IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

Electronically Filed Dec 29 2021 02:36 p.m. Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court

William Shawn Wallace,

Appellant,

VS.

Ammie Ann Wallace,

Respondent.

Supreme Court Case No. 83591

District Court Case No. D-20-613567-Z

JOINT APPENDIX

VOLUME II

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Docket 83591 Document 2021-37089

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Electronically Filed 9/14/2021 4:58 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT 1 **OBJ** JOHN T. KELLEHER, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 6012 KELLEHER & KELLEHER, LLC 2 40 South Stephanie Street, Suite 201 Henderson, Nevada 89012
Telephone (702) 384-7494
Facsimile (702) 384-7545
rngibbs@kelleherandkelleher.com Attorneys for Defendant 6 7 **DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 8 AMMIE ANN WALLACE, CASE NO. D-20-613567-Z 10 Plaintiff, DEPT. NO. S 11 v. 12 WILLIAM SHAWN WALLACE, 13 Defendant. 14 DEFENDANT'S OBJECTION TO PLAINTIFF'S MEMORANDUM OF FEES AND COSTS 15 COMES NOW, Defendant William Shawn Wallace, by and through his attorney, 16 JOHN T. KELLEHER, ESQ., of the Law Offices of KELLEHER & KELLEHER, LLC., 17 and hereby respectfully submits this Objection to Plaintiff's Memorandum of Fees and 18 19 Costs filed in this matter. DATED this 14th day of September, 2021. 20 KELLEHER & KELLEHER, LLC 21 22 23 JOHN T. KELLEHER, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 006012 40 S. Stephanie Street, Suite 201 Henderson, Nevada 89012 Attorney for Defendant William Wallace 24 25 26 27 28

I.

ISSUE

Counsel for Defendant Ammie Ann Wallace ("Ammie") filed a Memorandum of Fees and Costs requesting attorney's fees in the amount of \$10,300.00, a portion of which has been incurred and an additional \$3,200.00 expected to be incurred in this matter for the preparation of an Order and an additional \$400.00 for the preparation of her Memorandum of Fees and Costs. Defendant William Wallace ("William") contends that Ammie should not be awarded the sum of \$10,300.00.

II.

HISTORY OF THE CASE

The parties were married on October 10, 2009 in Las Vegas. They have three (3) minor children of this marriage, namely William Shawn Wallace, Jr. (10), Miller Clyde Wallace (9), and Quinn Rose Wallace (6). The parties separated in August of 2017 and were divorced by a joint Decree of Divorce in September 2020.

Prior to the Decree of Divorce and for approximately six (6) months after, the parties did not follow anything close to the custodial schedule contained in the Decree of Divorce. William believed this constituted a change in circumstances and also de facto joint physical custody. While the Court disagreed with the case law presented by William's counsel regarding a change of circumstances and de facto custody, Ammie admitted in her Opposition that the parties never followed the Decree of Divorce from August 2020 through March 2021 when she abruptly demanded a change in the custodial arrangement to the schedule in the decree. See Plaintiff's Opposition and Countermotion, p. 11, ll. 5-11.

The main issue in the case was that William believed it was in the best interests of the minor children for the parties to continue following the custodial timeshare they had followed since prior to the September 2020 divorce and for six (6) months after. William filed his motion regarding custody on June 18, 2021; Ammie filed an

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opposition and request for fees on July 9, 2021; and, the hearing was held on August 12, 2021. The Court denied William's motion and granted Ammie's request for fees.

III.

LEGAL ARGUMENT

Pursuant to Miller v. Wilfong, 121 Nev. 619, 119 P.3d 727 (2005), the Nevada Supreme Court held that when deciding whether to award attorney fees in family law cases, the following factors should be considered:

- Counsel must cite a statute or rule as a legal basis for attorney's fees;
- The Court must follow the four (4) factors set forth in Brunzell v. Gold Gate 2. National Bank 85 Nev. 345, 455 P.2d 31 (1969); i.e., (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;
- The Court must consider the disparity in income of the parties pursuant to Wright v. Osburn, 114 Nev. 1367, 970 P.2d 1071 (1998);
- The request must be supported by affidavits or other evidence that meets the factors in Brunzell and Wright.

WHETHER THE COURT HAS A LEGAL BASIS TO AWARD **(1)**

The Court found a basis for awarding attorney's fee as Ammie was the prevailing party. However, the amount requested by Ammie should be reduced significantly as discussed herein.

