1	Robert Kern, Esq.				
2	Nevada Bar Number 10104 KERN LAW, Ltd.				
3	601 S. 6 th Street				
4	Las Vegas, NV 89101 (702) 518-4529 phone	Electronically Filed Jan 04 2022 04:33 p.m.			
5	(702) 825-5872 fax Admin@KernLawOffices.com	Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court			
6	Attorney for Appellants	Olom of Oupromo Count			
7	IN THE SUPREME COURT O	OF THE STATE OF NEVADA			
8					
9	CLEMENT MUNEY; CHEF EXEC SUPPLIERS, LLC,	Case Number: 83869			
10	Appellants,))			
11	vs.	DOCKETING STATEMENT			
12	DOMINIQUE ARNOULD,)			
13	Respondent.				
14					
15					
16					
17	1 Judicial District 9 Department 27 Co.	anter of Cloub			
18	1. Judicial District 8, Department 27 County of Clark Judge Nancy Allf, District Ct. Docket No. A-19-803488-B				
19					
20	2. Attorney Filing this docket statemen	nt:			
21	Robert Kern, Esq.				
22	Nevada Bar Number 10104 KERN LAW, Ltd.				
23	601 S. 6 th Street Las Vegas, NV 89101				
24	(702) 518-4529 phone				
25	(702) 825-5872 fax Robert@KernLawOffices.com				
26					
27	3. Attorney representing respondent(s) :			
28	Phillip A. Aurbach, Esq.				

1	Nevada Bar No. 1501
2	Alexander K. Calaway, Esq.
3	Nevada Bar No. 15188 10001 Park Run Drive
	Las Vegas, Nevada 89145
4	
5	4. Nature of disposition below (check all that apply):
6	
7	☐ Judgment after bench trial ☐ Grant/Denial of NRCP 60(b) relief ☐ Judgment after jury verdict ☐ Grant/Denial of injunction
8	☐ Summary judgment ☐ Grant/Denial of declaratory relief
9	☐ Default judgment ☐ Review of agency determination
	☐ Dismissal ☐ Divorce decree:
10	☐ Lack of jurisdiction ☐ Original ☐ Modification ☐ Failure to state a claim ☐ Other disposition — Post-Judgment Order awarding
11	Failure to prosecute Attorney's fees
12	
13	5. Does this appeal raise issues concerning any of the following:
14	☐ Child Custody ☐ Termination of parental rights
	☐ Venue ☐ Grant/Denial of injunction or TRO
15	☐ Adoption ☐ Juvenile matters
16	No.
17	6. Pending and other proceedings in this court. List the case names and docket
18	number of all appeals or original proceedings presently or previously pending before this
19	court which are related to this appeal:
20	CLEMENT MUNEY vs. DOMINIQUE ARNOULD, case # 81354
20	CLEMENT MUNEY vs. DOMINIQUE ARNOULD, case # 81355 CLEMENT MUNEY vs. DOMINIQUE ARNOULD, case # 81356
21	Robert Kern vs. EIGHTH JUDIČIAL DISTRICT COURT, case # 83636 CLEMENT MUNEY vs. DOMINIQUE ARNOULD, case # 83641
22	7. Pending and prior proceedings in other courts . List the case name, number and
23	court of all pending and prior proceedings in other courts which are related to this appeal
24	(e.g. bankruptcy, consolidated of bifurcated proceedings) and their dates of disposition:
25	None.
26	8. Nature of the action. Briefly describe the nature of the action pleaded and the
27	results below:
28	

The underlying action is a suit in which Plaintiff sued his business partner, a 50% owner of their company, for judicial dissolution, appointment of a receiver, and breach of fiduciary duty. Plaintiff prevailed on summary judgment, which is also under appeal. After judgment, on a case with no money damages awarded, the District Court awarded Plaintiff just under \$200,000 in attorneys fees, pursuant to NRS 18.010(2)(a)&(b) as well as NRS 86.489. The order included fees for work on other cases, as well as fees that were unnecessary to securing the judgment.

9. **Issues on appeal.** State concisely the principal issues in this appeal:

The primary issues on appeal are:

Whether the Court erred by awarding attorneys fees under NRS 18.010(2)(a), when the only judgment was for a capital adjustment, and not money damages.

Whether the Court erred by awarding attorneys fees under NRS 18.010(2)(b), for defending claims that were clearly not frivolous or litigated for an improper purpose.

Whether the Court erred by awarding attorneys fees under NRS 86.489 for claims that were clearly not derivative claims, and for fees for matters outside the claims alleged to be derivative.

Whether the Court erred by awarding attorneys fees for work performed on other cases for claims with a person who was not a party to this litigation.

Whether the Court erred by awarding attorneys fees for work that appeared to be on a different litigation.

Whether the Court erred by awarding attorneys fees for work that was described so generally as to make determination of what the work was impossible.

Whether the Court erred by awarding attorneys fees for work performed on claims other than the claims alleged to be derivative.

10. **Pending proceedings in this court raising the same or similar issues.** If you are aware of any proceeding presently pending before this court which raises the same or similar issues raised in this appeal, list the case name and docket number and identify the same or similar issues raised:

1	N/A
2	11. Constitutional issues. If this appeal challenges the constitutionality of a statute, and
3	the state, any state agency, or any officer or employee thereof is not a party to this appeal, have you notified the clerk of the court and the attorney general in accordance with NRAP
4	44 and NRS 30. 130?
5	N/A
6	12. Other issues. Does this appeal involve any of the following issues?
7	Reversal of well-settled Nevada precedent (on an attachment identify the case(s)) An issue arising under the United States and/or Nevada Constitutions
9	☐ An issue of public policy ☐ An issue where en banc consideration is necessary to maintain uniformity of this court's decisions
10	☐ A ballot question
11	If so, explain:
12	N/A
13	13. Trial. If this action proceeded to trial how many days did the trial last? N/A Was it a bench or jury trial?
14	N/A
15 16	14. Judicial disqualification. Do you intend to file a motion to disqualify or have a justice recuse him/herself from participation in this appeal. If so, which Justice?
17	No.
18	TIMELINESS OF NOTICE OF APPEAL
19	15. Date of entry of written judgment or order appealed from: 16 November, 2021. Attach a copy.
20	
20	16. Date written notice of entry of judgment or order served:16 November, 2021. Attach a copy, including proof of service, for each order or judgment appealed from.
22	
	(a) Service was electronic
2324	17. If the time for filing the notice of appeal was tolled by a post-judgment motion (NRCP 50(b), or 59),
25	N/A
26	18. Date of notice of appeal was filed . 24 November, 2021.
27	
28	(a) If more than one party has appealed from the judgment or order, list the date of appeal was filed and identify by name the party filing the notice of appeal:

1	N/A				
2 3	19. Specify the statute or rule governing the time limit for filing the notice of appeal.				
4	NRAP 4(a)				
5	20. Specify the statute or other authority granting this court jurisdiction to review the judgment or order appealed from:				
6	NRAP 3A(b)(8)				
7	1404 571(0)(0)				
8	21. List all parties involved in the action in the district court:				
9	Defendants: Clement Muney, Chef Exec Suppliers LLC				
10 11	(a) If all parties in the district court are not parties to this appeal, explain in detail why those parties are not involved in this appeal, e.g., formally dismissed, not served or other:				
12	N/A				
13	IVA				
14	22. Give a brief description (3 to 5 words) of each parties separate claims,				
15	counter-claims, cross-claims or third-party claims, and the trial court's disposition of each claim, and how each claim was resolved (i.e., order, judgment, stipulation), and				
16	the date of disposition of each claim. Attach a copy of each disposition.				
17 18	Judicial Dissolution of Chef Exec Suppliers—Granted on summary judgment. September 13,				
19	Claim for attorneys fees – granted in full. November 16, 2021.				
20	Clement Muney and Chef Exec Suppliers LLC: Breach of Fiduciary Duty, Conversion, Money Had and Received, Unjust Enrichment, Constructive Fraud, Fraudulent Concealment. All claims are based upon allegation that Arnould has been converting				
21	company funds for his own use. All dismissed on summary judgment, September 13, 2021.				
22	23. Attach copies of the last filed versions of all complaints, counter-claims, and/or				
23	cross-claims filed in the district court.				
24	24. Did the judgment or order appealed from adjudicate ALL the claims alleged below and the rights and liabilities of ALL the parties to the action below:				
25	Yes.				
26	25. If you answered "No" to the immediately previous question, complete the				
27	following:				
28					

1 2	(a) Specify the claims remaining pending below:
3	(b) Specify the parties remaining below:
4	
5	(c) Did the district court certify the judgment or order appealed from as a final judgment pursuant to NRCP 54(b)?
6	(d) Did the district court make an express determination, pursuant to NRCP 54(b), that
7	
89	26. If you answered "No" to any part of question 25, explain the basis for seeking appellant review.
10	N/A
11	
12	
13	DATED this 4 th day of January, 2021.
14	
15	KERN LAW
16	
17	/S/ Robert Kern Robert Kern, Esq. NV Bar # 10104
18	601 S. 6 th Street Las Vegas, NV 89101
19	(702) 518-4529 Attorney for Appellant
20	
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MARQUIS AURBACH COFFING 10001 Park Run Drive Las Vegas, Nevada 89145 (702) 382-0711 FAX: (702) 382-5816

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1 **Marquis Aurbach Coffing** Phillip S. Aurbach, Esq. 2 Nevada Bar No. 1501 Alexander K. Calaway, Esq. 3 Nevada Bar No. 15188 10001 Park Run Drive 4 Las Vegas, Nevada 89145 Telephone: (702) 382-0711 5 Facsimile: (702) 382-5816 paurbach@maclaw.com acalaway@maclaw.com 6 Attorneys for Plaintiff 7 **DISTRICT COURT** 8 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 9 DOMINIQUE ARNOULD, individually, 10 Case No.: A-19-803488-B 11 Plaintiff, Dept. No.: 27 12 VS. 13 14 CLEMENT MUNEY; CHEF EXEC **NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER** SUPPLIERS, LLC; and DOES I through X, 15 inclusive; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive 16 Defendants. 17 18 And related Counterclaims. 19 20 21

Electronically Filed 11/16/2021 9:02 AM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

Page 1 of 3

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MARQUIS AURBACH COFFING 10001 Park Run Drive Las Vegas, Nevada 89145 (702) 382-0711 FAX: (702) 382-5816

NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER Please take notice that an Order Granting Domingue Arnoul

Please take notice that an Order Granting Dominque Arnould's Motion for Attorney Fees Against Clement Muney was entered in the above-captioned matter on the 10th day of November, 2021, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Dated this 16th day of November, 2021.

MARQUIS AURBACH COFFING

By /s/ Alexander K. Calaway
Phillip S. Aurbach, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 1501
Alexander K. Calaway, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 15188
10001 Park Run Drive
Las Vegas, Nevada 89145
Attorney(s) for Plaintiff

MARQUIS AURBACH COFFING 10001 Park Run Drive Las Vegas, Nevada 89145 (702) 382-0711 FAX: (702) 382-5816

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing **NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER** was submitted electronically for filing and/or service with the Eighth Judicial District Court on the 16th day of November, 2021. Electronic service of the foregoing document shall be made in accordance with the E-Service List as follows:¹

Robert Kern Melissa Milroy

Robert@KernlawOffices.com Admin@KernLawOffices.com

/s/ Cally Hatfield

An employee of Marquis Aurbach Coffing

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

MARQUIS AURBACH COFFING

382-0711 FAX: (702) 382-5816

ELECTRONICALLY SERVED 11/10/2021 5:06 PM

Electronically Filed 11/10/2021 5:06 PM CLERK OF THE COURT

1	Marquis Aurbach Coffing
	Phillip S. Aurbach, Esq.
2	Nevada Bar No. 1501
	Alexander K. Calaway. Esq.
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	Telephone: (702) 382-0711
5	Facsimile: (702) 382-5816
	paurbach@maclaw.com
6	acalaway@maclaw.com
	Attorneys for Plaintiff
7	
8	

DISTRICT COURT

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

DOMINIQUE ARNOULD,

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VS.

