3/17/2021 4:10 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT **MRCN** 1 HANRATTY LAW GROUP 2 Carrie J. Primas, Esq. State Bar of Nevada No. 12071 3 1815 Village Center Circle, Suite 140 Electronically Filed Las Vegas, Nevada 89134 4 Jan 10 2022 11:30 p.m. PH: (702) 821-1379 Elizabeth A. Brown 5 FAX: (702) 870-1846 Clerk of Supreme Court EMAIL: attorneys@hanrattylawgroup.com 6 Attorneys for Defendant, Amanda Reed 7 8 DISTRICT COURT 9 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 10 Case No: D-18-568055-D DEVIN REED, 11 Dept No: Plaintiff, 12 NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR V. 13 RECONSIDERATION OF THE COURT'S ORDER FROM THE AMANDA REED, 14 FEBRUARY 25, 2021 HEARING Defendant. 15 Date of Hearing: Time of Hearing: 16 Oral Argument Requested: YES 17 18 TO: Plaintiff, Devin Reed, and his attorney, Michancy Cramer, Esq. 19 20 YOU ARE REQUIRED TO FILE A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THIS MOTION WITH THE CLERK OF THE COURT AND TO PROVIDE THE 21 UNDER-SIGNED WITH A COPY OF YOUR RESPONSE WITHIN FOURTEEN (14) DAYS OF YOUR RECEIPT OF THIS MOTION. FAILURE TO FILE A 22 WRITTEN RESPONSE WITH THE CLERK OF THE COURT WITHIN 23 FOURTEEN (14) DAYS OF YOUR RECEIPT OF THIS MOTION MAY RESULT IN THE REQUESTED RELIEF BEING GRANTED BY THE COURT 24 WITHOUT HEARING PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED HEARING DATE. 25 111 26

> APPX 1175 Docket 83354 Document 2022-01049

**Electronically Filed** 

Case Number: D-18-568055-D

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1	PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the undersigned will bring the foregoing		
2	Motion for hearing before the Honorable Michele mercer, in Dept. Z, Courtroom		
3 4	#22 of the Eighth Judicial District Court, located at 601 N. Pecos Road, Las Vegas,		
5	Nevada, on the day of, 2021, at a.m./p.m. of said		
6	day, or as soon thereafter as Counsel may be heard.		
7 8	COMES NOW the Defendant, Amanda Reed, by and through her attorney,		
9	Carrie J. Primas, Esq., of Hanratty Law Group, and hereby moves the Court for the		
10	following:		
11 12	1. Reconsideration of the Court's Order from the February 25, 2021 hearing; and		
13 14	2. For any of other relief the Court deems proper.		
15	This Motion is made and based on the attached Points and Authorities,		
16	Affidavit of Counsel, and all papers and pleadings on file herein and argument of		
17	counsel at hearing.		
18 19	DATED this 17 <sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021.		
20	HANRATTY LAW GROUP		
21	CarrePrima		
22	Carrie J. Primas, Esq.		
23	Nevada Bar No. 12071 1815 Village Center Circle, Suite 140		
24 25	Las Vegas, Nevada 89134 Phone: (702) 821-1379		
26   26	Email: attorneys@hanrattylawgroup.com Attorneys for Defendant, Amanda Reed		
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# MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

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# **Statement of Facts**

The Parties, Plaintiff Devin Reed ("Devin") and Defendant Amanda Reed ("Amanda") were married on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2008, and divorced pursuant to a Decree of Divorce filed April 6, 2020. There are two (2) minor children born the issue of the marriage, to wit: Abigail Reed ("Abby"), born April 6, 2013; and Shawn Reed, born July 3, 2015.

This matter was before this Court for a trial on February 25, 2021, at which time the Court found that Amanda did not negotiate the terms of the Decree of Divorce in good faith, as her Motion to Modify Custody was filed two (2) day after the entry of the Decree of Divorce. The Court also ruled that it would not consider any evidence of domestic violence that occurred prior to the Decree of Divorce, including the Custodial Evaluation performed by Dr. Paglini on stipulation of the parties.

The Court's concern regarding the timing of Amanda's Motion is understandable, given the Court's unfamiliarity with the history of the case. Amanda understands that, to anybody without intricate, firsthand knowledge of the history of the case, it looks like Amanda negotiated terms of custody, and then immediately requested to modify that agreement. That is not what happened. Contrarily, Amanda negotiated the Decree of Divorce prior to filing her instant

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The custody arrangement included in the Decree of Divorce was originally ordered on October 16, 2018. Following that hearing, the parties engaged in extensive litigation, culminating in a hearing on August 27, 2019, at which the parties stipulated to Dr. Paglini performing a Child Custody Evaluation. The Court specifically ordered that "if there are no issues found, it is agreed that the parties will continue to follow the current custodial arrangement." Emphasis added. At that same hearing, the Court directed the parties to submit a Decree of Divorce in the meantime. In other words, Judge Gentile *told* Amanda to settle the entire divorce and submit a Decree of Divorce prior to requesting to modify custody. Specifically, at the hearing held on August 27, 2019, the following exchange occurred, starting at 4:23:28:

