## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

MEI-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC., a Nevada limited liability company; GRAND SIERRA RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation; GAGE VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC., a Nevada limited liability company; and AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC., a Nevada limited liability company,

Appellants,

VS.

ALBERT THOMAS, individually, et al.,

Respondent.

No 84143

Electronically Filed Mar 04 2022 07:20 p.m. Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court

DOCKETING STATEMENT CIVIL APPEALS

# GENERAL INFORMATION

All appellants not in proper person must complete this docketing statement. NRAP 14(a). The purpose of the docketing statement is to assist the Supreme Court in screening jurisdiction, classifying cases for en banc, panel, or expedited treatment, compiling statistical information and identifying parties and their counsel.

### WARNING

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

A complete list of the documents that must be attached appears as Question 26 on this docketing statement. Failure to attach all required documents will result in the delay of your appeal and may result in the imposition of sanctions.

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

1.	Judicial District County Second	Department OJ37		
	County Washoe	Judge Nancy Saitta		
	District Ct. Case No. CV12-02222			
2.	Attorney filing this docketing statement:			
	Attorney <u>Daniel F. Polsenberg</u> , <u>Abraham G. Smith</u> , <u>Jennifer K. Hostetler</u> , <u>and Dale Kotchka-Alanes</u>			
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Address 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600 Las Vegas, Nevada 89169				
Attor	ney <u>Abran Vigil, Ann Hall, and David C. Mc</u>	Elhinney		
Telep	hone <u>562-454-9786</u>			
Firm Meruelo Group, LLC				
Addro	Legal Services Department 5th Floor Executive Offices 2535 Las Vegas Boulevard South Las Vegas, Nevada 89109			
	t(s) MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC; AM-GSR Holdings Association; and Gage Village Commercial			
If this is a joint statement by multiple appellants, add the names and addresses of other counsel and the names of their clients on an additional sheet accompanied by a certification that they concur in the filing of this statement.				
3.	<b>Attorney(s) representing respondents(s):</b>			
Attor	ney G. David Robertson, Jarrad C. Miller, and	d Jonathan J. Tew		
Telep	hone <u>775-329-5600</u>			
Firm	Firm Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson			

Address 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600 Reno, Nevada 89501 Telephone 775-786-6868 Attorney Robert L. Eisenberg Firm Lemons, Grundy & Eisenberg Address 6005 Plumas Street, Third Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89519 Client(s) Albert Thomas; Jane Dunlap; John Dunlap; Barry Hay; Marie-Anne Alexander, as Trustee of the Marie-Annie Alexander Living Trust; Melissa Vagujhelyi and George Vagujhelyi, as Trustees of the George Vagujhelyi and Melissa Vagujhelyi 2001 Family Trust Agreement, u/t/a April 13, 2001; D' Arcy Nunn; Henry Nunn; Madelyn Van Der Bokke; Lee Van Der Bokke; Donald Schreifels; Robert R. Pederson, individually and as Trustee of the Pederson 1990 Trust Lei Ann Bodorson individually and as Trustee of the Pederson 1990 Trust Trust; Lou Ann Pederson, individually and as Trustee of the Pederson 1990 Trust; Lori Ordover; William A. Henderson, individually; Christine E. Henderson; Loren D. Parker; Suzanne C. Parker; Michael Izady; Steven Takaki; Farad Torabkhan; Sahar Tavakol; M&Y Holdings, LLC; JL&YL Holdings, LLC; Sandi Raines; R. Raghuram; Usha Raghuram; Lori K. Tokutomi; Garret Tom; Anita Tom; Ramon Fadrilan; Faye Fadrilan; Peter K. Lee and Monica L. Lee, as Trustees of the Lee Family 2002 Revocable Trust; Dominic Yin; Elias Shamieh; Jeffrey Quinn; Barbara Rose Quinn; Kenneth Riche; Maxine Riche; Norman Chandler; Benton Wan; Rose Quinn; Kenneth Riche; Maxine Riche; Norman Chandler; Benton Wan; Timothy D. Kaplan; Silkscape Inc.; Peter Cheng; Elisa Cheng; Greg A. Cameron; TMI Property Group, LLC; Richard Lutz; Sandra Lutz; Mary A. Kossick; Melvin Cheah; Di Shen; Nadine's Real Estate Investments, LLC; Ajit Gupta; Seema Gupta; Fredrick Fish; Lisa Fish; Robert A. Williams; Jacquelin Pham; May Ann Hom, as Trustee of the May Ann Hom Trust; Michael Hurley; Dominic Yin; Duane Windhorst; Marilyn Windhorst; Vinod Bhan; Anne Bhan; Guy P. Browne; Garth A. Williams; Pamela Y. Aratani; Darlene Lindgren; Laverne Roberts; Doug Mecham; Chrisine Mecham; Kwangsoo Son; Soo Yeun Moon; Johnson Akindodunse; Irene Weiss, as Trustee of the Weiss Family Trust; Pravesh Chopra; Terry Pope; Nancy Pope; James Taylor; Ryan Taylor; Ki Ham; Young Ja Choi; Sang Dae Sohn; Kuk Hyung (Connie); Sang (Mike) Yoo; Brett Menmuir, as Trustee of the Cayenne Trust; William Miner, Jr.; Chanh Truong; Elizabeth Anders Mecua; Shepherd Mountain, LLC; Robert Brunner; Amy Brunner; Jeff Riopelle; Patricia M. Moll; and Daniel Moll Daniel Moll (List additional counsel on separate sheet if necessary) Nature of disposition below (check all that apply): 4.

Dismissal:

Lack of jurisdiction

Failure to state a claim

Judgment after bench trial

Judgment after jury verdict

Summary judgment

	Default judgment	Failure to prosecute
	Grant/Denial of NRCP 60(b) relief	Other (specify)
	Grant/Denial of injunction	Divorce Decree:
	Grant/Denial of declaratory relief	Original
	Review of agency determination	☐ Modification
		Other disposition (specify): Orders granting fees and costs and denying a stay
5.	Does this appeal raise issues concerning	g any of the following? No.
	Child Custody	
	Venue	
	☐ Termination of parental rights	
	Pending and prior proceedings in this of the ber of all appeals or original proceedings procourt which are related to this appeal:  MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC v. Thomas Thomas v. MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC	resently or previously pending before as, Case No. 69184
this a	Pending and prior proceedings in other court of all pending and prior proceedings in appeal (e.g., bankruptcy, consolidated or bit sposition:	n other courts which are related to
	None	
<b>8.</b> belov	Nature of the action. Briefly describe the w:	e nature of the action and the result
	This action stems from an oralleged continuing damages based hotel-condominium units and depre The parties' rights and responsibility Rental Agreement, Unit Maintenan (collectively referred to as "Govern 2022, the district court entered sever appealed.	agoing dispute over awarded and upon loss of rental income from eciation in the value of those units. ties are largely governed by a Unit ce Agreement and CC&Rs, aing Documents"). On January 4, en separate orders. Defendants

9.	Issues on appeal.	State specifically	all issues in	this appeal	(attach separate
sheets	as necessary):				

- 1. Whether the district court abused its discretion in awarding sanctions in the form of attorney's fees.
- 2. Whether the district court erred in its determination that defendants' interfered with an existing order taking effect, which then resulted in unnecessary and duplicative litigation.
- 3. Whether the district court awarded an excessive amount of attorneys' fees.
- 4. Whether the district erred in denying as moot an extension of the stay of enforcement of the disgorgement order pending final disposition.
- 5. Whether the district court erred in determining all authority to manage and control the GSRUOA was immediately transferred from the GSRUOA's Board of Directors, managers, officers, the Declarant and other agents to the Receiver upon entry of the January 7, 2015 Order Appointing Receiver.
- 6. Whether the district court erred by directing the Receiver to take possession of and deposit unit rental revenue, which is not the property of the receivership estate, into the receivership account.
- 10. Pending proceedings in this court raising the same or similar issues. If you are aware of any proceedings presently pending before this court which raises the same or similar issues raised in this appeal, list the case name and docket numbers and identify the same or similar issue raised:

	e or similar issues raised in this appeal, list the case name and docket s and identify the same or similar issue raised:
N	one.
statute, a	<b>constitutional issues.</b> If this appeal challenges the constitutionality of a and the state, any state agency, or any officer or employee thereof is not a this appeal, have you notified the clerk of this court and the attorney general dance with NRAP 44 and NRS 30.130?
⊠ No	es

If not, explain: Other issues. Does this appeal involve any of the following issues? **12.** Reversal of well-settled Nevada precedent (identify the case(s)) An issue arising under the United States and/or Nevada Constitutions A substantial issue of first impression An issue of public policy An issue where en banc consideration is necessary to maintain uniformity of this court's decisions | A ballot question This appeal raises an important issue of public policy—the extent to which a court can award sanctions in the form of attorneys' fees. 13. Assignment to the Court of Appeals or Retention in the Supreme Court. Briefly set forth whether the matter is presumptively retained by the Supreme Court or assigned to the Court of Appeals under NRAP 17, and cite the subparagraph(s) of the Rule under which the matter falls. If appellant believes that the Supreme Court should retain the case despite its presumptive assignment to the Court of Appeals, identify the specific issue(s) or circumstance(s) that warrant retaining the case, and include an explanation of their importance or significance: This matter is presumptively retained by the Supreme Court under NRAP 17(a)(11) and NRAP 17(a)(12). **Trial**. If this action proceeded to trial, how many days did the trial last? 14. N/A Was it a bench or jury trial? N/A

**15. Judicial Disqualification**. Do you intend to file a motion to disqualify or have a justice recuse him/herself from participation in this appeal? If so, which Justice?

No.

# TIMELINESS OF NOTICE OF APPEAL

16. <u>A–G)</u>	Date of entry of written judgment or order appealed from 1/4/22 (Exhibits	
	If no written judgment or order was filed in the district court, explain the basis for seeking appellate review:	
<b>17.</b> (Exhi	Date written notice of entry of judgment or order was served 1/4/22 bit H)	
	Was service by:	
	Delivery	
	Mail/electronic/fax	
18. motio	If the time for filing the notice of appeal was tolled by a post-judgment on (NRCP 50(b), 52(b), or 59)	
	(a) Specify the type of motion, the date and method of service of the motion, and the date of filing. N/A	
	NRCP 50(b) Date of filing	
	NRCP 52(b) Date of filing	
	NRCP 59 Date of filing	
NOT	E: Motions made pursuant to NRCP 60 or motions for rehearing or reconsideration may toll the time for filing a notice of appeal. <i>See AA Primo Builders v. Washington</i> , 126 Nev, 245 P.3d 1190 (2010).	
(b)	Date of entry of written order resolving tolling motion	
(c)	Date written notice of entry of order resolving tolling motion was served	
Was s	service by: N/A	
	Delivery	
	Mail/Electronic/Fax	
19.	Date notice of appeal filed 1/18/22 (Exhibit I)	

If more than one party has appealed from the judgment or order, list the date each notice of appeal was filed and identify by name the party filing the notice of appeal:

N/A

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

The time limit for filing the notice of appeal from a judgment is governed by NRAP 4(a)(1).

## SUBSTANTIVE APPEALABILITY

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

(a)	$\square$ NRAP 3A(b)(1)	☐ NRS 38.205
	☐ NRAP 3A(b)(2)	☐ NRS 233B.150
	$\square$ NRAP 3A(b)(3)	☐ NRS 703.376
	Other (specify) (see below)	

- (b) Explain how each authority provides a basis for appeal from the judgment or order:
- (1) Order Granting Receiver's Motion for Orders & Instructions: This order seeks to expand and amend the power and authority of the Receiver in the January 7, 2015 Order Appointing Receiver. For example, the order finds that upon the appointment of the Receiver, all authority to manage and control the GSRUOA was immediately transferred from the GSRUOA's Board of Directors, managers, officers, the Declarant and other agents to the Receiver. This extreme change in the authority of the Receiver is akin to an order appointing or amending the appointment of a receiver and is appealable under NRAP 3A(b)(4). It is also appealable under NRAP 3A(b)(3), as the order prohibits and thus enjoins defendants from taking action under the Governing Documents especially as it relates to the Reserve Study, the Special Assessment, and Ninth Amended CC&Rs. Finally, it is appealable under NRAP 3(A)(b)(8) as a special order entered after an appealable order (e.g., Order Appointing Receiver), as it affects the rights incorporated in the Order Appointing Receiver. See Gumm v. Mainor, 118 Nev. 912, 914, 59 P.3d 1220, 1221 (2002) ("[A] special order made after final judgment must be an order affecting the rights of some party to the

action, growing out of the judgment previously entered."); NRCP 54(a) ("Judgment' as used in these rules includes a decree and any order from which an appeal lies."); Lytle v. Rosemere Estates Prop. Owners, 129 Nev. 923, 926, 314 P.3d 946, 948 (2013) (citing NRCP 54(a) and NRAP 8A(b)(8) and concluding that, "[a]pplying the definition that judgment includes any appealable order, a motion to alter or amend is permitted as to any appealable order, not just final judgments"); accord Barbara Ann Hollier Tr. v. Shack, 131 Nev. 582, 590, 356 P.3d 1085, 1090 (2015).

- (2) Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Instructions to Receiver: The order provides similar relief to the Order Granting Receiver's Motion for Orders & Instructions. Therefore, this order is appealable pursuant to NRAP 3(A)(b)(3), (b)(4), and (b)(8).
- (3) Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion to Stay Special Assessment: This order effectively enjoins Defendants from issuing the Special Assessment issued by the Board of the GSRUOA to pay for the Receiver's fees and other operating expenses of the GSRUOA. Thus, the order is appealable under NRAP 3(A)(b)(3).

In addition, this order substantially expands and amends the authority of the Receiver in the Order Appointing Receiver by finding that all authority vested in the GSRUOA's Board of Directors, managers, the Declarant, and other decision makers transferred to the Receiver upon his appointment and therefore, any decision of the GSRUOA Board of Directors since January 7, 2015 is void. The order also directs the Receiver to take possession of and deposit unit rental revenue, which is not the property of the receivership estate, into the receivership account. As a result, the it is also appealable under NRAP 3(A)(b)(4).

(4) Order Approving Receiver's Request to Approve Updated Fees: This order acts as an injunction, effectively invalidating the Ninth Amended CC&Rs and requiring Defendants to apply the Receiver's fee calculations based upon the Seventh Amended CC&Rs retroactive to January 2020. It is an appealable determination under NRAP 3A(b)(3).

As defendants are required to issue any amounts owed under the new calculations to plaintiffs within 30 days, the payment requirement is appealable under NRAP 3(A)(b)(5) as an order of attachment.

(5) Order Directing Receiver to Prepare Report on Defendants' Request for Reimbursement of 2020 Capital Expenditures: This order seeks to expand the authority of the Receiver and grant him the authority to exercise a judiciary function by recommending to the Court which items contained in Defendants' request for reimbursement can be reimbursed under the Governing Documents. It is appealable under NRAP 3A(b)(4). The order may also be deemed a special order entered after appointment of the Receiver under NRAP 3A(b)(8), which addresses a matter collateral to the appealable Order Appointing Receiver.

- (6) Order Denying as Moot Defendants' Emergency Motion to Extend Stay Pending Final Disposition of the Motion for Reconsideration: This order is a special order entered after an appealable order under NRAP 3A(b)(8). This order denies Defendants a stay, finding the request moot although the Court has failed to rule on the merits of the underlying motion for reconsideration of the sanctions order.
- (7) Order Granting Plaintiffs' Supplemental Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Clarification and Sanctioning the Defendants: The order is akin to a motion for attorneys' fees after final judgment and thus, it is appealable under NRAP 3A(b)(8) as a special order entered after an appealable order. See Mona v. Eighth Judicial. Dist. Ct., 132 Nev. 719, 724, 380 P.3d 836, 840 (2016) ("A sanctions order is final and appealable.")

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

### (a) Parties:

MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association

Gage Village Commercial Development, LLC

AM-GSR Holdings, LLC

Albert Thomas

Jane Dunlap

John Dunlap

Barry Hay <sup>1</sup> Marie-Anne Alexander, as trustee of the Marie-Anne Alexander Living

Melissa Vagujhel Yi

George Vagujhel Yi, as trustees of the George Vagujhel Yi and Melissa Vagujhel Yi 2001 Family Trust Agreement u/t/a April 13, 2001

D'Arcy Nunn

Henry Nunn Madelyn Van Der Bokke

Lee Van Der Bokke

Donald Schreifels

Robert R. Pederson, individually and as trustee of the Pederson 1990

Lou Ann Pederson, individually and as trustee of the Pederson 1990

Trust

Lori Ordover

William A. Henderson

Christine E. Henderson

Loren D. Parker

Suzanne C. Parker

Michael Izady

Steven Takaki, as trustee of the Steven W. Takaki & Frances S. Lee

Revocable Trustee Agreement, UTD January 11, 2000

Farad Torabkhan

Sahar Tavakol

M&Y Holdings, LLC

JL& YL Holdings, LLC

Sandi Raines

R. Raghuram, as Trustee of the Raj and Usha Raghuram Living Trust

Dated April 25, 2001

Usha Raghuram, as trustee of the Raj and Usha Raghuram Living Trust Dated April 25, 2001

Lori K. Tokutomi

Garret Tom, as trustee of the Garret and Anita Tom Trust, Dated 5/14/2006

Anita Tom, as trustee of the Garret and Anita Tom Trust, Dated 5/14/2006

Ramon Fadrilan

Faye Fadri Lan

Peter K. Lee

Monica L. Lee, as trustees of the Lee Family 2002 Revocable Trust

Dominic Yin Elias Shamieh

Jeffrey Quinn Barbara Rose Quinn Kenneth Riche

Maxine Riche

Norman Chandler

Benton Wan

Timothy D. Kaplan

Silkscape Inc.

Peter Cheng

Elisa Cheng

Greg A. Cameron

TMI Property Group. LLC

Richard Lutz Sandra Lutz

Mary A. Kossick

Melvin H. Cheah,

Di Shen

Nadine's Real Estate Investments, LLC

Ajit Gupta Seema Gupta

Fredrick Fish

Lisa Fish

Robert A. Williams

Jacquelin Pham, as manager of Condotel 1906, LLC

May Anne Hom, as trustee of the May Anne Hom Trust

Michael Hurley

Duane Windhorst, trustee of Duane Windhorst Trust U/A DTD, 01/15/2003 and Marilyn Windhorst Trust U/A DTD, 01/015/2003 Marilyn Windhorst, as trustee of Duane Windhorst Trust U/A DTD, 01/15/2003 and Marilyn L. Windhorst Trust U/A DTD, 01/15/2003

Vinod Bhan Anne Bhan

Guy P. Browne

Garth A. Williams

Pamela Y. Aratani

Darleen Lindgren Laverne Roberts Doug Mecham Chrisine Mecham Kwang Soon Son Soo Yeu Moon Johnson Akindodunse Irene Weiss, as trustee of the Weiss Family Trust Pravesh Chopra Terry Pope Nancy Pope Jameš Taylor Ryan Taylor Ki Nam Choi Young Ja Choi Sang Dae Sohn Kuk Hyun (Connie) Yoo Sang Soon (Mike) Yoo Brett Menmuir, as manager of Carrera Properties, LLC William Miner, Jr. Chanh Truong Elizabeth Anders Mecua Shepherd Mountain, LLC Robert Brunner Amy Brunner Jeff Riopelle, as trustee of the Riopelle Family Trust Patricia M. Moll Daniel Moll

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

N/A

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

Plaintiffs collectively sued Grand Sierra Resort Association for appointment of a receiver, money damages and equitable relief. (Exhibit J.)

Plaintiffs collectively sued MEI-GSR for money damages and equitable relief. (Exhibit J.)

Plaintiffs collectively sued Gage Village Development for equitable relief. (Exhibit J.)

Defendants filed counterclaims against all plaintiffs for damages, declaratory relief and injunctive relief. (Exhibit K.)

_	ged bel	the judgment or order appealed from adjudicate ALL the claims ow and the rights and liabilities of ALL the parties to the action or ed actions below?		
	☐ Y ☑ N	es [o		
25.	If you answered "No" to question 24, complete the following:			
	(a)	Specify the claims remaining pending below:		
		All claims remain pending.		
	(b)	Specify the parties remaining below:		
	(c)	Did the district court certify the judgment or order appealed from as a final judgment pursuant to NRCP 54(b)?		
		☐ Yes ☑ No		
	(d)	Did the district court make an express determination, pursuant to NRCP 54(b), that there is no just reason for delay and an express direction for the entry of judgment?		
		☐ Yes ☑ No		
26. seeki 3A(b	ing ap	u answered "No" to any part of question 25, explain the basis for pellate review (e.g., order is independently appealable under NRAP		
		Each of the seven orders are independently appealable, as described in		

# 27. Attach file-stamped copies of the following documents:

Question 21(b) above.

• The latest-filed complaint, counterclaims, cross-claims, and third-party claims

- Any tolling motion(s) and order(s) resolving tolling motion(s)
- Orders of NRCP 41(a) dismissals formally resolving each claim, counterclaims, cross-claims and/or third-party claims asserted in the action or consolidated action below, even if not at issue on appeal
- Any other order challenged on appeal
- Notices of entry for each attached order

# **VERIFICATION**

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

MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC; AM-GSR	Abraham G. Smith
Holdings, LLC; Grand Sierra Resort Unit	Name of counsel of record
Owners' Association; and Gage Village	
Commercial Development, LLC	/s/ Abraham G. Smith
Name of appellants	Signature of counsel of record
March 4, 2022 Date	
Clark County, Nevada	
State and county where signed	

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that this "Docketing Statement" was filed electronically with the Nevada Supreme Court on the 4th day of March, 2022. Electronic service of the foregoing "Docketing Statement" shall be made in accordance with the Master Service List as follows:

G. David Robertson
Jarrad C. Miller
Jonathan J. Tew
ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON
50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600
Reno, Nevada 89501

Robert L. Eisenberg LEMONS, GRUNDY & EISENBERG 6005 Plumas Street, Third Floor Reno, Nevada 89519

Dated this 4th day of March, 2022.

/s/ Cynthia Kelley
An Employee of Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie LLP

# EXHIBIT A TO DOCKETING STATEMENT

FILED
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Clerk of the Court
Transaction # 8825474

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IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al.,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

liability company, GRAND SIERRA RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive,

MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited

Defendants.

Case No. CV12-02222 Dept. No. OJ37

# ORDER GRANTING RECEIVER'S MOTION FOR ORDERS & INSTRUCTIONS

Presently before the Court is the Receiver's Motion for Orders & Instructions, filed October 18, 2021 ("Motion"). Plaintiffs filed Plaintiffs' Joinder to Receiver's Motion for Orders & Instructions on October 22, 2021 ("Plaintiff's Joinder"). Defendants filed Defendants' Opposition to Receiver's Motion for Orders & Instructions on October 22, 2021 ("Defendants' Opposition"). The Receiver then filed Receiver's Reply in Support of Motion for Orders & Instructions on October 25, 2021 ("Receiver's Reply"). The Motion was submitted for consideration on October 25, 2021.

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Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600 Reno Nevada 89501

ORDER GRANTING RECEIVER'S MOTION FOR ORDERS & INSTRUCTIONS
PAGE 1

Case-concluding sanctions were entered against the Defendants for abuse of discovery and disregard for the judicial process. (See Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Case-Terminating Sanctions, filed October 3, 2014 at 12.) See Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Bldg., Inc., 106 Nev. 88, 92, 787 P.2d 777, 779-80 (1990) (discussing discovery sanctions). The Court ultimately entered a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs for \$8,318,215.55 in damages. See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, filed October 9, 2015.

On January 7, 2015, the Court entered the Order Appointing Receiver and Directing Defendants' Compliance ("Appointment Order"). The Appointment Order appointed James Proctor as receiver over the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association ("GSRUOA"). (See Appointment Order at 1:23-26.) The receivership was implemented "for the purpose of implementing compliance, among all condominium units, including units owned by any Defendant in this action . . . with the Covenants, Codes and Restrictions recorded against the condominium units, the Unit Maintenance Agreements and the original Unit Rental Agreements (the "Governing Documents"). (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) On January 25, 2019, Richard Teichner ("Receiver") was substituted in Mr. Proctor's place in the Order Granting Motion to Substitute Receiver, filed January 25, 2019.)

In 2021, the Defendants undertook to have a reserve study done by a third party, which was then to be utilized by the Receiver to calculate those fees to be charged to Plaintiffs (including the Daily Use Fees ("DUF"), Shared Facility Use Expenses ("SFUE"), and Hotel Expenses ("HE")). The Receiver states that various orders of this Court, including the Appointment Order, provide authority solely to Receiver to order and oversee any reserve studies done. (Reply at 2:27-3:5.) Defendants argue that no such orders nor the Governing Documents provide the Receiver with such authority. (Defendants' Opposition at 3:19-24.) Instead, Defendants argue that any attempt by the Receiver to order or oversee the reserve study would be an "impermissibl[e] expan[sion] of his authority." (Id. at 3:20.)

The Court issued its Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order granting in part Defendants' Motion for Leave to File Motion for Reconsideration of December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Clarification and Request for Hearing, on September 29, 2021. Therein, the

Court struck the disgorgement order granted in the December 24, 2020 Order Granting Clarification ("December 24, 2020 Order"). Whereas the Court originally instructed that "[u]ntil the DUF, the [HE], and [SFUE] are recalculated by the Receiver, the fees calculated by the past receiver shall be applied," the revised order struck this reversion to the prior receiver's calculations. Thus, the Receiver states he is now without direction as to which calculations are to be applied until he is able to redo his own calculations. (See December 24, 2020 Order at 3:23-4:10 (where the Court informs the Receiver his calculations for 2020 are incorrect and invalid under the Governing Documents and they must be redone).) Defendants argue the Receiver's prior calculations, which were in place until the December 24, 2020 Order was issued, should be utilized. Notably, this directly contradicts the Court's December 24, 2020 Order, is inequitable, and thus is denied outright. (Id.)

The Appointment Order provides the Receiver authority to take control of "all accounts receivable, payments, rents, including all statements and records of deposits, advances, and prepaid contracts or rents . . . ." (Appointment Order at 3:15-18.) Defendants are also ordered to cooperate with the Receiver and not "[i]nterfer[e] with the Receiver, directly or indirectly." (Id. at 8:2-15.) The Receiver has informed the parties of his intent to open a separate account into which all rents and other proceeds from the units will be deposited, and now requests the Court's permission to open such an account. (Motion at 11:19; Motion to Stay Special Assessment, filed August 20, 2021 at Ex. 2.) Defendants have refused to cooperate with the Receiver's request to turnover various proceeds, in violation of the Appointment Order, and now object to Receiver's authority to open a separate account. (Appointment Order at 8:2-15; Defendant's Opposition at 6:14-7:21.)

Pursuant to the Governing Documents, Defendants have implemented a room rotation program whereunder bookings for the units owned by Plaintiffs and Defendants should be equally distributed such that Plaintiffs and Defendants, as individual unit owners, are earning roughly equal revenue. The Receiver contends this room rotation program is flawed and has resulted in a greater number of Defendants' units being rented than Plaintiffs' units during various periods through August 2021. (Motion at 14:14-17.)

Among the Governing Documents with which the Receiver is ordered to implement compliance is the Seventh Amendment to Condominium Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for Hotel-Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort, recorded June 27, 2007 ("Seventh Amended CC&Rs"). Defendants, however, after representing to the Court that the Seventh Amended CC&Rs needed to be amended in order to comply with NRS 116B, unilaterally revised and recorded the Ninth Amendment to Condominium Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for Hotel-Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort ("Ninth Amended CC&Rs") to overhaul the fee structure and radically expand the fees chargeable to the Plaintiffs. The Ninth Amended CC&Rs, according to Plaintiffs, substantially increase the expenses to be included in fees charged to Plaintiffs – thus making ownership of the units unviable.

Finally, Defendants have communicated with Receiver *ex parte* through a variety of individuals. The Receiver now requests that all communications be funneled through a single individual: Reed Brady. (Motion at 17:4-8.)

The Motion requests the Court order (1) that the Notice of Special Assessments and the Reserve Studies sent to the unit owners by Defendants on August 24, 2021 be immediately withdrawn; (2) that the Defendants be ordered to send out a notice to all unit owners of said withdrawal; and (3) that this Court confirm the Receiver's authority over the Reserve Studies. (Motion at 3:11-14.) The Motion further requests the Court order that the Receiver is to recalculate the charges for the DUF, SFUE, and HE for 2020 based upon the same methodology as has been used in calculating the fee charges for 2021, once the Court approves that methodology. (Id. at 8:10-13.) The Motion further requests the Court approve the opening of an account for the Receivership, with the Receiver having sole signatory authority over the account, and order that all rents received by Defendants currently and in the future, generated from either all 670 condominium units or the Plaintiff-owned units, net of the total charges for the DUF, SFUE, and HE fees and for reserves combined, are to be deposited into the account, that the receiver be authorized to make the necessary disbursements to the relevant unit owners at three (3) month intervals, that any disgorgement amounts owed by Defendants be deposited into the

Receivership account to be distributed by the Receiver, and that, if the Court orders the current credit balances in the Plaintiffs' accounts are to be deposited in to the Receiver's bank account then, to the extent that such credit balances are to be disgorged, Defendants will pay such credit balances to the Receiver for deposit, and the Receiver will distribute such funds appropriately. (Id. at 11:21-12:13.) The Motion further requests the Court order Defendants to provide the Receiver with the information and documentation he has requested relating to the room rotation program within ten (10) days of this Order. (Id. at 14:20-24.) The Motion further requests the court expedite the determination of the Plaintiffs' Motion for Instructions, filed October 18, 2021 and submitted for consideration on October 25, 2021. (Id. at 17:1-3.) Finally, the Motion requests the Court instruct Defendants to funnel all communications to the Receiver through a single individual: Reed Brady. (Id. at 7:5-8.)

As this Court has stated previously, "[a] receiver is appointed to maintain the status quo regarding the property in controversy and to safeguard said property from being dissipated while the plaintiff is pursuing his remedy." (Order Denying Motion to Terminate Rental Agreement, filed October 12, 2020 (citing Milo v. Curtis, 100 Ohio App.3d 1, 9, 651 N.E.2d 1340, 1345 (Ohio Ct. App. 1994).) This Court reiterated this premise in anotherorder, stating that "[o]ne of the purposes of the [Appointment] Order was to preserve the status quo of the parties during the pendency of the action. Another purpose was to enforce [the] agreements." (Order, filed November 23, 2015 at 1:22-23.) Nevada law supports this obligation of the Receiver. See Johnson v. Steel, Inc., 100 Nev 181, 183, 678 P.2d 767, 678 (1984) (the appointment of a receiver is a "remedy used to preserve the value of assets pending outcome of the principal case" and is "a means of preserving the status quo"), overruled on other grounds by Shoen v. SAC Holding Corp., 122 Nev. 621, 137 P.3d 1171 (2006); accord Dunphy v. McNamara, 50 Nev. 113, 252 P. 943, 944 (1927) (a court of equity has "ample authority" to utilize a receiver to preserve the status quo).

Furthermore, upon the appointment of the Receiver, all authority to manage and control the GSRUOA was immediately transferred from the GSRUOA's Board of Directors, managers, officers, the Declarant, and other agents to the Receiver. Francis v. Camel Point Ranch, Inc.,

2019 COA 108M, ¶¶ 6-10, 487 P.3d 1089, 1092-93, as modified on denial of reh'g (Colo. Ct. App. Sept. 19, 2019) (noting that "[u]pon the receiver's appointment, [Defendant's] corporate officers and directors lost all authority to control the corporation"); First Sav. & Loan Ass'n v. First Fed. Sav. Loan Ass'n, 531 F. Supp. 251, 255 (D. Haw. 1981) ("When a receiver is appointed for a corporation, the corporation's management loses the power to run its affairs and the receiver obtains all of the corporation's powers and assets."). "Simply put, corporate receivership is a court-mandated change in corporate management." Francis, 487 P.3d 1089 at 1092-93.

Thus, upon appointment of the Receiver, the GSRUOA's Board of Directors was divested of the authority it has errantly exercised to issue that Notice of Special Assessment and the Reserve Studies which was sent to all unit owners on August 24, 2021. Accordingly, such Notice of Special Assessment and any actual imposition of special assessment is *void ab initio* and therefore invalid. Only the Receiver can impose special assessments.

Next, the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgement issued on October 9, 2015 ("FFCLJ"), explicitly ordered the Receiver to calculate "a reasonable amount of FF&E, shared facilities and hotel reserve fees" and other necessary fees to be assessed against Plaintiffs. (FFCLJ at 22:25-27.) Accordingly, the Receiver is to calculate the DUF, SFUE, and HE for 2020. Such calculations should be based upon the same methodology as used for the 2021 fees, once the Court has approved of such methodology.

The Appointment Order expressly allows for the Receiver to open an account for the Receivership. (Appointment Order at 6:26 (the Receiver is allowed to "open and utilize bank accounts for receivership funds").) Indeed, the Appointment Order also expressly calls for the Receiver to collect proceeds from the Property (defined as the 670 condominium units), including, but not limited to, rent earned therefrom. (Id. at 5:17-19.) It logically follows then that the Receiver may open a separate account for the Receivership in which it may hold all rents from the Property, as defined in the Receivership Order.

The Appointment Order also expressly calls for Defendants to cooperate with the Receiver and refrain from taking any actions which will interfere with the Receiver's ability to

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perform his duties. (Id. at 8:2-15.) Accordingly, Defendants should supply the Receiver with all information, explanation, and documentation the Receiver may request regarding the room rotation program and apparent inadequacy thereof.

The Receiver was specifically tasked with implementing compliance with the Governing Documents, including the Seventh Amended CC&Rs. (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) Reading this obligation to implement compliance with the Seventh Amended CC&Rs with the obligation to maintain the status quo, this Court finds that the Seventh Amended CC&Rs cannot be amended, repealed, nor replaced until the Receiver is relieved of his duties by the Court. The continuance of this specific Governing Document will ensure the status quo, as is the purpose of a receivership. Johnson, 100 Nev. at 183, 678 P.2d at 678; Dunphy, 50 Nev. 113, 252 P. at 944. The automatic and immediate transfer of control over the GSRUOA to the Receiver therefore divested the GSRUOA's Board of Directors from any authority it had to propose, enact, and otherwise make effective the Ninth Amended CC&Rs. The Ninth Amended CC&Rs are thus void ab initio, as they were enacted without proper authority. Accordingly, the Ninth Amended CC&Rs are void ab initio, and even if they were not, the Ninth Amended CC&Rs would be improper and thus subject to rescission or cancellation.