CLEMENT MUNEY; CHEF EXEC SUPPLIERS, LLC; and DOES I through X, inclusive; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,

Defendants,

Plaintiff,

And related counterclaims.

Case No.: A-19-803488-B

Dept. No.: 27

ORDER GRANTING DOMINIQUE ARNOULD'S MOTION FOR ATTORNEY FEES AGAINST CLEMENT MUNEY

Plaintiff Dominque Arnould's ("Arnould") Motion for Attorney Fees ("Motion") came before this Court for hearing via BlueJeans video on November 4, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. with Alexander K. Calaway, Esq. of Marquis Aurbach Coffing appearing on behalf of the plaintiff Dominque Arnould ("Arnould"), and Robert Kern, Esq. appearing for defendant/counter-claimant Clement Muney ("Muney") and defendant Chef Exec Suppliers, LLC ("CES").

NOW, THEREFORE, having reviewed the Motions, all briefing related thereto, pleadings on file herein, and arguments of counsel at the time of the above identified hearing, being fully advised on the matter, and good cause appearing therefore, the Court hereby finds and decides the Motion as follows.

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Page 1 of 10

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

I. **DISCUSSION**

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As a preliminary matter, this Court incorporates by reference its Findings of Fact 1. and Conclusions of Law (hereinafter cited as "Findings") which were entered on September 9, 2021, on file herein.

MR. ARNOULD IS ENTITLED TO ATTORNEY FEES UNDER NRS 18.010(2)(A)

- 2. In his Motion, Mr. Arnould argues that he is entitled to attorney fees under the NRS 18.010(2)(a). The Court agrees.
- 3. Under NRS 18.010(2)(a), a "court may make an allowance of attorney's fees to a prevailing party ... [w]hen the prevailing party has not recovered more than \$20,000."
- Here, on September 10, 2021, this Court entered Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law (the "Findings") which reflected the Court's disposition of this case. The Findings state that "Mr. Arnould is entitled to judgment in his favor of and that judgment may be entered against Mr. Muney in the amount of \$6,303.93."² On September 14, 2021, judgment was entered in favor of Mr. Arnould and against Mr. Muney in the amount of \$6,303.93 (hereinafter the "Judgment").³
- 5. Therefore, since Mr. Arnould's prevailed, and his Judgment did not exceed \$20,000, he is entitled to his attorneys' fees under NRS 18.010(2)(a).

В. MR. ARNOULD IS ENTITLED TO ATTORNEY FEES UNDER NRS 18.010(2)(B).

- 6. In his Motion, Mr. Arnould argues that he is entitled to attorneys' fees under NRS 18.010(2)(b). The Court agrees.
- 7. NRS 18.010(2)(b) authorizes the district court to award attorney fees to a prevailing party "when the court finds that the claim, counterclaim ... or defense of the opposing party was brought or maintained without reasonable ground or to harass the prevailing party."⁴ The Nevada

¹ See Findings, on file herein.

² Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, at ¶64, on file herein.

³ September 14, 2021 Judgment, on file herein.

⁴ NRS 18.010(2)(b) in full provides:

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Supreme Court has held that "[f]or purposes of NRS 18.010(2)(b), a claim is frivolous or groundless if there is no credible evidence to support it," Capanna v. Orth, 134 Nev. 888, 895, 432 P.3d 726, 734 (2018) (quoting Rodriguez v. Primadonna Co., 125 Nev. 578, 588, 216 P.3d 793, 800 (2009)) (emphasis added).

- Here, Mr. Muney failed to provide any credible evidence in support of his 8. counterclaims and defenses.⁵ The Court granted Mr. Arnould's motion for summary judgment because, among other things, Mr. Muney failed to provide any fact to support of his counterclaims and defenses by way of exhibit, affidavit or otherwise.⁶ The Court expressly stated in its Findings that: "Mr. Muney failed to cite to any material facts that support his defenses and counterclaims in this matter."7
- 9. Therefore, since Mr. Muney's counterclaims and defenses were frivolous and groundless, Mr. Arnould is entitled to his attorneys' fees under NRS 18.010(2)(b).

C. MR ARNOULD IS ENTITLED TO HIS ATTORNEY FEES UNDER NRS 86.489.

10. In his Motion, Mr. Arnould argues that he is entitled to attorneys' fees under NRS 86.489. The Court agrees.

11. NRS 86.489 provides:

If a derivative action is successful, in whole or in part, or if anything is received by the plaintiff as a result of a judgment, compromise or settlement of an action or

Without regard to the recovery sought, when the court finds that the claim, counterclaim, cross-claim or third-party complaint or defense of the opposing party was brought or maintained without reasonable ground or to harass the prevailing party. The court shall liberally construe the provisions of this paragraph in favor of awarding attorney's fees in all appropriate situations. It is the intent of the Legislature that the court award attorney's fees pursuant to this paragraph and impose sanctions pursuant to Rule 11 of the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure in all appropriate situations to punish for and deter frivolous or vexatious claims and defenses because such claims and defenses overburden limited judicial resources, hinder the timely resolution of meritorious claims and increase the costs of engaging in business and providing professional services to the public. [emphasis added].

⁵ Findings, at ¶¶17, 18, 29, 35, 42, 54, 65, 76, 86, 93, 103, 108, and 113.

⁶ *Id.* at ¶¶17, 18, 29, 35, 42, 54, 65, 76, 86, 93, 103, 108, and 113.

⁷ *Id.* at \P ¶17-18.

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claim, the court may award the plaintiff reasonable expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees

Thus, a plaintiff who has successfully brought a derivative claim (in whole or in part) on behalf of a Nevada limited liability company is entitled an award of her reasonable expenses and attorney's fees. NRS 86.489.

- 12. First, Mr. Arnould prevailed on his first cause of action which sought declaratory relief from the Court that it is not reasonably practicable to carry on Chef Exec and an order granting judicial dissolution pursuant to NRS 86.495.8 Mr. Arnould's first cause of action also sought a declaration that the requirements for appointment of a receiver to run the Las Vegas operations of Chef Exec and potentially dissolve the company.⁹
- 13. In this case, the Court appointed a receiver for the very purpose of controlling the Las Vegas warehouse and accounting for the operations of Chef Exec. ¹⁰ Then, on August 21, 2020, the Court found that:

Both Parties don't' dispute and stipulated that it is not reasonably practicable to carry on the business of the Company in conformance with the operating agreement since there is no operating agreement and since the owners of the Company cannot get along and disagree about the operation of the Company. Therefore, the Company must be dissolved.... [and] the date of dissolution should be September 30, 2020, 11

Then, on November 3, 2020, the Receiver filed articles of dissolution for Chef Exec. ¹² Therefore. Mr. Arnould prevailed on his first cause of action.

Moreover, Mr. Arnould prevailed derivatively on his first cause of action. ¹³ As this 14. Court set forth in in its Findings: (a) Mr. Arnould met the derivative pleading requirements for his

⁸Findings, at ¶¶21-28.

⁹ *Id.* at ¶30.

¹⁰ See June 8, 2020 Order Appointing Receiver; see also June 12, 2020 Order selecting Receiver, on file herein.

¹¹ See Order of Dissolution, at ¶¶1-2, on file herein.

¹² *Id*.

¹³ Findings, at ¶36.

first cause of action;¹⁴ and (b) Mr. Arnould's first cause of action was derivative because the appointment of a receiver and dissolution benefited Chef Exec.¹⁵

- 15. As such, the Court finds that Mr. Arnould prevailed derivatively on his first cause of action and is therefore entitled to seek his reasonable attorney's fees and expenses pursuant to NRS 86.489. Thus, the attorney's fees judgment should be in favor of Mr. Arnould and against Mr. Muney.
- 16. Second, the Mr. Arnould prevailed on his second claim for relief for accounting of Chef Exec. ¹⁶ In this case, a receiver was appointed as a liquidating receiver and part of his duties were to perform an accounting, adjust the capital accounts of the parties and file a tax return for Chef Exec. ¹⁷ This resulted in a stipulation for Mr. Muney repay Chef Exec \$22,712.56 and pay his partner \$6,303.93 in order to settle his capital account with Chef Exec. ¹⁸ Notably, Mr. Arnould obtained at least \$22,712.56 for Chef Exec in order to settle its outstanding debts with the receiver. ¹⁹ Thus, Mr. Arnould's accounting action was successful and allowed Chef Exec to dissolve and settle its obligations.
- 17. Therefore, Mr. Arnould is entitled to his attorneys' fees as he was successful in his derivative claims brought on behalf of Chef Exec. Mr. Arnould's attorney fees judgment should be in favor of Mr. Arnould and against Mr. Muney.

¹⁴ *Id.* at ¶38.

¹⁵ *Id.* at ¶39.

 $^{^{16}}$ February 26, 2021 Stipulation and Order, on file herein, at $\P\P43-67.$

 $^{^{17}}$ *Id.* at ¶39.

¹⁸ *Id*.

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D. MR. ARNOULD'S ATTORNEY FEES ARE SUPPORTED BY THE BRUNZELL FACTORS.

- 18. In his Motion, Mr. Arnould argues that his requested attorney fees in the amount of \$199,985.00 are supported by *Brunzell v. Golden Gate Nat. Bank*, 85 Nev. 345, 349, 455 P.2d 31, 33 (1969). The Court agrees.
- 19. In determining the reasonable value of an attorney's service, courts in Nevada consider the factors set forth in Brunzell, 85, Nev. at 349, 445 P.2d at 33. These Brunzell factors consider: (1) the qualities of the advocate: his ability, his training, education, experience, professional standing and skill; (2) the character of the work to be done: its difficulty, its intricacy, its importance, time and skill required, the responsibility imposed and the prominence and character of the parties where they affect the importance of the litigation; (3) the work actually performed by the lawyer: the skill, time and attention given to the work; (4) the result: whether the attorney was successful and what benefits were derived. Id.
- 20. In this case, Mr. Arnould's Motion was supported by the Declaration of Alexander K. Calaway, Esq. (the "Declaration"), which further evidence the fact that Mr. Arnould's fees were reasonable and necessarily incurred under Brunzell.
- 21. Notably, no evidence was produced by Mr. Muney in opposition to Mr. Arnould's Motion. Further, Mr. Muney filed a motion for protective order to prevent any disclosure as to the amount of his own attorney fees and costs incurred in this matter.²⁰
- 22. Thus, in considering the evidence presented by Mr. Arnould, this Court finds that the \$199,985.00 amount meets each of the *Brunzell* factors as further set forth below.
- 23. First, the qualities of the advocates representing Mr. Arnould, Marquis Aurbach Coffing ("MAC"), were preeminent. The quality of MAC as an advocate is well known within the Las Vegas legal community. MAC is AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell and is listed in Martindale-Hubbell's registry of Preeminent Lawyers. The counsel and supervising attorneys in this matter are partners and associates at MAC.

²⁰ See Muney's Motion for Protective Order, on file herein.

24. From MAC, Phillip S. Aurbach, Esq., Alexander K. Calaway, Esq., Jordan B. Peel, Esq. and David G. Alleman, Esq. advocated on behalf of Mr. Arnould throughout the litigation. Mr. Aurbach is a partner at MAC and charged an hourly rate in this case in the amount of \$400/hr. Mr. Alleman is a partner at MAC and charged an hourly rate in this case in the amount of \$425/hr. Mr. Peel is a partner at MAC and charged an hourly rate in this case in the amount of \$305/hr. Mr. Calaway is an associate at MAC and charged an hourly rate of \$230/hr. The other legal professionals working on the matter from MAC were Taylor Fong, a paralegal, and Amelia Mallette, a law clerk, who both charged an hourly rate of \$175/hr.

