# IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

### Nos. 83598, 84971, and 85358

Electronically Filed IN RE PARAMETRIC SOUND CORPORATion 2 2023 08:18 PM SHAREHOLDERS' LITIGATION. Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court

## PAMTP, LLC,

## Appellant,

v.

KENNETH F. POTASHNER; VTB HOLDINGS, INC.; STRIPES GROUP, LLC; SG VTB HOLDINGS, LLC; JUERGEN STARK; and KENNETH FOX,

Respondents.

Consolidated Appeals from Final Judgment and Fees and Costs Awards Eighth Judicial District Court Case No. A-13-686890-B

## **APPELLANT'S APPENDIX – VOLUME 5 OF 24**

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Attorneys for PAMTP, LLC

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## AFFIRMATION

Pursuant to NRS 239B.030, the undersigned does hereby affirm that the preceding document does not contain the social security number of any person.

Respectfully submitted this 12th day of January, 2023.

MCDONALD CARANO LLP

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# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I am an employee of McDonald Carano LLP, and on January 12, 2023, a true and correct copy of the foregoing was efiled and e-served on all registered parties to the Supreme Court's electronic filing system.

> <u>/s/ CaraMia Gerard</u> An Employee of McDonald Carano LLP

1	FFCL	Electronically Filed 7/15/2021 5:09 AM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT
2	DISTRIC	T COURT
3	CLARK COU	NTY, NEVADA
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5	IN RE PARAMETRIC SOUND	Case No.: A-13-686890-B
6	CORPORATION SHAREHOLDERS' LITIGATION	Dept. No.: XI
7		FINDINGS OF FACT,
8 9		CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER IMPOSING SPOLIATION SANCTIONS
10	This Document Relates To:	
11	ALL ACTIONS.	
12		
13	On May 18, 2021, the Court entered	its Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion Against
14	Defendants Kenneth Potashner, Juergen Stark, and VTB Holdings, Inc. Setting Evidentiary	
15	Hearing Re Spoliation Sanctions ("Order"). Pursuant to the Order, on June 18, 2021, the Court	
16	conducted an evidentiary hearing to evaluate the factors enumerated in Young v. Johnny Ribeiro	
17	Building, Inc., 106 Nev. 88, 787 P.2d 777 (1	1990), to determine the appropriate evidentiary
18	sanction(s) for Potashner, Stark and VTB Holdings. On June 25, 2021, the Court heard closing	
19	arguments. The Court issues the following find	ings of fact and conclusions of law based upon a
20	review of the record, the evidence adduced at	the June 18, 2021 evidentiary hearing, and the
21	arguments made on June 25, 2021:	
22	<u>FINDING</u>	S OF FACT
23	I. DEFENDANTS DESTROYED EM	IAILS AND TEXT MESSAGES AFTER
24	<b>RECEIVING LITIGATION HOLD L</b>	
25	1. Potashner was Parametric's Exe	ecutive Chairman and CEO. <sup>1</sup> Stark was CEO of
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28	<sup>1</sup> Transcript of the June 18, 2021 Evidenti	ary Hearing ("Evid. Tr.") at 231:4-231:7.

Turtle Beach Corporation (f/k/a Voyetra Turtle Beach).<sup>2</sup> Fox controlled Stripes Group, which was the entity that held the majority interest in Voyetra Turtle Beach's parent company, VTB Holdings.<sup>3</sup> Given their respective roles in the merger negotiations, text messages between these defendants contained material information concerning the merger and, in particular, the negotiation process. Given the text messages that have been produced from another side of a communication, it is clear that text messages included some relevant material that is now lost. The amount of that material is unknown and unascertainable because of the loss of that data.

2. As part of the discovery process in this matter the parties agreed upon certain custodians and search terms for electronically stored information,

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#### Defendant Kenneth Potashner

3. Potashner received litigation holds from his counsel on August 9, 2013 and October 14, 2013.<sup>4</sup> The litigation holds identified 11 categories of documents relating to the merger and called for the preservation of ESI from cell phones. Potashner received additional warnings concerning his preservation obligations on October 7, 2014, May 13 and 28, 2015, and September 14, 2017.<sup>5</sup> Potashner understood the nature of the litigation holds he received.

4. Potashner sent and received text messages during the January 2013 to January
2014 time period, but did not save the phone he used and, therefore, the text messages were
irreparably lost.<sup>6</sup> Potashner willfully failed to preserve his text messages.

19 5. Potashner testified during his August 8, 2019 deposition and again during the
20 evidentiary hearing on June 18, 2021 that he did not use text messages to have substantive
21 discussions about business related matters and that he "didn't delete anything."<sup>7</sup> This testimony

- 23 <sup>2</sup> Evid. Tr. at 100:9-100:14.
- 24 <sup>3</sup> Evid. Tr. at 192:9-193:5.
- 25 <sup>4</sup> Evid. Tr. at 248:23-252:25.

<sup>5</sup> Defendant Kenneth Potashner's Answers to Plaintiff's First Set of Interrogatories, dated Feb. 1, 2019, pp. 24:24-25:7, 25:13-25:24, 28:23-30:2 (Exhibit 1).

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<sup>6</sup> *Id.* at 20:16-21:3 (Exhibit 1).

Evid. Tr. at 197:8-198:13, 253:1-253:13, 257:3-258:2.

is refuted by the evidence adduced at the June 18, 2021 hearing and is not credible.

6. Potashner's deposition and hearing testimony about his text messages was contradicted by evidence admitted during the evidentiary hearing. Text messages sent by and between Potashner and defendant Andrew Wolfe showed multiple text messages from Potashner in July 2013 discussing substantive information relevant to the merger negotiations, including Potashner's ownership of HyperSound Health, Inc. and side deals involving Wolfe, non-party John Todd, and others.<sup>8</sup>

7. The failure by Potashner to produce relevant Gmail communications is more disturbing. Potashner sent and received emails relating to the merger using a personal Gmail account. Potashner testified during his August 8, 2019 deposition and again during the evidentiary hearing on June 18, 2021 that he did not delete any emails relevant to the litigation.<sup>9</sup> This testimony is refuted by the evidence adduced at the June 18, 2021 hearing and is not credible.

8. Potashner did not provide all of his emails in the litigation. Potashner's deposition and hearing testimony about his Gmail account emails was contradicted by evidence admitted during the evidentiary hearing. Testimony from Plaintiff's ediscovery vendor, Kieran Grennan on behalf of vdiscovery, and expert statistician, Professor David Madigan, Ph.D., established that Potashner destroyed 34.5% of his Gmail emails with non-party John Todd.<sup>10</sup> Professor Madigan's margin of error was 7.7%, meaning that he was able to conclude with a 95% confidence level that Potashner deleted between 27.1% and 42.5% of his Gmail account with Mr. Todd (between 360 and 564 emails).<sup>11</sup> The testimony from Mr. Grennan and Dr. Madigan was credible and persuasive. 

<sup>8</sup> Evid. Tr. at 253:19-261:11; *see also* Defendant Andrew Wolfe Text Messages (Exhibit 3).
 <sup>9</sup> Evid. Tr. at 198:6-198:19.
 <sup>10</sup> Evid. Tr. at 24:22-25:15, 39:17-45:8.

28 <sup>11</sup> Evid. Tr. at 32:13-33:1.

The number of emails in the randomly selected sample group that are relevant to 9. the litigation are admittedly small but remains significant.

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The results of this analysis is applied by the Court to apply to recipients other 10. than those within the sample. It is impossible, given Potashner's actions, to determine the number of lost emails, the individuals with whom such communications were made, and the subject matter that has been lost.

11. Potashner self-collected emails from his Gmail account for discovery purposes without oversight from counsel or his ediscovery vendor.<sup>12</sup> He testified at the June 18, 2021 hearing, however, that he was "not fluent enough on the breadth of the shareholder litigation" to determine which emails were or were not relevant.<sup>13</sup> His self-collection was therefore inherently flawed. He did not provide full access to his Gmail account for collection until June 14, 2018.<sup>14</sup> Gmail does not automatically delete emails.<sup>15</sup>

12. Potashner also had a corporate computer with potentially relevant ESI that he never returned to Parametric or otherwise provided to counsel for searching and collection of relevant discovery.<sup>16</sup>

13. Given the limited number of custodians the loss of Potashner's emails is material and significant.

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#### В. **Defendants VTB Holdings and Juergen Stark**

14. On August 14, 2013, VTB Holdings issued a litigation hold to its officers and directors.<sup>17</sup> Stark and Fox were directors of VTB Holdings at that time.<sup>18</sup> The litigation hold

- 12 22 Exhibit 1 at 12:4-12:9.
- 13 23 Evid. Tr. at 265:9-265:14.
- 14 24 Exhibit 1 at 12:14-12:17.
- 15 25 Exhibit 1 at 30:20-30:21.
- 16 26 Evid. Tr. at 197:18-198:4.

17 Defendant VTB Holdings, Inc.'s Response to Plaintiffs' First Set of Interrogatories, dated Feb. 6, 2019, p. 15:3-15:7 (Exhibit 6).

Evid. Tr. at 106:19-106:23.

called for the preservation of all documents relating to the shareholder action, including documents in electronic form, and did not contain any exception for personal devices.<sup>19</sup>

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Stark understood the nature of the litigation hold he received. Stark was familiar 15. with the litigation hold process based on his prior experience as an executive at Motorola and knew that the legal hold he received encompassed ESI on his phone, including text messages.<sup>20</sup> He also testified that his personal phone was subject to VTB Holdings' litigation hold as well as corporate policies requiring employees to provide their personal devices for litigation and discovery purposes.<sup>21</sup>

VTB Holdings asked Stark to provide his text messages in 2014.<sup>22</sup> 9 16. Notwithstanding the litigation hold he received from VTB Holdings, Stark no longer possessed 10 the ESI that was on his phone because he had "cleared" it.<sup>23</sup> Stark did not preserve his text 12 messages.

17. Stark testified during the evidentiary hearing that his text messages would not have been relevant because he did not use text messaging to engage in substantive business discussions.<sup>24</sup> This testimony is refuted by the evidence adduced at the June 18, 2021 hearing and is not credible.

18. Stark's hearing testimony about his text messages was contradicted by evidence admitted during the evidentiary hearing. Text messages sent by and between Stark and non-party Ronald Doornink showed multiple text messages from Stark in 2014 and 2015 containing substantive business discussions, including compensation arrangements, stock performance,

19 Exhibit 6 at 15:3-15:7.

- 20 24 Evid. Tr. at 108:4-110:1.
- 21 25 Evid. Tr. at 160:15-163:16.

22 26 Exhibit 6 at 9:13-9:19.

23 27 Evid. Tr. at 114:25-115:15, 146:16-147:2.

24 28 Evid. Tr. at 148:16-151:15. 2 3

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# revenue metrics, and regulatory investigations.<sup>25</sup> C.

**Defendant Kenneth Fox** 

Fox did not preserve his text messages. Despite the August 2013 litigation hold, 19. Fox replaced his phone on or after February 1, 2015 without preserving its ESI.<sup>26</sup>

20. Testimony demonstrated that Fox had substantive business discussions over text message. Text messages sent by and between Fox and non-party Ronald Doornink showed multiple text messages from Fox in 2014 discussing opportunities in new businesses and developments in various investments.<sup>27</sup>

9 21. Fox maintained a Gmail account that he used to discuss the merger with various individuals.<sup>28</sup> Fox did not produce emails from his Gmail account or recall what efforts he or his 10 counsel took to preserve the emails.<sup>29</sup>

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#### 22. The testimony provided by Fox at the June 18, 2021 hearing was not credible.

#### II. THE SPOLIATED EMAILS AND TEXT MESSAGES RELATED TO DEFENDANTS' SELF-INTEREST AND FRAUD IN APPROVING THE MERGER.

Testimony from the June 18, 2021 evidentiary hearing establishes that certain 16 23. Defendants spoliated at least two categories of ESI: (1) Potashner's Gmail account emails; and 17 (2) text messages by or between Potashner, Stark, Fox, and other defendants. 18

24. Potashner's Gmail emails with Mr. Todd were relevant to the litigation. 19 Potashner described Mr. Todd as a "business partner and friend" who helped take Parametric 20 "from two guys in a garage to something worth \$100 million" and was responsible for 21

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27 26 Evid. Tr. at 185:4-187:23.

28 27 Evid. Tr. at 180:11-184:11.

29 28 Evid. Tr. at 176:9-176:18.

<sup>25</sup> Evid. Tr. at 151:17-159:4; see also Ronald Doornink Text Messages to Defendant Juergen Stark (Exhibit 13).

<sup>26</sup> Defendant Stripes Group, LLC's Response to Plaintiffs' First Set of Interrogatories, 25 dated Feb. 6, 2019, p. 3:12-3:16 (Exhibit 8).

"furthering the HHI [HyperSound Health, Inc.] agenda."<sup>30</sup> They frequently emailed during the 1 merger negotiation process concerning relevant issues. A number of these emails were not 2 produced in the litigation by Potashner, including emails discussing a "Consulting Services" 3 agreement for Mr. Todd "prior to the consummation of the pending merger transaction regarding 4 [HHI]" (Exhibit 446), Potashner's attempt to "move [Juergen Stark] and his lawyers to 5 announce . . . bullish [2014]" guidance (Exhibit 452), Potashner's concerns over "how many 6 7 things have already gone wrong in this deal" (Exhibit 459), Potashner's advice on how to negotiate with Juergen Stark (Exhibit 538), and Potashner telling Mr. Todd that a "going 8 concern" warning "should be off the table" because Stark "agreed to the q2 actuals/Q3 forecast 9 scenario" (Exhibit 492). While other emails were not facially relevant to the litigation, including 10 those that related to social plans or were outside the relevant period for discovery,<sup>31</sup> many of the 11 emails admitted into evidence fell into the relevant time period for discovery and contained 12 search terms agreed upon by the parties.<sup>32</sup> 13

Several additional Gmail emails introduced into evidence during the evidentiary 25. 14 hearing show that Potashner used his Gmail account to make adverse statements, including that 15 a "going concern" warning was being discussed (Exhibit 492), that Potashner was aware of 16 "covenants issue" impacting the closing of the merger (Exhibit 548), that Stark "created 17 unrealistic numbers" to "get a better exchange rate" in the merger (Exhibit 30), and that he was 18 willing to provide cooperation in the litigation in exchange for modifications to various option 19 contracts (Exhibit 31). 20

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26. Potashner's text messages were also relevant to the litigation. They contained

30 Evid. Tr. at 260:8-261:11.

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Evid. Tr. at 63:4-63:19, 84:12-84:19.

<sup>31</sup> Exhibits 483 (forwarding Mr. Todd's son's resume), 454 (Mr. Todd thanking Potashner 25 for dinner), 515 (discussing unrelated company), and 532 (making dinner plans). As these emails were produced by others they were not lost but are relevant to the subject matter. It is 26 impossible to determine how many individuals Potashner communicated with by email that would have been relevant to the litigation. Given the opinion of Dr. Madigan the number of lost emails is clearly a significant number and material.

1	substantive discussions concerning side deals and various arrangements relating to the merger,
2	including "consulting agreements" offered to co-defendants, efforts to retain equity interests in
3	HHI, discussion of payments to non-party John Todd, and the risk of "sec and justice dept
4	forcing disclosures" that would jeopardize the merger. <sup>33</sup> Stark and Fox to a lesser degree than
5	Potashner used text message to engage in substantive discussions. <sup>34</sup>
6	27. If any findings of fact are properly conclusions of law, they shall be treated as if
7	appropriately identified and designated.
8	CONCLUSIONS OF LAW
9	1. "Spoliation occurs when a party fails to preserve evidence it knows or reasonably
10	should know is relevant to actual or anticipated litigation." MDB Trucking, LLC v. Versa Prods.
11	Co., 475 P.3d 397, 406 (Nev. 2020) citing Fire Ins. Exch. v. Zenith Radio Corp., 103 Nev. 648,
12	651, 747 P.2d 911 (1987).
13	2. NRCP 37(e) provides:
14	Failure to Preserve Electronically Stored Information. If electronically
15 16	stored information that should have been preserved in the anticipation or conduct of litigation is lost because a party failed to take reasonable steps to preserve it, and it cannot be restored or replaced through additional discovery, the court:
17	<ul> <li>(1) upon finding prejudice to another party from loss of the information, may order measures no greater than necessary to cure the prejudice; or</li> </ul>
18	(2) only upon finding that the party acted with the intent to deprive another
19	party of the information's use in the litigation may:
20	(A) presume that the lost information was unfavorable to the party;
21	(B) instruct the jury that it may or must presume the information was
22 23	unfavorable to the party; or
23 24	(C) dismiss the action or enter a default judgment.
2 <del>4</del> 25	3. Defendants Potashner, VTB Holdings, and Stark failed to preserve emails and
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20	$^{33}$ Exhibit 3.
28	<sup>34</sup> Exhibits 11 and 12.
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1	text messages. Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Building, Inc., 106 Nev. 88, 787 P.2d 777 (1990),		
2	provides several factors a court may consider to determine the appropriate evidentiary		
3	sanction(s), which include but are not limited to the following:		
4	a. The degree of willfulness of the offending party;		
5	b. The extent to which the non-offending party would be prejudiced by a		
6	lesser sanction;		
7	c. The severity of the sanction relative to the severity of the discovery abuse;		
8	d. Whether any evidence has been irreparably lost;		
9	e. The feasibility and fairness of alternative, less severe sanctions;		
10	f. The policy favoring adjudication on the merits; and		
11	g. The need to deter both the parties and future litigants from similar abuses.		
12	4. "Courts have adopted a variety of measures, short of case-terminating sanctions,		
13	to redress spoliation of evidence. These measures include 'attorneys' fees and costs [associated		
14	with curative discovery], monetary sanctions for the cost of reconstructing destroyed evidence, .		
15	issue-related sanctions, the exclusion of testimony from the spoliator's witnesses regarding		
16	the destroyed material, [and] jury instructions on the spoliation inference." MDB Trucking, 475		
17	P.3d at 406 (Nev. 2020). The Nevada Revised Statutes also provide for rebuttable presumption		
18	instructions for willful spoliation. See NRS 47.250(3).		
19	5. Potashner willfully destroyed text messages and Gmail account emails after		
20	receiving litigation holds from his counsel. He then attempted to conceal his destruction of		
21	evidence by representing during deposition that he did not use text messages to discuss		
22	substantive business matters or delete emails from his Gmail account. The evidence adduced		
23	during the evidentiary hearing demonstrated that this was false and that Potashner, in fact, used		
24	text messages for substantive discussions and did not produce an unknown number of materially		
25	relevant emails from his Gmail account.		
26	6 Pursuant to NRS 47 250(3) spolated evidence may be presumed adverse to the		

6. Pursuant to NRS 47.250(3), spoliated evidence may be presumed adverse to the
party or parties responsible for the spoliation. Based on the text messages and Gmail account
emails introduced at the evidentiary hearing, it is likely that the destroyed evidence related

1 similarly to Potashner's self-interest in the merger and knowledge of material information that 2 was adverse or contrary to information being provided to Parametric's shareholders at the time. 3 Therefore, it is presumed that Potashner's text messages and Gmail account emails were adverse to Potashner in this action for these reasons and that he acted in bad faith when supporting and 4 5 approving the merger.

7. Stark and Fox negligently failed to preserve relevant ESI. They received litigation holds at the inception of the case and knew they had a duty to preserve ESI. Given the nature of the lost evidence, the evidence lost is presumed adverse to Stark and Fox under the negligence standard set forth in MDB Trucking.

If any conclusions of law are properly findings of fact, they shall be treated as if 8. appropriately identified and designated.

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#### **ORDER**

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

14 1. Potashner having willfully destroyed text messages and emails relevant to this litigation, the Court makes an adverse inference that the lost text messages and emails relevant to this litigation would have shown that Potashner acted in bad faith when supporting and 16 approving the merger. Potashner may testify and contest this at trial, but his testimony will go to his credibility only because an adverse inference of bad faith has already been made by the Court; and

2. Stark and Fox having negligently failed to preserve text messages, the Court makes an adverse inference that the lost information would have been adverse to them.

DATED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2021.

Elizabeth Gorzalez, District Judge

1	<u>Certificate of Service</u>
2	I hereby certify that on the date filed, a copy of the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of
	Law and Order Imposing Spoliation Sanctions was electronically served, pursuant to N.E.F.C.R.
3	Rule 9, to all registered parties in the Eighth Judicial District Court Electronic Filing Program.
4	/s/ Dan Kutinac/ Dan Kutinac, JEA
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	CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA	
14	IN RE PARAMETRIC SOUND	Case No.: A-13-686890-B
15	CORPORATION SHAREHOLDERS' LITIGATION	Dept. No.: XI
16		ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR
17		SUMMARY JUDGMENT OF DEFENDANT VTB HOLDINGS, INC.
18		AND SPECIALLY APPEARING DEFENDANTS STRIPES GROUP, LLC,
19		SG VTB HOLDINGS, LLC, JUERGEN STARK, AND KENNETH FOX
20	This Document Relates To:	
21		
22	ALL ACTIONS.	
23		
24	On June 11, 2021, Defendant VTB Holdings, Inc., and Specially Appearing Defendants	
25	Stripes Group, LLC, SG VTB Holdings, LLC, Jurgen Stark, and Kenneth Fox ("Defendants")	
26	moved for summary judgment (the "Motion"). The Court conducted an in-chambers hearing on	
27	Defendants' Motion on July 19, 2021. Having reviewed the record, the briefs in support and	
28	opposition, and being fully informed, the Court <b>DENIES</b> the Motion and makes the following	

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MCDONALD CARANO

findings and conclusions of law:

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#### BACKGROUND

1. On June 11, 2021, Defendants filed the Motion seeking summary judgment dismissal arguing that there is insufficient evidence to show that they played any role in causing an underlying breach of fiduciary duty and, therefore, cannot be held liable for aiding and abetting. 2. On July 1, 2021, Plaintiff opposed Defendants' motion arguing that evidence obtained in discovery shows that Defendants encouraged and facilitated the underlying breaches of fiduciary duty by, among other things, offering financial benefits in the form of golden parachutes.

3. On July 14, 2021, Defendants replied in further support of their motion arguing that there is no evidence of collusion between themselves and the defendants who allegedly breached their fiduciary duties.

4. Being fully briefed, the Motion is ripe for decision.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. 15 Summary judgment is only appropriate when the pleadings and other evidence on 16 file demonstrate that no "genuine issue as to any material fact [remains] and that the moving party 17 is entitled to a judgment as a matter of law." NRCP 56; see also Wood v. Safeway, Inc., 121 Nev. 724, 729, 121 P.3d 1026, 1029 (2005). A genuine issue of material facts exists when the "evidence 18 is such that a rational trier of fact could return a verdict for the nonmoving party." Id. at 1031. 19 20 When reviewing a motion for summary judgment, the evidence supporting it, and any reasonable inferences draws from it, the court must view it in a light most favorable to the nonmoving part. Id. at 1029. 22

2. 23 Genuine issues of material fact exist as to Defendants' conduct. While Defendants 24 claim the evidence does not show any collusion with the other defendants who allegedly breached 25 their fiduciary duties, Plaintiff cites documents that it argues show the opposite. These documents 26 include correspondence by and between Defendants reflecting discussions over ownership of HyperSound Health, Inc., the delaying of press releases concerning positive business 27 28 developments, and the avoidance of licensing deals. These materials create genuine issues of fact

concerning Defendants' knowledge of and involvement in the underlying breaches of fiduciary 1 2 duty. 3 ORDER IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendants' Motion Dated this 3rd day of August, 2021 4 is **DENIED**. 5 DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_ . 2021 6 7 8 BESTEF C244 BBSRGE Elizabeth Gonzalez 9 Submitted by: Appistricts Count and dgeent: 10 McDONALD CARANO LLP SNELL & WILMER LLP 11 /s/ Richard C. Gordon 12 By: <u>/s/ Rory T. Kay</u> By: George F. Ogilvie III (NV Bar #3552) Richard C. Gordon, Esq. 13 Amanda C. Yen (NV Bar #9726) 3883 Howard Hughes Pkwy #1100, Rory T. Kay (NV Bar #12416) Las Vegas, NV 89169 14 2300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 1200 15 Las Vegas, NV 89102 DECHERT LLP Brian Raphael, Esq. 16 LEVI & KORSINSKY, LLP David Kotler, Esq. Adam M. Apton, Esq. (admitted pro 1900 K Street, NW 17 hac vice) Washington, D.C. 20006-1110 18 55 Broadway, 10th Floor New York, New York 10006 Attorneys for Defendant VTB Holdings, 19 T: (212) 363-7500 Inc. and Specially Appearing F: (212) 363-7171 Defendants Stripes Group, LLC, 20 aapton@zlk.com SG VTB Holdings, LLC, Kenneth Fox, and Juergen Stark 21 Attorneys for PAMPT LLC 22 HOLLAND & HART LLP 23 /s/ Robert Cassity By: 24 J. Stephen Peek, Esq. Robert Cassity, Esq. 25 9555 Hillwood Drive, 2nd Floor, 26 Las Vegas, NV 89134 27 [Continued on next page] 28

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### /s/ Alejandra Moreno

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Hi Adam,

You have authorization to e-sign for me on the draft orders re the NDD motions (with the exception of the MIL to exclude evidence and testimony related to irrelevant or undisclosed measures of damages, for which we will have to submit competing orders). Please add a signature block that states "Approval as to form and content" on the draft orders. You can then e-sign for me and submit. Thanks very much,

Rick

Richard C. Gordon, Esq. Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. 3883 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 1100 Las Vegas, NV 89169 (702) 784-5210 (direct) (702) 784-5220 (main) (702) 784-5252 (facsimile) rgordon@swlaw.com

"The information contained in this electronic mail message is confidential information intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above, and may be privileged. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient or the employee or agent responsible to deliver it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify us by telephone (702-784-5200), and delete the original message. Thank you."

From: Adam M Apton <aapton@zlk.com>

Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 11:31 AM

**To:** Alejandro Moreno <AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com>; Raphel, Brian <Brian.Raphel@dechert.com>; George F. Ogilvie III <gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>; Rory Kay <rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com>

Cc: Kotler, David <david.kotler@dechert.com>; Hess, Joshua <Joshua.Hess@dechert.com>; John Stigi <JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>; Steve Peek <SPeek@hollandhart.com>; Gordon, Richard <rgordon@swlaw.com>; Moore, Ryan <Ryan.Moore@dechert.com> Subject: DS: [Subara all DS: [Subara all DAIL Drap and Order]

Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

# [EXTERNAL] aapton@zlk.com

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# Best,

### Alejandro (Alex) Moreno

+1 619-338-6664 | direct +1 619-721-8718 | cell <u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com | Bio</u>

# **SheppardMullin**

501 West Broadway, 19th Floor San Diego, CA 92101-3598 +1 619-338-6500 | main www.sheppardmullin.com | LinkedIn | Twitter From: Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>

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<gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>; Rory Kay <<u>rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>

**Cc:** Kotler, David <<u>david.kotler@dechert.com</u>>; Hess, Joshua <<u>Joshua.Hess@dechert.com</u>>; John Stigi

<<u>JStigi@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Steve Peek

<<u>SPeek@hollandhart.com</u>>; Gordon, Richard <<u>rgordon@swlaw.com</u>>; Moore, Ryan

<<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>

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**Cc:** Kotler, David <<u>david.kotler@dechert.com</u>>; Hess, Joshua <<u>Joshua.Hess@dechert.com</u>>; John Stigi <<u>JStigi@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Steve Peek <<u>SPeek@hollandhart.com</u>>; Gordon, Richard <<u>rgordon@swlaw.com</u>>; Moore, Ryan

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Subject: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Counsel,

Attached is a proposed order granting Defendants' motion in limine to exclude evidence and testimony related to irrelevant or undisclosed measures of damages. Please let us know if you any comments or if we can have your authorization to file jointly. Thank you.

#### Brian Raphel Dechert LLP +1 212 641 5692 Direct +1 201 615 3550 Mobile brian.raphel@dechert.com

dechert.com

This e-mail is from Dechert LLP, a law firm, and may contain information that is confidential or privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, do not read, copy or distribute the e-mail or any attachments. Instead, please notify the sender and delete the e-mail and any attachments. Thank you.

From:	Bob Cassity		
To:	<u>Alejandro Moreno; Adam M Apton; Raphel, Brian; George F. Ogilvie III; Rory Kay</u>		
Cc:	Jelena Jovanovic; Kotler, David; Hess, Joshua; John Stigi; Steve Peek; Gordon, Richard; Moore, Ryan; Amanda K. Baker		
Subject:	RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order		
Date:	Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:26:12 AM		
Attachments:	image001.png image002.png image003.png image004.png image005.png image006.png		

Correct. Thanks. Please also copy Amanda and me on all emails on this matter.





### 🔁 in У 🖽

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This message is confidential and may be privileged. If you believe that this email has been sent to you in error, please reply to the sender that you received the message in error; then please delete this e-mail.

From: Alejandro Moreno <AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:17 AM

To: Adam M Apton <aapton@zlk.com>; Raphel, Brian <Brian.Raphel@dechert.com>; George F. Ogilvie III <gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>; Rory Kay <rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com>Cc: Jelena Jovanovic <jjovanovic@mcdonaldcarano.com>; Kotler, David<david.kotler@dechert.com>; Hess, Joshua <Joshua.Hess@dechert.com>; John Stigi<JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>; Steve Peek <SPeek@hollandhart.com>; Gordon, Richard<rgordon@swlaw.com>; Moore, Ryan <Ryan.Moore@dechert.com>; Bob Cassity<BCassity@hollandhart.com>; Amanda K. Baker <AKBaker@hollandhart.com>Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

### **External Email**

Hi Adam:

I conferred with Bob before we sent you our edits. He is fine with both orders as long as they reflect the edits we sent you.

Best,

#### Alejandro (Alex) Moreno

+1 619-338-6664 | direct +1 619-721-8718 | cell AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com | Bio

### **SheppardMullin**

501 West Broadway, 19th Floor San Diego, CA 92101-3598 +1 619-338-6500 | main www.sheppardmullin.com | LinkedIn | Twitter

From: Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>
Sent: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:16 AM
To: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian
<<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F. Ogilvie III <<u>gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Rory Kay
<<u>rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>
Cc: Jelena Jovanovic <<u>jjovanovic@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Kotler, David
<<u>david.kotler@dechert.com</u>>; Hess, Joshua <<u>Joshua.Hess@dechert.com</u>>; John Stigi
<JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>; Steve Peek <<u>SPeek@hollandhart.com</u>>; Gordon, Richard
<rgordon@swlaw.com>; Moore, Ryan <<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>; 'Bob Cassity'
<<u>BCassity@hollandhart.com</u>>; Amanda K. Baker <<u>AKBaker@hollandhart.com</u>>
Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Amanda or Bob, If Steve is still on vacation, would you please confirm we have authority to file the orders as agreed below?