Finally, the Court finds it appropriate for Defendants to funnel all communication with the Receiver through a single individual. For the time being, such individual shall be Reed Brady. Mr. Brady may delegate tasks to others, however, only Mr. Brady should communicate answers, conclusions, or other findings to the Receiver.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Receiver's Motion is granted in full.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED (i) that the Notice of Special Assessments and the Reserve Studies sent to the unit owners by the Defendants on August 24, 2021 shall be immediately withdrawn; (ii) that the Defendants shall send out a notice to all unit owners of said withdrawal within ten (10) days of this Order; (iii) that any amounts paid by unit owners pursuant to the Notice of Special Assessment shall be refunded within ten (10) days of this Order; and (iv) that the Receiver has sole authority to order and oversee reserve studies related to Defendants' property and under the Governing Documents.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Receiver shall recalculate the DUF, SFUE, and HE based on the same methodology as has been used in calculating the fee charges for 2021, subject to Court approval of such methodology. Those fees in place prior to the Court's September 27, 2021 Order shall remain in place until the fees for 2020 are recalculated and approved by this Court such that only a single account adjustment will be necessary.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Receiver shall open a separate account on which Receiver has sole signatory authority, and into which all rents received by Defendants currently for all 670 condominium units, net of total charges for DUF, SFUE, and HE fees and reserves, are to be deposited. The Receiver shall disburse the revenue collected to the parties according to the Governing Documents. In the event the Court requires a disgorgement by Defendants to Plaintiffs, Receiver shall deposit such disgorgements into this separate account and disburse the same to Plaintiffs appropriately.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants shall provide Receiver with any information, explanation, and documentation he may request regarding the room rotation program and any perceived discrepancies therewith, until Receiver is either satisfied with the adequacy of the program or until Receiver deems it appropriate to seek judicial intervention.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Ninth CC&Rs are *void ab initio* and the Seventh CC&Rs are to be resurrected as though they had not been withdrawn or superseded.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants shall funnel all communication with the Receiver through Reed Brady. Defendants and Receiver may mutually agree to choose an alternative representative through which communication shall be directed. Mr. Brady, and any subsequent representative, may delegate requests, questions, or other tasks necessary to respond to Receiver's communications, but any answers, conclusions, or other results shall be communicated back to Receiver through only Mr. Brady and no other individual.

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IT IS SO ORDERED. SENIOR JUSTICE Nancy Saitta Submitted by: ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON /s/ Jarrad C. Miller Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs 

# EXHIBIT B TO DOCKETING STATEMENT

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SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al.,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. CV12-02222 Dept. No. OJ37

# ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR INSTRUCTIONS TO RECEIVER

Presently before the Court is Plaintiff's Motion for Instructions to Receiver, filed September 28, 2021 ("Motion"). Defendants filed Defendants' Opposition to Plaintiffs' Motion for Instructions to Receiver on October 12, 2021 ("Opposition"). Plaintiffs filed their Reply in Support of Motion for Instructions to Receiver on October 25, 2021. The Motion was submitted for consideration on October 25, 2021.

Case-concluding sanctions were entered against the Defendants for abuse of discovery and disregard for the judicial process. (See Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Case-Terminating Sanctions, filed October 3, 2014 at 12.) See also Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Bldg.,

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Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600 Reno Nevada 89501

<u>Inc.</u>, 106 Nev. 88, 92, 787 P.2d 777, 779-80 (1990) (discussing discovery sanctions). The Court ultimately entered a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs for \$8,318,215.55 in damages. (See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, filed October 9, 2015.)

On January 7, 2015, the Court entered the Order Appointing Receiver and Directing Defendants' Compliance ("Appointment Order"). The Appointment Order appointed James Proctor as receiver over the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association ("GSRUOA"), the rental and other revenues from the condominiums, as well as other property of the non-GSRUOA Defendants. (See Appointment Order at 1:23-26.) The receivership was implemented "for the purpose of implementing compliance, among all condominium units, including units owned by any Defendant in this action . . . with the Covenants, Codes and Restrictions recorded against the condominium units, the Unit Maintenance Agreements and the original Unit Rental Agreements (the "Governing Documents"). (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) On January 25, 2019, Richard Teichner ("Receiver") was substituted in Mr. Proctor's place in the Order Granting Motion to Substitute Receiver, filed January 25, 2019.)

Among the Governing Documents with which the Receiver is ordered to implement compliance is the Seventh Amendment to Condominium Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for Hotel-Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort, recorded June 27, 2007 ("Seventh Amended CC&Rs"). Defendants, however, after representing to the Court that the Seventh Amended CC&Rs needed to be amended in order to comply with NRS 116B, unilaterally revised and recorded the Ninth Amendment to Condominium Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for Hotel-Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort to overhaul the fees chargeable to the unit owners. ("Ninth Amended CC&Rs"). The Ninth Amended CC&Rs, according to Plaintiffs, substantially increase the expenses to be included in fees charged to Plaintiffs – thus making ownership of the units unviable. (Reply at 7:17-21.)

Additionally, the Defendants undertook to have a reserve study done by a third party, which was then to be utilized by the Receiver to calculate those fees to be charged to Plaintiffs.

Plaintiffs argue this reserve study was not only done without proper authority, but also that it was patently erroneous in that it includes a variety of expenses which are not chargeable to the Plaintiffs under the Seventh Amended CC&Rs. (Motion at 4:3-13.)

The Motion requests the Court instruct the Receiver to (1) determine that the amendment process was invalid and void actions improperly taken by the GSRUOA Board of Directors, (2) maintain the status quo by enforcing the Appointment Order and apply the Seventh Amended CC&Rs, and (3) disqualify the 2021 reserve study and prepare a new reserve study completed with the Receiver's direction and input. (Motion at 2:27-3:4, 4:12-13.)

As this Court has stated previously, "[a] receiver is appointed to maintain the status quo regarding the property in controversy and to safeguard said property from being dissipated while the plaintiff is pursuing his remedy." (Order Denying Motion to Terminate Rental Agreement, filed October 12, 2020 (citing Milo v. Curtis, 100 Ohio App.3d 1, 9, 651 N.E.2d 1340, 1345 (Ohio Ct. App. 1994).) This Court reiterated this premise in a subsequent order, stating that "[o]ne of the purposes of the [Appointment] Order was to preserve the status quo of the parties during the pendency of the action. Another purpose was to enforce [the] agreements." (Order, filed November 23, 2015 at 1:22-23.) Nevada law supports this obligation of the Receiver. See Johnson v. Steel, Inc., 100 Nev 181, 183, 678 P.2d 767, 678 (1984) (the appointment of a receiver is a "remedy used to preserve the value of assets pending outcome of the principal case" and is "a means of preserving the status quo"), overruled on other grounds by Shoen v. SAC Holding Corp., 122 Nev. 621, 137 P.3d 1171 (2006); accord Dunphy v. McNamara, 50 Nev. 113, 252 P. 943, 944 (1927) (a court of equity has "ample authority" to utilize a receiver to preserve the status quo).

In this case, the Receiver was specifically tasked with implementing compliance with the Governing Documents, including the Seventh Amended CC&Rs. (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) Reading this obligation to implement compliance with the Seventh Amended CC&Rs with the obligation to maintain the status quo, this Court finds that the Seventh Amended CC&Rs cannot be amended, repealed, nor replaced until the Receiver is relieved of his duties by the Court. The continuance of this specific Governing Document will ensure the status quo, as is the

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purpose of a receivership and the Appointment Order. <u>See Johnson</u>, 100 Nev. at 183, 678 P.2d at 678; <u>Dunphy</u>, 50 Nev. 113, 252 P. at 944.

Furthermore, upon the appointment of the Receiver, all authority to manage and control the GSRUOA was immediately transferred from the GSRUOA's Board of Directors, managers, officers, the Declarant, and other agents to the Receiver. Francis v. Camel Point Ranch, Inc., 2019 COA 108M, ¶¶ 6-10, 487 P.3d 1089, 1092-93, as modified on denial of reh'g (Colo. Ct. App. Sept. 19, 2019) (noting that "[u]pon the receiver's appointment, [Defendant's] corporate officers and directors lost all authority to control the corporation"); First Sav. & Loan Ass'n v. First Fed. Sav. Loan Ass'n, 531 F. Supp. 251, 255 (D. Haw. 1981) ("When a receiver is appointed for a corporation, the corporation's management loses the power to run its affairs and the receiver obtains all of the corporation's powers and assets."). "Simply put, corporate receivership is a court-mandated change in corporate management." Francis, 487 P.3d 1089 at 1092-93.

This automatic and immediate transfer of control over the GSRUOA to the Receiver therefore divested the GSRUOA's Board of Directors from any authority it had to propose, enact, and otherwise make effective the Ninth Amended CC&Rs. The Ninth Amended CC&Rs are thus *void ab initio*, as they were enacted without proper authority.

Accordingly, the Ninth Amended CC&Rs are *void ab initio*, and even if they were not, the Ninth Amended CC&Rs would be improper and thus subject to rescission or cancellation.<sup>1</sup>

Next, Plaintiffs have moved the Court to instruct the Receiver to reject the reserve study completed by Defendants without any input from Receiver, and order and oversee a separate reserve study. (Motion at 11:25-14:19.) The Court has explicitly found that the Receiver "will determine a reasonable amount of FF&E, shared facilities and hotel reserve fees." (Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgement, Filed October 9, 2015 at 22:25-26.) This implies that

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Defendants argue any challenge to the Ninth Amended CC&Rs must be brought pursuant to the ADR provision therein. The Court rejects this argument *in toto* considering the Appointment Order, the purpose of the Appointment Order, and binding Nevada law which all dictate the receivership is intended to maintain the status quo – not allow for a key Governing Document to be unilaterally amended by Defendants. Further, the claim for a Receivership was brought in the Second Amended Complaint and the Nevada Supreme Court has already found that the District Court has subject matter jurisdiction over the action.

the Receiver will also be tasked with ordering and overseeing the reserve study – as that study will dictate the FF&E, shared facilities, and hotel reserve fees. Thus, the Receiver alone has the authority to direct and audit the reserve study, not the Defendants.

Moreover, the Defendants have acknowledged this reality to the Court:

Mr. McElhinney: Are you instructing the receiver to use the 2016 reserve study in rendering his calculation? The Court: I think he can. Mr. McElhinney: Up to him? The Court: Yeah, it's up to him. If there's some reason that Mr. Teichner believes that the premise or the data that's collected therein is inappropriate, then obviously he can just go back to the 2014 study, but if he wants to use it and he believes that it's statistical or evidentiarily valid, then he can use that in making those determinations.

(Motion at Ex. 3 at 141:24-142:11.)

Plaintiffs further object to the Defendants' reserve study because it has included expenses which are clearly erroneous. (Motion at 4:6-13 (noting public pool expenses that were included while the Governing Documents and Court orders exclude any revenue-generating expenses).) The reserve study is to be limited as directed in previous Court orders and the Governing Documents. The reserve study provided by Defendants clearly shows at least one basic, elementary example of expenses which are included but should not be. (Id.) Accordingly, the Court finds the Defendants' reserve study to be flawed and untrustworthy, and finds the Receiver has the proper (and sole) authority to order, oversee, and implement a new reserve study.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Plaintiffs' Motion is granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Ninth Amended CC&Rs shall be withdrawn and the Seventh Amended CC&Rs shall be reinstated as though never superseded.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Receiver shall not utilize the Defendants' reserve study in calculating those fees which are to be assessed to Plaintiffs. Instead, the Receiver shall order, oversee, and implement a new reserve study which is in accordance with the Governing Documents.

IT IS SO ORDERED. DATED 13 0 SENIOR JUSTICE Nancy Saitta Submitted by: ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON /s/ Jarrad C. Miller Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs 

Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600 Reno Nevada 89501

# EXHIBIT C TO DOCKETING STATEMENT

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SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al.,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

Case No. CV12-02222 Dept. No. OJ37

# ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO STAY SPECIAL ASSESSMENT

Presently before the Court is Plaintiffs' Motion to Stay Special Assessment, filed August 20, 2021 ("Motion"). Defendants filed Defendants' Opposition to Motion to Stay Special Assessment on September 3, 2021 ("Opposition"). Plaintiffs filed their Reply in Support of

<sup>1</sup> Plaintiffs filed an initial version of this motion on July 30, 2021. (Motion to Stay Special Assessment and Renewed Request to Replace Receiver, filed July 30, 2021.) Plaintiffs withdrew this motion without prejudice on August 17, 2021. (Notice of Withdrawal of Motion to Stay Special Assessment and Renewed Request to Replace Receiver, filed August 17, 2021.)

Motion to Stay Special Assessment on September 17, 2021. The Motion was submitted for consideration on September 22, 2021.

Case-concluding sanctions were entered against the Defendants for abuse of discovery and disregard for the judicial process. (See Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Case-Terminating Sanctions, filed October 3, 2014 at 12.).) See also Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Bldg., Inc., 106 Nev. 88, 92, 787 P.2d 777, 779-80 (1990) (discussing discovery sanctions). The Court ultimately entered a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs for \$8,318,215.55 in damages. (See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, filed October 9, 2015.)

On January 7, 2015, the Court entered the Order Appointing Receiver and Directing Defendants' Compliance ("Appointment Order"). The Appointment Order appointed James Proctor as receiver over the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association ("GSRUOA"). (See Appointment Order at 1:23-26.) The receivership was implemented "for the purpose of implementing compliance, among all condominium units, including units owned by any Defendant in this action . . . with the Covenants, Codes and Restrictions recorded against the condominium units, the Unit Maintenance Agreements and the original Unit Rental Agreements (the "Governing Documents"). (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) On January 25, 2019, Richard Teichner ("Receiver") was substituted in Mr. Proctor's place in the Order Granting Motion to Substitute Receiver, filed January 25, 2019.)

The Appointment Order provides that the Receiver and his agents are to be "pa[id] and discharge[d] out of the Property's rents and/or GSRUOA monthly dues collections. . . ." (Appointment Order at 6:12-16.) It is thus clear that the Receiver's invoices are to be paid through either (or collectively) the Property's rents collected or the GSRUOA monthly dues and not from any other source of funds without approval of this Court.

On June 16, 2021, the Receiver provided notice to the Court that GSRUOA was insolvent and requested a hearing to address this issue. (Motion at 1:2-4.) After the parties discussed potential solutions to this issue, the Defendants, over Plaintiffs' objection, on July 12, 2021 voted to impose a special assessment against all unit owners which would raise about \$100,000 to pay the Receiver's invoices and other expenses ("Special Assessment"). (Opposition at 2:3-11.)

The Motion requests that the Court: (1) enforce the Appointment Order; (2) stay the Special Assessment; (3) direct the Receiver to pay the expenses of the receivership through the new receivership account; and (4) order the Defendants to stop interfering with the receivership and the orders governing same. (Motion at 2:6-9.) The Opposition argues the Special Assessment was appropriate under the Seventh Amendment to Condominium Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for hotel Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort ("CC&Rs") and necessary in order to both fund the Receiver's invoices as well as the GSRUOA's operations through the remainder of 2021. (Opposition at 2:24-3:6.)

To begin, the appointment of a receiver terminates the authority of an entity's officers and directors, and places all such authority in the receiver alone. Francis v. Camel Point Ranch, Inc., 2019 COA 108M, ¶6-10, 487 P.3d 1089, 1092-9 (Colo. App. Sept. 19, 2019) (noting that "[u]pon the receiver's appointment, [Defendant's] corporate officers and directors lost all authority to control the corporation"); McDougal v. Huntingdon & Broad Top Mountain RR. & Coal Co., 294 Pa. 108, 143 A.574, 577 (1928) (the receiver exercises the functions of the board of directors, managers and officers, takes possession of corporate income, property, and assets, directs not only in its operation, but, while in control, its policies on all lines"); see First Sav & Loan Ass'n v. First Fed. Sav. Loan Ass'n, 531 F. Supp. 251, 255 (D. Haw. 1981) ("When a receiver is appointed for a corporation, the corporation's management loses the power to run its affairs and the receiver obtains all of the corporation's powers and assets"); see also U.S. v. Powell, 95 F.2d 752, 754 (4th Cir. 1938). Thus, when the Appointment Order was issued, all authority vested in GSRUOA's Board of Directors, managers, the Declarant, and other decision makers was transferred to the Receiver and the Board of Directors, managers, the Declarant, and other decision makers were divested of such authority.

It follows then that any decision of GSRUOA's Board of Directors since the Appointment Order, including the July 12, 2021 decision to impose the Special Assessment, is void as GSRUOA's Board of Directors had no authority to make such a decision or impose such an assessment. (Id.)

Defendants argue that because the Receiver apparently did not object to the GSRUOA's Board of Directors' decision to impose the Special Assessment, the Special Assessment is proper. (Opposition at 4:17-18 ("The Board voted unanimously to approve and implement the Special Assessment and the Receiver agreed with the action.").) This argument falls flat, however, in light of the Receiver's limited authority. Anes v. Crown P'ship, Inc., 113 Nev. 195, 201-02, 932 P.2d 1067, 1071 (1997) ("a receiver must not exceed the limits of the authority granted by the court"). The Appointment Order specifically dictates the source of funds to pay the Receiver's invoices: "the Property's rents and/or GSRUOA monthly dues." (Appointment Order at 6:12-16.) The Appointment Order does not provide that the Receiver can be funded from any special assessments imposed upon the unit owners. Accordingly, any such special assessment imposed to fund the Receiver's invoices is improper and exceeds authority vested in the Receiver alone. Anes, 113 Nev. at 201-02, 932 P.2d at 1071; Fullerton v. Second Jud. Dist. Ct. in & for Cty. of Washoe, 111 Nev 391, 400, 892 P.2d 935, 941 (1995) ("a receiver must not exceed the limits of the authority granted"); accord Clay Expl., Inc. v. Santa Rosa Operating, LLC, 442 S.W.3d 795, 800 (Tex. App. 2014) (a receiver only has that authority conferred by the Court's order appointing him); Price v. Howsen, 197 Iowa 324, 197 N.W. 62, 63 (1924) ("It is a familiar rule that 'the extent of a receiver's authority is always to be measured by the order of appointment . . . . "); Citibank, N.A. v. Nyland (CF 8), Ltd., 839 F.2d 93, 98 (2d Cir. 1988) ("[The receiver's] authority is wholly determined by the order of the appointment court"); In re Lamplight Condo. Ass'n, Inc., No. 17-20078 (JJT), 2017 WL 184510, at \*2 (Bankr. D. Conn. May 5, 2017) ("The source of the Receiver's authority and the process by which it was bound and governed is the Appointment Order, which, as a stipulation, is [] a . . . limitation of the Receiver's power, authority and process.").

Moreover, the Receiver has now indicated that he intends to open a separate account to collect rental revenues from the Property and distribute the same to the appropriate unit owners. (Motion at Ex. 2 (email in which Receiver's counsel states "The Receiver is going to open a separate account for the Receivership as soon as possible. . . . As of September 1st, all of the revenue from the Summit Rooms (the units in the Hotel Condominium) will be deposited into

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## EXHIBIT D TO DOCKETING STATEMENT

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IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al.,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. CV12-02222 Dept. No. OJ37

### ORDER APPROVING RECEIVER'S REQUEST TO APPROVE UPDATED FEES

Before the Court is the Receiver's Receiver Analysis and Calculation of Daily Use Fee, Shared Facilities Unit Expense Fee and Hotel Expense Fee with Request to Approve updated Fees and for Court to Set Effective Date for New Fees, filed August 16, 2021 ("Receiver Analysis"). Defendants filed Defendants' Objection to Receiver's Analysis and Calculation of Daily Use Fee, Shared Facilities Unit Expense Fees and for Court to Set Effective Date for New Fees on September 17, 2021. Plaintiffs filed Plaintiffs' Response to Receiver Analysis and Calculation of Daily Use Fee, Shared Facilities Unit Expense Fee and Hotel Expense Fee with Request to Approve Updated Fees and for Court to Set Effective Date for New Fees on

September 17, 2021. The Receiver Analysis was submitted for consideration on 1 2 September 22, 2021. 3 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that (1) The Receiver's new fee calculations as submitted 4 to the Court should immediately be applied retroactive to January 2020 and going forward until a 5 subsequent order from the Court is issued; (2) the amounts owed to Plaintiffs under those fee 6 calculations should be paid to Plaintiffs within thirty (30) days in accordance with the Governing Documents; (3) the Receiver should be permitted to calculate the 2020 fee calculation using the 7 same methodology – and once those calculations are completed, the Receiver can reconcile the 8 unit owner accounts to reflect the difference between the 2020 and 2021 fee calculations; and (4) 9 after Defendants produce to Plaintiffs all actual documents that support the Receiver's 2020 and 10 11 2021 calculations, and depositions are taken (limited in scope) to verify that the calculations are based on actual expenses as provided for under the Governing Documents, the briefing on the 12 issue of the accuracy of the fees should recommence. Any adjustments to the fees as a result of 13 motion practice by the parties shall be credited or debited accordingly, but in the interim, rental 14 revenue shall be calculated based upon the Receiver's 2021 calculations. 15 16 IT IS SO ORDERED. 17 DATED 2-21-21 18 19 20 Nancy Saitta 21 Submitted by: ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, 22 MILLER & WILLIAMSON 23 /s/ Jarrad C. Miller 24 Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. 25 Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs 26 27

# EXHIBIT E TO DOCKETING STATEMENT

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### SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al.,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. CV12-02222 Dept. No. OJ37

### ORDER DIRECTING RECEIVER TO PREPARE REPORT ON DEFENDANTS' REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF 2020 CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

Presently before the Court is Defendants' Motion for Instructions Regarding Reimbursement of 2020 Capital Expenditures, filed June 24, 2021 ("Motion"). Plaintiffs filed their Opposition to Defendants' Motion for Instructions Regarding Reimbursement of 2020 Capital Expenditures on October 11, 2021. Defendants then filed Defendants' Reply in Support of Motion for Instructions Regarding Reimbursement of 2020 Capital Expenditures on November 2, 2021. The Motion was submitted for consideration on November 3, 2021.

ORDER DIRECTING RECEIVER TO PREPARE REPORT ON DEFENDANT'S REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF 2020 CAPITAL EXPENDITURES
PAGE 1

Case-concluding sanctions were entered against the Defendants for abuse of discovery and disregard for the judicial process. (See Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Case-Terminating Sanctions, filed October 3, 2014 at 12.) See also Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Bldg., Inc., 106 Nev. 88, 92, 787 P.2d 777, 779-80 (1990) (discussing discovery sanctions). The Court ultimately entered a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs for \$8,318,215.55 in damages. (See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, filed October 9, 2015.)

On January 7, 2015, the Court entered the Order Appointing Receiver and Directing Defendants' Compliance ("Appointment Order"). The Appointment Order appointed James Proctor as receiver over the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association ("GSRUOA"). The receivership was implemented "for the purpose of implementing compliance, among all condominium units, including units owned by any Defendant in this action . . . with the Covenants, Codes and Restrictions recorded against the condominium units, the Unit Maintenance Agreements and the original Unit Rental Agreements (the "Governing Documents"). (Appointment Order at 1:27-28, 2:1-3.) On January 25, 2019, Richard Teichner was substituted in Mr. Proctor's place in the Order Granting Motion to Substitute Receiver.

In the Motion, Defendants ask the Court to instruct Mr. Teichner ("Receiver") to reimburse Defendants a total of \$1,614,505, comprised of \$1,409,637 from the Capital Reserves for Common Area expenses and \$208,868 from the Hotel Reserves for Hotel Related expenses. (Motion at 6:23-26.) The Motion further requests the Court instruct Receiver to impose any special assessments necessary to bring the respective reserve accounts back to the required levels. (Id. at 6:26-7:3.) Plaintiffs' Opposition argues the expenditures for which Defendants seek reimbursement are not included in the Governing Documents which explicitly describe each expense the Plaintiffs agreed to pay. (Opposition at 3:1-18.) Plaintiffs argue further that the reserves study Defendants rely upon is fatally flawed as it also includes a variety of inappropriate expenses and plainly obvious and elementary mistakes. (Id. at 2:14-26.)

The Court finds the Receiver is charged with implementing compliance with the Governing Documents and was appointed for a reason. (See generally Appointment Order.)

Therefore, the Court orders the Receiver to provide a report to the Court within ninety (90) days ORDER DIRECTING RECEIVER TO PREPARE REPORT ON DEFENDANT'S REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF 2020 CAPITAL

**EXPENDITURES** 

PAGE 2

1	from the date of this Order recommending which items contained within Defendants' request fo		
2	reimbursement of capital expenditures can be reimbursed under the Governing Documents and		
3	this Court's existing orders.		
4	IT IS SO ORDERED.		
5	DATED 12-21.		
6	X-1		
7	and alle		
8	SENIOR JUSTICE Nancy Saitta		
9	Submitted by:		
10	ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON		
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12	Jarrad C. Miller Jarrad C. Miller, Esq.		
13	Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs		
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# EXHIBIT F TO DOCKETING STATEMENT

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SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al.,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE VILLAGE CÔMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. CV12-02222 Dept. No. OJ37

#### ORDER DENYING AS MOOT DEFENDANTS' EMERGENCY MOTION TO EXTEND STAY PENDING FINAL DISPOSITION OF THE MOTION TO RECONSIDER

Presently before the Court is Defendants' Emergency Motion to Extend Stay Pending Final Disposition of the Motion to Reconsider, filed June 10, 2021 ("Motion"). Plaintiffs filed their Opposition to Defendants' Emergency Motion to Extend Stay Pending Final Disposition of the Motion to Reconsider (Oral Argument Requested) on June 23, 2021. Defendants filed Defendants' Reply in Support of Emergency Motion to Extend Stay Pending Final Disposition of the Motion to Reconsider on June 30, 2021. The Motion was submitted for consideration on July 1, 2021.

In the Motion, Defendants request the Court extend the stay of enforcement of the 1 2 disgorgement order within the Court's Order Granting Motion for Clarification, filed December 24, 2020 (the "December 24, 2020 Order") beyond June 10, 2021, such that the Court could 3 issue a ruling on Defendants' Motion for Leave to File Motion for Reconsideration of December 4 24, 2020, Order Granting Motion for Clarification and Request for Hearing ("Defendants' 5 Motion for Reconsideration"). (Motion at 2:13-22.) The December 24, 2020 Order ordered that: 6 7 (1) "[a]mounts charged since January of 2020 under the improper fee allocations shall be disgorged to the Plaintiffs, and the new fee allocations shall not go into effect until calculated 8 (they will not be retroactively applied);" and (2) "the Defendants shall pay to the Plaintiffs the 9 reasonable attorneys' fees and costs they incurred in filing the Motion [for Clarification] and 10 11 Reply [in support thereof]." (December 24, 2020 Order at 4:12-16.) Prior to enforcing the December 24, 2020 Order, the Court granted in part Defendants' 12 Motion for Reconsideration on September 29, 2021. (See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law 13 and Order, filed September 29, 2021 ("FFCLO").) In the FFCLO, the Court struck the portion of 14 the December 24, 2020 Order requiring the Defendants to disgorge the improper fee allocation 15 charges. (Id. at 6:2-11.) 16

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendants' Motion is denied as moot.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED 13 - 21 - 2

SENIOR JUSTICE

Nancy Saitta

Submitted by:

ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON

/s/ Jarrad C. Miller

Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs

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# EXHIBIT G TO DOCKETING STATEMENT

FILED Electronically CV12-02222 2022-01-04 03:06:59 PM Alicia L. Lerud Clerk of the Court Transaction # 8825474

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### SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al.,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

liability company, GRAND SIERRA RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive,

MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited

Defendants.

Case No. CV12-02222 Dept. No. OJ37

#### ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFFS' SUPPLEMENTAL MOTION FOR FEES PURSUANT TO THE COURT'S DECEMBER 24, 2020 ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR CLARIFICATION AND SANCTIONING THE DEFENDANTS

Presently before the Court is Plaintiffs' Supplemental Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Clarification and Sanctioning the Defendants, filed April 7, 2021 ("Motion"). Defendants filed Defendants' Opposition to Supplemental Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Clarification and Sanctioning the Defendants on April 20, 2021 ("Opposition"). Plaintiffs filed their Reply in Support of Supplemental Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's

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27 28 December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Clarification and Sanctioning the Defendants on April 30, 2021. The Motion was submitted for consideration by the Court on May 4, 2021.

The Motion sets forth Plaintiffs' supplemental request for fees incurred in (a) submitting their motion for fees ("Fees Motion") pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Clarification ("December 24, 2020 Order"), (b) filing a reply to Defendants' opposition to the Fees Motion, and (c) opposing Defendants' Motion for Leave to File Motion for Reconsideration of the Court's December 24, 2020 Order ("Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration"), which largely attempted to rehash and relitigate previously rejected arguments. (Motion at 2:7-12.) Plaintiffs' total requested fees for these tasks is \$17,885. Defendants argue the requested fees are unreasonably excessive and that Nevada law does not permit recovery thereof. (Opposition at 2:14-18, 3:3-10.) Defendants further argue that the Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration may very well render Plaintiffs' Fees Motion and Motion moot. (Id. at 3:3-10; see also Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration, filed January 7, 2020.)

Case-concluding sanctions were entered against the Defendants for abuse of discovery and disregard for the judicial process. (See Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Case-Terminating Sanctions, filed October 3, 2014 at 12.).) See Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Bldg., Inc., 106 Nev. 88, 92, 787 P.2d 777, 779-80 (1990) (discussing discovery sanctions). The Court ultimately entered a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs for \$8,318,215.55 in damages. (See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, filed October 9, 2015.)

On January 7, 2015, the Court entered the Order Appointing Receiver and Directing Defendants' Compliance ("Appointment Order"). The Appointment Order appointed James Proctor as receiver over the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association ("GSRUOA") and the rental revenue and certain other property interests relating to the other Defendants. (See Appointment Order at 1:23-26.) The receivership was implemented "for the purpose of implementing compliance, among all condominium units, including units owned by any Defendant in this action . . . with the Covenants, Codes and Restrictions recorded against the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration stands fully briefed and submitted at the time of this Order.

condominium units, the Unit Maintenance Agreements and the original Unit Rental Agreements (the "Governing Documents"). (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) On January 25, 2019, Richard Teichner ("Receiver") was substituted in Mr. Proctor's place in the Order Granting Motion to Substitute Receiver, filed January 25, 2019.)

The Court's December 24, 2020 Order includes two distinct portions: first, that the Receiver was to recalculate certain fees in a specific way and that the improper fee allocations were to be disgorged to Plaintiffs, and second, that the Defendants were to pay Plaintiffs' attorneys' fees and costs incurred in briefing the motion which ultimately resulted in the December 24, 2020 Order. This sanction was imposed as a result of "Defendants' attempt to advance their interpretation of the Court's orders to the [R]eceiver [which] interfered with the October Order taking effect and resulted in unnecessarily duplicative litigation." (December 24, 2020 order at 3:17-19.) Plaintiffs filed their motion for fees ("Fees Motion") pursuant to the December 24, 2020 Order, to which Defendants filed an opposition. (See Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's

The instant Motion requests a supplemental award of fees incurred in actions taking place after the December 24, 2020 Order was issued. The Motion states Plaintiffs incurred a total of \$17,885 in attorneys' fees as a result of (1) preparing the Fees motion, (2) preparing a reply to Defendants' opposition to the Fees Motion, and (3) preparing an opposition to Defendants' largely duplicative motion for reconsideration. (Motion at 6:9-12, 7:1-3.) Fees incurred as a result of preparing a motion for fees are recoverable. See Rosenfeld v. United States DOJ, 903 F. Supp. 2d 859, 878 (N. D. Cal. 2012) ("Plaintiffs may recover attorney's fees for time reasonably expended on a motion for attorney's fees and costs."). Furthermore, because the fee award was a sanction for Defendants' attempt to convince the Receiver of their clearly inaccurate interpretation of the Court's orders, and the motion for reconsideration largely furthered those inaccurate arguments, the continued arguments, and Plaintiffs' fees incurred to address them, are

included by the December 24, 2020 Order's sanction. Accordingly, the Court finds such fees are recoverable as a general matter.

Nevada uses the lodestar formula to determine the appropriate amount of attorney fees. Hsu v. Clark County, 123 Nev. 625, 636, 173 P.3d 724, 732 (2007). The lodestar formula calls for the number of hours reasonably spent on the motion to be multiplied by a reasonable hourly rate. Id. at 637, 173 P.3d at 733.

Plaintiffs have provided that their counsel spent a total of 24.6 hours on the Fees Motion briefing, including preparation of the Fees Motion, researching authority cited in Defendants' opposition thereto, and preparing a reply in support of the Fees Motion. (Motion at 5:26-6:4.) Defendants argue Plaintiffs' hours expended are excessive. (Opposition at 9:6-9.) The Court finds the number of hours expended by Plaintiffs' counsel on the Fees Motion briefing to be reasonable in light of the procedural history of this case and the issues raised by the Fees Motion and Defendants' opposition thereto.

Plaintiffs have provided that their counsel spent a total of 31.6 hours on their opposition to Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration. (Motion at 7:1-3.) Defendants, again, argue this number of hours is excessive and not warranted. (Opposition at 9:9-21.) Although the Defendants attempt to minimize the complexity of the issues set forth in the Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration and the necessity to set forth the complex procedural background within Defendants' opposition thereto, the Court does not agree that the Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration, nor the Plaintiffs' opposition thereto, was as simplistic as Defendants state. Instead, the Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration set forth a variety of fallacious legal arguments and misconstrued the factual and procedural background of this case, therefore requiring Plaintiffs to expend numerous pages refuting the same. Thus, the Court finds the number of hours expended by Plaintiffs' counsel on this task reasonable.

Defendants also argue that Plaintiffs' time entries are inadequate. (Opposition at 10:17-11:25.) Defendants argue the entries are "so vaguely generic that the [C]ourt cannot determine with certainty whether the activities they purport to describe were necessary and reasonable." (Id. at 11:21-23.) After reviewing the time entries in full, the Court finds the entries are adequate

and provide the Court sufficient information to determine that the tasks undertaken by Plaintiffs' counsel were both necessary and reasonable.

Accordingly, the Court finds the number of hours expended by Plaintiffs' counsel on those tasks for which Plaintiffs seek to recover attorneys' fees were reasonable.

Next, Plaintiffs have set forth their counsels' hourly rate. These rates range from \$425 to \$335 for attorneys and are \$135 for paralegals.<sup>2</sup> (Motion at 6:9-12, 7:1-3.) Defendants do not appear to dispute the reasonableness of such hourly rates. The Court therefore finds such hourly rates are reasonable.

Under the lodestar formula, the Court finds the hours reportedly spent by Plaintiffs' counsel and their hourly rates are reasonable, and thus the lodestar award is \$17,885.

The Court must next consider the <u>Brunzell</u> factors to determine the appropriateness of the lodestar amount. Accordingly, to determine whether any adjustments to the lodestar amount are necessary, the Court must 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.

Brunzell v. Golden Gate Nat'l Bank, 85 Nev. 345, 455 P.2d 31, 33 (1969). The Court finds all of these factors weigh against any adjustment to the lodestar amount and in favor of awarding

First, the Court is acutely aware of the high quality of Plaintiffs' counsel, and thus concludes this factor is in favor of awarding Plaintiffs the entire lodestar amount.

Second, the Court finds the character of the work to be done to be especially important. The Court's December 24, 2020 Order imposed sanctions upon Defendants for attempting to mislead the Receiver into accepting a clearly faulty interpretation of the Court's previous orders.

Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600 Reno Nevada 89501

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Plaintiffs note the hourly fees underwent a routine annual increase, which is why they are different from previous fees applications. (Motion at 6, fn.2.)

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(See Order Granting Clarification, filed December 24, 2020 at 3:17-19 ("The Defendants' attempt to advance their interpretation of the Court's orders to the [R]eceiver interfered with the October Order taking effect and resulted in unnecessarily duplicative litigation. Therefore, the Court exercises its inherent authority to require the Defendants to pay for the fees the Plaintiffs were unnecessarily forced to incur in filing the Motion and the Reply.").) Thus, the time spent in drafting the Fees Motion – which was ordered by the Court – is certainly important. The sanction within the December 24, 2020 Order was intended to penalize Defendants' wrongdoings. If the Court were to limit the Plaintiffs' recovery of their attorneys' fees incurred as a result of Defendants' wrongdoings, the sanction would have no teeth. Accordingly, the second factor also weighs in favor of awarding the entire lodestar amount.

