 of Benjamin Miller Esq. from September 19, 2017 to November 29, 2017 is \$5,238.75.⁶

2 The Court notes that though there was never a fee agreement made with Ashley Ferrel Esq.
3 or Benjamin Miller Esq., however, their fees were included on the last two invoices that were paid
4 by the Edgeworths, so the implied fee agreement applies to their work as well.

5 The Court finds that the total amount owed to the Law Office of Daniel Simon for the period
6 of September 19, 2018 to November 29, 2017 is \$284,982.50.

7 8 *Costs Owed*

9 The Court finds that the Law Office of Daniel Simon is not owed any monies for outstanding
10 costs of the litigation in Edgeworth Family Trust; and American Grating, LLC vs. Lange Plumbing,
11 LLC; The Viking Corporation; Supply Network, Inc. dba Viking Supplynet in case number A-16-
12 738444-C. The attorney lien asserted by Simon, in January of 2018, originally sought
13 reimbursement for advances costs of \$71,594.93. The amount sought for advanced costs was later
14 changed to \$68,844.93. In March of 2018, the Edgeworths paid the outstanding advanced costs, so
15 the Court finds that there no outstanding costs remaining owed to the Law Office of Daniel Simon.

16 17 *Quantum Meruit*

18 When a lawyer is discharged by the client, the lawyer is no longer compensated under the
19 discharged/breached/repudiated contract, but is paid based on quantum meruit. *See e.g. Golightly v.*
20 *Gassner*, 281 P.3d 1176 (Nev. 2009) (*unreported*) (*discharged contingency attorney paid by*
21 *quantum meruit rather than by contingency fee pursuant to agreement with client*); *citing, Gordon v.*
22 *Stewart*, 324 P.3d 234 (1958) (*attorney paid in quantum meruit after client breach of agreement*);
23 *and, Cooke v. Gove*, 114 P.2d 87 (Nev. 1941) (*fees awarded in quantum meruit when there was no*
24 *contingency agreement*). Here, Simon was constructively discharged by the Edgeworths on
25 November 29, 2017. The constructive discharge terminated the implied contract for fees. William
26 Kemp Esq. testified as an expert witness and stated that if there is no contract, then the proper award

27
28 ⁶ There is no billing from September 19, 2017 to November 5, 2017.

1 is quantum meruit. The Court finds that the Law Office of Daniel Simon is owed attorney's fees
2 under quantum meruit from November 29, 2017, after the constructive discharge, to the conclusion
3 of the Law Office's work on this case.

4 In determining the amount of fees to be awarded under quantum meruit, the Court has wide
5 discretion on the method of calculation of attorney fee, to be "tempered only by reason and
6 fairness". Albios v. Horizon Communities, Inc., 132 P.3d 1022 (Nev. 2006). The law only requires
7 that the court calculate a reasonable fee. Shuette v. Beazer Homes Holding Corp., 124 P.3d 530
8 (Nev. 2005). Whatever method of calculation is used by the Court, the amount of the attorney fee
9 must be reasonable under the Brunzell factors. Id. The Court should enter written findings of the
10 reasonableness of the fee under the Brunzell factors. Argentina Consolidated Mining Co., v. Jolley,
11 Urga, Wirth, Woodbury Standish, 216 P.3d 779, at fn2 (Nev. 2009). Brunzell provides that
12 "[w]hile hourly time schedules are helpful in establishing the value of counsel services, other factors
13 may be equally significant. Brunzell v. Golden Gate National Bank, 455 P.2d 31 (Nev. 1969).

14 The Brunzell factors are: (1) the qualities of the advocate; (2) the character of the work to be
15 done; (3) the work actually performed; and (4) the result obtained. Id. However, in this case the
16 Court notes that the majority of the work in this case was complete before the date of the
17 constructive discharge, and the Court is applying the Brunzell factors for the period commencing
18 after the constructive discharge.

19 In considering the Brunzell factors, the Court looks at all of the evidence presented in the
20 case, the testimony at the evidentiary hearing, and the litigation involved in the case.

21 1. Quality of the Advocate

22 Brunzell expands on the "qualities of the advocate" factor and mentions such items as
23 training, skill and education of the advocate. Mr. Simon has been an active Nevada trial attorney for
24 over two decades. He has several 7-figure trial verdicts and settlements to his credit. Craig
25 Drummond Esq. testified that he considers Mr. Simon a top 1% trial lawyer and he associates Mr.
26 Simon in on cases that are complex and of significant value. Michael Nunez Esq. testified that Mr.
27 Simon's work on this case was extremely impressive. William Kemp Esq. testified that Mr. Simon's
28

1 work product and results are exceptional.

2 2 The Character of the Work to be Done

3 The character of the work done in this case is complex. There were multiple parties,
4 multiple claims, and many interrelated issues. Affirmative claims by the Edgeworths covered the
5 gamut from product liability to negligence. The many issues involved manufacturing, engineering,
6 fraud, and a full understanding of how to work up and present the liability and damages. Mr. Kemp
7 testified that the quality and quantity of the work was exceptional for a products liability case against
8 a world-wide manufacturer that is experienced in litigating case. Mr. Kemp further testified that the
9 Law Office of Danny Simon retained multiple experts to secure the necessary opinions to prove the
10 case. The continued aggressive representation, of Mr. Simon, in prosecuting the case that was a
11 substantial factor in achieving the exceptional results.

12 3 The Work Actually Performed

13 Mr. Simon was aggressive in litigating this case. In addition to filing several motions,
14 numerous court appearances, and deposition; his office uncovered several other activations, that
15 caused possible other floods. While the Court finds that Mr. Edgeworth was extensively involved
16 and helpful in this aspect of the case, the Court disagrees that it was his work alone that led to the
17 other activations being uncovered and the result that was achieved in this case. Since Mr.
18 Edgeworth is not a lawyer, it is impossible that it was his work alone that led to the filing of motions
19 and the litigation that allowed this case to develop into a \$6 million settlement. All of the work by
20 the Law Office of Daniel Simon led to the ultimate result in this case.

21 4 The Result Obtained

22 The result was impressive. This began as a \$500,000 insurance claim and ended up settling
23 for over \$6,000,000. Mr. Simon was also able to recover an additional \$100,000 from Lange
24 Plumbing LLC. Mr. Vannah indicated to Simon that the Edgeworths were ready so sign and settle
25 the Lange Claim for \$25,000 but Simon kept working on the case and making changes to the
26 settlement agreement. This ultimately led to a larger settlement for the Edgeworths. Recognition is
27 due to Mr. Simon for placing the Edgeworths in a great position to recover a greater amount from
28

1 Lange. Mr. Kemp testified that this was the most important factor and that the result was incredible.
2 Mr. Kemp also testified that he has never heard of a \$6 million settlement with a \$500,000 damage
3 case. Further, in the Consent to Settle, on the Lange claims, the Edgeworth's acknowledge that they
4 were made more than whole with the settlement with the Viking entities.

5 In determining the amount of attorney's fees owed to the Law Firm of Daniel Simon, the
6 Court also considers the factors set forth in Nevada Rules of Professional Conduct – Rule 1.5(a)
7 which states:

8
9 (a) A lawyer shall not make an agreement for, charge, or collect an
10 unreasonable fee or an unreasonable amount for expenses. The factors to be
11 considered in determining the reasonableness of a fee include the following:

12 (1) The time and labor required, the novelty and difficulty of the
13 questions involved, and the skill requisite to perform the legal service
14 properly;

15 (2) The likelihood, if apparent to the client, that the acceptance of the
16 particular employment will preclude other employment by the lawyer;

17 (3) The fee customarily charged in the locality for similar legal
18 services;

19 (4) The amount involved and the results obtained;

20 (5) The time limitations imposed by the client or by the
21 circumstances;

22 (6) The nature and length of the professional relationship with the
23 client;

24 (7) The experience, reputation, and ability of the lawyer or lawyers
25 performing the services; and

26 (8) Whether the fee is fixed or contingent.

27 NRCP 1.5. However, the Court must also consider the remainder of Rule 1.5 which goes on to state:

28 (b) The scope of the representation and the basis or rate of the fee and
expenses for which the client will be responsible shall be communicated to the
client, preferably in writing, before or within a reasonable time after
commencing the representation, except when the lawyer will charge a
regularly represented client on the same basis or rate. Any changes in the
basis or rate of the fee or expenses shall also be communicated to the client.

(c) A fee may be contingent on the outcome of the matter for which the
service is rendered, except in a matter in which a contingent fee is prohibited
by paragraph (d) or other law. A contingent fee agreement shall be in writing,
signed by the client, and shall state, in boldface type that is at least as large as
the largest type used in the contingent fee agreement:

1 (1) The method by which the fee is to be determined, including the
2 percentage or percentages that shall accrue to the lawyer in the event of
3 settlement, trial or appeal;

4 (2) Whether litigation and other expenses are to be deducted from the
5 recovery, and whether such expenses are to be deducted before or after the
6 contingent fee is calculated;

7 (3) Whether the client is liable for expenses regardless of outcome;

8 (4) That, in the event of a loss, the client may be liable for the
9 opposing party's attorney fees, and will be liable for the opposing party's
10 costs as required by law; and

11 (5) That a suit brought solely to harass or to coerce a settlement may
12 result in liability for malicious prosecution or abuse of process.

13 Upon conclusion of a contingent fee matter, the lawyer shall provide the client
14 with a written statement stating the outcome of the matter and, if there is a
15 recovery, showing the remittance to the client and the method of its
16 determination.

17 NRCP 1.5.

18 The Court finds that under the Brunzell factors, Mr. Simon was an exceptional advocate for
19 the Edgeworths, the character of the work was complex, the work actually performed was extremely
20 significant, and the work yielded a phenomenal result for the Edgeworths. All of the Brunzell
21 factors justify a reasonable fee under NRCP 1.5.

22 However, the Court must also consider the fact that the evidence suggests that the basis or
23 rate of the fee and expenses for which the client will be responsible were never communicated to the
24 client, within a reasonable time after commencing the representation. Further, this is not a
25 contingent fee case, and the Court is not awarding a contingency fee.

26 Instead, the Court must determine the amount of a reasonable fee. In determining this
27 amount of a reasonable fee, the Court must consider the work that the Law Office continued to
28 provide on the Edgeworth's case, even after the constructive discharge. The record is clear that the
Edgeworths were ready to sign and settle the Lange claim for \$25,000 but Simon kept working on
the case and making changes to the settlement agreement. This resulted in the Edgeworth's
recovering an additional \$75,000 from Lange plumbing. Further, the Law Office of Daniel Simon
continued to work on the Viking settlement until it was finalized in December of 2017, and the

1 checks were issued on December 18, 2017. Mr. Simon continued to personally work with Mr.
2 Vannah to attempt to get the checks endorsed by the Edgeworths, and this lasted into the 2018 year.
3 The record is clear that the efforts exerted by the Law Office of Daniel Simon and Mr. Simon
4 himself were continuing, even after the constructive discharge. In considering the reasonable value
5 of these services, under quantum meruit, the Court is considering the previous \$550 per hour fee
6 from the implied fee agreement, the Brunzell factors, and additional work performed after the
7 constructive discharge. As such, the COURT FINDS that the Law Office of Daniel Simon is
8 entitled to a reasonable fee in the amount of \$200,000, from November 30, 2017 to the conclusion of
9 this case.

10 11 CONCLUSION

12 The Court finds that the Law Office of Daniel Simon properly filed and perfected the
13 charging lien pursuant to NRS 18.015(3) and the Court must adjudicate the lien. The Court further
14 finds that there was an implied agreement for a fee of \$550 per hour between Mr. Simon and the
15 Edgeworths once Simon started billing Edgeworth for this amount, and the bills were paid. The
16 Court further finds that on November 29, 2017, the Edgeworth's constructively discharged Mr.
17 Simon as their attorney, when they ceased following his advice and refused to communicate with
18 him about their litigation. The Court further finds that Mr. Simon was compensated at the implied
19 agreement rate of \$550 per hour for his services, and \$275 per hour for his associates; up and until
20 the last billing of September 19, 2017. For the period from September 19, 2017 to November 29,
21 2017, the Court finds that Mr. Simon is entitled to his implied agreement fee of \$550 an hour, and
22 \$275 an hour for his associates, for a total amount of \$284,982.50. For the period after November
23 29, 2017, the Court finds that the Law Office of Daniel Simon properly perfected their lien and is
24 entitled to a reasonable fee for the services the office rendered for the Edgeworths, after being
25 constructively discharged, under quantum meruit, in an amount of \$200,000. The Court further
26 finds that the Law Office of Daniel Simon is entitled to costs in the amount of \$71,594.93.

27 //

1 //
2 //
3 //
4 //

ORDER

It is hereby ordered, adjudged, and decreed, that the Motion to Adjudicate the Attorneys Lien of the Law Office of Daniel S. Simon is hereby granted and that the reasonable fee due to the Law Office of Daniel Simon is \$556,577.43, which includes outstanding costs.
Dated this 16th day of March, 2021

IT IS SO ORDERED this 16th day of March, 2021.


DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

B7B 840 B8A7 FF62
Tierra Jones
District Court Judge

1 CSERV

2 DISTRICT COURT
3 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

4
5
6 Edgeworth Family Trust,
7 Plaintiff(s)

CASE NO: A-16-738444-C

8 vs.

DEPT. NO. Department 10

9 Lange Plumbing, L.L.C.,
10 Defendant(s)

11 **AUTOMATED CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

12
13 This automated certificate of service was generated by the Eighth Judicial District
14 Court. The foregoing 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:

15 Service Date: 3/16/2021

16 Daniel Simon . lawyers@simonlawlv.com

17 Rhonda Onorato . ronorato@rlattorneys.com

18 Mariella Dumbrique mdumbrique@blacklobello.law

19 Michael Nunez mnunez@murchisonlaw.com

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21 Nicole Garcia ngarcia@murchisonlaw.com

22 Bridget Salazar bsalazar@vannahlaw.com

23 John Greene jgreene@vannahlaw.com

24 James Christensen jim@jchristensenlaw.com

25 Daniel Simon dan@danielsimonlaw.com

26
27
28

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Christopher Page	chrispage@vannahlaw.com
Jessie Church	jchurch@vannahlaw.com

If indicated below, a copy of the above mentioned filings were also served by mail via United States Postal Service, postage prepaid, to the parties listed below at their last known addresses on 3/17/2021

Theodore Parker	2460 Professional CT STE 200 Las Vegas, NV, 89128
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EXHIBIT 3

1 **ORD**

2
3
4 **DISTRICT COURT**
5 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

6 EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; and
7 AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,

8 Plaintiffs,

9 vs.

CASE NO.: A-18-767242-C

DEPT NO.: X

10 LANGE PLUMBING, LLC; THE VIKING
11 CORPORATION, a Michigan Corporation;
12 SUPPLY NETWORK, INC., dba VIKING
13 SUPPLYNET, a Michigan Corporation; and
DOES 1 through 5; and, ROE entities 6 through
10;

14 Defendants.

Consolidated with

CASE NO.: A-16-738444-C

DEPT NO.: X

15 EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; and
16 AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,

17 Plaintiffs,

18 vs.

THIRD AMENDED DECISION AND
ORDER ON MOTION TO ADJUDICATE
LIEN

19 DANIEL S. SIMON; THE LAW OFFICE OF
20 DANIEL S. SIMON, a Professional Corporation
d/b/a SIMON LAW; DOES 1 through 10; and,
ROE entities 1 through 10;

21 Defendants.

22
23 **THIRD AMENDED DECISION AND ORDER ON MOTION TO**
24 **ADJUDICATE LIEN**

25 This case came on for an evidentiary hearing August 27-30, 2018 and concluded on
26 September 18, 2018, in the Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County, Nevada, the Honorable
27 Tierra Jones presiding. Defendants and movant, Daniel Simon and Law Office of Daniel S. Simon
28 d/b/a Simon Law ("Defendants" or "Law Office" or "Simon" or "Mr. Simon") having appeared in

1 person and by and through their attorneys of record, Peter S. Christiansen, Esq. and James
2 Christensen, Esq. and Plaintiff Edgeworth Family Trust and American Grating, ("Plaintiff" or
3 "Edgeworths") having appeared through Brian and Angela Edgeworth, and by and through their
4 attorneys of record, the law firm of Vannah and Vannah, Chtd. Robert Vannah, Esq. and John
5 Greene, Esq. The Court having considered the evidence, arguments of counsel and being fully
6 advised of the matters herein, the **COURT FINDS:**

7 8 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

9 1. The Court finds that the Law Office of Daniel S. Simon represented the Plaintiffs,
10 Edgeworth Family Trust and American Grating in the case entitled Edgeworth Family Trust and
11 American Grating v. Viking, et al., case number A-16-738444-C. The representation commenced on
12 May 27, 2016 when Brian Edgeworth and Daniel Simon Esq. met at Starbucks. This representation
13 originally began as a favor between friends and there was no discussion of fees, at this point. Mr.
14 Simon and his wife were close family friends with Brian and Angela Edgeworth.