From: Adam M Apton
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 8:12 PM
To: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian
<<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F. Ogilvie III <<u>gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Rory Kay
<<u>rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>
Cc: Jelena Jovanovic <<u>jjovanovic@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Kotler, David
<<u>david.kotler@dechert.com</u>>; Hess, Joshua <<u>Joshua.Hess@dechert.com</u>>; John Stigi

<<u>JStigi@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Steve Peek <<u>SPeek@hollandhart.com</u>>; Gordon, Richard

<<u>rgordon@swlaw.com</u>>; Moore, Ryan <<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>

Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Bob or Steve, Would you please provide your consent to file the orders referred to below? Thank you.

From: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 5:20 PM
To: Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian <<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F.
Ogilvie III <<u>gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Rory Kay <<u>rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>

Cc: Kotler, David <<u>david.kotler@dechert.com</u>>; Hess, Joshua <<u>Joshua.Hess@dechert.com</u>>; John Stigi <<u>JStigi@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Steve Peek <<u>SPeek@hollandhart.com</u>>; Gordon, Richard <<u>rgordon@swlaw.com</u>>; Moore, Ryan <<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>> Subject: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Fine by me on the Director Defendants' orders.

Best,

Alejandro (Alex) Moreno +1 619-338-6664 | direct +1 619-721-8718 | cell AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com | Bio

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Thanks, so to be clear, we have agreements on every order except defendants' motion in limine to exclude evidence and testimony related to irrelevant or undisclosed measures of damages. These orders are attached for reference here. Do we have defense counsel's permission to file? Rick, please respond again now that we have the entire set of 'consents'. Thanks.

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Best,

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Brian, Here are the proposed orders for the rest of the motions. Please let us know if you have comments/edits or if defendants' consent to the orders as written. -Adam

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Subject: [External]MIL Proposed Order

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Attached is a proposed order granting Defendants' motion in limine to exclude evidence and testimony

related to irrelevant or undisclosed measures of damages. Please let us know if you any comments or if we can have your authorization to file jointly. Thank you.

Brian Raphel Dechert LLP +1 212 641 5692 Direct +1 201 615 3550 Mobile brian.raphel@dechert.com dechert.com

This e-mail is from Dechert LLP, a law firm, and may contain information that is confidential or privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, do not read, copy or distribute the e-mail or any attachments. Instead, please notify the sender and delete the e-mail and any attachments. Thank you.

Adam M. Apton Levi & Korsinsky, LLP

------ Original message ------From: Alejandro Moreno <AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com> Date: 7/30/21 5:20 PM (GMT-05:00) To: Adam M Apton <aapton@zlk.com>, "Raphel, Brian" <Brian.Raphel@dechert.com>, "George F. Ogilvie III" <gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>, Rory Kay <rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com> Cc: "Kotler, David" <david.kotler@dechert.com>, "Hess, Joshua" <Joshua.Hess@dechert.com>, John Stigi <JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>, Steve Peek <SPeek@hollandhart.com>, "Gordon, Richard" <rgordon@swlaw.com>, "Moore, Ryan" <Ryan.Moore@dechert.com> Subject: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

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Subject: [External]MIL Proposed Order

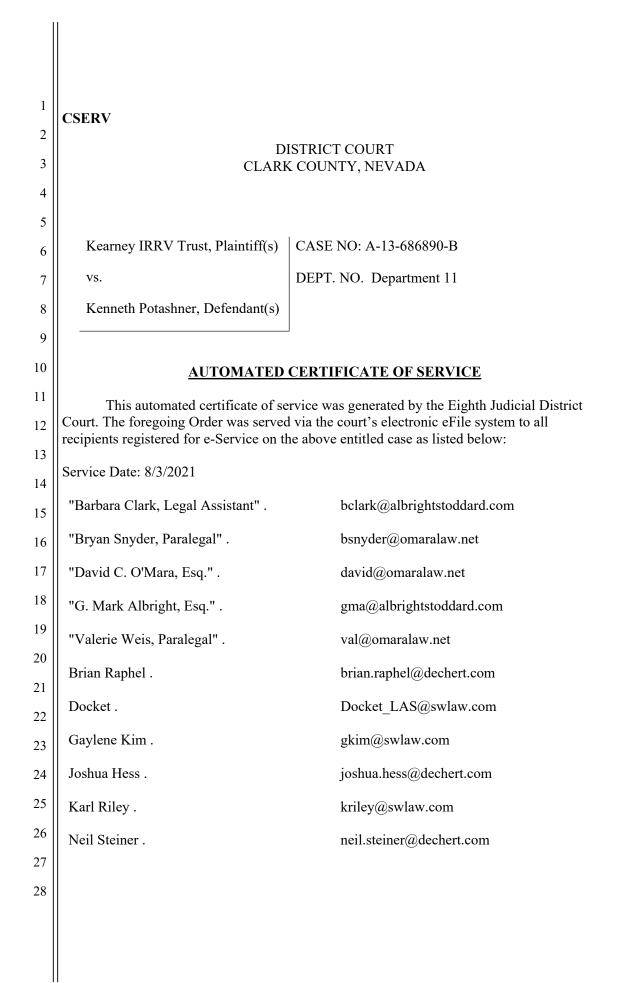
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#### Brian Raphel Dechert LLP

+1 212 641 5692 Direct +1 201 615 3550 Mobile brian.raphel@dechert.com dechert.com

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1 2	Richard C. Gordon .	rgordon@swlaw.com
3	Robert Cassity .	bcassity@hollandhart.com
4	Steve Peek .	speek@hollandhart.com
5	Traci Bixenmann .	traci@johnaldrichlawfirm.com
6	Valerie Larsen .	vllarsen@hollandhart.com
7	Sonja Dugan	sdugan@swlaw.com
8	Stephanie Morrill	scmorrill@hollandhart.com
9	CaraMia Gerard	cgerard@mcdonaldcarano.com
10 11	George Ogilvie	gogilvie@mcdonaldcarano.com
12	Amanda Yen	ayen@mcdonaldcarano.com
13	Jelena Jovanovic	jjovanovic@mcdonaldcarano.com
14	Lara Taylor	ljtaylor@swlaw.com
15	David Knotts	dknotts@rgrdlaw.com
16	Randall Baron	randyb@rgrdlaw.com
17	Jaime McDade	jaimem@rgrdlaw.com
18 19	Lyndsey Luxford	lluxford@swlaw.com
20	Josh Fruchter	jfruchter@wohlfruchter.com
21	Brad Austin	baustin@swlaw.com
22	John Stigi III	JStigi@sheppardmullin.com
23	Jonathan Stein	jstein@saxenawhite.com
24	Karen Surowiec	ksurowiec@mcdonaldcarano.com
25	Alejandro Moreno	AMoreno@sheppardmulllin.com
26	Phyllis Chavez	pchavez@sheppardmullin.com
27 28	,	1
20		

1 2	Rory Kay	rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com
3	Adam Apton	aapton@zlk.com
4	Amanda Baker	akbaker@hollandhart.com
5	Kristina Cole	krcole@hollandhart.com
6	Esther Lee	elee@rgrdlaw.com
7	Elizabeth Tripodi	etripodi@zlk.com
8	Nicole Delgado	nicole.delgado@dechert.com
9	Ryan Moore	ryan.moore@dechert.com
10 11	Adam Warden	awarden@saxenawhite.com
12	Randall Baron	RandyB@rgrdlaw.com
13	Maxwell Huffman	mhuffman@rgrdlaw.com
14	Jane Susskind	jsusskind@mcdonaldcarano.com
15	Isis Crosby	icrosby@albrightstoddard.com
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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	ORDRGeorge F. Ogilvie III, Esq. (NSBN 3552)Amanda C. Yen, Esq. (NSBN 9726)Rory T. Kay, Esq. (NSBN 12416)McDONALD CARANO LLP2300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 1200Las Vegas, Nevada 89102T: (702) 873-4100F: (702) 873-9966gogilvie@mcdonaldcarano.comayen@mcdonaldcarano.comrkay@mcdonaldcarano.comAdam M. Apton, Esq. (admitted pro hac vice)LEVI & KORSINSKY, LLP55 Broadway, 10th FloorNew York, New York 10006T: (212) 363-7500		
10 11	F: (212) 363-7171 <u>aapton@zlk.com</u> <i>Attorneys for Plaintiff PAMTP LLC</i>		
12	DISTRICT COURT		
13	CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA		
<ol> <li>14</li> <li>15</li> <li>16</li> <li>17</li> <li>18</li> </ol>	IN RE PARAMETRIC SOUND CORPORATION SHAREHOLDERS' LITIGATION CORDERS' LITIGATION CORDER DENSING DEFENDANTS' MOTION IN LIMINE TO EXCLUDE PLAINTIFF'S DAMAGES		
19 20	This Document Relates To: ALL ACTIONS.		
21			
22	On June 11, 2021, Defendants moved to exclude Plaintiff's evidence of damages (the		
23	"Motion"). The Court conducted an in-chambers hearing on Defendants' Motion on July 19, 2021		
24	Having reviewed the record, the briefs in support and opposition, and being fully informed, the		
25	Court <b>DENIES</b> the Motion and makes the following findings and conclusions of law:		
26	BACKGROUND		
27	1. On June 11, 2021, Defendants filed the Motion seeking an order excluding		
28	Plaintiff's evidence of damages based upon Plaintiff's failure to comply with the requirements of		



NRCP 16.1, including by providing a computation of the various categories of damages requested 2 by Plaintiff.

2. On July 1, 2021, Plaintiff opposed Defendants' motion arguing that Plaintiff disclosed its damages on numerous occasions during discovery by, among other things, providing brokerage statements specifying the number of Parametric Sound Corporation shares held at the time of the merger and exchanging expert reports detailing the methodology and calculations of the per share damages being alleged.

3. On July 14, 2021, Defendants replied in further support of their motion arguing that Plaintiff's disclosures to date were insufficient because they failed to provide a computation of the alleged damages, including the various categories of damages alleged in the Complaint.

> 4. Being fully briefed, the Motion is ripe for decision.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The purpose of NRCP 16.1 is "to place all parties on an even playing field and to prevent trial by ambush or unfair surprise." Sanders v. Sears-Page, 354 P.3d 201, 212, 2015 Nev. App. LEXIS 8, \*31 (Ct. App., July 16, 2015) (citing FCH1, Ltd. Liab. Co. v. Rodriguez, 130 Nev. 425, 434, 335 P.3d 183, 190 (2014)).

2. Plaintiff complied with NRCP 16.1 given the disclosures it made during the course of fact and expert discovery. Plaintiff's damages are based on the number of shares held at the time of the merger and the per share damages are a calculable number. While a statement of damages would have been helpful from a procedural standpoint, the information remains the same as before the court approved the class settlement.

#### ORDER

22 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendants' Motion 23 is **DENIED**. 24 Dated this 3rd day of August, 2021 , 2021. 25 DATED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_ 26 27 DISTRICT COURT 28 C19 E97 B623 88A6 Elizabeth Gonzalez District Court Judge 2

2300 WEST SAHARA AVENUE, SUITE 1200 • LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89102 PHONE 702.873.4100 • FAX 702.873.9966 McDONALD (M) CARANO

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Submitted by:
McDONALD CARANO LLP
MCDONALD CARANO LLF
By: <u>/s/ Rory T. Kay</u> George F. Ogilvie III (NV Bar #3552) Amanda C. Yen (NV Bar #9726) Rory T. Kay (NV Bar #12416)
2300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 1200 Las Vegas, NV 89102
LEVI & KORSINSKY, LLP Adam M. Apton, Esq. (admitted <i>pro</i> <i>hac vice</i> )
55 Broadway, 10th Floor New York, New York 10006
T: (212) 363-7500
F: (212) 363-7171 aapton@zlk.com
<b>^</b>
Attorneys for PAMPT LLC

Approved as to form and content:

#### **SNELL & WILMER LLP**

#### /s/ Richard C. Gordon

By: Richard C. Gordon, Esq. 3883 Howard Hughes Pkwy #1100, Las Vegas, NV 89169

DECHERT LLP Brian Raphael, Esq. David Kotler, Esq. 1900 K Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20006-1110

Attorneys for Defendant VTB Holdings, Inc. and Specially Appearing Dated this 3rd day of August, 2021 SG VTB Holdings, LLC, Kenneth Fox, and Juerg in S HOLLAI

#### /s/ Robert Cassity

### <sup>B</sup>**XFP3. FACEACED 6 E 15 B D B** D Elizabeth Gonzalez District@ourEstudge

9555 Hillwood Drive, 2nd Floor, Las Vegas, NV 89134

#### SHEPPARD MULLIN

/s/ Alejandra Moreno

By:

John P. Stigi III, Esq. Alejandra Moreno, Esq. 1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1600 Los Angeles, CA 90067

Attorneys for Defendants Kenneth Potashner, Elwood G. Norris, Seth Putterman, Robert Kaplan, and Andrew Wolfe

Adam M. Apton Levi & Korsinsky, LLP

------ Original message ------From: "Gordon, Richard" <rgordon@swlaw.com> Date: 7/30/21 5:42 PM (GMT-05:00) To: Adam M Apton <aapton@zlk.com>, Alejandro Moreno <AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com>, "Raphel, Brian" <Brian.Raphel@dechert.com>, "George F. Ogilvie III" <gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>, Rory Kay <rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com> Cc: "Kotler, David" <david.kotler@dechert.com>, "Hess, Joshua" <Joshua.Hess@dechert.com>, John Stigi <JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>, Steve Peek <SPeek@hollandhart.com>, "Moore, Ryan" <Ryan.Moore@dechert.com> Subject: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Hi Adam,

You have authorization to e-sign for me on the draft orders re the NDD motions (with the exception of the MIL to exclude evidence and testimony related to irrelevant or undisclosed measures of damages, for which we will have to submit competing orders). Please add a signature block that states "Approval as to form and content" on the draft orders. You can then e-sign for me and submit. Thanks very much,

Rick

Richard C. Gordon, Esq. Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. 3883 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 1100 Las Vegas, NV 89169 (702) 784-5210 (direct) (702) 784-5220 (main) (702) 784-5252 (facsimile) rgordon@swlaw.com

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# [EXTERNAL] aapton@zlk.com

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<<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>

Subject: [External]MIL Proposed Order

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#### Brian Raphel Dechert LLP +1 212 641 5692 Direct +1 201 615 3550 Mobile brian.raphel@dechert.com

dechert.com

This e-mail is from Dechert LLP, a law firm, and may contain information that is confidential or privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, do not read, copy or distribute the e-mail or any attachments. Instead, please notify the sender and delete the e-mail and any attachments. Thank you.

From:	Bob Cassity		
To:	<u>Alejandro Moreno; Adam M Apton; Raphel, Brian; George F. Ogilvie III; Rory Kay</u>		
Cc:	Jelena Jovanovic; Kotler, David; Hess, Joshua; John Stigi; Steve Peek; Gordon, Richard; Moore, Ryan; Amanda K. Baker		
Subject:	RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order		
Date:	Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:26:12 AM		
Attachments:	image001.png image002.png image003.png image004.png image005.png image006.png		

Correct. Thanks. Please also copy Amanda and me on all emails on this matter.





### 🔁 in У 🖽

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This message is confidential and may be privileged. If you believe that this email has been sent to you in error, please reply to the sender that you received the message in error; then please delete this e-mail.

From: Alejandro Moreno <AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:17 AM

To: Adam M Apton <aapton@zlk.com>; Raphel, Brian <Brian.Raphel@dechert.com>; George F. Ogilvie III <gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>; Rory Kay <rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com>Cc: Jelena Jovanovic <jjovanovic@mcdonaldcarano.com>; Kotler, David <david.kotler@dechert.com>; Hess, Joshua <Joshua.Hess@dechert.com>; John Stigi <JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>; Steve Peek <SPeek@hollandhart.com>; Gordon, Richard <rgordon@swlaw.com>; Moore, Ryan <Ryan.Moore@dechert.com>; Bob Cassity <BCassity@hollandhart.com>; Amanda K. Baker <AKBaker@hollandhart.com>Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

### **External Email**

Hi Adam:

I conferred with Bob before we sent you our edits. He is fine with both orders as long as they reflect the edits we sent you.

Best,

#### Alejandro (Alex) Moreno

+1 619-338-6664 | direct +1 619-721-8718 | cell AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com | Bio

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<<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F. Ogilvie III <<u>gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Rory Kay
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Cc: Jelena Jovanovic <<u>jjovanovic@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Kotler, David
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<rgordon@swlaw.com>; Moore, Ryan <<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>; 'Bob Cassity'
<<u>BCassity@hollandhart.com</u>>; Amanda K. Baker <<u>AKBaker@hollandhart.com</u>>
Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Amanda or Bob, If Steve is still on vacation, would you please confirm we have authority to file the orders as agreed below?

From: Adam M Apton
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 8:12 PM
To: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian
<<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F. Ogilvie III <<u>gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Rory Kay
<<u>rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>
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<<u>rgordon@swlaw.com</u>>; Moore, Ryan <<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>

Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Bob or Steve, Would you please provide your consent to file the orders referred to below? Thank you.

From: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 5:20 PM
To: Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian <<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F.
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Fine by me on the Director Defendants' orders.

Best,

Alejandro (Alex) Moreno +1 619-338-6664 | direct +1 619-721-8718 | cell AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com | Bio

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Best,

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<<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>

Brian, Here are the proposed orders for the rest of the motions. Please let us know if you have comments/edits or if defendants' consent to the orders as written. -Adam

From: Raphel, Brian < <a href="mailto:Brian.Raphel@dechert.com">Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</a>>

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Brian Raphel Dechert LLP +1 212 641 5692 Direct +1 201 615 3550 Mobile brian.raphel@dechert.com dechert.com

This e-mail is from Dechert LLP, a law firm, and may contain information that is confidential or privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, do not read, copy or distribute the e-mail or any attachments. Instead, please notify the sender and delete the e-mail and any attachments. Thank you.

Adam M. Apton Levi & Korsinsky, LLP

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Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 3:20 PM

**To:** Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>; George F. Ogilvie III <<u>gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Rory Kay <<u>rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>

**Cc:** Kotler, David <<u>david.kotler@dechert.com</u>>; Hess, Joshua <<u>Joshua.Hess@dechert.com</u>>; John Stigi <<u>JStigi@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Steve Peek <<u>SPeek@hollandhart.com</u>>; Gordon, Richard <<u>rgordon@swlaw.com</u>>; Moore, Ryan <<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>

Subject: [External]MIL Proposed Order

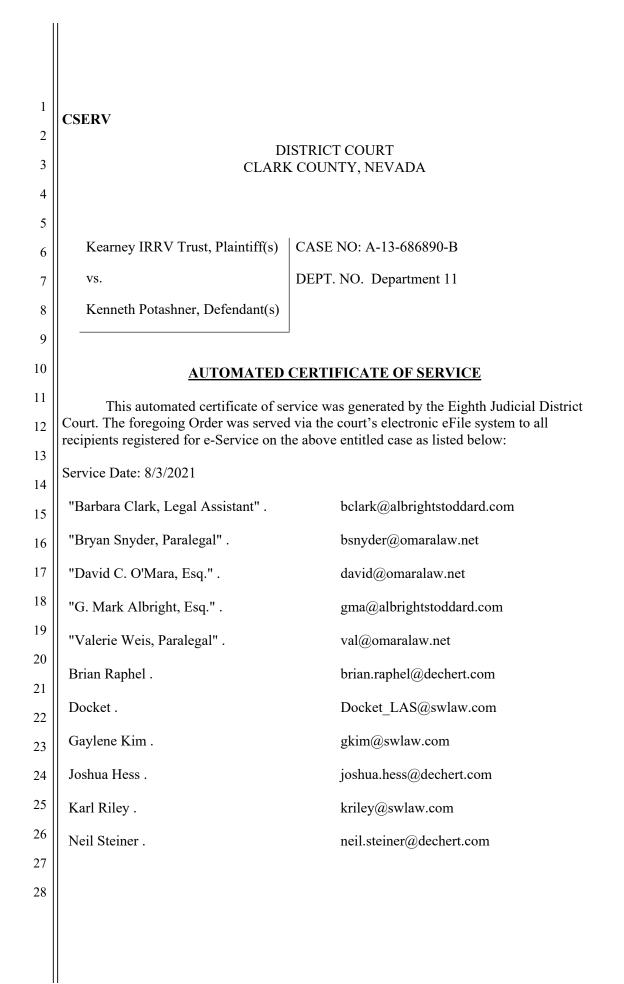
Counsel,

Attached is a proposed order granting Defendants' motion in limine to exclude evidence and testimony related to irrelevant or undisclosed measures of damages. Please let us know if you any comments or if we can have your authorization to file jointly. Thank you.

#### Brian Raphel Dechert LLP

+1 212 641 5692 Direct +1 201 615 3550 Mobile brian.raphel@dechert.com dechert.com

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1 2	ORDR George F. Ogilvie III, Esq. (NSBN 3552) Amanda C. Yen, Esq. (NSBN 9726)		
3	Rory T. Kay, Esq. (NSBN 12416) McDONALD CARANO LLP 2300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 1200		
4	Las Vegas, Nevada 89102 T: (702) 873-4100		
5	F: (702) 873-9966 gogilvie@mcdonaldcarano.com		
6	ayen@mcdonaldcarano.com rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com		
7			
8	Adam M. Apton, Esq. (admitted <i>pro hac vice</i> ) LEVI & KORSINSKY, LLP 55 Broadway, 10th Floor		
9	New York, New York 10006 T: (212) 363-7500		
10	F: (212) 363-7500 F: (212) 363-7171 aapton@zlk.com		
11			
12	DISTRICT COURT		
13			
14		Case No.: A-13-686890-B	
15	IN RE PARAMETRIC SOUND CORPORATION SHAREHOLDERS'	Dept. No.: XI	
16	LITIGATION	ORDER DENYING THE DIRECTOR	
17 18		DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT	
19	This Document Relates To:		
20	ALL ACTIONS.		
21			
22	On June 11, 2021, Defendants Kenneth	F. Potashner, Elwood G. Norris, Seth Putterman,	
23	Robert M. Kaplan, and Andrew Wolfe ("Defendants") moved for summary judgment (the		
24	"Motion"). The Court conducted an in-chambers hearing on Defendants' Motion on July 19, 2021		
25	Having reviewed the record, the briefs in support and opposition, and being fully informed, the		
26	Court <b>DENIES</b> the Motion and makes the following findings and conclusions of law:		
27	BACKG	ROUND	
28	1. On June 11, 2021, Defendants	filed the Motion seeking summary judgment	

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dismissal under NRS 78.138(7), which requires Plaintiff to show that Defendants' conduct amounted to intentional misconduct, fraud or a knowing violation of the law. Defendants argued that Plaintiff cannot make the requisite showing under NRS 78.138(7). Defendants also argued that there was insufficient evidence to show that three or more of the Director Defendants were conflicted when they approved the merger between Parametric and VTB Holdings, Inc. ("VTBH").

2. On July 1, 2021, Plaintiff opposed Defendants' motion arguing that evidence obtained in discovery shows that Defendants approved the merger at issue in the lawsuit for self-interested reasons and in spite of the harm it caused to Parametric Sound Corporation's shareholders.

3. On July 14, 2021, Defendants replied in further support of their motion arguing that the evidence relied upon by Plaintiff was insufficient to show intentional misconduct, fraud or a knowing violation of the law.

4. On July 14, 2021, the Court ordered an adverse inference against Potashner that he acted in bad faith when supporting and approving the merger. The Court's adverse inference was based on the evidence proffered during an evidentiary hearing held on June 18 and 25, 2021.

5. Being fully briefed, the Motion is ripe for decision.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Summary judgment is only appropriate when the pleadings and other evidence on 19 20 file demonstrate that no "genuine issue as to any material fact [remains] and that the moving party 21 is entitled to a judgment as a matter of law." NRCP 56; see also Wood v. Safeway, Inc., 121 Nev. 22 724, 729, 121 P.3d 1026, 1029 (2005). A genuine issue of material facts exists when the "evidence is such that a rational trier of fact could return a verdict for the nonmoving party." Id. at 1031. 23 24 When reviewing a motion for summary judgment, the evidence supporting it, and any reasonable 25 inferences draws from it, the court must view it in a light most favorable to the nonmoving part. Id. at 1029. 26

27 2. Genuine issues of material fact exist as to Defendants' conduct. While Defendants
28 claim the evidence does not show intentional misconduct, fraud or a knowing violation of the law,

the Court already adopted an adverse inference of bad faith against Potashner. In addition, the
 Court finds there is a triable issue regarding whether each of the Director Defendants was
 disinterested and independent when each voted to approve the merger, which creates a triable
 issue under NRS 78.138(7).

#### **ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendants' Motion Dated this 3rd day of August, 2021

By:

is **DENIED**.

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DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

Submitted by:

#### McDONALD CARANO LLP

By: <u>/s/ Rory T. Kay</u> George F. Ogilvie III (NV Bar #3552) Amanda C. Yen (NV Bar #9726) Rory T. Kay (NV Bar #12416) 2300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 1200 Las Vegas, NV 89102

LEVI & KORSINSKY, LLP Adam M. Apton, Esq. (admitted *pro hac vice*) 55 Broadway, 10th Floor New York, New York 10006 T: (212) 363-7500 F: (212) 363-7171 aapton@zlk.com

Attorneys for PAMPT LLC

Eythe

#### P2ATAGE 9283 C284 Elizabeth Gonzalez Apistricts Count Indogent:

SNELL & WILMER LLP

/s/ Richard C. Gordon

Richard C. Gordon, Esq. 3883 Howard Hughes Pkwy #1100, Las Vegas, NV 89169

DECHERT LLP Brian Raphael, Esq. David Kotler, Esq. 1900 K Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20006-1110

Attorneys for Defendant VTB Holdings, Inc. and Specially Appearing Defendants Stripes Group, LLC, SG VTB Holdings, LLC, Kenneth Fox, and Juergen Stark

#### HOLLAND & HART LLP

/s/ Robert Cassity

By: J. Stephen Peek, Esq. Robert Cassity, Esq. 9555 Hillwood Drive, 2nd Floor, Las Vegas, NV 89134

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## SHEPPARD MULLIN

#### /s/ Alejandra Moreno

By: John P. Stigi III, Esq. Alejandra Moreno, Esq. 1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1600 Los Angeles, CA 90067

Attorneys for Defendants Kenneth Potashner, Elwood G. Norris, Seth Putterman, Robert Kaplan, and Andrew Wolfe Adam M. Apton Levi & Korsinsky, LLP

------ Original message ------From: "Gordon, Richard" <rgordon@swlaw.com> Date: 7/30/21 5:42 PM (GMT-05:00) To: Adam M Apton <aapton@zlk.com>, Alejandro Moreno <AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com>, "Raphel, Brian" <Brian.Raphel@dechert.com>, "George F. Ogilvie III" <gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>, Rory Kay <rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com> Cc: "Kotler, David" <david.kotler@dechert.com>, "Hess, Joshua" <Joshua.Hess@dechert.com>, John Stigi <JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>, Steve Peek <SPeek@hollandhart.com>, "Moore, Ryan" <Ryan.Moore@dechert.com> Subject: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Hi Adam,

You have authorization to e-sign for me on the draft orders re the NDD motions (with the exception of the MIL to exclude evidence and testimony related to irrelevant or undisclosed measures of damages, for which we will have to submit competing orders). Please add a signature block that states "Approval as to form and content" on the draft orders. You can then e-sign for me and submit. Thanks very much,

Rick

Richard C. Gordon, Esq. Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. 3883 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 1100 Las Vegas, NV 89169 (702) 784-5210 (direct) (702) 784-5220 (main) (702) 784-5252 (facsimile) rgordon@swlaw.com

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From: Adam M Apton <aapton@zlk.com>

Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 11:31 AM

**To:** Alejandro Moreno <AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com>; Raphel, Brian <Brian.Raphel@dechert.com>; George F. Ogilvie III <gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>; Rory Kay <rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com>

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Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

## [EXTERNAL] aapton@zlk.com

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Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 2:15 PM
To: Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian <<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F.
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<rgordon@swlaw.com>; Moore, Ryan <<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>
Subject: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

## Adam:

Thanks for circulating. Here are small suggested edits to the FFCL directed at the DD's motions.

## Best,

#### Alejandro (Alex) Moreno

+1 619-338-6664 | direct +1 619-721-8718 | cell <u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com | Bio</u>

# **SheppardMullin**

501 West Broadway, 19th Floor San Diego, CA 92101-3598 +1 619-338-6500 | main www.sheppardmullin.com | LinkedIn | Twitter From: Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>

Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 12:23 PM

**To:** Raphel, Brian <<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F. Ogilvie III

<gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>; Rory Kay <<u>rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>

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<<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>

Subject: RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Brian, Here are the proposed orders for the rest of the motions. Please let us know if you have comments/edits or if defendants' consent to the orders as written. -Adam

From: Raphel, Brian < Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</pre>

Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 3:20 PM

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<<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>

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#### Brian Raphel Dechert LLP +1 212 641 5692 Direct +1 201 615 3550 Mobile brian.raphel@dechert.com

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From:	Bob Cassity
To:	<u>Alejandro Moreno; Adam M Apton; Raphel, Brian; George F. Ogilvie III; Rory Kay</u>
Cc:	Jelena Jovanovic; Kotler, David; Hess, Joshua; John Stigi; Steve Peek; Gordon, Richard; Moore, Ryan; Amanda K, Baker
Subject:	RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order
Date:	Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:26:12 AM
Attachments:	image001.png image002.png image003.png image004.png image005.png image006.png

Correct. Thanks. Please also copy Amanda and me on all emails on this matter.





## 🔁 in У 🖽

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From: Alejandro Moreno <AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:17 AM

To: Adam M Apton <aapton@zlk.com>; Raphel, Brian <Brian.Raphel@dechert.com>; George F. Ogilvie III <gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>; Rory Kay <rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com>Cc: Jelena Jovanovic <jjovanovic@mcdonaldcarano.com>; Kotler, David<david.kotler@dechert.com>; Hess, Joshua <Joshua.Hess@dechert.com>; John Stigi<JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>; Steve Peek <SPeek@hollandhart.com>; Gordon, Richard<rgordon@swlaw.com>; Moore, Ryan <Ryan.Moore@dechert.com>; Bob Cassity<BCassity@hollandhart.com>; Amanda K. Baker <AKBaker@hollandhart.com>Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

#### **External Email**

Hi Adam:

I conferred with Bob before we sent you our edits. He is fine with both orders as long as they reflect the edits we sent you.