Third, the work actually performed by Plaintiffs' counsel is evidenced by the billing records submitted with the Motion. (Motion at Ex. 1.) Each time entry reflects work which was necessary and that the individual whose time is reflected dedicated ample skill, time, and attention to the task at hand. Brunzell, 85 Nev. at 349, 455 P.2d at 33. This factor thus also weighs in favor of awarding the full lodestar amount.

Fourth and finally, the Court must consider the result. The Court finds this factor weighs in favor of awarding the entire lodestar amount as well. The Court clearly agreed with Plaintiffs' positions taken in the briefing which resulted in the December 24, 2020 Order imposing sanctions. (See generally Order Granting Reconsideration, filed December 24, 2020.) Thus, Plaintiffs have obtained a successful result. This factor weighs in favor of granting the full lodestar amount to Plaintiffs.

The Brunzell factors clearly indicate that the lodestar amount is appropriate and requires no adjustments. The Court therefore finds an award of the entire lodestar amount is proper.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Plaintiffs' Motion is granted in full.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants shall pay to the Plaintiffs the sum of \$17,885 within thirty (30) days of this Order.

Reno Nevada 89501

1	IT IS SO ORDERED.
2	DATED 12-21-21.
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4	- Com Vaille
5	SENIOR JUSTICE Nancy Saitta
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7	Submitted by:
8	ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON
9	WILLIAMSON
10	/s/ Jarrad C. Miller
11	Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq.
12	Attorneys for Plaintiffs
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# EXHIBIT H TO DOCKETING STATEMENT

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1	2540 C. David Robertson, Edg. (NV Per No. 1001)	Clerk of the Court Transaction # 882487			
2	G. David Robertson, Esq. (NV Bar No. 1001) Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. (NV Bar No. 7093)				
3	Jonathan J. Tew, Esq. (NV Bar No. 11874) Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson				
	50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600				
4	Reno, Nevada 89501 (775) 329-5600				
5	gdavid@nvlawyers.com jarrad@nvlawyers.com				
6	jon@nvlawyers.com				
7	Robert L. Eisenberg, Esq., (NV Bar No. 0950) Lemons, Grundy & Eisenberg				
8	6005 Plumas Street, Third Floor				
9	Reno, Nevada 89519 Telephone: (775) 786-6868				
10	Facsimile: (775) 786-9716 rle@lge.net				
11	Attorneys for Plaintiffs				
12	SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA				
13	IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE				
14					
15	ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al.,				
16	Plaintiffs,				
17	VS.	Case No. CV12-02222			
18	MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited	Dept. No. OJ37			
19	liability company, GRAND SIERRA RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION,				
20	a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE VILLAGE COMMERCIAL				
21	DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS,				
22	LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10,				
23	inclusive,				
24	Defendants.				
25	NOTICE OF ENT	CRY OF ORDERS			
26	PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on January 4, 2022, the above Court issued the				
27	following Orders:				

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Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600 Reno, Nevada 89501

### **INDEX OF EXHIBITS**

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7	4	Order Approving Receiver's Request to Approve Updated Fees	2
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9   10	6	Order Denying as Moot Defendants' Emergency Motion to Extend Stay Pending Final Disposition of the Motion to Reconsider	2
11	7	Order Granting Plaintiffs' Supplemental Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Clarification and	7
12		Sanctioning the Defendants	
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Alicia L. Lerud
Clerk of the Court
Transaction # 8824878

## EXHIBIT "1"

## EXHIBIT "1"

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CODE: 3060 1 2 3 5 6 7 SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA 8 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE 9 10 ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al., 11 Plaintiffs, 12 Case No. CV12-02222 VS. Dept. No. OJ37 13 MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA 14 RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE 15 VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited 16 liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and 17 DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive, 18 Defendants. 19 ORDER GRANTING RECEIVER'S MOTION FOR ORDERS & INSTRUCTIONS 20 Presently before the Court is the Receiver's Motion for Orders & Instructions, filed 21 October 18, 2021 ("Motion"). Plaintiffs filed Plaintiffs' Joinder to Receiver's Motion for Orders 22 & Instructions on October 22, 2021 ("Plaintiff's Joinder"). Defendants filed Defendants' 23 Opposition to Receiver's Motion for Orders & Instructions on October 22, 2021 ("Defendants' 24 Opposition"). The Receiver then filed Receiver's Reply in Support of Motion for Orders & 25 Instructions on October 25, 2021 ("Receiver's Reply"). The Motion was submitted for 26

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consideration on October 25, 2021.

Case-concluding sanctions were entered against the Defendants for abuse of discovery and disregard for the judicial process. (See Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Case-Terminating Sanctions, filed October 3, 2014 at 12.) See Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Bldg., Inc., 106 Nev. 88, 92, 787 P.2d 777, 779-80 (1990) (discussing discovery sanctions). The Court ultimately entered a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs for \$8,318,215.55 in damages. See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, filed October 9, 2015.

On January 7, 2015, the Court entered the Order Appointing Receiver and Directing Defendants' Compliance ("Appointment Order"). The Appointment Order appointed James Proctor as receiver over the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association ("GSRUOA"). (See Appointment Order at 1:23-26.) The receivership was implemented "for the purpose of implementing compliance, among all condominium units, including units owned by any Defendant in this action . . . with the Covenants, Codes and Restrictions recorded against the condominium units, the Unit Maintenance Agreements and the original Unit Rental Agreements (the "Governing Documents"). (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) On January 25, 2019, Richard Teichner ("Receiver") was substituted in Mr. Proctor's place in the Order Granting Motion to Substitute Receiver, filed January 25, 2019.)

In 2021, the Defendants undertook to have a reserve study done by a third party, which was then to be utilized by the Receiver to calculate those fees to be charged to Plaintiffs (including the Daily Use Fees ("DUF"), Shared Facility Use Expenses ("SFUE"), and Hotel Expenses ("HE")). The Receiver states that various orders of this Court, including the Appointment Order, provide authority solely to Receiver to order and oversee any reserve studies done. (Reply at 2:27-3:5.) Defendants argue that no such orders nor the Governing Documents provide the Receiver with such authority. (Defendants' Opposition at 3:19-24.) Instead, Defendants argue that any attempt by the Receiver to order or oversee the reserve study would be an "impermissibl[e] expan[sion] of his authority." (Id. at 3:20.)

The Court issued its Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order granting in part Defendants' Motion for Leave to File Motion for Reconsideration of December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Clarification and Request for Hearing, on September 29, 2021. Therein, the

Court struck the disgorgement order granted in the December 24, 2020 Order Granting Clarification ("December 24, 2020 Order"). Whereas the Court originally instructed that "[u]ntil the DUF, the [HE], and [SFUE] are recalculated by the Receiver, the fees calculated by the past receiver shall be applied," the revised order struck this reversion to the prior receiver's calculations. Thus, the Receiver states he is now without direction as to which calculations are to be applied until he is able to redo his own calculations. (See December 24, 2020 Order at 3:23-4:10 (where the Court informs the Receiver his calculations for 2020 are incorrect and invalid under the Governing Documents and they must be redone).) Defendants argue the Receiver's prior calculations, which were in place until the December 24, 2020 Order was issued, should be utilized. Notably, this directly contradicts the Court's December 24, 2020 Order, is inequitable, and thus is denied outright. (Id.)

The Appointment Order provides the Receiver authority to take control of "all accounts receivable, payments, rents, including all statements and records of deposits, advances, and prepaid contracts or rents . . . ." (Appointment Order at 3:15-18.) Defendants are also ordered to cooperate with the Receiver and not "[i]nterfer[e] with the Receiver, directly or indirectly." (Id. at 8:2-15.) The Receiver has informed the parties of his intent to open a separate account into which all rents and other proceeds from the units will be deposited, and now requests the Court's permission to open such an account. (Motion at 11:19; Motion to Stay Special Assessment, filed August 20, 2021 at Ex. 2.) Defendants have refused to cooperate with the Receiver's request to turnover various proceeds, in violation of the Appointment Order, and now object to Receiver's authority to open a separate account. (Appointment Order at 8:2-15; Defendant's Opposition at 6:14-7:21.)

Pursuant to the Governing Documents, Defendants have implemented a room rotation program whereunder bookings for the units owned by Plaintiffs and Defendants should be equally distributed such that Plaintiffs and Defendants, as individual unit owners, are earning roughly equal revenue. The Receiver contends this room rotation program is flawed and has resulted in a greater number of Defendants' units being rented than Plaintiffs' units during various periods through August 2021. (Motion at 14:14-17.)

Among the Governing Documents with which the Receiver is ordered to implement compliance is the Seventh Amendment to Condominium Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for Hotel-Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort, recorded June 27, 2007 ("Seventh Amended CC&Rs"). Defendants, however, after representing to the Court that the Seventh Amended CC&Rs needed to be amended in order to comply with NRS 116B, unilaterally revised and recorded the Ninth Amendment to Condominium Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for Hotel-Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort ("Ninth Amended CC&Rs") to overhaul the fee structure and radically expand the fees chargeable to the Plaintiffs. The Ninth Amended CC&Rs, according to Plaintiffs, substantially increase the expenses to be included in fees charged to Plaintiffs – thus making ownership of the units unviable.

Finally, Defendants have communicated with Receiver *ex parte* through a variety of individuals. The Receiver now requests that all communications be funneled through a single individual: Reed Brady. (Motion at 17:4-8.)

The Motion requests the Court order (1) that the Notice of Special Assessments and the Reserve Studies sent to the unit owners by Defendants on August 24, 2021 be immediately withdrawn; (2) that the Defendants be ordered to send out a notice to all unit owners of said withdrawal; and (3) that this Court confirm the Receiver's authority over the Reserve Studies. (Motion at 3:11-14.) The Motion further requests the Court order that the Receiver is to recalculate the charges for the DUF, SFUE, and HE for 2020 based upon the same methodology as has been used in calculating the fee charges for 2021, once the Court approves that methodology. (Id. at 8:10-13.) The Motion further requests the Court approve the opening of an account for the Receivership, with the Receiver having sole signatory authority over the account, and order that all rents received by Defendants currently and in the future, generated from either all 670 condominium units or the Plaintiff-owned units, net of the total charges for the DUF, SFUE, and HE fees and for reserves combined, are to be deposited into the account, that the receiver be authorized to make the necessary disbursements to the relevant unit owners at three (3) month intervals, that any disgorgement amounts owed by Defendants be deposited into the

Receivership account to be distributed by the Receiver, and that, if the Court orders the current credit balances in the Plaintiffs' accounts are to be deposited in to the Receiver's bank account then, to the extent that such credit balances are to be disgorged, Defendants will pay such credit balances to the Receiver for deposit, and the Receiver will distribute such funds appropriately. (Id. at 11:21-12:13.) The Motion further requests the Court order Defendants to provide the Receiver with the information and documentation he has requested relating to the room rotation program within ten (10) days of this Order. (Id. at 14:20-24.) The Motion further requests the court expedite the determination of the Plaintiffs' Motion for Instructions, filed October 18, 2021 and submitted for consideration on October 25, 2021. (Id. at 17:1-3.) Finally, the Motion requests the Court instruct Defendants to funnel all communications to the Receiver through a single individual: Reed Brady. (Id. at 7:5-8.)

As this Court has stated previously, "[a] receiver is appointed to maintain the status quo regarding the property in controversy and to safeguard said property from being dissipated while the plaintiff is pursuing his remedy." (Order Denying Motion to Terminate Rental Agreement, filed October 12, 2020 (citing Milo v. Curtis, 100 Ohio App.3d 1, 9, 651 N.E.2d 1340, 1345 (Ohio Ct. App. 1994).) This Court reiterated this premise in anotherorder, stating that "[o]ne of the purposes of the [Appointment] Order was to preserve the status quo of the parties during the pendency of the action. Another purpose was to enforce [the] agreements." (Order, filed November 23, 2015 at 1:22-23.) Nevada law supports this obligation of the Receiver. See Johnson v. Steel, Inc., 100 Nev 181, 183, 678 P.2d 767, 678 (1984) (the appointment of a receiver is a "remedy used to preserve the value of assets pending outcome of the principal case" and is "a means of preserving the status quo"), overruled on other grounds by Shoen v. SAC Holding Corp., 122 Nev. 621, 137 P.3d 1171 (2006); accord Dunphy v. McNamara, 50 Nev. 113, 252 P. 943, 944 (1927) (a court of equity has "ample authority" to utilize a receiver to preserve the status quo).

Furthermore, upon the appointment of the Receiver, all authority to manage and control the GSRUOA was immediately transferred from the GSRUOA's Board of Directors, managers, officers, the Declarant, and other agents to the Receiver. Francis v. Camel Point Ranch, Inc.,

2019 COA 108M, ¶¶ 6-10, 487 P.3d 1089, 1092-93, as modified on denial of reh'g (Colo. Ct. App. Sept. 19, 2019) (noting that "[u]pon the receiver's appointment, [Defendant's] corporate officers and directors lost all authority to control the corporation"); First Sav. & Loan Ass'n v. First Fed. Sav. Loan Ass'n, 531 F. Supp. 251, 255 (D. Haw. 1981) ("When a receiver is appointed for a corporation, the corporation's management loses the power to run its affairs and the receiver obtains all of the corporation's powers and assets."). "Simply put, corporate receivership is a court-mandated change in corporate management." Francis, 487 P.3d 1089 at 1092-93.

Thus, upon appointment of the Receiver, the GSRUOA's Board of Directors was divested of the authority it has errantly exercised to issue that Notice of Special Assessment and the Reserve Studies which was sent to all unit owners on August 24, 2021. Accordingly, such Notice of Special Assessment and any actual imposition of special assessment is *void ab initio* and therefore invalid. Only the Receiver can impose special assessments.

Next, the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgement issued on October 9, 2015 ("FFCLJ"), explicitly ordered the Receiver to calculate "a reasonable amount of FF&E, shared facilities and hotel reserve fees" and other necessary fees to be assessed against Plaintiffs. (FFCLJ at 22:25-27.) Accordingly, the Receiver is to calculate the DUF, SFUE, and HE for 2020. Such calculations should be based upon the same methodology as used for the 2021 fees, once the Court has approved of such methodology.

The Appointment Order expressly allows for the Receiver to open an account for the Receivership. (Appointment Order at 6:26 (the Receiver is allowed to "open and utilize bank accounts for receivership funds").) Indeed, the Appointment Order also expressly calls for the Receiver to collect proceeds from the Property (defined as the 670 condominium units), including, but not limited to, rent earned therefrom. (Id. at 5:17-19.) It logically follows then that the Receiver may open a separate account for the Receivership in which it may hold all rents from the Property, as defined in the Receivership Order.

The Appointment Order also expressly calls for Defendants to cooperate with the Receiver and refrain from taking any actions which will interfere with the Receiver's ability to

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perform his duties. (Id. at 8:2-15.) Accordingly, Defendants should supply the Receiver with all information, explanation, and documentation the Receiver may request regarding the room rotation program and apparent inadequacy thereof.

The Receiver was specifically tasked with implementing compliance with the Governing Documents, including the Seventh Amended CC&Rs. (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) Reading this obligation to implement compliance with the Seventh Amended CC&Rs with the obligation to maintain the status quo, this Court finds that the Seventh Amended CC&Rs cannot be amended, repealed, nor replaced until the Receiver is relieved of his duties by the Court. The continuance of this specific Governing Document will ensure the status quo, as is the purpose of a receivership. Johnson, 100 Nev. at 183, 678 P.2d at 678; Dunphy, 50 Nev. 113, 252 P. at 944. The automatic and immediate transfer of control over the GSRUOA to the Receiver therefore divested the GSRUOA's Board of Directors from any authority it had to propose, enact, and otherwise make effective the Ninth Amended CC&Rs. The Ninth Amended CC&Rs are thus void ab initio, as they were enacted without proper authority. Accordingly, the Ninth Amended CC&Rs are void ab initio, and even if they were not, the Ninth Amended CC&Rs would be improper and thus subject to rescission or cancellation.

Finally, the Court finds it appropriate for Defendants to funnel all communication with the Receiver through a single individual. For the time being, such individual shall be Reed Brady. Mr. Brady may delegate tasks to others, however, only Mr. Brady should communicate answers, conclusions, or other findings to the Receiver.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Receiver's Motion is granted in full.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED (i) that the Notice of Special Assessments and the Reserve Studies sent to the unit owners by the Defendants on August 24, 2021 shall be immediately withdrawn; (ii) that the Defendants shall send out a notice to all unit owners of said withdrawal within ten (10) days of this Order; (iii) that any amounts paid by unit owners pursuant to the Notice of Special Assessment shall be refunded within ten (10) days of this Order; and (iv) that the Receiver has sole authority to order and oversee reserve studies related to Defendants' property and under the Governing Documents.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Receiver shall recalculate the DUF, SFUE, and HE based on the same methodology as has been used in calculating the fee charges for 2021, subject to Court approval of such methodology. Those fees in place prior to the Court's September 27, 2021 Order shall remain in place until the fees for 2020 are recalculated and approved by this Court such that only a single account adjustment will be necessary.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Receiver shall open a separate account on which Receiver has sole signatory authority, and into which all rents received by Defendants currently for all 670 condominium units, net of total charges for DUF, SFUE, and HE fees and reserves, are to be deposited. The Receiver shall disburse the revenue collected to the parties according to the Governing Documents. In the event the Court requires a disgorgement by Defendants to Plaintiffs, Receiver shall deposit such disgorgements into this separate account and disburse the same to Plaintiffs appropriately.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants shall provide Receiver with any information, explanation, and documentation he may request regarding the room rotation program and any perceived discrepancies therewith, until Receiver is either satisfied with the adequacy of the program or until Receiver deems it appropriate to seek judicial intervention.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Ninth CC&Rs are *void ab initio* and the Seventh CC&Rs are to be resurrected as though they had not been withdrawn or superseded.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants shall funnel all communication with the Receiver through Reed Brady. Defendants and Receiver may mutually agree to choose an alternative representative through which communication shall be directed. Mr. Brady, and any subsequent representative, may delegate requests, questions, or other tasks necessary to respond to Receiver's communications, but any answers, conclusions, or other results shall be communicated back to Receiver through only Mr. Brady and no other individual.

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IT IS SO ORDERED. SENIOR JUSTICE Nancy Saitta Submitted by: ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON /s/ Jarrad C. Miller Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs 

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#### EXHIBIT "2"

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CODE: 3060 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA 8 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE 9 10 ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al., 11 Plaintiffs. 12 Case No. CV12-02222 vs. Dept. No. OJ37 13 MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA 14 RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE 15 VILLAGE CÔMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited 16 liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and 17 DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive, 18 Defendants. 19 ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR INSTRUCTIONS TO RECEIVER 20 Presently before the Court is Plaintiff's Motion for Instructions to Receiver, filed 21 September 28, 2021 ("Motion"). Defendants filed Defendants' Opposition to Plaintiffs' Motion 22 for Instructions to Receiver on October 12, 2021 ("Opposition"). Plaintiffs filed their Reply in 23 Support of Motion for Instructions to Receiver on October 25, 2021. The Motion was submitted 24 for consideration on October 25, 2021. 25 Case-concluding sanctions were entered against the Defendants for abuse of discovery 26 and disregard for the judicial process. (See Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Case-27 Terminating Sanctions, filed October 3, 2014 at 12.) See also Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Bldg.,

<u>Inc.</u>, 106 Nev. 88, 92, 787 P.2d 777, 779-80 (1990) (discussing discovery sanctions). The Court ultimately entered a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs for \$8,318,215.55 in damages. (<u>See</u> Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, filed October 9, 2015.)

On January 7, 2015, the Court entered the Order Appointing Receiver and Directing Defendants' Compliance ("Appointment Order"). The Appointment Order appointed James Proctor as receiver over the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association ("GSRUOA"), the rental and other revenues from the condominiums, as well as other property of the non-GSRUOA Defendants. (See Appointment Order at 1:23-26.) The receivership was implemented "for the purpose of implementing compliance, among all condominium units, including units owned by any Defendant in this action . . . with the Covenants, Codes and Restrictions recorded against the condominium units, the Unit Maintenance Agreements and the original Unit Rental Agreements (the "Governing Documents"). (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) On January 25, 2019, Richard Teichner ("Receiver") was substituted in Mr. Proctor's place in the Order Granting Motion to Substitute Receiver, filed January 25, 2019.)

Among the Governing Documents with which the Receiver is ordered to implement compliance is the Seventh Amendment to Condominium Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for Hotel-Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort, recorded June 27, 2007 ("Seventh Amended CC&Rs"). Defendants, however, after representing to the Court that the Seventh Amended CC&Rs needed to be amended in order to comply with NRS 116B, unilaterally revised and recorded the Ninth Amendment to Condominium Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for Hotel-Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort to overhaul the fees chargeable to the unit owners. ("Ninth Amended CC&Rs"). The Ninth Amended CC&Rs, according to Plaintiffs, substantially increase the expenses to be included in fees charged to Plaintiffs – thus making ownership of the units unviable. (Reply at 7:17-21.)

Additionally, the Defendants undertook to have a reserve study done by a third party, which was then to be utilized by the Receiver to calculate those fees to be charged to Plaintiffs.

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Plaintiffs argue this reserve study was not only done without proper authority, but also that it was patently erroneous in that it includes a variety of expenses which are not chargeable to the Plaintiffs under the Seventh Amended CC&Rs. (Motion at 4:3-13.)

The Motion requests the Court instruct the Receiver to (1) determine that the amendment process was invalid and void actions improperly taken by the GSRUOA Board of Directors, (2) maintain the status quo by enforcing the Appointment Order and apply the Seventh Amended CC&Rs, and (3) disqualify the 2021 reserve study and prepare a new reserve study completed with the Receiver's direction and input. (Motion at 2:27-3:4, 4:12-13.)

As this Court has stated previously, "[a] receiver is appointed to maintain the status quo regarding the property in controversy and to safeguard said property from being dissipated while the plaintiff is pursuing his remedy." (Order Denying Motion to Terminate Rental Agreement, filed October 12, 2020 (citing Milo v. Curtis, 100 Ohio App.3d 1, 9, 651 N.E.2d 1340, 1345 (Ohio Ct. App. 1994).) This Court reiterated this premise in a subsequent order, stating that "[o]ne of the purposes of the [Appointment] Order was to preserve the status quo of the parties during the pendency of the action. Another purpose was to enforce [the] agreements." (Order, filed November 23, 2015 at 1:22-23.) Nevada law supports this obligation of the Receiver. See Johnson v. Steel, Inc., 100 Nev 181, 183, 678 P.2d 767, 678 (1984) (the appointment of a receiver is a "remedy used to preserve the value of assets pending outcome of the principal case" and is "a means of preserving the status quo"), overruled on other grounds by Shoen v. SAC Holding Corp., 122 Nev. 621, 137 P.3d 1171 (2006); accord Dunphy v. McNamara, 50 Nev. 113, 252 P. 943, 944 (1927) (a court of equity has "ample authority" to utilize a receiver to preserve the status quo).

In this case, the Receiver was specifically tasked with implementing compliance with the Governing Documents, including the Seventh Amended CC&Rs. (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) Reading this obligation to implement compliance with the Seventh Amended CC&Rs with the obligation to maintain the status quo, this Court finds that the Seventh Amended CC&Rs cannot be amended, repealed, nor replaced until the Receiver is relieved of his duties by the Court. The continuance of this specific Governing Document will ensure the status quo, as is the

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purpose of a receivership and the Appointment Order. <u>See Johnson</u>, 100 Nev. at 183, 678 P.2d at 678; <u>Dunphy</u>, 50 Nev. 113, 252 P. at 944.

Furthermore, upon the appointment of the Receiver, all authority to manage and control the GSRUOA was immediately transferred from the GSRUOA's Board of Directors, managers, officers, the Declarant, and other agents to the Receiver. Francis v. Camel Point Ranch, Inc., 2019 COA 108M, ¶¶ 6-10, 487 P.3d 1089, 1092-93, as modified on denial of reh'g (Colo. Ct. App. Sept. 19, 2019) (noting that "[u]pon the receiver's appointment, [Defendant's] corporate officers and directors lost all authority to control the corporation"); First Sav. & Loan Ass'n v. First Fed. Sav. Loan Ass'n, 531 F. Supp. 251, 255 (D. Haw. 1981) ("When a receiver is appointed for a corporation, the corporation's management loses the power to run its affairs and the receiver obtains all of the corporation's powers and assets."). "Simply put, corporate receivership is a court-mandated change in corporate management." Francis, 487 P.3d 1089 at 1092-93.

This automatic and immediate transfer of control over the GSRUOA to the Receiver therefore divested the GSRUOA's Board of Directors from any authority it had to propose, enact, and otherwise make effective the Ninth Amended CC&Rs. The Ninth Amended CC&Rs are thus *void ab initio*, as they were enacted without proper authority.

Accordingly, the Ninth Amended CC&Rs are *void ab initio*, and even if they were not, the Ninth Amended CC&Rs would be improper and thus subject to rescission or cancellation.<sup>1</sup>

Next, Plaintiffs have moved the Court to instruct the Receiver to reject the reserve study completed by Defendants without any input from Receiver, and order and oversee a separate reserve study. (Motion at 11:25-14:19.) The Court has explicitly found that the Receiver "will determine a reasonable amount of FF&E, shared facilities and hotel reserve fees." (Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgement, Filed October 9, 2015 at 22:25-26.) This implies that

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Defendants argue any challenge to the Ninth Amended CC&Rs must be brought pursuant to the ADR provision therein. The Court rejects this argument *in toto* considering the Appointment Order, the purpose of the Appointment Order, and binding Nevada law which all dictate the receivership is intended to maintain the status quo – not allow for a key Governing Document to be unilaterally amended by Defendants. Further, the claim for a Receivership was brought in the Second Amended Complaint and the Nevada Supreme Court has already found that the District Court has subject matter jurisdiction over the action.

the Receiver will also be tasked with ordering and overseeing the reserve study – as that study will dictate the FF&E, shared facilities, and hotel reserve fees. Thus, the Receiver alone has the authority to direct and audit the reserve study, not the Defendants.

Moreover, the Defendants have acknowledged this reality to the Court:

Mr. McElhinney: Are you instructing the receiver to use the 2016 reserve study in rendering his calculation? The Court: I think he can. Mr. McElhinney: Up to him? The Court: Yeah, it's up to him. If there's some reason that Mr. Teichner believes that the premise or the data that's collected therein is inappropriate, then obviously he can just go back to the 2014 study, but if he wants to use it and he believes that it's statistical or evidentiarily valid, then he can use that in making those determinations.

(Motion at Ex. 3 at 141:24-142:11.)

Plaintiffs further object to the Defendants' reserve study because it has included expenses which are clearly erroneous. (Motion at 4:6-13 (noting public pool expenses that were included while the Governing Documents and Court orders exclude any revenue-generating expenses).) The reserve study is to be limited as directed in previous Court orders and the Governing Documents. The reserve study provided by Defendants clearly shows at least one basic, elementary example of expenses which are included but should not be. (Id.) Accordingly, the Court finds the Defendants' reserve study to be flawed and untrustworthy, and finds the Receiver has the proper (and sole) authority to order, oversee, and implement a new reserve study.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Plaintiffs' Motion is granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Ninth Amended CC&Rs shall be withdrawn and the Seventh Amended CC&Rs shall be reinstated as though never superseded.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Receiver shall not utilize the Defendants' reserve study in calculating those fees which are to be assessed to Plaintiffs. Instead, the Receiver shall order, oversee, and implement a new reserve study which is in accordance with the Governing Documents.

IT IS SO ORDERED. DATED 13 0 SENIOR JUSTICE Nancy Saitta Submitted by: ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON /s/ Jarrad C. Miller Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs 

Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600 Reno Nevada 89501

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#### EXHIBIT "3"

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Motion to Stay Special Assessment on September 17, 2021. The Motion was submitted for consideration on September 22, 2021.

Case-concluding sanctions were entered against the Defendants for abuse of discovery and disregard for the judicial process. (See Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Case-Terminating Sanctions, filed October 3, 2014 at 12.).) See also Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Bldg., Inc., 106 Nev. 88, 92, 787 P.2d 777, 779-80 (1990) (discussing discovery sanctions). The Court ultimately entered a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs for \$8,318,215.55 in damages. (See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, filed October 9, 2015.)

On January 7, 2015, the Court entered the Order Appointing Receiver and Directing Defendants' Compliance ("Appointment Order"). The Appointment Order appointed James Proctor as receiver over the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association ("GSRUOA"). (See Appointment Order at 1:23-26.) The receivership was implemented "for the purpose of implementing compliance, among all condominium units, including units owned by any Defendant in this action . . . with the Covenants, Codes and Restrictions recorded against the condominium units, the Unit Maintenance Agreements and the original Unit Rental Agreements (the "Governing Documents"). (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) On January 25, 2019, Richard Teichner ("Receiver") was substituted in Mr. Proctor's place in the Order Granting Motion to Substitute Receiver, filed January 25, 2019.)

The Appointment Order provides that the Receiver and his agents are to be "pa[id] and discharge[d] out of the Property's rents and/or GSRUOA monthly dues collections. . . ." (Appointment Order at 6:12-16.) It is thus clear that the Receiver's invoices are to be paid through either (or collectively) the Property's rents collected or the GSRUOA monthly dues and not from any other source of funds without approval of this Court.

On June 16, 2021, the Receiver provided notice to the Court that GSRUOA was insolvent and requested a hearing to address this issue. (Motion at 1:2-4.) After the parties discussed potential solutions to this issue, the Defendants, over Plaintiffs' objection, on July 12, 2021 voted to impose a special assessment against all unit owners which would raise about \$100,000 to pay the Receiver's invoices and other expenses ("Special Assessment"). (Opposition at 2:3-11.)

Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson

West Liberty Street, Suite 600 no Nevada 89501 The Motion requests that the Court: (1) enforce the Appointment Order; (2) stay the Special Assessment; (3) direct the Receiver to pay the expenses of the receivership through the new receivership account; and (4) order the Defendants to stop interfering with the receivership and the orders governing same. (Motion at 2:6-9.) The Opposition argues the Special Assessment was appropriate under the Seventh Amendment to Condominium Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for hotel Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort ("CC&Rs") and necessary in order to both fund the Receiver's invoices as well as the GSRUOA's operations through the remainder of 2021. (Opposition at 2:24-3:6.)

To begin, the appointment of a receiver terminates the authority of an entity's officers and directors, and places all such authority in the receiver alone. Francis v. Camel Point Ranch, Inc., 2019 COA 108M, ¶6-10, 487 P.3d 1089, 1092-9 (Colo. App. Sept. 19, 2019) (noting that "[u]pon the receiver's appointment, [Defendant's] corporate officers and directors lost all authority to control the corporation"); McDougal v. Huntingdon & Broad Top Mountain RR. & Coal Co., 294 Pa. 108, 143 A.574, 577 (1928) (the receiver exercises the functions of the board of directors, managers and officers, takes possession of corporate income, property, and assets, directs not only in its operation, but, while in control, its policies on all lines"); see First Sav & Loan Ass'n v. First Fed. Sav. Loan Ass'n, 531 F. Supp. 251, 255 (D. Haw. 1981) ("When a receiver is appointed for a corporation, the corporation's management loses the power to run its affairs and the receiver obtains all of the corporation's powers and assets"); see also U.S. v. Powell, 95 F.2d 752, 754 (4th Cir. 1938). Thus, when the Appointment Order was issued, all authority vested in GSRUOA's Board of Directors, managers, the Declarant, and other decision makers was transferred to the Receiver and the Board of Directors, managers, the Declarant, and other decision makers were divested of such authority.

It follows then that any decision of GSRUOA's Board of Directors since the Appointment Order, including the July 12, 2021 decision to impose the Special Assessment, is void as GSRUOA's Board of Directors had no authority to make such a decision or impose such an assessment. (<u>Id</u>.)

Defendants argue that because the Receiver apparently did not object to the GSRUOA's Board of Directors' decision to impose the Special Assessment, the Special Assessment is proper. (Opposition at 4:17-18 ("The Board voted unanimously to approve and implement the Special Assessment and the Receiver agreed with the action.").) This argument falls flat, however, in light of the Receiver's limited authority. Anes v. Crown P'ship, Inc., 113 Nev. 195, 201-02, 932 P.2d 1067, 1071 (1997) ("a receiver must not exceed the limits of the authority granted by the court"). The Appointment Order specifically dictates the source of funds to pay the Receiver's invoices: "the Property's rents and/or GSRUOA monthly dues." (Appointment Order at 6:12-16.) The Appointment Order does not provide that the Receiver can be funded from any special assessments imposed upon the unit owners. Accordingly, any such special assessment imposed to fund the Receiver's invoices is improper and exceeds authority vested in the Receiver alone. Anes, 113 Nev. at 201-02, 932 P.2d at 1071; Fullerton v. Second Jud. Dist. Ct. in & for Cty. of Washoe, 111 Nev 391, 400, 892 P.2d 935, 941 (1995) ("a receiver must not exceed the limits of the authority granted"); accord Clay Expl., Inc. v. Santa Rosa Operating, LLC, 442 S.W.3d 795, 800 (Tex. App. 2014) (a receiver only has that authority conferred by the Court's order appointing him); Price v. Howsen, 197 Iowa 324, 197 N.W. 62, 63 (1924) ("It is a familiar rule that 'the extent of a receiver's authority is always to be measured by the order of appointment . . . . '"); Citibank, N.A. v. Nyland (CF 8), Ltd., 839 F.2d 93, 98 (2d Cir. 1988) ("[The receiver's] authority is wholly determined by the order of the appointment court"); In re Lamplight Condo. Ass'n, Inc., No. 17-20078 (JJT), 2017 WL 184510, at \*2 (Bankr. D. Conn. May 5, 2017) ("The source of the Receiver's authority and the process by which it was bound and governed is the Appointment Order, which, as a stipulation, is [] a . . . limitation of the Receiver's power, authority and process.").

Moreover, the Receiver has now indicated that he intends to open a separate account to collect rental revenues from the Property and distribute the same to the appropriate unit owners. (Motion at Ex. 2 (email in which Receiver's counsel states "The Receiver is going to open a separate account for the Receivership as soon as possible. . . . As of September 1st, all of the revenue from the Summit Rooms (the units in the Hotel Condominium) will be deposited into

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

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Transaction # 8824878

## EXHIBIT "4"

#### EXHIBIT "4"

EXHIBIT "4"

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#### SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al.,

Plaintiffs.

vs.

MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA **RESORT UNIT OWNERS'** ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. CV12-02222 Dept. No. OJ37

#### ORDER APPROVING RECEIVER'S REQUEST TO APPROVE UPDATED FEES

Before the Court is the Receiver's Receiver Analysis and Calculation of Daily Use Fee, Shared Facilities Unit Expense Fee and Hotel Expense Fee with Request to Approve updated Fees and for Court to Set Effective Date for New Fees, filed August 16, 2021 ("Receiver Analysis"). Defendants filed Defendants' Objection to Receiver's Analysis and Calculation of Daily Use Fee, Shared Facilities Unit Expense Fees and for Court to Set Effective Date for New Fees on September 17, 2021. Plaintiffs filed Plaintiffs' Response to Receiver Analysis and Calculation of Daily Use Fee, Shared Facilities Unit Expense Fee and Hotel Expense Fee with Request to Approve Updated Fees and for Court to Set Effective Date for New Fees on

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September 17, 2021. The Receiver Analysis was submitted for consideration on 1 2 September 22, 2021. 3 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that (1) The Receiver's new fee calculations as submitted 4 to the Court should immediately be applied retroactive to January 2020 and going forward until a 5 subsequent order from the Court is issued; (2) the amounts owed to Plaintiffs under those fee 6 calculations should be paid to Plaintiffs within thirty (30) days in accordance with the Governing Documents; (3) the Receiver should be permitted to calculate the 2020 fee calculation using the 7 same methodology – and once those calculations are completed, the Receiver can reconcile the 8 unit owner accounts to reflect the difference between the 2020 and 2021 fee calculations; and (4) 9 after Defendants produce to Plaintiffs all actual documents that support the Receiver's 2020 and 10 11 2021 calculations, and depositions are taken (limited in scope) to verify that the calculations are based on actual expenses as provided for under the Governing Documents, the briefing on the 12 issue of the accuracy of the fees should recommence. Any adjustments to the fees as a result of 13 motion practice by the parties shall be credited or debited accordingly, but in the interim, rental 14 revenue shall be calculated based upon the Receiver's 2021 calculations. 15 16 IT IS SO ORDERED. 17 DATED 2-21-21 18 19 20 Nancy Saitta 21 Submitted by: ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, 22 MILLER & WILLIAMSON 23 /s/ Jarrad C. Miller 24 Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. 25 Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs 26 27

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#### EXHIBIT "5"

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CODE: 3370 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE 8 9 ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al., 10 11 Plaintiffs, 12 VS. Case No. CV12-02222 Dept. No. OJ37 13 MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA 14 RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE 15 VILLAGE CÖMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited 16 liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and 17 DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive, 18 Defendants. 19 20 ORDER DIRECTING RECEIVER TO PREPARE REPORT ON DEFENDANTS' REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF 2020 CAPITAL EXPENDITURES 21 Presently before the Court is Defendants' Motion for Instructions Regarding 22 23 Reimbursement of 2020 Capital Expenditures, filed June 24, 2021 ("Motion"). Plaintiffs filed their Opposition to Defendants' Motion for Instructions Regarding Reimbursement of 2020 24 Capital Expenditures on October 11, 2021. Defendants then filed Defendants' Reply in Support 25 of Motion for Instructions Regarding Reimbursement of 2020 Capital Expenditures on 26

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November 2, 2021. The Motion was submitted for consideration on November 3, 2021.

Case-concluding sanctions were entered against the Defendants for abuse of discovery and disregard for the judicial process. (See Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Case-Terminating Sanctions, filed October 3, 2014 at 12.) See also Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Bldg., Inc., 106 Nev. 88, 92, 787 P.2d 777, 779-80 (1990) (discussing discovery sanctions). The Court ultimately entered a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs for \$8,318,215.55 in damages. (See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, filed October 9, 2015.)

On January 7, 2015, the Court entered the Order Appointing Receiver and Directing Defendants' Compliance ("Appointment Order"). The Appointment Order appointed James Proctor as receiver over the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association ("GSRUOA"). The receivership was implemented "for the purpose of implementing compliance, among all condominium units, including units owned by any Defendant in this action . . . with the Covenants, Codes and Restrictions recorded against the condominium units, the Unit Maintenance Agreements and the original Unit Rental Agreements (the "Governing Documents"). (Appointment Order at 1:27-28, 2:1-3.) On January 25, 2019, Richard Teichner was substituted in Mr. Proctor's place in the Order Granting Motion to Substitute Receiver.

In the Motion, Defendants ask the Court to instruct Mr. Teichner ("Receiver") to reimburse Defendants a total of \$1,614,505, comprised of \$1,409,637 from the Capital Reserves for Common Area expenses and \$208,868 from the Hotel Reserves for Hotel Related expenses. (Motion at 6:23-26.) The Motion further requests the Court instruct Receiver to impose any special assessments necessary to bring the respective reserve accounts back to the required levels. (Id. at 6:26-7:3.) Plaintiffs' Opposition argues the expenditures for which Defendants seek reimbursement are not included in the Governing Documents which explicitly describe each expense the Plaintiffs agreed to pay. (Opposition at 3:1-18.) Plaintiffs argue further that the reserves study Defendants rely upon is fatally flawed as it also includes a variety of inappropriate expenses and plainly obvious and elementary mistakes. (Id. at 2:14-26.)

The Court finds the Receiver is charged with implementing compliance with the Governing Documents and was appointed for a reason. (See generally Appointment Order.)

Therefore, the Court orders the Receiver to provide a report to the Court within ninety (90) days ORDER DIRECTING RECEIVER TO PREPARE REPORT ON DEFENDANT'S REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF 2020 CAPITAL

**EXPENDITURES** 

PAGE 2

1	from the date of this Order recommending which items contained within Defendants' request for
2	reimbursement of capital expenditures can be reimbursed under the Governing Documents and
3	this Court's existing orders.
4	IT IS SO ORDERED.
5	DATED 12-21.
6	X-1
7	and alle
8	SENIOR JUSTICE Nancy Saitta
9	Submitted by:
10	ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON
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12	Jarrad C. Miller Jarrad C. Miller, Esq.
13	Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs
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## EXHIBIT "6"

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CODE: 2842 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA 8 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE 9 10 ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al., 11 Plaintiffs, 12 Case No. CV12-02222 VS. Dept. No. OJ37 13 MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA 14 RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE 15 VILLAGE CÔMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited 16 liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and 17 DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive, 18 Defendants. 19 20 ORDER DENYING AS MOOT DEFENDANTS' EMERGENCY MOTION TO EXTEND STAY PENDING FINAL DISPOSITION OF THE MOTION TO RECONSIDER 21 Presently before the Court is Defendants' Emergency Motion to Extend Stay Pending 22 Final Disposition of the Motion to Reconsider, filed June 10, 2021 ("Motion"). Plaintiffs filed 23 their Opposition to Defendants' Emergency Motion to Extend Stay Pending Final Disposition of 24 the Motion to Reconsider (Oral Argument Requested) on June 23, 2021. Defendants filed 25 Defendants' Reply in Support of Emergency Motion to Extend Stay Pending Final Disposition of 26 the Motion to Reconsider on June 30, 2021. The Motion was submitted for consideration on 27

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July 1, 2021.

In the Motion, Defendants request the Court extend the stay of enforcement of the 1 2 disgorgement order within the Court's Order Granting Motion for Clarification, filed December 24, 2020 (the "December 24, 2020 Order") beyond June 10, 2021, such that the Court could 3 issue a ruling on Defendants' Motion for Leave to File Motion for Reconsideration of December 4 24, 2020, Order Granting Motion for Clarification and Request for Hearing ("Defendants' 5 Motion for Reconsideration"). (Motion at 2:13-22.) The December 24, 2020 Order ordered that: 6 7 (1) "[a]mounts charged since January of 2020 under the improper fee allocations shall be disgorged to the Plaintiffs, and the new fee allocations shall not go into effect until calculated 8 (they will not be retroactively applied);" and (2) "the Defendants shall pay to the Plaintiffs the 9 reasonable attorneys' fees and costs they incurred in filing the Motion [for Clarification] and 10 11 Reply [in support thereof]." (December 24, 2020 Order at 4:12-16.) Prior to enforcing the December 24, 2020 Order, the Court granted in part Defendants' 12 Motion for Reconsideration on September 29, 2021. (See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law 13 and Order, filed September 29, 2021 ("FFCLO").) In the FFCLO, the Court struck the portion of 14 the December 24, 2020 Order requiring the Defendants to disgorge the improper fee allocation 15 charges. (Id. at 6:2-11.) 16

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendants' Motion is denied as moot.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED 13 - 21 - 2

SENIOR JUSTICE

Nancy Saitta

Submitted by:

ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON

/s/ Jarrad C. Miller

Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs

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#### EXHIBIT "7"

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CODE: 3060 1 2 3 5 6 SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA 7 8 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE 9 10 ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al., 11 Plaintiffs, 12 Case No. CV12-02222 VS. Dept. No. OJ37 13 MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA 14 RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE 15 VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited 16 liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and 17 DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive, 18 Defendants. 19 20 ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFFS' SUPPLEMENTAL MOTION FOR FEES PURSUANT TO THE COURT'S DECEMBER 24, 2020 ORDER GRANTING MOTION 21 FOR CLARIFICATION AND SANCTIONING THE DEFENDANTS 22 Presently before the Court is Plaintiffs' Supplemental Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Clarification and Sanctioning the 23 24 Defendants, filed April 7, 2021 ("Motion"). Defendants filed Defendants' Opposition to Supplemental Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting 25 Motion for Clarification and Sanctioning the Defendants on April 20, 2021 ("Opposition"). 26 Plaintiffs filed their Reply in Support of Supplemental Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's 27

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27 28 December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Clarification and Sanctioning the Defendants on April 30, 2021. The Motion was submitted for consideration by the Court on May 4, 2021.

The Motion sets forth Plaintiffs' supplemental request for fees incurred in (a) submitting their motion for fees ("Fees Motion") pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Clarification ("December 24, 2020 Order"), (b) filing a reply to Defendants' opposition to the Fees Motion, and (c) opposing Defendants' Motion for Leave to File Motion for Reconsideration of the Court's December 24, 2020 Order ("Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration"), which largely attempted to rehash and relitigate previously rejected arguments. (Motion at 2:7-12.) Plaintiffs' total requested fees for these tasks is \$17,885. Defendants argue the requested fees are unreasonably excessive and that Nevada law does not permit recovery thereof. (Opposition at 2:14-18, 3:3-10.) Defendants further argue that the Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration may very well render Plaintiffs' Fees Motion and Motion moot. (Id. at 3:3-10; see also Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration, filed January 7, 2020.)

Case-concluding sanctions were entered against the Defendants for abuse of discovery and disregard for the judicial process. (See Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Case-Terminating Sanctions, filed October 3, 2014 at 12.).) See Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Bldg., Inc., 106 Nev. 88, 92, 787 P.2d 777, 779-80 (1990) (discussing discovery sanctions). The Court ultimately entered a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs for \$8,318,215.55 in damages. (See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, filed October 9, 2015.)

On January 7, 2015, the Court entered the Order Appointing Receiver and Directing Defendants' Compliance ("Appointment Order"). The Appointment Order appointed James Proctor as receiver over the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association ("GSRUOA") and the rental revenue and certain other property interests relating to the other Defendants. (See Appointment Order at 1:23-26.) The receivership was implemented "for the purpose of implementing compliance, among all condominium units, including units owned by any Defendant in this action . . . with the Covenants, Codes and Restrictions recorded against the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration stands fully briefed and submitted at the time of this Order.

condominium units, the Unit Maintenance Agreements and the original Unit Rental Agreements (the "Governing Documents"). (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) On January 25, 2019, Richard Teichner ("Receiver") was substituted in Mr. Proctor's place in the Order Granting Motion to Substitute Receiver, filed January 25, 2019.)

The Court's December 24, 2020 Order includes two distinct portions: first, that the Receiver was to recalculate certain fees in a specific way and that the improper fee allocations were to be disgorged to Plaintiffs, and second, that the Defendants were to pay Plaintiffs' attorneys' fees and costs incurred in briefing the motion which ultimately resulted in the December 24, 2020 Order. This sanction was imposed as a result of "Defendants' attempt to advance their interpretation of the Court's orders to the [R]eceiver [which] interfered with the October Order taking effect and resulted in unnecessarily duplicative litigation." (December 24, 2020 order at 3:17-19.) Plaintiffs filed their motion for fees ("Fees Motion") pursuant to the December 24, 2020 Order, to which Defendants filed an opposition. (See Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's

The instant Motion requests a supplemental award of fees incurred in actions taking place after the December 24, 2020 Order was issued. The Motion states Plaintiffs incurred a total of \$17,885 in attorneys' fees as a result of (1) preparing the Fees motion, (2) preparing a reply to Defendants' opposition to the Fees Motion, and (3) preparing an opposition to Defendants' largely duplicative motion for reconsideration. (Motion at 6:9-12, 7:1-3.) Fees incurred as a result of preparing a motion for fees are recoverable. See Rosenfeld v. United States DOJ, 903 F. Supp. 2d 859, 878 (N. D. Cal. 2012) ("Plaintiffs may recover attorney's fees for time reasonably expended on a motion for attorney's fees and costs."). Furthermore, because the fee award was a sanction for Defendants' attempt to convince the Receiver of their clearly inaccurate interpretation of the Court's orders, and the motion for reconsideration largely furthered those inaccurate arguments, the continued arguments, and Plaintiffs' fees incurred to address them, are

included by the December 24, 2020 Order's sanction. Accordingly, the Court finds such fees are recoverable as a general matter.

Nevada uses the lodestar formula to determine the appropriate amount of attorney fees. Hsu v. Clark County, 123 Nev. 625, 636, 173 P.3d 724, 732 (2007). The lodestar formula calls for the number of hours reasonably spent on the motion to be multiplied by a reasonable hourly rate. Id. at 637, 173 P.3d at 733.

Plaintiffs have provided that their counsel spent a total of 24.6 hours on the Fees Motion briefing, including preparation of the Fees Motion, researching authority cited in Defendants' opposition thereto, and preparing a reply in support of the Fees Motion. (Motion at 5:26-6:4.) Defendants argue Plaintiffs' hours expended are excessive. (Opposition at 9:6-9.) The Court finds the number of hours expended by Plaintiffs' counsel on the Fees Motion briefing to be reasonable in light of the procedural history of this case and the issues raised by the Fees Motion and Defendants' opposition thereto.

Plaintiffs have provided that their counsel spent a total of 31.6 hours on their opposition to Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration. (Motion at 7:1-3.) Defendants, again, argue this number of hours is excessive and not warranted. (Opposition at 9:9-21.) Although the Defendants attempt to minimize the complexity of the issues set forth in the Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration and the necessity to set forth the complex procedural background within Defendants' opposition thereto, the Court does not agree that the Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration, nor the Plaintiffs' opposition thereto, was as simplistic as Defendants state. Instead, the Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration set forth a variety of fallacious legal arguments and misconstrued the factual and procedural background of this case, therefore requiring Plaintiffs to expend numerous pages refuting the same. Thus, the Court finds the number of hours expended by Plaintiffs' counsel on this task reasonable.

Defendants also argue that Plaintiffs' time entries are inadequate. (Opposition at 10:17-11:25.) Defendants argue the entries are "so vaguely generic that the [C]ourt cannot determine with certainty whether the activities they purport to describe were necessary and reasonable." (Id. at 11:21-23.) After reviewing the time entries in full, the Court finds the entries are adequate

and provide the Court sufficient information to determine that the tasks undertaken by Plaintiffs' counsel were both necessary and reasonable.

Accordingly, the Court finds the number of hours expended by Plaintiffs' counsel on those tasks for which Plaintiffs seek to recover attorneys' fees were reasonable.

Next, Plaintiffs have set forth their counsels' hourly rate. These rates range from \$425 to \$335 for attorneys and are \$135 for paralegals.<sup>2</sup> (Motion at 6:9-12, 7:1-3.) Defendants do not appear to dispute the reasonableness of such hourly rates. The Court therefore finds such hourly rates are reasonable.

Under the lodestar formula, the Court finds the hours reportedly spent by Plaintiffs' counsel and their hourly rates are reasonable, and thus the lodestar award is \$17,885.

The Court must next consider the <u>Brunzell</u> factors to determine the appropriateness of the lodestar amount. Accordingly, to determine whether any adjustments to the lodestar amount are necessary, the Court must 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.

Brunzell v. Golden Gate Nat'l Bank, 85 Nev. 345, 455 P.2d 31, 33 (1969). The Court finds all of these factors weigh against any adjustment to the lodestar amount and in favor of awarding

First, the Court is acutely aware of the high quality of Plaintiffs' counsel, and thus concludes this factor is in favor of awarding Plaintiffs the entire lodestar amount.

Second, the Court finds the character of the work to be done to be especially important. The Court's December 24, 2020 Order imposed sanctions upon Defendants for attempting to mislead the Receiver into accepting a clearly faulty interpretation of the Court's previous orders.

Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600 Reno Nevada 89501

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Plaintiffs note the hourly fees underwent a routine annual increase, which is why they are different from previous fees applications. (Motion at 6, fn.2.)

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(See Order Granting Clarification, filed December 24, 2020 at 3:17-19 ("The Defendants' attempt to advance their interpretation of the Court's orders to the [R]eceiver interfered with the October Order taking effect and resulted in unnecessarily duplicative litigation. Therefore, the Court exercises its inherent authority to require the Defendants to pay for the fees the Plaintiffs were unnecessarily forced to incur in filing the Motion and the Reply.").) Thus, the time spent in drafting the Fees Motion – which was ordered by the Court – is certainly important. The sanction within the December 24, 2020 Order was intended to penalize Defendants' wrongdoings. If the Court were to limit the Plaintiffs' recovery of their attorneys' fees incurred as a result of Defendants' wrongdoings, the sanction would have no teeth. Accordingly, the second factor also weighs in favor of awarding the entire lodestar amount.

Third, the work actually performed by Plaintiffs' counsel is evidenced by the billing records submitted with the Motion. (Motion at Ex. 1.) Each time entry reflects work which was necessary and that the individual whose time is reflected dedicated ample skill, time, and attention to the task at hand. Brunzell, 85 Nev. at 349, 455 P.2d at 33. This factor thus also weighs in favor of awarding the full lodestar amount.

Fourth and finally, the Court must consider the result. The Court finds this factor weighs in favor of awarding the entire lodestar amount as well. The Court clearly agreed with Plaintiffs' positions taken in the briefing which resulted in the December 24, 2020 Order imposing sanctions. (See generally Order Granting Reconsideration, filed December 24, 2020.) Thus, Plaintiffs have obtained a successful result. This factor weighs in favor of granting the full lodestar amount to Plaintiffs.

The Brunzell factors clearly indicate that the lodestar amount is appropriate and requires no adjustments. The Court therefore finds an award of the entire lodestar amount is proper.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Plaintiffs' Motion is granted in full.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants shall pay to the Plaintiffs the sum of \$17,885 within thirty (30) days of this Order.

Reno Nevada 89501

1	IT IS SO ORDERED.
2	DATED 12-21-21.
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4	an Carte
5	SENIOR JUSTICE Nancy Saitta
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7	Submitted by:
8	ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON
9	WILLIAMSON
10	/s/ Jarrad C. Miller
11	Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq.
12	Attorneys for Plaintiffs
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# EXHIBIT I TO DOCKETING STATEMENT

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Electronically CV12-02222 2022-01-18 06:08:07 PM Alicia L. Lerud 1 \$2515 Clerk of the Court DANIEL F. POLSENBERG, ESO. ABRAN VIGIL, Tragsaction # 8849087: yvilor a 2 Nevada Bar No. 2376 Nevada Bar No. 7548 JENNIFER K. HOSTETLER, ESO. ANN HALL, ESO. 3 Nevada Bar No. 11994 Nevada Bar No. 5447 DALE KOTCHKA-ALANES, ESQ. DAVID C. McElhinney, Esq. 4 Nevada Bar No. 13168 Nevada Bar No. 0033 LEWIS ROCA ROTHGERBER CHRISTIE LLP MERUELO GROUP, LLC 5 3993 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 600 Legal Services Department 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Executive Offices Las Vegas, NV 89169 6 Tel: 702.949.8200 2535 las Vegas Boulevard South Fax: 702.949.8398 Las Vegas, NV 89109 7 dpolsenberg@lewisroca.com Tel: (562) 454-9786 abran.vigil@meruelogroup.com ihostetler@lewisroca.com 8 mkotchkaalanes@lewisroca.com ann.hall@meruelogroup.com david.mcelhinney@meruelogroup.com Attorneys for Defendants 9 Attorneys for Defendants 10 11 IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA 12 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE 13 Case No. CV12-02222 ALBERT THOMAS, individually; JANE 14 DUNLAP, individually; JOHN DUNLAP, Dept No. OJ37 individually; BARRY HAY, individually; 15 MARIE-ANNE ALEXANDER, as Trustee of the MARIE-ANNIE ALEXANDER LIVING NOTICE OF APPEAL 16 TRUST; MELISSA VAGUJHELYI and GEORGE VAGUJHELYI, as Trustees of the 17 GEORGE VAGUJHELYI AND MELISSA VAGUJHELYI 2001 FAMILY TRUST 18 AGREEMENT, U/T/A APRIL 13, 2001; D' ARCY NUNN, individually; HENRY NUNN, 19 individually; MADELYN VAN DER BOKKE, 20 individually; LEE VAN DER BOKKE, individually; DONALD SCHREIFELS, 21 individually; ROBERT R. PEDERSON, individually and as Trustee of the PEDERSON 22 1990 TRUST; LOU ANN PEDERSON, individually and as Trustee of the PEDERSON 23 1990 TRUST; LORI ORDOVER, individually; WILLIAM A. HENDERSON, individually; 24 CHRISTINE E. HENDERSON, individually; 25 LOREN D. PARKER, individually; SUZANNE C. PARKER, individually; 26 MICHAEL IZADY, individually; STEVEN TAKAKI, individually; FARAD 27 TORABKHAN, individually; SAHAR

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CHOPRA, individually; TERRY POPE,

TAVAKOL, individually; M&Y HOLDINGS, LLC; JL&YL HOLDINGS, LLC; SANDI

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individually; NANCY POPE, individually;
JAMES TAYLOR, individually; RYAN
TAYLOR, individually; KI HAM,
individually; YOUNG JA CHOI, individually;
SANG DAE SOHN, individually; KUK
HYUNG (CONNIE), individually; SANG
(MIKE) YOO, individually; BRETT
MENMUIR, as Trustee of the CAYENNE
TRUST; WILLIAM MINER, JR.,
individually; CHANH TRUONG, individually;
ELIZABETH ANDERS MECUA,
individually; SHEPHERD MOUNTAIN, LLC;
ROBERT BRUNNER, individually; AMY
BRUNNER, individually; JEFF RIOPELLE,
individually; PATRICIA M. MOLL,
individually; DANIEL MOLL, individually;
and DOE PLAINTIFFS 1 THROUGH 10,
inclusive,
Plaintiffs,
v.

MEI-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC., a Nevada Limited Liability Company, AM-GSR Holdings, LLC., a Nevada Limited Liability Company, GRAND SIERRA RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada Nonprofit Corporation, GAGE VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC., a Nevada Limited Liability Company, and DOES I-X inclusive,

Defendants.

#### NOTICE OF APPEAL

Please take notice that defendants MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, AM-GSR Holdings, LLC, Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association, and Gage Village Commercial Development, LLC, hereby appeal to the Supreme Court of Nevada from:

- 1. All judgments and orders in this case;
- 2. "Order Granting Receiver's Motion for Orders & Instructions," filed on January 4, 2022 (Exhibit 1), notice of entry of which was filed on January 4, 2022 (Exhibit 8);
- 3. "Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Instructions to Receiver," filed on January 4, 2022 (Exhibit 2), notice of entry of which was filed on January 4, 2022 (Exhibit 8);
  - 4. "Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion to Stay Special Assessment," filed on January

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1 4, 2022 (Exhibit 3), notice of entry of which was filed on January 4, 2022 (Exhibit 8); 5. 2 "Order Approving Receiver's Request to Approve Updated Fees," filed on January 3 4, 2022 (Exhibit 4), notice of entry of which was filed on January 4, 2022 (Exhibit 8); 4 6. "Order Directing Receiver to Prepare Report on Defendants' Request for 5 Reimbursement of 2020 Capital Expenditures," filed on January 4, 2022 (Exhibit 5), notice of 6 entry of which was filed on January 4, 2022 (Exhibit 8); 7 7. "Order Denying as Moot Defendants' Emergency Motion to Extend Stay Pending 8 Final Disposition of the Motion to Reconsider," filed on January 4, 2022 (Exhibit 6), notice of 9 entry of which was filed on January 4, 2022 (Exhibit 8); 10 8. "Order Granting Plaintiffs' Supplemental Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Clarification and Sanctioning the Defendants," 11 12 filed on January 4, 2022 (Exhibit 7), notice of entry of which was filed on January 4, 2022 13 (Exhibit 8); and 14 9. All rulings and interlocutory orders made appealable by any of the foregoing. 15 **AFFIRMATION** 

Pursuant to NRS 239B.030

The undersigned does hereby affirm that this document does not contain the social security number of any person.

DATED this 18th day of January, 2022.

#### LEWIS ROCA ROTHGERBER CHRISTIE LLP

By: /s/ Daniel F. Polsenberg Daniel F. Polsenberg, SBN 2376 Jennifer K. Hostetler, SBN 11994 Dale Kotchka-Alanes, SBN 13168 3993 Howard Hughes Pkwy., Suite 600 Las Vegas, Nevada 89169

MERUELO GROUP, LLC Abran Vigil, SBN 7548 Ann Hall, SBN 5447 David C. McElhinney, SBN 0033 Legal Services Department 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Executive Offices 2535 las Vegas Boulevard South Las Vegas, NV 89109

Attorneys for Defendants - 4 -

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NOTICE OF APPEAL

#### 1 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 2 Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I certify that I am an employee of LEWIS ROCA ROTHGERBER 3 CHRISTIE LLP and that on this 18th day of January, 2022, I served a true and correct copy of the 4 foregoing NOTICE OF APPEAL to the parties listed below, via electronic service through the 5 Second Judicial District Court's eFlex Electronic Filing system. 6 G. David Robertson, Esq., SBN 1001 F. DeArmond Sharp, Esq., SBN 780 7 Jarrad C. Miller, Esq., SBN 7093 Stefanie T. Sharp, Esq. SBN 8661 Jonathan J. Tew, Esq., SBN 11874 ROBISON, SHARP, SULLIVAN & BRUST 8 ROBERSTON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON 71 Washington Street 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600 Reno, Nevada 89503 9 Reno, Nevada 89501 Tel: (775) 329-3151 Tel: (775) 329-5600 Tel: (775) 329-7169 10 jon@nvlawyers.com dsharp@rssblaw.com jarrad@nvlawyers.com ssharp@rssblaw.com 11 Attorneys for the Receiver Richard M. Teichner Robert L. Eisenberg, Esq., SBN 0950 12 LEMONS, GRUNDY & EISENBERG 6005 Plumas Street, Third Floor 13 Reno, Nevada 89519 Telephone: (775) 786-6868 14 Facsimile: (775) 786-9716 rle@lge.net 15 Attorneys for Plaintiffs 16 17 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Nevada, that the foregoing 18 is true and correct. 19 Dated this 18th day of January, 2022. 20 21 /s/ Jessie M. Helm An Employee of Lewis Roca Rothgerber Christie LLP 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

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### EXHIBIT 1

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IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al.,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

liability company, GRAND SIERRA RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive,

MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited

Defendants.

Case No. CV12-02222 Dept. No. OJ37

#### ORDER GRANTING RECEIVER'S MOTION FOR ORDERS & INSTRUCTIONS

Presently before the Court is the Receiver's Motion for Orders & Instructions, filed October 18, 2021 ("Motion"). Plaintiffs filed Plaintiffs' Joinder to Receiver's Motion for Orders & Instructions on October 22, 2021 ("Plaintiff's Joinder"). Defendants filed Defendants' Opposition to Receiver's Motion for Orders & Instructions on October 22, 2021 ("Defendants' Opposition"). The Receiver then filed Receiver's Reply in Support of Motion for Orders & Instructions on October 25, 2021 ("Receiver's Reply"). The Motion was submitted for consideration on October 25, 2021.

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ORDER GRANTING RECEIVER'S MOTION FOR ORDERS & INSTRUCTIONS
PAGE 1

Case-concluding sanctions were entered against the Defendants for abuse of discovery and disregard for the judicial process. (See Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Case-Terminating Sanctions, filed October 3, 2014 at 12.) See Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Bldg., Inc., 106 Nev. 88, 92, 787 P.2d 777, 779-80 (1990) (discussing discovery sanctions). The Court ultimately entered a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs for \$8,318,215.55 in damages. See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, filed October 9, 2015.

On January 7, 2015, the Court entered the Order Appointing Receiver and Directing Defendants' Compliance ("Appointment Order"). The Appointment Order appointed James Proctor as receiver over the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association ("GSRUOA"). (See Appointment Order at 1:23-26.) The receivership was implemented "for the purpose of implementing compliance, among all condominium units, including units owned by any Defendant in this action . . . with the Covenants, Codes and Restrictions recorded against the condominium units, the Unit Maintenance Agreements and the original Unit Rental Agreements (the "Governing Documents"). (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) On January 25, 2019, Richard Teichner ("Receiver") was substituted in Mr. Proctor's place in the Order Granting Motion to Substitute Receiver, filed January 25, 2019.)

In 2021, the Defendants undertook to have a reserve study done by a third party, which was then to be utilized by the Receiver to calculate those fees to be charged to Plaintiffs (including the Daily Use Fees ("DUF"), Shared Facility Use Expenses ("SFUE"), and Hotel Expenses ("HE")). The Receiver states that various orders of this Court, including the Appointment Order, provide authority solely to Receiver to order and oversee any reserve studies done. (Reply at 2:27-3:5.) Defendants argue that no such orders nor the Governing Documents provide the Receiver with such authority. (Defendants' Opposition at 3:19-24.) Instead, Defendants argue that any attempt by the Receiver to order or oversee the reserve study would be an "impermissibl[e] expan[sion] of his authority." (Id. at 3:20.)

The Court issued its Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order granting in part Defendants' Motion for Leave to File Motion for Reconsideration of December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Clarification and Request for Hearing, on September 29, 2021. Therein, the

Court struck the disgorgement order granted in the December 24, 2020 Order Granting Clarification ("December 24, 2020 Order"). Whereas the Court originally instructed that "[u]ntil the DUF, the [HE], and [SFUE] are recalculated by the Receiver, the fees calculated by the past receiver shall be applied," the revised order struck this reversion to the prior receiver's calculations. Thus, the Receiver states he is now without direction as to which calculations are to be applied until he is able to redo his own calculations. (See December 24, 2020 Order at 3:23-4:10 (where the Court informs the Receiver his calculations for 2020 are incorrect and invalid under the Governing Documents and they must be redone).) Defendants argue the Receiver's prior calculations, which were in place until the December 24, 2020 Order was issued, should be utilized. Notably, this directly contradicts the Court's December 24, 2020 Order, is inequitable, and thus is denied outright. (Id.)

The Appointment Order provides the Receiver authority to take control of "all accounts receivable, payments, rents, including all statements and records of deposits, advances, and prepaid contracts or rents . . . ." (Appointment Order at 3:15-18.) Defendants are also ordered to cooperate with the Receiver and not "[i]nterfer[e] with the Receiver, directly or indirectly." (Id. at 8:2-15.) The Receiver has informed the parties of his intent to open a separate account into which all rents and other proceeds from the units will be deposited, and now requests the Court's permission to open such an account. (Motion at 11:19; Motion to Stay Special Assessment, filed August 20, 2021 at Ex. 2.) Defendants have refused to cooperate with the Receiver's request to turnover various proceeds, in violation of the Appointment Order, and now object to Receiver's authority to open a separate account. (Appointment Order at 8:2-15; Defendant's Opposition at 6:14-7:21.)

Pursuant to the Governing Documents, Defendants have implemented a room rotation program whereunder bookings for the units owned by Plaintiffs and Defendants should be equally distributed such that Plaintiffs and Defendants, as individual unit owners, are earning roughly equal revenue. The Receiver contends this room rotation program is flawed and has resulted in a greater number of Defendants' units being rented than Plaintiffs' units during various periods through August 2021. (Motion at 14:14-17.)

Among the Governing Documents with which the Receiver is ordered to implement compliance is the Seventh Amendment to Condominium Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for Hotel-Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort, recorded June 27, 2007 ("Seventh Amended CC&Rs"). Defendants, however, after representing to the Court that the Seventh Amended CC&Rs needed to be amended in order to comply with NRS 116B, unilaterally revised and recorded the Ninth Amendment to Condominium Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for Hotel-Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort ("Ninth Amended CC&Rs") to overhaul the fee structure and radically expand the fees chargeable to the Plaintiffs. The Ninth Amended CC&Rs, according to Plaintiffs, substantially increase the expenses to be included in fees charged to Plaintiffs – thus making ownership of the units unviable.

Finally, Defendants have communicated with Receiver *ex parte* through a variety of individuals. The Receiver now requests that all communications be funneled through a single individual: Reed Brady. (Motion at 17:4-8.)

The Motion requests the Court order (1) that the Notice of Special Assessments and the Reserve Studies sent to the unit owners by Defendants on August 24, 2021 be immediately withdrawn; (2) that the Defendants be ordered to send out a notice to all unit owners of said withdrawal; and (3) that this Court confirm the Receiver's authority over the Reserve Studies. (Motion at 3:11-14.) The Motion further requests the Court order that the Receiver is to recalculate the charges for the DUF, SFUE, and HE for 2020 based upon the same methodology as has been used in calculating the fee charges for 2021, once the Court approves that methodology. (Id. at 8:10-13.) The Motion further requests the Court approve the opening of an account for the Receivership, with the Receiver having sole signatory authority over the account, and order that all rents received by Defendants currently and in the future, generated from either all 670 condominium units or the Plaintiff-owned units, net of the total charges for the DUF, SFUE, and HE fees and for reserves combined, are to be deposited into the account, that the receiver be authorized to make the necessary disbursements to the relevant unit owners at three (3) month intervals, that any disgorgement amounts owed by Defendants be deposited into the

Receivership account to be distributed by the Receiver, and that, if the Court orders the current credit balances in the Plaintiffs' accounts are to be deposited in to the Receiver's bank account then, to the extent that such credit balances are to be disgorged, Defendants will pay such credit balances to the Receiver for deposit, and the Receiver will distribute such funds appropriately. (Id. at 11:21-12:13.) The Motion further requests the Court order Defendants to provide the Receiver with the information and documentation he has requested relating to the room rotation program within ten (10) days of this Order. (Id. at 14:20-24.) The Motion further requests the court expedite the determination of the Plaintiffs' Motion for Instructions, filed October 18, 2021 and submitted for consideration on October 25, 2021. (Id. at 17:1-3.) Finally, the Motion requests the Court instruct Defendants to funnel all communications to the Receiver through a single individual: Reed Brady. (Id. at 7:5-8.)

As this Court has stated previously, "[a] receiver is appointed to maintain the status quo regarding the property in controversy and to safeguard said property from being dissipated while the plaintiff is pursuing his remedy." (Order Denying Motion to Terminate Rental Agreement, filed October 12, 2020 (citing Milo v. Curtis, 100 Ohio App.3d 1, 9, 651 N.E.2d 1340, 1345 (Ohio Ct. App. 1994).) This Court reiterated this premise in anotherorder, stating that "[o]ne of the purposes of the [Appointment] Order was to preserve the status quo of the parties during the pendency of the action. Another purpose was to enforce [the] agreements." (Order, filed November 23, 2015 at 1:22-23.) Nevada law supports this obligation of the Receiver. See Johnson v. Steel, Inc., 100 Nev 181, 183, 678 P.2d 767, 678 (1984) (the appointment of a receiver is a "remedy used to preserve the value of assets pending outcome of the principal case" and is "a means of preserving the status quo"), overruled on other grounds by Shoen v. SAC Holding Corp., 122 Nev. 621, 137 P.3d 1171 (2006); accord Dunphy v. McNamara, 50 Nev. 113, 252 P. 943, 944 (1927) (a court of equity has "ample authority" to utilize a receiver to preserve the status quo).