- 25. Phillip S. Aurbach, Esq. is a partner at MAC. As an experienced litigator, Mr. Aurbach has an excellent reputation in this community for competency in civil litigation and quality legal work. Mr. Aurbach is an AV Preeminent rated attorney by Martindale-Hubbell and has been named to the Best Lawyers in America List. In addition, Mr. Aurbach has consistently been named a Mountain States Super Lawyer. Mr. Aurbach has extensive experience trying cases to verdict and is a highly sought-after litigator in Las Vegas. During this case, Mr. Aurbach took a hands-on approach, advised on strategy, participated in drafting, and appeared and argued at numerous hearings.
- 26. Alexander K. Calaway, Esq. is an associate attorney at MAC and has been honored with awards such as legal elite and best up and coming attorney in Nevada. Mr. Calaway obtained his Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Idaho College of Law with distinction. Mr. Calaway has been barred in Nevada since 2019, has practiced law in the community since 2019. Within this case, Mr. Calaway was second chair and participated extensively in motion drafting, discovery, and appeared and argued at numerous hearings. Mr. Calaway has a reputation for competency in commercial litigation matters.
- 27. David G. Alleman, Esq. is a partner at MAC, practicing in real estate, corporate and commercial transactions. Mr. Alleman is the chair of MAC's transactional department. Mr. Alleman received his Juris Doctorate degree from the Brigham Young University, cum laude. Mr. Alleman was admitted to practice in Nevada in 2002. Mr. Alleman engaged in work related to the initial demand, dissolution, and membership related work for Mr. Arnould with respect to Mr.

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Arnould's interest in Chef Exec. This work was critical to the allegations and claims alleged by Mr. Arnould in his verified complaint. Mr. Alleman has a reputation for competency and skill in transactional issues that arose in this matter.

- 28. Jordan B. Peel, Esq. is a partner at MAC, practicing in real estate, corporate and commercial transactions. Mr. Peel practices primarily in MAC's transactional department. Mr. Peel received his Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Nevada. Mr. Peel was admitted to practice in Nevada in 2009. Mr. Peel engaged in work related to the initial demand, dissolution, and membership related work for Mr. Arnould with respect to Mr. Arnould's interest in Chef Exec. This work was critical to the allegations and claims alleged by Mr. Arnould in his verified complaint. Mr. Peel has a reputation for competency and skill in transactional issues that were arose in this matter.
- 29. All of the attorneys at MAC who provided services on behalf of Mr. Arnould are skilled attorneys with years of experience and have an excellent reputation in this community for competency in civil litigation and quality legal work. All legal professionals who provided services on behalf of Mr. Arnould are skilled professionals with competency in civil litigation and quality legal work.
- 30. Further, the hourly rates charged by MAC are below the average for comparably experienced attorneys in firms of comparable size, thus, providing further proof of the reasonableness of the amounts charged. Thus, the sum being sought is reasonable in light of the legal experience and the fees generally charged in this community.
- 31. Second, all of the work performed was necessary to achieve the ultimate result of Mr. Arnould being the prevailing party. The time recorded by MAC is reflected in the attached allocated invoice maintained by the firm, which were provided in support of Mr. Arnould's Motion as Exhibit 1. These billing statements establish that all legal services rendered were reasonable and necessary in litigating the action.
- 32. These billing statements further establish the efforts of MAC in successfully litigating this matter included researching, drafting, and revising briefs, client communications,

preparing for and attending hearings, drafting motions, pretrial motion practice, and extensive written discovery.

- 33. As discussed above, none of the work performed by MAC on behalf of Mr. Arnould has been done in a cursory manner. Instead, all work was thoroughly researched, supported by applicable law and evidence, and finalized after multiple drafts and iterations to reach a final product. Moreover, each task performed by counsel was essential and was of the highest character and caliber necessary for handling such a case.
- 34. Finally, it is apparent by the Court's decision obtained in this case that Mr. Arnould, through MAC, obtained a great result.
- 35. Accordingly, the fees incurred by Mr. Arnould represent the reasonable amounts incurred in obtaining a successful result in favor of Mr. Arnould and Chef Exec derivatively.
- 36. Thus, this Court hereby grant's Mr. Arnould's Motion for attorney fees in an amount equal to \$199,985.00, which shall be paid by Clement Muney.
- 37. Interest on the \$199,985.00 shall accrue interest at the maximum applicable legal rate under NRS 99.040 from December 7, 2020, the date of the settlement of accounts by the receiver, until fully paid and satisfied.
- 38. Pursuant to NRS 99.040, the post-judgment interest rate from December 7, 2020 through December 2021 was 5.25% per year, and will adjust accordingly on each January 1 and July 1 thereafter until the award of attorney fees is satisfied.

// // // // // (702) 382-0711 FAX: (702) 382-5816

1 Based upon the above findings and conclusions, 2 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that Dominque Arnould's 3 Motion for Attorney Fees in the sum of \$199,985 plus interest against Clement Muney is 4 GRANTED and a sperate judgment therefore may be submitted. IT IS SO ORDERED. 5 6 Dated this 10th day of November, 2021 November 10, 2021 7 TW 8 1EA FCF 51E7 1178 **Nancy Allf** 9 **District Court Judge** 10 Respectfully submitted by: Approved as to Form: 11 12 MARQUIS AURBACH COFFING KERN LAW, LTD. 13 By: __/s/ Alexander K. Calaway_ By: ___/s/Robert Kern 14 Phillip S. Aurbach, Esq. Robert Kern, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 1501 Nevada Bar No. 10104 15 Alexander K. Calaway. Esq. 601 South Sixth Street 16 Nevada Bar No. 15188 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 10001 Park Run Drive Attorney for Defendants 17 Las Vegas, Nevada 89145 Attorneys for Plaintiff 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

Cally Hatfield

From: Robert Kern <robert@kernlawoffices.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 10, 2021 4:01 PM

To: Alexander K. Calaway

Cc: Phillip Aurbach; Cally Hatfield; Kellie Piet

Subject: RE: [External] Order for \$199,985 [IWOV-iManage.FID1085969]

Yes, that is acceptable – you may add my E-signature

Robert Kern, Esq.
Attorney
Kern Law, Ltd.
601 S. 6th Street
Las Vegas, NV 89101
(702) 518-4529 - phone
(702) 825-5872 - fax
www.Kernlawoffices.com

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From: Alexander K. Calaway <acalaway@maclaw.com>
Sent: Wednesday, November 10, 2021 3:17:00 PM
To: Robert Kern <robert@kernlawoffices.com>

Cc: Phillip Aurbach <PSA@maclaw.com>; Cally Hatfield <chatfield@maclaw.com>; Kellie Piet <kpiet@MACLAW.com>

Subject: Order for \$199,985 [IWOV-iManage.FID1085969]

Mr. Kern,

Please advise if we can submit with your e-signature.



Alexander K. Calaway, Esq.

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



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1 **CSERV** 2 DISTRICT COURT 3 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 4 5 Dominique Arnould, Plaintiff(s) CASE NO: A-19-803488-B 6 VS. DEPT. NO. Department 27 7 8 Clement Muney, Defendant(s) 9 10 **AUTOMATED CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 11 This automated certificate of service was generated by the Eighth Judicial District Court. The foregoing Order Granting Motion was served via the court's electronic eFile 12 system to all recipients registered for e-Service on the above entitled case as listed below: 13 Service Date: 11/10/2021 14 Cally Hatfield chatfield@maclaw.com 15 Robert Kern Robert@Kernlawoffices.com 16 17 Melissa Milroy Admin@KernLawOffices.com 18 Candace Carlyon ccarlyon@carlyoncica.com 19 Tracy O'Steen tosteen@carlyoncica.com 20 Nancy Rodriguez nrodriguez@carlyoncica.com 21 Phillip Aurbach PSA@maclaw.com 22 crobertson@carlyoncica.com Cristina Robertson 23 Alexander Calaway acalaway@maclaw.com 24 25 Kellie Piet kpiet@maclaw.com 26 27

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ELECTRONICALLY SERVED 9/10/2021 1:32 PM

Electronically Filed 09/10/2021 1:32 PM CLERK OF THE COURT

1	Marquis Aurbach Coffing Phillip S. Aurbach, Esq.	
2	Nevada Bar No. 1501	
3	Alexander K. Calaway. Esq. Nevada Bar No. 15188 10001 Park Run Dr.	
4	Las Vegas, NV 89145	
5	Telephone: (702) 382-0711 Facsimile: (702) 382-5816	
6	paurbach@maclaw.com acalaway@maclaw.com Attorneys for Plaintiff/Counter-Defendant	
7		
8	DISTRIC	T COURT
	CLARK COUN	NTY, NEV
9	DOMINIQUE ARNOULD,	
10		Case No.:
11	Plaintiff,	Dept. No.
12	VS.	
13	CLEMENT MUNEY; CHEF EXEC SUPPLIERS, LLC; and DOES I through X,	FINDING
14	inclusive; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,	
15	Defendants,	

And related counterclaims.

RK COUNTY, NEVADA

Case No.: A-19-803488-B

Dept. No.: 27

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER

Plaintiffs'/Counterdefendants' Motion for Summary Judgment ("Motion for Summary Judgment") and Defendants' Motion to Compel ("Motion to Compel") came before this Court for hearing on July 29, 2021 (the "Hearing"). Alexander K. Calaway, Esq. of Marquis Aurbach Coffing, appeared on behalf of Plaintiff/Counterdefendant, Dominque Arnould ("Arnould"); Robert Kern, Esq. or Kern Law, Ltd. appeared on behalf of Defendants/Counterplaintiff Muney Arnould ("Arnould") and Chef Exec Suppliers, LLC ("CES"). The Court having considered the pleadings and papers on file herein and good cause appearing therefore, the Court hereby grants Plaintiff's Motion for Summary Judgment, denies Defendants' Motion to Compel, and enters these Findings of Fact and Conclusions of law:

Page 1 of 22

MAC:15755-001 4472401_1

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I. **FINDINGS OF FACT**

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PARTIES AND THEIR RESPECTIVE CLAIMS Α.

- 1. Mr. Muney and Mr. Arnould are equal co-owners and co-managers of CES.
- 2. CES is a Nevada limited liability company, validly formed under Nevada law, with no operating agreement.
- 3. CES had two branches of operations: one in Las Vegas, NV and the other in Los Angeles, CA.
- 4. In managing the affairs of CES, Mr. Muney and Mr. Arnould both had access to CES's QuickBooks account via cloud-based server.
- 5. Mr. Arnould brought derivative claims on behalf of CES against Mr. Muney for: (1) Declaratory relief for the appointment of a receiver and judicial dissolution; and (2) an accounting of CES and breach of fiduciary duty.
- Mr. Muney brought direct counterclaims against Mr. Arnould for: (1) breach of fiduciary duty; (2) conversion; (3) money had and received; (4) unjust enrichment; (5) constructive fraud; and (6) fraudulent concealment.

В. APPOINTMENT OF A RECEIVER

- 7. On June 8, 2020, the Court found the requirements to appoint a receiver over CES had been met and ordered the appointment of a receiver with limited powers to prepare a report about the viability of CES.¹
- 8. On June 12, 2020, this Court appointed a receiver to take control of the Nevada warehouse and inventory (hereinafter the "Receiver").²
 - 9. On August 21, 2020, this Court found that:

¹ Findings of fact included in June 8, 2020 Order, on file herein and incorporated herein; see also Feb. 17, 2021, Order, at ¶1, on file herein; see also Opposition to Motion for Summary Judgment (hereinafter the "Opposition") (The Opposition fails to dispute this fact because it does not cite to any declaration, affidavit, or exhibit that might dispute the fact).

² Findings of fact included in June 12, 2020 Order, on file herein and incorporated herein; see also Opposition (The Opposition fails to dispute this fact because it does not cite to any declaration, affidavit, or exhibit that might dispute the fact).