Best,

#### Alejandro (Alex) Moreno

+1 619-338-6664 | direct +1 619-721-8718 | cell AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com | Bio

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Sent: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:16 AM
To: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian
<<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F. Ogilvie III <<u>gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Rory Kay
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<<u>BCassity@hollandhart.com</u>>; Amanda K. Baker <<u>AKBaker@hollandhart.com</u>>
Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Amanda or Bob, If Steve is still on vacation, would you please confirm we have authority to file the orders as agreed below?

From: Adam M Apton
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 8:12 PM
To: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian
<<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F. Ogilvie III <<u>gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Rory Kay
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<<u>rgordon@swlaw.com</u>>; Moore, Ryan <<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>

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Bob or Steve, Would you please provide your consent to file the orders referred to below? Thank you.

From: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 5:20 PM
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Fine by me on the Director Defendants' orders.

Best,

Alejandro (Alex) Moreno +1 619-338-6664 | direct +1 619-721-8718 | cell AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com | Bio

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Adam:

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related to irrelevant or undisclosed measures of damages. Please let us know if you any comments or if we can have your authorization to file jointly. Thank you.

Brian Raphel Dechert LLP +1 212 641 5692 Direct +1 201 615 3550 Mobile brian.raphel@dechert.com dechert.com

This e-mail is from Dechert LLP, a law firm, and may contain information that is confidential or privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, do not read, copy or distribute the e-mail or any attachments. Instead, please notify the sender and delete the e-mail and any attachments. Thank you.

Adam M. Apton Levi & Korsinsky, LLP

------ Original message ------From: Alejandro Moreno <AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com> Date: 7/30/21 5:20 PM (GMT-05:00) To: Adam M Apton <aapton@zlk.com>, "Raphel, Brian" <Brian.Raphel@dechert.com>, "George F. Ogilvie III" <gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>, Rory Kay <rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com> Cc: "Kotler, David" <david.kotler@dechert.com>, "Hess, Joshua" <Joshua.Hess@dechert.com>, John Stigi <JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>, Steve Peek <SPeek@hollandhart.com>, "Gordon, Richard" <rgordon@swlaw.com>, "Moore, Ryan" <Ryan.Moore@dechert.com> Subject: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Fine by me on the Director Defendants' orders.

Best,

#### Alejandro (Alex) Moreno +1 619-338-6664 | direct +1 619-721-8718 | cell AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com | Bio

# **SheppardMullin**

501 West Broadway, 19th Floor San Diego, CA 92101-3598 +1 619-338-6500 | main www.sheppardmullin.com | LinkedIn | Twitter

From: Adam M Apton <aapton@zlk.com>

Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 11:31 AM

**To:** Alejandro Moreno <AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com>; Raphel, Brian

<Brian.Raphel@dechert.com>; George F. Ogilvie III <gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>; Rory Kay <rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com>

**Cc:** Kotler, David <david.kotler@dechert.com>; Hess, Joshua <Joshua.Hess@dechert.com>; John Stigi <JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>; Steve Peek <SPeek@hollandhart.com>; Gordon, Richard <rgordon@swlaw.com>; Moore, Ryan <Ryan.Moore@dechert.com>

Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

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Subject: RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

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Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 3:20 PM

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Subject: [External]MIL Proposed Order

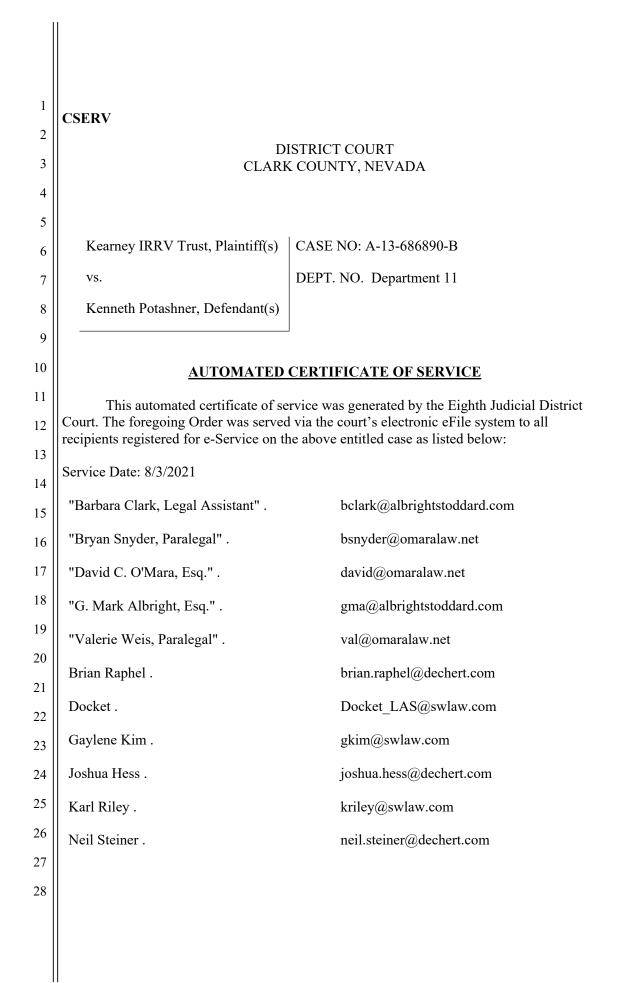
Counsel,

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#### Brian Raphel Dechert LLP

+1 212 641 5692 Direct +1 201 615 3550 Mobile brian.raphel@dechert.com dechert.com

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4	Steve Peek .	speek@hollandhart.com
5	Traci Bixenmann .	traci@johnaldrichlawfirm.com
6	Valerie Larsen .	vllarsen@hollandhart.com
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9	CaraMia Gerard	cgerard@mcdonaldcarano.com
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13	Jelena Jovanovic	jjovanovic@mcdonaldcarano.com
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16	Randall Baron	randyb@rgrdlaw.com
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25	Alejandro Moreno	AMoreno@sheppardmulllin.com
26	Phyllis Chavez	pchavez@sheppardmullin.com
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7	Elizabeth Tripodi	etripodi@zlk.com
8	Nicole Delgado	nicole.delgado@dechert.com
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10 11	Adam Warden	awarden@saxenawhite.com
11	Randall Baron	RandyB@rgrdlaw.com
13	Maxwell Huffman	mhuffman@rgrdlaw.com
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1	ELECTRONICALLY SE	
	8/3/2021 12:50 PM	Electronically Filed
		08/03/2021 12:50 PM
		CLERK OF THE COURT
1	ORDR	
2	George F. Ogilvie III, Esq. (NSBN 3552)	
2	Amanda C. Yen, Esq. (NSBN 9726) Rory T. Kay, Esq. (NSBN 12416)	
3	McDONALD CÁRANO LLP 2300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 1200	
4	Las Vegas, Nevada 89102	
5	T: (702) 873-4100 F: (702) 873-9966	
-	gogilvie@mcdonaldcarano.com	
6	ayen@mcdonaldcarano.com rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com	
7		
8	Adam M. Apton, Esq. (admitted <i>pro hac vice</i> ) LEVI & KORSINSKY, LLP	
9	55 Broadway, 10th Floor New York, New York 10006	
10	T: (212) 363-7500 F: (212) 363-7171	
11	aapton@zlk.com	
12	Attorneys for Plaintiff PAMTP LLC	
13	DISTRIC	I COURT
14	CLARK COUN	NTY, NEVADA
		Case No.: A-13-686890-B
15 16	IN RE PARAMETRIC SOUND CORPORATION SHAREHOLDERS' LITIGATION	Dept. No.: XI
17	LINGATION	ORDER DENYING DEFENDANTS' MOTION IN LIMINE TO EXCLUDE ALL
18		REFERENCE, EVIDENCE, AND TESTIMONY REGARDING POST-
19		MERGER CONDUCT
20	This Document Relates To:	
21	ALL ACTIONS.	
22		
23		exclude all reference, evidence, and testimony
24	regarding post-merger conduct (the "Motion").	The Court conducted an in-chambers hearing on
25	Defendants' Motion on July 19, 2021. Having	reviewed the record, the briefs in support and
26	opposition, and being fully informed, the Court	<b>DENIES</b> the Motion and makes the following
27	findings and conclusions of law:	
28		

2300 WEST SAHARA AVENUE, SUITE 1200 + LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89102 PHONE 702.873.4100 + FAX 702.873.9966

MCDONALD CARANO

McDONALD CARANO 2300 WEST SAHARA AVENUE, SUITE 1200 • LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89102 PHONE 702.873.4100 • FAX 702.873.9966 1

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#### BACKGROUND

1. On June 11, 2021, Defendants filed the Motion seeking an order excluding all reference, evidence, and testimony regarding post-merger conduct, which they defined as evidence dated after February 1, 2014. Defendants argued that Plaintiff's alleged equity expropriation occurred on January 15, 2014 and, therefore, anything occurring afterwards was unrelated to the claims at bar.

2. On July 1, 2021, Plaintiff opposed Defendants' motion arguing that it had obtained materials during discovery that was relevant and post-dated February 1, 2014. These materials, Plaintiff argued, included documents discussing Turtle Beach Corporation's financial and operational status after the merger and demonstrated that the company was not as valuable as represented prior to the merger.

3. On July 14, 2021, Defendants replied in further support of their motion by reiterating the arguments they made in their opening motion, including that documents dated after the merger would not be relevant to certain of the liability issues at trial.

4. Being fully briefed, the Motion is ripe for decision.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

17 1. Relevant evidence is generally admissible, and evidence is relevant if it has "any 18 tendency to make the existence of any fact that is of consequence to the determination of the action 19 more or less probable than it would be without the evidence." NRS 48.025, 48.015. Relevant 20 evidence may only be excluded if it is cumulative, or if the danger of unfair prejudice substantially 21 outweighs the probative value. NRS 48.035(1), (2). Indeed, where evidence has significant 22 probative value, it can be admissible even if prejudicial. *See id*.

23 2. Evidence concerning post-merger conduct could be relevant to Defendant's
24 motivation and conduct prior to and during the merger. Consequently, while post-merger
25 documents themselves may have been created after the merger, they still may contain information
26 that is probative as to Defendants' actions prior to and during the merger.

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1	OI	RDER
2		DGED, AND DECREED that Defendants' Motion
3	is <b>DENIED</b> .	Ďated this 3rd day of August, 2021
4	DATED this day of,	2021. Eyttygef
5		0-t
6		DISTRICT COLIRT, ILIDGE
7		7DB 4CF 2E3B 6A50 Elizabeth Gonzalez
8	Submitted by:	Appistrict Courtald dgent:
8 9	McDONALD CARANO LLP	SNELL & WILMER LLP
9 10		/s/ Richard C. Gordon
	By: <u>/s/ Rory T. Kay</u> George F. Ogilvie III (NV Bar #3552)	By: Richard C. Gordon, Esq.
11	Amanda C. Yen (NV Bar #9726)	3883 Howard Hughes Pkwy #1100,
12	Rory T. Kay (NV Bar #12416) 2300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 1200	Las Vegas, NV 89169
13	Las Vegas, NV 89102	DECHERT LLP
14		Brian Raphael, Esq.
15	LEVI & KORSINSKY, LLP Adam M. Apton, Esq. (admitted <i>pro</i>	David Kotler, Esq. 1900 K Street, NW
15	hac vice)	Washington, D.C. 20006-1110
16	55 Broadway, 10th Floor New York, New York 10006	Attorneys for Defendant VTB Holdings,
17	T: (212) 363-7500	Inc. and Specially Appearing
18	F: (212) 363-7171	Defendants Stripes Group, LLC,
	aapton@zlk.com	SG VTB Holdings, LLC, Kenneth Fox, and Juergen Stark
19 20	Attorneys for PAMPT LLC	
20		HOLLAND & HART LLP
21		/s/ Robert Cassity By:
22		J. Stephen Peek, Esq.
23		Robert Cassity, Esq.
24		9555 Hillwood Drive, 2nd Floor, Las Vegas, NV 89134
25		
26		[Continued on next page]
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 McDONALD
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# 

#### SHEPPARD MULLIN

#### /s/ Alejandra Moreno

By:

John P. Stigi III, Esq. Alejandra Moreno, Esq. 1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1600 Los Angeles, CA 90067

Attorneys for Defendants Kenneth Potashner, Elwood G. Norris, Seth Putterman, Robert Kaplan, and Andrew Wolfe Adam M. Apton Levi & Korsinsky, LLP

------ Original message ------From: "Gordon, Richard" <rgordon@swlaw.com> Date: 7/30/21 5:42 PM (GMT-05:00) To: Adam M Apton <aapton@zlk.com>, Alejandro Moreno <AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com>, "Raphel, Brian" <Brian.Raphel@dechert.com>, "George F. Ogilvie III" <gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>, Rory Kay <rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com> Cc: "Kotler, David" <david.kotler@dechert.com>, "Hess, Joshua" <Joshua.Hess@dechert.com>, John Stigi <JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>, Steve Peek <SPeek@hollandhart.com>, "Moore, Ryan" <Ryan.Moore@dechert.com> Subject: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Hi Adam,

You have authorization to e-sign for me on the draft orders re the NDD motions (with the exception of the MIL to exclude evidence and testimony related to irrelevant or undisclosed measures of damages, for which we will have to submit competing orders). Please add a signature block that states "Approval as to form and content" on the draft orders. You can then e-sign for me and submit. Thanks very much,

Rick

Richard C. Gordon, Esq. Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. 3883 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 1100 Las Vegas, NV 89169 (702) 784-5210 (direct) (702) 784-5220 (main) (702) 784-5252 (facsimile) rgordon@swlaw.com

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# [EXTERNAL] aapton@zlk.com

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<<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>

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#### Brian Raphel Dechert LLP +1 212 641 5692 Direct +1 201 615 3550 Mobile brian.raphel@dechert.com

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From:	Bob Cassity
To:	<u>Alejandro Moreno; Adam M Apton; Raphel, Brian; George F. Ogilvie III; Rory Kay</u>
Cc:	Jelena Jovanovic; Kotler, David; Hess, Joshua; John Stigi; Steve Peek; Gordon, Richard; Moore, Ryan; Amanda K, Baker
Subject:	RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order
Date:	Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:26:12 AM
Attachments:	image001.png image002.png image003.png image004.png image005.png image006.png

Correct. Thanks. Please also copy Amanda and me on all emails on this matter.





## 🔁 in У 🖽

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From: Alejandro Moreno <AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:17 AM

To: Adam M Apton <aapton@zlk.com>; Raphel, Brian <Brian.Raphel@dechert.com>; George F. Ogilvie III <gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>; Rory Kay <rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com>Cc: Jelena Jovanovic <jjovanovic@mcdonaldcarano.com>; Kotler, David <david.kotler@dechert.com>; Hess, Joshua <Joshua.Hess@dechert.com>; John Stigi <JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>; Steve Peek <SPeek@hollandhart.com>; Gordon, Richard <rgordon@swlaw.com>; Moore, Ryan <Ryan.Moore@dechert.com>; Bob Cassity <BCassity@hollandhart.com>; Amanda K. Baker <AKBaker@hollandhart.com>Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

#### **External Email**

Hi Adam:

I conferred with Bob before we sent you our edits. He is fine with both orders as long as they reflect the edits we sent you.

Best,

#### Alejandro (Alex) Moreno

+1 619-338-6664 | direct +1 619-721-8718 | cell AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com | Bio

#### **SheppardMullin**

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From: Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>
Sent: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:16 AM
To: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian
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<<u>BCassity@hollandhart.com</u>>; Amanda K. Baker <<u>AKBaker@hollandhart.com</u>>
Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Amanda or Bob, If Steve is still on vacation, would you please confirm we have authority to file the orders as agreed below?

From: Adam M Apton
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 8:12 PM
To: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian
<<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F. Ogilvie III <<u>gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Rory Kay
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<<u>rgordon@swlaw.com</u>>; Moore, Ryan <<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>

Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Bob or Steve, Would you please provide your consent to file the orders referred to below? Thank you.

From: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 5:20 PM
To: Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian <<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F.
Ogilvie III <<u>gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Rory Kay <<u>rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>

Cc: Kotler, David <<u>david.kotler@dechert.com</u>>; Hess, Joshua <<u>Joshua.Hess@dechert.com</u>>; John Stigi <<u>JStigi@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Steve Peek <<u>SPeek@hollandhart.com</u>>; Gordon, Richard <<u>rgordon@swlaw.com</u>>; Moore, Ryan <<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>> Subject: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Fine by me on the Director Defendants' orders.

Best,

Alejandro (Alex) Moreno +1 619-338-6664 | direct +1 619-721-8718 | cell AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com | Bio

# **SheppardMullin**

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Adam M. Apton Levi & Korsinsky, LLP

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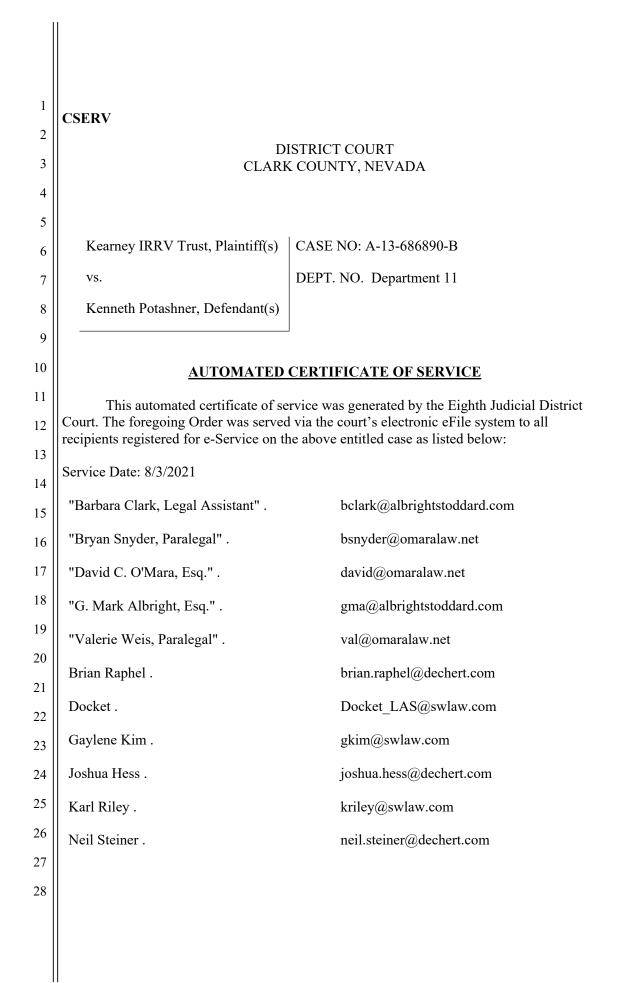
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	8/3/2021 12:51 PM	/I Electronically Filed 08/03/2021 12:51 PM	
		Atun Sum	
		CLERK OF THE COURT	
1	<b>ORDR</b> George F. Ogilvie III, Esq. (NSBN 3552)		
2	Amanda C. Yen, Esq. (NSBN 9726)		
3	Rory T. Kay, Esq. (NSBN 12416) McDONALD CARANO LLP		
4	2300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 1200 Las Vegas, Nevada 89102		
5	T: (702) 873-4100 F: (702) 873-9966		
	gogilvie@mcdonaldcarano.com		
6	ayen@mcdonaldcarano.com rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com		
7	Adam M. Apton, Esq. (admitted <i>pro hac vice</i> )		
8	LEVI & KORSINSKY, LLP 55 Broadway, 10th Floor		
9	New York, New York 10006 T: (212) 363-7500		
10	F: (212) 363-7171		
11	aapton@zlk.com		
12	Attorneys for Plaintiff PAMTP LLC		
13	DISTRICT COURT		
14	CLARK COUN	VTY, NEVADA	
15	IN RE PARAMETRIC SOUND	Case No.: A-13-686890-B	
16	CORPORATION SHAREHOLDERS' LITIGATION	Dept. No.: XI	
17		ORDER DENYING DEFENDANTS' MOTION IN LIMINE TO EXCLUDE THE	
18		OPINIONS, TESTIMONY, AND REPORTS OF J.T. ATKINS	
19	This Document Relates To:		
20	ALL ACTIONS.		
21			
22	On June 11, 2021, Defendants moved to	exclude the opinions, testimony and reports of	
23	Plaintiff's expert, J.T. Atkins (the "Motion"). The Court conducted an in-chambers hearing on		
24	Defendants' Motion on July 19, 2021. Having reviewed the record, the briefs in support and		
25	opposition, and being fully informed, the Court <b>DENIES</b> the Motion and makes the following		
26	findings and conclusions of law:		
27	BACKG	ROUND	
28	1. On June 11, 2021, Defendants fi	led the Motion seeking an order excluding the	

MCDONALD CARANO 2300 WEST SAHARA AVENUE. SUITE 1200 • LAS VECAS, NEVADA 89102 PHONE 702.873.4100 • FAX 702.873.9966 opinions, testimony and reports of Plaintiff's expert, J.T. Atkins, on the grounds that he did not properly measure Plaintiff's equity expropriation damages and otherwise failed to provide reliable expert opinions.

2. On July 1, 2021, Plaintiff opposed Defendants' motion arguing that Mr. Atkins' professional experience qualifies him to provide expert testimony, that his discounted cash flow methodology for calculating damages was reliable, and that, if anything, Defendants' objections to Mr. Atkins' opinions went to credibility.

3. On July 14, 2021, Defendants replied in further support of their motion by reiterating the arguments they made in their opening motion.

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4. Being fully briefed, the Motion is ripe for decision.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. To be admissible at trial, an expert witness (1) "must be qualified in an area of 'scientific, technical or other specialized knowledge,'" (2) that specialized knowledge "must 'assist the trier of fact to understand the evidence or to determine a fact in issue,'" and (3) the expert's testimony "must be limited 'to matters within the scope of [the expert's] knowledge.'" *Hallmark v. Eldridge*, 124 Nev. 492, 498, 189 P.3d 646, 650 (2008) (quoting NRS 50.275)).

Defendants have not demonstrated that Mr. Atkins fails to meet the above criteria.
 The interpretation of the data evaluated by Mr. Atkins goes to its weight and not its admissibility.
 Therefore, Defendants have not established any basis to exclude Mr. Atkins' opinions, testimony
 or reports.

#### <u>ORDER</u>

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendants' Motion is DENIED.

DATED this	_ day of	, 2021.	Dated this 3ro	d day of August, 2	2021

DISTRI

70B BAF FA2A 2CB3 Elizabeth Gonzalez District Court Judge 2300 WEST SAHARA AVENUE, SUITE 1200 • LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89102 PHONE 702.873.4100 • FAX 702.873.9966

MCDONALD CARANO

Submitted by:	Approved as to form and content:
McDONALD CARANO LLP	SNELL & WILMER LLP
By: <u>/s/ Rory T. Kay</u>	/s/ Richard C. GordonBy:
George F. Ogilvie III (NV Bar #3552) Amanda C. Yen (NV Bar #9726) Rory T. Kay (NV Bar #12416) 2300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 1200 Las Vegas, NV 89102 LEVI & KORSINSKY, LLP Adam M. Apton, Esq. (admitted <i>pro</i> <i>hac vice</i> ) 55 Broadway, 10th Floor New York, New York 10006 T: (212) 363-7500 F: (212) 363-7171 aapton@zlk.com <i>Attorneys for PAMPT LLC</i>	Richard C. Gordon, Esq. 3883 Howard Hughes Pkwy #1100, Las Vegas, NV 89169 DECHERT LLP Brian Raphael, Esq. 1900 K Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20006-1110 Attorneys for Defendant VTB Holdings, Inc. and Specially Appearing Defendants Stripes Group, LLC, SG VTB Holdings, LLC, Kenneth Fox, and Juergen Stark HOLLAND & HART LLP /s/ Robert Cassity By: J. Stephen Peek, Esq. Robert Cassity, Esq. 9555 Hillwood Drive, 2nd Floor, Las Vegas, NV 89134 SHEPPARD MULLIN /s/ Alejandra Moreno By: John P. Stigi III, Esq. Alejandra Moreno, Esq. 1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1600 Los Angeles, CA 90067 Attorneys for Defendants Kenneth Potashner, Elwood G. Norris, Seth Putterman, Robert Kaplan, and Andrew Wolfe
3	

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Rick

Richard C. Gordon, Esq. Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. 3883 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 1100 Las Vegas, NV 89169 (702) 784-5210 (direct) (702) 784-5220 (main) (702) 784-5252 (facsimile) rgordon@swlaw.com

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Subject: [External]MIL Proposed Order

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Attached is a proposed order granting Defendants' motion in limine to exclude evidence and testimony related to irrelevant or undisclosed measures of damages. Please let us know if you any comments or if we can have your authorization to file jointly. Thank you.

#### Brian Raphel Dechert LLP +1 212 641 5692 Direct +1 201 615 3550 Mobile brian.raphel@dechert.com

dechert.com

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From:	Bob Cassity	
To:	<u>Alejandro Moreno; Adam M Apton; Raphel, Brian; George F. Ogilvie III; Rory Kay</u>	
Cc:	Jelena Jovanovic; Kotler, David; Hess, Joshua; John Stigi; Steve Peek; Gordon, Richard; Moore, Ryan; Amanda K, Baker	
Subject:	ct: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order	
Date:	Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:26:12 AM	
Attachments:	image001.png image002.png image003.png image004.png image005.png image006.png	

Correct. Thanks. Please also copy Amanda and me on all emails on this matter.





## 🔁 in У 🖽

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This message is confidential and may be privileged. If you believe that this email has been sent to you in error, please reply to the sender that you received the message in error; then please delete this e-mail.

From: Alejandro Moreno <AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:17 AM

To: Adam M Apton <aapton@zlk.com>; Raphel, Brian <Brian.Raphel@dechert.com>; George F. Ogilvie III <gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>; Rory Kay <rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com>Cc: Jelena Jovanovic <jjovanovic@mcdonaldcarano.com>; Kotler, David<david.kotler@dechert.com>; Hess, Joshua <Joshua.Hess@dechert.com>; John Stigi<JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>; Steve Peek <SPeek@hollandhart.com>; Gordon, Richard<rgordon@swlaw.com>; Moore, Ryan <Ryan.Moore@dechert.com>; Bob Cassity<BCassity@hollandhart.com>; Amanda K. Baker <AKBaker@hollandhart.com>Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

#### **External Email**

Hi Adam:

I conferred with Bob before we sent you our edits. He is fine with both orders as long as they reflect the edits we sent you.

Best,

#### Alejandro (Alex) Moreno

+1 619-338-6664 | direct +1 619-721-8718 | cell AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com | Bio

## **SheppardMullin**

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From: Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>
Sent: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:16 AM
To: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian
<<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F. Ogilvie III <<u>gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Rory Kay
<<u>rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>
Cc: Jelena Jovanovic <<u>jjovanovic@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Kotler, David
<<u>david.kotler@dechert.com</u>>; Hess, Joshua <<u>Joshua.Hess@dechert.com</u>>; John Stigi
<JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>; Steve Peek <<u>SPeek@hollandhart.com</u>>; Gordon, Richard
<rgordon@swlaw.com>; Moore, Ryan <<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>; 'Bob Cassity'
<<u>BCassity@hollandhart.com</u>>; Amanda K. Baker <<u>AKBaker@hollandhart.com</u>>
Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Amanda or Bob, If Steve is still on vacation, would you please confirm we have authority to file the orders as agreed below?

From: Adam M Apton
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 8:12 PM
To: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian
<<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F. Ogilvie III <<u>gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Rory Kay
<<u>rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>
Cc: Jelena Jovanovic <<u>jjovanovic@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Kotler, David
<<u>david.kotler@dechert.com</u>>; Hess, Joshua <<u>Joshua.Hess@dechert.com</u>>; John Stigi

<<u>JStigi@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Steve Peek <<u>SPeek@hollandhart.com</u>>; Gordon, Richard

<<u>rgordon@swlaw.com</u>>; Moore, Ryan <<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>

Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Bob or Steve, Would you please provide your consent to file the orders referred to below? Thank you.

From: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 5:20 PM
To: Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian <<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F.
Ogilvie III <<u>gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Rory Kay <<u>rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>

Cc: Kotler, David <<u>david.kotler@dechert.com</u>>; Hess, Joshua <<u>Joshua.Hess@dechert.com</u>>; John Stigi <<u>JStigi@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Steve Peek <<u>SPeek@hollandhart.com</u>>; Gordon, Richard <<u>rgordon@swlaw.com</u>>; Moore, Ryan <<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>> Subject: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Fine by me on the Director Defendants' orders.