**Judge**: I think, and the way we talked about this, I know we talked about it off the record, if the recommendation from Dr. Paglini is there's no need to change what's there, right, that I think that the parties should continue doing what they're doing or some modified version thereof that doesn't change upend everything then right, I think everybody, we've agreed that that will just be what happens, then if in fact there is an issued that's raised by Dr. Paglini and potential recommendations that change things, then at that point, the parties can either stipulate or I will then make the determination to proceed on a trial because then there would be adequate cause. So we're doing, like we're doing this a little different but I think it makes the most sense and keep them from having to litigate something they don't really have to litigate and gives them some closure and some understanding and some additional input and all of those things that will help them get to the end of this thing. In the meantime though, I want a Decree. I want a Decree that has, we already, cause remember we gotta make sure to keep the case clean so we have, if they reach a deal on the financials, we need to put a Decree

in place.

**Kari**: Once we have the deal?

Judge: Yeah

Kari: Oh, okay, I'm like, I'm not gong to do that right now. Okay

Judge: Yeah, once you have a deal, I want a Decree. Once you know what your deal is, put it in a Decree and we can finalize that and then we're just reopening on the custody issue with regards to the eval reopening only for the purposes of the eval and then determining do we go forward.

Emphasis added. A few minutes later, Judge Gentile confirmed that the parties were to negotiate and finalize a Decree, and that she would <u>separately</u> consider whether a modification of custody was appropriate depending on the result of the Custody Evaluation. At 4:27:30 she stated: "And we can do that with this other thing happening, you know, in a parallel universe. So we can do that and at least **get them divorced and get this information from the evaluator and go from there**."

Following that hearing, as the Court directed, the parties attempted to resolve the remaining issues related to the divorce, to no avail. Simultaneously, Dr. Paglini conducted his Custody Evaluation. The Custody Evaluation was received by the Court and the parties on January 27, 2020, and the Court held a return hearing just two (2) days later, on January 29, 2020. At that hearing, a discussion was held off the record, during which the Court notified undersigned counsel and Devin's thenattorney Louis Schneider, Esq., of its intent to set the matter for further

proceedings, given that the Custody Evaluation did raise concerns, and the Court had stated at the August 27, 2019, hearing, that a trial would be set due to adequate cause if Dr. Paglini's report issued recommendations that would change things. The Court reiterated its desire for the parties' to finalize the divorce prior to considering the potential custody modification, and to that end, referred the parties to a Senior Judge Settlement Conference on February 11, 2020. The Court did not set further proceedings prior to the time for the Senior Judge Settlement Conference, and the parties proceeded to the settlement conference on the direction of Judge Gentile.

At the Settlement Conference, at which Amanda, undersigned counsel, Devin and Attorney Schneider, were present, there was no discussion regarding custody. The entirety of the Settlement Conference was focused on resolving the previously unresolved property and debt issues. Devin and his counsel were well aware that a modification of custody based on the Custody Evaluation was still pending with the Court, as is reflected in the minutes from the Settlement Conference, which state as follows: "Per Stipulation, Order for Joint Legal Custody and Joint Physical Custody of the minor children was entered by Judge Gentile. Defendant contested that order and there are presently proceedings before Judge Gentile regarding that arrangement. Those proceedings will continue and none of the agreements today will impact that, at least until Judge Gentile addresses that." Emphasis added.

Following the Senior Judge Settlement Conference, it took over a month to get the Decree of Divorce signed by Devin's attorney, as Devin attempted to upend the agreement. Specifically, on February 25, 2020, the day Attorney Primas sent a draft Decree of Divorce to Attorney Schneider, Attorney Schneider sent an email stating that Devin believed the payoff on his truck that Amanda was supposed to pay, was \$7,000.00, not \$17,000.00, and thus Amanda owed him an additional \$10,000.00. Attorney Primas immediately sent documents, which Devin and Attorney Schneider already had, showing that Devin was not being truthful. No response was received until almost three (3) weeks later, on March 18, 2020, by way of another email from Attorney Schneider asking again to "adjust the negotiation" due to Devin's allegation of the loan only being \$7,000.00. Attorney Primas again sent the confirming documentation, which resulted in Attorney Schneider indicating that he would sign the Decree, which he finally did over a week later, on March 26, 2020. The Decree of Divorce was submitted to the Court on that same day, but was not signed by the Court until April 3, 2020.

In the middle of Devin attempting to delay the signing of the Decree of Divorce, the Coronavirus Pandemic caused the Courts to close, and the Court had not set the matter for Further Proceedings by the time the Decree of Divorce was entered. As such, Amanda, through counsel, took the initiative to file her Motion to Adopt Dr. Paglini's Recommendation; for an Order to Show Cause Why Plaintiff Should Not Be Held in Contempt of Court; to Modify Custody; and for

Attorney Fees and Costs, to move the case forward.

At the hearing held on May 13, 2020, the Court set the matter for Evidentiary Hearing, specifically taking into account Dr. Paglini's report, despite the report having been received prior to entry of the Decree of Divorce. Judge Gentile did so based on her personal knowledge of the procedural history of the case, specifically that the Decree had been entered on her direction, and that the issues related to custody and Dr. Paglini's report had continuously been on the Court's radar. Again, at the hearing on August 27, 2019, the Court specifically stated that "if...there is an issue that's raised by Dr. Paglini and potential recommendations that changes things....the parties can either stipulate or I will then make the determination to proceed on a trial because there would be adequate cause."