15 2. The case involved a complex products liability issue.

16 3. On April 10, 2016, a house the Edgeworths were building as a speculation home
17 suffered a flood. The house was still under construction and the flood caused a delay. The
18 Edgeworths did not carry loss insurance if a flood occurred and the plumbing company and
19 manufacturer refused to pay for the property damage. A fire sprinkler installed by the plumber, and
20 within the plumber's scope of work, caused the flood; however, the plumber asserted the fire
21 sprinkler was defective and refused to repair or to pay for repairs. The manufacturer of the sprinkler,
22 Viking, et al., also denied any wrongdoing.

23 4. In May of 2016, Mr. Simon agreed to help his friend with the flood claim and to send
24 a few letters. The parties initially hoped that Simon drafting a few letters to the responsible parties
25 could resolve the matter. Simon wrote the letters to the responsible parties, but the matter did not
26 resolve. Since the matter was not resolved, a lawsuit had to be filed.

27 5. On June 14, 2016, a complaint was filed in the case of Edgeworth Family Trust; and
28

1 American Grating LLC vs. Lange Plumbing, LLC; the Viking Corporation; Supply Network Inc.,
2 dba Viking Supplynet, in case number A-18-738444-C. The cost of repairs was approximately
3 \$500,000. One of the elements of the Edgeworth's damages against Lange Plumbing LLC ("Lange")
4 in the litigation was for reimbursement of the fees and costs that were paid by the Edgeworths.

5 6. On August 9, 2017, Mr. Simon and Brian Edgeworth traveled to San Diego to meet
6 with an expert. As they were in the airport waiting for a return flight, they discussed the case, and
7 had some discussion about payments and financials. No express fee agreement was reached during
8 the meeting. On August 22, 2017, Brian Edgeworth sent an email to Simon entitled "Contingency."
9 It reads as follows:

10 We never really had a structured discussion about how this might be done.
11 I am more than happy to keep paying hourly but if we are going for punitive
12 we should probably explore a hybrid of hourly on the claim and then some
13 other structure that incents both of us to win an go after the appeal that these
scumbags will file etc.

14 Obviously that could not have been done earlier since who would have
thought this case would meet the hurdle of punitive at the start.

15 I could also swing hourly for the whole case (unless I am off what this is
going to cost). I would likely borrow another \$450K from Margaret in 250
16 and 200 increments and then either I could use one of the house sales for cash
or if things get really bad, I still have a couple million in bitcoin I could sell.

17 I doubt we will get Kinsale to settle for enough to really finance this since I
18 would have to pay the first \$750,000 or so back to Colin and Margaret and
why would Kinsale settle for \$1MM when their exposure is only \$1MM?

19
20 (Def. Exhibit 27).

21 7. During the litigation, Simon sent four (4) invoices to the Edgeworths. The first
22 invoice was sent on December 2, 2016, seven (7) months after the original meeting at Starbucks.
23 This invoice indicated that it was for attorney's fees and costs through November 11, 2016. (Def.
24 Exhibit 8). The total of this invoice was \$42,564.95 and was billed at a "reduced" rate of \$550 per
25 hour. Id. The invoice was paid by the Edgeworths on December 16, 2016.

26 8. On April 7, 2017 a second invoice was sent to the Edgeworths for attorney's fees and
27 costs through April 4, 2017 for a total of \$46,620.69, and was billed at a "reduced" rate of \$550 per
28

1 hour. (Def. Exhibit 9). This invoice was paid by the Edgeworths on May 3, 2017. There was no
2 indication on the first two invoices if the services were those of Mr. Simon or his associates; but the
3 bills indicated an hourly rate of \$550.00 per hour.

4 9. A third invoice was sent to the Edgeworths on July 28, 2017 for attorney's fees and
5 costs through July 28, 2017 totaling of \$142,080.20. (Def. Exhibit 10). This bill identified services
6 of Daniel Simon Esq. for a "reduced" rate of \$550 per hour totaling \$104,021.20; and services of
7 Ashley Ferrel Esq. for a "reduced" rate of \$275 per hour totaling \$37,959.00. Id. This invoice was
8 paid by the Edgeworths on August 16, 2017.

9 10. The fourth invoice was sent to the Edgeworths on September 19, 2017 in an amount
10 of \$255,186.25 for attorney's fees and costs; with \$191,317.50 being calculated at a "reduced" rate
11 of \$550 per hour for Daniel Simon Esq., \$60,981.25 being calculated at a "reduced" rate of \$275 per
12 hour for Ashley Ferrel Esq., and \$2,887.50 being calculated at a "reduced" rate of \$275 per hour for
13 Benjamin Miller Esq. (Def. Exhibit 11). This invoice was paid by the Edgeworths on September
14 25, 2017.

15 11. The amount of attorney's fees in the four (4) invoices was \$367,606.25, and
16 \$118,846.84 in costs; for a total of \$486,453.09.¹ These monies were paid to Daniel Simon Esq. and
17 never returned to the Edgeworths. The Edgeworths secured very high interest loans to pay fees and
18 costs to Simon. They made Simon aware of this fact.

19 12. Between June 2016 and December 2017, there was a tremendous amount of work
20 done in the litigation of this case. There were several motions and oppositions filed, several
21 depositions taken, and several hearings held in the case.

22 13. On the evening of November 15, 2017, the Edgeworth's received the first settlement
23 offer for their claims against the Viking Corporation ("Viking"). However, the claims were not
24 settled until on or about December 1, 2017.

25 14. Also on November 15, 2017, Brian Edgeworth sent an email to Simon asking for the
26

27 ¹ \$265,677.50 in attorney's fees for the services of Daniel Simon; \$99,041.25 for the services of Ashley Ferrel; and
28 \$2,887.50 for the services of Benjamin Miller.

1 open invoice. The email stated: "I know I have an open invoice that you were going to give me at
2 mediation a couple weeks ago and then did not leave with me. Could someone in your office send
3 Peter (copied here) any invoices that are unpaid please?" (Def. Exhibit 38).

4 15. On November 17, 2017, Simon scheduled an appointment for the Edgeworths to
5 come to his office to discuss the litigation.

6 16. On November 27, 2017, Simon sent a letter with an attached retainer agreement,
7 stating that the fee for legal services would be \$1,500,000 for services rendered to date. (Plaintiff's
8 Exhibit 4).

9 17. On November 29, 2017, the Edgeworths met with the Law Office of Vannah &
10 Vannah and signed a retainer agreement. (Def. Exhibit 90). On this date, they ceased all
11 communications with Mr. Simon.

12 18. On the morning of November 30, 2017, Simon received a letter advising him that the
13 Edgeworths had retained the Vannah Law Firm to assist in the litigation with the Viking entities,
14 et.al. The letter read as follows:

15 "Please let this letter serve to advise you that I've retained Robert D. Vannah,
16 Esq. and John B. Greene, Esq., of Vannah & Vannah to assist in the litigation
17 with the Viking entities, et.al. I'm instructing you to cooperate with them in
18 every regard concerning the litigation and any settlement. I'm also instructing
19 you to give them complete access to the file and allow them to review
20 whatever documents they request to review. Finally, I direct you to allow
21 them to participate without limitation in any proceeding concerning our case,
22 whether it be at depositions, court hearings, discussions, etc."

23 (Def. Exhibit 43).

24 19. On the same morning, Simon received, through the Vannah Law Firm, the
25 Edgeworth's consent to settle their claims against Lange Plumbing LLC for \$25,000.

26 20. Also on this date, the Law Office of Danny Simon filed an attorney's lien for the
27 reasonable value of its services pursuant to NRS 18.015. (Def. Exhibit 3). On January 2, 2018, the
28 Law Office filed an amended attorney's lien for the sum of \$2,345,450, less payments made in the
sum of \$367,606.25, for a net lien in the sum of \$1,977,843.80. This lien includes court costs and

1 out-of-pocket costs advanced by the Law Office of Daniel S. Simon in the sum of \$76,535.93.

2 21. Mr. Edgeworth alleges that the fee agreement with Simon was only for an hourly
3 express agreement of \$550 an hour; and that the agreement for \$550 an hour was made at the outset
4 of the case. Mr. Simon alleges that he worked on the case always believing he would receive the
5 reasonable value of his services when the case concluded. There is a dispute over the reasonable fee
6 due to the Law Office of Danny Simon.

7 22. The parties agree that an express written contract was never formed.

8 23. On December 7, 2017, the Edgeworths signed Consent to Settle their claims against
9 Lange Plumbing LLC for \$100,000.

10 24. On January 4, 2018, the Edgeworth Family Trust filed a lawsuit against Simon in
11 Edgeworth Family Trust; American Grating LLC vs. Daniel S. Simon, the Law Office of Daniel S.
12 Simon, a Professional Corporation, case number A-18-767242-C.

13 25. On January 24, 2018, the Law Office of Danny Simon filed a Motion to Adjudicate
14 Lien with an attached invoice for legal services rendered. The amount of the invoice was
15 \$692,120.00. The Court set an evidentiary hearing to adjudicate the lien.

16 26. On November 19, 2018, the Court entered a Decision and Order on Motion to
17 Adjudicate Lien.

18 27. On December 7, 2018, the Edgeworths filed a Notice of Appeal.

19 28. On February 8, 2019, the Court entered a Decision and Order Granting in Part and
20 Denying in Part, Simon's Motion for Attorney's Fees and Costs.

21 29. On February 15, 2019, the Edgeworths filed a second Notice of Appeal and Simon
22 filed a cross appeal, and Simon filed a writ petition on October 17, 2019.

23 30. On December 30, 2020, the Supreme Court issued an order affirming this Court's
24 findings in most respects.

25 31. On January 15, 2021, the Edgeworths filed a Petition for Rehearing.

26 32. On March 16, 2021, this Court issued a Second Amended Decision and Order on
27 Motion to Adjudicate Lien.

1 33. On March 18, 2021, the Nevada Supreme Court denied the Motion for Rehearing.
2
3

4 **CONCLUSION OF LAW**

5 **The Law Office Appropriately Asserted A Charging Lien Which Must Be Adjudicated By The**
6 **Court**

7 An attorney may obtain payment for work on a case by use of an attorney lien. Here, the
8 Law Office of Daniel Simon may use a charging lien to obtain payment for work on case A-16-
9 738444-C under NRS 18.015.

10 NRS 18.015(1)(a) states:

11 1. An attorney at law shall have a lien:

12 (a) Upon any claim, demand or cause of action, including any claim for unliquidated
13 damages, which has been placed in the attorney's hands by a client for suit or
collection, or upon which a suit or other action has been instituted.

14 Nev. Rev. Stat. 18.015.

15 The Court finds that the lien filed by the Law Office of Daniel Simon, in case A-16-738444-C,
16 complies with NRS 18.015(1)(a). The Law Office perfected the charging lien pursuant to NRS
17 18.015(3), by serving the Edgeworths as set forth in the statute. The Law Office charging lien was
18 perfected before settlement funds generated from A-16-738444-C of \$6,100,000.00 were deposited,
19 thus the charging lien attached to the settlement funds. Nev. Rev. Stat. 18.015(4)(a); Golightly &
20 Vannah, PLLC v. TJ Allen LLC, 373 P.3d 103, at 105 (Nev. 2016). The Law Office's charging lien
21 is enforceable in form.

22 The Court has personal jurisdiction over the Law Office and the Plaintiffs in A-16-738444-C.
23 Argentina Consolidated Mining Co., v. Jolley, Urga, Wirth, Woodbury & Standish, 216 P.3d 779 at
24 782-83 (Nev. 2009). The Court has subject matter jurisdiction over adjudication of the Law Office's
25 charging lien. Argentina, 216 P.3d at 783. The Law Office filed a motion requesting adjudication
26 under NRS 18.015, thus the Court must adjudicate the lien.

1 *Fee Agreement*

2 It is undisputed that no express written fee agreement was formed. The Court finds that there
3 was no express oral fee agreement formed between the parties. An express oral agreement is
4 formed when all important terms are agreed upon. See, Loma Linda University v. Eckenweiler, 469
5 P.2d 54 (Nev. 1970) (*no oral contract was formed, despite negotiation, when important terms were*
6 *not agreed upon and when the parties contemplated a written agreement*). The Court finds that the
7 payment terms are essential to the formation of an express oral contract to provide legal services on
8 an hourly basis.

9 Here, the testimony from the evidentiary hearing does not indicate, with any degree of
10 certainty, that there was an express oral fee agreement formed on or about June of 2016. Despite
11 Brian Edgeworth's affidavits and testimony; the emails between himself and Danny Simon,
12 regarding punitive damages and a possible contingency fee, indicate that no express oral fee
13 agreement was formed at the meeting on June 10, 2016. Specifically in Brian Edgeworth's August
14 22, 2017 email, titled "Contingency," he writes:

15
16 "We never really had a structured discussion about how this might be done. I
17 am more than happy to keep paying hourly but if we are going for punitive we
18 should probably explore a hybrid of hourly on the claim and then some other
19 structure that incents both of us to win an go after the appeal that these
20 scumbags will file etc. Obviously that could not have been done earlier since
21 who would have thought this case would meet the hurdle of punitive at the
22 start. I could also swing hourly for the whole case (unless I am off what this
23 is going to cost). I would likely borrow another \$450K from Margaret in 250
24 and 200 increments and then either I could use one of the house sales for cash
25 or if things get really bad, I still have a couple million in bitcoin I could sell. I
26 doubt we will get Kinsale to settle for enough to really finance this since I
27 would have to pay the first \$750,000 or so back to Colin and Margaret and
28 why would Kinsale settle for \$1MM when their exposure is only \$1MM?"

(Def. Exhibit 27).

It is undisputed that when the flood issue arose, all parties were under the impression that Simon
would be helping out the Edgeworths, as a favor.

1 The Court finds that an implied fee agreement was formed between the parties on December
2 2, 2016, when Simon sent the first invoice to the Edgeworths, billing his services at \$550 per hour,
3 and the Edgeworths paid the invoice. On July 28, 2017 an addition to the implied contract was
4 created with a fee of \$275 per hour for Simon's associates. Simon testified that he never told the
5 Edgeworths not to pay the bills, though he testified that from the outset he only wanted to "trigger
6 coverage". When Simon repeatedly billed the Edgeworths at \$550 per hour for his services, and
7 \$275 an hour for the services of his associates; and the Edgeworths paid those invoices, an implied
8 fee agreement was formed between the parties. The implied fee agreement was for \$550 per hour
9 for the services of Daniel Simon Esq. and \$275 per hour for the services of his associates.

10 11 *Constructive Discharge*

12 Constructive discharge of an attorney may occur under several circumstances, such as:

- 13 • Refusal to communicate with an attorney creates constructive discharge. Rosenberg v.
14 Calderon Automation, 1986 Ohio App. LEXIS 5460 (Jan. 31, 1986).
- 15 • Refusal to pay an attorney creates constructive discharge. *See e.g.*, Christian v. All Persons
16 Claiming Any Right, 962 F. Supp. 676 (U.S. Dist. V.I. 1997).
- 17 • Suing an attorney creates constructive discharge. *See* Tao v. Probate Court for the Northeast
18 Dist. #26, 2015 Conn. Super. LEXIS 3146, *13-14, (Dec. 14, 2015). *See also* Maples v.
19 Thomas, 565 U.S. 266 (2012); Harris v. State, 2017 Nev. LEXIS 111; and Guerrero v. State,
20 2017 Nev. Unpubl. LEXIS 472.
- 21 • Taking actions that preventing effective representation creates constructive discharge.
22 McNair v. Commonwealth, 37 Va. App. 687, 697-98 (Va. 2002).