Best,

Alejandro (Alex) Moreno +1 619-338-6664 | direct +1 619-721-8718 | cell AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com | Bio

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From: Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 11:31 AM
To: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian
<<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F. Ogilvie III <<u>gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Rory Kay
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From: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>

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Adam:

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From: Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>
Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 12:23 PM
To: Raphel, Brian <<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F. Ogilvie III
<gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>; Rory Kay <<u>rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>
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<<u>SPeek@hollandhart.com</u>>; Gordon, Richard <<u>rgordon@swlaw.com</u>>; Moore, Ryan
<<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>

Brian, Here are the proposed orders for the rest of the motions. Please let us know if you have comments/edits or if defendants' consent to the orders as written. -Adam

From: Raphel, Brian < <a href="mailto:Brian.Raphel@dechert.com">Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</a>>

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Adam M. Apton Levi & Korsinsky, LLP

------ Original message ------From: Alejandro Moreno <AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com> Date: 7/30/21 5:20 PM (GMT-05:00) To: Adam M Apton <aapton@zlk.com>, "Raphel, Brian" <Brian.Raphel@dechert.com>, "George F. Ogilvie III" <gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>, Rory Kay <rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com> Cc: "Kotler, David" <david.kotler@dechert.com>, "Hess, Joshua" <Joshua.Hess@dechert.com>, John Stigi <JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>, Steve Peek <SPeek@hollandhart.com>, "Gordon, Richard" <rgordon@swlaw.com>, "Moore, Ryan" <Ryan.Moore@dechert.com> Subject: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

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Subject: [External]MIL Proposed Order

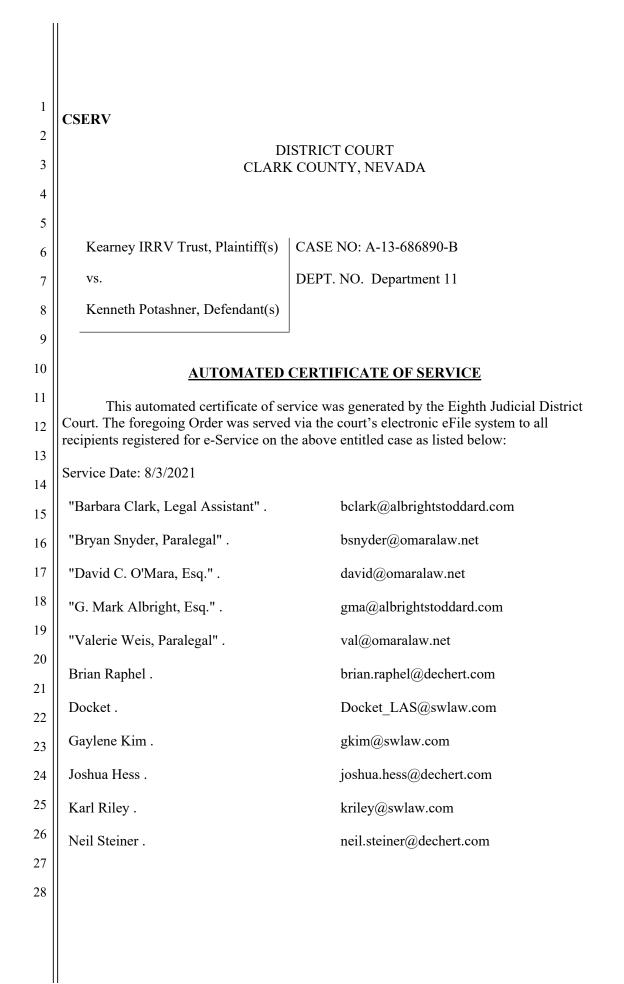
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1 2	Richard C. Gordon .	rgordon@swlaw.com
3	Robert Cassity .	bcassity@hollandhart.com
4	Steve Peek .	speek@hollandhart.com
5	Traci Bixenmann .	traci@johnaldrichlawfirm.com
6	Valerie Larsen .	vllarsen@hollandhart.com
7	Sonja Dugan	sdugan@swlaw.com
8	Stephanie Morrill	scmorrill@hollandhart.com
9	CaraMia Gerard	cgerard@mcdonaldcarano.com
10 11	George Ogilvie	gogilvie@mcdonaldcarano.com
12	Amanda Yen	ayen@mcdonaldcarano.com
13	Jelena Jovanovic	jjovanovic@mcdonaldcarano.com
14	Lara Taylor	ljtaylor@swlaw.com
15	David Knotts	dknotts@rgrdlaw.com
16	Randall Baron	randyb@rgrdlaw.com
17	Jaime McDade	jaimem@rgrdlaw.com
18 19	Lyndsey Luxford	lluxford@swlaw.com
20	Josh Fruchter	jfruchter@wohlfruchter.com
21	Brad Austin	baustin@swlaw.com
22	John Stigi III	JStigi@sheppardmullin.com
23	Jonathan Stein	jstein@saxenawhite.com
24	Karen Surowiec	ksurowiec@mcdonaldcarano.com
25	Alejandro Moreno	AMoreno@sheppardmulllin.com
26	Phyllis Chavez	pchavez@sheppardmullin.com
27 28	,	1
20		

1 2	Rory Kay	rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com
3	Adam Apton	aapton@zlk.com
4	Amanda Baker	akbaker@hollandhart.com
5	Kristina Cole	krcole@hollandhart.com
6	Esther Lee	elee@rgrdlaw.com
7	Elizabeth Tripodi	etripodi@zlk.com
8	Nicole Delgado	nicole.delgado@dechert.com
9	Ryan Moore	ryan.moore@dechert.com
10 11	Adam Warden	awarden@saxenawhite.com
12	Randall Baron	RandyB@rgrdlaw.com
13	Maxwell Huffman	mhuffman@rgrdlaw.com
14	Jane Susskind	jsusskind@mcdonaldcarano.com
15	Isis Crosby	icrosby@albrightstoddard.com
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I	ELECTRONICALLY SERVED			
	8/3/2021 12:52 PI	M Electronically Filed 08/03/2021 12:51 PM		
		Acum S. Acum		
		CLERK OF THE COURT		
1	ORDR			
2	George F. Ogilvie III, Esq. (NSBN 3552) Amanda C. Yen, Esq. (NSBN 9726)			
3	Rory T. Kay, Esq. (NSBN 12416) McDONALD CARANO LLP 2200 West Scheme Assessed Suite 1200			
4	2300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 1200 Las Vegas, Nevada 89102			
5	T: (702) 873-4100 F: (702) 873-9966			
6	gogilvie@mcdonaldcarano.com ayen@mcdonaldcarano.com			
7	rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com			
8	Adam M. Apton, Esq. (admitted <i>pro hac vice</i> ) LEVI & KORSINSKY, LLP			
9	55 Broadway, 10th Floor New York, New York 10006 T: (212) 363-7500			
10	F: (212) 363-7171 aapton@zlk.com			
11	Attorneys for Plaintiff PAMTP LLC			
12	DISTRICT COURT			
13	CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA			
14		Case No.: A-13-686890-B		
15	IN RE PARAMETRIC SOUND			
16	CORPORATION SHAREHOLDERS' LITIGATION	Dept. No.: XI		
17		ORDER DENYING DEFENDANTS' MOTION IN LIMINE TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE RELATED TO ALLEGED		
18		FRAUD BY THE NON-DIRECTOR DEFENDANTS		
19 20	This Document Relates To:			
20	ALL ACTIONS.			
21				
22				
23	On June 11, 2021, Defendant VTB Holdings, Inc., and Specially Appearing Defendants			
24	Stripes Group, LLC, SG VTB Holdings, LLC, Kenneth Fox, and Juergen Stark ("Defendants")			
25	moved to exclude evidence related to alleged fraud (the "Motion"). The Court conducted an in-			
26	chambers hearing on Defendants' Motion on July 19, 2021. Having reviewed the record, the briefs			
27	in support and opposition, and being fully informed, the Court <b>DENIES</b> the Motion and makes			
28	the following findings and conclusions of law:			

2300 WEST SAHARA AVENUE, SUITE 1200 + LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89102 PHONE 702.873.4100 + FAX 702.873.9966

MCDONALD CARANO

#### **BACKGROUND**

1. On June 11, 2021, Defendants filed the Motion seeking an order excluding evidence relating to their alleged fraud. Defendants argued that Plaintiff did not allege fraud against them in the complaint and, therefore, evidence showing that they engaged in fraud should be excluded.

2. On July 1, 2021, Plaintiff opposed Defendants' motion arguing that evidence showing fraud would support a finding that they aided and abetted an underlying breach of fiduciary duty. Plaintiff referred to materials obtained during discovery showing that Defendants concealed VTB Holdings' allegedly declining financial condition in an effort to complete the merger with Parametric Sound Corporation.

3. On July 14, 2021, Defendants replied in further support of their motion arguing that Plaintiff previously denied allegations of fraudulent conduct against them and should therefore be precluded from offering evidence of such at trial.

4. Being fully briefed, the Motion is ripe for decision.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Relevant evidence is generally admissible, and evidence is relevant if it has "any tendency to make the existence of any fact that is of consequence to the determination of the action more or less probable than it would be without the evidence." NRS 48.025, 48.015. Relevant evidence may only be excluded if it is cumulative, or if the danger of unfair prejudice substantially outweighs the probative value. NRS 48.035(1), (2). Indeed, where evidence has significant probative value, it can be admissible even if prejudicial. *See id*.

22 2. Evidence showing fraudulent conduct on the part of Defendants could be relevant
23 to Plaintiff's claims. Such conduct, even if not by Defendants, could be relevant to the aiding and
24 abetting claim. The probative value of this evidence outweighs the danger of unfair prejudice and
25 therefore will not be excluded.

2300 WEST SAHARA AVENUE, SUITE 1200 • LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89102 PHONE 702.873.4100 • FAX 702.873.9966

McDONALD 🕅 CARANO

. . .

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1	<u>OI</u>	RDER
2	IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUD	GED, AND DECREED that Defendants' Motion
3	is <b>DENIED</b> .	Dated this 3rd day of August, 2021
4	DATED this day of,	2021. Eutophan
5		- O - La
6		DISTRICT COURT JUDGE
7		A0B 870 47C2 C945 Elizabeth Gonzalez
8	Submitted by:	Applistnist Courtantudaent:
9	McDONALD CARANO LLP	SNELL & WILMER LLP
10		/s/ Richard C. Gordon
11	By: <u>/s/ Rory T. Kay</u>	By:
12	George F. Ogilvie III (NV Bar #3552) Amanda C. Yen (NV Bar #9726)	Richard C. Gordon, Esq. 3883 Howard Hughes Pkwy #1100,
	Rory T. Kay (NV Bar #12416)	Las Vegas, NV 89169
13	2300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 1200 Las Vegas, NV 89102	DECHERT LLP
14		Brian Raphael, Esq.
15	LEVI & KORSINSKY, LLP	David Kotler, Esq.
16	Adam M. Apton, Esq. (admitted <i>pro hac vice</i> )	1900 K Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20006-1110
	55 Broadway, 10th Floor	washington, D.C. 20000-1110
17	New York, New York 10006	Attorneys for Defendant VTB Holdings,
18	T: (212) 363-7500 F: (212) 363-7171	Inc. and Specially Appearing Defendants Stripes Group, LLC,
19	aapton@zlk.com	SG VTB Holdings, LLC, Kenneth Fox,
		and Juergen Stark
20	Attorneys for PAMPT LLC	HOLLAND & HART LLP
21		
22		/s/ Robert Cassity By:
23		J. Stephen Peek, Esq.
24		Robert Cassity, Esq. 9555 Hillwood Drive, 2nd Floor,
		Las Vegas, NV 89134
25		
26		[Continued on next page]
27		
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		3

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 CARANO

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# 

## SHEPPARD MULLIN

## /s/ Alejandra Moreno

By:

John P. Stigi III, Esq. Alejandra Moreno, Esq. 1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1600 Los Angeles, CA 90067

Attorneys for Defendants Kenneth Potashner, Elwood G. Norris, Seth Putterman, Robert Kaplan, and Andrew Wolfe Adam M. Apton Levi & Korsinsky, LLP

------ Original message ------From: "Gordon, Richard" <rgordon@swlaw.com> Date: 7/30/21 5:42 PM (GMT-05:00) To: Adam M Apton <aapton@zlk.com>, Alejandro Moreno <AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com>, "Raphel, Brian" <Brian.Raphel@dechert.com>, "George F. Ogilvie III" <gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>, Rory Kay <rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com> Cc: "Kotler, David" <david.kotler@dechert.com>, "Hess, Joshua" <Joshua.Hess@dechert.com>, John Stigi <JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>, Steve Peek <SPeek@hollandhart.com>, "Moore, Ryan" <Ryan.Moore@dechert.com> Subject: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Hi Adam,

You have authorization to e-sign for me on the draft orders re the NDD motions (with the exception of the MIL to exclude evidence and testimony related to irrelevant or undisclosed measures of damages, for which we will have to submit competing orders). Please add a signature block that states "Approval as to form and content" on the draft orders. You can then e-sign for me and submit. Thanks very much,

Rick

Richard C. Gordon, Esq. Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. 3883 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 1100 Las Vegas, NV 89169 (702) 784-5210 (direct) (702) 784-5220 (main) (702) 784-5252 (facsimile) rgordon@swlaw.com

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From: Adam M Apton <aapton@zlk.com>

Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 11:31 AM

**To:** Alejandro Moreno <AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com>; Raphel, Brian <Brian.Raphel@dechert.com>; George F. Ogilvie III <gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>; Rory Kay <rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com>

**Cc:** Kotler, David <david.kotler@dechert.com>; Hess, Joshua <Joshua.Hess@dechert.com>; John Stigi <JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>; Steve Peek <SPeek@hollandhart.com>; Gordon, Richard <rgordon@swlaw.com>; Moore, Ryan <Ryan.Moore@dechert.com>

Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

# [EXTERNAL] aapton@zlk.com

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<rgordon@swlaw.com>; Moore, Ryan <<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>
Subject: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

## Adam:

Thanks for circulating. Here are small suggested edits to the FFCL directed at the DD's motions.

# Best,

## Alejandro (Alex) Moreno

+1 619-338-6664 | direct +1 619-721-8718 | cell <u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com | Bio</u>

# **SheppardMullin**

501 West Broadway, 19th Floor San Diego, CA 92101-3598 +1 619-338-6500 | main www.sheppardmullin.com | LinkedIn | Twitter From: Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>

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<gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>; Rory Kay <<u>rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>

Cc: Kotler, David <<u>david.kotler@dechert.com</u>>; Hess, Joshua <<u>Joshua.Hess@dechert.com</u>>; John Stigi

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<<u>SPeek@hollandhart.com</u>>; Gordon, Richard <<u>rgordon@swlaw.com</u>>; Moore, Ryan

<<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>

Subject: RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

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<<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>

Subject: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Counsel,

Attached is a proposed order granting Defendants' motion in limine to exclude evidence and testimony related to irrelevant or undisclosed measures of damages. Please let us know if you any comments or if we can have your authorization to file jointly. Thank you.

#### Brian Raphel Dechert LLP +1 212 641 5692 Direct +1 201 615 3550 Mobile brian.raphel@dechert.com

dechert.com

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From:	Bob Cassity	
To:	<u>Alejandro Moreno; Adam M Apton; Raphel, Brian; George F. Ogilvie III; Rory Kay</u>	
Cc:	Jelena Jovanovic; Kotler, David; Hess, Joshua; John Stigi; Steve Peek; Gordon, Richard; Moore, Ryan; Amanda K, Baker	
Subject:	ct: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order	
Date:	Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:26:12 AM	
Attachments:	image001.png image002.png image003.png image004.png image005.png image006.png	

Correct. Thanks. Please also copy Amanda and me on all emails on this matter.





## 🔁 in У 🖽

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This message is confidential and may be privileged. If you believe that this email has been sent to you in error, please reply to the sender that you received the message in error; then please delete this e-mail.

From: Alejandro Moreno <AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:17 AM

To: Adam M Apton <aapton@zlk.com>; Raphel, Brian <Brian.Raphel@dechert.com>; George F. Ogilvie III <gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>; Rory Kay <rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com>Cc: Jelena Jovanovic <jjovanovic@mcdonaldcarano.com>; Kotler, David <david.kotler@dechert.com>; Hess, Joshua <Joshua.Hess@dechert.com>; John Stigi <JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>; Steve Peek <SPeek@hollandhart.com>; Gordon, Richard <rgordon@swlaw.com>; Moore, Ryan <Ryan.Moore@dechert.com>; Bob Cassity <BCassity@hollandhart.com>; Amanda K. Baker <AKBaker@hollandhart.com>Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

#### **External Email**

Hi Adam:

I conferred with Bob before we sent you our edits. He is fine with both orders as long as they reflect the edits we sent you.

Best,

#### Alejandro (Alex) Moreno

+1 619-338-6664 | direct +1 619-721-8718 | cell AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com | Bio

## **SheppardMullin**

501 West Broadway, 19th Floor San Diego, CA 92101-3598 +1 619-338-6500 | main www.sheppardmullin.com | LinkedIn | Twitter

From: Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>
Sent: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:16 AM
To: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian
<<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F. Ogilvie III <<u>gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Rory Kay
<<u>rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>
Cc: Jelena Jovanovic <<u>jjovanovic@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Kotler, David
<<u>david.kotler@dechert.com</u>>; Hess, Joshua <<u>Joshua.Hess@dechert.com</u>>; John Stigi
<JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>; Steve Peek <<u>SPeek@hollandhart.com</u>>; Gordon, Richard
<rgordon@swlaw.com>; Moore, Ryan <<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>; 'Bob Cassity'
<<u>BCassity@hollandhart.com</u>>; Amanda K. Baker <<u>AKBaker@hollandhart.com</u>>
Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Amanda or Bob, If Steve is still on vacation, would you please confirm we have authority to file the orders as agreed below?

From: Adam M Apton
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 8:12 PM
To: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian
<<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F. Ogilvie III <<u>gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Rory Kay
<<u>rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>
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<<u>rgordon@swlaw.com</u>>; Moore, Ryan <<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>

Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Bob or Steve, Would you please provide your consent to file the orders referred to below? Thank you.

From: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 5:20 PM
To: Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian <<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F.
Ogilvie III <<u>gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Rory Kay <<u>rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>

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Fine by me on the Director Defendants' orders.

Best,

Alejandro (Alex) Moreno +1 619-338-6664 | direct +1 619-721-8718 | cell AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com | Bio

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Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Thanks, so to be clear, we have agreements on every order except defendants' motion in limine to exclude evidence and testimony related to irrelevant or undisclosed measures of damages. These orders are attached for reference here. Do we have defense counsel's permission to file? Rick, please respond again now that we have the entire set of 'consents'. Thanks.

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Brian, Here are the proposed orders for the rest of the motions. Please let us know if you have comments/edits or if defendants' consent to the orders as written. -Adam

From: Raphel, Brian < <a href="mailto:Brian.Raphel@dechert.com">Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</a>>

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This e-mail is from Dechert LLP, a law firm, and may contain information that is confidential or privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, do not read, copy or distribute the e-mail or any attachments. Instead, please notify the sender and delete the e-mail and any attachments. Thank you.

Adam M. Apton Levi & Korsinsky, LLP

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Subject: [External]MIL Proposed Order

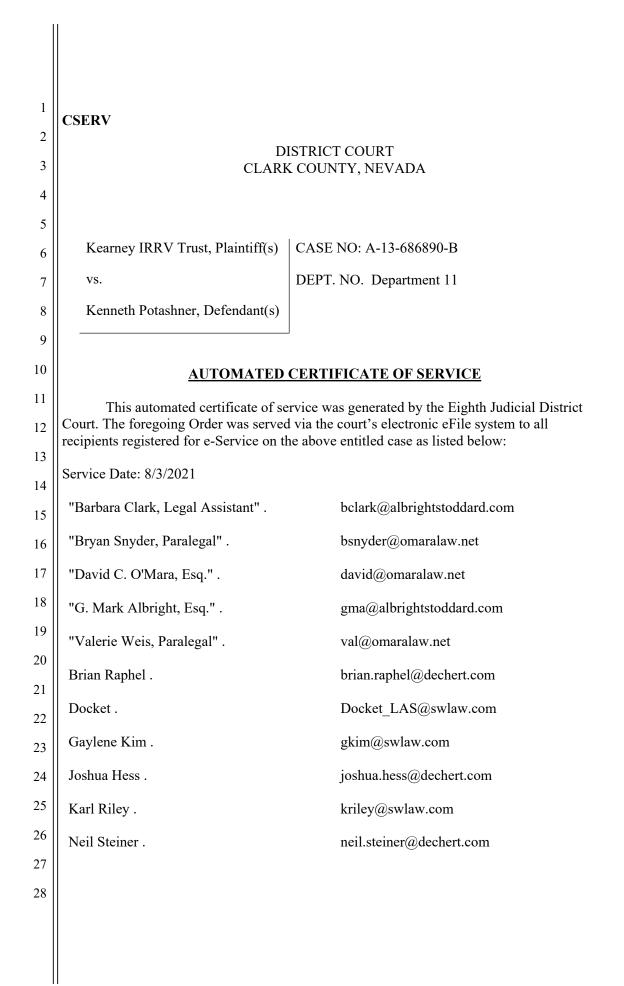
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#### Brian Raphel Dechert LLP

+1 212 641 5692 Direct +1 201 615 3550 Mobile brian.raphel@dechert.com dechert.com

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1 2	Richard C. Gordon .	rgordon@swlaw.com
3	Robert Cassity .	bcassity@hollandhart.com
4	Steve Peek .	speek@hollandhart.com
5	Traci Bixenmann .	traci@johnaldrichlawfirm.com
6	Valerie Larsen .	vllarsen@hollandhart.com
7	Sonja Dugan	sdugan@swlaw.com
8	Stephanie Morrill	scmorrill@hollandhart.com
9	CaraMia Gerard	cgerard@mcdonaldcarano.com
10 11	George Ogilvie	gogilvie@mcdonaldcarano.com
12	Amanda Yen	ayen@mcdonaldcarano.com
13	Jelena Jovanovic	jjovanovic@mcdonaldcarano.com
14	Lara Taylor	ljtaylor@swlaw.com
15	David Knotts	dknotts@rgrdlaw.com
16	Randall Baron	randyb@rgrdlaw.com
17	Jaime McDade	jaimem@rgrdlaw.com
18 19	Lyndsey Luxford	lluxford@swlaw.com
20	Josh Fruchter	jfruchter@wohlfruchter.com
21	Brad Austin	baustin@swlaw.com
22	John Stigi III	JStigi@sheppardmullin.com
23	Jonathan Stein	jstein@saxenawhite.com
24	Karen Surowiec	ksurowiec@mcdonaldcarano.com
25	Alejandro Moreno	AMoreno@sheppardmulllin.com
26	Phyllis Chavez	pchavez@sheppardmullin.com
27 28		
20		

1	Rory Kay	rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com
2 3	Adam Apton	aapton@zlk.com
4	Amanda Baker	akbaker@hollandhart.com
5	Kristina Cole	krcole@hollandhart.com
6	Esther Lee	elee@rgrdlaw.com
7	Elizabeth Tripodi	etripodi@zlk.com
8	Nicole Delgado	nicole.delgado@dechert.com
9	Ryan Moore	ryan.moore@dechert.com
10 11	Adam Warden	awarden@saxenawhite.com
12	Randall Baron	RandyB@rgrdlaw.com
13	Maxwell Huffman	mhuffman@rgrdlaw.com
14	Jane Susskind	jsusskind@mcdonaldcarano.com
15	Isis Crosby	icrosby@albrightstoddard.com
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I	ELECTRONICALLY SERVED 8/3/2021 12:46 PM			
	0/0/2021 12.40 F1	Electronically Filed		
		Atum S. Humin		
		CLERK OF THE COURT		
1	<b>ORDR</b> George F. Ogilvie III, Esq. (NSBN 3552)			
2	Amanda C. Yen, Esq. (NSBN 9726)			
3	Rory T. Kay, Esq. (NSBN 12416) McDONALD CARANO LLP			
4	2300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 1200 Las Vegas, Nevada 89102			
	T: (702) 873-4100			
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7				
8	Adam M. Apton, Esq. (admitted <i>pro hac vice</i> ) LEVI & KORSINSKY, LLP			
9	55 Broadway, 10th Floor New York, New York 10006			
10	T: (212) 363-7500			
	F: (212) 363-7171 <u>aapton@zlk.com</u>			
11	Attorneys for Plaintiff PAMTP LLC			
12		LCOURT		
13	DISTRICT COURT			
14	CLARK COUN	NIY, NEVADA		
15	IN RE PARAMETRIC SOUND	Case No.: A-13-686890-B		
16	CORPORATION SHAREHOLDERS' LITIGATION	Dept. No.: XI		
17		ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT OF SPECIALLY		
18		APPEARING DEFENDANTS STRIPES GROUP, LLC, SG VTB HOLDINGS, LLC,		
19		JUERGEN STARK, AND KENNETH FOX		
	This Document Relates To:			
20	ALL ACTIONS.			
21				
22		_		
23	On June 11, 2021, Specially Appearin	ng Defendants Stripes Group, LLC, SG VTB		
24	Holdings, LLC, Jurgen Stark, and Kenneth Fox ("Defendants") moved for summary judgment			
25	(the "Motion"). The Court conducted an in-chambers hearing on Defendants' Motion on July 19,			
26	2021. Having reviewed the record, the briefs in support and opposition, and being fully informed,			
27	the Court <b>DENIES</b> the Motion and makes the following findings and conclusions of law:			
28				

2300 WEST SAHARA AVENUE , SUITE 1200 • LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89102 PHONE 702.873.4100 • FAX 702.873.9966

MCDONALD CARANO

MCDONALD CARANO 2300 WEST SAHARA AVENUE. SUITE 1200 • LAS VECAS, NEVADA 89102 PHONE 702.873.4100 • FAX 702.873.9966 1

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#### BACKGROUND

1. On June 11, 2021, Defendants filed the Motion seeking summary judgment dismissal on the basis that Plaintiff's claims against them were time-barred under the applicable statute of limitations and/or without personal jurisdiction. Defendants argued that Plaintiff's claims against Fox and Stark were subject to a three-year statute of limitation, that the conduct giving rise to the complaint occurred in 2013, and that Plaintiff did not assert claims against Fox and Stark until 2020. Defendants also argued that they are not residents of Nevada, that all communications at issue in the lawsuit occurred outside of Nevada, that they were not officers or directors of any Nevada company, and that they did not conduct business in Nevada.

2. On July 1, 2021, Plaintiff opposed Defendants' motion arguing that a questions of material fact existed as to when Plaintiff had notice of its cause of action and whether Defendants' contact with Nevada was sufficient to establish jurisdiction.

3. On July 14, 2021, Defendants replied in further support of their motion arguing that the facts underlying Plaintiff's claims were discoverable in February 2014. Defendants also argued that they were out-of-state and had no conduct within Nevada.

4. Being fully briefed, the Motion is ripe for decision.

#### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Summary judgment is only appropriate when the pleadings and other evidence on 18 file demonstrate that no "genuine issue as to any material fact [remains] and that the moving party 19 is entitled to a judgment as a matter of law." NRCP 56; see also Wood v. Safeway, Inc., 121 Nev. 20 21 724, 729, 121 P.3d 1026, 1029 (2005). A genuine issue of material facts exists when the "evidence is such that a rational trier of fact could return a verdict for the nonmoving party." Id. at 1031. 22 23 When reviewing a motion for summary judgment, the evidence supporting it, and any reasonable 24 inferences draws from it, the court must view it in a light most favorable to the nonmoving part. Id. at 1029. 25

26 2. Genuine issues of material fact exist as to Plaintiff's date of discovery of the facts
27 underlying the complaint. Plaintiff argues that the facts underlying the complaint were not known
28 until March 2018 at the earliest due to the unsealing of a complaint in the class action phase of

this case. Defendants dispute that claim by arguing that facts sufficient to cause a reasonable stockholder to investigate potential claims were known in February 2014 or earlier. The date of discovery is therefore materially disputed.

3. Genuine issues of material fact also exist as to the Court's jurisdiction over Defendants. Plaintiff argues that Defendants' conduct with respect to the merger targeted Nevada and is therefore sufficient to support jurisdiction. Defendants dispute these facts, arguing that Defendants did not cause any injury to Plaintiff or its assignors through conduct occurring in, or targeted towards, the State of Nevada.

#### **ORDER**

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendants' Motion Dated this 3rd day of August, 2021 is DENIED.

DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

Submitted by:

McDONALD CARANO LLP

By: <u>/s/ Rory T. Kay</u> George F. Ogilvie III (NV Bar #3552) Amanda C. Yen (NV Bar #9726) Rory T. Kay (NV Bar #12416) 2300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 1200 Las Vegas, NV 89102 LEVI & KORSINSKY, LLP Adam M. Apton, Esq. (admitted *pro hac vice*) 55 Broadway, 10th Floor

New York. New York 10006

Attorneys for PAMPT LLC

T: (212) 363-7500

F: (212) 363-7171

aapton@zlk.com

688 35D 29F8 4A49 Elizabeth Gonzalez Ap**District** (Courtabludgent:

SNELL & WILMER LLP

/s/ Richard C. Gordon

By: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Richard C. Gordon, Esq. 3883 Howard Hughes Pkwy #1100, Las Vegas, NV 89169

> DECHERT LLP Brian Raphael, Esq. David Kotler, Esq. 1900 K Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20006-1110

Attorneys for Defendant VTB Holdings, Inc. and Specially Appearing Defendants Stripes Group, LLC, SG VTB Holdings, LLC, Kenneth Fox, and Juergen Stark

[Continued on next page]

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#### HOLLAND & HART LLP

#### /s/ Robert Cassity

By: \_\_\_\_\_

J. Stephen Peek, Esq. Robert Cassity, Esq. 9555 Hillwood Drive, 2nd Floor, Las Vegas, NV 89134

#### SHEPPARD MULLIN

#### /s/ Alejandra Moreno

By:

John P. Stigi III, Esq. Alejandra Moreno, Esq. 1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1600 Los Angeles, CA 90067

Attorneys for Defendants Kenneth Potashner, Elwood G. Norris, Seth Putterman, Robert Kaplan, and Andrew Wolfe

27

28

2300 WEST SAHARA AVENUE, SUITE 1200 • LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89102 PHONE 702.873.4100 • FAX 702.873.9966

McDONALD CARANO

1

Adam M. Apton Levi & Korsinsky, LLP

------ Original message ------From: "Gordon, Richard" <rgordon@swlaw.com> Date: 7/30/21 5:42 PM (GMT-05:00) To: Adam M Apton <aapton@zlk.com>, Alejandro Moreno <AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com>, "Raphel, Brian" <Brian.Raphel@dechert.com>, "George F. Ogilvie III" <gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>, Rory Kay <rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com> Cc: "Kotler, David" <david.kotler@dechert.com>, "Hess, Joshua" <Joshua.Hess@dechert.com>, John Stigi <JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>, Steve Peek <SPeek@hollandhart.com>, "Moore, Ryan" <Ryan.Moore@dechert.com> Subject: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Hi Adam,

You have authorization to e-sign for me on the draft orders re the NDD motions (with the exception of the MIL to exclude evidence and testimony related to irrelevant or undisclosed measures of damages, for which we will have to submit competing orders). Please add a signature block that states "Approval as to form and content" on the draft orders. You can then e-sign for me and submit. Thanks very much,

Rick

Richard C. Gordon, Esq. Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. 3883 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 1100 Las Vegas, NV 89169 (702) 784-5210 (direct) (702) 784-5220 (main) (702) 784-5252 (facsimile) rgordon@swlaw.com

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Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

# [EXTERNAL] aapton@zlk.com

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Subject: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

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# Best,

# Alejandro (Alex) Moreno

+1 619-338-6664 | direct +1 619-721-8718 | cell <u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com | Bio</u>

# **SheppardMullin**

501 West Broadway, 19th Floor San Diego, CA 92101-3598 +1 619-338-6500 | main www.sheppardmullin.com | LinkedIn | Twitter From: Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>

Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 12:23 PM

**To:** Raphel, Brian <<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F. Ogilvie III

<gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>; Rory Kay <<u>rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>

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<<u>JStigi@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Steve Peek

<<u>SPeek@hollandhart.com</u>>; Gordon, Richard <<u>rgordon@swlaw.com</u>>; Moore, Ryan

<<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>

Subject: RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Brian, Here are the proposed orders for the rest of the motions. Please let us know if you have comments/edits or if defendants' consent to the orders as written. -Adam

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<<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>

Subject: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Counsel,

Attached is a proposed order granting Defendants' motion in limine to exclude evidence and testimony related to irrelevant or undisclosed measures of damages. Please let us know if you any comments or if we can have your authorization to file jointly. Thank you.