Devin was present at the hearing on August 27, 2019, at the hearing on January 29, 2020, and at the Senior Judge Settlement Conference on February 11, 2020. While his current attorney may not be privy to the unique procedural history of this case, Devin was aware that the parties finalized the divorce at the time they did at the direction of the judge; that the only discussion of custody at the Senior Judge Settlement Conference was a confirmation that there were ongoing proceedings that would continue at the discretion of the Court and be unaffected by the Decree of Divorce; and that the Court had already indicated a concern related to the results of Dr. Paglini's report and would be setting further proceedings

accordingly. Following the Evidentiary Hearing being set on May 13, 2020, Devin did not file a Motion for Reconsideration; did not make any claims in any of his subsequent filings that the evidence in question was barred by *McMonigal*; and did not file any Motions in Limine to exclude any such evidence. In fact, Devin's own request for primary physical custody, brought in his Supplemental Plea for Relief filed July 2, 2020, was based primarily on events that occurred *prior to the entry of the Decree of Divorce*, and as far back as 2017. It is clear that Devin knew that evidence prior to the Decree was not barred by *McMonigal* due to the unique procedural history of the case, and he fully intended to use that to his advantage at the time of the Evidentiary Hearing.

II.

# **Legal Analysis**

A. <u>The Court's Order from the February 25, 2021, hearing should be</u> reconsidered.

Eighth District Court Rule ("EDCR") 5.513, regarding reconsideration, states in relevant part,

(a) A party seeking reconsideration and/or rehearing of a ruling (other than an order that may be addressed by motion pursuant to NRCP 50(b), 52(b), 59, or 60), must file a motion for such relief not later than 14 days after service of notice of entry of the order unless the time is shortened or enlarged by order. A motion for reconsideration does not toll the period for filing a notice of appeal.

The Nevada Supreme has held that the standard to be applied in a motion to reconsider is that the "court may reconsider a previously decided issue if

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**substantially different evidence is subsequently introduced** or the decision is clearly erroneous." *Masonry and Title Contractors v. Jolley, Urga & Wirth,* 113 Nev. 737, 741 (1997).

As no Order has been prepared from the February 25, 2021, hearing, and thus no Notice of Entry of Order has been entered, this Motion for Reconsideration is timely.

At the time of the trial on February 25, 2021, this Court was unaware of the unique procedural history of the case, wherein the previous judge directed the parties to resolve the property and debt issues and submit a Decree of Divorce, AND THEN address the issue of custody modification in light of Dr. Paglini's report. On January 29, 2020, after the report was received, Judge Gentile specifically told the parties she was going to set the matter for further proceedings to determine the next steps, and then referred the parties to a Senior Judge Settlement Conference to resolve the remaining issues and finalize the divorce in the meantime. Being aware of this chain of events, Judge Gentile then saw fit to set Amanda's Motion to Adopt Dr. Paglini's Recommendation; for an Order to Show Cause Why Plaintiff Should Not Be Held in Contempt of Court; to Modify Custody; and for Attorney Fees and Costs, for an Evidentiary Hearing, despite the same being filed after the entry of the Decree of Divorce. Devin subsequently filed two (2) briefs citing events prior to the Decree of Divorce as the basis for his own request to modify custody, making it clear that he knew and understood that the

date of entry of the Decree of Divorce was not the relevant date for the purposes of *McMonigal*.

It is understandable that the current Court made the findings it did on February 25, 2021, as it was not fully aware of the unorthodox way this case unfolded. However, now being presented with the full record, showing that the parties entered into the Decree of Divorce while the custody issues were pending, at the direction of Judge Gentile, the Court would be remiss in not reconsidering its finding on February 25, 2021, that no evidence prior to the entry of the Decree would be admissible at the time of trial.

As such, Amanda respectfully requests that the Court reconsider its order from February 25, 2021, as it relates to Amanda's ability to introduce evidence prior to the Notice of Entry of Decree of Divorce, specifically the Custody Evaluation performed by Dr. Paglini.

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1	III.			
2	Conclusion			
3	<u>Conclusion</u>			
4	Therefore, based upon the foregoing, Amanda requests the Court enter			
5	orders:			
6	1. Reconsidering the Court's Order from the February 25, 2021 hearing:			
7	and			
8	2. For any of other relief the Court deems proper.			
9	DATED this 17 <sup>th</sup> day of March, 2021.			
10				
11	HANRATTY LAW GROUP			
12 13	Carrefrina			
14	Carrie J. Primas, Esq.			
15	Nevada Bar No. 12071 1815 Village Center Circle, Suite 140			
16	Las Vegas, Nevada 89134			
17	Phone: (702) 821-1379 Fax: (702) 870-1846			
18	Emails: attorneys@hanrattylawgroup.com			
19	Attorneys for Defendant, Amanda Reed			
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# DECLARATION OF AMANDA REED

STATE OF NEVADA	)
	)ss
County of Clark	)

I, Amanda Reed, am the Defendant in the above referenced matter and have read the foregoing Motion, and the factual averments it contains are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, except as to those matters based on information and belief, and as to those matters, I believe them to be true. Those factual averments contained in the referenced filing are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

Dated this 17 day of March, 2021.