23 Here, the Court finds that the Edgeworths constructively discharged Simon as their lawyer on
24 November 29, 2017. The Edgeworths assert that because Simon has not been expressly terminated,
25 has not withdrawn, and is still technically their attorney of record; there cannot be a termination.
26 The Court disagrees.

27 On November 29, 2017, the Edgeworths met with the Law Firm of Vannah and Vannah and
28 signed a retainer agreement. The retainer agreement was for representation on the Viking settlement
agreement and the Lange claims. (Def. Exhibit 90). This is the exact litigation that Simon was

1 representing the Edgeworths on. This fee agreement also allowed Vannah and Vannah to do all
2 things without a compromise. Id. The retainer agreement specifically states:

3
4 Client retains Attorneys to represent him as his Attorneys regarding
5 Edgeworth Family Trust and AMERICAN GRATING V. ALL VIKING
6 ENTITIES and all damages including, but not limited to, all claims in this
7 matter and empowers them to do all things to effect a compromise in said
8 matter, or to institute such legal action as may be advisable in their judgment,
9 and agrees to pay them for their services, on the following conditions:

10 a) ...

11 b) ...

12 c) Client agrees that his attorneys will work to consummate a settlement of
13 \$6,000,000 from the Viking entities and any settlement amount agreed to be
14 paid by the Lange entity. Client also agrees that attorneys will work to reach
15 an agreement amongst the parties to resolve all claims in the Lange and
16 Viking litigation.

17 Id.

18 This agreement was in place at the time of the settlement of the Viking and Lange claims. Mr.
19 Simon had already begun negotiating the terms of the settlement agreement with Viking during the
20 week of November 27, 2017 prior to Mr. Vannah's involvement. These negotiated terms were put
21 into a final release signed by the Edgeworths and Mr. Vannah's office on December 1, 2017. (Def.
22 Exhibit 5). Mr. Simon's name is not contained in the release; Mr. Vannah's firm is expressly
23 identified as the firm that solely advised the clients about the settlement. The actual language in the
24 settlement agreement, for the Viking claims, states:

25 PLAINTIFFS represent that their independent counsel, Robert Vannah, Esq.
26 and John Greene, Esq., of the law firm Vannah & Vannah has explained the
27 effect of this AGREEMENT and their release of any and all claims, known or
28 unknown and, based upon that explanation and their independent judgment by
the reading of this Agreement, PLAINTIFFS understand and acknowledge the
legal significance and the consequences of the claims being released by this
Agreement. PLAINTIFFS further represent that they understand and
acknowledge the legal significance and consequences of a release of unknown
claims against the SETTLING PARTIES set forth in, or arising from, the
INCIDENT and hereby assume full responsibility for any injuries, damages,
losses or liabilities that hereafter may occur with respect to the matters
released by this Agreement.

1 Id.

2 Also, Simon was not present for the signing of these settlement documents and never explained any
3 of the terms to the Edgeworths. He sent the settlement documents to the Law Office of Vannah and
4 Vannah and received them back with the signatures of the Edgeworths.

5 Further, the Edgeworths did not personally speak with Simon after November 25, 2017.
6 Though there were email communications between the Edgeworths and Simon, they did not verbally
7 speak to him and were not seeking legal advice from him. In an email dated December 5, 2017,
8 Simon is requesting Brian Edgeworth return a call to him about the case, and Brian Edgeworth
9 responds to the email saying, "please give John Greene at Vannah and Vannah a call if you need
10 anything done on the case. I am sure they can handle it." (Def. Exhibit 80). At this time, the claim
11 against Lange Plumbing had not been settled. The evidence indicates that Simon was actively
12 working on this claim, but he had no communication with the Edgeworths and was not advising
13 them on the claim against Lange Plumbing. Specifically, Brian Edgeworth testified that Robert
14 Vannah Esq. told them what Simon said about the Lange claims and it was established that the Law
15 Firm of Vannah and Vannah provided advice to the Edgeworths regarding the Lange claim. Simon
16 and the Law Firm of Vannah and Vannah gave different advice on the Lange claim, and the
17 Edgeworths followed the advice of the Law Firm of Vannah and Vannah to settle the Lange claim.
18 The Law Firm of Vannah and Vannah drafted the consent to settle for the claims against Lange
19 Plumbing (Def. Exhibit 47). This consent to settle was inconsistent with the advice of Simon. Mr.
20 Simon never signed off on any of the releases for the Lange settlement.

21 Further demonstrating a constructive discharge of Simon is the email from Robert Vannah
22 Esq. to James Christensen Esq. dated December 26, 2017, which states: "They have lost all faith and
23 trust in Mr. Simon. Therefore, they will not sign the checks to be deposited into his trust account.
24 Quite frankly, they are fearful that he will steal the money." (Def. Exhibit 48). Then on January 4,
25 2018, the Edgeworth's filed a lawsuit against Simon in Edgeworth Family Trust; American Grating,
26 LLC vs. Daniel S. Simon; the Law Office of Daniel S. Simon, a Professional Corporation d/b/a
27 Simon Law, case number A-18-767242-C. Then, on January 9, 2018, Robert Vannah Esq. sent an
28

1 email to James Christensen Esq. stating, "I guess he could move to withdraw. However, that
2 doesn't seem in his best interests." (Def. Exhibit 53).

3 The Court recognizes that Simon still has not withdrawn as counsel of record on A-16-
4 738444-C, the Law Firm of Vannah and Vannah has never substituted in as counsel of record, the
5 Edgeworths have never explicitly told Simon that he was fired, Simon sent the November 27, 2018
6 letter indicating that the Edgeworth's could consult with other attorneys on the fee agreement (that
7 was attached to the letter), and that Simon continued to work on the case after the November 29,
8 2017 date. The court further recognizes that it is always a client's decision of whether or not to
9 accept a settlement offer. However the issue is constructive discharge and nothing about the fact
10 that Mr. Simon has never officially withdrawn from the case indicates that he was not constructively
11 discharged. His November 27, 2017 letter invited the Edgeworth's to consult with other attorneys
12 on the fee agreement, not the claims against Viking or Lange. His clients were not communicating
13 with him, making it impossible to advise them on pending legal issues, such as the settlements with
14 Lange and Viking. It is clear that there was a breakdown in attorney-client relationship preventing
15
16 Simon from effectively representing the clients. The Court finds that Danny Simon was
17 constructively discharged by the Edgeworths on November 29, 2017.

18
19 **Adjudication of the Lien and Determination of the Law Office Fee**

20 NRS 18.015 states:

21 1. An attorney at law shall have a lien:

22 (a) Upon any claim, demand or cause of action, including any claim for
23 unliquidated damages, which has been placed in the attorney's hands by a
24 client for suit or collection, or upon which a suit or other action has been
25 instituted.

26 (b) In any civil action, upon any file or other property properly left in the
27 possession of the attorney by a client.

28 2. A lien pursuant to subsection 1 is for the amount of any fee which has
been agreed upon by the attorney and client. In the absence of an agreement,
the lien is for a reasonable fee for the services which the attorney has rendered
for the client.

1 3. An attorney perfects a lien described in subsection 1 by serving notice
2 in writing, in person or by certified mail, return receipt requested, upon his or
3 her client and, if applicable, upon the party against whom the client has a
4 cause of action, claiming the lien and stating the amount of the lien.

5 4. A lien pursuant to:

6 (a) Paragraph (a) of subsection 1 attaches to any verdict, judgment or
7 decree entered and to any money or property which is recovered on account of
8 the suit or other action; and

9 (b) Paragraph (b) of subsection 1 attaches to any file or other property
10 properly left in the possession of the attorney by his or her client, including,
11 without limitation, copies of the attorney's file if the original documents
12 received from the client have been returned to the client, and authorizes the
13 attorney to retain any such file or property until such time as an adjudication
14 is made pursuant to subsection 6, from the time of service of the notices
15 required by this section.

16 5. A lien pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1 must not be
17 construed as inconsistent with the attorney's professional responsibilities to
18 the client.

19 6. On motion filed by an attorney having a lien under this section, the
20 attorney's client or any party who has been served with notice of the lien, the
21 court shall, after 5 days' notice to all interested parties, adjudicate the rights of
22 the attorney, client or other parties and enforce the lien.

23 7. Collection of attorney's fees by a lien under this section may be
24 utilized with, after or independently of any other method of collection.

25 Nev. Rev. Stat. 18.015.

26 NRS 18.015(2) matches Nevada contract law. If there is an express contract, then the contract terms
27 are applied. Here, there was no express contract for the fee amount, however there was an implied
28 contract when Simon began to bill the Edgeworths for fees in the amount of \$550 per hour for his
services, and \$275 per hour for the services of his associates. This contract was in effect until
November 29, 2017, when he was constructively discharged from representing the Edgeworths.
After he was constructively discharged, under NRS 18.015(2) and Nevada contract law, Simon is
due a reasonable fee- that is, quantum meruit.

Implied Contract

On December 2, 2016, an implied contract for fees was created. The implied fee was \$550
an hour for the services of Mr. Simon. On July 28, 2017 an addition to the implied contract was

1 created with a fee of \$275 per hour for the services of Simon's associates. This implied contract was
2 created when invoices were sent to the Edgeworths, and they paid the invoices.

3 The invoices that were sent to the Edgeworths indicate that they were for costs and attorney's
4 fees, and these invoices were paid by the Edgeworths. Though the invoice says that the fees were
5 reduced, there is no evidence that establishes that there was any discussion with the Edgeworths as
6 to how much of a reduction was being taken, and that the invoices did not need to be paid. There is
7 no indication that the Edgeworths knew about the amount of the reduction and acknowledged that
8 the full amount would be due at a later date. Simon testified that Brian Edgeworth chose to pay the
9 bills to give credibility to his actual damages, above his property damage loss. However, as the
10 lawyer/counselor, Simon did not prevent Brian Edgeworth from paying the bill or in any way refund
11 the money, or memorialize this or any understanding in writing.

12 Simon produced evidence of the claims for damages for his fees and costs pursuant to NRCP
13 16.1 disclosures and computation of damages; and these amounts include the four invoices that were
14 paid in full and there was never any indication given that anything less than all the fees had been
15 produced. During the deposition of Brian Edgeworth it was suggested, by Simon, that all of the fees
16 had been disclosed. Further, Simon argues that the delay in the billing coincides with the timing of
17 the NRCP 16.1 disclosures, however the billing does not distinguish or in any way indicate that the
18 sole purpose was for the Lange Plumbing LLC claim. Since there is no contract, the Court must
19 look to the actions of the parties to demonstrate the parties' understanding. Here, the actions of the
20 parties are that Simon sent invoices to the Edgeworths, they paid the invoices, and Simon Law
21 Office retained the payments, indicating an implied contract was formed between the parties. The
22 Court find that the Law Office of Daniel Simon should be paid under the implied contract until the
23 date they were constructively discharged, November 29, 2017.

24
25 *Amount of Fees Owed Under Implied Contract*

26 The Edgeworths were billed, and paid for services through September 19, 2017. There is
27 some testimony that an invoice was requested for services after that date, but there is no evidence
28

1 that any invoice was paid by the Edgeworths. Since the Court has found that an implied contract for
2 fees was formed, the Court must now determine what amount of fees and costs are owed from
3 September 19, 2017 to the constructive discharge date of November 29, 2017. In doing so, the
4 Court must consider the testimony from the witnesses at the evidentiary hearing, the submitted
5 billings, the attached lien, and all other evidence provided regarding the services provided during
6 this time.

7 At the evidentiary hearing, Ashley Ferrel Esq. testified that some of the items in the billing
8 that was prepared with the lien "super bill," are not necessarily accurate as the Law Office went back
9 and attempted to create a bill for work that had been done over a year before. She testified that they
10 added in .3 hours for each Wiznet filing that was reviewed and emailed and .15 hours for every
11 email that was read and responded to. She testified that the dates were not exact, they just used the
12 dates for which the documents were filed, and not necessarily the dates in which the work was
13 performed. Further, there are billed items included in the "super bill" that was not previously billed
14 to the Edgeworths, though the items are alleged to have occurred prior to or during the invoice
15 billing period previously submitted to the Edgeworths. The testimony at the evidentiary hearing
16 indicated that there were no phone calls included in the billings that were submitted to the
17 Edgeworths.

18 This attempt to recreate billing and supplement/increase previously billed work makes it
19 unclear to the Court as to the accuracy of this "recreated" billing, since so much time had elapsed
20 between the actual work and the billing. The court reviewed the billings of the "super bill" in
21 comparison to the previous bills and determined that it was necessary to discount the items that had
22 not been previously billed for; such as text messages, reviews with the court reporter, and reviewing,
23 downloading, and saving documents because the Court is uncertain of the accuracy of the "super
24 bill."

25 Simon argues that he has no billing software in his office and that he has never billed a client
26 on an hourly basis, but his actions in this case are contrary. Also, Simon argues that the Edgeworths,
27 in this case, were billed hourly because the Lange contract had a provision for attorney's fees;
28

1 however, as the Court previously found, when the Edgeworths paid the invoices it was not made
2 clear to them that the billings were only for the Lange contract and that they did not need to be paid.
3 Also, there was no indication on the invoices that the work was only for the Lange claims, and not
4 the Viking claims. Ms. Ferrel testified that the billings were only for substantial items, without
5 emails or calls, understanding that those items may be billed separately; but again the evidence does
6 not demonstrate that this information was relayed to the Edgeworths as the bills were being paid.
7 This argument does not persuade the court of the accuracy of the “super bill”.

8 The amount of attorney’s fees and costs for the period beginning in June of 2016 to
9 December 2, 2016 is \$42,564.95. This amount is based upon the invoice from December 2, 2016
10 which appears to indicate that it began with the initial meeting with the client, leading the court to
11 determine that this is the beginning of the relationship. This invoice also states it is for attorney’s
12 fees and costs through November 11, 2016, but the last hourly charge is December 2, 2016. This
13 amount has already been paid by the Edgeworths on December 16, 2016.²

14 The amount of the attorney’s fees and costs for the period beginning on December 5, 2016 to
15 April 4, 2017 is \$46,620.69. This amount is based upon the invoice from April 7, 2017. This
16 amount has already been paid by the Edgeworths on May 3, 2017.

17 The amount of attorney’s fees for the period of April 5, 2017 to July 28, 2017, for the
18 services of Daniel Simon Esq. is \$72,077.50. The amount of attorney’s fees for this period for
19 Ashley Ferrel Esq. is \$38,060.00. The amount of costs outstanding for this period is \$31,943.70.
20 This amount totals \$142,081.20 and is based upon the invoice from July 28, 2017. This amount has
21 been paid by the Edgeworths on August 16, 2017.³

22 The amount of attorney’s fees for the period of July 31, 2017 to September 19, 2017, for the
23 services of Daniel Simon Esq. is \$119,762.50. The amount of attorney’s fees for this period for
24 Ashley Ferrel Esq. is \$60,981.25. The amount of attorney’s fees for this period for Benjamin Miller
25

26
27 ²There are no billing amounts from December 2 to December 4, 2016.

28 ³ There are no billings from July 28 to July 30, 2017.

1 Esq. is \$2,887.50. The amount of costs outstanding for this period is \$71,555.00. This amount
2 totals \$255,186.25 and is based upon the invoice from September 19, 2017. This amount has been
3 paid by the Edgeworths on September 25, 2017.

4 From September 19, 2017 to November 29, 2017, the Court must determine the amount of
5 attorney fees owed to the Law Office of Daniel Simon.⁴ For the services of Daniel Simon Esq., the
6 total amount of hours billed are 340.05. At a rate of \$550 per hour, the total attorney's fees owed to
7 the Law Office for the work of Daniel Simon Esq. is \$187,027.50. For the services of Ashley Ferrel
8 Esq., the total amount of hours billed are 337.15. At a rate of \$275 per hour, the total attorney's fees
9 owed to the Law Office for the work of Ashley Ferrel Esq. from September 19, 2017 to November
10 29, 2017 is \$92,716.25.⁵ For the services of Benjamin Miller Esq., the total amount of hours billed
11 are 19.05. At a rate of \$275 per hour, the total attorney's fees owed to the Law Office for the work
12 of Benjamin Miller Esq. from September 19, 2017 to November 29, 2017 is \$5,238.75.⁶

13 The Court notes that though there was never a fee agreement made with Ashley Ferrel Esq.
14 or Benjamin Miller Esq., however, their fees were included on the last two invoices that were paid
15 by the Edgeworths, so the implied fee agreement applies to their work as well.