Both Parties don't dispute and stipulated that it is not reasonably practicable to carry on the business of [CES] in conformance with the operating agreement since there is no operating agreement and since the owners of [CES] cannot get along and disagree about the operation of [CES]. Therefore, [CES] must be dissolved.... [and] the date of dissolution should be September 30, 2020.3

C. RECEIVER'S ACCOUNTING AND FINAL REPORT

- 10. On December 7, 2020, the Receiver issued his Final Report and Recommendations (hereinafter the "Final Report").⁴
- 11. In his Final Report, the Receiver made recommendations as to the distribution of the assets and liabilities of the Company to each Partner on an equitable basis.
- 12. The Receiver's report includes the results of his investigation, analysis, and accounting opinions.
- 13. The Defendants/Counter-Plaintiffs did not retain an expert witness to rebut the receiver's findings, analysis or opinions.⁵
- 14. The findings, analysis and opinions set forth in the Receiver's Final Report are hereby adopted by the Court.
- 15. On January 29, 2021, Mr. Muney's counsel filed a written objection to the Receiver's Final Report and the Receiver responded to the objections on February 6, 2021.
 - 16. This written objection filed by counsel for Mr. Muney objected to:
- a. The Receiver's allocation of rent expense for the warehouses in Nevada and California, and that the Receiver improperly calculated and accounted for rent expenses related to these warehouses;
- b. the Receiver's accounting of various expenditures, such as shipping charges and how they were expensed, CES's checks and how they were recorded in the books, classification of business expenses, and invoicing;

³ Order of Dissolution, at ¶¶1-2, on file herein.

⁴ Final Report, on file herein; *see also* Opposition (The Opposition fails to dispute this fact because it does not cite to any declaration, affidavit, or exhibit that might dispute the fact).

⁵ See Opposition.

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c.	the Receiver's calculations as to how CES's delivery truck costs should be
allocated and how the	truck itself should be valued; and

- d. the Receiver's analysis of various expenditures related to partner spending.
- 17. The written objection filed by counsel for Mr. Muney contained no expert testimony in support, no declaration/affidavit in support, and no authenticated documentary evidence.
- 18. The written objection filed by counsel for Mr. Muney only contained arguments by counsel and unauthenticated exhibits.
- 19. On February 17, 2021, the Receiver's Final Report was approved and accepted by this Court and the Receiver was discharged.
- 20. On May 14, 2021, Mr. Arnould designated the Receiver as an expert witness to be called at trial and designated the Receiver's Final Report as an expert written report.
- 21. The Receiver was timely designated as an expert witness to give opinion testimony to the Court, and that the Receiver's Final Report was timely designated as an expert witness report.
- 22. No evidentiary challenge was made by either party as to the Receiver's specialized knowledge and qualifications, skill, experience, training and education as to matters within the scope of accounting.
- 23. No evidentiary challenge was made by either party as to the facts or data relied upon by the Receiver in his Final Report.

24. The Receiver:

- Has been a Certified Public Accountant for over 55 years; a.
- b. Has worked as a court-appointed receiver, forensic accountant, bankruptcy trustee, and the chief financial officer over several large hotel and casinos;
- Has administered and closed over 8,000 Chapter 7 bankruptcies and c. numerous Chapter 11 and Chapter 7 operating bankruptcies;

	d.	Has	served	as a	special	master,	liquidating	trustee,	and a	a receive	er in
hundreds of	cases inv	olving	g partne	rships	s, limited	l liability	companies,	corporat	ions,	and divo	rces;
and											

- e. Has experience in testifying on accounting and forensic accounting matters and has testified in both state and federal courts.
- 25. The Receiver is competent to testify as an expert regarding the investigation and facts contained in his Final Report including CES, its books, QuickBooks, accounts, capital accounts, financial documents, and issues surrounding the Complaint, Counter-Complaint, and pleadings in this case.
- 26. The Receiver's opinions in his Final Report are based upon a review and analysis of the relevant documents, items, and events in this matter, including CES's QuickBooks files.
- 27. The Receiver's Final Report relies upon, among other things, the QuickBooks and supporting documents which were supplied to the Receiver by both Mr. Arnould and Mr. Muney in this matter.
 - 28. The Receiver and the opinions expressed in his Final Report are credible.
- 29. The Receiver's Final Report calculated the distribution of CES assets and the amounts that Mr. Muney and Mr. Arnould owed to CES.
- 30. Pursuant to the Receiver's findings in the Final Report and stipulation of the Parties, Mr. Muney and Mr. Arnould were required to each pay \$22,712.56 to the Receiver to be applied to their respective obligations to CES.
- 31. According to the Receiver's Final Report, Mr. Muney had a negative capital account with CES and owes \$6,303.93 to Mr. Arnould.
- 32. To date, Mr. Muney has not paid Mr. Arnould the \$6,303.93 he owed to equalize the capital account in accordance with the Final Report.
- 33. On May 14, 2021, Mr. Muney designated Andrew Martin, MS, CFE, CFF, CGMA, CICA, CPA ("Martin") and Gene Proctor ("Proctor") as expert witnesses.
- 34. Mr. Muney did not timely disclose a written expert report for Messrs. Martin and Mr. Proctor in this matter.

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- 35. Mr. Muney did not disclose any expert testimony that would dispute Receiver's accounting and opinions.
 - 36. On May 14, 2021, discovery closed in this matter.

D. FACTS PERTAINING TO DISCOVERY AND THE MOTION TO **COMPEL**

- 37. On December 7, 2020, Mr. Arnould timely served his Responses to Defendants' Requests for Production and Defendants' Interrogatories (the "Responses").
- 38. On February 24, 2021, Mr. Arnould served his Second Supplement to Initial Disclosure of Witnesses and Documents Pursuant to NRCP 16.1 (the "Second Supplement"). The Second Supplement contained, among other things, the native QuickBooks file of CES.
- 39. On March 11, 2021, Arnould served his Third Supplement to Initial Disclosure of Witnesses and Documents Pursuant to NRCP 16.1 (the "Third Supplement").
- 40. The Third Supplement contained additional documents responsive to M. Muney's requests, including CES documents, payroll documents, invoices, and tax returns from 2007 through 2019 for the company, and other corporate documents.
 - 41. On June 14, 2021, Mr. Arnould filed his Motion for Summary Judgment.
- 42. On July 9, 2021, Mr. Muney filed his Motion to Compel and requested this Court compel Mr. Arnould to supplement his Responses.
 - 43. On July 23, 2021, Mr. Arnould filed his opposition to the Motion to Compel.
- 44. If any of these Findings of Fact is a Conclusion of Law, it shall be deemed a Conclusion of Law and if any Conclusion of Law is a Finding of Fact, it shall be deemed a Finding of Fact.

II. **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Α. **JURISDICTION IS PROPER**

1. This Court may exercise jurisdiction over the Parties because all Parties have appeared in these proceedings and consented to jurisdiction.

- 2. The Plaintiff's claims, including declaratory relief, accounting, appointment of a receiver, and related counterclaims are not within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Justice Court.
- 3. This Order and the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law herein resolves all claims and counterclaims which were or could have been submitted in this case.
- 4. The Court finds that all issues between the Parties have been resolved or abandoned except those issues listed below between the above-named Parties.

B. MR. ARNOULD IS ENTITLED TO JUDGMENT IN HIS FAVOR ON ALL CLAIMS

- 5. In *Cuzze v. University and Community College System of Nevada*, 123 Nev. 598, 602, 172 P.3d 131, 134 (2007), the Nevada Supreme Court set forth the standard for summary judgment in Nevada under NRCP 56(a).
- 6. Summary judgment is appropriate "when the pleadings, depositions, answers to interrogatories, admissions, and affidavits, if any, that are properly before the court demonstrate that no genuine issue of material fact exists, and the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law." *Id.* (internal citations omitted).
- 7. Nevada courts follow the federal approach outlined in *Celotex Corp. v. Catrett* with respect to burdens of proof and persuasion in the summary judgment context, and as such, "[t]he party moving for summary judgment bears the initial burden of production to show the absence of a genuine issue of material fact," thereafter, "the party opposing summary judgment assumes a burden of production to show the existence of a genuine issue of material fact. *Id.* (citing 477 U.S. 317, 106 S.Ct. 2548, 91 L.Ed.2d 265 (1986); *see also, Clauson v. Lloyd*, 103 Nev. 432, 743 P.2d 631 (1987) (explaining *Celotex's* application in Nevada); *see also Wood v. Safeway, Inc.*, 121 Nev. 724, 731–32, 121 P.3d 1026, 1031 (2005) (adopting the summary judgment standard set forth in *Celotex* and other Supreme Court decisions).
- 8. Pursuant to NRCP 56(c)(1), a party asserting that a fact cannot be or is genuinely disputed must support the assertion by:

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- 9. (A) citing to particular parts of materials in the record, including depositions, documents, electronically stored information, affidavits or declarations, stipulations (including those made for purposes of the motion only), admissions, interrogatory answers, or other materials; or (B) showing that the materials cited do not establish the absence or presence of a genuine dispute, or that an adverse party cannot produce admissible evidence to support the fact.
- 10. Pursuant to NRCP 54(c)(2), either party may "object that the material cited to support or dispute a fact cannot be presented in a form that would be admissible in evidence."
- 11. Pursuant to NRCP 54(c)(3) the court "need consider only the cited materials, but it may consider other materials in the record."
- 12. "An affidavit or declaration used to support or oppose a motion must be made on personal knowledge, set out facts that would be admissible in evidence, and show that the affiant or declarant is competent to testify on the matters stated." NRCP 54(c)(4).
 - 13. Pursuant to NRCP 56(e)(3),

If a party fails to properly support an assertion of fact or fails to properly address another party's assertion of fact as required by Rule 56(c), the court may: . . . consider the fact undisputed for purposes of the motion.... [or] grant summary judgment if the motion and supporting materials--including the facts considered undisputed--show that the movant is entitled to it.

- 14. Mr. Muney's opposition fails to meet the requirements NRCP 56(c).⁶
- 15. The Court need only consider cited materials pursuant to NRCP 54(c)(3).
- 16. Mr. Muney failed to provide any exhibit, declaration, or affidavit that might put any fact in dispute.
- 17. Mr. Muney failed to cite to any material facts that support his defenses and counterclaims in this matter.
 - 18. Mr. Muney's Opposition failed to support for claims and defenses in this case.
- 19. Therefore, the Court grants summary judgment against Mr. Muney and in favor of Mr. Arnould and CES derivatively.

⁶ See Opposition (The Opposition fails to dispute this fact because it does not cite to any declaration, affidavit, or exhibit that might dispute the fact).

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C. MR. ARNOULD PREVAILED DERIVATIVELY ON HIS FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

20. Mr. Arnould's first claim for relief was for declaratory relief for the appointment of a receiver and dissolution of CES.

1. Mr. Arnould Prevailed on Declaratory Relief for Dissolution of CES

- 21. The Court finds that Mr. Arnould prevailed on his first cause of action for declaratory relief that CES should be dissolved and a receiver appointed.
- 22. NRS 86.495 authorizes a member of a limited liability company to apply for a decree of dissolution whenever it is not reasonably practicable to carry on the business of the company in conformity with the articles of organization or operating agreement.
- 23. Mr. Arnould had standing to apply for a decree of dissolution of CES because Mr. Arnould was a 50% member of CES.
- 24. Mr. Arnould's first cause of action sought declaratory relief from the Court that it is not reasonably practicable to carry on CES and an order granting judicial dissolution pursuant to NRS 86.495 and 86.505.
- 25. Mr. Arnould's verified complaint stated that the disputes between he and Muney have arisen and are so deep that it is not reasonably practicable to carry on the business of the Company.
 - 26. On August 21, 2020, this Court found that:

Both Parties don't' dispute and stipulated that it is not reasonably practicable to carry on the business of the Company in conformance with the operating agreement since there is no operating agreement and since the owners of the Company cannot get along and disagree about the operation of the Company. Therefore, the Company must be dissolved.... [and] the date of dissolution should be September 30, 2020.⁷

- 27. On November 3, 2020, the Receiver filed articles of dissolution for CES.
- 28. Therefore, Mr. Arnould prevailed on his first cause of action for declaratory relief and dissolution.