Amanda Reed

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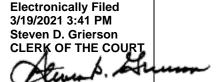
# DISTRICT COURT FAMILY DIVISION CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

DEVIN REED	Case No. D-18-568055-D
Plaintiff/Petitioner	
v.	Dept. Z
AMANDA REED	MOTION/OPPOSITION
Defendant/Respondent	FEE INFORMATION SHEET
subject to the reopen filing fee of \$25, unless specificall Oppositions filed in cases initiated by joint petition may accordance with Senate Bill 388 of the 2015 Legislative	Session.
<b>Step 1.</b> Select either the \$25 or \$0 filing fee in	
X \$25 The Motion/Opposition being filed with OR-	th this form is subject to the \$25 reopen fee.
	th this form is not subject to the \$25 reopen
fee because:	
11	ed before a Divorce/Custody Decree has been
	d solely to adjust the amount of child support
established in a final order.	
	sideration or for a new trial, and is being filed nt or decree was entered. The final order was
entered on	it of decree was entered. The final order was
☐ Other Excluded Motion (must specified)	fy)
Step 2. Select the \$0, \$129 or \$57 filing fee in	the box below.
	th this form is not subject to the \$129 or the
\$57 fee because:	
	ed in a case that was not initiated by joint petition.
-OR-	ition previously paid a fee of \$129 or \$57.
<del>_</del>	n is subject to the \$129 fee because it is a motion
to modify, adjust or enforce a final o	rder.
☐ <b>\$57</b> The Motion/Opposition being filing w	with this form is subject to the \$57 fee because it is adjust or enforce a final order, or it is a motion aid a fee of \$129.
<b>Step 3.</b> Add the filing fees from Step 1 and St	
The total filing fee for the motion/opposition I $\square$ \$0 $\square$ \$25 $\square$ \$57 $\square$ \$82 $\square$ \$129 $\square$ \$154	<del>-</del>
Party filing Motion/Opposition: Defendant	Date 3/17/2021
Signature of Party or Preparer Kair (	all.
Signature of Party of Preparer /	

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1	CSERV HANRATTY LAW GROUP	Oten s. Lun	
2	Carrie J. Primas, Esq.		
3	State Bar of Nevada No. 12071 1815 Village Center Circle, Suite 140		
4	Las Vegas, Nevada 89134		
5	PH: (702) 821-1379 FAX: (702) 870-1846		
6	EMAIL: attorneys@hanrattylawgroup.com		
7	Attorneys for Defendant, Amanda Reed		
8	DISTRICT	COUPT	
9	FAMILY DIVISION		
10	CLARK COUN	TY, NEVADA	
11	DEVIN REED,	Case No: D-18-568055-D Dept No: Z	
12	Plaintiff,	Dept No. Z	
13	v. )	CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC	
14	AMANDA REED,	SERVICE	
15	Defendant.		
16	)		
17	I hereby certify that I am an employee o	f Hanratty Law Group, and on the 17th day of	
18	March, 2021, I served a true and correct cop	by of the Notice of Motion and Motion for	
19	Reconsideration of the Court's Order from the Fe	bruary 25, 2021 Hearing by using the Wiz-Net	
20	E-Service addressed to the following email reg	istered on the E-Service List for this case as	
21	follows:		
22			
23	Michancy Cramer, Esq. Alex Ghibaudo, Esq.		
24	alex@glawvegas.com		
25	michancy@glawvegas.com Attorney for Plaintiff		
26		$V_{\alpha} = C m$	
	By: _	Employee of Hanratty Law Group	
27		Employee of Hamatty Law Gloup	
28			

# DISTRICT COURT \*\*\*\*



1 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 2 3 Devin Bryson Reed, Plaintiff Case No.: D-18-568055-D 4 Amanda Raelene Reed, Defendant. Department Z 5 6 NOTICE OF HEARING 7 Please be advised that the Notice of Motion and Motion for Reconsideration of the 8 Courts Order From the February 25, 2021 Hearing in the above-entitled matter is set for 9 hearing as follows: 10 Date: April 30, 2021 11 Time: 1:00 PM 12 **Location:** Courtroom 22 Family Courts and Services Center 13 601 N. Pecos Road Las Vegas, NV 89101 14 15 NOTE: Under NEFCR 9(d), if a party is not receiving electronic service through the Eighth Judicial District Court Electronic Filing System, the movant requesting a 16 hearing must serve this notice on the party by traditional means. 17 18 STEVEN D. GRIERSON, CEO/Clerk of the Court 19 By: /s/ Carmelo Coscolluela 20 Deputy Clerk of the Court 21 CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE 22 I hereby certify that pursuant to Rule 9(b) of the Nevada Electronic Filing and Conversion 23 Rules a copy of this Notice of Hearing was electronically served to all registered users on this case in the Eighth Judicial District Court Electronic Filing System. 24 25 By: /s/ Carmelo Coscolluela 26 Deputy Clerk of the Court 27 28

APPX1190

Case Number: D-18-568055-D

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Alex B. Ghibaudo, Esq.