Furthermore, upon the appointment of the Receiver, all authority to manage and control the GSRUOA was immediately transferred from the GSRUOA's Board of Directors, managers, officers, the Declarant, and other agents to the Receiver. Francis v. Camel Point Ranch, Inc.,

2019 COA 108M, ¶¶ 6-10, 487 P.3d 1089, 1092-93, as modified on denial of reh'g (Colo. Ct. App. Sept. 19, 2019) (noting that "[u]pon the receiver's appointment, [Defendant's] corporate officers and directors lost all authority to control the corporation"); First Sav. & Loan Ass'n v. First Fed. Sav. Loan Ass'n, 531 F. Supp. 251, 255 (D. Haw. 1981) ("When a receiver is appointed for a corporation, the corporation's management loses the power to run its affairs and the receiver obtains all of the corporation's powers and assets."). "Simply put, corporate receivership is a court-mandated change in corporate management." Francis, 487 P.3d 1089 at 1092-93.

Thus, upon appointment of the Receiver, the GSRUOA's Board of Directors was divested of the authority it has errantly exercised to issue that Notice of Special Assessment and the Reserve Studies which was sent to all unit owners on August 24, 2021. Accordingly, such Notice of Special Assessment and any actual imposition of special assessment is *void ab initio* and therefore invalid. Only the Receiver can impose special assessments.

Next, the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgement issued on October 9, 2015 ("FFCLJ"), explicitly ordered the Receiver to calculate "a reasonable amount of FF&E, shared facilities and hotel reserve fees" and other necessary fees to be assessed against Plaintiffs. (FFCLJ at 22:25-27.) Accordingly, the Receiver is to calculate the DUF, SFUE, and HE for 2020. Such calculations should be based upon the same methodology as used for the 2021 fees, once the Court has approved of such methodology.

The Appointment Order expressly allows for the Receiver to open an account for the Receivership. (Appointment Order at 6:26 (the Receiver is allowed to "open and utilize bank accounts for receivership funds").) Indeed, the Appointment Order also expressly calls for the Receiver to collect proceeds from the Property (defined as the 670 condominium units), including, but not limited to, rent earned therefrom. (Id. at 5:17-19.) It logically follows then that the Receiver may open a separate account for the Receivership in which it may hold all rents from the Property, as defined in the Receivership Order.

The Appointment Order also expressly calls for Defendants to cooperate with the Receiver and refrain from taking any actions which will interfere with the Receiver's ability to

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perform his duties. (Id. at 8:2-15.) Accordingly, Defendants should supply the Receiver with all information, explanation, and documentation the Receiver may request regarding the room rotation program and apparent inadequacy thereof.

The Receiver was specifically tasked with implementing compliance with the Governing Documents, including the Seventh Amended CC&Rs. (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) Reading this obligation to implement compliance with the Seventh Amended CC&Rs with the obligation to maintain the status quo, this Court finds that the Seventh Amended CC&Rs cannot be amended, repealed, nor replaced until the Receiver is relieved of his duties by the Court. The continuance of this specific Governing Document will ensure the status quo, as is the purpose of a receivership. Johnson, 100 Nev. at 183, 678 P.2d at 678; Dunphy, 50 Nev. 113, 252 P. at 944. The automatic and immediate transfer of control over the GSRUOA to the Receiver therefore divested the GSRUOA's Board of Directors from any authority it had to propose, enact, and otherwise make effective the Ninth Amended CC&Rs. The Ninth Amended CC&Rs are thus void ab initio, as they were enacted without proper authority. Accordingly, the Ninth Amended CC&Rs are void ab initio, and even if they were not, the Ninth Amended CC&Rs would be improper and thus subject to rescission or cancellation.

Finally, the Court finds it appropriate for Defendants to funnel all communication with the Receiver through a single individual. For the time being, such individual shall be Reed Brady. Mr. Brady may delegate tasks to others, however, only Mr. Brady should communicate answers, conclusions, or other findings to the Receiver.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Receiver's Motion is granted in full.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED (i) that the Notice of Special Assessments and the Reserve Studies sent to the unit owners by the Defendants on August 24, 2021 shall be immediately withdrawn; (ii) that the Defendants shall send out a notice to all unit owners of said withdrawal within ten (10) days of this Order; (iii) that any amounts paid by unit owners pursuant to the Notice of Special Assessment shall be refunded within ten (10) days of this Order; and (iv) that the Receiver has sole authority to order and oversee reserve studies related to Defendants' property and under the Governing Documents.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Receiver shall recalculate the DUF, SFUE, and HE based on the same methodology as has been used in calculating the fee charges for 2021, subject to Court approval of such methodology. Those fees in place prior to the Court's September 27, 2021 Order shall remain in place until the fees for 2020 are recalculated and approved by this Court such that only a single account adjustment will be necessary.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Receiver shall open a separate account on which Receiver has sole signatory authority, and into which all rents received by Defendants currently for all 670 condominium units, net of total charges for DUF, SFUE, and HE fees and reserves, are to be deposited. The Receiver shall disburse the revenue collected to the parties according to the Governing Documents. In the event the Court requires a disgorgement by Defendants to Plaintiffs, Receiver shall deposit such disgorgements into this separate account and disburse the same to Plaintiffs appropriately.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants shall provide Receiver with any information, explanation, and documentation he may request regarding the room rotation program and any perceived discrepancies therewith, until Receiver is either satisfied with the adequacy of the program or until Receiver deems it appropriate to seek judicial intervention.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Ninth CC&Rs are *void ab initio* and the Seventh CC&Rs are to be resurrected as though they had not been withdrawn or superseded.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants shall funnel all communication with the Receiver through Reed Brady. Defendants and Receiver may mutually agree to choose an alternative representative through which communication shall be directed. Mr. Brady, and any subsequent representative, may delegate requests, questions, or other tasks necessary to respond to Receiver's communications, but any answers, conclusions, or other results shall be communicated back to Receiver through only Mr. Brady and no other individual.

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IT IS SO ORDERED. SENIOR JUSTICE Nancy Saitta Submitted by: ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON /s/ Jarrad C. Miller Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs 

FILED Electronically CV12-02222 2022-01-18 06:08:07 PM Alicia L. Lerud Clerk of the Court

## Transaction # 8849087 : yviloria EXHIBIT 2

### EXHIBIT 2

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SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al.,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. CV12-02222 Dept. No. OJ37

#### ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR INSTRUCTIONS TO RECEIVER

Presently before the Court is Plaintiff's Motion for Instructions to Receiver, filed September 28, 2021 ("Motion"). Defendants filed Defendants' Opposition to Plaintiffs' Motion for Instructions to Receiver on October 12, 2021 ("Opposition"). Plaintiffs filed their Reply in Support of Motion for Instructions to Receiver on October 25, 2021. The Motion was submitted for consideration on October 25, 2021.

Case-concluding sanctions were entered against the Defendants for abuse of discovery and disregard for the judicial process. (See Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Case-Terminating Sanctions, filed October 3, 2014 at 12.) See also Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Bldg.,

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Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600 Reno Nevada 89501

<u>Inc.</u>, 106 Nev. 88, 92, 787 P.2d 777, 779-80 (1990) (discussing discovery sanctions). The Court ultimately entered a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs for \$8,318,215.55 in damages. (See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, filed October 9, 2015.)

On January 7, 2015, the Court entered the Order Appointing Receiver and Directing Defendants' Compliance ("Appointment Order"). The Appointment Order appointed James Proctor as receiver over the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association ("GSRUOA"), the rental and other revenues from the condominiums, as well as other property of the non-GSRUOA Defendants. (See Appointment Order at 1:23-26.) The receivership was implemented "for the purpose of implementing compliance, among all condominium units, including units owned by any Defendant in this action . . . with the Covenants, Codes and Restrictions recorded against the condominium units, the Unit Maintenance Agreements and the original Unit Rental Agreements (the "Governing Documents"). (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) On January 25, 2019, Richard Teichner ("Receiver") was substituted in Mr. Proctor's place in the Order Granting Motion to Substitute Receiver, filed January 25, 2019.)

Among the Governing Documents with which the Receiver is ordered to implement compliance is the Seventh Amendment to Condominium Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for Hotel-Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort, recorded June 27, 2007 ("Seventh Amended CC&Rs"). Defendants, however, after representing to the Court that the Seventh Amended CC&Rs needed to be amended in order to comply with NRS 116B, unilaterally revised and recorded the Ninth Amendment to Condominium Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for Hotel-Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort to overhaul the fees chargeable to the unit owners. ("Ninth Amended CC&Rs"). The Ninth Amended CC&Rs, according to Plaintiffs, substantially increase the expenses to be included in fees charged to Plaintiffs – thus making ownership of the units unviable. (Reply at 7:17-21.)

Additionally, the Defendants undertook to have a reserve study done by a third party, which was then to be utilized by the Receiver to calculate those fees to be charged to Plaintiffs.

Plaintiffs argue this reserve study was not only done without proper authority, but also that it was patently erroneous in that it includes a variety of expenses which are not chargeable to the Plaintiffs under the Seventh Amended CC&Rs. (Motion at 4:3-13.)

The Motion requests the Court instruct the Receiver to (1) determine that the amendment process was invalid and void actions improperly taken by the GSRUOA Board of Directors, (2) maintain the status quo by enforcing the Appointment Order and apply the Seventh Amended CC&Rs, and (3) disqualify the 2021 reserve study and prepare a new reserve study completed with the Receiver's direction and input. (Motion at 2:27-3:4, 4:12-13.)

As this Court has stated previously, "[a] receiver is appointed to maintain the status quo regarding the property in controversy and to safeguard said property from being dissipated while the plaintiff is pursuing his remedy." (Order Denying Motion to Terminate Rental Agreement, filed October 12, 2020 (citing Milo v. Curtis, 100 Ohio App.3d 1, 9, 651 N.E.2d 1340, 1345 (Ohio Ct. App. 1994).) This Court reiterated this premise in a subsequent order, stating that "[o]ne of the purposes of the [Appointment] Order was to preserve the status quo of the parties during the pendency of the action. Another purpose was to enforce [the] agreements." (Order, filed November 23, 2015 at 1:22-23.) Nevada law supports this obligation of the Receiver. See Johnson v. Steel, Inc., 100 Nev 181, 183, 678 P.2d 767, 678 (1984) (the appointment of a receiver is a "remedy used to preserve the value of assets pending outcome of the principal case" and is "a means of preserving the status quo"), overruled on other grounds by Shoen v. SAC Holding Corp., 122 Nev. 621, 137 P.3d 1171 (2006); accord Dunphy v. McNamara, 50 Nev. 113, 252 P. 943, 944 (1927) (a court of equity has "ample authority" to utilize a receiver to preserve the status quo).

In this case, the Receiver was specifically tasked with implementing compliance with the Governing Documents, including the Seventh Amended CC&Rs. (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) Reading this obligation to implement compliance with the Seventh Amended CC&Rs with the obligation to maintain the status quo, this Court finds that the Seventh Amended CC&Rs cannot be amended, repealed, nor replaced until the Receiver is relieved of his duties by the Court. The continuance of this specific Governing Document will ensure the status quo, as is the

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purpose of a receivership and the Appointment Order. <u>See Johnson</u>, 100 Nev. at 183, 678 P.2d at 678; <u>Dunphy</u>, 50 Nev. 113, 252 P. at 944.

Furthermore, upon the appointment of the Receiver, all authority to manage and control the GSRUOA was immediately transferred from the GSRUOA's Board of Directors, managers, officers, the Declarant, and other agents to the Receiver. Francis v. Camel Point Ranch, Inc., 2019 COA 108M, ¶¶ 6-10, 487 P.3d 1089, 1092-93, as modified on denial of reh'g (Colo. Ct. App. Sept. 19, 2019) (noting that "[u]pon the receiver's appointment, [Defendant's] corporate officers and directors lost all authority to control the corporation"); First Sav. & Loan Ass'n v. First Fed. Sav. Loan Ass'n, 531 F. Supp. 251, 255 (D. Haw. 1981) ("When a receiver is appointed for a corporation, the corporation's management loses the power to run its affairs and the receiver obtains all of the corporation's powers and assets."). "Simply put, corporate receivership is a court-mandated change in corporate management." Francis, 487 P.3d 1089 at 1092-93.

This automatic and immediate transfer of control over the GSRUOA to the Receiver therefore divested the GSRUOA's Board of Directors from any authority it had to propose, enact, and otherwise make effective the Ninth Amended CC&Rs. The Ninth Amended CC&Rs are thus *void ab initio*, as they were enacted without proper authority.

Accordingly, the Ninth Amended CC&Rs are *void ab initio*, and even if they were not, the Ninth Amended CC&Rs would be improper and thus subject to rescission or cancellation.<sup>1</sup>

Next, Plaintiffs have moved the Court to instruct the Receiver to reject the reserve study completed by Defendants without any input from Receiver, and order and oversee a separate reserve study. (Motion at 11:25-14:19.) The Court has explicitly found that the Receiver "will determine a reasonable amount of FF&E, shared facilities and hotel reserve fees." (Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgement, Filed October 9, 2015 at 22:25-26.) This implies that

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Defendants argue any challenge to the Ninth Amended CC&Rs must be brought pursuant to the ADR provision therein. The Court rejects this argument *in toto* considering the Appointment Order, the purpose of the Appointment Order, and binding Nevada law which all dictate the receivership is intended to maintain the status quo – not allow for a key Governing Document to be unilaterally amended by Defendants. Further, the claim for a Receivership was brought in the Second Amended Complaint and the Nevada Supreme Court has already found that the District Court has subject matter jurisdiction over the action.

the Receiver will also be tasked with ordering and overseeing the reserve study – as that study will dictate the FF&E, shared facilities, and hotel reserve fees. Thus, the Receiver alone has the authority to direct and audit the reserve study, not the Defendants.

Moreover, the Defendants have acknowledged this reality to the Court:

Mr. McElhinney: Are you instructing the receiver to use the 2016 reserve study in rendering his calculation? The Court: I think he can. Mr. McElhinney: Up to him? The Court: Yeah, it's up to him. If there's some reason that Mr. Teichner believes that the premise or the data that's collected therein is inappropriate, then obviously he can just go back to the 2014 study, but if he wants to use it and he believes that it's statistical or evidentiarily valid, then he can use that in making those determinations.

(Motion at Ex. 3 at 141:24-142:11.)

Plaintiffs further object to the Defendants' reserve study because it has included expenses which are clearly erroneous. (Motion at 4:6-13 (noting public pool expenses that were included while the Governing Documents and Court orders exclude any revenue-generating expenses).) The reserve study is to be limited as directed in previous Court orders and the Governing Documents. The reserve study provided by Defendants clearly shows at least one basic, elementary example of expenses which are included but should not be. (Id.) Accordingly, the Court finds the Defendants' reserve study to be flawed and untrustworthy, and finds the Receiver has the proper (and sole) authority to order, oversee, and implement a new reserve study.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Plaintiffs' Motion is granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Ninth Amended CC&Rs shall be withdrawn and the Seventh Amended CC&Rs shall be reinstated as though never superseded.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Receiver shall not utilize the Defendants' reserve study in calculating those fees which are to be assessed to Plaintiffs. Instead, the Receiver shall order, oversee, and implement a new reserve study which is in accordance with the Governing Documents.

IT IS SO ORDERED. DATED 13 0 SENIOR JUSTICE Nancy Saitta Submitted by: ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON /s/ Jarrad C. Miller Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs 

Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600 Reno Nevada 89501

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Transaction # 8849087 : yviloria

### IBIT 3

### EXHIBIT 3

FILED Electronically CV12-02222 2022-01-04 03:06:59 PM Alicia L. Lerud Clerk of the Court Transaction # 8825474

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SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al.,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

Case No. CV12-02222 Dept. No. OJ37

#### ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO STAY SPECIAL ASSESSMENT

Presently before the Court is Plaintiffs' Motion to Stay Special Assessment, filed August 20, 2021 ("Motion"). Defendants filed Defendants' Opposition to Motion to Stay Special Assessment on September 3, 2021 ("Opposition"). Plaintiffs filed their Reply in Support of

<sup>1</sup> Plaintiffs filed an initial version of this motion on July 30, 2021. (Motion to Stay Special Assessment and Renewed Request to Replace Receiver, filed July 30, 2021.) Plaintiffs withdrew this motion without prejudice on August 17, 2021. (Notice of Withdrawal of Motion to Stay Special Assessment and Renewed Request to Replace Receiver, filed August 17, 2021.)

Motion to Stay Special Assessment on September 17, 2021. The Motion was submitted for consideration on September 22, 2021.

Case-concluding sanctions were entered against the Defendants for abuse of discovery and disregard for the judicial process. (See Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Case-Terminating Sanctions, filed October 3, 2014 at 12.).) See also Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Bldg., Inc., 106 Nev. 88, 92, 787 P.2d 777, 779-80 (1990) (discussing discovery sanctions). The Court ultimately entered a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs for \$8,318,215.55 in damages. (See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, filed October 9, 2015.)

On January 7, 2015, the Court entered the Order Appointing Receiver and Directing Defendants' Compliance ("Appointment Order"). The Appointment Order appointed James Proctor as receiver over the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association ("GSRUOA"). (See Appointment Order at 1:23-26.) The receivership was implemented "for the purpose of implementing compliance, among all condominium units, including units owned by any Defendant in this action . . . with the Covenants, Codes and Restrictions recorded against the condominium units, the Unit Maintenance Agreements and the original Unit Rental Agreements (the "Governing Documents"). (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) On January 25, 2019, Richard Teichner ("Receiver") was substituted in Mr. Proctor's place in the Order Granting Motion to Substitute Receiver, filed January 25, 2019.)

The Appointment Order provides that the Receiver and his agents are to be "pa[id] and discharge[d] out of the Property's rents and/or GSRUOA monthly dues collections. . . ." (Appointment Order at 6:12-16.) It is thus clear that the Receiver's invoices are to be paid through either (or collectively) the Property's rents collected or the GSRUOA monthly dues and not from any other source of funds without approval of this Court.

On June 16, 2021, the Receiver provided notice to the Court that GSRUOA was insolvent and requested a hearing to address this issue. (Motion at 1:2-4.) After the parties discussed potential solutions to this issue, the Defendants, over Plaintiffs' objection, on July 12, 2021 voted to impose a special assessment against all unit owners which would raise about \$100,000 to pay the Receiver's invoices and other expenses ("Special Assessment"). (Opposition at 2:3-11.)

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The Motion requests that the Court: (1) enforce the Appointment Order; (2) stay the Special Assessment; (3) direct the Receiver to pay the expenses of the receivership through the new receivership account; and (4) order the Defendants to stop interfering with the receivership and the orders governing same. (Motion at 2:6-9.) The Opposition argues the Special Assessment was appropriate under the Seventh Amendment to Condominium Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for hotel Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort ("CC&Rs") and necessary in order to both fund the Receiver's invoices as well as the GSRUOA's operations through the remainder of 2021. (Opposition at 2:24-3:6.)

To begin, the appointment of a receiver terminates the authority of an entity's officers and directors, and places all such authority in the receiver alone. Francis v. Camel Point Ranch, Inc., 2019 COA 108M, ¶6-10, 487 P.3d 1089, 1092-9 (Colo. App. Sept. 19, 2019) (noting that "[u]pon the receiver's appointment, [Defendant's] corporate officers and directors lost all authority to control the corporation"); McDougal v. Huntingdon & Broad Top Mountain RR. & Coal Co., 294 Pa. 108, 143 A.574, 577 (1928) (the receiver exercises the functions of the board of directors, managers and officers, takes possession of corporate income, property, and assets, directs not only in its operation, but, while in control, its policies on all lines"); see First Sav & Loan Ass'n v. First Fed. Sav. Loan Ass'n, 531 F. Supp. 251, 255 (D. Haw. 1981) ("When a receiver is appointed for a corporation, the corporation's management loses the power to run its affairs and the receiver obtains all of the corporation's powers and assets"); see also U.S. v. Powell, 95 F.2d 752, 754 (4th Cir. 1938). Thus, when the Appointment Order was issued, all authority vested in GSRUOA's Board of Directors, managers, the Declarant, and other decision makers was transferred to the Receiver and the Board of Directors, managers, the Declarant, and other decision makers were divested of such authority.

It follows then that any decision of GSRUOA's Board of Directors since the Appointment Order, including the July 12, 2021 decision to impose the Special Assessment, is void as GSRUOA's Board of Directors had no authority to make such a decision or impose such an assessment. (Id.)

Defendants argue that because the Receiver apparently did not object to the GSRUOA's Board of Directors' decision to impose the Special Assessment, the Special Assessment is proper. (Opposition at 4:17-18 ("The Board voted unanimously to approve and implement the Special Assessment and the Receiver agreed with the action.").) This argument falls flat, however, in light of the Receiver's limited authority. Anes v. Crown P'ship, Inc., 113 Nev. 195, 201-02, 932 P.2d 1067, 1071 (1997) ("a receiver must not exceed the limits of the authority granted by the court"). The Appointment Order specifically dictates the source of funds to pay the Receiver's invoices: "the Property's rents and/or GSRUOA monthly dues." (Appointment Order at 6:12-16.) The Appointment Order does not provide that the Receiver can be funded from any special assessments imposed upon the unit owners. Accordingly, any such special assessment imposed to fund the Receiver's invoices is improper and exceeds authority vested in the Receiver alone. Anes, 113 Nev. at 201-02, 932 P.2d at 1071; Fullerton v. Second Jud. Dist. Ct. in & for Cty. of Washoe, 111 Nev 391, 400, 892 P.2d 935, 941 (1995) ("a receiver must not exceed the limits of the authority granted"); accord Clay Expl., Inc. v. Santa Rosa Operating, LLC, 442 S.W.3d 795, 800 (Tex. App. 2014) (a receiver only has that authority conferred by the Court's order appointing him); Price v. Howsen, 197 Iowa 324, 197 N.W. 62, 63 (1924) ("It is a familiar rule that 'the extent of a receiver's authority is always to be measured by the order of appointment . . . . "); Citibank, N.A. v. Nyland (CF 8), Ltd., 839 F.2d 93, 98 (2d Cir. 1988) ("[The receiver's] authority is wholly determined by the order of the appointment court"); In re Lamplight Condo. Ass'n, Inc., No. 17-20078 (JJT), 2017 WL 184510, at \*2 (Bankr. D. Conn. May 5, 2017) ("The source of the Receiver's authority and the process by which it was bound and governed is the Appointment Order, which, as a stipulation, is [] a . . . limitation of the Receiver's power, authority and process.").

Moreover, the Receiver has now indicated that he intends to open a separate account to collect rental revenues from the Property and distribute the same to the appropriate unit owners. (Motion at Ex. 2 (email in which Receiver's counsel states "The Receiver is going to open a separate account for the Receivership as soon as possible. . . . As of September 1st, all of the revenue from the Summit Rooms (the units in the Hotel Condominium) will be deposited into

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## BIT 4

### EXHIBIT 4

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IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al.,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. CV12-02222 Dept. No. OJ37

#### ORDER APPROVING RECEIVER'S REQUEST TO APPROVE UPDATED FEES

Before the Court is the Receiver's Receiver Analysis and Calculation of Daily Use Fee, Shared Facilities Unit Expense Fee and Hotel Expense Fee with Request to Approve updated Fees and for Court to Set Effective Date for New Fees, filed August 16, 2021 ("Receiver Analysis"). Defendants filed Defendants' Objection to Receiver's Analysis and Calculation of Daily Use Fee, Shared Facilities Unit Expense Fees and for Court to Set Effective Date for New Fees on September 17, 2021. Plaintiffs filed Plaintiffs' Response to Receiver Analysis and Calculation of Daily Use Fee, Shared Facilities Unit Expense Fee and Hotel Expense Fee with Request to Approve Updated Fees and for Court to Set Effective Date for New Fees on

September 17, 2021. The Receiver Analysis was submitted for consideration on 1 2 September 22, 2021. 3 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that (1) The Receiver's new fee calculations as submitted 4 to the Court should immediately be applied retroactive to January 2020 and going forward until a 5 subsequent order from the Court is issued; (2) the amounts owed to Plaintiffs under those fee 6 calculations should be paid to Plaintiffs within thirty (30) days in accordance with the Governing Documents; (3) the Receiver should be permitted to calculate the 2020 fee calculation using the 7 same methodology – and once those calculations are completed, the Receiver can reconcile the 8 unit owner accounts to reflect the difference between the 2020 and 2021 fee calculations; and (4) 9 after Defendants produce to Plaintiffs all actual documents that support the Receiver's 2020 and 10 11 2021 calculations, and depositions are taken (limited in scope) to verify that the calculations are based on actual expenses as provided for under the Governing Documents, the briefing on the 12 issue of the accuracy of the fees should recommence. Any adjustments to the fees as a result of 13 motion practice by the parties shall be credited or debited accordingly, but in the interim, rental 14 revenue shall be calculated based upon the Receiver's 2021 calculations. 15 16 IT IS SO ORDERED. 17 DATED 2-21-21 18 19 20 Nancy Saitta 21 Submitted by: ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, 22 MILLER & WILLIAMSON 23 /s/ Jarrad C. Miller 24 Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. 25 Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs 26 27

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## Transaction # 8849087 : yviloria

### EXHIBIT 5

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#### SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al.,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. CV12-02222 Dept. No. OJ37

#### ORDER DIRECTING RECEIVER TO PREPARE REPORT ON DEFENDANTS' REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF 2020 CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

Presently before the Court is Defendants' Motion for Instructions Regarding Reimbursement of 2020 Capital Expenditures, filed June 24, 2021 ("Motion"). Plaintiffs filed their Opposition to Defendants' Motion for Instructions Regarding Reimbursement of 2020 Capital Expenditures on October 11, 2021. Defendants then filed Defendants' Reply in Support of Motion for Instructions Regarding Reimbursement of 2020 Capital Expenditures on November 2, 2021. The Motion was submitted for consideration on November 3, 2021.

ORDER DIRECTING RECEIVER TO PREPARE REPORT ON DEFENDANT'S REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF 2020 CAPITAL EXPENDITURES
PAGE 1

Case-concluding sanctions were entered against the Defendants for abuse of discovery and disregard for the judicial process. (See Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Case-Terminating Sanctions, filed October 3, 2014 at 12.) See also Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Bldg., Inc., 106 Nev. 88, 92, 787 P.2d 777, 779-80 (1990) (discussing discovery sanctions). The Court ultimately entered a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs for \$8,318,215.55 in damages. (See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, filed October 9, 2015.)

On January 7, 2015, the Court entered the Order Appointing Receiver and Directing Defendants' Compliance ("Appointment Order"). The Appointment Order appointed James Proctor as receiver over the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association ("GSRUOA"). The receivership was implemented "for the purpose of implementing compliance, among all condominium units, including units owned by any Defendant in this action . . . with the Covenants, Codes and Restrictions recorded against the condominium units, the Unit Maintenance Agreements and the original Unit Rental Agreements (the "Governing Documents"). (Appointment Order at 1:27-28, 2:1-3.) On January 25, 2019, Richard Teichner was substituted in Mr. Proctor's place in the Order Granting Motion to Substitute Receiver.

In the Motion, Defendants ask the Court to instruct Mr. Teichner ("Receiver") to reimburse Defendants a total of \$1,614,505, comprised of \$1,409,637 from the Capital Reserves for Common Area expenses and \$208,868 from the Hotel Reserves for Hotel Related expenses. (Motion at 6:23-26.) The Motion further requests the Court instruct Receiver to impose any special assessments necessary to bring the respective reserve accounts back to the required levels. (Id. at 6:26-7:3.) Plaintiffs' Opposition argues the expenditures for which Defendants seek reimbursement are not included in the Governing Documents which explicitly describe each expense the Plaintiffs agreed to pay. (Opposition at 3:1-18.) Plaintiffs argue further that the reserves study Defendants rely upon is fatally flawed as it also includes a variety of inappropriate expenses and plainly obvious and elementary mistakes. (Id. at 2:14-26.)

The Court finds the Receiver is charged with implementing compliance with the Governing Documents and was appointed for a reason. (See generally Appointment Order.)

Therefore, the Court orders the Receiver to provide a report to the Court within ninety (90) days ORDER DIRECTING RECEIVER TO PREPARE REPORT ON DEFENDANT'S REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF 2020 CAPITAL

**EXPENDITURES** 

PAGE 2

1	from the date of this Order recommending which items contained within Defendants' request for
2	reimbursement of capital expenditures can be reimbursed under the Governing Documents and
3	this Court's existing orders.
4	IT IS SO ORDERED.
5	DATED 12-21.
6	X-1
7	and alle
8	SENIOR JUSTICE Nancy Saitta
9	Submitted by:
10	ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON
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12	Jarrad C. Miller Jarrad C. Miller, Esq.
13	Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs
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### EXHIBIT 6

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SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al.,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE VILLAGE CÔMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. CV12-02222 Dept. No. OJ37

#### ORDER DENYING AS MOOT DEFENDANTS' EMERGENCY MOTION TO EXTEND STAY PENDING FINAL DISPOSITION OF THE MOTION TO RECONSIDER

Presently before the Court is Defendants' Emergency Motion to Extend Stay Pending Final Disposition of the Motion to Reconsider, filed June 10, 2021 ("Motion"). Plaintiffs filed their Opposition to Defendants' Emergency Motion to Extend Stay Pending Final Disposition of the Motion to Reconsider (Oral Argument Requested) on June 23, 2021. Defendants filed Defendants' Reply in Support of Emergency Motion to Extend Stay Pending Final Disposition of the Motion to Reconsider on June 30, 2021. The Motion was submitted for consideration on July 1, 2021.

In the Motion, Defendants request the Court extend the stay of enforcement of the 1 2 disgorgement order within the Court's Order Granting Motion for Clarification, filed December 24, 2020 (the "December 24, 2020 Order") beyond June 10, 2021, such that the Court could 3 issue a ruling on Defendants' Motion for Leave to File Motion for Reconsideration of December 4 24, 2020, Order Granting Motion for Clarification and Request for Hearing ("Defendants' 5 Motion for Reconsideration"). (Motion at 2:13-22.) The December 24, 2020 Order ordered that: 6 7 (1) "[a]mounts charged since January of 2020 under the improper fee allocations shall be disgorged to the Plaintiffs, and the new fee allocations shall not go into effect until calculated 8 (they will not be retroactively applied);" and (2) "the Defendants shall pay to the Plaintiffs the 9 reasonable attorneys' fees and costs they incurred in filing the Motion [for Clarification] and 10 11 Reply [in support thereof]." (December 24, 2020 Order at 4:12-16.) Prior to enforcing the December 24, 2020 Order, the Court granted in part Defendants' 12 Motion for Reconsideration on September 29, 2021. (See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law 13 and Order, filed September 29, 2021 ("FFCLO").) In the FFCLO, the Court struck the portion of 14 the December 24, 2020 Order requiring the Defendants to disgorge the improper fee allocation 15 charges. (Id. at 6:2-11.) 16

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendants' Motion is denied as moot.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED 13 - 21 - 2

SENIOR JUSTICE

Nancy Saitta

Submitted by:

ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON

/s/ Jarrad C. Miller

Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs

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### BIT 7

### EXHIBIT 7

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SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al.,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. CV12-02222 Dept. No. OJ37

#### ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFFS' SUPPLEMENTAL MOTION FOR FEES PURSUANT TO THE COURT'S DECEMBER 24, 2020 ORDER GRANTING MOTION FOR CLARIFICATION AND SANCTIONING THE DEFENDANTS

Presently before the Court is Plaintiffs' Supplemental Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Clarification and Sanctioning the Defendants, filed April 7, 2021 ("Motion"). Defendants filed Defendants' Opposition to Supplemental Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Clarification and Sanctioning the Defendants on April 20, 2021 ("Opposition"). Plaintiffs filed their Reply in Support of Supplemental Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's

Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600 Reno Nevada 89501

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27 28 December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Clarification and Sanctioning the Defendants on April 30, 2021. The Motion was submitted for consideration by the Court on May 4, 2021.

The Motion sets forth Plaintiffs' supplemental request for fees incurred in (a) submitting their motion for fees ("Fees Motion") pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Clarification ("December 24, 2020 Order"), (b) filing a reply to Defendants' opposition to the Fees Motion, and (c) opposing Defendants' Motion for Leave to File Motion for Reconsideration of the Court's December 24, 2020 Order ("Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration"), which largely attempted to rehash and relitigate previously rejected arguments. (Motion at 2:7-12.) Plaintiffs' total requested fees for these tasks is \$17,885. Defendants argue the requested fees are unreasonably excessive and that Nevada law does not permit recovery thereof. (Opposition at 2:14-18, 3:3-10.) Defendants further argue that the Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration may very well render Plaintiffs' Fees Motion and Motion moot. (Id. at 3:3-10; see also Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration, filed January 7, 2020.)

Case-concluding sanctions were entered against the Defendants for abuse of discovery and disregard for the judicial process. (See Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Case-Terminating Sanctions, filed October 3, 2014 at 12.).) See Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Bldg., Inc., 106 Nev. 88, 92, 787 P.2d 777, 779-80 (1990) (discussing discovery sanctions). The Court ultimately entered a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs for \$8,318,215.55 in damages. (See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, filed October 9, 2015.)

On January 7, 2015, the Court entered the Order Appointing Receiver and Directing Defendants' Compliance ("Appointment Order"). The Appointment Order appointed James Proctor as receiver over the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association ("GSRUOA") and the rental revenue and certain other property interests relating to the other Defendants. (See Appointment Order at 1:23-26.) The receivership was implemented "for the purpose of implementing compliance, among all condominium units, including units owned by any Defendant in this action . . . with the Covenants, Codes and Restrictions recorded against the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration stands fully briefed and submitted at the time of this Order.

condominium units, the Unit Maintenance Agreements and the original Unit Rental Agreements (the "Governing Documents"). (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) On January 25, 2019, Richard Teichner ("Receiver") was substituted in Mr. Proctor's place in the Order Granting Motion to Substitute Receiver, filed January 25, 2019.)

The Court's December 24, 2020 Order includes two distinct portions: first, that the Receiver was to recalculate certain fees in a specific way and that the improper fee allocations were to be disgorged to Plaintiffs, and second, that the Defendants were to pay Plaintiffs' attorneys' fees and costs incurred in briefing the motion which ultimately resulted in the December 24, 2020 Order. This sanction was imposed as a result of "Defendants' attempt to advance their interpretation of the Court's orders to the [R]eceiver [which] interfered with the October Order taking effect and resulted in unnecessarily duplicative litigation." (December 24, 2020 order at 3:17-19.) Plaintiffs filed their motion for fees ("Fees Motion") pursuant to the December 24, 2020 Order, to which Defendants filed an opposition. (See Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Clarification, filed January 4, 2021; Defendants' objection to Plaintiffs' Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Clarification, filed January 14, 2021.)