16 The Court finds that the total amount owed to the Law Office of Daniel Simon for the period
17 of September 19, 2018 to November 29, 2017 is \$284,982.50.

18 19 *Costs Owed*

20 The Court finds that the Law Office of Daniel Simon is not owed any monies for outstanding
21 costs of the litigation in Edgeworth Family Trust; and American Grating, LLC vs. Lange Plumbing,
22 LLC; The Viking Corporation; Supply Network, Inc. dba Viking Supplynet in case number A-16-
23 738444-C. The attorney lien asserted by Simon, in January of 2018, originally sought
24 reimbursement for advances costs of \$71,594.93. The amount sought for advanced costs was later
25

26 ⁴ There are no billings for October 8th, October 28-29, and November 5th.

27 ⁵ There is no billing for the October 7-8, October 22, October 28-29, November 4, November 11-12, November 18-19,
November 21, and November 23-26.

28 ⁶ There is no billing from September 19, 2017 to November 5, 2017.

1 changed to \$68,844.93. In March of 2018, the Edgeworths paid the outstanding advanced costs, so
2 the Court finds that there no outstanding costs remaining owed to the Law Office of Daniel Simon.

3 4 *Quantum Meruit*

5 When a lawyer is discharged by the client, the lawyer is no longer compensated under the
6 discharged/breached/repudiated contract, but is paid based on quantum meruit. See e.g. Golightly v.
7 Gassner, 281 P.3d 1176 (Nev. 2009) (*unreported*) (*discharged contingency attorney paid by*
8 *quantum meruit rather than by contingency fee pursuant to agreement with client*); citing, Gordon v.
9 Stewart, 324 P.3d 234 (1958) (*attorney paid in quantum meruit after client breach of agreement*);
10 and, Cooke v. Gove, 114 P.2d 87 (Nev. 1941) (*fees awarded in quantum meruit when there was no*
11 *contingency agreement*). Here, Simon was constructively discharged by the Edgeworths on
12 November 29, 2017. The constructive discharge terminated the implied contract for fees. William
13 Kemp Esq. testified as an expert witness and stated that if there is no contract, then the proper award
14 is quantum meruit. The Court finds that the Law Office of Daniel Simon is owed attorney's fees
15 under quantum meruit from November 29, 2017, after the constructive discharge, to the conclusion
16 of the Law Office's work on this case.

17 In determining the amount of fees to be awarded under quantum meruit, the Court has wide
18 discretion on the method of calculation of attorney fee, to be "tempered only by reason and
19 fairness". Albios v. Horizon Communities, Inc., 132 P.3d 1022 (Nev. 2006). The law only requires
20 that the court calculate a reasonable fee. Shuette v. Beazer Homes Holding Corp., 124 P.3d 530
21 (Nev. 2005). Whatever method of calculation is used by the Court, the amount of the attorney fee
22 must be reasonable under the Brunzell factors. Id. The Court should enter written findings of the
23 reasonableness of the fee under the Brunzell factors. Argentina Consolidated Mining Co., v. Jolley,
24 Urga, Wirth, Woodbury Standish, 216 P.3d 779, at fn2 (Nev. 2009). Brunzell provides that
25 "[w]hile hourly time schedules are helpful in establishing the value of counsel services, other factors
26 may be equally significant. Brunzell v. Golden Gate National Bank, 455 P.2d 31 (Nev. 1969).

27 The Brunzell factors are: (1) the qualities of the advocate; (2) the character of the work to be
28

1 done; (3) the work actually performed; and (4) the result obtained. Id. However, in this case the
2 Court notes that the majority of the work in this case was complete before the date of the
3 constructive discharge, and the Court is applying the Brunzell factors for the period commencing
4 after the constructive discharge.

5 In considering the Brunzell factors, the Court looks at all of the evidence presented in the
6 case, the testimony at the evidentiary hearing, and the litigation involved in the case.

7 1. Quality of the Advocate

8 Brunzell expands on the “qualities of the advocate” factor and mentions such items as
9 training, skill and education of the advocate. Mr. Simon has been an active Nevada trial attorney for
10 over two decades. He has several 7-figure trial verdicts and settlements to his credit. Craig
11 Drummond Esq. testified that he considers Mr. Simon a top 1% trial lawyer and he associates Mr.
12 Simon in on cases that are complex and of significant value. Michael Nunez Esq. testified that Mr.
13 Simon’s work on this case was extremely impressive. William Kemp Esq. testified that Mr. Simon’s
14 work product and results are exceptional.

15 2. The Character of the Work to be Done

16 The character of the work done in this case is complex. There were multiple parties,
17 multiple claims, and many interrelated issues. Affirmative claims by the Edgeworths covered the
18 gamut from product liability to negligence. The many issues involved manufacturing, engineering,
19 fraud, and a full understanding of how to work up and present the liability and damages. Mr. Kemp
20 testified that the quality and quantity of the work was exceptional for a products liability case against
21 a world-wide manufacturer that is experienced in litigating case. Mr. Kemp further testified that the
22 Law Office of Danny Simon retained multiple experts to secure the necessary opinions to prove the
23 case. The continued aggressive representation, of Mr. Simon, in prosecuting the case that was a
24 substantial factor in achieving the exceptional results.

25 3. The Work Actually Performed

26 Mr. Simon was aggressive in litigating this case. In addition to filing several motions,
27 numerous court appearances, and deposition; his office uncovered several other activations, that
28

1 caused possible other floods. While the Court finds that Mr. Edgeworth was extensively involved
2 and helpful in this aspect of the case, the Court disagrees that it was his work alone that led to the
3 other activations being uncovered and the result that was achieved in this case. Since Mr.
4 Edgeworth is not a lawyer, it is impossible that it was his work alone that led to the filing of motions
5 and the litigation that allowed this case to develop into a \$6 million settlement. All of the work by
6 the Law Office of Daniel Simon led to the ultimate result in this case.

7 4. The Result Obtained

8 The result was impressive. This began as a \$500,000 insurance claim and ended up settling
9 for over \$6,000,000. Mr. Simon was also able to recover an additional \$100,000 from Lange
10 Plumbing LLC. Mr. Vannah indicated to Simon that the Edgeworths were ready so sign and settle
11 the Lange Claim for \$25,000 but Simon kept working on the case and making changes to the
12 settlement agreement. This ultimately led to a larger settlement for the Edgeworths. Recognition is
13 due to Mr. Simon for placing the Edgeworths in a great position to recover a greater amount from
14 Lange. Mr. Kemp testified that this was the most important factor and that the result was incredible.
15 Mr. Kemp also testified that he has never heard of a \$6 million settlement with a \$500,000 damage
16 case. Further, in the Consent to Settle, on the Lange claims, the Edgeworth's acknowledge that they
17 were made more than whole with the settlement with the Viking entities.

18 In determining the amount of attorney's fees owed to the Law Firm of Daniel Simon, the
19 Court also considers the factors set forth in Nevada Rules of Professional Conduct – Rule 1.5(a)
20 which states:

21
22 (a) A lawyer shall not make an agreement for, charge, or collect an
23 unreasonable fee or an unreasonable amount for expenses. The factors to be
24 considered in determining the reasonableness of a fee include the following:

25 (1) The time and labor required, the novelty and difficulty of the
26 questions involved, and the skill requisite to perform the legal service
27 properly;

28 (2) The likelihood, if apparent to the client, that the acceptance of the
particular employment will preclude other employment by the lawyer;

(3) The fee customarily charged in the locality for similar legal
services;

(4) The amount involved and the results obtained;

1 (5) The time limitations imposed by the client or by the
circumstances;

2 (6) The nature and length of the professional relationship with the
client;

3 (7) The experience, reputation, and ability of the lawyer or lawyers
performing the services; and

4 (8) Whether the fee is fixed or contingent.

5 NRCP 1.5. However, the Court must also consider the remainder of Rule 1.5 which goes on to state:

6 (b) The scope of the representation and the basis or rate of the fee and
7 expenses for which the client will be responsible shall be communicated to the
8 client, preferably in writing, before or within a reasonable time after
9 commencing the representation, except when the lawyer will charge a
regularly represented client on the same basis or rate. Any changes in the
basis or rate of the fee or expenses shall also be communicated to the client.

10 (c) A fee may be contingent on the outcome of the matter for which the
11 service is rendered, except in a matter in which a contingent fee is prohibited
12 by paragraph (d) or other law. A contingent fee agreement shall be in writing,
signed by the client, and shall state, in boldface type that is at least as large as
the largest type used in the contingent fee agreement:

13 (1) The method by which the fee is to be determined, including the
14 percentage or percentages that shall accrue to the lawyer in the event of
settlement, trial or appeal;

15 (2) Whether litigation and other expenses are to be deducted from the
16 recovery, and whether such expenses are to be deducted before or after the
contingent fee is calculated;

17 (3) Whether the client is liable for expenses regardless of outcome;

18 (4) That, in the event of a loss, the client may be liable for the
opposing party's attorney fees, and will be liable for the opposing party's
costs as required by law; and

19 (5) That a suit brought solely to harass or to coerce a settlement may
result in liability for malicious prosecution or abuse of process.

20 Upon conclusion of a contingent fee matter, the lawyer shall provide the client
21 with a written statement stating the outcome of the matter and, if there is a
22 recovery, showing the remittance to the client and the method of its
determination.

23
24 NRCP 1.5.

25 The Court finds that under the Brunzell factors, Mr. Simon was an exceptional advocate for
26 the Edgeworths, the character of the work was complex, the work actually performed was extremely

1 significant, and the work yielded a phenomenal result for the Edgeworths. All of the Brunzell
2 factors justify a reasonable fee under NRPC 1.5.

3 However, the Court must also consider the fact that the evidence suggests that the basis or
4 rate of the fee and expenses for which the client will be responsible were never communicated to the
5 client, within a reasonable time after commencing the representation. Further, this is not a
6 contingent fee case, and the Court is not awarding a contingency fee.

7 Instead, the Court must determine the amount of a reasonable fee. In determining this
8 amount of a reasonable fee, the Court must consider the work that the Law Office continued to
9 provide on the Edgeworth's case, even after the constructive discharge. The record is clear that the
10 Edgeworths were ready to sign and settle the Lange claim for \$25,000 but Simon kept working on
11 the case and making changes to the settlement agreement. This resulted in the Edgeworth's
12 recovering an additional \$75,000 from Lange plumbing. Further, the Law Office of Daniel Simon
13 continued to work on the Viking settlement until it was finalized in December of 2017, and the
14 checks were issued on December 18, 2017. Mr. Simon continued to personally work with Mr.
15 Vannah to attempt to get the checks endorsed by the Edgeworths, and this lasted into the 2018 year.
16 The record is clear that the efforts exerted by the Law Office of Daniel Simon and Mr. Simon
17 himself were continuing, even after the constructive discharge. In considering the reasonable value
18 of these services, under quantum meruit, the Court is considering the previous \$550 per hour fee
19 from the implied fee agreement, the Brunzell factors, and additional work performed after the
20 constructive discharge. As such, the COURT FINDS that the Law Office of Daniel Simon is
21 entitled to a reasonable fee in the amount of \$200,000, from November 30, 2017 to the conclusion of
22 this case.

23 //

24 //

25 //

26 //

27 //

1 CONCLUSION

2 The Court finds that the Law Office of Daniel Simon properly filed and perfected the
3 charging lien pursuant to NRS 18.015(3) and the Court must adjudicate the lien. The Court further
4 finds that there was an implied agreement for a fee of \$550 per hour between Mr. Simon and the
5 Edgeworths once Simon started billing Edgeworth for this amount, and the bills were paid. The
6 Court further finds that on November 29, 2017, the Edgeworth's constructively discharged Mr.
7 Simon as their attorney, when they ceased following his advice and refused to communicate with
8 him about their litigation. The Court further finds that Mr. Simon was compensated at the implied
9 agreement rate of \$550 per hour for his services, and \$275 per hour for his associates; up and until
10 the last billing of September 19, 2017. For the period from September 19, 2017 to November 29,
11 2017, the Court finds that Mr. Simon is entitled to his implied agreement fee of \$550 an hour, and
12 \$275 an hour for his associates, for a total amount of \$284,982.50. For the period after November
13 29, 2017, the Court finds that the Law Office of Daniel Simon properly perfected their lien and is
14 entitled to a reasonable fee for the services the office rendered for the Edgeworths, after being
15 constructively discharged, under quantum meruit, in an amount of \$200,000. The Court further
16 finds that the Law Office of Daniel Simon is entitled to costs in the amount of \$71,594.93.

17
18 ORDER

19 It is hereby ordered, adjudged, and decreed, that the Motion to Adjudicate the Attorneys Lien
20 of the Law Office of Daniel S. Simon is hereby granted and that the reasonable fee due to the Law
21 Office of Daniel Simon is \$556,577.43, which includes outstanding costs. **Dated this 19th day of April, 2021**

22 IT IS SO ORDERED.

23
24
25 
DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

26 **DEB 12B 0D66 116F**
27 **Tierra Jones**
28 **District Court Judge**

1 CSERV

2 DISTRICT COURT
3 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

4
5
6 Edgeworth Family Trust,
7 Plaintiff(s)

CASE NO: A-18-767242-C

8 vs.

DEPT. NO. Department 10

9 Daniel Simon, 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 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:

Service Date: 4/19/2021

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28		

EXHIBIT 4

Thomas S. Simon
CLERK OF THE COURT

1 **ORD**

2
3
4 **DISTRICT COURT**
5 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

6 EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; and
7 AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,

8 Plaintiffs,

9 vs.

CASE NO.: A-18-767242-C
DEPT NO.: X

10 LANGE PLUMBING, LLC; THE VIKING
11 CORPORATION, a Michigan Corporation;
12 SUPPLY NETWORK, INC., dba VIKING
13 SUPPLYNET, a Michigan Corporation; and
DOES 1 through 5; and, ROE entities 6 through
10;

14 Defendants.

Consolidated with

CASE NO.: A-16-738444-C
DEPT NO.: X

15 EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; and
16 AMERICAN GRATING, LLC,

17 Plaintiffs,

18 vs.

THIRD AMENDED DECISION AND
ORDER ON MOTION TO ADJUDICATE
LIEN

19 DANIEL S. SIMON; THE LAW OFFICE OF
20 DANIEL S. SIMON, a Professional Corporation
d/b/a SIMON LAW; DOES 1 through 10; and,
ROE entities 1 through 10;

21 Defendants.

22
23 **THIRD AMENDED DECISION AND ORDER ON MOTION TO**
24 **ADJUDICATE LIEN**

25 This case came on for an evidentiary hearing August 27-30, 2018 and concluded on
26 September 18, 2018, in the Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County, Nevada, the Honorable
27 Tierra Jones presiding. Defendants and movant, Daniel Simon and Law Office of Daniel S. Simon
28 d/b/a Simon Law ("Defendants" or "Law Office" or "Simon" or "Mr. Simon") having appeared in

1 person and by and through their attorneys of record, Peter S. Christiansen, Esq. and James
2 Christensen, Esq. and Plaintiff Edgeworth Family Trust and American Grating, ("Plaintiff" or
3 "Edgeworths") having appeared through Brian and Angela Edgeworth, and by and through their
4 attorneys of record, the law firm of Vannah and Vannah, Chtd. Robert Vannah, Esq. and John
5 Greene, Esq. The Court having considered the evidence, arguments of counsel and being fully
6 advised of the matters herein, the **COURT FINDS:**

7 8 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

9 1. The Court finds that the Law Office of Daniel S. Simon represented the Plaintiffs,
10 Edgeworth Family Trust and American Grating in the case entitled Edgeworth Family Trust and
11 American Grating v. Viking, et al., case number A-16-738444-C. The representation commenced on
12 May 27, 2016 when Brian Edgeworth and Daniel Simon Esq. met at Starbucks. This representation
13 originally began as a favor between friends and there was no discussion of fees, at this point. Mr.
14 Simon and his wife were close family friends with Brian and Angela Edgeworth.