7 See Order of Dissolution, at ¶¶1-2, on file herein.

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29. Mr. Muney's Opposition failed to support his defenses to this particular claim.⁸

Mr. Arnould Prevailed on Declaratory Relief and Appointment of 2. Receiver

- 30. Mr. Arnould's first cause of action also sought a declaration that the requirements for appointment of a receiver to run the Las Vegas operations of CES and potentially dissolve the company."
- 31. NRS 32.010(6) provides: "A receiver may be appointed by the court in which an action is pending, or by the judge thereof: ... In all other cases where receivers have heretofore been appointed by the usages of the courts of equity."
- In general, "[a] receiver's primary purpose is to preserve the property's value for 32. those to whom it is ultimately determined that the property belongs, so to accommodate all claims possible." Frank Settelmeyer & Sons, Inc. v. Smith & Harmer, Ltd., 124 Nev. 1206, 1215, 197 P.3d 1051, 1057 (2008) (internal citations omitted); see also Bowler v. Leonard, 70 Nev. 370, 269 P.2d 833 (1954).
 - 33. In appointing the Receiver over CES, this Court found:
- a. That neither Party trusted the other with the assets or operations of the Company;
- b. That the expenditures and dealings of the Company be accounted for and overseen by a neutral third-party without impeding the Company's ability to carry on its business;
- c. That it was necessary that a neutral receiver be appointed to supervise the operations of the Company in consultation with Mr. Arnould and Mr. Muney, and to allow them to continue operations of the Company, and have the Receiver prepare a report about the viability of the Company;
- d. That despite the fact that Mr. Muney and Mr. Arnould are each 50% owners of CES, Mr. Muney changed the locks to the warehouse located at 3655 West Quail Ave, Las Vegas, Nevada which stored CES inventory;

8 See Opposition,

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- That Mr. Muney refused to allow Arnould access to the Nevada e. warehouse to obtain the CES inventory; and
- f. That Mr. Muney's actions required further monitoring of the Nevada warehouse so that CES could continue to fulfill the needs of its customers.
- 34. Therefore, Mr. Arnould prevailed on his first cause of action for declaratory relief and for appointment of a receiver.
 - 35. Mr. Muney's Opposition failed to support his defenses to this particular claim.⁹

3. Mr. Arnould Prevailed Derivatively on his First Claim for Relief

- 36. The Court finds that Mr. Arnould's first cause of action was properly plead as a derivative claim and that Mr. Arnould prevailed derivatively on this claim.
- 37. The pleading standards for derivative claims brought on behalf of a Nevada LLC are set forth in NRCP 23.110 and NRS 86.487.11

9 See Opposition, on file herein.

10 NRCP 23.1 provides:

In a derivative action brought by one or more shareholders or members to enforce a right of a corporation or of an unincorporated association, the corporation or association having failed to enforce a right that may properly be asserted by it, the complaint must be verified and must allege that the plaintiff was a shareholder or member at the time of the transaction of which the plaintiff complains, or that the plaintiff's share or membership thereafter devolved on the plaintiff by operation of law. The complaint must also allege with particularity the efforts, if any, made by the plaintiff to obtain the action the plaintiff desires from the directors or comparable authority and, if necessary, from the shareholders or members, and the reasons for the plaintiff's failure to obtain the action or for not making the effort. The derivative action may not be maintained if it appears that the plaintiff does not fairly and adequately represent the interests of the shareholders or members similarly situated in enforcing the right of the corporation or association. The action may not be dismissed or compromised without the approval of the court, and notice of the proposed dismissal or compromise must be given to shareholders or members in such manner as the court directs.

11 NRS 86.487 provides:

In a derivative action, the complaint must set forth with particularity: 1. The effort of the plaintiff to secure initiation of the action by a manager or member; or 2. The reasons for the plaintiff not making the effort to secure initiation of the action by a manager or member.

40.

Finally, NRS 86.489 provides:

38.	The C	Court finds that, pursuant to NRCP 23.1 and NRS 86.487, Mr. Arnould met			
the derivative pleading requirements for his first cause of action because:					
	a.	Mr. Arnould's complaint was a verified complaint;			
	b.	Mr. Arnould's complaint sufficiently alleged that Mr. Arnould had			
standing as a	membe	er of CES;			
	c.	Mr. Arnould particularly alleged that it would be a futile effort to make a			
demand on	Mr. M	uney since Mr. Muney is not disinterested, Mr. Muney's judgment is			
materially af	fected i	in favor of his actions and against the best interests of Chef Suppliers and			
nothing can b	oe accoi	mplished when both disagree on the direction of the company; and			
	d.	Mr. Arnould's first cause of action fairly and adequately represented the			
interests of th	ne mem	bers similarly situated in enforcing the rights of CES.			
39.	The	Court finds that Mr. Arnould's first cause of action was derivative because			
the appointm	ent of a	receiver and dissolution benefited CES by:			
	a.	Reducing the effect that the dispute between CES's managers had on			
CES's busine	ess and	its articles by dissolving CES under NRS 86.495(1);			
	b.	Securing and monitoring the CES Las Vegas warehouse and thereby			
preventing w	aste by	Mr. Muney;			
	c.	Providing CES's manager, Mr. Arnould, with access to the Las Vegas			
warehouse, s	so that	Mr. Arnould could continue operations of CES and fulfill the needs of			
customers without interference by Mr. Muney;					
	d.	Providing a comprehensive accounting of CES which required both Mr.			
Muney and M	Mr. Arn	ould each pay CES to settle their respective capital accounts which benefited			
CES; and					
	e.	Discharging and providing for CES's outstanding obligations and debts by			
settling capit	al accou	ants; and			
	f.	Filing a final tax return for CES.			

If a derivative action is successful, in whole or in part, or if anything is received Page 12 of 22

by the plaintiff as a result of a judgment, compromise or settlement of an action or claim, the court may award the plaintiff reasonable expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees, and shall direct the plaintiff to remit to the limited-liability company the remainder of those proceeds received by the plaintiff.

- 41. The Court finds that Mr. Arnould prevailed derivatively on his first cause of action and is therefore entitled to seek his reasonable attorney's fees and expenses pursuant to NRS 86.489.¹²
 - 42. Mr. Muney's Opposition failed to support his defenses to this particular claim. ¹³

D. MR. ARNOULD PREVAILED ON HIS SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

- 43. Mr. Arnould's second claim for relief was for accounting of CES and breach of fiduciary duty.
- 44. An equitable accounting "is a restitutionary remedy based upon avoiding unjust enrichment." See D. Dobbs, Remedies § 4.3 at 415 (1973). Nevada recognizes the action of equitable accounting. Botsford v. Van Riper, 33 Nev. 158, 110 P. 705 (1910); Young v. Johnny Ribiero Bldg., Inc., 106 Nev. 88, 787 P.2d 777 (1990); Oracle USA, Inc. v. Rimini Street, Inc., No. 2:10-CV-00106-LRH-PAL, 2010 WL 3257933 (D. Nov. Aug. 13, 2010); Mobius Connections Group, Inc. v. Techskills, LLC, No. 2:10-CV-01678-GMN-RJJ, 2012 WL 194434 (D. Nev. Jan. 23, 2012).
- 45. Courts have generally defined an action for an accounting as "a proceeding in equity for the purpose of obtaining a judicial settlement of the accounts of the parties in which proceeding the court will adjudicate the amount due, administer full relief and render complete justice." *Verdier v. Superior Court*, 88 Cal.App.2d 527, 530, 199 P.2d 325 (Cal.1948); *Teselle v. McLoughlin*, 173 Cal. App. 4th 158, 92 Cal. Rptr. 3d 696 (Cal. App. 2009).
 - 46. NRS 86.5419 provides for accounting for profits of an LLC by a receiver:

The receiver... shall lay before the district court a full and complete inventory of all the estate, property and effects of the limited-liability company, its nature and probable value, and an account of all debts due from and to it, as nearly as the same can be ascertained, and make a report to the court of his or her proceedings at least every 3 months thereafter during the continuance of the trust, and

¹² See Order re: Dissolution, on file herein; see also Order appointing receiver, on file herein.

¹³ See Opposition.

whenever the receiver shall be so ordered.

- 47. An equitable accounting is proper where "the accounts are so complicated that an ordinary legal action demanding a fixed sum is impracticable." *See e.g. Civic Western Corp. v. Zila Industries, Inc.*, 66 Cal.App.3d 1, 14, 135 Cal. Rptr. 915 (Cal.1977) (citation and quotes omitted).
- 48. Although courts typically grant an accounting where a fiduciary relationship exists between the parties, courts have extended the remedy of accounting to nonfiduciaries where "dealings between the parties are so complex that an equitable master, and not a jury, is required to sort out the various dealings between the parties." *See e.g. Leonard v. Optimal Payments Ltd.* (*In re Nat'l Audit Def. Network*), 332 B.R. 896, 918–19 (Bankr. D. Nev. 2005).
- 49. The complexity of CES's accounts make an equitable accounting necessary in this case because the disagreements between the parties, the lack of communication, and necessary adjustments to the books and records, the dealings between Mr. Arnould and Mr. Muney were complex.
- 50. The breadth of the Receiver's report itself illustrates the complexity involved in accounting for CES.
- 51. Thus, the Court finds that the Receiver was properly appointed to account for the assets of CES, which was completed on December 7, 2020.
- 52. The Receiver's Final Report was a complete and full accounting of CES that satisfies the requirements for an accounting under Nevada law and NRS Chapter 86.
- 53. Therefore, the Court finds that Mr. Arnould prevailed on his second cause of action for accounting.
 - 54. Mr. Muney's Opposition failed to support his defenses in this case ¹⁴
- 55. Mr. Muney failed to provide any material disputed fact that might dispute or rebut the Receiver's accounting of CES pursuant to NRCP 56(c)-(e).¹⁵

14 See Opposition.

Id.

- 56. Mr. Muney cannot defeat Mr. Arnould's motion for summary judgment because he failed to "set out facts that would be admissible in evidence." NRCP 56(c)(4).
- 57. While Mr. Muney objected to the Receiver's accounting, his objections are not admissible evidence at trial.¹⁶
- 58. Each of the issues Mr. Muney raised in his written objection on the record require specialized and technical knowledge in accounting, which are subjects reserved for experts pursuant to NRS 50.275.
- 59. In Nevada, to present expert testimony, the proffering party must provide a written disclosure of their experts and the contents of those experts' testimonies, including the information each expert considered in forming an opinion, well in advance of trial. *Sanders v. Sears-Page*, 131 Nev. 500, 517, 354 P.3d 201, 212 (Nev. App. 2015) (citing NRCP 16.1(a)(2)).
- 60. This policy underlying NRCP 16.1 "serves to place all parties on an even playing field and to prevent trial by ambush or unfair surprise." *Id.*; *see also Roberts v. Libby*, 132 Nev. 1023 (Nev. App. 2016).
- 61. The Receiver's Final Report and his accounting therein are undisputed because Mr. Muney failed to produce an expert report or any other admissible accounting of profits for CES.
- 62. Because Mr. Muney failed to produce an expert report, he is barred from attempting to proffer expert testimony at trial. Since Mr. Muney cannot present expert testimony at trial, the Final Report and Receiver's accounting of profits are undisputed. The amounts due under the Receiver's accounting were also partially stipulated to on or about February 26, 2021, since Mr. Muney and Mr. Arnould each stipulated and agreed to pay \$22,712.56 to the Receiver to close out the receivership estate and thereafter, accepted their respective distributions of CES's assets. ¹⁷

¹⁶ See Defendants' Objection to Final Report, on file herein.

¹⁷ February 26, 2021 Stipulation and Order, on file herein.
Page 15 of 22

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- 63. The only unsettled amounts due under the Receiver's undisputed accounting is the \$6,303.93 due from Mr. Muney to be paid to Mr. Arnould.
- 64. Therefore, the Court finds that judgment Mr. Arnould is entitled to judgment in his favor of and that judgment may be entered against Mr. Muney in the amount of \$6,303.93.
 - 65. Mr. Muney's Opposition failed to support his defenses to this particular claim.¹⁸
- 66. The Court further finds that any diversion of funds by Mr. Muney alleged by Mr. Arnould under any breach of fiduciary duty theory was addressed in the Receiver's equitable accounting and capital account adjustment set forth above.
- 67. As such, the Court finds that since Mr. Arnould prevailed on his accounting claim, his breach of fiduciary duty claim is moot.