The instant Motion requests a supplemental award of fees incurred in actions taking place after the December 24, 2020 Order was issued. The Motion states Plaintiffs incurred a total of \$17,885 in attorneys' fees as a result of (1) preparing the Fees motion, (2) preparing a reply to Defendants' opposition to the Fees Motion, and (3) preparing an opposition to Defendants' largely duplicative motion for reconsideration. (Motion at 6:9-12, 7:1-3.) Fees incurred as a result of preparing a motion for fees are recoverable. See Rosenfeld v. United States DOJ, 903 F. Supp. 2d 859, 878 (N. D. Cal. 2012) ("Plaintiffs may recover attorney's fees for time reasonably expended on a motion for attorney's fees and costs."). Furthermore, because the fee award was a sanction for Defendants' attempt to convince the Receiver of their clearly inaccurate interpretation of the Court's orders, and the motion for reconsideration largely furthered those inaccurate arguments, the continued arguments, and Plaintiffs' fees incurred to address them, are

included by the December 24, 2020 Order's sanction. Accordingly, the Court finds such fees are recoverable as a general matter.

Nevada uses the lodestar formula to determine the appropriate amount of attorney fees. Hsu v. Clark County, 123 Nev. 625, 636, 173 P.3d 724, 732 (2007). The lodestar formula calls for the number of hours reasonably spent on the motion to be multiplied by a reasonable hourly rate. Id. at 637, 173 P.3d at 733.

Plaintiffs have provided that their counsel spent a total of 24.6 hours on the Fees Motion briefing, including preparation of the Fees Motion, researching authority cited in Defendants' opposition thereto, and preparing a reply in support of the Fees Motion. (Motion at 5:26-6:4.) Defendants argue Plaintiffs' hours expended are excessive. (Opposition at 9:6-9.) The Court finds the number of hours expended by Plaintiffs' counsel on the Fees Motion briefing to be reasonable in light of the procedural history of this case and the issues raised by the Fees Motion and Defendants' opposition thereto.

Plaintiffs have provided that their counsel spent a total of 31.6 hours on their opposition to Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration. (Motion at 7:1-3.) Defendants, again, argue this number of hours is excessive and not warranted. (Opposition at 9:9-21.) Although the Defendants attempt to minimize the complexity of the issues set forth in the Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration and the necessity to set forth the complex procedural background within Defendants' opposition thereto, the Court does not agree that the Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration, nor the Plaintiffs' opposition thereto, was as simplistic as Defendants state. Instead, the Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration set forth a variety of fallacious legal arguments and misconstrued the factual and procedural background of this case, therefore requiring Plaintiffs to expend numerous pages refuting the same. Thus, the Court finds the number of hours expended by Plaintiffs' counsel on this task reasonable.

Defendants also argue that Plaintiffs' time entries are inadequate. (Opposition at 10:17-11:25.) Defendants argue the entries are "so vaguely generic that the [C]ourt cannot determine with certainty whether the activities they purport to describe were necessary and reasonable." (Id. at 11:21-23.) After reviewing the time entries in full, the Court finds the entries are adequate

and provide the Court sufficient information to determine that the tasks undertaken by Plaintiffs' counsel were both necessary and reasonable.

Accordingly, the Court finds the number of hours expended by Plaintiffs' counsel on those tasks for which Plaintiffs seek to recover attorneys' fees were reasonable.

Next, Plaintiffs have set forth their counsels' hourly rate. These rates range from \$425 to \$335 for attorneys and are \$135 for paralegals.<sup>2</sup> (Motion at 6:9-12, 7:1-3.) Defendants do not appear to dispute the reasonableness of such hourly rates. The Court therefore finds such hourly rates are reasonable.

Under the lodestar formula, the Court finds the hours reportedly spent by Plaintiffs' counsel and their hourly rates are reasonable, and thus the lodestar award is \$17,885.

The Court must next consider the <u>Brunzell</u> factors to determine the appropriateness of the lodestar amount. Accordingly, to determine whether any adjustments to the lodestar amount are necessary, the Court must 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.

Brunzell v. Golden Gate Nat'l Bank, 85 Nev. 345, 455 P.2d 31, 33 (1969). The Court finds all of these factors weigh against any adjustment to the lodestar amount and in favor of awarding

First, the Court is acutely aware of the high quality of Plaintiffs' counsel, and thus concludes this factor is in favor of awarding Plaintiffs the entire lodestar amount.

Second, the Court finds the character of the work to be done to be especially important. The Court's December 24, 2020 Order imposed sanctions upon Defendants for attempting to mislead the Receiver into accepting a clearly faulty interpretation of the Court's previous orders.

Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600 Reno Nevada 89501

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Plaintiffs note the hourly fees underwent a routine annual increase, which is why they are different from previous fees applications. (Motion at 6, fn.2.)

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(See Order Granting Clarification, filed December 24, 2020 at 3:17-19 ("The Defendants' attempt to advance their interpretation of the Court's orders to the [R]eceiver interfered with the October Order taking effect and resulted in unnecessarily duplicative litigation. Therefore, the Court exercises its inherent authority to require the Defendants to pay for the fees the Plaintiffs were unnecessarily forced to incur in filing the Motion and the Reply.").) Thus, the time spent in drafting the Fees Motion – which was ordered by the Court – is certainly important. The sanction within the December 24, 2020 Order was intended to penalize Defendants' wrongdoings. If the Court were to limit the Plaintiffs' recovery of their attorneys' fees incurred as a result of Defendants' wrongdoings, the sanction would have no teeth. Accordingly, the second factor also weighs in favor of awarding the entire lodestar amount.

Third, the work actually performed by Plaintiffs' counsel is evidenced by the billing records submitted with the Motion. (Motion at Ex. 1.) Each time entry reflects work which was necessary and that the individual whose time is reflected dedicated ample skill, time, and attention to the task at hand. Brunzell, 85 Nev. at 349, 455 P.2d at 33. This factor thus also weighs in favor of awarding the full lodestar amount.

Fourth and finally, the Court must consider the result. The Court finds this factor weighs in favor of awarding the entire lodestar amount as well. The Court clearly agreed with Plaintiffs' positions taken in the briefing which resulted in the December 24, 2020 Order imposing sanctions. (See generally Order Granting Reconsideration, filed December 24, 2020.) Thus, Plaintiffs have obtained a successful result. This factor weighs in favor of granting the full lodestar amount to Plaintiffs.

The Brunzell factors clearly indicate that the lodestar amount is appropriate and requires no adjustments. The Court therefore finds an award of the entire lodestar amount is proper.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Plaintiffs' Motion is granted in full.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants shall pay to the Plaintiffs the sum of \$17,885 within thirty (30) days of this Order.

Reno Nevada 89501

1	IT IS SO ORDERED.
2	DATED 12-21-21.
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5	SENIOR JUSTICE Nancy Saitta
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7	Submitted by:
8	ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON
9	WILLIAMSON
10	/s/ Jarrad C. Miller
11	Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq.
12	Attorneys for Plaintiffs
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Alicia L. Lerud
Clerk of the Court
Transaction # 8849087 : yviloria

# EXHIBIT 8

# EXHIBIT 8

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		CV12-02222 2022-01-04 12:53:53 P Alicia L. Lerud			
1	2540 C. David Robertson, Edg. (NV Per No. 1001)	Clerk of the Court Transaction # 882487			
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11	Attorneys for Plaintiffs				
12	SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA				
13	IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE				
14					
15	ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al.,				
16	Plaintiffs,				
17	VS.	Case No. CV12-02222			
18	MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited	Dept. No. OJ37			
19	liability company, GRAND SIERRA RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION,				
20	a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE VILLAGE COMMERCIAL				
21	DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS,				
22	LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10,				
23	inclusive,				
24	Defendants.				
25	NOTICE OF ENT	CRY OF ORDERS			
26	PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on January 4, 2022, the above Court issued the				
27	following Orders:				

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Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600 Reno, Nevada 89501

#### **INDEX OF EXHIBITS**

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Clerk of the Court
Transaction # 8824878

# EXHIBIT "1"

# EXHIBIT "1"

# EXHIBIT "1"

CODE: 3060 1 2 3 5 6 7 SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA 8 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE 9 10 ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al., 11 Plaintiffs, 12 Case No. CV12-02222 VS. Dept. No. OJ37 13 MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA 14 RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE 15 VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited 16 liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and 17 DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive, 18 Defendants. 19 ORDER GRANTING RECEIVER'S MOTION FOR ORDERS & INSTRUCTIONS 20 Presently before the Court is the Receiver's Motion for Orders & Instructions, filed 21 October 18, 2021 ("Motion"). Plaintiffs filed Plaintiffs' Joinder to Receiver's Motion for Orders 22 & Instructions on October 22, 2021 ("Plaintiff's Joinder"). Defendants filed Defendants' 23 Opposition to Receiver's Motion for Orders & Instructions on October 22, 2021 ("Defendants' 24 Opposition"). The Receiver then filed Receiver's Reply in Support of Motion for Orders & 25 Instructions on October 25, 2021 ("Receiver's Reply"). The Motion was submitted for 26

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consideration on October 25, 2021.

Case-concluding sanctions were entered against the Defendants for abuse of discovery and disregard for the judicial process. (See Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Case-Terminating Sanctions, filed October 3, 2014 at 12.) See Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Bldg., Inc., 106 Nev. 88, 92, 787 P.2d 777, 779-80 (1990) (discussing discovery sanctions). The Court ultimately entered a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs for \$8,318,215.55 in damages. See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, filed October 9, 2015.

On January 7, 2015, the Court entered the Order Appointing Receiver and Directing Defendants' Compliance ("Appointment Order"). The Appointment Order appointed James Proctor as receiver over the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association ("GSRUOA"). (See Appointment Order at 1:23-26.) The receivership was implemented "for the purpose of implementing compliance, among all condominium units, including units owned by any Defendant in this action . . . with the Covenants, Codes and Restrictions recorded against the condominium units, the Unit Maintenance Agreements and the original Unit Rental Agreements (the "Governing Documents"). (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) On January 25, 2019, Richard Teichner ("Receiver") was substituted in Mr. Proctor's place in the Order Granting Motion to Substitute Receiver, filed January 25, 2019.)

In 2021, the Defendants undertook to have a reserve study done by a third party, which was then to be utilized by the Receiver to calculate those fees to be charged to Plaintiffs (including the Daily Use Fees ("DUF"), Shared Facility Use Expenses ("SFUE"), and Hotel Expenses ("HE")). The Receiver states that various orders of this Court, including the Appointment Order, provide authority solely to Receiver to order and oversee any reserve studies done. (Reply at 2:27-3:5.) Defendants argue that no such orders nor the Governing Documents provide the Receiver with such authority. (Defendants' Opposition at 3:19-24.) Instead, Defendants argue that any attempt by the Receiver to order or oversee the reserve study would be an "impermissibl[e] expan[sion] of his authority." (Id. at 3:20.)

The Court issued its Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order granting in part Defendants' Motion for Leave to File Motion for Reconsideration of December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Clarification and Request for Hearing, on September 29, 2021. Therein, the

Court struck the disgorgement order granted in the December 24, 2020 Order Granting Clarification ("December 24, 2020 Order"). Whereas the Court originally instructed that "[u]ntil the DUF, the [HE], and [SFUE] are recalculated by the Receiver, the fees calculated by the past receiver shall be applied," the revised order struck this reversion to the prior receiver's calculations. Thus, the Receiver states he is now without direction as to which calculations are to be applied until he is able to redo his own calculations. (See December 24, 2020 Order at 3:23-4:10 (where the Court informs the Receiver his calculations for 2020 are incorrect and invalid under the Governing Documents and they must be redone).) Defendants argue the Receiver's prior calculations, which were in place until the December 24, 2020 Order was issued, should be utilized. Notably, this directly contradicts the Court's December 24, 2020 Order, is inequitable, and thus is denied outright. (Id.)

The Appointment Order provides the Receiver authority to take control of "all accounts receivable, payments, rents, including all statements and records of deposits, advances, and prepaid contracts or rents . . . ." (Appointment Order at 3:15-18.) Defendants are also ordered to cooperate with the Receiver and not "[i]nterfer[e] with the Receiver, directly or indirectly." (Id. at 8:2-15.) The Receiver has informed the parties of his intent to open a separate account into which all rents and other proceeds from the units will be deposited, and now requests the Court's permission to open such an account. (Motion at 11:19; Motion to Stay Special Assessment, filed August 20, 2021 at Ex. 2.) Defendants have refused to cooperate with the Receiver's request to turnover various proceeds, in violation of the Appointment Order, and now object to Receiver's authority to open a separate account. (Appointment Order at 8:2-15; Defendant's Opposition at 6:14-7:21.)

Pursuant to the Governing Documents, Defendants have implemented a room rotation program whereunder bookings for the units owned by Plaintiffs and Defendants should be equally distributed such that Plaintiffs and Defendants, as individual unit owners, are earning roughly equal revenue. The Receiver contends this room rotation program is flawed and has resulted in a greater number of Defendants' units being rented than Plaintiffs' units during various periods through August 2021. (Motion at 14:14-17.)

Among the Governing Documents with which the Receiver is ordered to implement compliance is the Seventh Amendment to Condominium Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for Hotel-Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort, recorded June 27, 2007 ("Seventh Amended CC&Rs"). Defendants, however, after representing to the Court that the Seventh Amended CC&Rs needed to be amended in order to comply with NRS 116B, unilaterally revised and recorded the Ninth Amendment to Condominium Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for Hotel-Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort ("Ninth Amended CC&Rs") to overhaul the fee structure and radically expand the fees chargeable to the Plaintiffs. The Ninth Amended CC&Rs, according to Plaintiffs, substantially increase the expenses to be included in fees charged to Plaintiffs – thus making ownership of the units unviable.

Finally, Defendants have communicated with Receiver *ex parte* through a variety of individuals. The Receiver now requests that all communications be funneled through a single individual: Reed Brady. (Motion at 17:4-8.)

The Motion requests the Court order (1) that the Notice of Special Assessments and the Reserve Studies sent to the unit owners by Defendants on August 24, 2021 be immediately withdrawn; (2) that the Defendants be ordered to send out a notice to all unit owners of said withdrawal; and (3) that this Court confirm the Receiver's authority over the Reserve Studies. (Motion at 3:11-14.) The Motion further requests the Court order that the Receiver is to recalculate the charges for the DUF, SFUE, and HE for 2020 based upon the same methodology as has been used in calculating the fee charges for 2021, once the Court approves that methodology. (Id. at 8:10-13.) The Motion further requests the Court approve the opening of an account for the Receivership, with the Receiver having sole signatory authority over the account, and order that all rents received by Defendants currently and in the future, generated from either all 670 condominium units or the Plaintiff-owned units, net of the total charges for the DUF, SFUE, and HE fees and for reserves combined, are to be deposited into the account, that the receiver be authorized to make the necessary disbursements to the relevant unit owners at three (3) month intervals, that any disgorgement amounts owed by Defendants be deposited into the

Receivership account to be distributed by the Receiver, and that, if the Court orders the current credit balances in the Plaintiffs' accounts are to be deposited in to the Receiver's bank account then, to the extent that such credit balances are to be disgorged, Defendants will pay such credit balances to the Receiver for deposit, and the Receiver will distribute such funds appropriately. (Id. at 11:21-12:13.) The Motion further requests the Court order Defendants to provide the Receiver with the information and documentation he has requested relating to the room rotation program within ten (10) days of this Order. (Id. at 14:20-24.) The Motion further requests the court expedite the determination of the Plaintiffs' Motion for Instructions, filed October 18, 2021 and submitted for consideration on October 25, 2021. (Id. at 17:1-3.) Finally, the Motion requests the Court instruct Defendants to funnel all communications to the Receiver through a single individual: Reed Brady. (Id. at 7:5-8.)

As this Court has stated previously, "[a] receiver is appointed to maintain the status quo regarding the property in controversy and to safeguard said property from being dissipated while the plaintiff is pursuing his remedy." (Order Denying Motion to Terminate Rental Agreement, filed October 12, 2020 (citing Milo v. Curtis, 100 Ohio App.3d 1, 9, 651 N.E.2d 1340, 1345 (Ohio Ct. App. 1994).) This Court reiterated this premise in anotherorder, stating that "[o]ne of the purposes of the [Appointment] Order was to preserve the status quo of the parties during the pendency of the action. Another purpose was to enforce [the] agreements." (Order, filed November 23, 2015 at 1:22-23.) Nevada law supports this obligation of the Receiver. See Johnson v. Steel, Inc., 100 Nev 181, 183, 678 P.2d 767, 678 (1984) (the appointment of a receiver is a "remedy used to preserve the value of assets pending outcome of the principal case" and is "a means of preserving the status quo"), overruled on other grounds by Shoen v. SAC Holding Corp., 122 Nev. 621, 137 P.3d 1171 (2006); accord Dunphy v. McNamara, 50 Nev. 113, 252 P. 943, 944 (1927) (a court of equity has "ample authority" to utilize a receiver to preserve the status quo).

Furthermore, upon the appointment of the Receiver, all authority to manage and control the GSRUOA was immediately transferred from the GSRUOA's Board of Directors, managers, officers, the Declarant, and other agents to the Receiver. Francis v. Camel Point Ranch, Inc.,

2019 COA 108M, ¶¶ 6-10, 487 P.3d 1089, 1092-93, as modified on denial of reh'g (Colo. Ct. App. Sept. 19, 2019) (noting that "[u]pon the receiver's appointment, [Defendant's] corporate officers and directors lost all authority to control the corporation"); First Sav. & Loan Ass'n v. First Fed. Sav. Loan Ass'n, 531 F. Supp. 251, 255 (D. Haw. 1981) ("When a receiver is appointed for a corporation, the corporation's management loses the power to run its affairs and the receiver obtains all of the corporation's powers and assets."). "Simply put, corporate receivership is a court-mandated change in corporate management." Francis, 487 P.3d 1089 at 1092-93.

Thus, upon appointment of the Receiver, the GSRUOA's Board of Directors was divested of the authority it has errantly exercised to issue that Notice of Special Assessment and the Reserve Studies which was sent to all unit owners on August 24, 2021. Accordingly, such Notice of Special Assessment and any actual imposition of special assessment is *void ab initio* and therefore invalid. Only the Receiver can impose special assessments.

Next, the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgement issued on October 9, 2015 ("FFCLJ"), explicitly ordered the Receiver to calculate "a reasonable amount of FF&E, shared facilities and hotel reserve fees" and other necessary fees to be assessed against Plaintiffs. (FFCLJ at 22:25-27.) Accordingly, the Receiver is to calculate the DUF, SFUE, and HE for 2020. Such calculations should be based upon the same methodology as used for the 2021 fees, once the Court has approved of such methodology.

The Appointment Order expressly allows for the Receiver to open an account for the Receivership. (Appointment Order at 6:26 (the Receiver is allowed to "open and utilize bank accounts for receivership funds").) Indeed, the Appointment Order also expressly calls for the Receiver to collect proceeds from the Property (defined as the 670 condominium units), including, but not limited to, rent earned therefrom. (Id. at 5:17-19.) It logically follows then that the Receiver may open a separate account for the Receivership in which it may hold all rents from the Property, as defined in the Receivership Order.

The Appointment Order also expressly calls for Defendants to cooperate with the Receiver and refrain from taking any actions which will interfere with the Receiver's ability to

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perform his duties. (Id. at 8:2-15.) Accordingly, Defendants should supply the Receiver with all information, explanation, and documentation the Receiver may request regarding the room rotation program and apparent inadequacy thereof.

The Receiver was specifically tasked with implementing compliance with the Governing Documents, including the Seventh Amended CC&Rs. (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) Reading this obligation to implement compliance with the Seventh Amended CC&Rs with the obligation to maintain the status quo, this Court finds that the Seventh Amended CC&Rs cannot be amended, repealed, nor replaced until the Receiver is relieved of his duties by the Court. The continuance of this specific Governing Document will ensure the status quo, as is the purpose of a receivership. Johnson, 100 Nev. at 183, 678 P.2d at 678; Dunphy, 50 Nev. 113, 252 P. at 944. The automatic and immediate transfer of control over the GSRUOA to the Receiver therefore divested the GSRUOA's Board of Directors from any authority it had to propose, enact, and otherwise make effective the Ninth Amended CC&Rs. The Ninth Amended CC&Rs are thus void ab initio, as they were enacted without proper authority. Accordingly, the Ninth Amended CC&Rs are void ab initio, and even if they were not, the Ninth Amended CC&Rs would be improper and thus subject to rescission or cancellation.

Finally, the Court finds it appropriate for Defendants to funnel all communication with the Receiver through a single individual. For the time being, such individual shall be Reed Brady. Mr. Brady may delegate tasks to others, however, only Mr. Brady should communicate answers, conclusions, or other findings to the Receiver.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Receiver's Motion is granted in full.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED (i) that the Notice of Special Assessments and the Reserve Studies sent to the unit owners by the Defendants on August 24, 2021 shall be immediately withdrawn; (ii) that the Defendants shall send out a notice to all unit owners of said withdrawal within ten (10) days of this Order; (iii) that any amounts paid by unit owners pursuant to the Notice of Special Assessment shall be refunded within ten (10) days of this Order; and (iv) that the Receiver has sole authority to order and oversee reserve studies related to Defendants' property and under the Governing Documents.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Receiver shall recalculate the DUF, SFUE, and HE based on the same methodology as has been used in calculating the fee charges for 2021, subject to Court approval of such methodology. Those fees in place prior to the Court's September 27, 2021 Order shall remain in place until the fees for 2020 are recalculated and approved by this Court such that only a single account adjustment will be necessary.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Receiver shall open a separate account on which Receiver has sole signatory authority, and into which all rents received by Defendants currently for all 670 condominium units, net of total charges for DUF, SFUE, and HE fees and reserves, are to be deposited. The Receiver shall disburse the revenue collected to the parties according to the Governing Documents. In the event the Court requires a disgorgement by Defendants to Plaintiffs, Receiver shall deposit such disgorgements into this separate account and disburse the same to Plaintiffs appropriately.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants shall provide Receiver with any information, explanation, and documentation he may request regarding the room rotation program and any perceived discrepancies therewith, until Receiver is either satisfied with the adequacy of the program or until Receiver deems it appropriate to seek judicial intervention.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Ninth CC&Rs are *void ab initio* and the Seventh CC&Rs are to be resurrected as though they had not been withdrawn or superseded.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants shall funnel all communication with the Receiver through Reed Brady. Defendants and Receiver may mutually agree to choose an alternative representative through which communication shall be directed. Mr. Brady, and any subsequent representative, may delegate requests, questions, or other tasks necessary to respond to Receiver's communications, but any answers, conclusions, or other results shall be communicated back to Receiver through only Mr. Brady and no other individual.

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IT IS SO ORDERED. SENIOR JUSTICE Nancy Saitta Submitted by: ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON /s/ Jarrad C. Miller Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs 

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Clerk of the Court
Transaction # 8824878

### EXHIBIT "2"

### EXHIBIT "2"

EXHIBIT "2"

CODE: 3060 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA 8 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE 9 10 ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al., 11 Plaintiffs. 12 Case No. CV12-02222 vs. Dept. No. OJ37 13 MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA 14 RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE 15 VILLAGE CÔMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited 16 liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and 17 DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive, 18 Defendants. 19 ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR INSTRUCTIONS TO RECEIVER 20 Presently before the Court is Plaintiff's Motion for Instructions to Receiver, filed 21 September 28, 2021 ("Motion"). Defendants filed Defendants' Opposition to Plaintiffs' Motion 22 for Instructions to Receiver on October 12, 2021 ("Opposition"). Plaintiffs filed their Reply in 23 Support of Motion for Instructions to Receiver on October 25, 2021. The Motion was submitted 24 for consideration on October 25, 2021. 25 Case-concluding sanctions were entered against the Defendants for abuse of discovery 26 and disregard for the judicial process. (See Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Case-27 Terminating Sanctions, filed October 3, 2014 at 12.) See also Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Bldg.,

<u>Inc.</u>, 106 Nev. 88, 92, 787 P.2d 777, 779-80 (1990) (discussing discovery sanctions). The Court ultimately entered a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs for \$8,318,215.55 in damages. (See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, filed October 9, 2015.)

On January 7, 2015, the Court entered the Order Appointing Receiver and Directing Defendants' Compliance ("Appointment Order"). The Appointment Order appointed James Proctor as receiver over the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association ("GSRUOA"), the rental and other revenues from the condominiums, as well as other property of the non-GSRUOA Defendants. (See Appointment Order at 1:23-26.) The receivership was implemented "for the purpose of implementing compliance, among all condominium units, including units owned by any Defendant in this action . . . with the Covenants, Codes and Restrictions recorded against the condominium units, the Unit Maintenance Agreements and the original Unit Rental Agreements (the "Governing Documents"). (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) On January 25, 2019, Richard Teichner ("Receiver") was substituted in Mr. Proctor's place in the Order Granting Motion to Substitute Receiver, filed January 25, 2019.)

Among the Governing Documents with which the Receiver is ordered to implement compliance is the Seventh Amendment to Condominium Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for Hotel-Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort, recorded June 27, 2007 ("Seventh Amended CC&Rs"). Defendants, however, after representing to the Court that the Seventh Amended CC&Rs needed to be amended in order to comply with NRS 116B, unilaterally revised and recorded the Ninth Amendment to Condominium Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for Hotel-Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort to overhaul the fees chargeable to the unit owners. ("Ninth Amended CC&Rs"). The Ninth Amended CC&Rs, according to Plaintiffs, substantially increase the expenses to be included in fees charged to Plaintiffs – thus making ownership of the units unviable. (Reply at 7:17-21.)

Additionally, the Defendants undertook to have a reserve study done by a third party, which was then to be utilized by the Receiver to calculate those fees to be charged to Plaintiffs.

Plaintiffs argue this reserve study was not only done without proper authority, but also that it was patently erroneous in that it includes a variety of expenses which are not chargeable to the Plaintiffs under the Seventh Amended CC&Rs. (Motion at 4:3-13.)

The Motion requests the Court instruct the Receiver to (1) determine that the amendment process was invalid and void actions improperly taken by the GSRUOA Board of Directors, (2) maintain the status quo by enforcing the Appointment Order and apply the Seventh Amended CC&Rs, and (3) disqualify the 2021 reserve study and prepare a new reserve study completed with the Receiver's direction and input. (Motion at 2:27-3:4, 4:12-13.)

As this Court has stated previously, "[a] receiver is appointed to maintain the status quo regarding the property in controversy and to safeguard said property from being dissipated while the plaintiff is pursuing his remedy." (Order Denying Motion to Terminate Rental Agreement, filed October 12, 2020 (citing Milo v. Curtis, 100 Ohio App.3d 1, 9, 651 N.E.2d 1340, 1345 (Ohio Ct. App. 1994).) This Court reiterated this premise in a subsequent order, stating that "[o]ne of the purposes of the [Appointment] Order was to preserve the status quo of the parties during the pendency of the action. Another purpose was to enforce [the] agreements." (Order, filed November 23, 2015 at 1:22-23.) Nevada law supports this obligation of the Receiver. See Johnson v. Steel, Inc., 100 Nev 181, 183, 678 P.2d 767, 678 (1984) (the appointment of a receiver is a "remedy used to preserve the value of assets pending outcome of the principal case" and is "a means of preserving the status quo"), overruled on other grounds by Shoen v. SAC Holding Corp., 122 Nev. 621, 137 P.3d 1171 (2006); accord Dunphy v. McNamara, 50 Nev. 113, 252 P. 943, 944 (1927) (a court of equity has "ample authority" to utilize a receiver to preserve the status quo).

In this case, the Receiver was specifically tasked with implementing compliance with the Governing Documents, including the Seventh Amended CC&Rs. (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) Reading this obligation to implement compliance with the Seventh Amended CC&Rs with the obligation to maintain the status quo, this Court finds that the Seventh Amended CC&Rs cannot be amended, repealed, nor replaced until the Receiver is relieved of his duties by the Court. The continuance of this specific Governing Document will ensure the status quo, as is the

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purpose of a receivership and the Appointment Order. <u>See Johnson</u>, 100 Nev. at 183, 678 P.2d at 678; <u>Dunphy</u>, 50 Nev. 113, 252 P. at 944.

Furthermore, upon the appointment of the Receiver, all authority to manage and control the GSRUOA was immediately transferred from the GSRUOA's Board of Directors, managers, officers, the Declarant, and other agents to the Receiver. Francis v. Camel Point Ranch, Inc., 2019 COA 108M, ¶¶ 6-10, 487 P.3d 1089, 1092-93, as modified on denial of reh'g (Colo. Ct. App. Sept. 19, 2019) (noting that "[u]pon the receiver's appointment, [Defendant's] corporate officers and directors lost all authority to control the corporation"); First Sav. & Loan Ass'n v. First Fed. Sav. Loan Ass'n, 531 F. Supp. 251, 255 (D. Haw. 1981) ("When a receiver is appointed for a corporation, the corporation's management loses the power to run its affairs and the receiver obtains all of the corporation's powers and assets."). "Simply put, corporate receivership is a court-mandated change in corporate management." Francis, 487 P.3d 1089 at 1092-93.

This automatic and immediate transfer of control over the GSRUOA to the Receiver therefore divested the GSRUOA's Board of Directors from any authority it had to propose, enact, and otherwise make effective the Ninth Amended CC&Rs. The Ninth Amended CC&Rs are thus *void ab initio*, as they were enacted without proper authority.

Accordingly, the Ninth Amended CC&Rs are *void ab initio*, and even if they were not, the Ninth Amended CC&Rs would be improper and thus subject to rescission or cancellation.<sup>1</sup>

Next, Plaintiffs have moved the Court to instruct the Receiver to reject the reserve study completed by Defendants without any input from Receiver, and order and oversee a separate reserve study. (Motion at 11:25-14:19.) The Court has explicitly found that the Receiver "will determine a reasonable amount of FF&E, shared facilities and hotel reserve fees." (Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgement, Filed October 9, 2015 at 22:25-26.) This implies that

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Defendants argue any challenge to the Ninth Amended CC&Rs must be brought pursuant to the ADR provision therein. The Court rejects this argument *in toto* considering the Appointment Order, the purpose of the Appointment Order, and binding Nevada law which all dictate the receivership is intended to maintain the status quo – not allow for a key Governing Document to be unilaterally amended by Defendants. Further, the claim for a Receivership was brought in the Second Amended Complaint and the Nevada Supreme Court has already found that the District Court has subject matter jurisdiction over the action.

the Receiver will also be tasked with ordering and overseeing the reserve study – as that study will dictate the FF&E, shared facilities, and hotel reserve fees. Thus, the Receiver alone has the authority to direct and audit the reserve study, not the Defendants.

Moreover, the Defendants have acknowledged this reality to the Court:

Mr. McElhinney: Are you instructing the receiver to use the 2016 reserve study in rendering his calculation? The Court: I think he can. Mr. McElhinney: Up to him? The Court: Yeah, it's up to him. If there's some reason that Mr. Teichner believes that the premise or the data that's collected therein is inappropriate, then obviously he can just go back to the 2014 study, but if he wants to use it and he believes that it's statistical or evidentiarily valid, then he can use that in making those determinations.

(Motion at Ex. 3 at 141:24-142:11.)

Plaintiffs further object to the Defendants' reserve study because it has included expenses which are clearly erroneous. (Motion at 4:6-13 (noting public pool expenses that were included while the Governing Documents and Court orders exclude any revenue-generating expenses).) The reserve study is to be limited as directed in previous Court orders and the Governing Documents. The reserve study provided by Defendants clearly shows at least one basic, elementary example of expenses which are included but should not be. (Id.) Accordingly, the Court finds the Defendants' reserve study to be flawed and untrustworthy, and finds the Receiver has the proper (and sole) authority to order, oversee, and implement a new reserve study.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Plaintiffs' Motion is granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Ninth Amended CC&Rs shall be withdrawn and the Seventh Amended CC&Rs shall be reinstated as though never superseded.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Receiver shall not utilize the Defendants' reserve study in calculating those fees which are to be assessed to Plaintiffs. Instead, the Receiver shall order, oversee, and implement a new reserve study which is in accordance with the Governing Documents.

IT IS SO ORDERED. DATED 13 0 SENIOR JUSTICE Nancy Saitta Submitted by: ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON /s/ Jarrad C. Miller Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs 

Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600 Reno Nevada 89501

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# EXHIBIT "3"

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EXHIBIT "3"

Motion to Stay Special Assessment on September 17, 2021. The Motion was submitted for consideration on September 22, 2021.

Case-concluding sanctions were entered against the Defendants for abuse of discovery and disregard for the judicial process. (See Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Case-Terminating Sanctions, filed October 3, 2014 at 12.).) See also Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Bldg., Inc., 106 Nev. 88, 92, 787 P.2d 777, 779-80 (1990) (discussing discovery sanctions). The Court ultimately entered a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs for \$8,318,215.55 in damages. (See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, filed October 9, 2015.)

On January 7, 2015, the Court entered the Order Appointing Receiver and Directing Defendants' Compliance ("Appointment Order"). The Appointment Order appointed James Proctor as receiver over the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association ("GSRUOA"). (See Appointment Order at 1:23-26.) The receivership was implemented "for the purpose of implementing compliance, among all condominium units, including units owned by any Defendant in this action . . . with the Covenants, Codes and Restrictions recorded against the condominium units, the Unit Maintenance Agreements and the original Unit Rental Agreements (the "Governing Documents"). (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) On January 25, 2019, Richard Teichner ("Receiver") was substituted in Mr. Proctor's place in the Order Granting Motion to Substitute Receiver, filed January 25, 2019.)

The Appointment Order provides that the Receiver and his agents are to be "pa[id] and discharge[d] out of the Property's rents and/or GSRUOA monthly dues collections. . . ." (Appointment Order at 6:12-16.) It is thus clear that the Receiver's invoices are to be paid through either (or collectively) the Property's rents collected or the GSRUOA monthly dues and not from any other source of funds without approval of this Court.

On June 16, 2021, the Receiver provided notice to the Court that GSRUOA was insolvent and requested a hearing to address this issue. (Motion at 1:2-4.) After the parties discussed potential solutions to this issue, the Defendants, over Plaintiffs' objection, on July 12, 2021 voted to impose a special assessment against all unit owners which would raise about \$100,000 to pay the Receiver's invoices and other expenses ("Special Assessment"). (Opposition at 2:3-11.)

Reno Nevada 89501

Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson

West Liberty Street, Suite 600 no Nevada 89501 The Motion requests that the Court: (1) enforce the Appointment Order; (2) stay the Special Assessment; (3) direct the Receiver to pay the expenses of the receivership through the new receivership account; and (4) order the Defendants to stop interfering with the receivership and the orders governing same. (Motion at 2:6-9.) The Opposition argues the Special Assessment was appropriate under the Seventh Amendment to Condominium Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for hotel Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort ("CC&Rs") and necessary in order to both fund the Receiver's invoices as well as the GSRUOA's operations through the remainder of 2021. (Opposition at 2:24-3:6.)