Nevada Bar No. 10592

Michancy M. Cramer, Esq.

Nevada Bar No. 11545

**ALEX GHIBAUDO, PC** 

197 E California Ave, Ste 250

Las Vegas, Nevada 89104

T: (702) 978-7090

E: alex@glawvegas.com

Attorney for Plaintiff

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

\*\*\*

DEVIN REED,

Case No.: D-18-568055-D

Plaintiff,

Dept. No.: Z

AMANDA REED,

VS.

**HEARING REQUESTED: YES** 

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Defendants.

NOTICE: YOU ARE REQUIRED TO FILE A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THIS MOTION WITH THE CLERK OF THE COURT AND TO PROVIDE THE UNDERSIGNED WITH A COPY OF YOUR RESPONSE WITHIN FOURTEEN (14) DAYS OF THE RECEIPT OF THIS MOTION. FAILURE TO FILE A WRITTEN RESPONSE WITH THE CLERK OF THE COURT WITHIN FOURTEEN (14) DAYS OF YOUR RECEIPT OF THIS MOTION MAY RESULT IN THE REQUEST FOR RELIEF BEING GRANTED BY THE COURT WITHOUT A HEARING PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED HEARING DATE.

PLAINTIFF'S OPPOSITION AND COUNTERMOTION FOR REVISED
CUSTODIAL TIMESHARE, SCHOOL PLACEMENT, TO RESOLVE PARENTCHILD MATTERS, AND FOR ATTORNEY FEES AND COSTS

COMES NOW Plaintiff, DEVIN REED ("Devin"), through his counsel Michancy M. Cramer, Esq. of Alex B. Ghibaudo, PC, and hereby files this *Opposition and Countermotion for Revised Custodial Timeshare, School Placement, to Resolve Parent-Child Matters, and for Attorney Fees and Costs*. This Opposition and Countermotion is based on the following Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the papers and pleadings already on

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file herein, the attached affidavits/declarations, and any oral argument the Court may permit at the time of hearing. Dated this the 31st day of March, 2021. //s//Michancy M. Cramer Michancy M. Cramer, Esq. Nevada State Bar No. 11545 ALEX B. GHIBAUDO, PC Attorney for Plaintiff 

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# **TABLE OF AUTHORITIES**

2	Cases	
3	Grisham v. Grisham, 289 P.3d 230, 233 (Nev. 2012)	<i>6</i>
4	Resnick v. Valente, 97 Nev. 615, 616, 637 P.2d 1205, 1206 (1981)	<i>6</i>
5	Lehrer McGovern Bovis v. Bullock Insulation, 124 Nev. 1102, 1118 (2008)	6
6	May v. Anderson, 121 Nev. 668, 672, 119 P.3d 1254, 1257 (2005)	<del>6</del>
7	Certified Fire Prot. v. Precision Constr., 128 Nev. ——, 283 P.3d 250 (2012)	<i>6</i>
8	McMonigle v. McMonigle, 110 Nev. 1407 (1995)	7
9	Castle v. Simmons, 120 Nev. 98 (Nev. 2004)	7
10	Nance v. Ferraro, 418 P.3d 679 (Nev. App. 2018)	7
11	Halbrook v. Halbrook, 114 Nev. 1455 (1998)	13
12	Leeming v. Leeming, 87 Nev. 530 (1971)	13
13	Miller v. Wilfong, 121 Nev. 619 (2005)	13
14	Brunzell v. Golden Gate National Bank, 85 Nev. 345 (1969)	13
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17	Statutes	
18	Nev. Rev. Stat. 125C.0035(4)	8
19	Nev. Rev. Stat. 432B.550	11
20	Nev. Rev. Stat. 18.010	13
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# **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

Devin makes the following, specific, requests for relief:

- 1. That the Court deny Defendant's Motion in its entirety;
- 2. That the Court modify the current custodial timeshare for the best interests of the children;
- 3. That the children be placed in a school in Plaintiff's school zone rather than the school that Defendant works at;
- 4. That this Court prohibit Defendant's father from attending the children's activities during Plaintiff's timeshare;
- 5. That this Court grant him vacation time with the minor children each year;
- 6. That this Court permit the children to spend time with their siblings;
- 7. That this Court order the exchange of W-2s so that the parties may calculate child support;
- 8. That this Court grant Devin an award of fees and costs; and
- 9. For any other relief this Court deems just and equitable.

  Dated this 31st day of March, 2022.

//s//Michancy M. Cramer

Michancy M. Cramer, Esq. Nevada State Bar No. 11545 ALEX B. GHIBAUDO, PC Attorney for Plaintiff

# MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

### I. INTRODUCTION

On April 6, 2020 the parties' Decree of Divorce was filed. On April 7, 2020 the Notice of Entry was filed. On April 8, 2020 the Defendant, Amanda Reed ("Amanda") filed a motion to modify the current order. There are two (2) minor children of the marriage, to wit: Abigail Reed ("Abby"), born April 6, 2013, and Shawn Reed ("Shawn"), born July 3, 2015.