MR. MUNEY'S FIRST, FIFTH AND SIXTH CAUSES OF ACTION FAIL E. AS A MATTER OF LAW

1. Mr. Muney's First Cause of Action for Breach of Fiduciary Duty Fails

- 68. Mr. Muney's first cause of action states that Mr. Arnould as co-owner and comanager of an LLC, owed a fiduciary duty to Counter-Plaintiffs CES and Mr. Muney.
- 69. In Nevada, a claim for breach of a fiduciary duty requires, as a threshold, the existence of a fiduciary duty. Brown v. Kinross Gold U.S.A., Inc., 531 F. Supp. 2d 1234, 1245 (D. Nev. 2008) (listing the three elements of the claim) (citing Giles v. Gen. Motors Acceptance Corp., 494 F.3d 865, 880-81 (9th Cir. 2007) (applying Nevada law)).
- 70. Under NRS Chapter 86, the only duties owed by a member or manager to the LLC or to any other member of the LLC are: (1) the implied contractual covenant of good faith and fair dealing; and (2) duties prescribed by the "articles of organization or the operating agreement." NRS 86.298.
- 71. Unlike Nevada's statutes covering corporations and partnerships, NRS Chapter 86 does not set out fiduciary duties owed by and between its members. Cf. NRS 78.138; NRS 87.210; see also Ela v. Destefano, 869 F.3d 1198, 1202 (11th Cir. 2017) (finding "persuasive the argument that '[w]here [a legislature] knows how to say something but chooses not to, its silence

¹⁸ See Opposition.

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is controlling") (quoting Animal Legal Def. Fund v. U.S. Dep't of Agriculture, 789 F.3d 1206, 1217 (11th Cir. 2015)).

72. NRS 86.286(5) provides:

If, and to the extent that, a member or manager or other person has duties to a limited-liability company, to another member or manager, or to another person that is a party to or is otherwise bound by the operating agreement, such duties may be expanded, restricted or eliminated by provisions in the operating agreement, except that an operating agreement may not eliminate the implied contractual covenant of good faith and fair dealing.

- 73. While members of an LLC can contract to fiduciary duties, such duties do not necessarily exist otherwise, aside from the implied contractual covenant of good faith and fair dealing. See e.g. Israyelyan v. Chavez, 466 P.3d 939 (Nev. 2020) (unpublished).¹⁹
- 74. Mr. Arnould owed no fiduciary duties to Muney and CES, because there was no operating agreement between the members of CES imposing fiduciary duties.
- 75. Therefore, Mr. Muney's first cause of action fails as a matter of law and judgment is hereby entered against Mr. Muney and in favor of Mr. Arnould on this claim.
 - 76. Mr. Muney's Opposition failed to support this particular claim. ²⁰

2. Mr. Muney's Fifth Cause of Action for Constructive Fraud

- 77. Mr. Muney states in his fifth cause of action for constructive fraud that Mr. Arnould owed a duty to Muney and CES to lawfully manage and disburse funds and assets belonging to CES.
- 78. "Constructive fraud is the breach of some legal or equitable duty which, irrespective of moral guilt, the law declares fraudulent because of its tendency to deceive others or to violate confidence." Long v. Towne, 98 Nev. 11, 13, 639 P.2d 528, 529–30 (1982); See

¹⁹ See e.g. HP Tuners, LLC v. Cannata, No. 318CV00527LRHWGC, 2019 WL 3848792, at *4 (D. Nev. Aug. 15, 2019) (holding that "unlike many states, Nevada does not impose any statutory fiduciary duties on members of LLCs") (internal quotations omitted); see e.g. In re Plyam, 530 B.R. 456, 472 (9th Cir. B.A.P. 2015) ("Unlike California, Nevada does not have a statute equating the fiduciary duties of a manager in a limited liability company context to those of a partner in a partnership."); see e.g. JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. v. KB Home, 632 F.Supp.2d 1013, 1025-26 (D. Nev. 2009) (holding that Nevada allows the members of LLCs to decide whether to impose fiduciary duties on themselves through their operating agreement).

²⁰ See Opposition, on file herein.

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also, Perry v. Jordan, 111 Nev. 943, 946-47, 900 P.2d 335, 337 (1995). To legally maintain a claim, a plaintiff must establish that the defendant owed a legal duty "arising out of a fiduciary or confidential relationship." Perry, 111 Nev. at 946–47, 900 P.2d at 337 (quoting Long, 98 Nev. at 13, 639 P.2d at 529–30) (internal quotations omitted).

- "A "confidential or fiduciary relationship" exists when one reposes a special 79. confidence in another so that the latter, in equity and good conscience, is bound to act in good faith and with due regard to the interests of the one reposing the confidence." Id. Thus, a legal or equitable duty is only imposed "where one party imposes confidence in the other because of that person's position, and the other party knows of this confidence." Mackintosh v. Jack Matthews & Co., 109 Nev. 628, 635, 855 P.2d 549, 553 (1993) (internal quotations and citations omitted).
- 80. As noted above, NRS Chapter 86 restricts the duties owed by a member and manager of an LLC to only the implied contractual covenant of good faith and fair dealing. See NRS 86.298 and 86.286(5); see e.g. Israyelyan, 466 P.3d at *4. The Legislature intended for managers and members of an LLC to either opt-out of fiduciary duties, or to contractually agree to fiduciary duties by way of an operating agreement. *Id.*
- 81. The only relationship between Mr. Muney and Mr. Arnould was their relationship as equal co-owners and co-managers of CES.
- 82. Mr. Muney's Counter-Complaint states that Mr. Arnould allegedly breached his duty as a business partner of Mr. Muney in his constructive fraud claim.
- 83. The only duties as to Mr. Arnould in Mr. Muney's Counter-Complaint are the duties arising out of Mr. Arnould's status as a member and co-manager CES.
- 84. But as noted above, Mr. Muney and Mr. Arnould owed no fiduciary duties to one another pursuant to NRS Chapter 86.
- 85. Therefore, Mr. Muney fifth cause of action fails as a matter of law and judgment is hereby entered against Mr. Muney and in favor of Mr. Arnould on this claim.
 - Mr. Muney's Opposition failed to support this particular claim.²¹ 86.

28 21 See Opposition, on file herein.

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3. Mr. Muney's Sixth Cause Of Action For Fraudulent Concealment.

- 87. Mr. Muney's sixth cause of action is fraudulent concealment, and Mr. Muney alleged that Mr. Arnould had a duty to disclose all dealings to his partner, but instead intentionally concealed his acts.
- One of the essential elements in a fraudulent concealment case is that the 88. defendant actually owed a duty to disclose a fact to the plaintiff. Dow Chemical Co. v. Mahlum, 114 Nev. 1468, 1485 (1998), overruled in part on other grounds in GES, Inc. v. Corbitt, 117 Nev. 265 (2001) (using the conjunction "and" in listing each element in listing all five elements of fraudulent concealment); see also Couturier v. Am. Invsco Corp., 10 F.Supp.3d 1143, 1157 (D. Nev. 2014) (same); Aliya Medcare Fin., LLC v. Nickell, No. CV 14-07806 MMM (EX), 2015 WL 11072180, at *9 (C.D. Cal. Sept. 25, 2015) (same) (applying Nevada law).
- 89. Mr. Muney and Mr. Arnould were the only members of CES, and CES and had no operating agreement that imposed duties on Mr. Muney.
- 90. As explained above, NRS Chapter 86 restricts the duties owed by a member and manager of an LLC to only the implied contractual covenant of good faith and fair dealing. See NRS 86.298 and 86.286(5); see e.g. Israyelyan, 466 P.3d at *4.
- 91. Thus, Mr. Muney and Mr. Arnould owed no fiduciary duties to one another pursuant to NRS Chapter 86.
- 92. Therefore, the Court finds that Mr. Arnould prevails against Mr. Muney on Mr. Muney's sixth cause of action.
 - 93. Mr. Muney's Opposition failed to support this particular claim.²²

MR. MUNEY LACKS STANDING TO BRING HIS FIRST, SECOND, F. THIRD AND FOURTH CAUSES OF ACTION ON BEHALF OF CES

94. The substantive allegation undergirding Muney's first, second, third, and fourth causes of action is that Mr. Arnould made payments to himself that Muney deems improper, and that, accordingly, Mr. Arnould should return all of the funds to CES.

22 Id.

- 95. There are no allegations by Mr. Muney that funds should be returned to Mr. Muney personally, but rather, Mr. Muney asks the Court for an order that Mr. Arnould repay CES.
- 96. In general, standing "consists of both a case or controversy requirement stemming from Article III, Section 2 of the Constitution, and a subconstitutional prudential element." *In re AMERCO Derivative Litig.*, 127 Nev. 196, 213, 252 P.3d 681, 694 (2011) (internal quotations omitted).
- 97. While "state courts do not have constitutional Article III standing, Nevada has a long history of requiring an actual justiciable controversy as a predicate to judicial relief." *Id.* (internal quotation omitted). Thus, to pursue a legal claim, an "injury in fact" must exist. *Bennett v. Spear*, 520 U.S. 154, 167 (1997).
- 98. The "injury-in-fact" analysis requires the claimant to show that the action caused or threatened to cause the claimant's injury-in-fact, and that the relief sought will remedy the injury. *See generally Simon v. E. Ky. Welfare Rights Org.*, 426 U.S. 26, 38-39 (1976). A person acting in their individual capacity is legally distinct from the same person acting in their representative capacity. *See Mona v. Eighth Judicial Dist. Court*, 132 Nev. 719, 728, 380 P.3d 836, 842 (2016).
- 99. Mr. Muney's Counter-Complaint requests that Mr. Arnould repay to CES all of the funds which Mr. Muney alleges were stolen, embezzled or in any other way wrongfully taken by Mr. Arnould. But all of the funds Mr. Muney refers to in each of his causes of action are CES funds.
- 100. The Court finds that Mr. Muney lacks standing to recover CES's funds requested by Mr. Muney in his second, third, and fourth claims and each are summarily dismissed as a matter of law.
- 101. The Final Report by the Receiver also accounted for any funds that may have been owed to CES by Mr. Muney.
- 102. Therefore, the Court finds that Mr. Arnould prevails against Mr. Muney on Mr. Muney's second, third, and fourth Counter-Claims.

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103. Mr. Muney's Opposition failed to support these particular claims.²³

G. MR. MUNEY LACKS STANDING TO BRING HIS CAUSES OF ACTION DERIVATIVELY ON BEHALF CES

- 104. For each of Mr. Muney's counterclaims, he also included CES as a counterplaintiff and purportedly brought those claims on behalf of CES.
- 105. Mr. Muney's counterclaims cannot be construed as a type of derivative suit on behalf of CES, because his Counter-Complaint fails to meet any of the requirements of a derivative suit under NRCP 23.1.
- For cases concerning LLCs, a member or manager is only authorized to bring an action to enforce the rights of a limited-liability company "if the managers or members with authority to do so have refused to bring the action [i.e. demand] or if an effort to cause those managers or members to bring the action is not likely to succeed [i.e. futility]." NRS 86.483; see also NRS 86.587 (requiring this to plead with particularity).
- 107. In addition, the complaint must be verified and must allege that the plaintiff was a member at the time of the transaction of which the plaintiff complains or that the plaintiff's share or membership thereafter devolved on the plaintiff by operation of law. See NRCP 23.1. Unless the plaintiff fairly and adequately represents the interests of company, "[t]he derivative action may not be maintained..." *Id*. (emphasis added).
- 108. Mr. Muney's Counter-Complaint provides no allegations that would support a derivative claim.
- 109. Mr. Muney failed to verify his Counter-Complaint, failed to allege a demand or futility, and failed to allege how Mr. Muney fairly and adequately represents the interests of the company.
- Accordingly, Mr. Muney lacks standing to derivatively bring his first, second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth causes of action on behalf CES.
- 111. The Final Report by the Receiver also accounted for any funds that may have been owed to CES by Mr. Muney.

²³ See Opposition.