15 2. The case involved a complex products liability issue.

16 3. On April 10, 2016, a house the Edgeworths were building as a speculation home
17 suffered a flood. The house was still under construction and the flood caused a delay. The
18 Edgeworths did not carry loss insurance if a flood occurred and the plumbing company and
19 manufacturer refused to pay for the property damage. A fire sprinkler installed by the plumber, and
20 within the plumber's scope of work, caused the flood; however, the plumber asserted the fire
21 sprinkler was defective and refused to repair or to pay for repairs. The manufacturer of the sprinkler,
22 Viking, et al., also denied any wrongdoing.

23 4. In May of 2016, Mr. Simon agreed to help his friend with the flood claim and to send
24 a few letters. The parties initially hoped that Simon drafting a few letters to the responsible parties
25 could resolve the matter. Simon wrote the letters to the responsible parties, but the matter did not
26 resolve. Since the matter was not resolved, a lawsuit had to be filed.

27 5. On June 14, 2016, a complaint was filed in the case of Edgeworth Family Trust; and
28

1 American Grating LLC vs. Lange Plumbing, LLC; the Viking Corporation; Supply Network Inc.,
2 dba Viking Supplynet, in case number A-18-738444-C. The cost of repairs was approximately
3 \$500,000. One of the elements of the Edgeworth's damages against Lange Plumbing LLC ("Lange")
4 in the litigation was for reimbursement of the fees and costs that were paid by the Edgeworths.

5 6. On August 9, 2017, Mr. Simon and Brian Edgeworth traveled to San Diego to meet
6 with an expert. As they were in the airport waiting for a return flight, they discussed the case, and
7 had some discussion about payments and financials. No express fee agreement was reached during
8 the meeting. On August 22, 2017, Brian Edgeworth sent an email to Simon entitled "Contingency."
9 It reads as follows:

10 We never really had a structured discussion about how this might be done.
11 I am more than happy to keep paying hourly but if we are going for punitive
12 we should probably explore a hybrid of hourly on the claim and then some
13 other structure that incents both of us to win an go after the appeal that these
14 scumbags will file etc.
15 Obviously that could not have been done earlier since who would have
16 thought this case would meet the hurdle of punitive at the start.
17 I could also swing hourly for the whole case (unless I am off what this is
18 going to cost). I would likely borrow another \$450K from Margaret in 250
19 and 200 increments and then either I could use one of the house sales for cash
20 or if things get really bad, I still have a couple million in bitcoin I could sell.
21 I doubt we will get Kinsale to settle for enough to really finance this since I
22 would have to pay the first \$750,000 or so back to Colin and Margaret and
23 why would Kinsale settle for \$1MM when their exposure is only \$1MM?

24 (Def. Exhibit 27).

25 7. During the litigation, Simon sent four (4) invoices to the Edgeworths. The first
26 invoice was sent on December 2, 2016, seven (7) months after the original meeting at Starbucks.
27 This invoice indicated that it was for attorney's fees and costs through November 11, 2016. (Def.
28 Exhibit 8). The total of this invoice was \$42,564.95 and was billed at a "reduced" rate of \$550 per
hour. Id. The invoice was paid by the Edgeworths on December 16, 2016.

8. On April 7, 2017 a second invoice was sent to the Edgeworths for attorney's fees and
costs through April 4, 2017 for a total of \$46,620.69, and was billed at a "reduced" rate of \$550 per

1 hour. (Def. Exhibit 9). This invoice was paid by the Edgeworths on May 3, 2017. There was no
2 indication on the first two invoices if the services were those of Mr. Simon or his associates; but the
3 bills indicated an hourly rate of \$550.00 per hour.

4 9. A third invoice was sent to the Edgeworths on July 28, 2017 for attorney's fees and
5 costs through July 28, 2017 totaling of \$142,080.20. (Def. Exhibit 10). This bill identified services
6 of Daniel Simon Esq. for a "reduced" rate of \$550 per hour totaling \$104,021.20; and services of
7 Ashley Ferrel Esq. for a "reduced" rate of \$275 per hour totaling \$37,959.00. Id. This invoice was
8 paid by the Edgeworths on August 16, 2017.

9 10. The fourth invoice was sent to the Edgeworths on September 19, 2017 in an amount
10 of \$255,186.25 for attorney's fees and costs; with \$191,317.50 being calculated at a "reduced" rate
11 of \$550 per hour for Daniel Simon Esq., \$60,981.25 being calculated at a "reduced" rate of \$275 per
12 hour for Ashley Ferrel Esq., and \$2,887.50 being calculated at a "reduced" rate of \$275 per hour for
13 Benjamin Miller Esq. (Def. Exhibit 11). This invoice was paid by the Edgeworths on September
14 25, 2017.

15 11. The amount of attorney's fees in the four (4) invoices was \$367,606.25, and
16 \$118,846.84 in costs; for a total of \$486,453.09.¹ These monies were paid to Daniel Simon Esq. and
17 never returned to the Edgeworths. The Edgeworths secured very high interest loans to pay fees and
18 costs to Simon. They made Simon aware of this fact.

19 12. Between June 2016 and December 2017, there was a tremendous amount of work
20 done in the litigation of this case. There were several motions and oppositions filed, several
21 depositions taken, and several hearings held in the case.

22 13. On the evening of November 15, 2017, the Edgeworth's received the first settlement
23 offer for their claims against the Viking Corporation ("Viking"). However, the claims were not
24 settled until on or about December 1, 2017.

25 14. Also on November 15, 2017, Brian Edgeworth sent an email to Simon asking for the
26

27 ¹ \$265,677.50 in attorney's fees for the services of Daniel Simon; \$99,041.25 for the services of Ashley Ferrel; and
28 \$2,887.50 for the services of Benjamin Miller.

1 open invoice. The email stated: "I know I have an open invoice that you were going to give me at
2 mediation a couple weeks ago and then did not leave with me. Could someone in your office send
3 Peter (copied here) any invoices that are unpaid please?" (Def. Exhibit 38).

4 15. On November 17, 2017, Simon scheduled an appointment for the Edgeworths to
5 come to his office to discuss the litigation.

6 16. On November 27, 2017, Simon sent a letter with an attached retainer agreement,
7 stating that the fee for legal services would be \$1,500,000 for services rendered to date. (Plaintiff's
8 Exhibit 4).

9 17. On November 29, 2017, the Edgeworths met with the Law Office of Vannah &
10 Vannah and signed a retainer agreement. (Def. Exhibit 90). On this date, they ceased all
11 communications with Mr. Simon.

12 18. On the morning of November 30, 2017, Simon received a letter advising him that the
13 Edgeworths had retained the Vannah Law Firm to assist in the litigation with the Viking entities,
14 et.al. The letter read as follows:

15 "Please let this letter serve to advise you that I've retained Robert D. Vannah,
16 Esq. and John B. Greene, Esq., of Vannah & Vannah to assist in the litigation
17 with the Viking entities, et.al. I'm instructing you to cooperate with them in
18 every regard concerning the litigation and any settlement. I'm also instructing
19 you to give them complete access to the file and allow them to review
20 whatever documents they request to review. Finally, I direct you to allow
21 them to participate without limitation in any proceeding concerning our case,
22 whether it be at depositions, court hearings, discussions, etc."

23 (Def. Exhibit 43).

24 19. On the same morning, Simon received, through the Vannah Law Firm, the
25 Edgeworth's consent to settle their claims against Lange Plumbing LLC for \$25,000.

26 20. Also on this date, the Law Office of Danny Simon filed an attorney's lien for the
27 reasonable value of its services pursuant to NRS 18.015. (Def. Exhibit 3). On January 2, 2018, the
28 Law Office filed an amended attorney's lien for the sum of \$2,345,450, less payments made in the
sum of \$367,606.25, for a net lien in the sum of \$1,977,843.80. This lien includes court costs and

1 out-of-pocket costs advanced by the Law Office of Daniel S. Simon in the sum of \$76,535.93.

2 21. Mr. Edgeworth alleges that the fee agreement with Simon was only for an hourly
3 express agreement of \$550 an hour; and that the agreement for \$550 an hour was made at the outset
4 of the case. Mr. Simon alleges that he worked on the case always believing he would receive the
5 reasonable value of his services when the case concluded. There is a dispute over the reasonable fee
6 due to the Law Office of Danny Simon.

7 22. The parties agree that an express written contract was never formed.

8 23. On December 7, 2017, the Edgeworths signed Consent to Settle their claims against
9 Lange Plumbing LLC for \$100,000.

10 24. On January 4, 2018, the Edgeworth Family Trust filed a lawsuit against Simon in
11 Edgeworth Family Trust; American Grating LLC vs. Daniel S. Simon, the Law Office of Daniel S.
12 Simon, a Professional Corporation, case number A-18-767242-C.

13 25. On January 24, 2018, the Law Office of Danny Simon filed a Motion to Adjudicate
14 Lien with an attached invoice for legal services rendered. The amount of the invoice was
15 \$692,120.00. The Court set an evidentiary hearing to adjudicate the lien.

16 26. On November 19, 2018, the Court entered a Decision and Order on Motion to
17 Adjudicate Lien.

18 27. On December 7, 2018, the Edgeworths filed a Notice of Appeal.

19 28. On February 8, 2019, the Court entered a Decision and Order Granting in Part and
20 Denying in Part, Simon's Motion for Attorney's Fees and Costs.

21 29. On February 15, 2019, the Edgeworths filed a second Notice of Appeal and Simon
22 filed a cross appeal, and Simon filed a writ petition on October 17, 2019.

23 30. On December 30, 2020, the Supreme Court issued an order affirming this Court's
24 findings in most respects.

25 31. On January 15, 2021, the Edgeworths filed a Petition for Rehearing.

26 32. On March 16, 2021, this Court issued a Second Amended Decision and Order on
27 Motion to Adjudicate Lien.

33. On March 18, 2021, the Nevada Supreme Court denied the Motion for Rehearing.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

The Law Office Appropriately Asserted A Charging Lien Which Must Be Adjudicated By The Court

An attorney may obtain payment for work on a case by use of an attorney lien. Here, the Law Office of Daniel Simon may use a charging lien to obtain payment for work on case A-16-738444-C under NRS 18.015.

NRS 18.015(1)(a) states:

1. An attorney at law shall have a lien:
 - (a) Upon any claim, demand or cause of action, including any claim for unliquidated damages, which has been placed in the attorney's hands by a client for suit or collection, or upon which a suit or other action has been instituted.

Nev. Rev. Stat. 18.015.

The Court finds that the lien filed by the Law Office of Daniel Simon, in case A-16-738444-C, complies with NRS 18.015(1)(a). The Law Office perfected the charging lien pursuant to NRS 18.015(3), by serving the Edgeworths as set forth in the statute. The Law Office charging lien was perfected before settlement funds generated from A-16-738444-C of \$6,100,000.00 were deposited, thus the charging lien attached to the settlement funds. Nev. Rev. Stat. 18.015(4)(a); Golightly & Vannah, PLLC v. TJ Allen LLC, 373 P.3d 103, at 105 (Nev. 2016). The Law Office's charging lien is enforceable in form.

The Court has personal jurisdiction over the Law Office and the Plaintiffs in A-16-738444-C. Argentina Consolidated Mining Co., v. Jolley, Urga, Wirth, Woodbury & Standish, 216 P.3d 779 at 782-83 (Nev. 2009). The Court has subject matter jurisdiction over adjudication of the Law Office's charging lien. Argentina, 216 P.3d at 783. The Law Office filed a motion requesting adjudication under NRS 18.015, thus the Court must adjudicate the lien.

1 *Fee Agreement*

2 It is undisputed that no express written fee agreement was formed. The Court finds that there
3 was no express oral fee agreement formed between the parties. An express oral agreement is
4 formed when all important terms are agreed upon. *See, Loma Linda University v. Eckenweiler*, 469
5 P.2d 54 (Nev. 1970) (*no oral contract was formed, despite negotiation, when important terms were*
6 *not agreed upon and when the parties contemplated a written agreement*). The Court finds that the
7 payment terms are essential to the formation of an express oral contract to provide legal services on
8 an hourly basis.

9 Here, the testimony from the evidentiary hearing does not indicate, with any degree of
10 certainty, that there was an express oral fee agreement formed on or about June of 2016. Despite
11 Brian Edgeworth's affidavits and testimony; the emails between himself and Danny Simon,
12 regarding punitive damages and a possible contingency fee, indicate that no express oral fee
13 agreement was formed at the meeting on June 10, 2016. Specifically in Brian Edgeworth's August
14 22, 2017 email, titled "Contingency," he writes:

15
16 "We never really had a structured discussion about how this might be done. I
17 am more than happy to keep paying hourly but if we are going for punitive we
18 should probably explore a hybrid of hourly on the claim and then some other
19 structure that incents both of us to win an go after the appeal that these
20 scumbags will file etc. Obviously that could not have been done earlier since
21 who would have thought this case would meet the hurdle of punitive at the
22 start. I could also swing hourly for the whole case (unless I am off what this
23 is going to cost). I would likely borrow another \$450K from Margaret in 250
24 and 200 increments and then either I could use one of the house sales for cash
or if things get really bad, I still have a couple million in bitcoin I could sell. I
doubt we will get Kinsale to settle for enough to really finance this since I
would have to pay the first \$750,000 or so back to Colin and Margaret and
why would Kinsale settle for \$1MM when their exposure is only \$1MM?"

25 (Def. Exhibit 27).

26 It is undisputed that when the flood issue arose, all parties were under the impression that Simon
27 would be helping out the Edgeworths, as a favor.

1 The Court finds that an implied fee agreement was formed between the parties on December
2 2, 2016, when Simon sent the first invoice to the Edgeworths, billing his services at \$550 per hour,
3 and the Edgeworths paid the invoice. On July 28, 2017 an addition to the implied contract was
4 created with a fee of \$275 per hour for Simon's associates. Simon testified that he never told the
5 Edgeworths not to pay the bills, though he testified that from the outset he only wanted to "trigger
6 coverage". When Simon repeatedly billed the Edgeworths at \$550 per hour for his services, and
7 \$275 an hour for the services of his associates; and the Edgeworths paid those invoices, an implied
8 fee agreement was formed between the parties. The implied fee agreement was for \$550 per hour
9 for the services of Daniel Simon Esq. and \$275 per hour for the services of his associates.

10 11 *Constructive Discharge*

12 Constructive discharge of an attorney may occur under several circumstances, such as:

- 13 • Refusal to communicate with an attorney creates constructive discharge. Rosenberg v.
14 Calderon Automation, 1986 Ohio App. LEXIS 5460 (Jan. 31, 1986).
- 15 • Refusal to pay an attorney creates constructive discharge. *See e.g.,* Christian v. All Persons
16 Claiming Any Right, 962 F. Supp. 676 (U.S. Dist. V.I. 1997).
- 17 • Suing an attorney creates constructive discharge. *See* Tao v. Probate Court for the Northeast
18 Dist. #26, 2015 Conn. Super. LEXIS 3146, *13-14, (Dec. 14, 2015). *See also* Maples v.
19 Thomas, 565 U.S. 266 (2012); Harris v. State, 2017 Nev. LEXIS 111; and Guerrero v. State,
20 2017 Nev. Unpubl. LEXIS 472.
- 21 • Taking actions that preventing effective representation creates constructive discharge.
22 McNair v. Commonwealth, 37 Va. App. 687, 697-98 (Va. 2002).

23 Here, the Court finds that the Edgeworths constructively discharged Simon as their lawyer on
24 November 29, 2017. The Edgeworths assert that because Simon has not been expressly terminated,
25 has not withdrawn, and is still technically their attorney of record; there cannot be a termination.
26 The Court disagrees.