#### Brian Raphel Dechert LLP +1 212 641 5692 Direct +1 201 615 3550 Mobile brian.raphel@dechert.com

dechert.com

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From:	Bob Cassity
To:	<u>Alejandro Moreno; Adam M Apton; Raphel, Brian; George F. Ogilvie III; Rory Kay</u>
Cc:	Jelena Jovanovic; Kotler, David; Hess, Joshua; John Stigi; Steve Peek; Gordon, Richard; Moore, Ryan; Amanda K, Baker
Subject:	RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order
Date:	Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:26:12 AM
Attachments:	image001.png image002.png image003.png image004.png image005.png image006.png

Correct. Thanks. Please also copy Amanda and me on all emails on this matter.





# 🔁 in У 🖽

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From: Alejandro Moreno <AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:17 AM

To: Adam M Apton <aapton@zlk.com>; Raphel, Brian <Brian.Raphel@dechert.com>; George F. Ogilvie III <gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com>; Rory Kay <rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com>Cc: Jelena Jovanovic <jjovanovic@mcdonaldcarano.com>; Kotler, David <david.kotler@dechert.com>; Hess, Joshua <Joshua.Hess@dechert.com>; John Stigi <JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>; Steve Peek <SPeek@hollandhart.com>; Gordon, Richard <rgordon@swlaw.com>; Moore, Ryan <Ryan.Moore@dechert.com>; Bob Cassity <BCassity@hollandhart.com>; Amanda K. Baker <AKBaker@hollandhart.com>Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

### **External Email**

Hi Adam:

I conferred with Bob before we sent you our edits. He is fine with both orders as long as they reflect the edits we sent you.

Best,

#### Alejandro (Alex) Moreno

+1 619-338-6664 | direct +1 619-721-8718 | cell AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com | Bio

### **SheppardMullin**

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From: Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>
Sent: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:16 AM
To: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian
<<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F. Ogilvie III <<u>gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Rory Kay
<<u>rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>
Cc: Jelena Jovanovic <<u>jjovanovic@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Kotler, David
<<u>david.kotler@dechert.com</u>>; Hess, Joshua <<u>Joshua.Hess@dechert.com</u>>; John Stigi
<JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>; Steve Peek <<u>SPeek@hollandhart.com</u>>; Gordon, Richard
<rgordon@swlaw.com>; Moore, Ryan <<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>; 'Bob Cassity'
<<u>BCassity@hollandhart.com</u>>; Amanda K. Baker <<u>AKBaker@hollandhart.com</u>>
Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Amanda or Bob, If Steve is still on vacation, would you please confirm we have authority to file the orders as agreed below?

From: Adam M Apton
Sent: Monday, August 2, 2021 8:12 PM
To: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian
<<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F. Ogilvie III <<u>gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Rory Kay
<<u>rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>
Cc: Jelena Jovanovic <<u>jjovanovic@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Kotler, David
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<<u>rgordon@swlaw.com</u>>; Moore, Ryan <<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>

Subject: RE: [External]RE: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Bob or Steve, Would you please provide your consent to file the orders referred to below? Thank you.

From: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 5:20 PM
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Fine by me on the Director Defendants' orders.

Best,

Alejandro (Alex) Moreno +1 619-338-6664 | direct +1 619-721-8718 | cell AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com | Bio

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related to irrelevant or undisclosed measures of damages. Please let us know if you any comments or if we can have your authorization to file jointly. Thank you.

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Adam M. Apton Levi & Korsinsky, LLP

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From: Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>
Sent: Friday, July 30, 2021 2:15 PM
To: Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>; Raphel, Brian <<u>Brian.Raphel@dechert.com</u>>; George F.
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Cc: Kotler, David <<u>david.kotler@dechert.com</u>>; Hess, Joshua <<u>Joshua.Hess@dechert.com</u>>; John Stigi
<<u>JStigi@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Steve Peek <<u>SPeek@hollandhart.com</u>>; Gordon, Richard
<rgordon@swlaw.com>; Moore, Ryan <<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>
Subject: [External]RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Adam:

Thanks for circulating. Here are small suggested edits to the FFCL directed at the DD's motions.

Best,

# Alejandro (Alex) Moreno

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From: Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>
Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 12:23 PM
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Cc: Kotler, David <<u>david.kotler@dechert.com</u>>; Hess, Joshua <<u>Joshua.Hess@dechert.com</u>>; John Stigi
<JStigi@sheppardmullin.com>; Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Steve Peek
<SPeek@hollandhart.com>; Gordon, Richard <<u>rgordon@swlaw.com</u>>; Moore, Ryan
<Ryan.Moore@dechert.com>
Subject: RE: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Brian, Here are the proposed orders for the rest of the motions. Please let us know if you have comments/edits or if defendants' consent to the orders as written. -Adam

From: Raphel, Brian < Brian.Raphel@dechert.com >

Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2021 3:20 PM

**To:** Adam M Apton <<u>aapton@zlk.com</u>>; George F. Ogilvie III <<u>gogilvie@Mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>; Rory Kay <<u>rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com</u>>

**Cc:** Kotler, David <<u>david.kotler@dechert.com</u>>; Hess, Joshua <<u>Joshua.Hess@dechert.com</u>>; John Stigi <<u>JStigi@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Alejandro Moreno <<u>AMoreno@sheppardmullin.com</u>>; Steve Peek <<u>SPeek@hollandhart.com</u>>; Gordon, Richard <<u>rgordon@swlaw.com</u>>; Moore, Ryan <<u>Ryan.Moore@dechert.com</u>>

Subject: [External]MIL Proposed Order

Counsel,

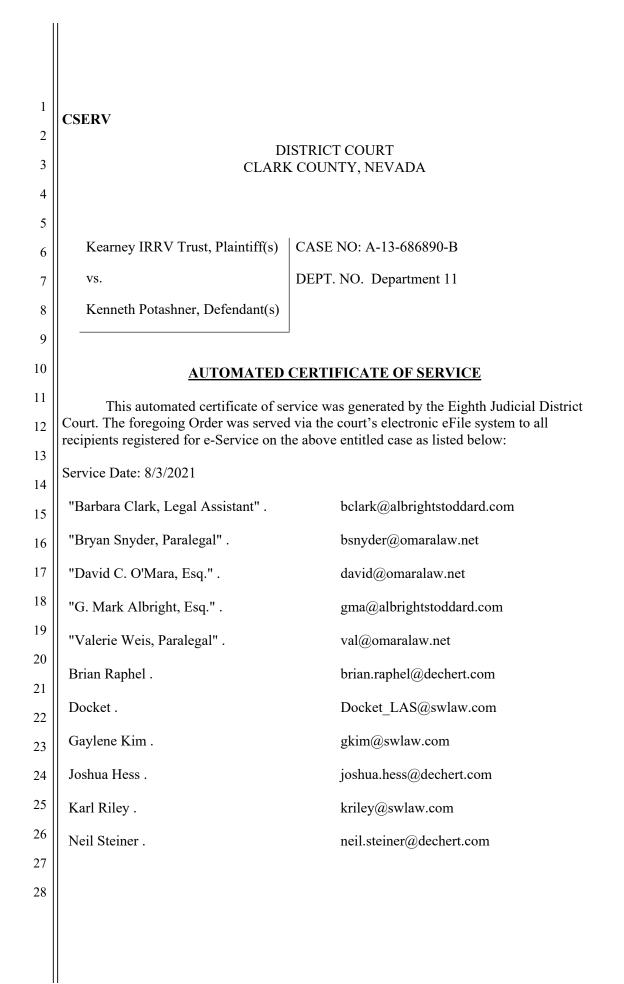
Attached is a proposed order granting Defendants' motion in limine to exclude evidence and testimony related to irrelevant or undisclosed measures of damages. Please let us know if you any comments or if we can have your authorization to file jointly. Thank you.

#### Brian Raphel Dechert LLP

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	ORDR George F. Ogilvie III, Esq. (NSBN 3552) Amanda C. Yen, Esq. (NSBN 9726) Rory T. Kay, Esq. (NSBN 12416) McDONALD CARANO LLP 2300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 1200 Las Vegas, Nevada 89102 T: (702) 873-4100 F: (702) 873-9966 gogilvie@mcdonaldcarano.com ayen@mcdonaldcarano.com rkay@mcdonaldcarano.com Adam M. Apton, Esq. (admitted pro hac vice) LEVI & KORSINSKY, LLP 55 Broadway, 10th Floor	Electronically Filed 08/04/2021 9:06 AM Actual Actual CLERK OF THE COURT
10	New York, New York 10006 T: (212) 363-7500 F: (212) 363-7171	
11 12	aapton@zlk.com	L DISTRICT COURT
13		NTY, NEVADA
14		
15 16	IN RE PARAMETRIC SOUND CORPORATION SHAREHOLDERS' LITIGATION	LEAD CASE NO.: A-13-686890-B DEPT. NO.: XI
<ol> <li>17</li> <li>18</li> <li>19</li> <li>20</li> <li>21</li> </ol>	This Document Related To: ALL ACTIONS	ORDER GRANTING IN PART DEFENDANTS' MOTION <i>IN LIMINE</i> TO EXCLUDE EVIDENCE AND TESTIMONY RELATED TO IRRELEVANT OR UNDISCLOSED MEASURES OF DAMAGES
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On July 19, 2021, this Court conducted an in-chambers hearing on Defendants' Motion to 2 Exclude Evidence and Testimony Related to Irrelevant or Undisclosed Measures of Damages (the 3 "Motion"). Having reviewed the Motion and the briefs filed in support and opposition thereto, this 4 Court GRANTS IN PART the Motion and makes the following findings of fact and conclusions of 5 law:

#### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

1) During the class proceedings, the class plaintiffs asserted two direct causes of action on behalf of a class of former Parametric stockholders and six derivative claims on behalf of Turtle Beach. In that context, the class plaintiffs disclosed, pursuant to NRCP 16.1, eight hypothetical categories of damages: three for their derivative claims and five for their direct claims. Defendants settled the direct and derivative claims asserted by the class.

2) Following the settlement, Plaintiff, acting as the purported assignee of a small handful of former Parametric shareholders who opted out of the settlement, filed a new complaint that asserted only a direct equity expropriation claim and an ancillary direct claim for aiding and abetting the same equity expropriation. The Court consolidated Plaintiff's complaint into the class action. Plaintiff chose not to amend the class plaintiffs' damages disclosure.

17 3) Plaintiff did disclose, pursuant to NRCP 16.1, that it believes that the calculation of 18 damages in this matter requires expert testimony. Like the class plaintiffs, Plaintiff intends to offer 19 expert testimony regarding damages from J.T. Atkins ("Atkins"), who did not issue any updated or 20 amended opinion for the opt-out proceedings brought by the Plaintiff. Instead, Plaintiff and Atkins 21 disclosed that they intend to introduce the same opinions that Atkins offered in the class proceeding, 22 including opinions that purport to address measures of damages for claims that Plaintiff no longer 23 asserts.

24 4) Defendants filed the present Motion on June 11, 2021 to exclude evidence and 25 testimony that Plaintiff may offer at trial for the sole purpose of establishing measures of damages 26 that are not available to Plaintiff under the claims that remain in this case. Specifically, Defendants 27 argued that evidence or testimony related solely to the following categories of damages should be 28 excluded:

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Damages that are not appropriate for equity expropriation claims; a)

b) Damages for derivative claims;

c) Damages based on alleged activities that purportedly occurred after January 15, 2014;

> d) Damages based on the deterioration of Parametric's stock price; and

e) Damages that were not addressed in Atkins's report.

5) Plaintiff opposed the Motion on July 1, 2021. Plaintiff opposed the Motion on the basis that Plaintiff should not be precluded from introducing evidence and testimony with multiple purposes (e.g., evidence or testimony that might be relevant to an unavailable measure of damages, but that might also be relevant for some other purpose).

Defendants filed a reply brief on July 12, 2021, in which Defendants reiterated that 6) the motion sought to exclude only evidence and testimony for which the sole purpose at trial would be to prove one of the unavailable measures of damages set forth above. Defendants noted that Plaintiff had not opposed this specific request.

# **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

16 1) Relevant evidence is generally admissible, and evidence is relevant if it has "any 17 tendency to make the existence of any fact that is of consequence to the determination of the action 18 more or less probable than it would be without the evidence." NRS 48.025, 48.015. Relevant 19 evidence may only be excluded if it is cumulative, or if the danger of unfair prejudice substantially 20 outweighs the probative value. NRS 48.035(1), (2). Indeed, where evidence has significant 21 probative value, it can be admissible even if prejudicial. See id.

22 2) While conduct of some director defendants and financial transaction may be related 23 to that individual's course of dealing and motivation, it is not relevant to any damages argument 24 and may only be used for the limited purpose of demonstrating motivation..

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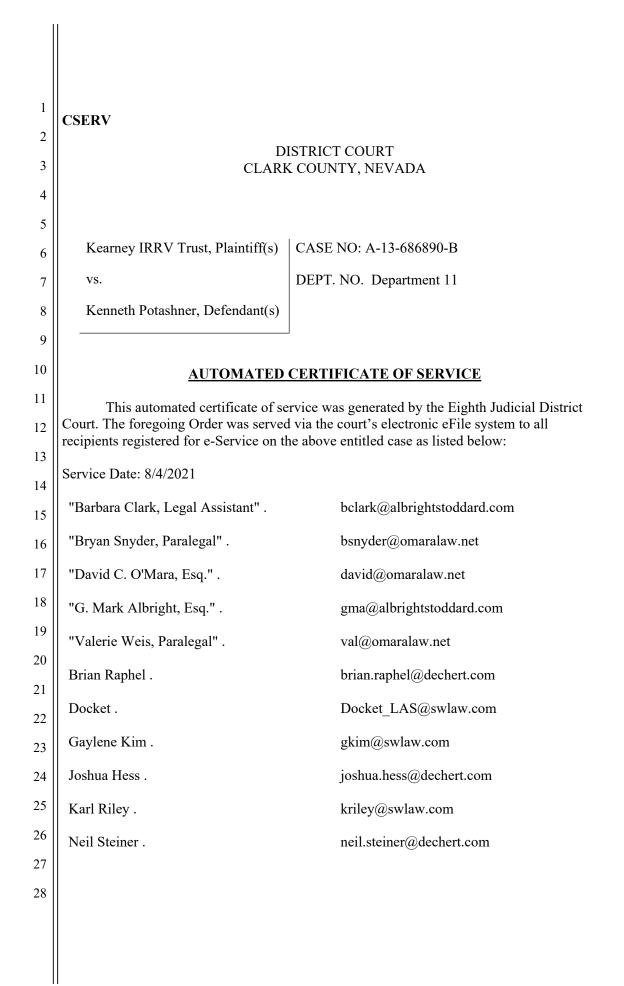
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Defendants' Motion 27 is **GRANTED**. Plaintiff is precluded from introducing evidence or testimony at trial for which the 28 sole purpose would be to support potential measures of damages other than those allowed under

**ORDER** 

Gentile, 906 A.2d at 103. This includes evidence or testimony that is related solely to damages for 1 2 derivative claims asserted in the class proceedings, damages based on alleged activities that 3 purportedly occurred after January 15, 2014, damages based on the deterioration of Parametric's 4 stock price, or any other potential measure of damages that Plaintiff has not disclosed. Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of August, 2021 Dated this 4th day of August, 2021 5 6 7 DISTRICT COURT 8 Submitted by: B4B 6D6 8BF2 54AA 9 McDONALD CARANO LLP **Elizabeth Gonzalez District Court Judge** 10 11 By: /s/ Rory T. Kay George F. Ogilvie, III, Esq. (Bar No. 3552) 12 Amanda C. Yen, Esq. (Bar No. 9726) Rory T. Kay, Esq. (Bar No. 12416) 13 2300 West Sahara Avenue, Suite 120 14 Las Vegas, NV 89102 15 Adam M. Apton, Esq. (admitted pro hac vice) LEVI & KORSINSKY, LLP 16 55 Broadway, 10th Floor New York, NY 10006 17 18 Attorneys for Plaintiff PAMTP LLC 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

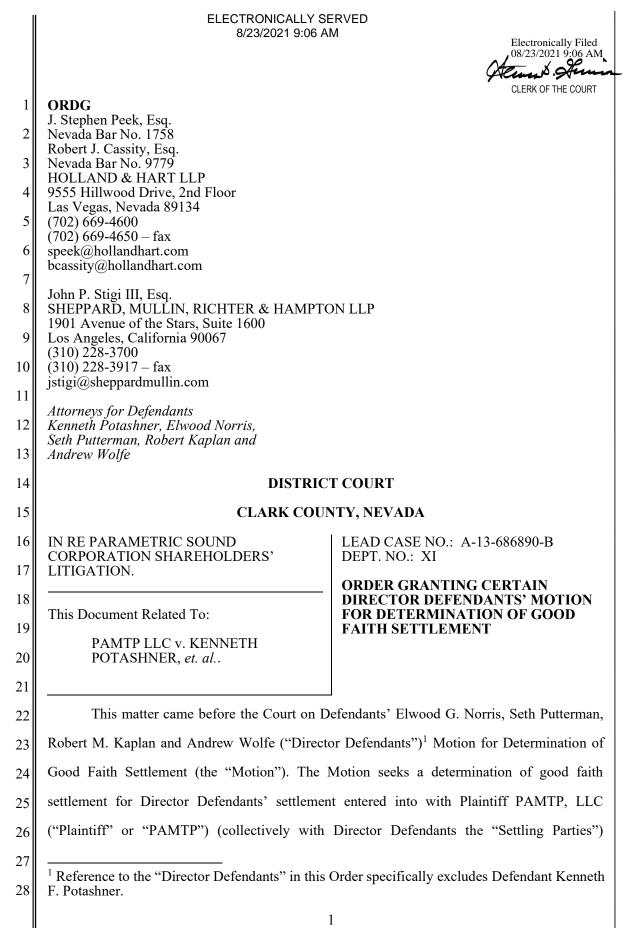
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concerning all claims and allegations that have been asserted or could have been asserted by the 1 2 Settling Parties against each other in this case. The Motion is unopposed.

3 Having reviewed and considered the Motion, the Court finds that the factors prescribed 4 by the Nevada Supreme Court in Doctors Co. v. Vincent, 120 Nev. 644, 98 P.3d 681 (2004) 5 support a determination that the Director Defendants' settlement with Plaintiff was made in good 6 faith pursuant to NRS 17.245. Specifically, the Court finds that the settlement was made in good 7 faith in light of the amount paid in settlement of the claims; the allocation of the settlement 8 proceeds to the single Plaintiff in this case; the insurance policy limits of the Settling Parties; the 9 financial condition of the settling defendants; the liability permutations arising from the merits 10 of any potential contribution and indemnity claims; the non-existence of any collusion, fraud, or tortious conduct by the Settling Parties aimed to injure the interests of any non-settling parties; 11 12 and the potential liability, relative degree of fault, cost and expense associated with further 13 discovery and litigation, and relative likelihood of success on the merits.

The Court having made the foregoing findings, and good cause appearing,

15 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the settlement between the Director Defendants and 16 Plaintiff is in good faith pursuant to NRS 17.245, and the Director Defendants' Motion for Determination of Good Faith Settlement is GRANTED.

18 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that pursuant to NRS 17.245(b), all claims against the 19 Director Defendants that in effect seek contribution or equitable indemnity, regardless of how 20 such a claim may be styled, are barred.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.** 

DATED this 23rd day of August, 2021

Dated this 23rd day of August, 2021

39A F7B 00EA A8AE Elizabeth Gonzalez District Court Judge

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1	Respectfully submitted by:
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2	D	ISTRICT COURT
3	CLARK	K COUNTY, NEVADA
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5 6	Kearney IRRV Trust, Plaintiff(s)	CASE NO: A-13-686890-B
7	vs.	DEPT. NO. Department 11
8	Kenneth Potashner, Defendant(s)	
9		I
10	AUTOMATED	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
11		rvice was generated by the Eighth Judicial District
12 13	recipients registered for e-Service on th	vas served via the court's electronic eFile system to all ne above entitled case as listed below:
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12		CT COURT
13		NTY, NEVADA
14		
15		Case No.: A-13-686890-B
16	IN RE PARAMETRIC SOUND CORPORATION SHAREHOLDERS' LITIGATION	Dept. No.: XI
17 18		PLAINTIFF PAMTP LLC'S MEMORANDUM OF LAW
19		REGARDING NRS 78.200 AND NRS 78.211
20		
21	This Document Relates To:	
22	ALL ACTIONS.	
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MCDONALD CARANO

#### I. **INTRODUCTION**

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Footnote 15 of the Nevada Supreme Court's decision in Parametric Sound Corporation,

et al. v. Eighth Judicial District Court, 133 Nev. 417, 401 P.3d 1100 (2017) states:

We note that the Nevada Legislature has addressed this issue in part by enacting statutes that give conclusive deference to the directors' judgment as to the consideration received for issued stock absent actual fraud. See NRS 78.200(2); NRS 78.211(1). Thus, the shareholders must show actual fraud in any direct equity dilution claim they may have in order to overcome the statutory deference afforded to the directors.

Parametric Sound Corp., 133 Nev. at 429 n.15 (referred to herein as "Footnote 15"). Given this statement, Plaintiff submits this trial brief to address the meaning of "actual fraud" in the context of NRS 78.200(2) and NRS 78.211(2).

#### **"ACTUAL FRAUD" IN EQUITY EXPROPRIATION CLAIMS** II.

Shareholders pursuing a claim for equity expropriation or the expropriation of rights to purchase stock must show that the issuance constituted "actual fraud" because Nevada statutes grant directors broad deference with respect to the consideration received for issued stock or stock options absent such "actual fraud." See Parametric, 401 P.3d at 1110 n.15; NRS 78.200(2) ("The judgment of the board of directors as to the consideration for such rights or options issued is conclusive in the absence of actual fraud in the transaction."); NRS 78.211 ("The judgment of the board of directors as to the consideration received for the shares issued is conclusive in the absence of actual fraud in the transaction.").

While Nevada courts have yet to define "actual fraud" in the context of NRS 78.200 or 20 NRS 78.211,<sup>1</sup> the Supreme Court of Nevada has held that the term "fraudulent" in the context of a claim for breach of fiduciary duty in connection with a corporation's merger is not "limited to 22 the elements of common-law fraud; it encompasses a variety of acts involving breach of fiduciary 23

<sup>26</sup> The United States District Court for the District of Nevada has, on a single occasion, opined on the meaning of "actual fraud" within NRS 78.211. See McFarland v. Long, 2017 WL 27 4582268, at \*5 (D. Nev. Oct. 7, 2017) (dismissing claims challenging issuance of stock because plaintiff admitted to "not pleading fraud on the part of the Defendants"). 28

duties imposed upon corporate officers, directors, or majority shareholders." Cohen v. Mirage Resorts, Inc., 119 Nev. 1, 13-14, 62 P.3d 720, 729 (2003).

Delaware courts are in accord. Delaware courts have interpreted substantially similar statutes with respect to the issuance of shares. *See, e.g.*, 8 Del. C. § 152 ("In the absence of actual fraud in the transaction, the judgment of the directors as to the value of such consideration shall be conclusive").<sup>2</sup> As such, Delaware courts provide guidance for the interpretation of NRS 78.200(2) and NRS 78.211.<sup>3</sup>

The Court of Chancery in Delaware has noted that, "[o]ur courts have been relatively flexible in implementing § 152's 'actual fraud' requirement, and for good reason. The term seems to have little to do with common law fraud." *Parfi Holding AB v. Mirror Image Internet, Inc.*, 794 A.2d 1211, 1234 (Del. Ch. 2001) *rev'd on other grounds*, 817 A.2d 149 (Del. 2002). While actual fraud may be shown directly, it also may "be inferred from the attendant circumstances." *Lewis v. Scotten Dillon Co.*, 306 A.2d 755, 757 (Del. Ch. 1973).

While Delaware courts have had only occasional reason to interpret the statute, under the Delaware precedent, actual fraud exists where the consideration for a stock issuance was "so gross as to lead the Court to conclude that it was due, not to an honest error of judgment but to bad faith or a reckless indifference to the rights of others." *Lewis*, 306 A.2d at 758; *see also Parfi Holding AB v. Mirror Image Internet, Inc.*, 794 A.2d 1211, 1235 (Del. Ch. 2001) ("[w]hen corporate directors allow the corporation to accept bananas they know to be worth \$10,000 on the open

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A provision to the effect of Delaware's § 152 was adopted in 1899. *See* R. FRANKLIN
 BALOTTI & JESSE A. FINKELSTEIN, THE DELAWARE LAW OF CORPORATIONS & BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS § 5.13 at 5–23 (2001). While NRS 78.200 and 78.211 have only existed since 1949, their use of the identical term "actual fraud" indicates that they arose from the same concepts, and appear to have been originally modelled section-for-section on longstanding Delaware law. NCL (1949), § 1610.01.

<sup>See, e.g., Cohen v. Mirage Resorts, Inc., 119 Nev. 1, 62 P.3d 720 (2003) (reasoning that</sup> Nevada courts will look to the jurisprudence of other states when construing Nevada statutes derived from those state's laws); Brown v. Kinross Gold U.S.A., Inc., 531 F. Supp. 2d 1234, 1245 (D. Nev. 2008) (recognizing that the "Nevada Supreme Court frequently looks to the Delaware Supreme Court and Delaware Courts of Chancery as persuasive authorities on questions of corporation law"); Hilton Hotels Corp. v. ITT Corp., 978 F. Supp. 1342, 1347 (D. Nev. 1997) (finding Delaware authority persuasive in absence of Nevada law on point).

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market from a majority stockholder in exchange for \$100,000 worth of corporate stock, they have in colloquial terms committed a 'fraud on the corporation' they are entrusted to manage").

In *Parfi*, for example, the Court of Chancery found that "actual fraud" in an analogous stock-issuance statutory provision did not require a material false statement or detrimental reliance. Moreover, the Court of Chancery stated:

our courts have said that § 152 does not bar a challenge to the directors' judgment on the value of non-cash consideration when an "excessive valuation ... is so gross as to lead the Court to conclude that it was due, not to an honest error of judgment but to bad faith or a reckless indifference to the rights of others." Furthermore, when § 152 applies, there is authority that suggests that the statutory "actual fraud" provision does not provide a defense when the underlying transaction involves unfair self-dealing proscribed by equitable fiduciary duty concepts.

11 Parfi 794 A.2d at 1235 (internal citation omitted). While the Plaintiff in Parfi had pleaded claims 12 for fraud and constructive fraud, the court ultimately dismissed the claim for fraud, and ordered 13 the plaintiff to restate its constructive fraud claim as a breach of fiduciary duty claim because, in 14 part, the three claims contained identical allegations. Parfi, 794 A.2d at 1233 ("Parfi's rationale 15 for pleading the fraud and constructive fraud counts apparently rests in some fear that it will not 16 be able to recover unless it can prove a level of wrongdoing amounting to fraud. . . . This fear is, 17 however, misplaced."). The kind of "equitable fraud" referred to by § 152's "actual fraud" 18 requirement is further distinguished from common law fraud in that it does not require scienter. 19 See, e.g., In re Wayport Litig. 76 A.3d 296, 327 (Del. Ch. 2013) (distinguishing constructive fraud 20 from common law fraud). Equitable fraud "provides a remedy for negligent or innocent 21 misrepresentations." Zirn v. VLI Corp., 681 A.2d 1050, 1061 (Del.1996); see Stephenson v. 22 Capano Dev., Inc., 462 A.2d 1069, 1074 (Del.1983) (noting that with equitable fraud, a 23 "defendant [does] not have to know or believe that his statement was false or to have proceeded 24 in reckless disregard of the truth").

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### III. CONCLUSION

While the term "actual fraud" in NRS 78.200 and NRS 78.211 appears to raise the standard of proof for equity expropriation claims, an investigation of the history and usage of the term reveals the term to be indistinguishable from a bad faith breach of fiduciary duty. As such, Footnote 15, NRS 78.200, and NRS 78.211 should not be read to heighten Plaintiff's burden of proof to that of common law fraud.

DATED this 24th day of August, 2021.

### McDONALD CARANO LLP

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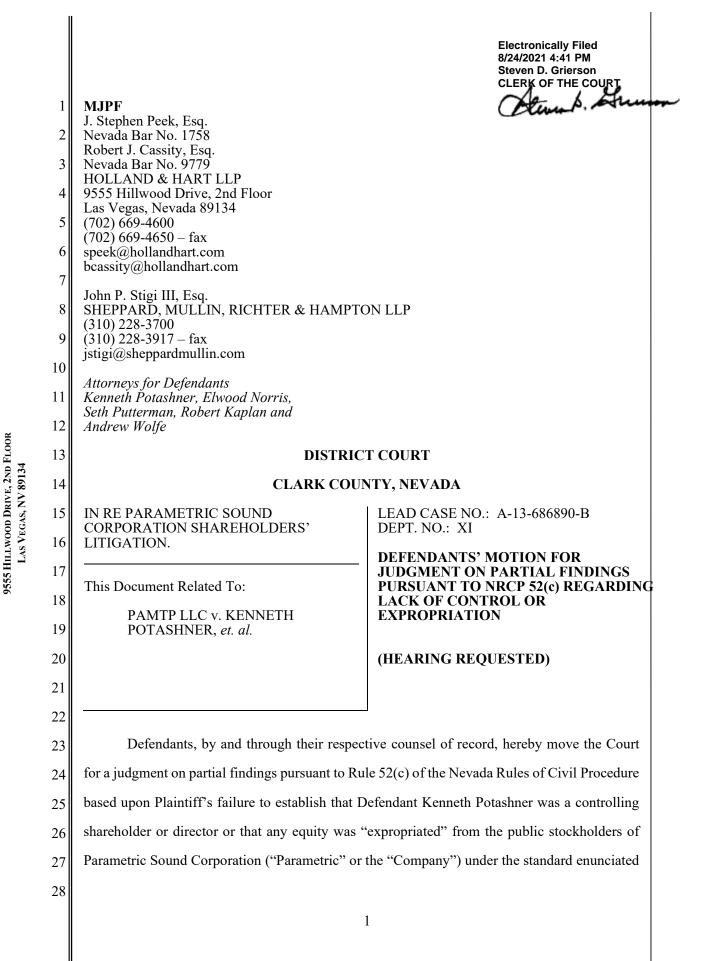
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I hereby certify that I am an employee of McDonald Carano LLP and that on the 24th day of August, 2021, the foregoing PLAINTIFF PAMTP LLC'S MEMORANDUM OF LAW REGARDING NRS 78.200 AND NRS 78.211 was electronically served with the Clerk of the Court via the Clark County District Court Electronic Filing Program which will provide copies to all counsel of record registered to receive such electronic notification.