Amanda is the stereotypical vexatious litigant. She planned for years in advance to divorce the Plaintiff, Devein Reed ("Devin") and she has attempted to collect her so-called evidence to support her angry pursuit. What is missing from Amanda's litigation is what is in the best interests of the children.

The Defendant is not going to rest, she is not going to stop until this Court stops her or she destroys her children. She is more obsessed with her hatred of Devin than she is with loving her children. Her motion should be denied and this Court should enter an Order that puts a stop to Amanda's litigious behavior once and for all.

Devins's opposition and countermotion follows:

## II. SUMMARY OF FACTS

## a. Amanda's Motion Should Be Denied

Amanda made the decision to resolve this matter through stipulation. It was not the first time she had agreed to joint physical custody. She wanted to be divorced and she wanted to litigate child custody. It is clear she thought she could do both with her poorly timed motion. Nevada law states otherwise.

The report from Dr. Paglini that Amanda relies so heavily on was finished in January of 2020. From the time that report was completed until the time that Amanda signed the Decree and it was entered absolutely nothing changed on Devin's end. Nothing.

What has occurred is that Amanda's obsession with hating Devin has hurt the children, specifically Abby. While Amanda was busy harassing Devin, monitoring his

every move and plotting her next attack, her boyfriend was hurting Abby. Although Amanda claims she only briefly dated him, Jeffrey Eatherly was convicted of *Attempt Lewdness With A Child Under The Age Of 14* and *Attempt Use Minor Under The Age Of 14 As Subject Of Sexual Portrayal In A Performance* on February 12, 2021. Amanda shamefully claimed she was not dating Jeff even though there are photos of the two of them together, social media messages in which she waxes on about how great he was, and videos of the two of them inside her home. She cannot even admit that her fixation with fighting with Devin clouded her to the danger that was right under her nose. No doubt she thinks she did nothing wrong even though she invited her daughter's abuser into their home.

# b. <u>It Is In The Best Interest Of The Children To Modify The Custodial</u> Timeshare And To Change The Children's School Placement

Since filing her motion two (2) days after the Decree was filed, Amanda has carried on with her vexatious behavior. She makes custodial exchanges with Devin a living nightmare for the children and Devin. When Devin brings the children to school, she takes their clothes and redoes their hair as if Devin has done something wrong. She also accuses Devin of not sending them with their proper school items. For example, when the children were finally allowed to return to in-person schooling, Devin returned the children to Amanda in the morning. It was an hour before school started. Amanda then had her attorney contact this writer by email accusing Devin of not sending their backpacks or lunch boxes. In reality, Amanda had the backpacks and the lunchboxes. Devin purchased them for the children back in 2019. Amanda has never returned them to him. When she sends the children to Devin, she takes everything from them. The backpacks and lunch boxes are not a lone incident. In the winter of 2019-2020, Devin purchased four (4) jackets for the kids. Each time they wore them back to Amanda's home, they were never returned.

In addition to her shenanigans with the school supplies and clothing, Amanda makes the custodial exchanges physically miserable for all parties. She has trained the

wchildren to misbehave at the exchanges and she encourages them not to go with Devin. Then she yells at Devin that he needs to get them, no doubt wanting to film him physically putting the children in his vehicle. When he refuses to engage, as he always does, Amanda yells at him and continues to encourage the children to either stay in her car or to run around and misbehave. It's almost unbelievable except that Devin has taken videos of the behavior and then it just becomes sad. These young children are being manipulated and abused by their mother. Once they are with Devin they have a great time. They love their father and they relish the time they get to spend with him.

Amanda also uses her position as a teacher in the children's school to manipulate and harass Devin. During some exchanges, she has refused to turn the children over to him. One time Devin found Abby in Amanda's classroom with Amanda and her father, with the door locked. Amanda refused to open the door and release Abby to him so Devin had to find a school staff member to open the door so he could get Abby and take her home.

For these reasons, Devin is requesting that not only the custodial timeshare be modified, but also that the children be taken out of Amanda's school and placed in the school in his neighborhood. The matter has been fully briefed in Plaintiff's *Supplemental Plea for Relief* filed herein on July 2, 2020 and adopted and incorporated herein as if fually set forth pursuant to EDCR 10(c). The matter was reserved for trial by Judge Gentile and has yet to be ruled on. Devin's primary concern here is the children. Amanda makes custodial exchanges a horrible event for the children and she uses her position in the school to undermine Devin as a parent. Both of these issues would be resolved by modifying the custodial timeshare to week on – week off and changing the children's school.

# c. Amanda's Father Should Be Permanently Excluded From Contact With Devin

Amanda's father is a problematic figure in this case. He has behaved in a violent and hostile manner towards Devin, even in front of the children. One time he even pulled

a gun on Devin. Amanda helped him hide the gun to deceive the police officers that responded, but the fact remains, he pulled a gun on Devin. He is also threatening during exchanges and whenever he sees Devin – even when he does not have a gun visible.

Amanda demands that Devin take the children to their activities, but she refuses to give Devin their uniforms and she allows her aggressive and violent father to attend during Devin's custodial time. Devin has no interest in being around Amanda's father for reasons stated above and in filings herein. Amanda has her dad come to the children's school on days Devin is to pick them up there. She has him come to exchanges and she has him come to activities. One of the videos Devin submitted screen shots from in a previous filing (adopted and incorporated as if restated herein pursuant to EDCR 10(c)) shows Amanda standing next to her father holding him back because he was approaching Devin as if to threaten him.