27 On November 29, 2017, the Edgeworths met with the Law Firm of Vannah and Vannah and
28 signed a retainer agreement. The retainer agreement was for representation on the Viking settlement
agreement and the Lange claims. (Def. Exhibit 90). This is the exact litigation that Simon was

1 representing the Edgeworths on. This fee agreement also allowed Vannah and Vannah to do all
2 things without a compromise. Id. The retainer agreement specifically states:

3
4 Client retains Attorneys to represent him as his Attorneys regarding
5 Edgeworth Family Trust and AMERICAN GRATING V. ALL VIKING
6 ENTITIES and all damages including, but not limited to, all claims in this
7 matter and empowers them to do all things to effect a compromise in said
8 matter, or to institute such legal action as may be advisable in their judgment,
9 and agrees to pay them for their services, on the following conditions:

10 a) ...

11 b) ...

12 c) Client agrees that his attorneys will work to consummate a settlement of
13 \$6,000,000 from the Viking entities and any settlement amount agreed to be
14 paid by the Lange entity. Client also agrees that attorneys will work to reach
15 an agreement amongst the parties to resolve all claims in the Lange and
16 Viking litigation.

17 Id.

18 This agreement was in place at the time of the settlement of the Viking and Lange claims. Mr.
19 Simon had already begun negotiating the terms of the settlement agreement with Viking during the
20 week of November 27, 2017 prior to Mr. Vannah's involvement. These negotiated terms were put
21 into a final release signed by the Edgeworths and Mr. Vannah's office on December 1, 2017. (Def.
22 Exhibit 5). Mr. Simon's name is not contained in the release; Mr. Vannah's firm is expressly
23 identified as the firm that solely advised the clients about the settlement. The actual language in the
24 settlement agreement, for the Viking claims, states:

25 PLAINTIFFS represent that their independent counsel, Robert Vannah, Esq.
26 and John Greene, Esq., of the law firm Vannah & Vannah has explained the
27 effect of this AGREEMENT and their release of any and all claims, known or
28 unknown and, based upon that explanation and their independent judgment by
the reading of this Agreement, PLAINTIFFS understand and acknowledge the
legal significance and the consequences of the claims being released by this
Agreement. PLAINTIFFS further represent that they understand and
acknowledge the legal significance and consequences of a release of unknown
claims against the SETTLING PARTIES set forth in, or arising from, the
INCIDENT and hereby assume full responsibility for any injuries, damages,
losses or liabilities that hereafter may occur with respect to the matters
released by this Agreement.

1 Id.

2 Also, Simon was not present for the signing of these settlement documents and never explained any
3 of the terms to the Edgeworths. He sent the settlement documents to the Law Office of Vannah and
4 Vannah and received them back with the signatures of the Edgeworths.

5 Further, the Edgeworths did not personally speak with Simon after November 25, 2017.
6 Though there were email communications between the Edgeworths and Simon, they did not verbally
7 speak to him and were not seeking legal advice from him. In an email dated December 5, 2017,
8 Simon is requesting Brian Edgeworth return a call to him about the case, and Brian Edgeworth
9 responds to the email saying, "please give John Greene at Vannah and Vannah a call if you need
10 anything done on the case. I am sure they can handle it." (Def. Exhibit 80). At this time, the claim
11 against Lange Plumbing had not been settled. The evidence indicates that Simon was actively
12 working on this claim, but he had no communication with the Edgeworths and was not advising
13 them on the claim against Lange Plumbing. Specifically, Brian Edgeworth testified that Robert
14 Vannah Esq. told them what Simon said about the Lange claims and it was established that the Law
15 Firm of Vannah and Vannah provided advice to the Edgeworths regarding the Lange claim. Simon
16 and the Law Firm of Vannah and Vannah gave different advice on the Lange claim, and the
17 Edgeworths followed the advice of the Law Firm of Vannah and Vannah to settle the Lange claim.
18 The Law Firm of Vannah and Vannah drafted the consent to settle for the claims against Lange
19 Plumbing (Def. Exhibit 47). This consent to settle was inconsistent with the advice of Simon. Mr.
20 Simon never signed off on any of the releases for the Lange settlement.

21 Further demonstrating a constructive discharge of Simon is the email from Robert Vannah
22 Esq. to James Christensen Esq. dated December 26, 2017, which states: "They have lost all faith and
23 trust in Mr. Simon. Therefore, they will not sign the checks to be deposited into his trust account.
24 Quite frankly, they are fearful that he will steal the money." (Def. Exhibit 48). Then on January 4,
25 2018, the Edgeworth's filed a lawsuit against Simon in Edgeworth Family Trust; American Grating,
26 LLC vs. Daniel S. Simon; the Law Office of Daniel S. Simon, a Professional Corporation d/b/a
27 Simon Law, case number A-18-767242-C. Then, on January 9, 2018, Robert Vannah Esq. sent an
28

1 email to James Christensen Esq. stating, "I guess he could move to withdraw. However, that
2 doesn't seem in his best interests." (Def. Exhibit 53).

3 The Court recognizes that Simon still has not withdrawn as counsel of record on A-16-
4 738444-C, the Law Firm of Vannah and Vannah has never substituted in as counsel of record, the
5 Edgeworths have never explicitly told Simon that he was fired, Simon sent the November 27, 2018
6 letter indicating that the Edgeworth's could consult with other attorneys on the fee agreement (that
7 was attached to the letter), and that Simon continued to work on the case after the November 29,
8 2017 date. The court further recognizes that it is always a client's decision of whether or not to
9 accept a settlement offer. However the issue is constructive discharge and nothing about the fact
10 that Mr. Simon has never officially withdrawn from the case indicates that he was not constructively
11 discharged. His November 27, 2017 letter invited the Edgeworth's to consult with other attorneys
12 on the fee agreement, not the claims against Viking or Lange. His clients were not communicating
13 with him, making it impossible to advise them on pending legal issues, such as the settlements with
14 Lange and Viking. It is clear that there was a breakdown in attorney-client relationship preventing
15
16 Simon from effectively representing the clients. The Court finds that Danny Simon was
17 constructively discharged by the Edgeworths on November 29, 2017.

18 19 **Adjudication of the Lien and Determination of the Law Office Fee**

20 NRS 18.015 states:

21 1. An attorney at law shall have a lien:

22 (a) Upon any claim, demand or cause of action, including any claim for
23 unliquidated damages, which has been placed in the attorney's hands by a
24 client for suit or collection, or upon which a suit or other action has been
25 instituted.

26 (b) In any civil action, upon any file or other property properly left in the
27 possession of the attorney by a client.

28 2. A lien pursuant to subsection 1 is for the amount of any fee which has
been agreed upon by the attorney and client. In the absence of an agreement,
the lien is for a reasonable fee for the services which the attorney has rendered
for the client.

1 3. An attorney perfects a lien described in subsection 1 by serving notice
2 in writing, in person or by certified mail, return receipt requested, upon his or
3 her client and, if applicable, upon the party against whom the client has a
4 cause of action, claiming the lien and stating the amount of the lien.

5 4. A lien pursuant to:

6 (a) Paragraph (a) of subsection 1 attaches to any verdict, judgment or
7 decree entered and to any money or property which is recovered on account of
8 the suit or other action; and

9 (b) Paragraph (b) of subsection 1 attaches to any file or other property
10 properly left in the possession of the attorney by his or her client, including,
11 without limitation, copies of the attorney's file if the original documents
12 received from the client have been returned to the client, and authorizes the
13 attorney to retain any such file or property until such time as an adjudication
14 is made pursuant to subsection 6, from the time of service of the notices
15 required by this section.

16 5. A lien pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1 must not be
17 construed as inconsistent with the attorney's professional responsibilities to
18 the client.

19 6. On motion filed by an attorney having a lien under this section, the
20 attorney's client or any party who has been served with notice of the lien, the
21 court shall, after 5 days' notice to all interested parties, adjudicate the rights of
22 the attorney, client or other parties and enforce the lien.

23 7. Collection of attorney's fees by a lien under this section may be
24 utilized with, after or independently of any other method of collection.

25 Nev. Rev. Stat. 18.015.

26 NRS 18.015(2) matches Nevada contract law. If there is an express contract, then the contract terms
27 are applied. Here, there was no express contract for the fee amount, however there was an implied
28 contract when Simon began to bill the Edgeworths for fees in the amount of \$550 per hour for his
services, and \$275 per hour for the services of his associates. This contract was in effect until
November 29, 2017, when he was constructively discharged from representing the Edgeworths.
After he was constructively discharged, under NRS 18.015(2) and Nevada contract law, Simon is
due a reasonable fee- that is, quantum meruit.

Implied Contract

On December 2, 2016, an implied contract for fees was created. The implied fee was \$550
an hour for the services of Mr. Simon. On July 28, 2017 an addition to the implied contract was

1 created with a fee of \$275 per hour for the services of Simon's associates. This implied contract was
2 created when invoices were sent to the Edgeworths, and they paid the invoices.

3 The invoices that were sent to the Edgeworths indicate that they were for costs and attorney's
4 fees, and these invoices were paid by the Edgeworths. Though the invoice says that the fees were
5 reduced, there is no evidence that establishes that there was any discussion with the Edgeworths as
6 to how much of a reduction was being taken, and that the invoices did not need to be paid. There is
7 no indication that the Edgeworths knew about the amount of the reduction and acknowledged that
8 the full amount would be due at a later date. Simon testified that Brian Edgeworth chose to pay the
9 bills to give credibility to his actual damages, above his property damage loss. However, as the
10 lawyer/counselor, Simon did not prevent Brian Edgeworth from paying the bill or in any way refund
11 the money, or memorialize this or any understanding in writing.

12 Simon produced evidence of the claims for damages for his fees and costs pursuant to NRCP
13 16.1 disclosures and computation of damages; and these amounts include the four invoices that were
14 paid in full and there was never any indication given that anything less than all the fees had been
15 produced. During the deposition of Brian Edgeworth it was suggested, by Simon, that all of the fees
16 had been disclosed. Further, Simon argues that the delay in the billing coincides with the timing of
17 the NRCP 16.1 disclosures, however the billing does not distinguish or in any way indicate that the
18 sole purpose was for the Lange Plumbing LLC claim. Since there is no contract, the Court must
19 look to the actions of the parties to demonstrate the parties' understanding. Here, the actions of the
20 parties are that Simon sent invoices to the Edgeworths, they paid the invoices, and Simon Law
21 Office retained the payments, indicating an implied contract was formed between the parties. The
22 Court find that the Law Office of Daniel Simon should be paid under the implied contract until the
23 date they were constructively discharged, November 29, 2017.

24
25 *Amount of Fees Owed Under Implied Contract*

26 The Edgeworths were billed, and paid for services through September 19, 2017. There is
27 some testimony that an invoice was requested for services after that date, but there is no evidence
28

1 that any invoice was paid by the Edgeworths. Since the Court has found that an implied contract for
2 fees was formed, the Court must now determine what amount of fees and costs are owed from
3 September 19, 2017 to the constructive discharge date of November 29, 2017. In doing so, the
4 Court must consider the testimony from the witnesses at the evidentiary hearing, the submitted
5 billings, the attached lien, and all other evidence provided regarding the services provided during
6 this time.

7 At the evidentiary hearing, Ashley Ferrel Esq. testified that some of the items in the billing
8 that was prepared with the lien "super bill," are not necessarily accurate as the Law Office went back
9 and attempted to create a bill for work that had been done over a year before. She testified that they
10 added in .3 hours for each Wiznet filing that was reviewed and emailed and .15 hours for every
11 email that was read and responded to. She testified that the dates were not exact, they just used the
12 dates for which the documents were filed, and not necessarily the dates in which the work was
13 performed. Further, there are billed items included in the "super bill" that was not previously billed
14 to the Edgeworths, though the items are alleged to have occurred prior to or during the invoice
15 billing period previously submitted to the Edgeworths. The testimony at the evidentiary hearing
16 indicated that there were no phone calls included in the billings that were submitted to the
17 Edgeworths.

18 This attempt to recreate billing and supplement/increase previously billed work makes it
19 unclear to the Court as to the accuracy of this "recreated" billing, since so much time had elapsed
20 between the actual work and the billing. The court reviewed the billings of the "super bill" in
21 comparison to the previous bills and determined that it was necessary to discount the items that had
22 not been previously billed for; such as text messages, reviews with the court reporter, and reviewing,
23 downloading, and saving documents because the Court is uncertain of the accuracy of the "super
24 bill."

25 Simon argues that he has no billing software in his office and that he has never billed a client
26 on an hourly basis, but his actions in this case are contrary. Also, Simon argues that the Edgeworths,
27 in this case, were billed hourly because the Lange contract had a provision for attorney's fees;
28

1 however, as the Court previously found, when the Edgeworths paid the invoices it was not made
2 clear to them that the billings were only for the Lange contract and that they did not need to be paid.
3 Also, there was no indication on the invoices that the work was only for the Lange claims, and not
4 the Viking claims. Ms. Ferrel testified that the billings were only for substantial items, without
5 emails or calls, understanding that those items may be billed separately; but again the evidence does
6 not demonstrate that this information was relayed to the Edgeworths as the bills were being paid.
7 This argument does not persuade the court of the accuracy of the "super bill".

8 The amount of attorney's fees and costs for the period beginning in June of 2016 to
9 December 2, 2016 is \$42,564.95. This amount is based upon the invoice from December 2, 2016
10 which appears to indicate that it began with the initial meeting with the client, leading the court to
11 determine that this is the beginning of the relationship. This invoice also states it is for attorney's
12 fees and costs through November 11, 2016, but the last hourly charge is December 2, 2016. This
13 amount has already been paid by the Edgeworths on December 16, 2016.²

14 The amount of the attorney's fees and costs for the period beginning on December 5, 2016 to
15 April 4, 2017 is \$46,620.69. This amount is based upon the invoice from April 7, 2017. This
16 amount has already been paid by the Edgeworths on May 3, 2017.

17 The amount of attorney's fees for the period of April 5, 2017 to July 28, 2017, for the
18 services of Daniel Simon Esq. is \$72,077.50. The amount of attorney's fees for this period for
19 Ashley Ferrel Esq. is \$38,060.00. The amount of costs outstanding for this period is \$31,943.70.
20 This amount totals \$142,081.20 and is based upon the invoice from July 28, 2017. This amount has
21 been paid by the Edgeworths on August 16, 2017.³

22 The amount of attorney's fees for the period of July 31, 2017 to September 19, 2017, for the
23 services of Daniel Simon Esq. is \$119,762.50. The amount of attorney's fees for this period for
24 Ashley Ferrel Esq. is \$60,981.25. The amount of attorney's fees for this period for Benjamin Miller
25

26
27 ²There are no billing amounts from December 2 to December 4, 2016.

28 ³ There are no billings from July 28 to July 30, 2017.

1 Esq. is \$2,887.50. The amount of costs outstanding for this period is \$71,555.00. This amount
2 totals \$255,186.25 and is based upon the invoice from September 19, 2017. This amount has been
3 paid by the Edgeworths on September 25, 2017.

4 From September 19, 2017 to November 29, 2017, the Court must determine the amount of
5 attorney fees owed to the Law Office of Daniel Simon.⁴ For the services of Daniel Simon Esq., the
6 total amount of hours billed are 340.05. At a rate of \$550 per hour, the total attorney's fees owed to
7 the Law Office for the work of Daniel Simon Esq. is \$187,027.50. For the services of Ashley Ferrel
8 Esq., the total amount of hours billed are 337.15. At a rate of \$275 per hour, the total attorney's fees
9 owed to the Law Office for the work of Ashley Ferrel Esq. from September 19, 2017 to November
10 29, 2017 is \$92,716.25.⁵ For the services of Benjamin Miller Esq., the total amount of hours billed
11 are 19.05. At a rate of \$275 per hour, the total attorney's fees owed to the Law Office for the work
12 of Benjamin Miller Esq. from September 19, 2017 to November 29, 2017 is \$5,238.75.⁶

13 The Court notes that though there was never a fee agreement made with Ashley Ferrel Esq.
14 or Benjamin Miller Esq., however, their fees were included on the last two invoices that were paid
15 by the Edgeworths, so the implied fee agreement applies to their work as well.

16 The Court finds that the total amount owed to the Law Office of Daniel Simon for the period
17 of September 19, 2018 to November 29, 2017 is \$284,982.50.