> /s/ Jelena Jovanovic An Employee of McDonald Carano LLP

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HOLLAND & HART LLP

Case Number: A-13-686890-B

by the Nevada Supreme Court in Parametric Sound Corp. v. Eighth Judicial Dist. Court, 133 1 2 Nev. 417, 428, 401 P.3d 1100, 1109 (2017). 3 This Motion is supported by the attached Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the 4 evidence adduced during the trial of this matter, and the oral argument of counsel as the Court 5 may entertain at the hearing on this Motion. DATED this 24th day of August, 2021 6 HOLLAND & HART LLP 7 8 By: <u>/s/ J. Stephen Peek</u> 9 J. Stephen Peek, Esq. Robert J. Cassity, Esq. 10 9555 Hillwood Drive, 2nd Floor Las Vegas, NV 89134 11 John P. Stigi III, Esq. 12 SHEPPARD, MULLIN, RICHTER & HAMPTON LLP 13 1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1600 Los Angeles, California 90067 14 Attorneys for Defendant Kenneth Potashner 15 16 **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES** 17 I. **INTRODUCTION** 18 Plaintiff's standing to pursue this direct claim for equity expropriation depends entirely 19 on (i) the existence of a controlling stockholder or director; (ii) who expropriated equity from 20 the public stockholders for his own benefit (or the benefit of affiliated entities). Because Plaintiff 21 has not carried its burden on either point during its case in chief, Plaintiff lacks standing to pursue 22 its claims for what amounts to simple equity dilution. As a result, the Court should enter 23 judgment in favor of Defendants. 24 Plaintiff has failed to satisfy its burden of proof with respect to both elements of an equity 25 expropriation claim. As a threshold matter, Potashner never had actual control over Parametric 26 by for example owning more than 50% of the Company's voting stock or controlling other 27 stockholders who together would have held more than 50% of Parametric's voting stock. To the

The evidence is undisputed that Potashner's equity interest in Parametric on the record date of
 November 11, 2013 was composed <u>entirely</u> of unexercised, non-voting stock options. At trial,
 even Plaintiff's Managing Member Adam Kahn was forced to concede the obvious: One cannot
 be a controlling stockholder without owning at least one share.

5 Plaintiff has also failed to show that Potashner exercised *de facto* control over Parametric. 6 The evidence at trial has established that Parametric's pre-merger Board was fiercely 7 independent. Directors Robert Kaplan, Seth Putterman and Elwood Norris disagreed with 8 Potashner on many key issues affecting Parametric's business, dismissed his threats as empty 9 (and ineffectual) bluster, and regularly took actions contrary to his demands. As for director 10 James Honoré, no evidence has been introduced that would impugn the independence of Honoré—indeed, he was never even named as a defendant in this lawsuit. Although the other 11 directors may have had initial reservations regarding the independence director Andrew Wolfe, 12 13 they quickly came to recognize Wolfe as a "straight-shooter" who acted with integrity and could 14 be trusted. Because the merger was the product of a Board vote and required approval of the 15 majority of the pre-merger directors, the Court should grant this motion if it finds that any four 16 of Parametric's directors were independent of Potashner and voted in favor of the merger in good 17 faith.

18 Even assuming that Plaintiff has introduced evidence sufficient to meet its burden to 19 show Potashner controlled the Board (it has not), the Court should still enter judgment in favor 20 of Defendants. There is simply no evidence of any "expropriation" from the public stockholders as that concept is defined in the caselaw. The structure of the merger between Parametric and 21 22 Turtle Beach involved a run-of-the-mill dilutive transaction in favor of an unrelated third-party. 23 Plaintiff has failed to introduce evidence showing that Potashner, any affiliate of Potashner, or 24 any other pre-merger insider of Parametric expropriated economic and voting power from the 25 assignors or any other public stockholder of the pre-merger Company. To the contrary, all pre-26 merger Parametric stockholders, including Potashner, were diluted to the same extent.

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In sum, Plaintiff has failed to meet its burden to establish either one of the two prerequisites necessary for Plaintiff to proceed with a direct equity expropriation claim. As a result, the Court should grant this motion and enter judgment in favor of Defendants.

# II. LEGAL STANDARD

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NRCP 52(c) provides as follows:

If a party has been fully heard on an issue during a nonjury trial and the court finds against the party on that issue, the court may enter judgment against the party on a claim or defense that, under the controlling law, can be maintained or defeated only with a favorable finding on that issue. The court may, however, decline to render any judgment until the close of the evidence. A judgment on partial findings must be supported by findings of fact and conclusions of law as required by Rule 52(a).

11 NRCP 52(c) allows the district court in a bench trial to enter judgment on partial findings 12 against a party when the party has been fully heard on an issue and judgment cannot be 13 maintained without a favorable finding on that issue. Certified Fire Prot. Inc. v. Precision Constr. Inc., 128 Nev. 371, 377, 283 P.3d 250, 254 (2012). In entering a Rule 52(c) judgment, 14 15 "[t]he trial judge is not to draw any special inferences in the nonmovant's favor"; "since it is a 16 nonjury trial, the court's task is to weigh the evidence." Id. (citing 9C Charles Alan Wright & 17 Arthur R. Miller, Federal Practice and Procedure § 2573.1, at 256-60 (3d ed. 2008) (addressing 18 NRCP 52(c)'s federal counterpart, Fed. R. Civ. P. 52(c)); Robert E. Jones et al., Rutter Group 19 Practice Guide: Federal Civil Trials and Evidence § 17:92 (2011) ("Because the court acts as the 20factfinder when ruling on a [motion] for judgment on partial findings, it need not consider the 21 evidence in a light favorable to the nonmoving party . . . . ")). Further, "[w]here a question of 22 fact has been determined by the trial court, [the Nevada Supreme Court] will not reverse unless 23 the judgment is clearly erroneous and not based on substantial evidence." Kockos v. Bank of 24 Nevada, 90 Nev. 140, 143, 520 P.2d 1359, 1361 (1974).

III. PLAINTIFF HAS FAILED TO MEET ITS BURDEN AT TRIAL TO SHOW POTASHNER EXPROPRIATED EQUITY FROM THE PUBLIC STOCKHOLDERS AS A CONTROLLING STOCKHOLDER OR DIRECTOR

Plaintiff presents a classic equity dilution claim, alleging that Parametric issued too many
shares to Turtle Beach in the merger, which purportedly harmed Parametric's shareholders by

diluting their interest. Under Nevada law established in this case, Plaintiff's claim that 1 2 Parametric issued "additional equity for insufficient consideration" must be pursued derivatively 3 on behalf of the corporation "because any dilution in value of the corporation's stock is merely 4 the unavoidable result (from an accounting standpoint) of the reduction in value of the entire 5 corporate entity, of which each share of equity represents an equal fraction." Parametric, 133 6 Nev. at 428, 401 P.3d at 1109 (adopting direct equity expropriation claim recognized in Gentile 7 v. Rosette, 906 A.2d 91 (Del. 2006)). As this Court is aware, Plaintiff cannot pursue a derivative 8 claim for equity dilution because the prior class and derivative plaintiffs asserted such a claim 9 and, on May 18, 2020, the Court entered final judgment and an order of dismissal on the class 10 and derivative claims.

11 The settlement of the derivative claim means Plaintiff must lose at trial unless it has met its burden of proof under an exception recognized by the Nevada Supreme Court in Parametric, 12 13 which allows stockholders to proceed directly with a claim for breach of fiduciary duty arising 14 from a dilutive stock issuance by showing "a controlling shareholder's or director's expropriation of value from the company[] caus[es] other shareholders' equity to be diluted." 15 16 Parametric, 133 Nev. at 429, 401 P.3d at 1109. The Nevada Supreme Court recognized that 17 direct equity expropriation claims could exist under Nevada law, and sought to "align" Nevada 18 "jurisprudence with Delaware's" in this regard. See id.

A direct equity expropriation claim arises <u>only</u> where (1) "a stockholder having majority or effective control causes the corporation to issue 'excessive' shares of its stock in exchange for assets of the controlling stockholder that have a lesser value"; and (2) "the exchange causes an increase in the percentage of the outstanding shares owned by the controlling stockholder, and a corresponding decrease in the share percentage owned by the public (minority) shareholders." *Gentile*, 906 A.2d at 100; *see also El Paso Pipeline GP Co. v. Brinckerhoff*, 152 A.3d 1248, 1263-64 (Del. 2016).

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### A. Potashner Was Not a Controller of Parametric

A stockholder is a controller where: "the stockholder (1) owns more than 50% of the voting power of a corporation or (2) owns less than 50% of the voting power of the corporation

2 Ventures, L.P., 220 A.3d 245, 251 (Del. 2019) (internal citation omitted). "[D]emonstrating the 3 kind of control required to elevate a minority [stockholder] to controller status is 'not easy." In re Rouse Prop., Inc., C.A. No. 12194, 2018 WL 1226015, at \*11 (Del. Ch. Mar. 9, 2018). A 4 5 minority shareholder can only constitute a controller where he has "such formidable voting and 6 managerial power that [he], as a practical matter, [is] no differently situated than if [he] had 7 majority voting control." In re PNB Holding Co. S'holders Litig., No. Civ. A. No. 28, 2006 WL 8 2403999, at \*9 (Del. Ch. Aug. 18, 2006). Importantly, even "stockholders with very potent clout have been deemed, in thoughtful decisions, to fall short of the mark." Id. at \*9. The Nevada 9 10 Supreme Court extended this analysis to what it deemed a "controlling director." Parametric, 133 Nev. at 429, 401 P.3d at 1109. Thus, if Parametric did not have a "controlling stockholder 11 12 or director" pre-merger, there is no equity expropriation claim and the Court should enter 13 judgment against Plaintiff and for Defendants.

but exercises control over the business affairs of the corporation." Sheldon v. Pinto Tech.

# 1. Potashner Did Not Have Actual Control of Parametric

15 The evidence adduced at trial has demonstrated that Potashner never held "more than 16 50% of the voting power" in Parametric. In fact, Potashner did not own a single share of 17 Parametric stock at the time of the shareholder vote. Potashner's equity interest in Parametric 18 was composed exclusively of stock options, which were not entitled to any shareholder vote. 19 (See PX-244 at 47-48 (listing Potashner as having 417,500 options to purchase Parametric stock).) As of the record date of November 11, 2013, Potashner owned exactly none of the 20 21 6,837,321 outstanding shares in the pre-merger Parametric entitled to vote on the merger. (Id. 22 at 49.) Indeed, when Potashner asked whether his position, composed entirely of "options not 23 shares," was entitled to vote on the merger, Parametric's CFO Jim Barnes responded "[n]o votes 24 by you" and reminded Potashner that he would "not receive proxies." (DX-925 at 1.)

It is impossible for Potashner to have been a stockholder of Parametric—let alone a
controlling stockholder—if Potashner did not own any voting stock in the Company. Indeed,
even Plaintiff's Managing Member Adam Kahn agreed with the commonsense proposition:

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MR. KOTLER: ... Would you agree with me that a controlling stockholder has to own at least one voting share or not?

MR. KAHN: Well, they would not be a shareholder if they did not own - so, yes, I would agree with you that a controlling shareholder must own at least one share.

(Trial Tr. Day 1 at 144:24-145:4.) Defendants are aware of no authority granting controller status to a director who owned no voting shares in the company he is alleged to have controlled.

Plaintiff has failed to meet its burden at trial to satisfy the threshold requirement of an equity expropriation claim—the existence of a controlling stockholder. Because Plaintiff has introduced no evidence to the contrary, the Court should conclude that Potashner was not a controlling stockholder.

### 2. Potashner Did Not Have *De Facto* Control Over Parametric

In *Parametric*, the Nevada Supreme Court held that an equity expropriation claim can also proceed against a so-called "controlling director" who expropriates value from the public stockholders. *Parametric*, 133 Nev. at 429, 401 P.3d at 1109. Although the case law does not define what factors cause a director to become a "controlling director," the circumstances where a director is found to exercise control over a company should mirror situations where a minority stockholder have been deemed to exercise controller status.

Potashner did not exercise *de facto* control over Parametric.<sup>1</sup> Of course, Potashner, as
Parametric's Executive Chairman and practical CEO, participated extensively in the merger
negotiations and the running of Parametric's day-to-day business. But a director, like a minority
stockholder, should be considered a controller only "through 'a combination of potent voting
power and management control such that the stockholder could be deemed to have effective
control of the board without actually owning a majority of stock." *In re Tesla Motors, Inc. S'holder Litig.*, C.A. No. 12711, 2020 WL 553902, at \*4 (Del. Ch. Feb. 4, 2020) (quoting *Corwin*

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 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> No evidence has been presented at trial that Potashner held or exercised common indicia of control, such as the power to unilaterally: (i) elect new directors; (ii) cause Parametric to dissolve;
 (iii) cause Parametric to merge with another company; (iii) cash out public stockholders; (iv)

amend Parametric's Certificate of Incorporation; (v) sell all or substantially all of Parametric's assets; and/or (vi) offer employment to anyone at Turtle Beach post-merger. (Trial Tr. Day 4, Vol.

<sup>2</sup> at 66:5-21.) Nor has Plaintiff introduced evidence that any of the other directors of Parametric were family members or subordinates of Potashner. (*Id.* at 66:22-67:1.)

v. KKR Fin. Holdings LLC, 125 A.3d 304, 307 (Del. 2015)); Superior Vision Servs., Inc. v.
 ReliaStar Life Ins. Co., No. Civ. A. 1668, 2006 WL 2521426, at \*4 (Del. Ch. Aug. 25, 2006)
 ("[T]he focus of the inquiry has been on the *de facto* power of a significant (but less than majority) shareholder, which, when coupled with other factors, gives that shareholder the ability to dominate the corporate decision-making process.").<sup>2</sup>

6 The proper focus of the "control" inquiry is the shareholder's "domination of the board 7 with regard to the transaction at issue." In re Crimson Expl. Inc. S'holder Litig., C.A. No. 8541, 8 2014 WL 5449419, at \*12 (Del. Ch. Oct. 24, 2014); see also id. (a minority stockholder "will 9 not be considered a controlling stockholder unless they actually control the board's decisions about the challenged transaction"); Superior Vision, 2006 WL 2521426, at \*4 (controller inquiry 10 11 is "focused on control of the board"). The supposed controller's "power must be so potent that 12 independent directors cannot freely exercise their judgment, fearing retribution from the 13 controlling minority blockholder." Rouse, 2018 WL 1226015, at \*11 (internal quotation marks 14 omitted). The analysis "turn[s] on the power of the alleged controller to co-opt the board." 15 Sciabacucchi, 2017 WL 2352152, at \*17.

The evidence offered at trial by Parametric's directors is unanimous: <u>Potashner did not</u> <u>control the Parametric Board</u>. Each director explained the various independent reasons he believed the merger with Turtle Beach was in the best interests of Parametric. *See Kaplan v. Centex Corp.*, 284 A.2d 119, 123 (Del. Ch. 1971) (rejecting arguments seeking to establish a controller where board "exercised independence of judgment and action in agreeing to the terms" of a transaction). The directors also recounted various instances where they defied Potashner's wishes or otherwise successfully pursued a course of action adverse to Potashner. With the

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Potashner's anxiety over the public stockholder's approval of the merger, too, shows that he was not unilaterally driving the course of Parametric's corporate future, but, instead, was concerned about whether the Parametric shareholders would approve the merger. (Trial Tr. Day 4, Vol. 2 at 46:21-47:9.) Shareholders who exercise "control" do not typically worry about the

outcome of either board or shareholder votes. *See, e.g., Omnicare, Inc. v. NCS Healthcare, Inc.*, 818 A.2d 914, 937 (Del. 2003) (explaining where a controller or control group exists, general

<sup>shareholder votes "are likely to become mere formalities"); Solomon v. Armstrong, 747 A.2d
1098, 1116 n.55 (Del. Ch. 1999) (explaining "since the controlling shareholder can force through the proposed action/transaction by virtue of his control over the franchise, shareholder ratification is self-serving and unremarkable"),</sup> *aff'd*, 746 A.2d 277 (Del. 2000).

exception of Wolfe, who Plaintiff did not call during its case, none of the directors had any 1 2 relationship with Potashner prior to when he joined the pre-merger Parametric Board. Moreover, 3 all of the directors who provided testimony vehemently defended their independence and the 4 independence of their fellow board members. See Beam ex rel. Martha Stewart Living 5 Omnimedia, Inc. v. Stewart, 845 A.2d 1040, 1052 (Del. 2004) (discussing director independence 6 in the context of demand futility and noting a plaintiff is "plead facts that would support the 7 inference that because of the nature of a relationship or additional circumstances other than the 8 interested director's stock ownership or voting power, the non-interested director would be more 9 willing to risk his or her reputation than risk the relationship with the interested director.").

<u>Honoré</u>: Honoré was <u>not</u> named as a defendant in this opt-out action. Plaintiff has
 introduced zero evidence showing that Honoré had any pre-existing relationship with Potashner
 or was otherwise beholden to or under Potashner's control. As a result, the evidence before the
 Court supports a finding that Honoré was independent of Potashner.

14 Kaplan: Kaplan was perhaps the Board member who was the most antagonistic to 15 Potashner. He testified that he was initially against hiring Potashner as executive chairman of 16 the company, voted against the initial grant of options in HHI to Potashner, voted to cancel 17 Potashner's options in HHI for no consideration, and rebuffed Potashner's efforts to cause him 18 to retire from his position as a director of the pre-merger Parametric. (Trial Tr. Day 5 at 20:21:4, 19 69:3-16, 70:21-73:18, 84:15-85:5, 110:12-101:4.) Moreover, Kaplan performed his own 20financial analysis of the merger and found that the exchange ratio negotiated by Parametric 21 exceeded his own model of the expected contribution the pre-merger Parametric would provide 22 to the combined company. (Id. at 81:19-83:7, 91:1-92.9 (Kaplan calculated that Parametric's 23 contribution to the joint company was 17.4%).) Kaplan shared this analysis with Board members 24 Norris and Putterman. (Id. at 82:24-83:7.) Kaplan did not rely on Potashner when deciding to 25 vote in favor of the merger and instead relied on Parametric's CFO James Barnes and the advice 26 of counsel when he voted in favor of the merger. (Id. at 63:24-64:11.)

27 <u>Putterman</u>: Putterman considered Potashner to be a bully and aggressive, but dismissed
28 the threats as "noise." The Board appointed Putterman, along with Wolfe, to negotiate the

cancellation of Potashner's HHI options. Putterman resisted Potashner's attempt to have him 1 2 resign from the Parametric Board for a position as a director of the HHI subsidiary. (Id. at 3 153:12-21.) Putterman also testified that the Board rejected Potashner's suggestion to have 4 Wolfe resign from the pre-merger Company's audit committee. (Id. at 172:17-173:10.) 5 Putterman strongly supported the merger with Turtle Beach after independently verifying Turtle 6 Beach's ability to mass produce, distribute, and sell its headsets at locations such as Best Buy. 7 (Id. at 118:14-120:3.) Putterman relied on Kaplan's financial analysis and on the advice of 8 Barnes when voting to approve the merger. (Id. at 129:12-21.) Putterman also memorably 9 testified that he would not be willing to risk his reputation during his Board service. (Id. at 10 162:6-21 ("I mean, my reputation is my identity. That's why -- you know, my independence is my identity. It doesn't go for anything.").) 11

<u>Norris</u>: Norris was the Company's founder, HyperSound inventor, and the Company's largest individual stockholder. (PX 244 at 47.) With the exception of Potashner and Wolfe, the Board was made up of Norris' friends and acquaintances. (Trial Tr. Day 6, Vol. 1 at 47:6-47:18.) Norris affirmed that he strongly wanted to do the merger with Turtle Beach and that the Board was fiercely independent, which caused friction with Potashner. (*Id.* at 37:23-39:1.) Norris also ignored and rejected Potashner's threat to replace the board causing Potashner to back down. (Trial Tr. Day 5, Vol. 1 at 66:7-67:5.)

<u>Wolfe</u>: Wolfe has not yet testified. Wolfe was initially brough to the Board by Potashner.
Although Parametric's directors were initially suspicious of Wolfe's independence, after
interacting with Wolfe they came to recognize that he acted independently of Potashner. (Trial
Tr. Day 5, Vol. 1 at 124:9-125:6; Trial Tr. Day 6, Vol. 1 at 49:17-25.)

The Parametric directors were uniform in their independence from Potashner and, in general, often pushed back against his interests and sometimes aggressive management style where appropriate. To grant this motion, however, the Court need <u>not</u> conclude that all of Parametric's directors were independent of Potashner when they voted to approve the merger. *See Wynn Resorts, Ltd. v. Eighth Judicial Dist. Court*, 133 Nev. 369, 376, 399 P.3d 334, 342 (2017) (observing that the business judgment rule applies to business decisions made by individual directors and the board as a collective body). Only an independent majority is
 required. As Plaintiff has failed to meet his burden to show that Potashner controlled at least
 four of Parametric's Board members when they voted to approve the merger, the Court should
 grant the motion and enter judgment in favor of defendants in this action.

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## **B.** No Equity Was Expropriated from Parametric

Plaintiff has also failed to establish the second threshold element of its equity expropriation claim: that the transaction at issue effectuated "an increase in the percentage of the outstanding shares owned <u>by the controlling stockholder</u>, and a corresponding decrease in the share percentage owned by the public (minority) shareholders." *Gentile*, 906 A.2d at 100 (emphasis added); *see also Parametric*, 133 Nev. at 429, 401 P.3d at 1109. No evidence supports a conclusion that Potashner expropriated economic or voting power from the legacy Parametric shareholders to himself or any affiliated entity.<sup>3</sup>

13 As a preliminary matter, "[a] transaction does not fit within the Gentile paradigm if the controller itself is diluted by that transaction." Almond v. Glenhill Advisors LLC, C.A. No. 14 15 10477, 2018 WL 3954733, at \*28 (Del. Ch. Aug. 17, 2018), aff'd 224 A.3d 200 (Del. 2019); see 16 also Daugherty v. Dondero, C.A. No. 2019-0101, 2019 WL 4740089, at \*3 (Del. Ch. Sept. 27, 17 2019) (same). Here, the evidence presented at trial shows that the amount of outstanding equity (including shares, options and warrants) held by the pre-merger stockholders remained the same 18 19 before and after the merger. (See DX-756 at 1-2; DX-754 at 7 (listing 6,769,051 shares, 20 1,365,354 options and 186,864 warrants belonging to the pre-merger Parametric stockholders 21 both pre-transaction and post-transaction).) No pre-merger equity holder of Parametric was 22 issued additional equity as a result of the merger. And no pre-merger equity holder of Parametric 23 was diluted any differently than any other equity holder.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> No evidence has been adduced at trial that Potashner (or anybody else at Parametric) had any pre-existing relationship with Turtle Beach. As a result, this case does not fit the paradigm of an equity expropriation where a controlling stockholder <u>appropriates the benefit of an expropriation</u> after transferring the equity expropriated to a third party. *See Gatz v. Ponsoldt*, 925 A.2d 1265, 1279-1280 (Del. 2007) (discussing a two-step transaction where a controller expropriates equity to himself and then immediately transfers such equity to a third party for the benefit of the controller).

Potashner's stake in Parametric was diluted by the merger just like every other Parametric 1 2 equity holders. Pre-merger, Potashner held a 5.8% ownership interest in Parametric, composed 3 entirely of stock options. (PX-244 at 47.) When Parametric issued an 81% controlling interest 4 to the shareholders of VTBH pursuant to the terms of the merger, Potashner's position, like those 5 of every pre-merger Parametric shareholder, was diluted. In fact, Plaintiff cannot contest that 6 Potashner's stake in Parametric was diluted far worse than the typical pre-merger Parametric 7 shareholder, given that, as a result of the merger, Potashner lost all his options in HHI for no 8 additional consideration. In addition, Potashner's ultimate position with respect to his 9 Parametric equity interest was also much worse when compared to the public stockholders' position because Potashner was a party to a lock-up agreement that prevented him from selling 10 11 any Parametric stock for six months following the closing of the merger. (PX 244 at 88.) When 12 the dust ultimately settled, Potashner's stock options in Parametric expired worthless-meaning 13 that his equity stake in the Company was ultimately reduced to 0% as a result of the merger. 14 (Trial Tr. Day 4, Vol. 2 at 117:15-120:6.)

That Potashner received a severance payment and a seat on the combined company's 15 16 board after the merger's close makes no difference. Those two "benefits" were not the 17 "economic and voting power" once owned by the legacy Parametric shareholders, let alone in 18 any way related to the dilution the merger caused to those shareholders' stakes in Parametric. 19 See Klein v. H.I.G. Cap., LLC, C.A. No. 2017-0862, 2018 WL 6719717, at \*8 (Del. Ch. Dec. 19, 2018) (holding case did not involve "the type of transfer of economic value normally 20 contemplated in a Gentile claim" because benefit the controller allegedly received for inadequate 21 22 consideration was a security not held by all shareholders); Almond, 2018 WL 3954733, at \*28 23 ("As a mathematical matter, for a transaction to transfer economic and voting power to Glenhill 24 disproportionately, Glenhill would need to receive in that transaction a percentage of the security 25 to be issued that exceeds the percentage of economic and voting power Glenhill already held in 26 the Company immediately before that transaction. Otherwise, the transaction either would be 27 dilutive to Glenhill or would maintain its percentage ownership." (emphasis in original)). 28 Indeed, the evidence shows that the severance clause in Potashner's employment agreement was

HOLLAND & HART LLP 9555 Hillwood Drive, 2nd Floor Las Vegas, NV 89134 1 negotiated with the Board prior to the commencement of negotiations with Turtle Beach and

2 would have been triggered upon any change of control, not just the merger with Turtle Beach.

3 (DX 504; Trial Tr. Day 4 Vol. 1 at 14:17-16:10.)<sup>4</sup>

In sum, Plaintiff has failed to meet its burden to show that equity was expropriated from

5 the public stockholders. Thus, for this additional independent reason, Defendants are entitled to

6 judgment.

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### C. The Court Need Only Address Whether Plaintiff Has Met Its Burden Regarding "Actual Fraud" If There Is Evidence To Support an Equity Expropriation Claim

NRS 78.211(1) provides as follows:

The board of directors may authorize shares to be issued for consideration consisting of any tangible or intangible property or benefit to the corporation, including, but not limited to, cash, promissory notes, services performed, contracts for services to be performed or other securities of the corporation. The nature and amount of such consideration may be made dependent upon a formula approved by the board of directors or upon any fact or event which may be ascertained outside the articles of incorporation or the resolution providing for the issuance of the shares adopted by the board of directors if the manner in which a fact or event may operate upon the nature and amount of the consideration is stated in the articles of incorporation or the resolution. The judgment of the board of directors as to the consideration received for the shares issued is conclusive in the absence of actual fraud in the transaction.

(emphasis added.) In other words, NRS 78.211(1) establishes a conclusive presumption that the Board's judgment with respect to the share issuance to Turtle Beach as a result of the merger <u>must</u> be respected in the absence of fraud.

What NRS 78.211(1) does not address, however, is whether shareholders have direct

standing to assert an equity dilution claim. As is clear from Parametric, the only direct claim

28 corporation, shared by all stockholders and not related to an individual stockholder.")

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> That Plaintiff's claim is a general, non-direct equity dilution claim is confirmed by the testimony of its expert J.T. Atkins. Defendants incorporate by reference the arguments raised in the Rule 52(c) motion on damages filed concurrently with this motion to show that Plaintiff has failed to meet its burden to show expropriation. The derivative nature of Plaintiff's claims is further confirmed by the fact that its damages are based on the assumption that Parametric was harmed as a result of Potashner's alleged decision to defer Parametric's licensing efforts in favor of the merger with Turtle Beach. (Trial Tr. Day 2, Vo. 1 at 24:13-25:15.) Under binding Nevada precedent, allegations that "officers, directors, or majority shareholders mismanaged the corporation resulting in a loss of revenue" can only support a derivative claim. *See Cohen v. Mirage Resorts, Inc.*, 119 Nev. 1, 21, 62 P.3d 720, 734-735 (2003) ("This is harm to the

available to stockholders in connection with a board of director's decision to issue equity is an 1 2 equity expropriation claim. See Parametric, 133 Nev. at 428-429, 401 P.3d at 1109. Indeed, 3 footnote 15 in *Parametric* read in context with the sentence giving rise to that footnote is clear that the only "direct equity dilution claim" available to stockholders is a claim for equity 4 5 expropriation. Id., 133 Nev. at 429, 401 P.3d at 1109. If Plaintiff, who is proceeding in this 6 action directly, has not established the pre-requisites of an equity expropriation claim of (i) a 7 controlling stockholder or director, and (ii) the expropriation of equity by that controlling 8 stockholder or director, then Plaintiff's claims necessarily fail irrespective of whether Plaintiff 9 has met its burden to rebut the presumption in favor of directors set forth in NRS 78.211(1).

10 In any event, Plaintiff has failed to establish that any directors committed actual fraud in connection with the issuance of shares to Turtle Beach in connection with the merger-let alone 11 12 that a majority of the Board committed actual fraud. Plaintiff has not identified a single portion 13 of the Proxy that was misstated or proved that the directors were aware of any Turtle Beach 14 financial numbers other than those disclosed in the Proxy. Thus, for this additional reason, the Court should grant Defendants' motion. 15

#### **CONCLUSION** IV.

17 Based upon the foregoing, Defendants respectfully request that this Court enter judgment 18 on partial findings pursuant to NRCP 52(c) in favor of Defendants and against Plaintiff on 19 Plaintiff's equity expropriation breach of fiduciary duty claim.