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KELLEHER & KELLEHER LLC 40 S. STEPRANE STREET, SUITE #201 HENDERSON, NEVADA 89012 FESCIPIE (703) 384-784 FESCIPIE (703) 384-784

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(2) BRUNZELL FACTORS

(i) The qualities of the advocate, his ability, his training, education, experience, professional standing and skill.

With respect to the qualities of the advocate, both parties were represented by counsel in this action. While there is no question that Ms. Cooley is a highly experienced family law professional, it is unreasonable that Ammie has incurred attorney's fees and costs in an amount over \$10,000.00 for such a simple proceeding. Accordingly, Ms. Cooley's fees should be reduced significantly.

(ii) 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

With respect to factor number two (2) in the *Brunzell* factors, the work performed by Ammie's counsel does not comport with her request for over \$10,000.00. This case lasted for less than two (2) months, from the date of the filing through the only hearing held. It involved only one court hearing, which was brief. Ammie's counsel prepared one opposition. In addition, her request for the Court to award her the sum of \$3,200.00 for drafting the simple order from the brief hearing is particularly surprising and is illustrative of the excessive fees based on the simplicity of the matter.

(iii) The work actually performed by the lawyer, the skill, time and attention given to the work

As stated, this was a simple matter that was disposed of quickly by the Court. While Ammie has presented documentation for some of the actual work performed by her counsel, the documentation is not complete and requests the sum of \$3,600.00 for work that is not accounted for on the bill presented.

(iv) The result: whether the attorney was successful and what benefits were derived

Ammie was successful in this simple proceeding.

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DISPARITY IN INCOME (3)

The Court must consider the disparity in income of the parties pursuant to Wright v. Osburn, 114 Nev. 1367, 970 P.2d 1071 (1998). Pursuant to the parties' Financial Disclosure Forms recently filed, Ammie earns more than \$4,000.00 per month in excess of William's monthly income. In addition, she stated she has an additional monthly business income in the amount of \$1,436.82. These amounts provided by Ammie put her monthly income at over \$15,000.00 which is over \$5,000.00 per month more than William's income. Ammie listed monthly personal expenses in the amount of \$4,382.74 so she has a significant amount of excess income each month. Ammie's stated income does not include the child support payments. See Plaintiff's Financial Disclosure Form, filed July 9, 2021.

Based on the large disparity in incomes between the parties, William requests Ammie's attorney fees award be significantly reduced.

IV.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above analysis, Defendant William Wallace respectfully requests that Plaintiff's request for an award of attorney fees be significantly reduced.

DATED this 14th day of September, 2021.

KELLEHER & KELLEHER, LLC

Nevada Bar No. 006012 40 S. Stephanie Street, Suite 201 Henderson, Nevada 89012 Attorney for Defendant William Wallace

AFFIDAVIT OF ATTORNEY JOHN T. KELLEHER, ESQ.

STATE OF NEVADA)ss: COUNTY OF CLARK

JOHN T. KELLEHER, ESQ., being duly sworn, states: that Affiant is an attorney at the law firm of Kelleher & Kelleher, LLC, the attorney for the Defendant William Wallace and has personal knowledge of the items contained in the above memorandum and they are true and correct to the best of this Affiant's knowledge and belief.

> JOHN T. KELLEHER, ESQ. Attorney for Defendant

NOTARY PUBLIC

In and for said County and State

GERALDINE L. JACKSON NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF NEVADA Commission Expires: 09-30-24 Certificate No: 92-3952-1

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the <u>\Mathred \text{ day of September, 2021, a true and correct copy of the foregoing OBJECTION TO PLAINTIFF'S MEMORANDUM OF FEES AND COSTS was served electronically via E-Service Master List of Odyssey and addressed as follows:</u>

Shelly Booth Cooley, Esq. THE COOLEY LAW FIRM scooley@cooleylawly.com Attorney for Plaintiff