To begin, the appointment of a receiver terminates the authority of an entity's officers and directors, and places all such authority in the receiver alone. Francis v. Camel Point Ranch, Inc., 2019 COA 108M, ¶6-10, 487 P.3d 1089, 1092-9 (Colo. App. Sept. 19, 2019) (noting that "[u]pon the receiver's appointment, [Defendant's] corporate officers and directors lost all authority to control the corporation"); McDougal v. Huntingdon & Broad Top Mountain RR. & Coal Co., 294 Pa. 108, 143 A.574, 577 (1928) (the receiver exercises the functions of the board of directors, managers and officers, takes possession of corporate income, property, and assets, directs not only in its operation, but, while in control, its policies on all lines"); see First Sav & Loan Ass'n v. First Fed. Sav. Loan Ass'n, 531 F. Supp. 251, 255 (D. Haw. 1981) ("When a receiver is appointed for a corporation, the corporation's management loses the power to run its affairs and the receiver obtains all of the corporation's powers and assets"); see also U.S. v. Powell, 95 F.2d 752, 754 (4th Cir. 1938). Thus, when the Appointment Order was issued, all authority vested in GSRUOA's Board of Directors, managers, the Declarant, and other decision makers was transferred to the Receiver and the Board of Directors, managers, the Declarant, and other decision makers were divested of such authority.

It follows then that any decision of GSRUOA's Board of Directors since the Appointment Order, including the July 12, 2021 decision to impose the Special Assessment, is void as GSRUOA's Board of Directors had no authority to make such a decision or impose such an assessment. (<u>Id</u>.)

Defendants argue that because the Receiver apparently did not object to the GSRUOA's Board of Directors' decision to impose the Special Assessment, the Special Assessment is proper. (Opposition at 4:17-18 ("The Board voted unanimously to approve and implement the Special Assessment and the Receiver agreed with the action.").) This argument falls flat, however, in light of the Receiver's limited authority. Anes v. Crown P'ship, Inc., 113 Nev. 195, 201-02, 932 P.2d 1067, 1071 (1997) ("a receiver must not exceed the limits of the authority granted by the court"). The Appointment Order specifically dictates the source of funds to pay the Receiver's invoices: "the Property's rents and/or GSRUOA monthly dues." (Appointment Order at 6:12-16.) The Appointment Order does not provide that the Receiver can be funded from any special assessments imposed upon the unit owners. Accordingly, any such special assessment imposed to fund the Receiver's invoices is improper and exceeds authority vested in the Receiver alone. Anes, 113 Nev. at 201-02, 932 P.2d at 1071; Fullerton v. Second Jud. Dist. Ct. in & for Cty. of Washoe, 111 Nev 391, 400, 892 P.2d 935, 941 (1995) ("a receiver must not exceed the limits of the authority granted"); accord Clay Expl., Inc. v. Santa Rosa Operating, LLC, 442 S.W.3d 795, 800 (Tex. App. 2014) (a receiver only has that authority conferred by the Court's order appointing him); Price v. Howsen, 197 Iowa 324, 197 N.W. 62, 63 (1924) ("It is a familiar rule that 'the extent of a receiver's authority is always to be measured by the order of appointment . . . . '"); Citibank, N.A. v. Nyland (CF 8), Ltd., 839 F.2d 93, 98 (2d Cir. 1988) ("[The receiver's] authority is wholly determined by the order of the appointment court"); In re Lamplight Condo. Ass'n, Inc., No. 17-20078 (JJT), 2017 WL 184510, at \*2 (Bankr. D. Conn. May 5, 2017) ("The source of the Receiver's authority and the process by which it was bound and governed is the Appointment Order, which, as a stipulation, is [] a . . . limitation of the Receiver's power, authority and process.").

Moreover, the Receiver has now indicated that he intends to open a separate account to collect rental revenues from the Property and distribute the same to the appropriate unit owners. (Motion at Ex. 2 (email in which Receiver's counsel states "The Receiver is going to open a separate account for the Receivership as soon as possible. . . . As of September 1st, all of the revenue from the Summit Rooms (the units in the Hotel Condominium) will be deposited into

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

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# EXHIBIT "4"

# EXHIBIT "4"

EXHIBIT "4"

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#### SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al.,

Plaintiffs.

vs.

MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA **RESORT UNIT OWNERS'** ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. CV12-02222 Dept. No. OJ37

#### ORDER APPROVING RECEIVER'S REQUEST TO APPROVE UPDATED FEES

Before the Court is the Receiver's Receiver Analysis and Calculation of Daily Use Fee, Shared Facilities Unit Expense Fee and Hotel Expense Fee with Request to Approve updated Fees and for Court to Set Effective Date for New Fees, filed August 16, 2021 ("Receiver Analysis"). Defendants filed Defendants' Objection to Receiver's Analysis and Calculation of Daily Use Fee, Shared Facilities Unit Expense Fees and for Court to Set Effective Date for New Fees on September 17, 2021. Plaintiffs filed Plaintiffs' Response to Receiver Analysis and Calculation of Daily Use Fee, Shared Facilities Unit Expense Fee and Hotel Expense Fee with Request to Approve Updated Fees and for Court to Set Effective Date for New Fees on

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September 17, 2021. The Receiver Analysis was submitted for consideration on 1 2 September 22, 2021. 3 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that (1) The Receiver's new fee calculations as submitted 4 to the Court should immediately be applied retroactive to January 2020 and going forward until a 5 subsequent order from the Court is issued; (2) the amounts owed to Plaintiffs under those fee 6 calculations should be paid to Plaintiffs within thirty (30) days in accordance with the Governing Documents; (3) the Receiver should be permitted to calculate the 2020 fee calculation using the 7 same methodology – and once those calculations are completed, the Receiver can reconcile the 8 unit owner accounts to reflect the difference between the 2020 and 2021 fee calculations; and (4) 9 after Defendants produce to Plaintiffs all actual documents that support the Receiver's 2020 and 10 11 2021 calculations, and depositions are taken (limited in scope) to verify that the calculations are based on actual expenses as provided for under the Governing Documents, the briefing on the 12 issue of the accuracy of the fees should recommence. Any adjustments to the fees as a result of 13 motion practice by the parties shall be credited or debited accordingly, but in the interim, rental 14 revenue shall be calculated based upon the Receiver's 2021 calculations. 15 16 IT IS SO ORDERED. 17 DATED 2-21-21 18 19 20 Nancy Saitta 21 Submitted by: ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, 22 MILLER & WILLIAMSON 23 /s/ Jarrad C. Miller 24 Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. 25 Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs 26 27

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## EXHIBIT "5"

## EXHIBIT "5"

EXHIBIT "5"

CODE: 3370 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE 8 9 ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al., 10 11 Plaintiffs, 12 VS. Case No. CV12-02222 Dept. No. OJ37 13 MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA 14 RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE 15 VILLAGE CÖMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited 16 liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and 17 DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive, 18 Defendants. 19 20 ORDER DIRECTING RECEIVER TO PREPARE REPORT ON DEFENDANTS' REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF 2020 CAPITAL EXPENDITURES 21 Presently before the Court is Defendants' Motion for Instructions Regarding 22 23 Reimbursement of 2020 Capital Expenditures, filed June 24, 2021 ("Motion"). Plaintiffs filed their Opposition to Defendants' Motion for Instructions Regarding Reimbursement of 2020 24 Capital Expenditures on October 11, 2021. Defendants then filed Defendants' Reply in Support 25 of Motion for Instructions Regarding Reimbursement of 2020 Capital Expenditures on 26

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November 2, 2021. The Motion was submitted for consideration on November 3, 2021.

Case-concluding sanctions were entered against the Defendants for abuse of discovery and disregard for the judicial process. (See Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Case-Terminating Sanctions, filed October 3, 2014 at 12.) See also Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Bldg., Inc., 106 Nev. 88, 92, 787 P.2d 777, 779-80 (1990) (discussing discovery sanctions). The Court ultimately entered a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs for \$8,318,215.55 in damages. (See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, filed October 9, 2015.)

On January 7, 2015, the Court entered the Order Appointing Receiver and Directing Defendants' Compliance ("Appointment Order"). The Appointment Order appointed James Proctor as receiver over the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association ("GSRUOA"). The receivership was implemented "for the purpose of implementing compliance, among all condominium units, including units owned by any Defendant in this action . . . with the Covenants, Codes and Restrictions recorded against the condominium units, the Unit Maintenance Agreements and the original Unit Rental Agreements (the "Governing Documents"). (Appointment Order at 1:27-28, 2:1-3.) On January 25, 2019, Richard Teichner was substituted in Mr. Proctor's place in the Order Granting Motion to Substitute Receiver.

In the Motion, Defendants ask the Court to instruct Mr. Teichner ("Receiver") to reimburse Defendants a total of \$1,614,505, comprised of \$1,409,637 from the Capital Reserves for Common Area expenses and \$208,868 from the Hotel Reserves for Hotel Related expenses. (Motion at 6:23-26.) The Motion further requests the Court instruct Receiver to impose any special assessments necessary to bring the respective reserve accounts back to the required levels. (Id. at 6:26-7:3.) Plaintiffs' Opposition argues the expenditures for which Defendants seek reimbursement are not included in the Governing Documents which explicitly describe each expense the Plaintiffs agreed to pay. (Opposition at 3:1-18.) Plaintiffs argue further that the reserves study Defendants rely upon is fatally flawed as it also includes a variety of inappropriate expenses and plainly obvious and elementary mistakes. (Id. at 2:14-26.)

The Court finds the Receiver is charged with implementing compliance with the Governing Documents and was appointed for a reason. (See generally Appointment Order.)

Therefore, the Court orders the Receiver to provide a report to the Court within ninety (90) days ORDER DIRECTING RECEIVER TO PREPARE REPORT ON DEFENDANT'S REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF 2020 CAPITAL

**EXPENDITURES** 

PAGE 2

1	from the date of this Order recommending which items contained within Defendants' request for
2	reimbursement of capital expenditures can be reimbursed under the Governing Documents and
3	this Court's existing orders.
4	IT IS SO ORDERED.
5	DATED 12-21.
6	$\times$
7	and alle
8	SENIOR JUSTICE Nancy Saitta
9	Submitted by:
10	ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON
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12	Jarrad C. Miller  Jarrad C. Miller, Esq.
13	Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs
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## EXHIBIT "6"

## EXHIBIT "6"

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CODE: 2842 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA 8 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE 9 10 ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al., 11 Plaintiffs, 12 Case No. CV12-02222 VS. Dept. No. OJ37 13 MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA 14 RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE 15 VILLAGE CÔMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited 16 liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and 17 DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive, 18 Defendants. 19 20 ORDER DENYING AS MOOT DEFENDANTS' EMERGENCY MOTION TO EXTEND STAY PENDING FINAL DISPOSITION OF THE MOTION TO RECONSIDER 21 Presently before the Court is Defendants' Emergency Motion to Extend Stay Pending 22 Final Disposition of the Motion to Reconsider, filed June 10, 2021 ("Motion"). Plaintiffs filed 23 their Opposition to Defendants' Emergency Motion to Extend Stay Pending Final Disposition of 24 the Motion to Reconsider (Oral Argument Requested) on June 23, 2021. Defendants filed 25 Defendants' Reply in Support of Emergency Motion to Extend Stay Pending Final Disposition of 26 the Motion to Reconsider on June 30, 2021. The Motion was submitted for consideration on 27

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July 1, 2021.

In the Motion, Defendants request the Court extend the stay of enforcement of the 1 2 disgorgement order within the Court's Order Granting Motion for Clarification, filed December 24, 2020 (the "December 24, 2020 Order") beyond June 10, 2021, such that the Court could 3 issue a ruling on Defendants' Motion for Leave to File Motion for Reconsideration of December 4 24, 2020, Order Granting Motion for Clarification and Request for Hearing ("Defendants' 5 Motion for Reconsideration"). (Motion at 2:13-22.) The December 24, 2020 Order ordered that: 6 7 (1) "[a]mounts charged since January of 2020 under the improper fee allocations shall be disgorged to the Plaintiffs, and the new fee allocations shall not go into effect until calculated 8 (they will not be retroactively applied);" and (2) "the Defendants shall pay to the Plaintiffs the 9 reasonable attorneys' fees and costs they incurred in filing the Motion [for Clarification] and 10 11 Reply [in support thereof]." (December 24, 2020 Order at 4:12-16.) Prior to enforcing the December 24, 2020 Order, the Court granted in part Defendants' 12 Motion for Reconsideration on September 29, 2021. (See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law 13 and Order, filed September 29, 2021 ("FFCLO").) In the FFCLO, the Court struck the portion of 14 the December 24, 2020 Order requiring the Defendants to disgorge the improper fee allocation 15 charges. (Id. at 6:2-11.) 16

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendants' Motion is denied as moot.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED 13 - 21 - 2

SENIOR JUSTICE

Nancy Saitta

Submitted by:

ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON

/s/ Jarrad C. Miller

Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs

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## EXHIBIT "7"

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CODE: 3060 1 2 3 5 6 SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA 7 8 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE 9 10 ALBERT THOMAS, individually; et al., 11 Plaintiffs, 12 Case No. CV12-02222 VS. Dept. No. OJ37 13 MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA 14 RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE 15 VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada limited 16 liability company; AM-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company; and 17 DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive, 18 Defendants. 19 20 ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFFS' SUPPLEMENTAL MOTION FOR FEES PURSUANT TO THE COURT'S DECEMBER 24, 2020 ORDER GRANTING MOTION 21 FOR CLARIFICATION AND SANCTIONING THE DEFENDANTS 22 Presently before the Court is Plaintiffs' Supplemental Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Clarification and Sanctioning the 23 24 Defendants, filed April 7, 2021 ("Motion"). Defendants filed Defendants' Opposition to Supplemental Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting 25 Motion for Clarification and Sanctioning the Defendants on April 20, 2021 ("Opposition"). 26 Plaintiffs filed their Reply in Support of Supplemental Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's 27

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27 28 December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Clarification and Sanctioning the Defendants on April 30, 2021. The Motion was submitted for consideration by the Court on May 4, 2021.

The Motion sets forth Plaintiffs' supplemental request for fees incurred in (a) submitting their motion for fees ("Fees Motion") pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Clarification ("December 24, 2020 Order"), (b) filing a reply to Defendants' opposition to the Fees Motion, and (c) opposing Defendants' Motion for Leave to File Motion for Reconsideration of the Court's December 24, 2020 Order ("Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration"), which largely attempted to rehash and relitigate previously rejected arguments. (Motion at 2:7-12.) Plaintiffs' total requested fees for these tasks is \$17,885. Defendants argue the requested fees are unreasonably excessive and that Nevada law does not permit recovery thereof. (Opposition at 2:14-18, 3:3-10.) Defendants further argue that the Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration may very well render Plaintiffs' Fees Motion and Motion moot. (Id. at 3:3-10; see also Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration, filed January 7, 2020.)

Case-concluding sanctions were entered against the Defendants for abuse of discovery and disregard for the judicial process. (See Order Granting Plaintiffs' Motion for Case-Terminating Sanctions, filed October 3, 2014 at 12.).) See Young v. Johnny Ribeiro Bldg., Inc., 106 Nev. 88, 92, 787 P.2d 777, 779-80 (1990) (discussing discovery sanctions). The Court ultimately entered a judgment in favor of the Plaintiffs for \$8,318,215.55 in damages. (See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Judgment, filed October 9, 2015.)

On January 7, 2015, the Court entered the Order Appointing Receiver and Directing Defendants' Compliance ("Appointment Order"). The Appointment Order appointed James Proctor as receiver over the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association ("GSRUOA") and the rental revenue and certain other property interests relating to the other Defendants. (See Appointment Order at 1:23-26.) The receivership was implemented "for the purpose of implementing compliance, among all condominium units, including units owned by any Defendant in this action . . . with the Covenants, Codes and Restrictions recorded against the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration stands fully briefed and submitted at the time of this Order.

condominium units, the Unit Maintenance Agreements and the original Unit Rental Agreements (the "Governing Documents"). (Appointment Order at 1:27-2:3.) On January 25, 2019, Richard Teichner ("Receiver") was substituted in Mr. Proctor's place in the Order Granting Motion to Substitute Receiver, filed January 25, 2019.)

The Court's December 24, 2020 Order includes two distinct portions: first, that the Receiver was to recalculate certain fees in a specific way and that the improper fee allocations were to be disgorged to Plaintiffs, and second, that the Defendants were to pay Plaintiffs' attorneys' fees and costs incurred in briefing the motion which ultimately resulted in the December 24, 2020 Order. This sanction was imposed as a result of "Defendants' attempt to advance their interpretation of the Court's orders to the [R]eceiver [which] interfered with the October Order taking effect and resulted in unnecessarily duplicative litigation." (December 24, 2020 order at 3:17-19.) Plaintiffs filed their motion for fees ("Fees Motion") pursuant to the December 24, 2020 Order, to which Defendants filed an opposition. (See Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's December 24, 2020 Order Granting Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Court's

The instant Motion requests a supplemental award of fees incurred in actions taking place after the December 24, 2020 Order was issued. The Motion states Plaintiffs incurred a total of \$17,885 in attorneys' fees as a result of (1) preparing the Fees motion, (2) preparing a reply to Defendants' opposition to the Fees Motion, and (3) preparing an opposition to Defendants' largely duplicative motion for reconsideration. (Motion at 6:9-12, 7:1-3.) Fees incurred as a result of preparing a motion for fees are recoverable. See Rosenfeld v. United States DOJ, 903 F. Supp. 2d 859, 878 (N. D. Cal. 2012) ("Plaintiffs may recover attorney's fees for time reasonably expended on a motion for attorney's fees and costs."). Furthermore, because the fee award was a sanction for Defendants' attempt to convince the Receiver of their clearly inaccurate interpretation of the Court's orders, and the motion for reconsideration largely furthered those inaccurate arguments, the continued arguments, and Plaintiffs' fees incurred to address them, are

included by the December 24, 2020 Order's sanction. Accordingly, the Court finds such fees are recoverable as a general matter.

Nevada uses the lodestar formula to determine the appropriate amount of attorney fees. Hsu v. Clark County, 123 Nev. 625, 636, 173 P.3d 724, 732 (2007). The lodestar formula calls for the number of hours reasonably spent on the motion to be multiplied by a reasonable hourly rate. Id. at 637, 173 P.3d at 733.

Plaintiffs have provided that their counsel spent a total of 24.6 hours on the Fees Motion briefing, including preparation of the Fees Motion, researching authority cited in Defendants' opposition thereto, and preparing a reply in support of the Fees Motion. (Motion at 5:26-6:4.) Defendants argue Plaintiffs' hours expended are excessive. (Opposition at 9:6-9.) The Court finds the number of hours expended by Plaintiffs' counsel on the Fees Motion briefing to be reasonable in light of the procedural history of this case and the issues raised by the Fees Motion and Defendants' opposition thereto.

Plaintiffs have provided that their counsel spent a total of 31.6 hours on their opposition to Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration. (Motion at 7:1-3.) Defendants, again, argue this number of hours is excessive and not warranted. (Opposition at 9:9-21.) Although the Defendants attempt to minimize the complexity of the issues set forth in the Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration and the necessity to set forth the complex procedural background within Defendants' opposition thereto, the Court does not agree that the Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration, nor the Plaintiffs' opposition thereto, was as simplistic as Defendants state. Instead, the Defendants' Motion for Reconsideration set forth a variety of fallacious legal arguments and misconstrued the factual and procedural background of this case, therefore requiring Plaintiffs to expend numerous pages refuting the same. Thus, the Court finds the number of hours expended by Plaintiffs' counsel on this task reasonable.

Defendants also argue that Plaintiffs' time entries are inadequate. (Opposition at 10:17-11:25.) Defendants argue the entries are "so vaguely generic that the [C]ourt cannot determine with certainty whether the activities they purport to describe were necessary and reasonable." (Id. at 11:21-23.) After reviewing the time entries in full, the Court finds the entries are adequate

and provide the Court sufficient information to determine that the tasks undertaken by Plaintiffs' counsel were both necessary and reasonable.

Accordingly, the Court finds the number of hours expended by Plaintiffs' counsel on those tasks for which Plaintiffs seek to recover attorneys' fees were reasonable.

Next, Plaintiffs have set forth their counsels' hourly rate. These rates range from \$425 to \$335 for attorneys and are \$135 for paralegals.<sup>2</sup> (Motion at 6:9-12, 7:1-3.) Defendants do not appear to dispute the reasonableness of such hourly rates. The Court therefore finds such hourly rates are reasonable.

Under the lodestar formula, the Court finds the hours reportedly spent by Plaintiffs' counsel and their hourly rates are reasonable, and thus the lodestar award is \$17,885.

The Court must next consider the <u>Brunzell</u> factors to determine the appropriateness of the lodestar amount. Accordingly, to determine whether any adjustments to the lodestar amount are necessary, the Court must 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.

Brunzell v. Golden Gate Nat'l Bank, 85 Nev. 345, 455 P.2d 31, 33 (1969). The Court finds all of these factors weigh against any adjustment to the lodestar amount and in favor of awarding

First, the Court is acutely aware of the high quality of Plaintiffs' counsel, and thus concludes this factor is in favor of awarding Plaintiffs the entire lodestar amount.

Second, the Court finds the character of the work to be done to be especially important. The Court's December 24, 2020 Order imposed sanctions upon Defendants for attempting to mislead the Receiver into accepting a clearly faulty interpretation of the Court's previous orders.

Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600 Reno Nevada 89501

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Plaintiffs note the hourly fees underwent a routine annual increase, which is why they are different from previous fees applications. (Motion at 6, fn.2.)

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(See Order Granting Clarification, filed December 24, 2020 at 3:17-19 ("The Defendants' attempt to advance their interpretation of the Court's orders to the [R]eceiver interfered with the October Order taking effect and resulted in unnecessarily duplicative litigation. Therefore, the Court exercises its inherent authority to require the Defendants to pay for the fees the Plaintiffs were unnecessarily forced to incur in filing the Motion and the Reply.").) Thus, the time spent in drafting the Fees Motion – which was ordered by the Court – is certainly important. The sanction within the December 24, 2020 Order was intended to penalize Defendants' wrongdoings. If the Court were to limit the Plaintiffs' recovery of their attorneys' fees incurred as a result of Defendants' wrongdoings, the sanction would have no teeth. Accordingly, the second factor also weighs in favor of awarding the entire lodestar amount.

Third, the work actually performed by Plaintiffs' counsel is evidenced by the billing records submitted with the Motion. (Motion at Ex. 1.) Each time entry reflects work which was necessary and that the individual whose time is reflected dedicated ample skill, time, and attention to the task at hand. Brunzell, 85 Nev. at 349, 455 P.2d at 33. This factor thus also weighs in favor of awarding the full lodestar amount.

Fourth and finally, the Court must consider the result. The Court finds this factor weighs in favor of awarding the entire lodestar amount as well. The Court clearly agreed with Plaintiffs' positions taken in the briefing which resulted in the December 24, 2020 Order imposing sanctions. (See generally Order Granting Reconsideration, filed December 24, 2020.) Thus, Plaintiffs have obtained a successful result. This factor weighs in favor of granting the full lodestar amount to Plaintiffs.

The Brunzell factors clearly indicate that the lodestar amount is appropriate and requires no adjustments. The Court therefore finds an award of the entire lodestar amount is proper.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Plaintiffs' Motion is granted in full.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants shall pay to the Plaintiffs the sum of \$17,885 within thirty (30) days of this Order.

Reno Nevada 89501

1	IT IS SO ORDERED.
2	DATED 12-21-21.
3	\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
4	an Carte
5	SENIOR JUSTICE Nancy Saitta
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7	Submitted by:
8	ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON
9	WILLIAMSON
10	/s/ Jarrad C. Miller
11	Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. Jonathan Joel Tew, Esq.
12	Attorneys for Plaintiffs
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# EXHIBIT J TO DOCKETING STATEMENT

#### FILED

Electronically 03-26-2013:02:41:53 PM Joey Orduna Hastings Clerk of the Court Transaction # 3617729

CODE: 1090
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Jonathan J. Tew, Esq. (NV Bar No. 11874)
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Attorneys for Plaintiffs

#### SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

#### IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

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ALBERT THOMAS, individually; JANE DUNLAP, individually; BARRY HAY, individually; MARIE-ANNE ALEXANDER, as Trustee of the MARIE-ANNIE ALEXANDER LIVING TRUST; MELISSA VAGUJHELYI and GEORGE VAGUJHELYI, as Trustees of the GEORGE VAGUJHELYI AND MELISSA VAGUJHELYI 2001 FAMILY TRUST AGREEMENT, U/T/A APRIL 13, 2001; D'ARCY NUNN, individually; HENRY NUNN, individually; MADELYN VAN DER BOKKE, individually; DONALD

AGREEMENT, U/T/A APRIL 13, 2001; D'ARCY NUNN, individually; HENRY NUNN, individually; MADELYN VAN DER BOKKE, individually; LEE VAN DER BOKKE, individually; DONALD SCHREIFELS, individually; ROBERT R. PEDERSON, individually and as Trustee of the PEDERSON 1990 TRUST; LOU ANN PEDERSON, individually and as Trustee of the PEDERSON 1990 TRUST; LORI ORDOVER, individually; WILLIAM A. HENDERSON, individually; CHRISTINE E.

PARKER, individually; SUZANNE C.
PARKER, individually; MICHAEL IZADY, individually; STEVEN TAKAKI, individually; FARAD TORABKHAN, individually; SAHAR TAVAKOL,

HENDERSON, individually; LOREN D.

individually; M&Y HOLDINGS, LLC; JL&YL HOLDINGS, LLC; SANDI RAINES,

individually; R. RAGHURAM, individually; USHA RAGHURAM, individually; LORI K.

TOKUTOMI, individually; GARRET TOM, individually; ANITA TOM, individually;

26 RAMON FADRILAN, individually; FAYE FADRILAN, individually; PETER K. LEE

and MONICA L. LEE, as Trustees of the LEE FAMILY 2002 REVOCABLE TRUST;

DOMINIC YIN, individually; ELIAS SHAMIEH, individually; JEFFREY OUINN,

Case No. CV12-02222 Dept. No. 10

#### SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT

Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600 Reno, Nevada 89501

1	individually; BARBARA ROSE QUINN
2	individually; KENNETH RICHE,
2	individually; MAXINE RICHE, individually; NORMAN CHANDLER, individually;
3	BENTON WAN, individually; TIMOTHY D.
4	KAPLAN, individually; SILKSCAPE INC.;
4	PETER CHENG, individually; ELISA CHENG, individually; GREG A.
5	CAMERON, individually; TMI PROPERTY
	GROUP, LLC; RICHARD LUTZ,
6	individually; SANDRA LUTZ, individually; MARY A. KOSSICK, individually; MELVIN
7	CHEAH, individually; DI SHEN,
	individually; NADINE'S REAL ESTATE
8	INVESTMENTS, LLC; AJIT GUPTA,
9	individually; SEEMA GUPTA, individually; FREDRICK FISH, individually; LISA FISH,
	individually; ROBERT A. WILLIAMS,
10	individually; JACQUELIN PHAM,
	individually; MAY ANN HOM, as Trustee of
11	the MAY ANN HOM TRUST; MICHAEL
	HURLEY, individually; DOMINIC YIN,
12	individually; DUANE WINDHORST,
12	individually; MARILYN WINDHORST,
13	individually; VINOD BHAN, individually;
14	ANNE BHAN, individually; GUY P.
14	BROWNE, individually; GARTH A.
15	WILLIAMS, individually; PAMELA Y. ARATANI, individually; DARLENE
	LINDGREN, individually; LAVERNE
16	ROBERTS, individually; DOUG MECHAM,
	individually; CHRISINE MECHAM,
17	individually; KWANGSOO SON,
10	individually; SOO YEUN MOON,
18	individually; JOHNSON AKINDODUNSE,
19	individually; IRENE WEISS, as Trustee of
1)	the WEISS FAMILY TRUST; PRAVESH CHOPRA, individually; TERRY POPE,
20	individually; NANCY POPE, individually;
	JAMES TAYLOR, individually; RYAN
21	TAYLOR, individually; KI HAM,
	individually; YOUNG JA CHOI,
22	individually; SANG DAE SOHN,
22	individually; KUK HYUNG (CONNIE),
23	individually; SANG (MIKE) YOO,
24	individually; BRETT MENMUIR, as Trustee
24	of the CAYENNE TRUST; WILLIAM
25	MINER, JR., individually; CHANH TRUONG, individually; ELIZABETH
	ANDERS MECUA, individually;
26	SHEPHERD MOUNTAIN, LLC; ROBERT
	BRUNNER, individually; AMY BRUNNER,
27	individually; JEFF RIOPELLE, individually;
	PATRICIA M. MOLL, individually;
28	DANIEL MOLL, individually; and DOE
	I .

1	PLAINTIFFS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive,
2	Plaintiffs,
3	vs.
4	MEI-GSR Holdings, LLC, a Nevada Limited
5	Liability Company, GRAND SIERRA RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE
6	VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada Limited
7	Liability Company and DOE DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive,
8	Defendants.
9	COME NOW Plaintiffs ("Plaintiffs" or "Individual Unit Owners"), by and through their
10	counsel of record, Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson, and for their causes of action
11	against Defendants hereby complain as follows:
12	GENERAL ALLEGATIONS
13	The Parties
14	1. Plaintiff Albert Thomas is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
15	California.
16	2. Plaintiff Jane Dunlap is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
17 18	California.
19	3. Plaintiff John Dunlap is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
20	California.
21	4. Plaintiff Barry Hay is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
22	California.
23	5. Plaintiff Marie-Annie Alexander, as Trustee of the Marie-Annie Alexander Living
24	Trust, is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of California.
25	6. Plaintiff Melissa Vagujhelyi, as Co-Trustee of the George Vagujhelyi and Melissa
26	Vagujheyli 2001 Family Trust Agreement U/T/A April 13, 2001, is a competent adult and is a
27	resident of the State of Nevada.
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1	20.	Plaintiff Michael Izady is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of New
2	York.	
3	21.	Plaintiff Steven Takaki is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
4	California.	
5	22.	Plaintiff Farad Torabkhan is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
6	New York.	
7	23.	Plaintiff Sahar Tavakol is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of New
8	York.	
9	24.	Plaintiff M&Y Holdings is a Nevada Limited Liability Company with its
10	principal plac	ce of business in Nevada.
11	25.	Plaintiff JL&YL Holdings, LLC is a Nevada Limited Liability Company with its
12	principal plac	ce of business in Nevada.
13	26.	Plaintiff Sandi Raines is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
14	Minnesota.	
15	27.	Plaintiff R. Raghuram is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
16	California.	
17	28.	Plaintiff Usha Raghuram is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
18	California.	
19	29.	Plaintiff Lori K. Tokutomi is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
20	California.	
21	30.	Plaintiff Garett Tom is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
22	California.	
23	31.	Plaintiff Anita Tom is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
24	California.	
25	32.	Plaintiff Ramon Fadrilan is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
26	California.	
27	33.	Plaintiff Faye Fadrilan is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
28	California.	

1	48.	Plaintiff Elisa Cheng is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
2	California.	
3	49.	Plaintiff Greg A. Cameron is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
4	California.	
5	50.	Plaintiff TMI Property Group, LLC is a California Limited Liability Company.
6	51.	Plaintiff Richard Lutz is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
7	California.	
8	52.	Plaintiff Sandra Lutz is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
9	California.	
10	53.	Plaintiff Mary A. Kossick is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
11	California.	
12	54.	Plaintiff Melvin H. Cheah is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
13	California.	
14	55.	Plaintiff Di Shen is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of Texas.
15	56.	Plaintiff Ajit Gupta is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
16	California.	
17	57.	Plaintiff Seema Gupta is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
18	California.	
19	58.	Plaintiff Fredrick Fish is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
20	Minnesota.	
21	59.	Plaintiff Lisa Fish is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of Minnesota.
22	60.	Plaintiff Robert A. Williams is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
23	Minnesota.	
24	61.	Plaintiff Jacquelin Pham is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
25	California.	
26	62.	Plaintiff May Ann Hom, as Trustee of the May Ann Hom Trust, is a competent
27	adult and is a	a resident of the State of California.
28		

1	63.	Plaintiff Michael Hurley is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
2	Minnesota.	
3	64.	Plaintiff Dominic Yin is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
4	California.	
5	65.	Plaintiff Duane Windhorst is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
6	Minnesota.	
7	66.	Plaintiff Marilyn Windhorst is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
8	Minnesota.	
9	67.	Plaintiff Vinod Bhan is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
10	California.	
11	68.	Plaintiff Anne Bhan is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
12	California.	
13	69.	Plaintiff Guy P. Browne is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
14	California.	
15	70.	Plaintiff Garth Williams is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
16	California.	
17	71.	Plaintiff Pamela Y. Aratani is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
18	California.	
19	72.	Plaintiff Darleen Lindgren is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
20	Minnesota.	
21	73.	Plaintiff Laverne Roberts is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
22	Nevada.	
23	74.	Plaintiff Doug Mecham is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
24	Nevada.	
25	75.	Plaintiff Chrisine Mecham is a competent adult and is a resident of the State of
26	Nevada.	
27	76.	Plaintiff Kwangsoo Son is a competent adult and is a resident of Vancouver,
28	British Colur	nhia

Reno, Nevada 89501

to allege their true names and capacities when such are ascertained. Plaintiffs are informed and

believe and thereon allege that each of the fictitiously named Defendant Does is liable to Plaintiffs in some manner for the occurrences that are herein alleged.

#### MEI-GSR's Control of the Unit Owners' Association is to Plaintiffs' Detriment

- 105. The Individual Unit Owners re-allege each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 102 of this Complaint as though fully stated herein and hereby incorporate them by this reference as if fully set forth below.
- 106. The Grand Sierra Resort Condominium Units ("GSR Condo Units") are part of the Grand Sierra Unit Owners Association, which is an apartment style hotel condominium development of 670 units in one 27-story building. The GSR Condo Units occupy floors 17 through 24 of the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino, a large-scale hotel casino, located at 2500 East Second Street, Reno, Nevada.
- 107. All of the Individual Unit Owners: hold an interest in, own, or have owned, one or more GSR Condo Units.
  - 108. Defendants Gage Village and MEI-GSR own multiple GSR Condo Units.
  - 109. Defendant MEI-GSR owns the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino.
- 110. Under the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Restrictions and Reservations of Easements for Hotel-Condominiums at Grand Sierra Resort ("CC&Rs"), there is one voting member for each unit of ownership (thus, an owner with multiple units has multiple votes).
- 111. Because Defendants MEI-GSR and Gage Village control more units of ownership than any other person or entity, they effectively control the Unit Owners' Association by having the ability to elect Defendant MEI-GSR's chosen representatives to the Board of Directors (the governing body over the GSR Condo Units).
- 112. As a result of Defendants MEI-GSR and Gage Village controlling the Unit Owners' Association, the Individual Unit Owners effectively have no input or control over the management of the Unit Owners' Association.
- 113. Defendants MEI-GSR and Gage Village have used, and continue to use, their control over the Defendant Unit Owners' Association to advance Defendants MEI-GSR and Gage Villages' economic objectives to the detriment of the Individual Unit Owners.

114.	Defend	dants	MEI-G	SR	and	Gage	V	illages'	con	trol	of	the	Unit	Owner	s'
Association	violates	Nevac	da law	as	it de	feats 1	he	purpose	of	form	ning	and	main	taining	a
homeowners' association.															