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- 112. Therefore, Mr. Arnould prevails against Mr. Muney on all of his Counter-Claims allegedly brought by Mr. Muney on behalf of CES.
 - 113. Mr. Muney's Opposition failed to support these particular claims.²⁴

H. MR. MUNEY'S MOTION TO COMPEL IS UNTIMELY

- 114. A motion to compel, absent unusual circumstances, should be filed before the scheduled date for dispositive motions. See e.g. Gault v. Nabisco Biscuit Co., 184 F.R.D. 620, 622 (D. Nev. 1999); see e.g. Thurston v. City of North Las Vegas, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 96619, 2011 WL 3841110 (D. Nev. 2011); see e.g. Hall v. Schumacher, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 108896, 2011 WL 4458845 (D. Nev. 2011); see e.g. Rios v. Dollar General, No. 2:15-cv-2056, 2017 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 3385 (D. Nev. Jan. 10, 2017).
- 115. "Federal cases interpreting the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure are strong persuasive authority, because the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure are based in large part upon their federal counterparts." Executive Mgmt., Ltd. v. Ticor Title Ins. Co., 118 Nev. 46, 53, 38 P.3d 872, 876 (2002) (quotation and citation omitted).
- 116. The Court finds that Mr. Muney's Motion to Compel was brought well after the close of discovery and after dispositive motions.
- 117. Therefore, the Court finds that Mr. Muney's Motion to Compel was untimely and is therefore denied. Dated this 10th day of September, 2021

September 10, 2021

moul Bv:

> DISTRICT COURT JUDGE 459 1D1 404D FAD8

By:/s/Robert Kern

MARQUIS AURBACH COFFING

Respectfully Submitted by:

By:/s/ Alexander K. Calaway Phillip S. Aurbach, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 1501

Alexander K. Calaway, Esq. Nevada Bar. No. 15188 10001 Park Run Drive

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Defendants

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Robert Kern, Esq.

Attorneys for Defendants/Counter-

Plaintiffs

24 See Opposition.

TW

Cally Hatfield

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Cc: Alexander K. Calaway

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1 **CSERV** 2 DISTRICT COURT 3 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 4 5 Dominique Arnould, Plaintiff(s) CASE NO: A-19-803488-B 6 VS. DEPT. NO. Department 27 7 Clement Muney, Defendant(s) 8 9 10 **AUTOMATED CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 11 This automated certificate of service was generated by the Eighth Judicial District Court. The foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order was served via the 12 court's electronic eFile system to all recipients registered for e-Service on the above entitled 13 case as listed below: 14 Service Date: 9/10/2021 15 Cally Hatfield chatfield@maclaw.com 16 Robert Kern Robert@Kernlawoffices.com 17 Melissa Milroy Admin@KernLawOffices.com 18 Candace Carlyon ccarlyon@carlyoncica.com 19 Tracy O'Steen tosteen@carlyoncica.com 20 21 Nancy Rodriguez nrodriguez@carlyoncica.com 22 Cristina Robertson crobertson@carlyoncica.com 23 Phillip Aurbach PSA@maclaw.com 24 Javie-Anne Bauer ibauer@maclaw.com 25 Alexander Calaway acalaway@maclaw.com 26 27

MARQUIS AURBACH COFFING

1

Marquis Aurbach Coffing Phillip S. Aurbach, Esq. 2 Nevada Bar No. 1501 10001 Park Run Drive 3 Las Vegas, Nevada 89145 Telephone: (702) 382-0711 CASE NO: A-19-803488-B Facsimile: (702) 382-5816 4 paurbach@maclaw.com 5 Attorneys for Plaintiff 6 DISTRICT COURT 7 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 8 DOMINIQUE ARNOULD, 9 Case No.: Plaintiff, Dept. No.: 10 11 **Arbitration Exemption Requested:** VS. (Declaratory Relief) 12 13 CLEMENT MUNEY; CHEF EXEC **Business Court Requested:** SUPPLIERS, LLC; and DOES I through X, (NRS Chapters 78-92A) 14 inclusive; and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive, 15 16 Defendants. 17 **COMPLAINT FOR APPOINTMENT OF A RECEIVER OR DISSOLUTION OF LLC;** DECLARATORY RELIEF; BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY; AND DAMAGES 18 19 Plaintiff DOMINIQUE ARNOULD (hereinafter "Arnould") by and through his attorneys Marquis Aurbach Coffing, alleges and complains as follows: 20 21 **PARTIES** 1. Clement Muney (hereinafter Muney) is a 50% owner/member and co-manager of 22 23 CHEF EXEC SUPPLIERS, LLC, (hereinafter Chef Suppliers or the Company). 2. Arnould is the other 50% owner/member and co-manager of Chef Suppliers. 24 3. Muney and Chef Suppliers at all relevant times mentioned herein, were doing 25

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Electronically Filed 10/11/2019 2:17 PM Steven D. Grierson **CLERK OF THE COURT**

Department 27

The names and capacities, whether individuals, corporate, associate or otherwise

of Defendants named herein as DOE and ROE CORPORATION are unknown or not yet

Page 1 of 5

business in Clark County, Nevada.

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confirmed. Upon information and belief, said DOE and ROE CORPORATION Defendants are responsible for damages suffered by Plaintiff and, therefore, Plaintiff sues said Defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff will ask leave to amend this Complaint to show the true names and capacities of each DOE and ROE CORPORATION Defendant at such time as the same has been ascertained.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 5. This Court possesses:
- a. Subject matter jurisdiction because District Courts have subject matter jurisdiction over claims that are not within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Justice Court pursuant to Article 6, Section 6.1 of the Nevada Constitution and this claim is not within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Justice Court.
- b. This Court has personal jurisdiction over the Defendants because the Defendants reside in and do business in Clark County, NV.

BACKGROUND FACTS

- 6. Arnould and Muney are 50/50 owners of Chef Suppliers.
- 7. Arnould and Muney are both are managers of Chef Suppliers.
- 8. Chef Suppliers has no written operating agreement.
- 9. Disputes between Arnould and Muney have arisen and are so deep that it is not reasonably practicable to carry on the business of the Company.
- 10. One of the disputes is that Las Vegas rent for Chef Suppliers was approximately \$3,800/month. The lease expired and the landlord wanted approximately \$5,800/month. Without any joint agreement, Muney is paying almost \$11,000/month rent. This rent is paid from sales of Chef Suppliers inventory. This is a breach of his fiduciary duty owed to Arnould and thus, Muney should be personally responsible for the difference between \$5,800/month and \$11,000/month.
- 11. It has been impossible to get Muney to discuss his breach of fiduciary duties including but not limited to forming a new entity and having payments for Chef Suppliers'

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inventory go to his new entity, which was formed without the knowledge or consent of Plaintiff Arnould.

- 12. A manager may ask a court to dissolve an LLC when, pursuant to NRS 86.495, it is not reasonably practicable to carry on the business of the company.
 - 13. Arnould is a manager.
- 14. It would be a futile effort to make a demand on Muney since Muney is not disinterested, Muney's judgment is materially affected in favor of his actions and against the best interests of Chef Suppliers and nothing can be accomplished when both disagree on the direction of the company.
- 15. Arnould or Chef Suppliers derivatively have been damaged by Defendants' actions in an amount in excess of \$15,000.

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Declaratory Relief, Receiver and Dissolution)

- 16. Arnould repeats and re-alleges the above paragraphs as though fully stated herein.
- 17. Because it is not reasonably practicable to carry on the business of the company an Order granting dissolution should be entered pursuant to NRS 86.495 and 86.505.
- 18. This Court should declare that the requirements for the appointment of a Receiver to run the Las Vegas operations of Chef Suppliers and potentially dissolve the company since the requirements for Dissolution have been met.
- 19. In order to pursue his claims as a direct and proximate result of the Defendants' conduct outlined herein, Arnould has incurred attorneys' fees as special damages in the sum of \$5,000 as of the date of filing this pleading and increasing up to and through trial and appeal, if any.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Breach of Fiduciary Duty & Accounting)

- 20. Plaintiff repeats and realleges the paragraphs above as though fully stated herein.
- 21. Arnould believes that Muney has taken money and diverted business opportunities and customers from Defendant Chef Suppliers and by virtue thereof has breached his fiduciary duties to Chef Suppliers and to Arnould.

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22.	Defendant	Muney	owes	such	funds	and	profits	derived	therefrom	to	Chef
Suppliers and	d/or Arnould.										

- 23. The Court should order a yearly accounting of all funds taken in and spent from Chef Suppliers for the last 3 years so Arnould can determine the amount of Muney's defalcation.
- 24. Arnould or Chef Suppliers derivatively is entitled to a judgment in an amount in excess of \$15,000 as a direct and proximate result of Defendant Muney's actions.
- 25. In order to pursue and defend its claims as a direct and proximate result of the Defendants' conduct outlined herein, Arnould has incurred attorneys' fees as special damages in the sum of \$5,000 as of the date of this pleading and increasing up to and through trial and appeal, if any.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Arnould prays for the following relief against Defendants:

- For an Order Appointing a Receiver and an Order requiring dissolution of Chef Suppliers in the ordinary course by the Receiver or by Arnould, its manager.
- 2. For a judgment in favor of Arnould or Chef Suppliers in a sum in excess of \$15,000; Against Muney for Defendant Muney's breach of fiduciary duty.
- 3. Attorneys fees as special damages in the sum of \$5,000 against Defendants as of the date of this pleading and increasing up to and through trial and appeal, if any, and
 - 4. For any further relief as the Court deems to be just and proper. Dated this 11th day of October, 2019.

MARQUIS AURBACH COFFING

By /s/ Phillip S. Aurbach Phillip S. Aurbach, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 1501 10001 Park Run Drive Las Vegas, Nevada 89145 Attorney(s) for Plaintiff

MARQUIS AURBACH COFFING 10001 Park Run Drive Las Vegas, Nevada 89145 (702) 382-0711 FAX: (702) 382-5816

VERIFICATION

Under penalties of perjury, the undersigned declares that he is the plaintiff named in the foregoing complaint and knows the contents thereof; that the pleading is true of his own knowledge, except as to those matters stated on information and belief, and that as to such matters he believes it to be true.

Dated this 10 day of October, 2019

DOMINIQUE ARNOULD

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1	ANS						
2	Robert Kern, Esq.						
3	Nevada Bar Number 10104 KERN LAW, Ltd.						
	601 S. 6 th Street						
4	Las Vegas, NV 89101						
5	(702) 518-4529 phone (702) 825-5872 fax						
6	Admin@KernLawOffices.com Attorney for Defendants						
7	IN THE EIGHTH JUDIC	IAL DISTRICT COURT					
8							
9	CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA						
10	DOMINIQUE ARNOULD,	Case Number: A-19-803488-B					
11	Plaintiff,)	Dept. Number: 27					
12	vs.						
13	CLEMENT MUNEY; CHEF EXEC						
13	SUPPLIERS, LLC; and DOES I through X, inclusive, and ROE CORPORATIONS I through X, inclusive,	ANSWER AND COUNTERCLAIMS					
15	Defendants.						
16	Ó						
17)						
18	CLEMENT MUNEY; and CHEF EXEC) SUPPLIERS, LLC,						
19	Plaintiffs,)						
20	vs.						
21	DOMINIQUE ARNOULD,						
22) Defendant.)						
23							
24							
25	COME NOW Defendants, CLEMENT	Γ MUNEY, (hereinafter "Muney"), and CHEI					

COME NOW Defendants, CLEMENT MUNEY, (hereinafter "Muney"), and CHEF EXEC SUPPLIERS, LLC (hereinafter, "CHEFEXEC") by and through their undersigned counsel Robert Kern, ESQ., of KERN LAW, Ltd. and submit this Answer and Counterclaims to Plaintiff's Complaint on file herein and allege and aver as follows:

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9. Plaintiff has made allegations with knowledge of their actual falsity and therefore said claim is violative of the rules of civil procedure and therefore the stated claims should be dismissed.