An Employee of Kelleher & Kelleher, LLC

Electronically Filed 9/16/2021 11:34 AM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT NEO 1 NEO
THE COOLEY LAW FIRM
Shelly Booth Cooley
Nevada State Bar No. 8992
10161 Park Run Drive, Suite 150
Las Vegas, Nevada 89145
Telephone Number: (702) 265-4505
Facsimile Number: (702) 645-9924
E-mail: scooley@cooleylawlv.com
Attorney for Plaintiff,
AMMIE ANN WALLACE 2 3 4 5 6 DISTRICT COURT FAMILY DIVISION CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 7 8 9 Case No. D-20-613567-Z Dept No. S AMMIE ANN WALLACE, 10 Plaintiff, 11 vs. Date of Hearing: 08/12/2021 Time of Hearing: 9:15 a.m. 12 WILLIAM SHAWN WALLACE, 13 Defendant 14 15 NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER 16 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, 17 and Order were entered in the above-entitled matter on 09/09/2021. A 18 copy of said Order is attached hereto. 19 20 DATED this 16 day of September, 2021. 21 THE COOLEY LAW FIRM 22 By /s/ Shelly Booth Cooley Shelly Booth Cooley Nevada Bar No. 8992 10161 Park Run Drive, Suite 150 23 24 Las Vegas, Nevada, 89145 <u>ttorně</u>y <u>for Plaintiff</u> 25 26 27 28 Page 1 of 2

Case Number: D-20-613567-Z

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE 1 2 The undersigned hereby certifies pursuant to NRCP 5(b) that on the 16 day of September, 2021, a true and correct copy of the foregoing 3 NOTICE OF ORDER was served upon each of the parties: 5 BY ELECTRONIC SERVICE: Pursuant to EDCR 8.05(a), EDCR 8.05(f), NRCP 5(b)(2)(D) and Administrative Order 14-2 captioned "In the Administrative Matter of Mandatory Electronic Service in the Eighth Judicial District Court," by mandatory electronic service through the Eighth Judicial District Court's electronic filing [X]6 7 8 system. 9 BY MAIL: Pursuant to EDCR 7.26(a)(1), by depositing a copy of the same in a sealed envelope in the United States Mail, Postage Pre-Paid to the last known address of each of the parties, at Las []10 11 Vegas, Nevada. BY FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION: Pursuant to EDCR 7.26(a)(3), via facsimile transmission. Attached is a copy of the Facsimile Transmittal Form, along with the Fax Call Report, confirming the facsimile transmission. 12 13 14 **BY HAND DELIVERY:** By hand delivery with signed Receipt of $[\]$ 15 Copy. To the address, email address, and/or facsimile number indicated below: 16 John T. Kelleher, Esq. Kelleher & Kelleher, LLC 40 S. Stephanie St., Suite 201 Henderson, NV 89012 Attorneys for Defendant 17 18 19 20 /s/ Shelly Booth Cooley 21 An Employee of The Cooley Law Firm 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 Page 2 of 2

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Page 1 of 15

EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT FAMILY DIVISION CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Case No.:

D-20-613567-Z

Dept. No.:

S

WILLIAM SHAWN WALLACE,

AMMIE ANN WALLACE,

vs.

Defendant.

Plaintiff,

Date of Hearing: 08/12/2021 Time of Hearing: 9:15 a.m.

$\frac{\text{FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND}}{\text{ORDER}}$

This matter having come on for hearing on the 12th day of August, 2021; Plaintiff, Ammie Ann Wallace (Ammie) being present and represented by Shelly Booth Cooley of The Cooley Law Firm via video; Defendant, William Shawn Wallace (William) being present and represented by John T. Kelleher of Kelleher & Kelleher via video. The Court having considered the papers and pleadings on file herein, as well as the argument of counsel and the parties, and after taking the matter under advisement, FINDS and ORDERS as follows.

Findings of Fact

That the parties were divorced on 09/10/2020. That the Decree of Divorce (Decree) is the controlling order in this case. That Decree consists of the Decree of Divorce and Joint Petition for Divorce and UCCJEA Declaration (Petition).

This Court has continuing personal and subject matter jurisdiction in this case. This Court has continuing exclusive custody jurisdiction over post-judgment custody matters pursuant to the UCCJEA as adopted in Nevada Revised Statutes. Ammie and William are residents of Nevada, and Nevada is the home state of the parties' minor children.

That in the Decree, Ammie and William requested that the "agreement settling all issues regarding child custody, visitation, child support, medical insurance and expenses, and the tax deduction," outlined in the Petition, "being fair, in the children's best interest, and meets the children's financial needs, be ratified, confirmed, and incorporated into the Decree as though fully set forth." Decree at 3:23-4:4.