There is no reason for Amanda's father to be present during Devin's custodial exchanges or time. Judge Gentile's temporary order prohibits Amanda's father from being present during exchanges. Devin requests that order be made permanent and that Amanda's father be prohibited from coming to activities or events for the children at which Devin will be present such as during Devin's custodial time and during special events at school. Amanda's father is not a parent and since he cannot control his own behavior, it is in the best interest of the children that he not be around their father. It is also in the best interest of Devin's safety that Amanda's violent and aggressive father keep away from him.

# d. <u>Devin Should Have Vacation Time With The Children</u>

Unfortunately Devin was never given vacation time in the Decree. This had led to him not being able to introduce the children to his side of the family or even to take them on vacation with him. During COVID-19 that has not been an issue, but in the past Amanda has used this to refuse to allow Devin to even take the children to his reunions. This is uncalled for and interferes with the children's ability to form special, long last memories with their father. They should be able to look back on their childhood and

remember family reunions, trips to Disney, and other excursions with their father. As it is, they will not get that because of a clerical error leaving Devin's vacation time out of the Decree.

## e. The Children Should Be Allowed Contact With Their Siblings

In yet another example of Amanda's vitriol, she has demanded that the children never be around Devin's older children. She has no reason for this, she simply hates them. This is unacceptable and should be modified. The Nevada Supreme Court and family courts around the country have recognized the importance of sibling bonds. Amanda should not be allowed to take that bond from Abby and Shawn. They should have the chance to know their siblings and have a relationship with them.

# f. The Parties Should Exchange W-2s To Calculate Child Support

In her orders, Judge Gentile has made clear that this is a joint legal and joint physical case. Despite that, Amanda now wishes to argue that she has primary physical custody of the children and should be granted child support. She has repeatedly asked for continuances and has threatened multiple appeals and writs to drag out these proceedings, apparently for the purpose of demanding money. Devin is a joint physical custodian of his children and child support should be calculated accordingly. During COVID-19 Devin has struggled on unemployment and has managed to piece together occasional jobs through his union. In the meantime, Amanda has maintained steady employment. She should be required to turn over her 2020 W-2, with Devin doing the same, so that child support can be calculated accordingly.

### III. LEGAL ANALYSIS

# a. The Decree Is A Final Order And Amanda's Request Should Be Denied

Pursuant to District Court Rule 16 "[n]o agreement or stipulation between the parties in a cause or their attorneys, in respect to proceedings therein, will be regarded unless the same shall, by consent, be entered in the minutes in the form of an order, or unless the same shall be in writing subscribed by the party against whom the same shall

be alleged, or by his attorney." "DCR 16 applies to divorce and dissolution disputes equally with any other kind of civil litigation." *Grisham v. Grisham*, 289 P.3d 230, 233 (Nev. 2012). Furthermore, "[w]hen parties to pending litigation enter into a settlement, they enter into a contract" *Grisham v. Grisham*, 289 P.3d 230, 234 (Nev. 2012). "Such a contract is subject to general principles of contract law." *Id.* In addition to complying with DCR 16's procedural requirements, a stipulated settlement agreement requires mutual assent, see *Lehrer McGovern Bovis v. Bullock Insulation*, 124 Nev. 1102, 1118, 197 P.3d 1032, 1042 (2008), or a "meeting of the minds," *May v. Anderson*, 121 Nev. 668, 672, 119 P.3d 1254, 1257 (2005), on "the contract's essential terms." *Certified Fire Prot. v. Precision Constr.*, 128 Nev. ———, 283 P.3d 250, 255 (2012). "A valid contract cannot exist when material terms are lacking or are insufficiently certain and definite" for a court "to ascertain what is required of the respective parties" and to "compel compliance" if necessary. *May*, 121 Nev. at 672, 119 P.3d at 1257.

According to the Nevada Supreme Court, "[d]espite its awkward wording, DCR 16's application is straightforward: An agreement to settle pending litigation can be enforced by motion in the case being settled if the agreement is "either ... reduced to a signed writing or ... entered in the court minutes following a stipulation." Id. at 233 (Nev. 2012); citing *Resnick v. Valente*, 97 Nev. 615, 616, 637 P.2d 1205, 1206 (1981) (applying DCR 24, later renumbered DCR 16). Here, the agreement the parties entered into was reduced to writing, with counsel for both present, and was entered into freely and without duress.

Amanda attempts to suggest that she was forced into the Decree by the previous judge in this case, but that is a mischaracterization of events. Every judge would like to have their docket cleared by settlement and stipulation. Just because the parties were pressured to settle does not mean she had to. She could have easily and simply advised the Court that no settlement could be reached and no Decree would be submitted. Instead, Amanda wanted to be divorced. She clearly hates Devin with all her heart. She wanted to be a single woman. She wanted that Decree as much as anyone. She just

thought her motion filed two days later was going to give her a second bite at the apple. It cannot.