18 19 *Costs Owed*

20 The Court finds that the Law Office of Daniel Simon is not owed any monies for outstanding
21 costs of the litigation in Edgeworth Family Trust; and American Grating, LLC vs. Lange Plumbing,
22 LLC; The Viking Corporation; Supply Network, Inc. dba Viking Supplynet in case number A-16-
23 738444-C. The attorney lien asserted by Simon, in January of 2018, originally sought
24 reimbursement for advances costs of \$71,594.93. The amount sought for advanced costs was later
25

26 ⁴ There are no billings for October 8th, October 28-29, and November 5th.

27 ⁵ There is no billing for the October 7-8, October 22, October 28-29, November 4, November 11-12, November 18-19,
November 21, and November 23-26.

28 ⁶ There is no billing from September 19, 2017 to November 5, 2017.

1 changed to \$68,844.93. In March of 2018, the Edgeworths paid the outstanding advanced costs, so
2 the Court finds that there no outstanding costs remaining owed to the Law Office of Daniel Simon.

3 4 *Quantum Meruit*

5 When a lawyer is discharged by the client, the lawyer is no longer compensated under the
6 discharged/breached/repudiated contract, but is paid based on quantum meruit. *See e.g. Golightly v.*
7 *Gassner*, 281 P.3d 1176 (Nev. 2009) (*unreported*) (*discharged contingency attorney paid by*
8 *quantum meruit rather than by contingency fee pursuant to agreement with client*); *citing, Gordon v.*
9 *Stewart*, 324 P.3d 234 (1958) (*attorney paid in quantum meruit after client breach of agreement*);
10 and, *Cooke v. Gove*, 114 P.2d 87 (Nev. 1941) (*fees awarded in quantum meruit when there was no*
11 *contingency agreement*). Here, Simon was constructively discharged by the Edgeworths on
12 November 29, 2017. The constructive discharge terminated the implied contract for fees. William
13 Kemp Esq. testified as an expert witness and stated that if there is no contract, then the proper award
14 is quantum meruit. The Court finds that the Law Office of Daniel Simon is owed attorney's fees
15 under quantum meruit from November 29, 2017, after the constructive discharge, to the conclusion
16 of the Law Office's work on this case.

17 In determining the amount of fees to be awarded under quantum meruit, the Court has wide
18 discretion on the method of calculation of attorney fee, to be "tempered only by reason and
19 fairness". *Albios v. Horizon Communities, Inc.*, 132 P.3d 1022 (Nev. 2006). The law only requires
20 that the court calculate a reasonable fee. *Shuette v. Beazer Homes Holding Corp.*, 124 P.3d 530
21 (Nev. 2005). Whatever method of calculation is used by the Court, the amount of the attorney fee
22 must be reasonable under the *Brunzell* factors. *Id.* The Court should enter written findings of the
23 reasonableness of the fee under the *Brunzell* factors. *Argentina Consolidated Mining Co., v. Jolley,*
24 *Urga, Wirth, Woodbury Standish*, 216 P.3d 779, at fn2 (Nev. 2009). *Brunzell* provides that
25 "[w]hile hourly time schedules are helpful in establishing the value of counsel services, other factors
26 may be equally significant. *Brunzell v. Golden Gate National Bank*, 455 P.2d 31 (Nev. 1969).

27 The *Brunzell* factors are: (1) the qualities of the advocate; (2) the character of the work to be
28

1 done; (3) the work actually performed; and (4) the result obtained. Id. However, in this case the
2 Court notes that the majority of the work in this case was complete before the date of the
3 constructive discharge, and the Court is applying the Brunzell factors for the period commencing
4 after the constructive discharge.

5 In considering the Brunzell factors, the Court looks at all of the evidence presented in the
6 case, the testimony at the evidentiary hearing, and the litigation involved in the case.

7 1 Quality of the Advocate

8 Brunzell expands on the “qualities of the advocate” factor and mentions such items as
9 training, skill and education of the advocate. Mr. Simon has been an active Nevada trial attorney for
10 over two decades. He has several 7-figure trial verdicts and settlements to his credit. Craig
11 Drummond Esq. testified that he considers Mr. Simon a top 1% trial lawyer and he associates Mr.
12 Simon in on cases that are complex and of significant value. Michael Nunez Esq. testified that Mr.
13 Simon’s work on this case was extremely impressive. William Kemp Esq. testified that Mr. Simon’s
14 work product and results are exceptional.

15 2 The Character of the Work to be Done

16 The character of the work done in this case is complex. There were multiple parties,
17 multiple claims, and many interrelated issues. Affirmative claims by the Edgeworths covered the
18 gamut from product liability to negligence. The many issues involved manufacturing, engineering,
19 fraud, and a full understanding of how to work up and present the liability and damages. Mr. Kemp
20 testified that the quality and quantity of the work was exceptional for a products liability case against
21 a world-wide manufacturer that is experienced in litigating case. Mr. Kemp further testified that the
22 Law Office of Danny Simon retained multiple experts to secure the necessary opinions to prove the
23 case. The continued aggressive representation, of Mr. Simon, in prosecuting the case that was a
24 substantial factor in achieving the exceptional results.

25 3 The Work Actually Performed

26 Mr. Simon was aggressive in litigating this case. In addition to filing several motions,
27 numerous court appearances, and deposition; his office uncovered several other activations, that
28

1 caused possible other floods. While the Court finds that Mr. Edgeworth was extensively involved
2 and helpful in this aspect of the case, the Court disagrees that it was his work alone that led to the
3 other activations being uncovered and the result that was achieved in this case. Since Mr.
4 Edgeworth is not a lawyer, it is impossible that it was his work alone that led to the filing of motions
5 and the litigation that allowed this case to develop into a \$6 million settlement. All of the work by
6 the Law Office of Daniel Simon led to the ultimate result in this case.

7 4 The Result Obtained

8 The result was impressive. This began as a \$500,000 insurance claim and ended up settling
9 for over \$6,000,000. Mr. Simon was also able to recover an additional \$100,000 from Lange
10 Plumbing LLC. Mr. Vannah indicated to Simon that the Edgeworths were ready so sign and settle
11 the Lange Claim for \$25,000 but Simon kept working on the case and making changes to the
12 settlement agreement. This ultimately led to a larger settlement for the Edgeworths. Recognition is
13 due to Mr. Simon for placing the Edgeworths in a great position to recover a greater amount from
14 Lange. Mr. Kemp testified that this was the most important factor and that the result was incredible.
15 Mr. Kemp also testified that he has never heard of a \$6 million settlement with a \$500,000 damage
16 case. Further, in the Consent to Settle, on the Lange claims, the Edgeworth's acknowledge that they
17 were made more than whole with the settlement with the Viking entities.

18 In determining the amount of attorney's fees owed to the Law Firm of Daniel Simon, the
19 Court also considers the factors set forth in Nevada Rules of Professional Conduct – Rule 1.5(a)
20 which states:

21
22 (a) A lawyer shall not make an agreement for, charge, or collect an
23 unreasonable fee or an unreasonable amount for expenses. The factors to be
24 considered in determining the reasonableness of a fee include the following:

25 (1) The time and labor required, the novelty and difficulty of the
26 questions involved, and the skill requisite to perform the legal service
27 properly;

28 (2) The likelihood, if apparent to the client, that the acceptance of the
particular employment will preclude other employment by the lawyer;

(3) The fee customarily charged in the locality for similar legal
services;

(4) The amount involved and the results obtained;

1 (5) The time limitations imposed by the client or by the
circumstances;

2 (6) The nature and length of the professional relationship with the
client;

3 (7) The experience, reputation, and ability of the lawyer or lawyers
performing the services; and

4 (8) Whether the fee is fixed or contingent.

5 NRCP 1.5. However, the Court must also consider the remainder of Rule 1.5 which goes on to state:

6 (b) The scope of the representation and the basis or rate of the fee and
7 expenses for which the client will be responsible shall be communicated to the
8 client, preferably in writing, before or within a reasonable time after
9 commencing the representation, except when the lawyer will charge a
regularly represented client on the same basis or rate. Any changes in the
basis or rate of the fee or expenses shall also be communicated to the client.

10 (c) A fee may be contingent on the outcome of the matter for which the
11 service is rendered, except in a matter in which a contingent fee is prohibited
12 by paragraph (d) or other law. A contingent fee agreement shall be in writing,
signed by the client, and shall state, in boldface type that is at least as large as
the largest type used in the contingent fee agreement:

13 (1) The method by which the fee is to be determined, including the
14 percentage or percentages that shall accrue to the lawyer in the event of
settlement, trial or appeal;

15 (2) Whether litigation and other expenses are to be deducted from the
16 recovery, and whether such expenses are to be deducted before or after the
contingent fee is calculated;

17 (3) Whether the client is liable for expenses regardless of outcome;

18 (4) That, in the event of a loss, the client may be liable for the
opposing party's attorney fees, and will be liable for the opposing party's
costs as required by law; and

19 (5) That a suit brought solely to harass or to coerce a settlement may
result in liability for malicious prosecution or abuse of process.

20 Upon conclusion of a contingent fee matter, the lawyer shall provide the client
21 with a written statement stating the outcome of the matter and, if there is a
22 recovery, showing the remittance to the client and the method of its
determination.

23
24 NRCP 1.5.

25 The Court finds that under the Brunzell factors, Mr. Simon was an exceptional advocate for
26 the Edgeworths, the character of the work was complex, the work actually performed was extremely

1 significant, and the work yielded a phenomenal result for the Edgeworths. All of the Brunzell
2 factors justify a reasonable fee under NRPC 1.5.

3 However, the Court must also consider the fact that the evidence suggests that the basis or
4 rate of the fee and expenses for which the client will be responsible were never communicated to the
5 client, within a reasonable time after commencing the representation. Further, this is not a
6 contingent fee case, and the Court is not awarding a contingency fee.

7 Instead, the Court must determine the amount of a reasonable fee. In determining this
8 amount of a reasonable fee, the Court must consider the work that the Law Office continued to
9 provide on the Edgeworth's case, even after the constructive discharge. The record is clear that the
10 Edgeworths were ready to sign and settle the Lange claim for \$25,000 but Simon kept working on
11 the case and making changes to the settlement agreement. This resulted in the Edgeworth's
12 recovering an additional \$75,000 from Lange plumbing. Further, the Law Office of Daniel Simon
13 continued to work on the Viking settlement until it was finalized in December of 2017, and the
14 checks were issued on December 18, 2017. Mr. Simon continued to personally work with Mr.
15 Vannah to attempt to get the checks endorsed by the Edgeworths, and this lasted into the 2018 year.
16 The record is clear that the efforts exerted by the Law Office of Daniel Simon and Mr. Simon
17 himself were continuing, even after the constructive discharge. In considering the reasonable value
18 of these services, under quantum meruit, the Court is considering the previous \$550 per hour fee
19 from the implied fee agreement, the Brunzell factors, and additional work performed after the
20 constructive discharge. As such, the COURT FINDS that the Law Office of Daniel Simon is
21 entitled to a reasonable fee in the amount of \$200,000, from November 30, 2017 to the conclusion of
22 this case.

23 //

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27 //

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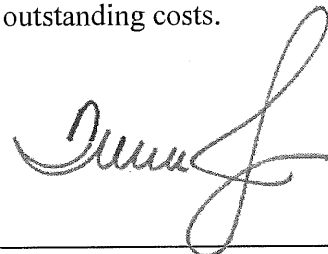
1 CONCLUSION

2 The Court finds that the Law Office of Daniel Simon properly filed and perfected the
3 charging lien pursuant to NRS 18.015(3) and the Court must adjudicate the lien. The Court further
4 finds that there was an implied agreement for a fee of \$550 per hour between Mr. Simon and the
5 Edgeworths once Simon started billing Edgeworth for this amount, and the bills were paid. The
6 Court further finds that on November 29, 2017, the Edgeworth's constructively discharged Mr.
7 Simon as their attorney, when they ceased following his advice and refused to communicate with
8 him about their litigation. The Court further finds that Mr. Simon was compensated at the implied
9 agreement rate of \$550 per hour for his services, and \$275 per hour for his associates; up and until
10 the last billing of September 19, 2017. For the period from September 19, 2017 to November 29,
11 2017, the Court finds that Mr. Simon is entitled to his implied agreement fee of \$550 an hour, and
12 \$275 an hour for his associates, for a total amount of \$284,982.50. For the period after November
13 29, 2017, the Court finds that the Law Office of Daniel Simon properly perfected their lien and is
14 entitled to a reasonable fee for the services the office rendered for the Edgeworths, after being
15 constructively discharged, under quantum meruit, in an amount of \$200,000. The Court further
16 finds that the Law Office of Daniel Simon is entitled to costs in the amount of \$71,594.93.

17
18 ORDER

19 It is hereby ordered, adjudged, and decreed, that the Motion to Adjudicate the Attorneys Lien
20 of the Law Office of Daniel S. Simon is hereby granted and that the reasonable fee due to the Law
21 Office of Daniel Simon is \$556,577.43, which includes outstanding costs.
Dated this 28th day of April, 2021

22 IT IS SO ORDERED.

23
24
25 

26 DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

27 1F8 440 36C0 D8EC
28 Tierra Jones
District Court Judge

1 CSERV

2 DISTRICT COURT
3 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA
4

5
6 Edgeworth Family Trust,
7 Plaintiff(s)

CASE NO: A-16-738444-C

8 vs.

DEPT. NO. Department 10

9 Lange Plumbing, L.L.C.,
10 Defendant(s)

11 **AUTOMATED CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

12
13 This automated certificate of service was generated by the Eighth Judicial District
14 Court. The foregoing 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:

15 Service Date: 4/28/2021

16 Daniel Simon . lawyers@simonlawlv.com

17 Rhonda Onorato . ronorato@rlattorneys.com

18 Mariella Dumbrique mdumbrique@blacklobello.law

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21 Nicole Garcia ngarcia@murchisonlaw.com

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11	Nicholle Pendergraft	npendergraft@messner.com
12	David Gould	dgould@messner.com
13	Jessie Church	jchurch@vannahlaw.com

14

15 If indicated below, a copy of the above mentioned filings were also served by mail

16 via United States Postal Service, postage prepaid, to the parties listed below at their last

17 known addresses on 4/29/2021

17	Theodore Parker	2460 Professional CT STE 200
18		Las Vegas, NV, 89128

19

20

21

22

23

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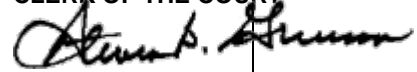
25

26

27

28

**NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER ON MOTION TO
RECONSIDER BASED ON MANDATE (AND ORDER)**



NEO

James R. Christensen Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 3861

JAMES R. CHRISTENSEN PC

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Las Vegas NV 89101
(702) 272-0406

-and-

Peter S. Christiansen, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 5254

CHRISTIANSSEN TRIAL LAWYERS

701 S. 7th Street
Las Vegas, NV 89101
(702)240-7979
Attorneys for SIMON

**Eighth Judicial District Court
District of Nevada**

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; and
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC

Plaintiffs,

vs.

LANGE PLUMBING, LLC; THE VIKING
CORPORTATION, a Michigan corporation;
SUPPLY NETWORK, INC., dba VIKING
SUPPLYNET, a Michigan Corporation; and
DOES 1 through 5; and, ROE entities 6 through
10;
Defendants.

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST;
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC

Plaintiffs,

vs.

DANIEL S. SIMON; THE LAW OFFICE OF
DANIEL S. SIMON, a Professional Corporation
d/b/a SIMON LAW; DOES 1 through 10; and,
ROE entities 1 through 10;

Defendants.

CASE NO.: A-18-767242-C
DEPT NO.: XXVI

Consolidated with

CASE NO.: A-16-738444-C
DEPT NO.: X

**NOTICE OF ENTRY OF DECISION AND
ORDER DENYING PLAINTIFFS'
RENEWED MOTION FOR
RECONSIDERATION OF THIRD-
AMENDED DECISION AND ORDER ON
MOTION TO ADJUDICATE LIEN AND
DENYING SIMON'S COUNTERMOTION
TO ADJUDICATE LIEN ON REMAND**

1 **NOTICE OF ENTRY OF DECISION AND ORDER DENYING PLAINTIFFS'**
2 **RENEWED MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF THIRD- AMENDED DECISION**
3 **AND ORDER ON MOTION TO ADJUDICATE LIEN AND DENYING SIMON'S**
4 **COUNTERMOTION TO ADJUDICATE LIEN ON REMAND**

5 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, a Decision and Order Denying Plaintiffs' Renewed Motion
6 for Reconsideration of Third-Amended Decision and Order on Motion to Adjudicate Lien and
7 Denying Simon's Countermotion to Adjudicate Lien on Remand was entered on the 17th day of
8 June, 2021. A true and correct copy of the file-stamped Decision and Order is attached hereto.