20	DATED this 24th day of August, 2021
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16

1	1 <u>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</u>				
2	I hereby certify that on the 24th day	of August 2021, a true and correct copy of the			
3	foregoing DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR	R DETERMINATION OF GOOD FAITH			
4	SETTLEMENT - EX PARTE APPLICATIO	ON FOR ORDER SHORTENING TIME AND			
5	ORDER THEREON was served by the follow	ing method(s):			
6 7	Electronic: by submitting electronically Judicial District Court's e-filing system a accordance with the E-service list to the	and served on counsel electronically in			
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	8	Kenneth Fox	and the second se		
	9	<b>ГІСНТН ПІЛІСІА</b>	L DISTRICT COURT		
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	11	CLARK COU	JNTY, NEVADA		
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<sup>r</sup> ilmer <sup>ES</sup> <sup>(way, Suite 1100</sup>	13	CORPORATION SHAREHOLDERS'	DEPT. NO.: XI		
Willmei LP. PFFICES s Parkway, Suite (evada 89169 44.5200	14	LITIGATION	HEARING REQUESTED		
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Snell & LAW C Las V egas, h	16	ALL ACTIONS	JUDGMENT ON STANDING PURSUANT		
Smell & 3883 Howard Hug Las Vegas 702			TO NRCP 52(C)		
	17				
	18				
	19				
	20				
	21		neth Potashner, Elwood Norris, Seth Putterman,		
	22	Robert Kaplan, Andrew Wolfe, and Specially A	ppearing Defendants Stripes Group, LLC, SG VTB		
	23	Holdings, LLC, Juergen Stark, Kenneth Fox, by and through their counsel of record and pursuant			
	24	to NRCP 52(c), move for judgment in their favor on all causes of action in Plaintiff's Complaint			
	25	on the basis that Plaintiff lacks standing to bring the direct equity expropriation claim at issue in			
	26	this matter. This Motion is based on the pleading	ngs and papers on file, the following Memorandum		
	27	of Points and Authorities, the Trial Transcrip	ts cited herein, and any argument the Court may		
	28	entertain on behalf of Defendants.			

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		- 2 -
	II	

# **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

# I. INTRODUCTION

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Nowhere in Plaintiff's affirmative case did it present a single piece of evidence or testimony even suggesting, let alone proving, that any Assignor entered into an agreement with a third-party purchaser of their pre-Merger Parametric shares to preserve the Assignor's right to assert direct or derivative equity dilution claims against Defendants before selling those pre-Merger Parametric shares to the third party. This is the precise basis upon which Plaintiff avoided a summary judgment ruling for lack of standing. *See* 6/14/2021 Hr'g Tr. 14:23-15:4 (denying summary judgment because "with respect to the standing issue, here there was a preservation of rights that was actually done prior to the transfer of certain of the shares. For that reason the standing motion has genuine issues of material fact.") (emphasis added). Following the close of Plaintiff's case in chief, no such "genuine issues of material fact" exist.

It is <u>undisputed</u> that Plaintiff has the burden to establish its own standing in this case. 13 Further, Urdan v. WR Capital Partners, LLC, 244 A.3d 668, 678 (Del. 2020) makes clear that 14 Plaintiff's Assignors lost any standing they otherwise might have had if they sold their Parametric 15 stock without preserving their legal rights in an agreement with the buyer. Plaintiff offered no 16 evidence that, at the time of their assignments, any Assignor continued to hold the any of the shares 17 of Parametric stock they held on the date of the Merger. Plaintiff also offered no evidence that any 18 Assignor executed some "preservation of rights" with a third-party buyer before selling their stock 19 to that buyer. The factual record is no longer in dispute. Under Urdan, Plaintiff has failed to 20 demonstrate that any Assignor had standing to assert an equity expropriation claim at the time of 21 his or her assignment to Plaintiff, and thus Plaintiff, itself, lacks standing to assert its present equity 22 expropriation claim on behalf of any Assignor. 23

# II. LEGAL ARGUMENT

# A. Legal Standard

"If a party has been fully heard on an issue during a nonjury trial and the court finds against
the party on that issue, the court may enter judgment against the party on a claim or defense that,
under the controlling law, can be maintained or defeated only with a favorable finding on that

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issue." NRCP 52(c). "[I]n entering a Rule 52(c) judgment, the trial judge is not to draw any special inferences in the nonmovant's favor; since it is a nonjury trial, the court's task is to weigh the evidence." Certified Fire Prot. Inc. v. Precision Constr., Inc., 128 Nev. 371, 377, 283 P.3d 250, 254 (2012) (internal citations and quotations omitted) (quoting Robert E. Jones et al., RUTTER GROUP PRACTICE GUIDE: FEDERAL CIVIL TRIALS AND EVIDENCE § 17:92 (2011) for the proposition that "[b]ecause the court acts as the factfinder when ruling on a [motion] for judgment on partial findings, it need not consider the evidence in a light favorable to the nonmoving party...."). "Where a question of fact has been determined by the trial court, [the Nevada Supreme Court] will not reverse unless the judgment is clearly erroneous and not based on substantial evidence." Id. (quoting Kockos v. Bank of Nevada, 90 Nev. 140, 143, 520 P.2d 1359, 1361 (1974)).

# B. Plaintiff Failed To Meet Its Burden Of Proving That The Assignors Preserved Their Right To Sue When Selling Their Parametric Stock Prior To Assigning Their Claims To Plaintiff.

It is Plaintiff's burden to establish that it has standing to assert its claims. Nevada Recycling & Salvage, Ltd. v. Reno Disposal Co., 134 Nev. 463, 466-67, 423 P.3d 605, 607-08 (2018) (affirming summary judgment in defendants' favor because plaintiffs failed to produce sufficient evidence of standing). Plaintiff was not a shareholder of Parametric and has no independent standing to assert any claim set forth in the Complaint. To the contrary, it exclusively asserts claims purportedly assigned to it by former shareholders of Parametric (the "Assignors") in April 2020. See PX 475. The Assignors, however, could not assign any claim to Plaintiff in April 2020 that they did not have standing to assert themselves at that time. Thus, Plaintiff must establish that the Assignors had standing to assert the claims at issue in April 2020 in order for such standing to have passed to Plaintiff.

Any right the Assignors ever might have had to assert a claim against Defendants arises out of their ownership of stock in Parametric on the date of the merger, January 15, 2014. As clarified by the Delaware Supreme Court's ruling in Urdan, longstanding principles of shareholder litigation dictate that "dilution claims, whether direct"—like those asserted by Plaintiff here—"derivative, or a combination of the two" arising from the ownership of stock "are not claims personal to the

- 2 -

stockholder." 244 A.3d at 678. Accordingly, shareholders forfeit any right to pursue such claims 1 2 in litigation when they sell their stock because the right to assert such a claim passes to the purchaser 3 of the stock because when a purchaser acquires a share of common stock he "acquires all rights in [that] security that the transferor had or had power to transfer." Id. at 677. The only way for a 4 5 shareholder to sell the stock and retain the right to assert a legal claim is to expressly reserve the 6 right to sue at the time the stock is sold. Id. Thus, the Assignors could not assign any claim to 7 Plaintiff in April 2020 if (i) they sold their stock prior to April 2020, and (ii) they failed to expressly 8 preserve their right to sue when those sales occurred. The evidence is now clear that both of these 9 predicates for Plaintiff's lack of standing are true.

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In denying Defendants' Second Motion for Summary Judgment, this Court ruled as follows: "With respect to the standing issue, here there was a <u>preservation of rights</u> that was actually done <u>prior to the transfer of certain of the shares</u>. For that reason, the standing motion has genuine issues of material fact. While the Court may ultimately determine that there are problems with the transfer agreements that were entered into, I am not going to make that at this stage under the summary judgment standard." 6/14/2021 Hr'g Tr. 14:23-15:4 (emphasis added).

16 Trial now has confirmed that a "preservation of rights . . . prior to the transfer of certain of 17 the shares" never occurred. Plaintiff did not present a single piece of evidence or a single line of 18 testimony suggesting otherwise. To the contrary, the representative for Assignor IceRose Capital 19 testified that it would be extremely unlikely for any Assignor to have executed such a preservation 20 of rights. When asked directly about selling stock with any sort of reservation of legal rights, the 21 representative for Assignor IceRose Capital testified that the Assignors "did not transfer the shares 22 with any sort of right." 8/16 Tr. at 165:13-15. Each of the other Assignors to testify concurred that 23 he sold his pre-Merger Parametric shares in to the open market without any sort of reservation of 24 rights agreement, i.e., with "no strings attached." See 8/17 PM Tr. at 78:15-18; 8/23 AM Tr. at 72:20-73:4; 102:2-6; 8/23 PM Tr. at 20:13-22; 37:9-18. 25

In short, Plaintiff presented no evidence of the required preservation of rights it led this
Court to believe existed.

# C. Plaintiff Has Presented No Evidence Of Any Assignor Still Owning Shares That It Owned On The Date Of The Merger At The Time Of Their Assignment.

Because the Assignors did not preserve any rights before selling their stock, the only way they could have had standing at the time of their assignments to assert their equity expropriation claim arising out of the merger is if at the time they assigned their claims to Plaintiff, they still held the specific shares of Parametric stock that they held on the date of the merger. Plaintiff has not met its burden of making such a showing.

For all Assignors except IceRose, the undisputed testimony is that they each sold all of their Parametric shares prior to their assignment. See 8/17 PM Tr. at 77:14-20; 8/23 AM Tr. at 70:24-71:6; 72:11-14; 100:17-21; 101:6-19; 8/23 PM Tr. at 20:6-8; 37:1-4. Plaintiff presented no evidence to the contrary.

For IceRose, Adam Kahn (the representative for IceRose) testified that he did not know if IceRose continued to hold the specific shares of stock it held on January 15, 2014 ("Original Shares") when IceRose assigned its purported claims to Plaintiff. Kahn agreed that a determination of whether he held Original Shares at the time of his assignment would depend on whether his broker used FIFO (first in, first out) or LIFO (last in, first out) procedures for selling stock. 8/16 Tr. at 175:5-12. He testified he only could be certain that he still held Original Shares at the time of his assignment if his broker used LIFO. Id. This statement is correct, as the brokerage statement confirm that Kahn sold all of his Original Shares—despite the ambiguity surrounding the number of Original Shares actually owned—by the end of 2014 if FIFO was used. See Exs. PX 410; DX 1071. But Kahn clarified that he did not know if LIFO or FIFO was used: "I am not certain how it was counted." Id. at 176:3. When asked a second time, he again stated "I don't know what was used and I don't know the number of shares that are sold in 2014." Id. at 177:2-3. Because Plaintiff presented no evidence that Kahn's broker used LIFO instead of FIFO, Plaintiff has not met its burden of demonstrating that IceRose still had Original Shares at the time of his assignment.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Publicly available records from IceRose's broker specify that FIFO is the "default method" that 26 will apply absent instruction to use something else. See Interactive Brokers, User's Guide: Tax Optimizer (available at https://guides.interactivebrokers.com/ibto pdf/ibtoguide.pdf) at 5 ("FIFO 27 is the default method that will be applied if you do not choose another method. Under FIFO, the sale is matched with the earliest purchased lot or lots available."). The IRS follows the same default 28 See Internal Revenue Service, Publication 550 (Cost Basis) (available at procedure.

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	1	Accordingly, Plaintiff failed to demonstrate standing.
	2	III. CONCLUSION
	3	For the foregoing reasons, the Court should grant judgment in favor of all Defendants and
	4	against Plaintiff on all counts on the basis that Plaintiff lacks standing to bring the direct equity
	5	expropriation claim at issue in this matter.
	6	Dated: August 24, 2021 SNELL & WILMER L.L.P.
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	25 26	https://www.irs.gov/publications/p550#en_US_2020_publink100010385); IRS FAQs (available at https://www.irs.gov/fags/gapital_gaing_logges_and_gale_of_home/stocks_ontions_gality
	26 27	https://www.irs.gov/faqs/capital-gains-losses-and-sale-of-home/stocks-options-splits- traders/stocks-options-splits-traders-1) ("If you can't adequately identify the shares you sold and you bought the shares at various times for different prices, the basis of the stock sold is: The basis
	27	of the shares you acquired first, then the basis of the stock later acquired, and so forth (first-in first- out).").
	20	
		- 5 -

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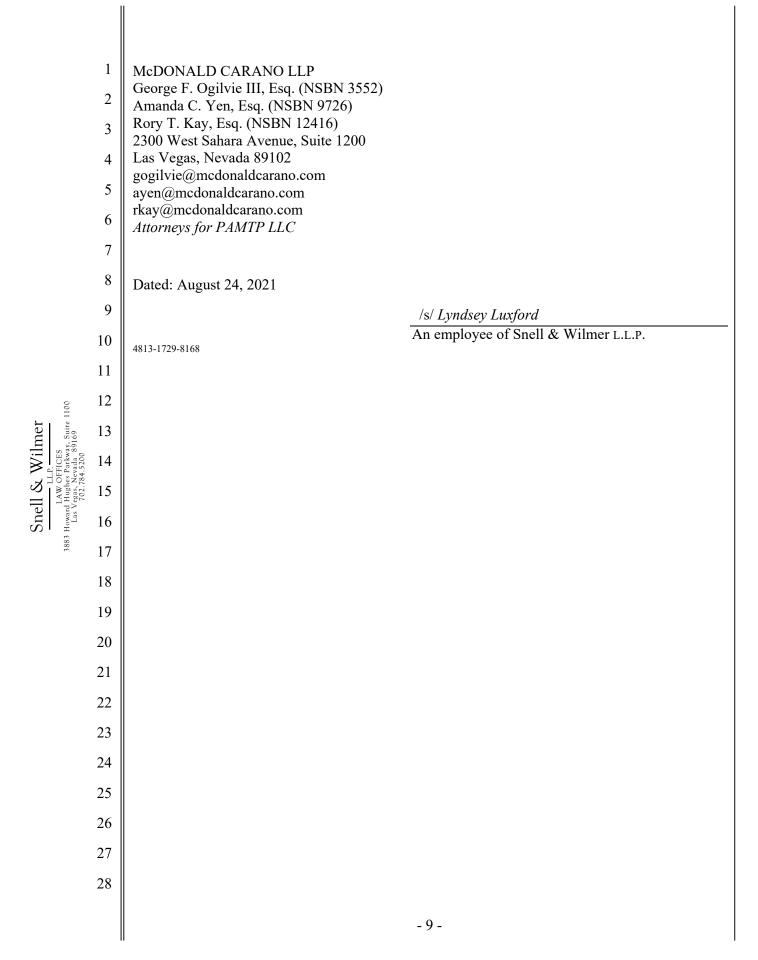
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	1	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE						
	2	On the date below, as an employee of Snell & Wilmer L.L.P., I certify that I served a copy						
	3	of the foregoing DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR JUDGMENT ON STANDING						
	4	<b>PURSUANT TO NRCP 52(C)</b> via e-service through Odyssey to the email addresses listed below:						
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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 11 12 13 14 11 12 13 14 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 17 18 19 10 11 12 13 14 14 15 16 17 17 17 10 11 12 13 14 14 15 16 17 17 10 11 12 13 14 14 15 16 16 17 17 17 10 11 12 13 14 14 15 16 17 17 17 10 11 12 13 14 14 15 16 17 17 10 11 12 13 14 14 15 16 17 17 10 11 12 13 14 14 15 16 17 17 10 11 12 13 14 14 15 15 16 17 17 17 10 11 12 13 14 14 15 15 16 17 17 19 10 11 12 13 14 14 15 15 16 17 17 18 19 19 10 11 12 13 14 14 15 15 16 17 17 18 19 19 20 12 12 13 13 14 14 15 15 16 17 17 18 19 19 19 10 11 17 17 18 19 19 10 11 10 11 12 13 13 14 12 13 13 14 17 17 18 19 19 10 11 17 18 11 19 11 19 11 10 11 10 11 12 13 13 14 12 13 12 12 13 12 13 14 14 15 15 16 17 17 18 18 19 19 10 11 17 18 11 17 18 18 19 20 20 21 22 23 24 22 23 24 22 23 24 22 23 24 22 23 24 22 23 24 22 23 24 22 23 24 22 23 24 22 23 24	ROBBINS GELLER RUDMAN & DOWD LLP David A. Knotts, Esq. Andall Baron, Esq. Maxwell Ralph Huffman, Esq. 655 West Broadway, Suite 1900 San Diego, CA 92101-8498 DKnotts@rgrdlaw.com Attorneys for Grant Oakes and Derivative Plaintiff Lance Mykita DECHERT L.L.P. David A. Kotler, Esq. (Admitted Pro Hac Vice) Brian Raphel, Esq. (Admitted Pro Hac Vice) Brian Raphel, Esq. (Admitted Pro Hac Vice) I095 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036 Tel. (212) 698-3822 Fax (212) 698-3599 Neil.steiner@dechert.com Brian.Raphel@dechert.com Joshua D. N. Hess, Esq. (Admitted Pro Hac Vice) One Bush Street, Ste. 1600 San Francisco, CA 94104 Tel. (202) 261-3333 Joshua.Hess@dechert.com Ryan M. Moore (Admitted Pro Hac Vice) 2929 Arch Street Philadelphia, PA 19104 Ryan.Moore@dechert.com Attorneys for Defendants VTB Holdings, Inc. and Specially Appearing Defendants Stripes Group, LLC and SG VTB Holdings, LLC Adam M. Apton, Esq. LEVI & KORSINSKY LLP 1101 30th Street, Suite 115 Washington, D.C. 20007 Attorneys for PAMTP LLC
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	28	entertain on behalf of Defendants.	

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## **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

#### **INTRODUCTION** I.

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This Court already has ruled that the only measure of damages permitted for Plaintiff's equity expropriation claim is that set forth in Gentile v. Rossette, 906 A.2d 91, 103 (Del. 2006). Although the parties apparently still dispute the precise contours of an equity expropriation claim under Gentile,<sup>1</sup> they are in full agreement that (1) Plaintiff must prove that someone expropriated equity from minority shareholders, and (2) the measure of damages that Plaintiff must prove is the value of the expropriated equity in accordance with *Gentile*. Despite the Court's clear ruling, Plaintiff rested its case without putting forth any evidence in support of the required measure of damages. To the contrary, Plaintiff's damages expert, J.T. Atkins, testified that the sole calculation he is offering in this action is not a measure of equity expropriation damages under Gentile. In fact, he admitted that he did not calculate any amount that anyone expropriated from Parametric's minority shareholders. Instead, he only attempted to calculate an amount that all shareholders lost "into the ether."

Because Plaintiff has failed to meet its burden of proving any valid measure of damages for an equity expropriation claim, judgment should be entered in Defendants' favor.

#### II. LEGAL ARGUMENT

# A. Legal Standard

"If a party has been fully heard on an issue during a nonjury trial and the court finds against 19 the party on that issue, the court may enter judgment against the party on a claim or defense that, 20 under the controlling law, can be maintained or defeated only with a favorable finding on that 21 issue." NRCP 52(c). "[I]n entering a Rule 52(c) judgment, the trial judge is not to draw any special 22 inferences in the nonmovant's favor; since it is a nonjury trial, the court's task is to weigh the 23 evidence." Certified Fire Prot. Inc. v. Precision Constr., Inc., 128 Nev. 371, 377, 283 P.3d 250, 24 254 (2012) (internal citations and quotations omitted) (quoting Robert E. Jones et al., RUTTER 25 GROUP PRACTICE GUIDE: FEDERAL CIVIL TRIALS AND EVIDENCE § 17:92 (2011) for the proposition 26

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<sup>27</sup> <sup>1</sup> Defendants believe, consistent with *Gentile*, that the expropriation must be accomplished by a controlling shareholder. Plaintiff apparently believes that any equity issuance to an unaffiliated third-party will suffice. 28

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that "[b]ecause the court acts as the factfinder when ruling on a [motion] for judgment on partial findings, it need not consider the evidence in a light favorable to the nonmoving party...."). "Where a question of fact has been determined by the trial court, [the Nevada Supreme Court] will not reverse unless the judgment is clearly erroneous and not based on substantial evidence." *Id.* (quoting *Kockos v. Bank of Nevada*, 90 Nev. 140, 143, 520 P.2d 1359, 1361 (1974)).

# B. This Court Already Has Ruled That The <u>Only</u> Measure Of Damages Plaintiff May Pursue Are Those Permitted Under *Gentile*.

On August 4, 2021, this Court precluded Plaintiff from "introducing evidence or testimony at trial for which the sole purpose would be to support potential measures of damages other than those allowed under *Gentile*, 906 A.2d at 103." Aug. 4, 2021 Order. In so ruling, this Court recognized that *Gentile* sets forth the legal standard for damages in an equity expropriation claim. Specifically, *Gentile* holds that such a claim exists <u>only</u> where a "minority shareholder" suffered a "harm" that "resulted from a breach of a fiduciary duty owed to them by the controlling shareholder, namely, not to cause the corporation to effect a transaction that would benefit the [controlling shareholder] at the expense of the minority shareholders." *Gentile v. Rossette*, 906 A.2d 91, 103 (Del. 2006). Accordingly, the <u>only</u> permissible measure of damages for such a claim is "equal to the fair value of the shares representing the overpayment" to the controlling shareholder in the transaction at issue. *Id*.

Previously, Plaintiff represented to this Court that its \$12.49 per share calculation would be its sole calculation of damages. *See* July 1, 2021 Pl. Opp. to Def. MIL to Exclude Evidence and Testimony Related to Irrelevant or Undisclosed Measures of Damages at 5. Plaintiff also made clear that its damages calculation would be supported by the testimony of its damages expert, J.T. Atkins. *See* Nov. 2, 2020 Pl. Initial Disclosures at 11 ("the calculation of damages in this type of action requires expert testimony"). Thus, it was Plaintiff's burden at trial, consistent with *Gentile*, to demonstrate that Atkins's \$12.49 per share damages calculation represents the value that a controlling shareholder expropriated from Parametric by forcing an "overpayment" to himself "at the expense of the minority shareholders." The trial record now demonstrates that this amount has nothing to do with any alleged "overpayment" to a controlling shareholder. Indeed, Atkins
 admitted that this amount is not a payment, let alone an overpayment, to anyone.

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# C. Atkins Did Not Calculate Any Overpayment To A Controlling Shareholder

Atkins testified that he was aware of this Court's order in this action limiting Plaintiff's damages to those set forth in *Gentile*. 8/17 AM Tr. at 54:18-23. He also testified about his familiarity, generally, with Delaware law. *Id*. at 54:8-14. And yet, Atkins admitted that he had never even read *Gentile*. *Id*. at 54:18-55:6. More importantly, he testified that he had "no idea" whether the damages opinion he prepared for this matter—the only one Plaintiff is offering—is consistent in any way with *Gentile*. *Id*.

In fact, Atkins' calculation is <u>not</u> consistent with *Gentile*. He conceded that he is "not offering an opinion" that his \$12.49 per share calculation represents any overpayment by the company to a controlling shareholder. *Id.* at 54:2-7. Indeed, although the "harm" that was recognized in *Gentile* was some benefit received by a controlling shareholder "at the expense of the minority shareholders," Atkins conceded that he did <u>not</u> calculate any amount of damages suffered only by some minority shareholder group, but instead had calculated damages he believes are applicable to <u>all</u> Parametric shareholders. *See* 8/17 PM Tr. at 14:11-14 ("My opinion is that there was damages to the whole – the whole shareholder group"). Put simply, Atkins did <u>not</u> testify as to any amount that a controlling shareholder expropriated from the minority shareholders. Instead he testified as to the amount he believes that was lost by <u>all</u> shareholders, regardless of whether any of them held control over Parametric.

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# D. Atkins Did Not Calculate Any Overpayment <u>To Anyone</u>.

Even though Plaintiff agrees that it must establish, at minimum, that equity was expropriated by <u>someone</u> (*see* supra note 1), it was defense counsel who asked Atkins the central question relevant to damages in this case: "this \$12.49 a share that you claim as damages, where did the money go?" 8/17 PM Tr. at 11:15-16. His answer: "<u>The money...went into the ether.</u>" *Id.* at 11:19-20. In other words, Atkins conceded that he had <u>not</u> calculated any value purportedly expropriated from Parametric by anyone.

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1 This fatal admission was no errant piece of testimony. Atkins then elaborated at length that 2 his damages calculation represents a purported amount of value that "just went into the ether, 3 because what happened was the company should have been worth 24.43. And by Mr. Potashner 4 and whoever else was helping him, changed this business model, they managed to put the company 5 in a fairly rapid downward trajectory, and as a consequence, that money disappeared." Id. at 11:25-6 12:5. Atkins testified conclusively that no one stole any equity from Parametric, and therefore his 7 damages calculations are not an effort to calculate the value of any stolen equity: "When you ask 8 that question, what you're saying is, is this - did this money get stolen? No. This money - bad 9 decisions. These people were acting in their interest, not in the interest of the company, caused 10 this money to lose value. That's what happened. That's what [the] damages are." Id. at 13:1-11 5 (emphasis added). When asked again who received the damages that he had calculated, Atkins 12 testified again that "no one has it." Id. at 14:7-14.

By the repeated admissions of its own damages expert, Plaintiff has failed to meet its burden of proving <u>any amount</u> that was stolen or expropriated from Parametric's shareholders <u>by anyone</u>. Plaintiff instead presents only an amount that was purportedly lost "into the ether." While such damages, if supported by evidence, might be available for a <u>derivative</u> dilution or corporate waste claim—each of which was settled in the class proceedings in which Atkins prepared his opinion such damages are <u>not</u> available under *Gentile* for a direct equity expropriation claim. Accordingly, judgment in Defendants' favor on Plaintiff's equity expropriation claim is warranted.

# 20 III. CONCLUSION

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Plaintiff's own expert admits that he has not even attempted to calculate damages consistent
with *Gentile v. Rossette*, which this Court already has ruled provides the only measure of damages
for Plaintiff's equity expropriation claim. Plaintiff has presented no other evidence of damages.
As such, judgment in the Defendants' favor is now appropriate.

Dated: August 24, 2021SNELL & WILMER L.L.P.By: <a href="mailto:/s/Richard C. Gordon">/s/Richard C. Gordon</a>Richard C. Gordon, Esq. (Bar No. 9036)3883 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 1100Las Vegas, NV 89169

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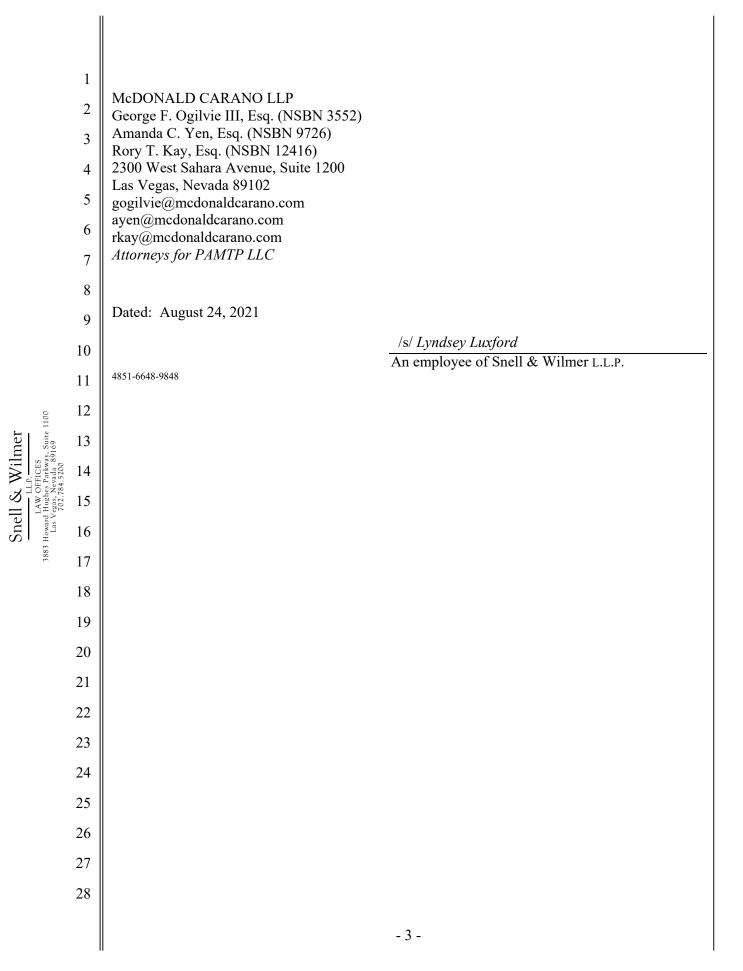
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# **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

#### I. **INTRODUCTION**

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Adam Kahn, one of Plaintiff's Managing Members, testified that "publicly available information" in 2014 told him everything he needed to know to assert claims against Defendants Juergen Stark and Kenneth Fox for aiding-and-abetting purported breaches of fiduciary duty by the Parametric Board of Directors in connection with the Parametric-Turtle Beach merger-the same claims asserted today—based on what that "publicly available information" told him about "what happened in that period of time around the merger." Indeed, Kahn retained lawyers in 2014 to draft such a complaint against Stark and Fox (and the other Defendants here), which he sent to Turtle Beach in August 2014.

But neither Kahn nor any other Assignor actually asserted such a claim in 2014. Instead, they waited six years before asserting such a claim. In making this choice, the Assignors allowed their potential claims against Stark and Fox to become untimely. Stark and Fox respectfully request judgment in their favor under NRCP 52(c) because the trial record now demonstrates conclusively that publicly available information in 2014 was more than sufficient to put Parametric shareholders on inquiry notice of aiding-and-abetting breach of fiduciary duty claims against Stark and Fox.

#### II. LEGAL ARGUMENT

# A. Legal Standard

"If a party has been fully heard on an issue during a nonjury trial and the court finds against 19 the party on that issue, the court may enter judgment against the party on a claim or defense that, 20 under the controlling law, can be maintained or defeated only with a favorable finding on that 21 issue." NRCP 52(c). "[I]n entering a Rule 52(c) judgment, the trial judge is not to draw any special 22 inferences in the nonmovant's favor; since it is a nonjury trial, the court's task is to weigh the 23 evidence." Certified Fire Prot. Inc. v. Precision Constr., Inc., 128 Nev. 371, 377, 283 P.3d 250, 24 254 (2012) (internal citations and quotations omitted) (quoting Robert E. Jones et al., RUTTER 25 GROUP PRACTICE GUIDE: FEDERAL CIVIL TRIALS AND EVIDENCE § 17:92 (2011) for the proposition 26 that "[b]ecause the court acts as the factfinder when ruling on a [motion] for judgment on partial 27 findings, it need not consider the evidence in a light favorable to the nonmoving party...."). 28

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# B. Plaintiff's Assignors Have Been On Inquiry Notice Of Their Aiding-And-Abetting Breach Of Fiduciary Duty Claims Against Stark And Fox Since At Least 2014.

"Where a question of fact has been determined by the trial court, [the Nevada Supreme Court] will

not reverse unless the judgment is clearly erroneous and not based on substantial evidence." Id.

(quoting Kockos v. Bank of Nevada, 90 Nev. 140, 143, 520 P.2d 1359, 1361 (1974)).