- 115. Further, the Nevada Division of Real Estate requires a developer to sell off the units within 7 years, exit and turn over the control and management to the owners.
- 116. Under the CC&Rs, the Individual Unit Owners are required to enter into a "Unit Maintenance Agreement" and participate in the "Hotel Unit Maintenance Program," wherein Defendant MEI-GSR provides certain services (including, without limitation, reception desk staffing, in-room services, guest processing services, housekeeping services, Hotel Unit inspection, repair and maintenance services, and other services).
- 117. The Unit Owners' Association maintains capital reserve accounts that are funded by the owners of GSR Condo Units. The Unit Owners' Association collects association dues of approximately \$25 per month per unit, with some variation depending on a particular unit's square footage.
- 118. The Individual Unit Owners pay for contracted "Hotel Fees," which include taxes, deep cleaning, capital reserve for the room, capital reserve for the building, routine maintenance, utilities, etc.
- 119. Defendant MEI-GSR has systematically allocated and disproportionately charged capital reserve contributions to the Individual Unit Owners, so as to force the Individual Unit Owners to pay capital reserve contributions in excess of what should have been charged.
- 120. Defendants MEI-GSR and Gage Development have failed to pay proportionate capital reserve contribution payments in connection with their Condo Units.
- 121. Defendant MEI-GSR has failed to properly account for, or provide an accurate accounting for the collection and allocation of the collected capital reserve contributions.
- 122. The Individual Unit Owners also pay "Daily Use Fees" (a charge for each night a unit is occupied by any guest for housekeeping services, etc.).
- 123. Defendants MEI-GSR and Gage Village have failed to pay proportionate Daily Use Fees for the use of Defendants' GSR Condo Units.

	124.	Defendant	MEI-GSR	has	failed	to	properly	account	for	the	contracted	"Hotel
Fees" a	and "Da	ily Use Fee	s."									

- 125. Further, the Hotel Fees and Daily Use Fees are not included in the Unit Owners' Association's annual budget with other assessments that provide the Individual Unit Owners' the ability to reject assessment increases and proposed budget ratification.
- 126. Defendant MEI-GSR has systematically endeavored to increase the various fees that are charged in connection with the use of the GSR Condo Units in order to devalue the units owned by Individual Unit Owners.
- 127. The Individual Unit Owners' are required to abide by the unilateral demands of MEI-GSR, through its control of the Unit Owners' Association, or risk being considered in default under Section 12 of the Agreement, which provides lien and foreclosure rights pursuant to Section 6.10(f) of the CC&R's.
- 128. Defendants MEI-GSR and/or Gage Village have attempted to purchase, and purchased, units devalued by their own actions, at nominal, distressed prices when Individual Unit Owners decide to, or are effectively forced to, sell their units because the units fail to generate sufficient revenue to cover expenses.
- 129. Defendant MEI-GSR and/or Gage Village have, in late 2011 and 2012, purchased such devalued units for \$30,000 less than the amount they purchased units for in March of 2011.
- 130. The Individual Unit Owners effectively pay association dues to fund the Unit Owners' Association, which acts contrary to the best interests of the Individual Unit Owners.
- 131. Defendant MEI-GSR's interest in maximizing its profits is in conflict with the interest of the Individual Unit Owners. Accordingly, Defendant MEI-GSR's control of the Unit Owners' Association is a conflict of interest.

#### **MEI-GSR's Rental Program**

132. As part of Defendant MEI-GSR's Grand Sierra Resort and Casino business operations, it rents: (1) hotel rooms owned by Defendant MEI-GSR that are not condominium

units; (2) GSR Condo Units owned by Defendant MEI-GSR and/or Gage Village; and (3) GSR Condo Units owned by the Individual Condo Unit Owners.

- 133. Defendant MEI-GSR has entered into a Grand Sierra Resort Unit Rental Agreement with Individual Unit Owners.
- 134. Defendant MEI-GSR has manipulated the rental of the: (1) hotel rooms owned by Defendant MEI-GSR; (2) GSR Condo Units owned by Defendant MEI-GSR and/or Gage Village; and (3) GSR Condo Units owned by Individual Condo Unit Owners so as to maximize Defendant MEI-GSR's profits and devalue the GSR Condo Units owned by the Individual Unit Owners.
- 135. Defendant MEI-GSR has rented the Individual Condo Units for as little as \$0.00 to \$25.00 a night.
- 136. Yet, MEI-GSR has charged "Daily Use Fees" of approximately \$22.38, resulting in revenue to the Individual Unit Owners as low as \$2.62 per night for the use of their GSR Condo Unit (when the unit was rented for a fee as opposed to being given away).
- 137. By functionally, and in some instances actually, giving away the use of units owned by the Individual Unit Owners, Defendant MEI-GSR has received a benefit because those who rent the Individual Units frequently gamble and purchase food, beverages, merchandise, spa services and entertainment access from Defendant MEI-GSR.
- 138. Defendant MEI-GSR has rented Individual Condo Units to third parties without providing Individual Unit Owners with any notice or compensation for the use of their unit.
- 139. Further, Defendant MEI-GSR has systematically endeavored to place a priority on the rental of Defendant MEI-GSR's hotel rooms, Defendant MEI-GSR's GSR Condo Units, and Defendant Gage Village's Condo Units.
- 140. Such prioritization effectively devalues the units owned by the Individual Unit Owners.
- 141. Defendants MEI-GSR and Gage Village intend to purchase the devalued units at nominal, distressed prices when Individual Unit Owners decide to, or are effectively forced to,

sell their units because the units fail to generate sufficient revenue to cover expenses and have no prospect of selling their persistently loss-making units to any other buyer.

- 142. Some of the Individual Unit Owners have retained the services of a third party to market and rent their GSR Condo Unit(s).
- 143. Defendant MEI-GSR has systematically thwarted the efforts of any third party to market and rent the GSR Units owned by the Individual Unit Owners.
- 144. Defendant MEI-GSR has breached the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Rental Agreement with Individual Condo Unit Owners by failing to follow its terms, including but not limited to, the failure to implement an equitable Rotational System as referenced in the agreement.
- 145. Defendant MEI-GSR has failed to act in good faith in exercising its duties under the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Rental Agreements with the Individual Unit Owners.

## FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Petition for Appointment of Receiver as to Defendant Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association)

- 146. Plaintiffs re-allege each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 143 of this Complaint as though fully stated herein and hereby incorporate them by this reference as if fully set forth below.
- 147. Because Defendant MEI-GSR and/or Gage Village controls more units of ownership than any other person or entity, Defendant MEI-GSR and Gage Village effectively control the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association by having the ability to elect Defendant MEI-GSR's chosen representatives to the Board of Directors (the governing body over the GSR Condo Units).
- 148. As a result of Defendant MEI-GSR controlling the Grand Sierra Resort Unit-Owners' Association, Plaintiffs effectively have no input or control over the management of the Unit Owners' Association.

- 149. Defendant MEI-GSR has used, and continues to use, its control over the Defendant Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association to advance Defendant MEI-GSR's economic objectives to the detriment of Plaintiffs.
  - 150. Plaintiffs are entitled to a receiver pursuant to NRS § 32.010.
- 151. Pursuant to NRS § 32.010, the appointment of a receiver is appropriate in this case as a matter of statute and equity.
- 152. Unless a receiver is appointed, Defendant MEI-GSR will continue to control the Unit Owners' Association to advance Defendant MEI-GSR's economic objections to the detriment of Plaintiffs.
- 153. Without the grant of the remedies sought in this Complaint, Plaintiffs have no adequate remedy at law to enforce their rights and Plaintiffs will suffer irreparable harm unless granted the relief as prayed for herein.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs request judgment against the Defendant Grand Sierra Resort Unit Owners' Association, as set forth below.

#### <u>SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF</u> (Intentional and/or Negligent Misrepresentation as to Defendant MEI-GSR)

- 154. Plaintiffs re-allege each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 151 of this Complaint as though fully stated herein and hereby incorporate them by this reference as if fully set forth below.
- 155. Defendant MEI-GSR made affirmative representations to Plaintiffs regarding the use, rental and maintenance of the Individual Unit Owners' GSR Condo Units.
- 156. Plaintiffs are now informed and believe, and thereon allege, that these representations were false.
- 157. The Defendant MEI-GSR knew that the affirmative representations were false, in the exercise of reasonable care should have known that they were false, and/or knew or should have known that it lacked a sufficient basis for making said representations.

- 158. The representations were made with the intention of inducing Plaintiffs to contract with Defendant MEI-GSR for the marketing and rental of Plaintiffs' GSR Condo Units and otherwise act, as set out above, in reliance upon the representations.
- 159. Plaintiffs justifiably relied upon the affirmative representations of Defendant MEI-GSR in contracting with Defendant MEI-GSR for the rental of their GSR Condo Units.
- 160. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant MEI-GSR's misrepresentations, Plaintiffs have been, and will continue to be, harmed in the manner herein.
- 161. Plaintiffs are further informed and believe, and thereon allege, that said representations were made by Defendant MEI-GSR with the intent to commit an oppression directed toward Plaintiffs by intentionally devaluing there GSR Condo Units. As a result, Plaintiffs are entitled to an award of exemplary damages against the Defendant, according to proof at the time of trial.
- 162. In addition, as a direct, proximate and necessary result of Defendant MEI-GSR's bad faith and wrongful conduct, Plaintiffs have been forced to incur costs and attorneys' fees and thus Plaintiffs hereby seek an award of said costs and attorneys' fees as damages pursuant to statute, decisional law, common law and this Court's inherent powers.

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiffs request judgment against Defendant MEI-GSR, as set forth below.

### THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Breach of Contract as to Defendant MEI-GSR)

- 163. Plaintiffs re-allege each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 160 of this Complaint as though fully stated herein and hereby incorporate them by this reference as if fully set forth below.
- 164. Defendant MEI-GSR has entered into a Grand Sierra Resort Unit Rental Agreement (the "Agreement") with Individual Condo Unit Owners.
- 165. Defendant MEI-GSR has breached the Agreement with Individual Unit Owners by failing to follow its terms, including but not limited to, the failure to implement an equitable Rotational System as referenced in the agreement.

Based on these facts, equitable or quasi-contracts existed between Plaintiffs and

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GSR's profits and devalue the GSR Condo Units owned by Plaintiffs.

185.	Every contract in	Nevada has	implied	into it, a	covenant	that the	parties	thereto
will act in the	spirit of good faith	and fair dea	ling.					

- 186. Defendant MEI-GSR has breached this covenant by intentionally making false and misleading statements to Plaintiffs, and for its other wrongful actions as alleged in this Complaint.
- 187. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant MEI-GSR's breaches of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, Plaintiffs have been, and will continue to be, harmed in the manner herein alleged.
- 188. In addition, as a direct, proximate and necessary result of Defendant MEI-GSR's bad faith and wrongful conduct, Plaintiffs have been forced to incur costs and attorneys' fees and thus Plaintiffs hereby seek an award of said costs and attorneys' fees as damages pursuant to statute, decisional law, common law and this Court's inherent powers.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs request judgment against Defendant MEI-GSR, as set forth below.

### SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

### (Consumer Fraud/Nevada Deceptive Trade Practices Act Against Defendant MEI-GSR)

- 189. Plaintiffs re-allege each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 186 of this Complaint as though fully stated herein and hereby incorporate them by this reference as if fully set forth below.
- 190. NRS § 41.600(1) provides that "[a]n action may be brought by any person who is a victim of consumer fraud."
- 191. NRS § 41.600(2) explains, in part, "consumer fraud' means . . . [a] deceptive trade practice as defined in NRS §§ 598.0915 to 598.0925, inclusive."
- 192. NRS Chapter 598 identifies certain activities which constitute deceptive trade practices; many of those activities occurred in MEI-GSR's dealings with Plaintiffs.
- 193. Defendant MEI-GSR, in the course of its business or occupation, knowingly made false representations and/or misrepresentations to Plaintiffs.

Reno, Nevada 89501

- 210. Defendant MEI-GSR has not fulfilled its duties and obligations.
- 211. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and thereon allege, that they are interested parties in the Defendant Grand Sierra Unit Owners Association and Defendant MEI-GSR's endeavors to market, maintain, service and rent Plaintiffs' GSR Condo Units.
- 212. Among their duties, Defendant Grand Sierra Unit Owners Association and Defendant MEI-GSR are required to prepare accountings of their financial affairs as they pertain to Plaintiffs.
- 213. Defendant Grand Sierra Unit Owners Association and Defendant MEI-GSR have failed to properly prepare and distribute said accountings.
  - 214. Accordingly, Plaintiffs are entitled to a full and proper accounting.

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiffs request judgment against the Defendants MEI-GSR and the Grand Sierra Unit Owners Association, as set forth below.

# TENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Specific Performance Pursuant to NRS 116.112, Unconscionable Agreement)

- 215. Plaintiffs re-allege each and every allegation contained in paragraphs 1 through 212 of this Complaint as though fully stated herein and hereby incorporate them by this reference as if fully set forth below.
- 216. As alleged herein, Plaintiffs entered into one or more contracts with Defendant MEI-GSR, including the Grand Sierra Resort Unit Rental Agreement and the Unit Maintenance Agreement.
- 217. The Grand Sierra Resort Unit Rental Agreement is unconscionable pursuant to NRS § 116.112 because MEI-GSR has manipulated the rental of the: (1) hotel rooms owned by Defendant MEI-GSR; (2) GSR Condo Units owned or controlled by Defendant MEI-GSR; and (3) GSR Condo Units owned by Individual Unit Owners so as to maximize Defendant MEI-GSR's profits and devalue the GSR Condo Units owned by the Individual Unit Owners.
- 218. The Unit Maintenance Agreement is unconscionable pursuant to NRS § 116.112 because of the excessive fees charged and the Individual Unit Owners' inability to reject fee increases.

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1	227.	Defendant Gage Village has worked in concert with Defendant MEI-GSR in its
2	scheme to de	value the GSR Condo Units and repurchase them.
3	WHE	<b>CREFORE</b> , Plaintiffs request judgment against the Defendants as follows:
4	1.	For the appointment of a neutral receiver to take over control of Defendant
5		Grand Sierra Unit Owners' Association;
6	2.	For compensatory damages according to proof, in excess of \$10,000.00;
7	3.	For punitive damages according to proof;
8	4.	For attorneys' fees and costs according to proof;
9	5.	For declaratory relief;
10	6.	For specific performance;
11	7.	For an accounting; and
12	8.	For such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.
13		AFFIRMATION
14	Pursu	ant to NRS 239B.030, the undersigned does hereby affirm that this document does
15	not contain th	ne social security number of any person.
16	RESP	PECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 26 <sup>th</sup> day of March, 2013.
17		ROBERTSON, JOHNSON, MILLER & WILLIAMSON
18		50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600 Reno, Nevada 89501
19		210110, 21011111111111111111111111111111
20		By: <u>/s/ Jarrad C. Miller</u> G. David Robertson, Esq.
21		Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. Jonathan J. Tew, Esq.
22		Attorneys for Plaintiffs
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		

1 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 2 Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I hereby certify that I am an employee of Robertson, Johnson, 3 Miller & Williamson, 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600, Reno, Nevada 89501, over the age of 18, and not a party within this action. I further certify that on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2013, I 4 electronically filed the foregoing SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT with the Clerk of the 5 Court by using the ECF system which served the following parties electronically: 6 7 Sean L. Brohawn, Esq. 50 W. Liberty Street, Suite 1040 Reno, NV 89501 9 Attorneys for Defendants / Counterclaimants 10 11 /s/ Kimberlee A. Hill An Employee of Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

# EXHIBIT K TO DOCKETING STATEMENT

### FILED

Electronically 05-23-2013:04:37:15 PM Joey Orduna Hastings Clerk of the Court Transaction # 3746119

1 Sean L. Brohawn, Esq.
2 Nevada Bar No. 7618
SEAN L. BROHAWN, PLLC
3 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 1040
Reno, Nevada 89501
Telephone: (775) 453-1505
Facsimile: (775) 453-1537
Sean@brohawnlaw.com
6
Attorneys for Defendants /

Counterclaimants

7

8

9

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# IN THE SECOND JUDICAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

ALBERT THOMAS, individually; JANE 12 DUNLAP, individually; JOHN DUNLAP, individually; BARRY HAY, individually; 13 MARIE-ANNE ALEXANDER, as Trustee of the MARIE-ANNIE ALEXANDER LIVING 14 TRUST; MELISSA VAGUJHELYI and GEORGE VAGUJHELYI, as Trustees of the GEORGE VAGUJHELYI AND MELISSA VAGUJHELYI 16 2001 FAMILY TRUST AGREEMENT, U/T/A APRIL 13, 2001; D' ARCY NUNN, individually; 17 HENRY NUNN, individually; MADELYN VAN DER BOKKE, individually; LEE VAN DER 18 BOKKE, individually; DONALD SCHREIFELS, individually; ROBERT R. PEDERSON, 19 individually and as Trustee of the PEDERSON 1990 TRUST; LOU ANN PEDERSON, 20 individually and as Trustee of the PEDERSON 21 1990 TRUST; LORI ORDOVER, individually; WILLIAM A. HENDERSON, individually; 22 CHRISTINE E. HENDERSON, individually: LOREN D. PARKER, individually; SUZANNE 23 C. PARKER, individually; MICHAEL IZADY, individually; STEVEN TAKAKI, individually; 24 FARAD TORABKHAN, individually; SAHAR TAVAKOL, individually; M&Y HOLDINGS, 25 LLC; JL&YL HOLDINGS, LLC; SANDI RAINES, individually; R. RAGHURAM, 26 individually; USHA RAGHURAM, individually; 27 LORI K. TOKUTOMI, individually; GARRET TOM, individually; ANITA TOM, individually;

RAMON FADRILAN, individually; FAYE FADRILAN, individually; PETER K. LEE and

Case No.: CV12-02222

Dept. No.:10

## ANSWER TO SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT AND COUNTERCLAIM

```
MONICA L. LEE, as Trustees of the LEE
 1
   FAMILY 2002 REVOCABLE TRUST;
   DOMINIC YIN, individually; ELIAS SHAMIEH,
    individually; JEFFREY QUINN, individually;
   BARBARA ROSE QUINN individually;
   KENNETH RICHE, individually; MAXINE
   RICHE, individually; NORMAN CHANDLER,
   individually; BENTON WAN, individually;
 5
    TIMOTHY D. KAPLAN, individually;
    SILKSCAPE INC.; PETER CHENG, individually;
 6
    ELISA CHENG, individually; GREG A.
    CAMERON, individually; TMI PROPERTY
    GROUP, LLC; RICHARD LUTZ, individually;
   SANDRA LUTZ, individually; MARY A.
 8
   KOSSICK, individually; MELVIN CHEAH,
   individually; DI SHEN, individually; NADINE'S
    REAL ESTATE INVESTMENTS, LLC; AJIT
10
   GUPTA, individually; SEEMA GUPTA,
    individually; FREDRICK FISH, individually;
11
   LISA FISH, individually; ROBERT A.
    WILLIAMS, individually; JACQUELIN PHAM.
12
    individually; MAY ANN HOM, as Trustee of the
   MAY ANN HOM TRUST; MICHAEL HURLEY,
13
    individually; DOMINIC YIN, individually;
   DUANE WINDHORST, individually; MARILYN
14
   WINDHORST, individually; VINOD BHAN,
15
   individually; ANNE BHAN, individually; GUY P.
   BROWNE, individually; GARTH A. WILLIAMS,
16
   individually; PAMELA Y. ARATANI, individually;
   DARLENE LINDGREN, individually; LAVERNE
17
    ROBERTS, individually; DOUG MECHAM,
   individually; CHRISINE MECHAM, individually;
18
   KWANGSOO SON, individually; SOO YEUN
   MOON, individually; JOHNSON AKINDODUNSE,
   individually; IRENE WEISS, as Trustee of the
20
   |WEISS FAMILY TRUST: PRAVESH CHOPRA,
   individually; TERRY POPE, individually; NANCY
21
   POPE, individually; JAMES TAYLOR,
   individually; RYAN TAYLOR, individually; KI
22
   HAM, individually; YOUNG JA CHOI,
   individually; SANG DEE SOHN, individually;
23
   KUK HYUNG (CONNIE), individually;
   SANG (MIKE) YOO, individually; BRETT
   MENMUIR, as Trustee of the CAYENNE TRUST:
   WILLIAM MINER, JR., individually; CHANH
   TRUONG, individually; ELIZABETH ANDERS
   MECUA, individually; SHEPHERD MOUNTAIN,
   LLC; ROBERT BRUNNER, individually; AMY
   BRUNNER, individually; JEFF RIOPELLE,
   individually; PATRICIA M. MOLL, individually;
   DANIEL MOLL, individually; and DOE
   PLAINTIFFS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive,
```

1	Plaintiffs
2	
3	V.
4	MEI-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, GRAND SIERRA RESORT
5	UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation, GAGE VILLAGE
6	COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada Limited Liability Company and DOE
7	DEFENDANTS 1 THROUGH 10, inclusive,
8	Defendants.
9	/
10	MEI-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company,
11	Counterclaimant
12	
13	V.
14	ALBERT THOMAS, individually; JANE DUNLAP, individually; JOHN DUNLAP,
15	individually; BARRY HAY, individually;
16	MARIE-ANNE ALEXANDER, as Trustee of the MARIE-ANNIE ALEXANDER LIVING
17	TRUST; MELISSA VAGUJHELYI and GEORGE VAGUJHELYI, as Trustees of the
18	GEORGE VAGUJHELYI AND MELISSA VAGUJHELYI 2001 FAMILY TRUST
19	AGREEMENT, U/T/A APRIL 13, 2001;
20	D' ARCY NUNN, individually; HENRY NUNN, individually; MADELYN VAN DER BOKKE,
21	individually; LEE VAN DER BOKKE, individually; DONALD SCHREIFELS,
22	individually; ROBERT R. PEDERSON,
23	individually and as Trustee of the PEDERSON 1990 TRUST; LOU ANN PEDERSON,
24	individually and as Trustee of the PEDERSON 1990 TRUST; WILLIAM A. HENDERSON,
25	individually; CHRISTINE E. HENDERSON, individually; LOREN D. PARKER, individually;
26	SUZANNE C. PARKER, individually;
27	MICHAEL IZADY, individually; SAHAR TAVAKOL, individually; M&Y HOLDINGS,
28	LLC; JL&YL HOLDINGS, LLC; GARRET TOM, individually; ANITA TOM, individually; RAMON FADRILAN, individually; FAYE
	3

FADRILAN, individually; PETER K. LEE and 1 MONICA L. LEE, as Trustees of the LEE FAMILY 2002 REVOCABLE TRUST; JEFFREY QUINN, individually; BARBARA ROSE OUINN individually; KENNETH RICHE 3 individually; MAXINE RICHE, individually; NORMAN CHANDLER, individually; BENTON WAN, individually; TIMOTHY D. KAPLAN, 5 individually; SILKSCAPE INC.; GREG A. CAMERON, individually; TMI PROPERTY GROUP, LLC; NADINE'S REAL ESTATE 7 INVESTMENTS, LLC; ROBERT A. WILLIAMS, individually; DUANE 8 WINDHORST, individually; MARILYN WINDHORST, individually; GARTH A. WILLIAMS, individually; PAMELA Y. ARATANI, individually; DARLENE LINDGREN, individually; SOO YEUN MOON, individually; IRENE WEISS, as Trustee of the 11 WEISS FAMILY TRUST; PRAVESH 12 CHOPRA, individually; TERRY POPE, individually; NANCY POPE, individually; KI NAM CHOI, individually; YOUNG JA CHOI, individually; KUK HYUNG (CONNIE) YOO, individually; SANG (MIKE) YOO, individually; 15 BRETT MENMUIR, as Trustee of the CAYENNE TRUST; CHANH TRUONG, 16 individually; SHEPHERD MOUNTAIN, LLC; ROBERT BRUNNER, individually; AMY 17 BRUNNER, individually; JEFF RIOPELLE, individually; and DOES 1 18 through 200, inclusive, 19

Counter-Defendants

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### **ANSWER**

Defendants, MEI-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company ("GSR"), GRAND SIERRA RESORT UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, a Nevada nonprofit corporation ("GSR UOA"), GAGE VILLAGE COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LLC, a Nevada Limited Liability Company ("Gage Village") (collectively "Defendants"), by and through their counsel of record, SEAN L. BROHAWN, PLLC, for their answer to Plaintiffs' Second Amended Complaint, allege as follows:

collects association dues that vary depending upon the size of the unit, as provided in the

Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to

Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 134.

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Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 157.

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1	60.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 158.			
2	61.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 159.			
3	62.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 160.			
4	63.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 161.			
5	64.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 162.			
6		THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF			
7	65.	Answering the allegations of Paragraph 163, Defendants incorporate the			
8	Inreceding allegations of this Answer as if the same were set forth at length herein				
9	66.	Answering the allegations of Paragraph 164, Defendants admit that GSR has			
	entered into U	nit Rental Agreements with certain individual condo Unit owners. Defendants			
10	deny the rema	ining allegations of Paragraph 164.			
11	67.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 165.			
12	68.	Answering the allegations of Paragraph 166, Defendants admit that GSR has			
13	entered into individual Unit Rental Agreements with certain individual condo Unit owners, but				
14	has not entered into a global agreement regarding Unit rental with Unit Owners as a whole.				
15	Defendants ad	mit that each individual existing rental agreement is enforceable. Defendants deny			
16	the remaining	allegations of Paragraph 166.			
17	69.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 167.			
18	70.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 168.			
19	71.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 169.			
20		FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF			
21	72.	Answering the allegations of Paragraph 170, Defendants incorporate the			
22	preceding alle	gations of this Answer, as if the same were set forth at length herein.			
23	73.	Answering the allegations of Paragraph 171, Defendants admit that GSR and			
24	Plaintiffs are c	ontractually obligated to each other, under one or more types of agreements			
25	between them.	Defendants deny the remaining allegations of Paragraph 171.			
26	74.	Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to			
27	the truth of the	e allegations contained in Paragraph 172 and, therefore, the same are denied.			
28	75.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 173.			
	76.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 174.			

1	77.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 175.
2	78.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 176.
3	79.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 177.
4	. 80.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 178.
5	81.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 179.
6	82.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 180.
7		FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF
8	83.	Answering the allegations of Paragraph 181, Defendants incorporate the
9	preceding alle	gations of this Answer, as if the same were set forth at length herein.
10	84.	Answering the allegations of Paragraph 182, Defendants admit that GSR and
	Plaintiffs are o	contractually obligated to each other, under one or more types of agreements
11	between them	. Defendants deny the remaining allegations of Paragraph 182.
12	85.	Answering the allegations of Paragraph 183, Defendants admit that individual
13	rental agreeme	ents require GSR to market and rent individually owned units. Defendants deny
14	the remaining	allegations of Paragraph 183.
15	86.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 184.
16	87.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 185.
17	88.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 186.
18	89.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 187.
19	90.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 188.
20		SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF
21	91.	Answering the allegations of Paragraph 189, Defendants incorporate the
22	preceding alle	gations of this Answer, as if the same were set forth at length herein.
23	92.	Answering the allegations of Paragraph 190, Defendants assert that NRS 41.600
24	speaks for itse	lf. Defendants deny the remaining allegations of Paragraph 190.
25	93.	Answering the allegations of Paragraph 191, Defendants assert that NRS 41.600
26	speaks for itse	lf. Defendants deny the remaining allegations of Paragraph 191.
27	94.	Answering the allegations of Paragraph 192, Defendants assert that NRS Chapte
30	598 speaks for	itself. Defendants deny the remaining allegations of Paragraph 192.

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1	96.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 194.
2	97.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 195.
3	98.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 196.
4	99.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 197.
5		SEVENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF
6	100.	Answering the allegations of Paragraph 198, Defendants incorporate the
7	preceding alle	gations of this Answer, as if the same were set forth at length herein.
8	101.	Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to
9	the truth of the	e allegations contained in Paragraph 199 and, therefore, the same are denied.
10	102.	Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to
	the truth of the	e allegations contained in Paragraph 200 and, therefore, the same are denied.
11	103.	Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to
12	the truth of the	e allegations contained in Paragraph 201 and, therefore, the same are denied.
13	104.	Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to
14	the truth of the	e allegations contained in Paragraph 202 and, therefore, the same are denied.
5	105.	Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to
16	the truth of the	e allegations contained in Paragraph 203 and, therefore, the same are denied.
17		EIGHTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF
18	106.	Answering the allegations of Paragraph 204, Defendants incorporate the
19	preceding alle	gations of this Answer, as if the same were set forth at length herein.
20	107.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 205.
21	108.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 206.
22	109.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 207.
23		NINTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF
24	110.	Answering the allegations of Paragraph 208, Defendants incorporate the
25	preceding alle	gations of this Answer, as if the same were set forth at length herein.
26	111.	Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to
27	the truth of the	e allegations contained in Paragraph 209 and, therefore, the same are denied.
28	112.	Defendants deny the allegations of Paragraph 210.
	113.	Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to

### AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

### FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The Complaint fails to state a claim or cause of action against Defendants for which relief can be granted.

### SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs have failed to mitigate their damages and, to the extent of such failure of such mitigation, are precluded from recovery herein.

### THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendants allege that the incidents referred to in the Complaint, and any and all injuries and damages resulting therefrom, if any occurred, were caused or contributed to by the acts or omissions of a third party over whom Defendants had no control.

### FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendants allege that the injuries or damages suffered by Plaintiffs, if any, were caused in whole or in part by an independent intervening cause over which these Defendants had no control.

### FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The injuries or damages, if any, sustained by Plaintiffs were caused in whole, or in part, through the negligence of others who were not the agents of these Defendants or acting on behalf of the these Defendants.

### SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

The injuries or damages, if any, suffered by Plaintiffs, were caused in whole, or in part, or were contributed to by reason of the negligence of Plaintiffs.

### SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' claims are barred by one or more statutes of limitations.

### EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs assumed the risk of injury by virtue of its own conduct.

### NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Plaintiffs waived the causes of action asserted herein.

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### TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

Defendants presently have insufficient knowledge or information upon which to form a belief as to whether they may have additional, and as yet, unstated affirmative defenses available. Defendants therefore reserve the right to assert additional affirmative defenses in the event discovery indicates that they are appropriate.

WHEREFORE, Defendants pray that:

- 1. Plaintiffs' Complaint be dismissed, with prejudice.
- 2. For all litigation expenses, costs, attorney's fees, and other damages incurred in defending against the Complaint; and
  - 3. For such other and further relief as the Court deems proper.

### **COUNTERCLAIM**

Counterclaimant MEI-GSR HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company ("GSR"), for its counterclaim against Counter-Defendants, alleges as follows:

- 1. The named Counter-Defendants are all current or former owners of one or more hotel-condominiums within the project known as the Grand Sierra Resort Unit-Owners' Association (the "Project").
- 2. The Counter-Defendants referred to herein as DOES 1 through 200 are as yet unknown parties to the UMAs an/or CC&Rs referred to herein, or are current or former owners of one or more hotel-condominiums within the Project, and as such owe duties to GSR under such contracts, or based upon other causes of action. GSR will seek leave of this Court to amend this Counterclaim to name such parties at such time as their identities become known to GSR.
- 3. GSR is a successor declarant in the Project, and as such, is entitled to collect certain non-homeowner's association dues and/or fees under the CC&Rs governing the Project, and under separate Unit Maintenance Agreements between each unit owner in the Project and GSR.
- 4. GSR has demanded that Counter-Defendants pay the full amount of dues and fees owed by them under the CC&Rs and/or the UMAs, but to date, Counter-Defendants have failed or refused to make all such payments.
  - 5. Additionally, each UMA requires the unit owner to provide active credit card

information to GSR, as a source for payment of certain expenses incurred by the unit owner.

- 6. Some of the Counter-Defendants have failed or refused to provide active credit card information to GSR, in compliance with the UMAs.
- 7. Prior to bringing this Counterclaim, GSR provided notice to each Counter-Defendant of the above breaches of the UMAs, and provided each Counter-Defendant with at leas 60 days within which to cure such breaches, however, Counter-Defendants have failed or refused to cure all such breaches.

### FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

(Breach of Contract)

- 8. GSR incorporates by reference the preceding Paragraphs of this Counterclaim as if set forth at length herein.
  - 9. GSR and Counter-Defendants are parties to the CC&Rs and UMAs.
- 10. GSR has performed all obligations required to be performed by it under the CC&Rs and UMAs, or was excused from performance of such obligations due to Counter-Defendants' conduct.
- 11. Counter-Defendants have breached the CC&Rs and UMAs by failing to pay all sums when due under those agreements and/or by failing to provide active credit card information as required by the UMAs, despite individual written demands by GSR.
- 12. Counter-Defendants' breaches of the CC&Rs and UMAs have foreseeably caused GSR damages in an amount in excess of \$10,000, subject to proof at trial.

### SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

(Declaratory Relief)

- 13. GSR incorporates by reference the preceding paragraphs of this Counterclaim as if set forth at length herein.
- 14. GSR asserts that the CC&Rs and UMAs are valid and existing contracts to which each Counter-Defendant is a party, and that Counter-Defendants owe duties to GSR under those contracts. On information and belief, Counter-Defendants deny that they owe duties to GSR under the C&Rs and UMAs.

- 15. An actual controversy has arisen and now exists between GSR and Counter-Defendants concerning their respective rights, entitlements, obligations and duties under the CC&Rs and UMAs.
- 16. GSR therefore requests a declaratory judgment determining the parties' rights under the CC&Rs and UMAs.

### THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

(Injunctive Relief)

- 17. GSR incorporates by reference the preceding paragraphs of this Counterclaim as if set forth at length herein.
- 18. Counter-Defendants are obligated under each UMA to provide active credit card information to GSR to help defray charges incurred under each UMA. Several of the Counter-Defendants have failed or refused to provide such credit card information to GSR.
- 19. GSR therefore requests that this Court enter a mandatory injunction requiring Counter-Defendants to provide active credit card information to GSR, as required by the UMAs. WHEREFORE, GSR requests relief against Counter-Defendants as follows:
- 1. That GSR be granted judgment for all past due dues, fees, and related charges owed by Counter-Defendants under the CC&Rs and UMAs, in an amount in excess of \$10,000, subject to proof at trial;
- 2. That this Court enter a declaratory judgment determining the parties' rights under the CC&Rs and UMAs;
- 3. That this Court enter a mandatory injunction requiring Counter-Defendants to provide active credit card information to GSR, as required by the UMAs;
  - 4. For costs of suit incurred herein, interest, and attorneys' fees; and
  - 5. For such other and further relief as the Court deems proper.

### **AFFIRMATION**

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

DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of May, 2013,

SEAN L. BROHAWN, PLLC

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Attorneys for Defendants / Counterclaimant

### 1 CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE 2 Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I certify that I am an employee of the law firm of SEAN L. 3 BROHAWN, PLLC, and that on the date shown below, I caused service of a true and correct 4 copy of the attached: ANSWER TO SECONDN AMENDED COMPLAINT AND COUNTERCLAIM 5 6 to be completed by: personally delivering 7 sending via Federal Express or other overnight delivery service 8 depositing for mailing in the U.S. mail with sufficient postage affixed thereto 9 delivery via facsimile machine to fax no. 10 delivery via e-mail/Electronic court filing 11 12 addressed to: 13 G. David Robertson, Esq. (NV Bar No. 1001) (775) 329-5600 Attorneys for Jarrad C. Miller, Esq. (NV Bar No. 7093) Plaintiffs 14 Jonathan J. Tew, Esq. (NV Bar No. 11874) 15 Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600 16 Reno, Nevada 89501 17 18 \_day of May, 2013. 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27