9 DATED this 18th day of June, 2021.

10 **JAMES R. CHRISTENSEN PC**

11 /s/ James R. Christensen

12 James R. Christensen Esq.

13 Nevada Bar No. 3861

14 601 S. 6th Street

15 Las Vegas NV 89101

16 (702) 272-0406

17 -and-

18 Peter S. Christiansen, Esq.

19 Nevada Bar No. 5254

20 **CHRISTIANSSEN TRIAL LAWYERS**

21 701 S. 7th Street

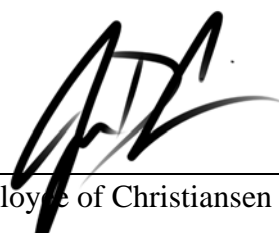
22 Las Vegas, NV 89101

23 (702)240-7979

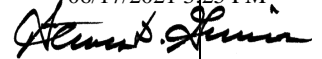
24 Attorneys for SIMON

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I certify that I am an employee of CHRISTIANSEN TRIAL LAWYERS, and that on this 18th day of June, 2021 I caused the foregoing document entitled ***NOTICE OF ENTRY OF DECISION AND ORDER DENYING PLAINTIFFS' RENEWED MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF THIRD- AMENDED DECISION AND ORDER ON MOTION TO ADJUDICATE LIEN AND DENYING SIMON'S COUNTERMOTION TO ADJUDICATE LIEN ON REMAND*** to be served upon those persons designated by the parties in the E-Service Master List for the above-referenced matter in the Eighth Judicial District Court eFiling System in accordance with the mandatory electronic service requirements of Administrative Order 14-2 and the Nevada Electronic Filing and Conversion Rules.



An employee of Christiansen Law Offices



CLERK OF THE COURT

ORDR

James R. Christensen Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 3861

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Attorneys for SIMON

**Eighth Judicial District Court
District of Nevada**

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; and
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC

Plaintiffs,

vs.

LANGE PLUMBING, LLC; THE VIKING
CORPORTATION, a Michigan corporation;
SUPPLY NETWORK, INC., dba VIKING
SUPPLYNET, a Michigan Corporation; and
DOES 1 through 5; and, ROE entities 6 through
10;
Defendants.

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST;
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC

Plaintiffs,

vs.

DANIEL S. SIMON; THE LAW OFFICE OF
DANIEL S. SIMON, a Professional Corporation
d/b/a SIMON LAW; DOES 1 through 10; and,
ROE entities 1 through 10;

Defendants.

CASE NO.: A-18-767242-C
DEPT NO.: XXVI

Consolidated with

CASE NO.: A-16-738444-C
DEPT NO.: X

**DECISION AND ORDER DENYING
PLAINTIFFS' RENEWED MOTION FOR
RECONSIDERATION OF THIRD-
AMENDED DECISION AND ORDER ON
MOTION TO ADJUDICATE LIEN AND
DENYING SIMON'S COUNTERMOTION
TO ADJUDICATE LIEN ON REMAND**

1 **DECISION AND ORDER DENYING PLAINTIFFS' RENEWED MOTION FOR**
2 **RECONSIDERATION OF THIRD- AMENDED DECISION AND ORDER ON MOTION**
3 **TO ADJUDICATE LIEN AND DENYING SIMON'S COUNTERMOTION TO**
4 **ADJUDICATE LIEN ON REMAND**

5 This matter came on for hearing on May 27, 2021, in the Eighth Judicial
6 District Court, Clark County, Nevada, the Honorable Tierra Jones presiding.
7 Defendants, Daniel Simon and Law Office of Daniel S. Simon d/b/a Simon Law
8 (jointly the "Defendants" or "Simon") having appeared by and through their
9 attorneys of record, James Christensen, Esq. and Peter Christiansen, Esq.; and,
10 Plaintiff Edgeworth Family Trust and American Grating, ("Plaintiff" or
11 "Edgeworths") having appeared through by and through their attorneys of record,
12 the law firm of Morris Law Group, Steve Morris, Esq. and Rosa Solis-Rainey, Esq.
13 The Court having considered the evidence, arguments of counsel and being fully
14 advised of the matters herein, the **COURT FINDS** after review:

15 The Edgeworths' Renewed Motion for Reconsideration of Third Amended
16 Decision and Order on Motion to Adjudicate Lien is DENIED.

17 ///

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Simon's Countermotion to Adjudicate the Lien on Remand is DENIED.

Dated this 17th day of June, 2021

IT IS SO ORDERED.



DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

478 B49 725D 8E26

Tierra Jones

District Court Judge

Submitted By:

Approved as to Form and Content:

JAMES R. CHRISTENSEN PC

MORRIS LAW GROUP

/s/ James R. Christensen

James R. Christensen Esq.

Nevada Bar No. 3861

601 S. 6th Street

Las Vegas NV 89101

Attorney for SIMON

Declined

Steve Morris Esq.

Nevada Bar No. 1543

801 S. Rancho Drive, Ste. B4

Las Vegas NV 89106

Attorney for EDGEWORTHS

1 **CSERV**

2
3 DISTRICT COURT
4 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

5
6 Edgeworth Family Trust,
7 Plaintiff(s)

CASE NO: A-16-738444-C

8 vs.

DEPT. NO. Department 10

9 Lange Plumbing, L.L.C.,
10 Defendant(s)

11 **AUTOMATED CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

12
13 This automated certificate of service was generated by the Eighth Judicial District
14 Court. The foregoing 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:

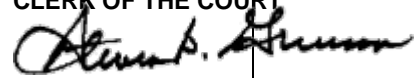
15 Service Date: 6/17/2021

16 Daniel Simon .	lawyers@simonlawlv.com
17 Rhonda Onorato .	ronorato@rlattorneys.com
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6	Lauren Calvert	lcalvert@messner.com
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9	Nicholle Pendergraft	npendergraft@messner.com
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14	Jessie Church	jchurch@vannahlaw.com
15	James Christensen	jim@jchristensenlaw.com
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**NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER ON MOTION TO
RELEASE CLIENT FUNDS AND FILE (AND ORDER)**



NEO

James R. Christensen Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 3861

JAMES R. CHRISTENSEN PC

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-and-

Peter S. Christiansen, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 5254

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701 S. 7th Street
Las Vegas, NV 89101
(702)240-7979
Attorneys for SIMON

**Eighth Judicial District Court
District of Nevada**

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; and
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC

Plaintiffs,

vs.

LANGE PLUMBING, LLC; THE VIKING
CORPORTATION, a Michigan corporation;
SUPPLY NETWORK, INC., dba VIKING
SUPPLYNET, a Michigan Corporation; and
DOES 1 through 5; and, ROE entities 6 through
10;
Defendants.

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST;
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC

Plaintiffs,

vs.

DANIEL S. SIMON; THE LAW OFFICE OF
DANIEL S. SIMON, a Professional Corporation
d/b/a SIMON LAW; DOES 1 through 10; and,
ROE entities 1 through 10;

Defendants.

CASE NO.: A-18-767242-C
DEPT NO.: XXVI

Consolidated with

CASE NO.: A-16-738444-C
DEPT NO.: X

**NOTICE OF ENTRY OF DECISION AND
ORDER DENYING EDGEWORTH'S
MOTION FOR ORDER RELEASING
CLIENT FUNDS AND REQUIRING
PRODUCTION OF COMPLETE FILE**

1 **NOTICE OF ENTRY OF DECISION AND ORDER DENYING EDGEWORTH'S**
2 **MOTION FOR ORDER RELEASING CLIENT FUNDS AND REQUIRING**
3 **PRODUCTION OF COMPLETE FILE**

4 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, a Decision and Order Denying Edgeworth's Motion for Order
5 Releasing Client Funds and Requiring Production of Complete File was entered on the 17th day
6 of June, 2021. A true and correct copy of the file-stamped Decision and Order is attached hereto.

7 DATED this 18th day of June, 2021.

8 **JAMES R. CHRISTENSEN PC**

9 /s/ James R. Christensen

10 James R. Christensen Esq.

11 Nevada Bar No. 3861

12 601 S. 6th Street

13 Las Vegas NV 89101

14 (702) 272-0406

15 -and-

16 Peter S. Christiansen, Esq.

17 Nevada Bar No. 5254

18 **CHRISTIENSEN TRIAL LAWYERS**

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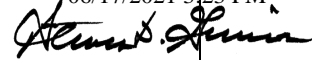
22 *Attorneys for SIMON*

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I certify that I am an employee of CHRISTIANSEN TRIAL LAWYERS, and that on this 18th day of June, 2021 I caused the foregoing document entitled ***NOTICE OF ENTRY OF DECISION AND ORDER DENYING EDGEWORTH'S MOTION FOR ORDER RELEASING CLIENT FUNDS AND REQUIRING PRODUCTION OF COMPLETE FILE*** to be served upon those persons designated by the parties in the E-Service Master List for the above-referenced matter in the Eighth Judicial District Court eFiling System in accordance with the mandatory electronic service requirements of Administrative Order 14-2 and the Nevada Electronic Filing and Conversion Rules.



An employee of Christiansen Law Offices


CLERK OF THE COURT

ORDR

James R. Christensen Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 3861

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Attorneys for SIMON

**Eighth Judicial District Court
District of Nevada**

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST; and
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC

Plaintiffs,

vs.

LANGE PLUMBING, LLC; THE VIKING
CORPORTATION, a Michigan corporation;
SUPPLY NETWORK, INC., dba VIKING
SUPPLYNET, a Michigan Corporation; and
DOES 1 through 5; and, ROE entities 6 through
10;
Defendants.

EDGEWORTH FAMILY TRUST;
AMERICAN GRATING, LLC

Plaintiffs,

vs.

DANIEL S. SIMON; THE LAW OFFICE OF
DANIEL S. SIMON, a Professional Corporation
d/b/a SIMON LAW; DOES 1 through 10; and,
ROE entities 1 through 10;

Defendants.

CASE NO.: A-18-767242-C
DEPT NO.: XXVI

Consolidated with

CASE NO.: A-16-738444-C
DEPT NO.: X

**DECISION AND ORDER DENYING
EDGEWORTH'S MOTION FOR ORDER
RELEASING CLIENT FUNDS AND
REQUIRING PRODUCTION OF
COMPLETE FILE**

1 **DECISION AND ORDER DENYING EDGEWORTH'S MOTION FOR ORDER**
2 **RELEASING CLIENT FUNDS AND REQUIRING PRODUCTION**
3 **OF COMPLETE FILE**

4 This matter came on for hearing on May 27, 2021, in the Eighth Judicial
5 District Court, Clark County, Nevada, the Honorable Tierra Jones presiding.
6 Defendants, Daniel Simon and Law Office of Daniel S. Simon d/b/a Simon Law
7 (jointly the "Defendants" or "Simon") having appeared by and through their
8 attorneys of record, James Christensen, Esq. and Peter Christiansen, Esq.; and,
9 Plaintiff Edgeworth Family Trust and American Grating, ("Plaintiff" or
10 "Edgeworths") having appeared through by and through their attorneys of record,
11 the law firm of Morris Law Group, Steve Morris, Esq. and Rosa Solis-Rainey, Esq.
12 The Court having considered the evidence, arguments of counsel and being fully
13 advised of the matters herein, the **COURT FINDS** after review:

14 The Motion for Order Releasing Client funds and Requiring Production of
15 Complete file is DENIED.

16 The Court finds that the Motion is premature regarding the releasing of
17 client funds, as the litigation in this case is still ongoing at this time because the
18 Court has not issued a final order in this matter and the time for appeal has not run.

19 The Court further finds and orders that there is a bilateral agreement to hold
20 the disputed funds in an interest-bearing account at the bank and until new details
21 are agreed upon to invalidate said agreement and a new agreement is reached, the
22 Court has not issued a final order in this matter and the time for appeal has not run.

1 bilateral agreement is controlling and the disputed funds will remain in accordance
2 with the agreement.

3 The Court further finds that the issue of requiring the production of the
4 complete file is prevented by the Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) and the
5 request is DENIED.
6

7 IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated this 17th day of June, 2021

8
9
10 
11 _____
12 DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

13 **D0B 497 4775 23BB**
Tierra Jones
District Court Judge

14 Submitted By:

15 **JAMES R. CHRISTENSEN PC**

16
17 /s/ James R. Christensen
18 James R. Christensen Esq.
19 Nevada Bar No. 3861
20 601 S. 6th Street
21 Las Vegas NV 89101
22 Attorney for SIMON

Approved as to Form and Content:

15 **MORRIS LAW GROUP**

16
17 Declined
18 Steve Morris Esq.
19 Nevada Bar No. 1543
20 801 S. Rancho Drive, Ste. B4
21 Las Vegas NV 89106
22 Attorney for EDGEWORTHS

1 **CSERV**

2
3 DISTRICT COURT
4 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

5
6 Edgeworth Family Trust,
7 Plaintiff(s)

CASE NO: A-18-767242-C

8 vs.

DEPT. NO. Department 10

9 Daniel Simon, 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 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:

Service Date: 6/17/2021

15 Peter Christiansen	pete@christiansenlaw.com
16 Whitney Barrett	wbarrett@christiansenlaw.com
17 Kendelea Leascher Works	kworks@christiansenlaw.com
18 R. Todd Terry	tterry@christiansenlaw.com
19 Keely Perdue	keely@christiansenlaw.com
20 Jonathan Crain	jcrain@christiansenlaw.com
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24 Chandi Melton	chandi@christiansenlaw.com
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2	James Christensen	jim@jchristensenlaw.com
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9	James Alvarado	jalvarado@messner.com
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11	Rosa Solis-Rainey	rsr@morrislawgroup.com
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15	Jessie Church	jchurch@vannahlaw.com
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**MINUTE ORDER ON MOTION TO RECONSIDER
BASED ON MANDATE**

(A WRITTEN ORDER DID NOT ISSUE PRIOR TO NOTICE OF APPEAL)

A-16-738444-C

**DISTRICT COURT
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

Product Liability

COURT MINUTES

July 29, 2021

A-16-738444-C Edgeworth Family Trust, Plaintiff(s)
vs.
Lange Plumbing, L.L.C., Defendant(s)

**July 29, 2021 3:00 AM Motion For
Reconsideration**

HEARD BY: Jones, Tierra **COURTROOM:** RJC Courtroom 14B

COURT CLERK: Teri Berkshire

RECORDER:

REPORTER:

**PARTIES
PRESENT:**

JOURNAL ENTRIES

- Following review of the papers and pleadings on file herein, COURT ORDERED, Edgeworth s Motion for Reconsideration of Order on Motion for Order Releasing Client Funds and Requiring Production of Complete Client File and Motion to Stay Execution is DENIED. The COURT FINDS that the Edgeworth s have failed to demonstrate any error of law or any new facts, as required for reconsideration. The COURT FURTHER FINDS that there is no basis to reconsider the funds order. The COURT FURTHER FINDS that the excessive security agreement does not apply to the instant case. The COURT FURTHER FINDS that there is no basis to reconsider the bilateral agreement finding. The COURT FURTHER FINDS that there is no basis to reconsider the order regarding the client file. The COURT FURTHER FINDS that the Motion to Stay Execution is premature. As such, the Motion for Reconsideration of Order on Motion for Order Releasing Client Funds and Requiring Production of Complete Client File and Motion to Stay Execution is DENIED.

Counsel for Defendant is to prepare an Order consistent with this Court s order and submit it to the Court for signature within ten (10) days of the date of this order.

PRINT DATE: 07/29/2021

Page 1 of 2

Minutes Date: July 29, 2021

Clerk's Note: This Minute Order was electronically served by Courtroom Clerk, Teri Berkshire, to all registered parties for Odyssey File & Serve. /tb