Pursuant to *McMonigle v. McMonigle*, 110 Nev. 1407 (Nev. 1995), the Court cannot consider evidence that predates the last order, with few exceptions. In this case Amanda admits that she seeks to litigate events and matters that occurred years before the Decree was entered. Even the report from Dr. Paglini upon which she relies is dated January of 2020 – four months prior to the entry of the Decree.

Amanda then relies on two other cases seeking an exception to *McMonigle*. In *Castle v. Simmons*, 120 Nev. 98 (Nev. 2004) the Supreme Court ruled that previously unknown evidence of domestic violence could be used to modify a custodial order. In that case the mother had committed acts of violence against the children unbeknownst to the father. When he found out, after the Decree was entered, he sought to modify custody. The Supreme Court reasoned that "[d]omestic violence, by its very nature, may be difficult to discover. Once it is discovered, the court should not be precluded from considering it simply because it was not previously raised." *Id.* at 105-6. In contrast to *Castle*, this case has always included Amanda's unfounded allegations against Devin. She has always claimed domestic violence. It was never unknown or kept from the Court. She still chose to agree to joint physical custody, twice, with Devin. Repeatedly she agreed that joint physical custody was in their best interests.

In *Nance v. Ferraro*, 418 P.3d 679 (Nev. App. 2018) the parties were a contentious pair who had some kind of custodial arrangement between the father living in New York and the mother residing in Nevada. Although the District Court ruled it was joint physical custody, the opinion does not clarify what their actual custodial arrangement actually was. What is clear is that the mother made allegations of substantiated domestic violence investigations by Child Protective Services (CPS) against the father. *Id.* at 682. When the child entered school the father attempted to modify custody, requesting primary physical custody to take the child to New York and enroll him in school there. The District Court granted the father's motion in limine to exclude

all references to the previous allegations of domestic violence. The higher Court disagreed, concluding that "McMonigle and Castle do not bar the district court from reviewing the facts and evidence underpinning its prior rulings or custody determinations in deciding whether the modification of a prior custody order is in the child's best interest." Id.

The present case is distinguishable from *Nance* on numerous points. First and foremost is the CPS allegations. Amanda has made repeated calls to both Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department ("Metro") and CPS against Devin. She has called Metro on Devin so many times, he knows the neighborhood patrol officers on sight. Despite all her calls to Metro and to CPS, not one single time has anything been substantiated against him. Not ONE single time. The only so-called evidence she has is a report from a psychologist she hired. There are no court reports, no police reports, no CPS reports that substantiate abuse by Devin.

Second, in *Nance* the abuser was attempting to preclude all evidence of domestic violence in an attempt to modify custody to his advantage, to take the child away from the mother and relocate him to the other side of the country. Under that father's reasoning, a parent found to have committed domestic violence could simply file a motion the next day and have all that evidence excluded. Clearly that is nonsensical and the Court in *Nance* agreed, reasoning that "[w]hen a district court considers a motion to modify a prior custody order, it logically follows that the court's evaluation of whether modification is in the child's best interest will necessarily be informed by the findings and conclusions that resulted in the prior custody determination." *Id.* at 686. In this case there never was a finding of domestic violence because Amanda chose to settle the case. She repeatedly agreed to joint physical custody of the children.

As this Court pointed out, NRS 125C.0025(1)(a) tells us that "there is a preference that joint physical custody would be in the best interest of a minor child if...[t]he parents have agreed to an award of joint physical custody." That is exactly the

case here. These parents agreed on more than one occasion that joint physical custody was in the best interest of Abby and Shawn.

Finally, it cannot go unremarked how extensively the Court in *Nance* emphasized that parties may not file "repetitive serial motions seeking to relitigate the same issues based on the same underlying facts." *Id.* at 684. Over and over in its analysis the Court pointed to the principle of res judicata. Even in analyzing *Castle* and *McMonigle*, the Court noted that "this substantial change in circumstances requirement is, itself, derived from res judicata principles, which prevent dissatisfied parties from filing repetitive, serial motions until they obtain their desired results." *Id.* at 684.

Contrary to Amanda's representations, no one forced her to sign that Decree. She was represented by competent counsel throughout the proceedings and she chose to sign the Decree. If, as she claims, she was ordered to sign the Decree, the next step was to file an appeal. A Court cannot force someone to sign a settlement if they do not agree. The Court could have entered its own Decree and then Amanda could have appealed. She did not. She freely and knowingly signed the Decree and agreed to joint legal and joint physical custody with Devin.

# b. Parent-Child Matters Should Be Resolved In The Best Interests Of The Children

The current custodial timeshare as spelled out in the Decree includes numerous custody exchanges between the parents. As explained in Devin's *Opposition and Countermotion* filed on April 20, 2020 and his *Supplemental Plea for Relief* filed on July 2, 2020, adopted as if restated fully herein pursuant to EDCR 10(c), Amanda has made these custodial exchanges a nightmare for the children and for Devin. It is in the best interests of the children that custody exchanges be reduced as much as possible. A simply way to achieve this is to grant the parties a week on – week off schedule. There will be one exchange each week and it can be conducted at the school.

Devin has also requested that the Court order the children to be placed in the school in his neighborhood. As briefed in his *Supplemental Plea for Relief*, Amanda uses