In Nevada, a breach of fiduciary duty claim is subject to the three-year statute of limitations set forth in NRS 11.190, which applies to actions "for relief on the ground of fraud or mistake." *In re AMERCO Derivative Litig.*, 127 Nev. 196, 228, 252 P.3d 681, 703 (2011) (applying three-year limitations period to breach of fiduciary duty claim). That three-year clock began to run, and Plaintiff's claim against Fox and Stark thus began to accrue, when the Assignors knew "or, through the use of reasonable diligence, should have known of facts that would put a reasonable person on inquiry notice of his cause of action." *Winn v. Sunrise Hosp. & Med. Ctr.*, 128 Nev. 246, 252-53, 277 P.3d 458, 462 (2012) (emphasis in original) (quoting *Massey v. Litton*, 99 Nev. 723, 728, 669 P.2d 248, 252 (1983)). Inquiry notice exists when a plaintiff "should have known of facts that 'would lead an ordinarily prudent person to investigate the matter further.'" *Id.* (quoting BLACK LAW DICTIONARY 1165 (9th ed. 2009)). "[T]hese facts need not pertain to precise legal theories the plaintiff may ultimately pursue, but merely to the plaintiff's general belief that someone's negligence may have caused his or her injury." *Id.* 

Here, however, the trial record demonstrates conclusively that the Assignors knew or could have known the "precise legal theories the plaintiff . . . ultimately pursue[d]" against Stark and Fox far longer than three years before they filed their complaint in May 2020. Indeed, one of the Assignors <u>actually asserted identical legal theories based on similar facts against Fox and</u> <u>Stark—discovered exclusively from publicly available sources—in a draft complaint he</u> <u>directed his lawyers to send to Fox and Stark in August 2014</u>.

Adam Kahn, one of Plaintiff's Managing Members who appeared on behalf of Assignor IceRose Capital Management, testified at length that in view of his apparent dissatisfaction with the company, he followed "a certain playbook that's used in special activist situations" in an effort to bully Turtle Beach into allowing him onto its board of directors. 8/16 Tr. at 186:24-187:11;

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187:19-188:15. As part of that "playbook," he retained the Kirkland & Ellis law firm to threaten 1 2 litigation in 2014 against Stark and Fox (as well as several other defendants in this case) for breach 3 of fiduciary duty and aiding-and-abetting breach fiduciary duty arising out of the Parametric-Turtle 4 Beach merger—in other words, the same claims that presently are being tried. DX 952 is a letter 5 from IceRose's legal counsel to Turtle Beach's legal counsel, attaching a draft complaint, with the statement that "absent a prompt amicable resolution, we intend to file the attached complaint."<sup>1</sup> 6 7 Kahn testified that he reviewed this draft complaint before allowing his attorney to communicate 8 this threat to Turtle Beach. 8/16 Tr. 196:22-24. When asked whether the allegations in the 9 complaint were "true and accurate to the best of [Kahn's] knowledge at the time," he responded "they were objectively true at the time, based on publicly available information." 8/16 Tr. 196:22-10 197:9 (emphasis added). In other words, Kahn conceded that every allegation contained within 11 12 that complaint was known or knowable in August 2014 based on publicly available information.

13 DX 952 demonstrates that public shareholders knew or could have known back in 2014 the 14 very same facts underlying the claims that Plaintiff waited until May 2020 to assert against Stark 15 and Fox. The draft complaint expressly names Stark and Fox (as well as Kenneth Potashner, 16 Elwood Norris, Seth Putterman, Robert Kaplan, Andrew Wolfe, James Honore, SG VTB Holdings, 17 LLC, and The Stripes Group) and asserts claims for "breach of fiduciary duty and aiding and 18 abetting breach of fiduciary duty," which are the exact same claims asserted here. The claims 19 contemplated by Kahn and IceRose in DX 952 arise out of the same Merger that is at the heart of 20 this lawsuit. Indeed, Kahn testified that his draft complaint contained "factual statements about 21 what happened in that period of time around the merger." 8/16 Tr. 208:18-23. Based on those 22 purported "factual statements" about the Merger that Kahn had derived exclusively from public 23 sources, Kahn alleged that the Parametric Board had breached their fiduciary duties to Parametric 24 shareholders and further alleged that Stark and Fox had aided and abetted those breaches of 25 fiduciary duty. DX 952 at 12-13. Kahn alleged explicitly that Stark and Fox were attempting to

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Kahn subsequently testified that this threat was a lie – he had no intention of ever filing this complaint. 8/16 Tr. 196:8-11. Whether or not the complaint was a genuine threat, a lie, or something in between (and Kahn's testimony about his 2014 threats to Turtle Beach, Stark and Fox included each of these levels of mendacity), the draft complaint is nonetheless evidence of what Kahn knew (or believed he knew) at the time his threats were made.

obtain "their own windfall" while "the Parametric Board was negotiating a merger between
Parametric and VTB." *Id.* at 7. Kahn further alleged that Stark and Fox "were fully aware that
[Turtle Beach] would merge with Parametric, that Parametric would become an obligor and
guarantor of [Turtle Beach's debt], and that they would control the resulting Company" but
nonetheless "attempted to conceal" financial information about Turtle Beach from Parametric
shareholders. *Id.* at 8. Those allegations are part of the same claim being tried here. *See, e.g.,*Compl. ¶¶ 11-14.

Additionally, trial has confirmed that Plaintiff cannot reasonably dispute that interested shareholders like Kahn would have been aware of the ongoing merger-related litigation against every Defendant other than Fox and Stark. Kahn testified that he conducts "thorough due diligence" on any investment that he makes and "follow[s] those investments through and through until [he's] done with the investment." 8/16 Tr. at 68:9-15. This due diligence included, at minimum, reading the proxy statement "in detail." *Id.* at 110:23-111:3. The proxy statement issued in connection with the Parametric-Turtle Beach merger contained a detailed description of the ongoing litigation. PX 244 at 19-20. Kahn also testified that he knew "there's a class action lawsuit filed in relation to almost every single merger" and that he "knew there was always ongoing class actions related to the merger." 8/16 Tr. at 75:16-76:3. Kahn further testified that he knew how to locate documents from the public docket and, in fact, he did so here after he decided to pay more attention to the ongoing litigation. *Id.* at 76:12-13.

20 It is indisputable that IceRose and the other Assignors each was capable in 2013 and 2014 21 of learning about the ongoing litigation against Turtle Beach. It is equally indisputable that IceRose 22 and the other Assignors each was capable of determining the role Stark and Fox played in 23 connection with the Merger since IceRose went so far as pleading and threatening aiding-and-24 abetting claims against Stark and Fox in 2014 based solely on publicly available information. Thus, 25 the Assignors had inquiry or actual notice of their claims against Stark and Fox in 2014, which 26 meant that they needed to file such claims by 2017. They chose not to do so. The fact that IceRose 27 (and the other Assignors, apparently) chose not to "pay much of any attention to the class action 28 ///

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until . . . 2019" (id. at 75:16-76:3) does not save his claims because actual notice is not required. 1 2 Winn, 128 Nev. at 252-53.

3 At minimum, Kahn's testimony and the evidentiary record, including DX 952, demonstrate 4 that publicly available information in 2014 was more than sufficient to put Parametric shareholders 5 on inquiry notice of their potential claims against Stark and Fox. Parametric shareholders were already litigating claims against Parametric's directors and Turtle Beach at that point and 6 7 Kahn/IceRose had no issue at all determining that there may also be a basis to assert similar claims 8 against Stark and Fox based on publicly available information. IceRose and the other Assignors 9 waited more than three years to file their claims against Stark or Fox, allowing their claims to 10 expire. Such claims are barred by the statute of limitations and Plaintiff has presented no evidence to the contrary. Judgment in Stark and Fox's favor is now appropriate.

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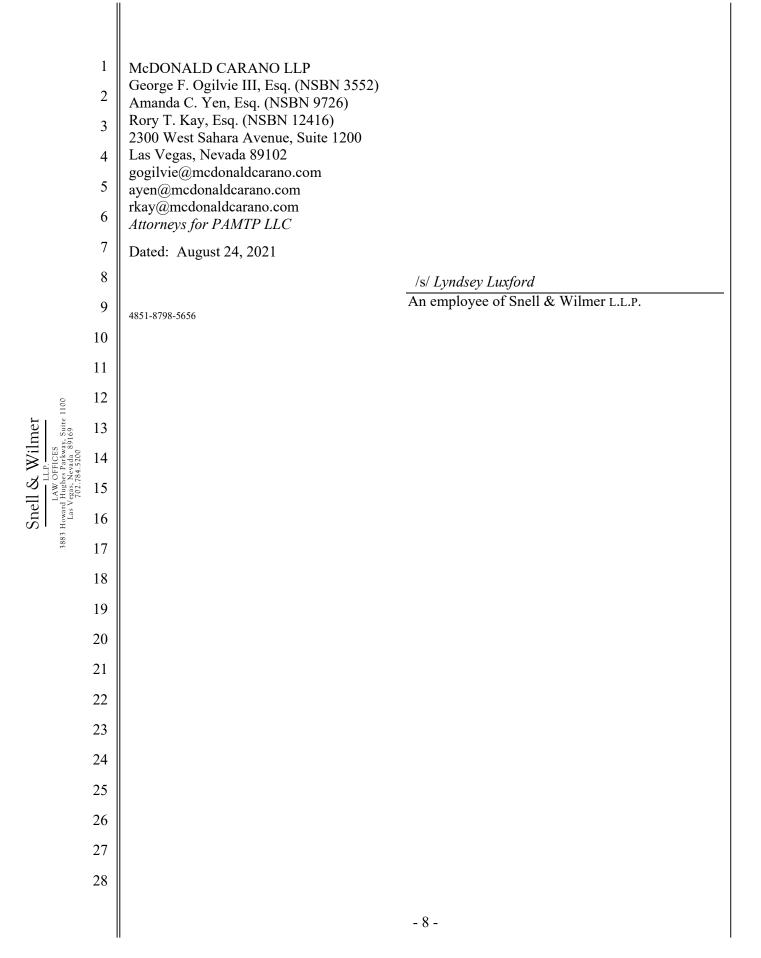
Dated: August 24, 2021

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	9		AL DISTRICT COURT			
	10	EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT				
	11	CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA				
00	12	IN RE PARAMETRIC SOUND	LEAD CASE NO.: A-13-686890-B			
Wilmer FICES FICES Parkway, Suite 1100 -5200	13	CORPORATION SHAREHOLDERS' LITIGATION	DEPT. NO.: XI			
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	15	This Document Related To:	<b>BRIEF RE: SECTION 14(A)</b>			
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### **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

This is not a federal securities case. Plaintiff's Complaint does not allege violations of the federal securities laws, let alone Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, by any Defendant, especially the Non-Director Defendants. Nor could Plaintiff belatedly advance such a claim now, for the following settled legal reasons:

First, although no Nevada court has ruled on this issue, it is a settled matter of Delaware 6 7 law that a third-party acquirer has "no duty, fiduciary or otherwise, to ensure that [a] proxy 8 solicitation fully disclosed material facts to [the selling company's] shareholders." Arnold v. Soc'y 9 for Savs. Bancorp, Inc., 1995 WL 376919, at \*7 (Del. Ch. June 15, 1995), aff'd, 678 A.2d 533 (Del. 10 1996). This is true "[r]egardless of the role [the acquirer] played in the drafting of the [proxy] 11 materials." Id. at \*8. The Non-Director Defendants are not aware of a single case in which an 12 acquirer was held liable for omissions or misstatements in a target company's proxy solicitation 13 materials—including any alleged failure to update financial projections.<sup>1</sup> This makes sense, given 14 Section 14(a)'s purpose "is to prevent management or others from obtaining authorization for 15 corporate action by means of deceptive or inadequate disclosure in proxy solicitation." J.I. Case 16 Co. v. Borak, 377 U.S. 426, 431 (1964), abrogated on other grounds by Ziglar v. Abbasi, 137 S. 17 Ct. 1843 (2017). That law has no application to any of the Non-Director Defendants, because 18 Section 14(a) applies only to persons who "solicit . . . any proxy or consent or authorization in 19 respect of any security." 15 U.S.C. § 78n. There is no evidence that any Non-Director Defendant 20 "solicit[ed]" any "proxy or consent authorization in respect of" the Parametric proxy statement at 21 issue. The applicability of Section 14(a) is also limited here because that provision does not require 22 issuers to include any forward-looking projections and, if such projections are provided, they are 23 expressly protected by the "safe harbor" under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act

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correct); see also EDCR 2.20(e) ("Failure of the opposing party to serve and file written opposition may be construed as an admission that the motion and/or joinder is meritorious and a consent to granting the same.").

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Defendants have made this argument repeatedly to this Court and Plaintiff has never once disputed the accuracy of their position. *See, e.g., Ozawa v. Vision Airlines, Inc.*, 125 Nev. 556, 563, 216 P.3d 788, 793 (2009) (holding a party that "does not dispute [the opposing party's] arguments" is "conceding the point"); *Bates v. Chronister*, 100 Nev. 675, 682, 691 P.2d 865, 870 (1984) ("failure to respond" to an argument in an "answering brief" constitutes an admission that the argument is

("PSLRA"), 15 U.S.C. § 78u-5(c)(1)(A)(i). The safe harbor provides that an issuer cannot be held 1 2 liable for a forward-looking statement that is "identified as a forward-looking statement, and is 3 accompanied by meaningful cautionary statements identifying important factors that could cause 4 actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statement." Id. Moreover, 5 Section 14 does not require that proxy solicitations contain projections at all. Indeed, where a company issues projections for a point in time with sufficient cautionary language that they may 6 7 not come true, it "certainly [has] no obligation to include additional *projections* based on potentially 8 inaccurate assumptions about future price trends." Heinze v. Tesco Corp., 971 F.3d 475, 482 (5th 9 Cir. 2020) (emphasis in original).

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10 Second, putting aside inapplicable federal securities law, Delaware courts notably have 11 been loathe to imply such duties to anyone other than issuers. Cf. In re Rural Metro Corp. 12 Stockholders Litig., 88 A.3d 54, 97 (Del. Ch. 2014) ("Rural Metro"), aff'd RBC Capital Mkts., LLC 13 v. Jervis, 129 A.3d 816, 866 n.191 (Del. 2015). The Rural Metro line of cases have recognized a 14 narrow exception where a third party owing a contractual obligation to a seller's board of directors, 15 such as the seller's financial advisor, "knows that the board is breaching its duty of care and 16 participates in the breach by misleading the board or creating the informational vacuum." Rural 17 Metro, 88 A.3d at 971. The Delaware Supreme Court has made clear that Rural Metro liability 18 arises only where the third party has a contractual "obligation not to act in a manner that is contrary 19 to the interests of the board of directors, thereby undermining the very advice that it knows the 20 directors will be relying upon in their decision making process," and explicitly warned courts not 21 to "inappropriately expand" its "narrow holding." RBC Capital Mkts. LLC, 129 A.3d at 866 n.191. 22 Unlike financial advisors, third-party acquirers (like Turtle Beach here) do not have any 23 obligation—whether contractual or fiduciary—to act in the best interests of the selling company, 24 and thus Rural Metro does not apply to them. See In re Converge, 2014 WL 6686570, at \*19 25 (dismissing aiding-and-abetting claim against third-party acquirer because it "did not act in this 26 case as a sort of 'gatekeeper' that the [seller's] Board reasonably would have considered as having 27 interests in line with those of [the seller]"). Rather, Rural Metro and its progeny each were based on "evidence of a conflict of interest diverting the advisor's loyalties from its client, such that the 28

1 advisor . . . is being paid in some fashion something he would not otherwise get in order to assist in the breach of fiduciary duty." Id. at \*18 (quoting Rural Metro, 88 A.3d at 100). No such 2 3 situation exists here.

The only instance in which *Rural Metro* liability could even arguably attach to a third-party acquirer is when there is evidence demonstrating that the acquirer conspired with the seller's financial advisor to keep the target's board in the dark. See, e.g., In re Del Monte Foods Co. S'holders Litig., 25 A.3d 813, 837 (Del. Ch. 2011) (finding acquirer liable because it conspired with target's advisor and breached confidentiality contracts with target); Chester Cty. Emps'. Ret. Fund v. KCG Holdings, Inc., 2019 WL 2564093, at \*19 (Del. Ch. June 21, 2019) (declining to dismiss aiding-and-abetting claim against acquirer where plaintiffs alleged conspiracy between 10 acquirer and advisor). But even then, the focus of such a claim is on the alleged malfeasance of the advisor. Absent proof of a conspiracy with an unfaithful financial advisor, there is no basis for a Rural Metro claim against a third-party acquirer. See Diabetes Research Restitution, LLC v. Wachtel, 2017 WL 2492555, at \*18 (Cal. App. June 9, 2017) (rejecting aiding-and-abetting claim against acquirer absent evidence that an acquirer had "knowingly participated in the creation of a conflict of interest for the company's financial advisor"). There certainly has been no such showing at trial.

DATED this 25 day of August, 2021.

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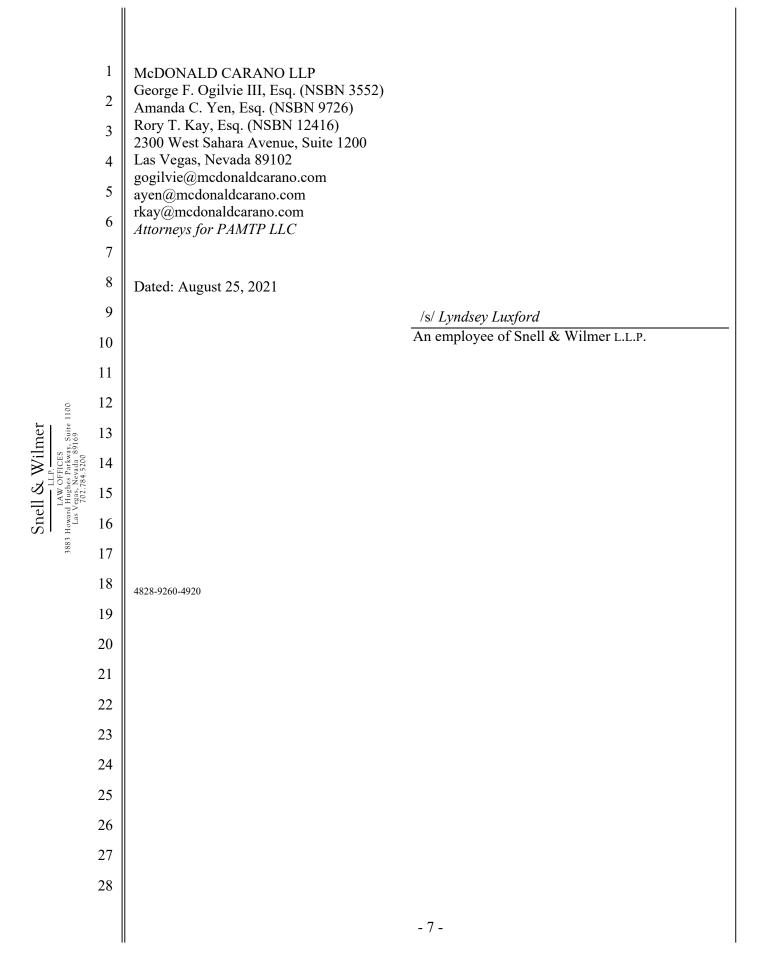
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12	IN RE PARAMETRIC SOUND	LEAD CASE NO.: A-13-686890-B
13	CORPORATION SHAREHOLDERS' LITIGATION	DEPT. NO.: XI
14		OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFF PAMTP
15	This Document Related To: ALL ACTIONS	LLC'S MEMORANDUM OF LAW REGARDING NRS 78.200 AND NRS 78.211
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#### **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

2 After determining that the equity dilution claims that Plaintiff continues to assert today are 3 derivative in nature, the Nevada Supreme Court remanded the claims to this Court with specific 4 instructions regarding the elements that a Parametric shareholder would need to prove to proceed 5 with a direct claim. See Parametric Sound Corporation v. Eighth Jud. Dist. Ct., 133 Nev. 417, 429, 401 P.3d 1100, 1109 (2017). In addition to the general elements of a claim for breach of 6 7 fiduciary duty, Plaintiff also must demonstrate "a controlling shareholder's or director's 8 expropriation of value from the company, causing other shareholders' equity to be diluted." Id. 9 The Court also noted that "shareholders must show actual fraud in any direct equity dilution claim they may have to overcome the statutory deference afforded to the directors[,]" citing to NRS 10 11 78.200(2) and NRS 78.211(1). Id. at n. 15.

In what amounts to a tacit concession it has been unable to prove "actual fraud," Plaintiff now erroneously argues that "actual fraud" is "indistinguishable" from a mere showing of "bad faith" or "reckless indifference." Mem. at 2-4. Plaintiff's sleight of hand, however, should be rejected. It relies primarily on an <u>overruled</u> decision from the Delaware Chancery Court while, at the same time, ignoring significant contrary authority from Nevada and the U.S. Supreme Courts that require proof of scienter and reliance to establish "actual fraud."

# I. Under Nevada Law, the Term "Actual Fraud" Requires Proof Of Scienter And Reliance.

20 Plaintiff asserts Nevada courts have not yet defined the phrase "actual fraud." Mem. at 1. 21 This is simply untrue. See Pacific Maxon, Inc. v. Wilson, 96 Nev. 867, 871, 619 P.2d 816, 818 22 (1980) (defining "actual fraud" as "an intentional false representation which is relied upon in fact"); 23 Northern Nevada Mobile Home Brokers v. Penrod, 96 Nev. 394, 398, 610 P.2d 724, 727 (1980) 24 ("actual fraud" exists where plaintiff relied on intentionally "untruthful and misleading" statements); Havas v. Alger, 85 Nev. 627, 633, 461 P.2d 857, 860 (1969) (defining "actual fraud" 25 26 as "intentional misrepresentations of material fact . . . resulting in the intended deception"); accord 27 Friendly Irishman, Inc. v. Ronnow, 74 Nev. 316, 318, 330 P.2d 497, 498 (1958). Over sixty years

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of precedent from the Nevada Supreme Court confirms that "actual fraud" requires proof of actual
 reliance on intentionally misleading statements.

- 3 Plaintiff attempts to sidestep this authority by claiming "actual fraud" has not been defined "in the context of NRS 78.200 or NRS 78.211." Mem. at 1. But "if the plain meaning of a statute 4 5 is clear on its face, then this court will not go beyond the language of the statute to determine its meaning." See Chur v. Eighth Jud. Dist. Ct., 136 Nev. 68, 71 (2020) (citing Beazer Homes Nev., 6 7 Inc. v. Eighth Jud. Dist. Ct., 120 Nev. 575, 579-80, 97 P.3d 1132, 1135 (2004)). Given that Nevada courts have understood the plain meaning of "actual fraud" for decades, the use of this same term 8 9 in NRS 78.200 and NRS. 78.211 is unambiguous. Indeed, because the courts have carefully defined 10 the term "actual fraud" in the common law, this Court must presume that the legislature was aware 11 of the commonly understood definition when drafting NRS 78.200 and NRS. 78.211. Plaintiff's failure of proof in this case is not a legitimate basis for upsetting the settled definition of "actual 12 13 fraud" recognized in Nevada for more than sixty years.
- II. At Minimum, "Actual Fraud" Requires A Showing That The Directors Had Actual Knowledge That Their Purported Conduct Was Wrongful.
  - A. U.S. Supreme Court Precedent Holds That "Actual Fraud" Requires "Wrongful Intent"
  - Just five years ago, the United States Supreme Court had an opportunity to define the phrase
- 18 "actual fraud" and confirmed that "wrongful intent" was a necessary element:
- "Actual fraud" has two parts: actual and fraud. The word "actual" has a simple meaning in the context of common-law fraud: It denotes any fraud that involves moral turpitude or intentional wrong. "Actual" fraud stands in contrast to "implied" fraud or fraud "in law," which describes acts of deception that may exist without the imputation of bad faith or immorality. Thus anything that counts as "fraud" and is done with wrongful intent is "actual fraud."
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- 23 Husky Intern. Electronics Inc. v. Ritz, 578 U.S. 882, 136 S. Ct. 1581, 1586 (2016) (additional
- 24 internal quotations and citation omitted).
- B. Plaintiff's Interpretation Of NRS 78.200 And NRS 78.211 Would Eviscerate NRS 78.138, Which Requires Proof That The Director Knew His Actions Were Wrongful.
- 27 Plaintiff fails to appreciate the multiple levels of "fraud" that Nevada's Corporate Code
- 28 requires it to prove in order to state breach of fiduciary duty claims. As a general proposition,

1 directors and officers of Nevada corporations are "not individually liable to the corporation or its 2 stockholders or creditors for any damages as a result of any act or failure to act in his or her capacity 3 as a director officer" absent proof of "a breach of his or her fiduciary duties" and that "the breach of those duties involved intentional misconduct, fraud or a knowing violation of the law." NRS 4 5 78.138(7)(b). The Nevada Supreme Court has held that litigants must make both showings for both breach of loyalty and breach of care claims. Chur, 136 Nev. at 72. The Nevada Supreme Court 6 7 further clarified that satisfaction of NRS 78.138(7) requires proof of scienter: 8 We agree with and adopt the Tenth Circuit's definition of "intentional" and "knowing," as enunciated in [ZAGG Inc. S'holder Derivative Action, 826 F.3d 1222 9 (10th Cir. 2016), for determining whether a "director's or officer's act or failure to act constituted a breach of his or her fiduciary duties ... involving intentional 10 misconduct, fraud or a knowing violation of law." NRS 78.138(7). Accordingly, we conclude that the claimant must establish that the director or officer had 11 knowledge that the alleged conduct was wrongful in order to show a "knowing violation of law" or "intentional misconduct" pursuant to NRS 78.138(7)(b). 12 13 Chur, 136 Nev. at 74-75 (emphasis added). Importantly, NRS 78.138(7) is the baseline requirement 14 that "provides for the sole circumstance under which a director or officer may be held individually 15 liable for damages stemming from the director's or officer's conduct in an official capacity." Id. at 72; see also Guzman v. Johnson, 137 Nev. Adv. Op. 13, 483 P.3d 531 (2021) ("NRS 78.138(7) 16 17 provides the sole avenue to hold directors and officers individually liable for damages arising from 18 official conduct") (quoting *Chur*) (emphasis in original).<sup>1</sup> 19 When addressing stock issuances, Nevada's Corporate Code imposes stricter requirements 20 before any claim could be asserted against officers and directors. NRS 78.200, which addresses 21 the issuance of stock or options, states that "[t]he judgment of the board of directors as to the 22 consideration for such rights or options issued is conclusive in the absence of actual fraud in the 23 transaction." Similarly, NRS 78.211, which addresses the consideration to be received for stock 24 issuances, states that "[t]he judgment of the board of directors as to the consideration received for 25 the shares issued is conclusive in the absence of actual fraud in the transaction." Neither statute 26

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> *Chur* and *Guzman* were decided after *Parametric*. Although *Parametric* cites NRS 78.200 and NRS 78.211 in footnote 15, it is now beyond dispute that Plaintiff also must satisfy NRS 78.138 before it can obtain damages from officers or directors of a Nevada company.

relies on the same "intentional misconduct, fraud or knowing violation of the law" language found in NRS 78.138(7)(2). Instead, NRS 78.200 and NRS 78.211 require "actual fraud."

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3 In order for NRS 78.200 and NRS 78.211 to have any meaning at all, "actual fraud" must require an equal or greater showing of fraud than the "fraud" mentioned in NRS. 78.138(7). Indeed, 4 5 if NRS 78.200 and NRS 78.211 are interpreted to require a lesser showing of fraud than NRS 78.138(7), then they would be rendered entirely meaningless because NRS 78.138(7) "provides for 6 7 the sole circumstance under which a director or officer may be held individually liable for damages 8 stemming from the director's or officer's conduct in an official capacity." Chur, 136 Nev. at 72. 9 Because a litigant always must satisfy NRS 78.138(7) before suing a director or officer for damages, any lesser burden of proof under NRS 78.200 or 78.211 would be meaningless. 10

Thus, the most logical way to reconcile NRS 78.138, NRS.200, and NRS 78.211 with the voluminous authority cited above is to hold that "actual fraud" requires <u>intentional wrongdoing</u> whereas the "fraud" described in NRS 78.138 requires knowledge that the conduct at issue was wrongful. Regardless of whether the Court chooses to impose this distinction, Plaintiff must, at minimum, satisfy the "knowledge of wrongfulness" standard that applies under NRS 78.138(7).

## 16 III. Plaintiff's Reliance On An Overruled Delaware Chancery Court Ruling Is Misplaced

17 In implicit recognition that it cannot prove scienter or reliance, Plaintiff advocates for a 18 definition of "actual fraud" that requires neither. Plaintiff cites Parfi Holding AB v. Mirror Image 19 Internet, Inc., 794 A.2d 1211 (Del. Ch. 2001) ("Parfi") for the proposition that "actual fraud" exists where directors engage in "bad faith" or "reckless indifference to the rights of others." Mem. at 2-20 3. But Parfi did not address a breach of fiduciary claim. Id. at 1233 ("The defendants have not 21 22 moved to dismiss those fiduciary duty counts for failure to state a claim"). Although Plaintiff tries 23 to draw a comparison between NRS 78.220, NRS 78.211, and 8 Del C. § 152, the Parfi court did not issue any ruling under 8 Del C. § 152 because of the "inapplicability of § 152" to the non-24 breach-of-fiduciary-duty claims asserted.<sup>2</sup> Id. at 1234. Moreover Parfi has been overruled and 25 26

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 $\frac{1}{2}$  As such, the limited discussion of 8 Del. C. § 152 in *Parfi* is dicta, at best.

1	holds no precedential value. See Parfi Holding AB v. Mirror Image Internet, Inc., 817 A.2d 149			
2	(Del. 2002) (reversing <i>Parfi</i> ). <sup>3</sup>			
3	In any event, Delaware law is clear that an "excessive valuation" or "gross evaluation" in a			
4	transaction, standing alone, does not constitute actual fraud. See Haft v. Dart Grp. Corp., 841 F.			
5	Supp. 549, 575 (D. Del. 1993).			
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27	<sup>3</sup> Plaintiff relies on a second Chancery Court case, <i>Lewis v. Scotten, Dillon Co.</i> , 306 A.2d 755 (Del. Ch. 1973), which also did not address a breach of fiduciary duty claim. <i>Lewis</i> addressed a dispute			
28	over compensation for mooted derivative action.			

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1	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
2	On the date below, as an employee of Snell & Wilmer L.L.P., I certify that I served a copy
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