- 10. Plaintiff's claims, and each of them, are barred due to fraud.
- 11. By virtue of Plaintiff's actions, conduct, and omissions, this answering Defendant has been released.
- 12. The claims of Plaintiff have been waived as a result of the acts and the conduct of the Plaintiff.
- 13. Plaintiff suffered no damage and therefore is not entitled to any relief.
- Plaintiff, by his acts, conduct and/or omissions, has ratified the acts, conduct and omissions, if any, of these answering Defendants; therefore, Plaintiff is barred from seeking any relief from these answering Defendants.
- 15. These answering Defendants have not had sufficient time to prepare and obtain sufficient facts to determine all potential affirmative defenses. Therefore, these answering Defendants reserve the right to amend these affirmative defenses as additional facts are obtained and/or additional affirmative facts are discovered.

COUNTER-CLAIM

Against PLAINTIFF DOMINIQUE ARNOULD

COME NOW Defendants, CLEMENT MUNEY, (hereinafter "Muney"), and CHEF EXEC SUPPLIERS, LLC (hereinafter, "CHEFEXEC") by and through their undersigned counsel Robert Kern, ESQ., of KERN LAW, Ltd. and submit the following COUNTERCLAIMS against counter-defendant DOMINIQUE ARBOULD and allege and aver as follows:

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

- 1. Jurisdiction and venue have been established by the elements of Plaintiff's Complaint that Defendants have admitted to.
- 2. Parties Dominique Arnould (hereinafter, "Arnould") and Muney are equal coowners of Chef Exec, LLC, a Nevada LLC with no current operating agreement.
- 3. From the time Chefexec was founded, Arnould managed the Los Angeles side of the company, and Muney managed the Las Vegas side of the company.
- 4. The different branches of the company have been run largely independently of each other, with the only exception being that Arnould has been responsible for accounting for the entire company (including invoicing for both branches), and Muney has been responsible for marketing and supply for the whole company. At no time have the parties agreed that either would receive extra compensation for the work they perform for the company.
- 5. Both the Los Angeles and Las Vegas branches of Chefexec have been operating at a profit for the last several years.
- 6. Because Arnould managed the accounting through a local version of Quickbooks, and did not share the accounting files with Muney, Muney was unaware of some details of Arnould's practices until recently, sometime after the Quickbooks account was transferred to a cloud server, allowing Muney to access the information from Las Vegas.
- 7. Arnould is also an owner of two other companies, AAA Food Service, and Wines of the World. Upon review of accounting records and invoices, it appears that Arnould has been self dealing in favor of AAA Food Service and Wines of the World, to the detriment of Chefexec.
- 8. Both parties agreed to the lease of a warehouse in LA, upon the condition that AAA Food Service and Wines of the World would split the rent of the space equally, so they could share the space. However from review of the books it appears that Arnould did not charge those companies any rent the first few months, and since then has charged both of

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them a total of only around 10% of the rent, leaving Chefexec to pay the remaining amount, in contravention of the agreement in which the lease was made.

- 9. Records also show that Arnould has sold significant merchandise from Chefexec to AAA Food Service, at significant discounts, without authorization or knowledge from Muney.
- 10. Records also show that although both Muney and Arnould are owners, and neither have agreed to pay themselves for their work on the company, Arnould has made a practice of paying himself commissions for sales, including for sales to his own company, AAA Food Service, for sales to companies that the partners agreed would be "house" customers (no commission paid), and sales to customers brought in by sales reps who had left the company (and thus whose customers should have become "house" customers).
- 11. Records show invoices for products to customers, but assigned a zero cost without explanation. Such customers have verified that they never received said products. This suggests Arnould was likely either providing free product to his own companies, or selling the product under the table and keeping the proceeds.
- 12. Chefexec previously leased a 7,745 sq/ft warehouse in Las Vegas, on a long-term lease it had held for multiple years, giving it a the company a lower-than-market price for the space.
- 13. Chefexec's lease of the previous warehouse expired on September 30, 2019. To renew the lease, the landlord required a 3-year lease, with a personal guarantee signed by both owners of Chefexec. When Muney requested that Arnould sign the lease renewal, Arnould refused, and his counsel advised Muney to lease the space with another company and sub-lease to Chefexec from that company (in an email that Arnould was copied on).
- 14. Muney did as instructed, and leased through a separate company, who charged Chefexec market price for the space.
- 15. After filing the complaint initiating the present action, Arnould withdrew \$15,000 from Chefexec without authorization or notice, and later admitted that he had taken it, and

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that he intended it as a distribution to himself. His only justification was that he disagreed with Muney's signing of the Las Vegas warehouse lease.

- 16. In early 2019, Arnould indicated that he wished to retire soon and wanted to be bought out from his portion of Chefexec. Arnould had made no significant complaints about his partnership with Muney prior to deciding that he wished to retire.
- 17. Muney believes that a forensic audit of Chefexec's books will show additional wrongdoing by Arnould.

FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

(Breach of Fiduciary Duty)

- 18. Counter-Plaintiffs repeat and re-allege the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of their Counterclaim as though fully set forth herein.
- 19. Arnould, as co-owner and co-manager of an LLC, owed a Fiduciary Duty to Counter-Plaintiffs Chefexec and Muney to manage the business, funds, and assets according to law and agreement.
- 20. Arnould breached that duty by acts including, but not limited to: using his position as book-keeper to pay himself funds that belonged to the company, allocating himself commissions that he was not entitled to, using Chefexec to provide benefits to his own companies, at Chefexec's detriment, without authorization, and seeking to dissolve the company when Muney did not offer him as much money as he wanted for a buyout.
- 21. As a direct result of said breach, Counter-Plaintiffs were damaged by loss of said funds, and business, in an amount in excess of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000), the exact amount to be proven at time of trial.
- 22. It has been necessary for Counter-Plaintiffs to obtain the legal services of Kern Law and they are therefore entitled to reimbursement of attorney's fees and costs incurred in this action.
- 23. The damages were suffered as a direct and proximate result of the conduct described herein by Counter-Defendant, who acted knowingly with malice and oppression, all to

1	Counter-Plaintiffs' harm, and therefore should be punished for their wrongful conduct with
2	punitive damages in an amount to be established at trial.
3	pullitive damages in an amount to be established at trial.
4	SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION
5	(Conversion)
6	24. Counter-Plaintiffs repeat and re-allege the allegations contained in the preceding
7	paragraphs of their Counterclaim as though fully set forth herein.
8	25. Counter-Plaintiffs are the legal owners of funds that were taken by Counter-
9	Defendant, without legal right or authorization.
10	26. Counter-Defendant wrongfully and unlawfully took control of said funds, as detailed
11	above, in denial of, and to the exclusion of, Counter-Plaintiffs' rights thereto.
12	27. As a result of Counter-Defendant's actions, Counter-Plaintiffs have incurred
13	damages in excess of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000), the exact amount to be proven at
14	time of trial.
15	28. It has been necessary for Counter-Plaintiffs to obtain the legal services of Kern Law
16	and they are therefore entitled to reimbursement of attorney's fees and costs incurred in this
17	action.
18	29. The damages were suffered as a direct and proximate result of the conduct described
19	herein by Counter-Defendants, who acted knowingly with malice and oppression, all to
20	Counter-Plaintiffs' harm, and therefore should be punished for their wrongful conduct with
21	punitive damages in an amount to be established at trial.
22	THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION
23	THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION (Money Had and Received)
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25	30. Counter-Plaintiffs repeat and re-allege the allegations contained in the preceding
26	paragraphs of their Counterclaim as though fully set forth herein.
27	31. Arnould received monies that belonged to Counter-Plaintiffs in the form of funds
	taken from the business.
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- 32. Arnould ought, in equity and good conscience, to pay over the funds wrongfully retained.
- 33. Arnould has so far refused to pay over the amounts owed.
- 34. As a direct result of these actions, Counter-Plaintiffs have incurred damages in an amount in excess of \$15,000, the exact amount to be proven at trial.
- It has been necessary for Counter-Plaintiffs to obtain the legal services of Kern Law 35. and they are therefore entitled to reimbursement of attorney's fees and costs incurred in this action.
- 36. The damages were suffered as a direct and proximate result of the conduct described herein by Counter-Defendant, who acted knowingly with malice and oppression, all to Counter-Plaintiffs' harm, and therefore should be punished for their wrongful conduct with punitive damages in an amount to be established at trial.

FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Unjust Enrichment)

- 37. Counter-Plaintiffs repeat and re-allege the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of their Counterclaim as though fully set forth herein.
- 38. The benefit of receipt of funds and monies belonging to Chefexec, or other sales reps or owners of Chefexec, was conferred upon Arnould.
- 39. Arnould took and kept said funds, clearly appreciating the benefit.
- 40. Arnould did not return said funds, and thus retained the benefits received.
- As said funds were over an above any funds Arnould was entitled to take from the 41. company, Arnould's taking and retention of the benefit of said funds is inequitable and unjust.
- 42. As a direct result of these actions, Chefexec and Muney have incurred damages in an amount in excess of \$15,000, the exact amount to be proven at trial.
- It has been necessary for Counter-Plaintiffs to obtain the legal services of Kern Law and they are therefore entitled to reimbursement of attorney's fees and costs incurred in this action.

44. The damages were suffered as a direct and proximate result of the conduct described herein by Counter-Defendant, who acted knowingly with malice and oppression, all to Counter-Plaintiffs' harm, and therefore should be punished for their wrongful conduct with punitive damages in an amount to be established at trial.

FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

(Constructive Fraud)

- 45. Counter-Plaintiffs repeat and re-allege the allegations contained in the preceding paragraphs of their Counterclaim as though fully set forth herein.
- 46. By virtue of the fiduciary relationship between Arnould, Muney, and Chefexec, Arnould had a duty to lawfully manage and disburse the funds and assets belonging to Chefexec. As described in the general allegations above, Arnould breached this duty by his wrongful and intentional failure to do so, and by hiding his breach of duty from his business partner.
- 47. Arnould committed the acts complained of in this cause of action with the intent to deceive and defraud Chefexec and Muney. Upon information and belief, Arnould caused Muney to enter a fiduciary relationship with him and offered to manage the accounting and billing of the company in order to take wrongful possession of company monies, with the intent to induce reliance upon Arnould in his promise to manage the finances of the Company and disburse profits. Arnould breached this fiduciary duty intentionally and with forethought.
- 48. As a result of Arnould's actions, Muney and Chefexec have incurred damages in excess of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000), the exact amount to be proven at time of trial.

49. It has been necessary for Counter-Plaintiffs to obtain the legal services of Kern Law and Counter-Plaintiffs are therefore entitled to reimbursement of attorney's fees and costs incurred in this action.

50. As a direct and proximate result of the representations and conduct described herein by Arnould, who acted knowingly with malice and oppression, all to Counter-Plaintiffs' harm, and therefore should be punished for his wrongful conduct with punitive damages in an amount to be established at trial.

SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION (FRAUDULENT CONCEALMENT)

- 51. Counter-Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate herein by reference each and every allegation contained in all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- 52. The facts (as described above) of Arnould's taking commissions that he was not entitled to, of taking unauthorized disbursements, of making false invoices to account for missing inventory, and upon information and belief, taking or selling that inventory for his own benefit, were material facts in deciding whether or not to continue doing business with Arnould, and continuing to allow Arnould to manage the accounting of Chefexec.
- 53. Arnould had a duty to disclose all dealing to his partner, but nonetheless intentionally concealed such acts.
- 54. Arnould's concealment of his acts, as described above, was concealed specifically to prevent Chefexec and Muney from taking action to stop him from taking further monies from the company.
- 55. Because Muney and Arnould had been longtime friends, and Arnould had experience managing companies, Muney's reliance upon him to lawfully and honestly manage the accounting of the company was objectively reasonable.

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE I hereby certify that on the 7th day of November 2019, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing **ANSWER AND COUNTERCLAIMS**, pursuant to NRCP 5(b), by electronic service, addressed to the following: Phillip S. Aurbach, Esq. Marquis Aurbach Coffing Paurbach@Maclaw.com Counsel for Dominique Arnould /s/ Robert Kern Employee of Kern Law