That in the Decree, Ammie and William asserted, "that the amount of child support ordered herein is in compliance with the

| 1 | guidelines established by the Administrator of the Division of Welfare |
|--------|--|
| 2 | and Supportive Services or has been stipulated to by the parties with |
| 3 4 | the required certifications and disclosures required by the guidelines." |
| 5 | Decree at 4:14-20. |
| 6 | That pursuant to the Petition, the parties share joint legal custody |
| 7 | of the children, to wit: William Shawn Wallace, Jr., date of birth: |
| 8 | 06/24/2010, age 11; Miller Clyde Wallace, date of birth: 05/15/2012, age |
| 9 10 | 9; and, Quinn Rose Wallace, date of birth: 01/18/2015, age 6. Petition at |
| 11 | 4:17-19. |
| 12 | That pursuant to the Petition: |
| 13 | O Dharainal Carata da Tha Datition and a great that |
| 14 | 9. Physical Custody. The Petitioners agree that primary physical custody of the children should be granted |
| | to AMMIE ANN WALLACE. The Petitioners agree that |
| 15 | WILLIAM SHAWN WALLACE should have custody of the |
| 16 | children Monday through Friday, from 3:30 p.m. (or after school if school is in session), through 6:30 p.m. The |
| 17 | Petitioners agree that weekends, defined as Friday at 6:30 |
| 18 | p.m. to Sunday at 6:30 p.m., should be alternated: Mother's weekend is 09/11/2020. Father's weekend is 09/04/2020. |
| 19 | Petition at 6:13-23. The parties agreed to a comprehensive Holiday |
| 20 | |
| 21 | Visitation Schedule outlined in the Petition. Petition at 6:24-8:24. |
| 22 | That pursuant to the Petition: |
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11. Parties' Incomes.

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AMMIE ANN WALLACE's gross monthly income is \$8,583.

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WILLIAM SHAWN WALLACE's gross monthly income is \$10,000.00.

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12. **Child Support.** The child support calculation would require WILLIAM SHAWN WALLACE to pay \$2,080 per month in child support. The Petitioners agree to set child support at a different amount. Accordingly, WILLIAM SHAWN WALLACE shall pay child support to AMMIE ANN WALLACE in the amount of \$1,000.00 per month (\$333.33) per child) pursuant to NAC 425.140(2) and NAC 425.150. The parties certify that the basic needs of the children are met or exceeded by the stipulated child support obligation. The child support obligation for each particular child is terminated beginning on the first day of the month following the date on which the child reaches 18 years of age or, if the child is still in high school, the first day of the month following the date on which the child graduates from high school or reaches 19 years of age, whichever comes first.

Petition at 9:4-27.

That a Consent to Self-Representation was filed in this matter on 09/04/2020, wherein William acknowledged that Shelly Booth Cooley and The Cooley Law Firm represent Ammie, do not and will not represent him, will at all times look out for Ammie's interests, not William's, have not given him legal advice, have urged him to obtain his own counsel to give him advice, and notwithstanding the suggestion to

obtain his own counsel to give him advice, William decided to represent himself. 3 That on 06/18/2021, William filed his Motion to Modify Decree of 4 Divorce. That Motion requested that the Court modify custody, deny 5 any claim for "back child support," and recalculate child support. 7 That Ammie filed her Opposition and Countermotion for 8 Attorneys' Fees and Costs on 07/09/2021. 9 That William filed his Reply and Exhibits on 07/27/2021. That 10 Ammie filed her Exhibits to Opposition on 08/09/2021. 11 12 At the 08/12/2021 hearing, the matter came before the Court and 13 the matter was taken under advisement. 14 That on September 8, 2021, Ammie filed her Memorandum of Fees 15 and Costs seeking an award in the sum of \$10,300.00 pursuant to NRS 16 18.010 and EDCR 7.60(b). Included in the Memorandum was the 17 18 required Brunzell v. Golden Gate Nat'l Bank, 85 Nev. 345, 455 P.2d 31 19 (1969) analyses. Additionally, attorney-client invoices were submitted 20 in support of Ammie's Memorandum. In support of her request, Ammie 21 contends that she prevailed in the post-judgment proceedings. 22 23 24

Conclusions of Law

Custody

Before the Court can change custody, a hearing must be held in order to assure all parties' rights are protected. Weise v. Granata, 110 Nev. 1410 (1994); Moser v. Moser, 108 Nev. 572 (1992). However, a hearing is not required if the moving party fails to demonstrate "adequate cause" in the affidavits and points and authorities for a change in custody. Rooney v. Rooney, 109 Nev. 540, 853 P.2d 123

(1993). Specifically, the Rooney Court stated:

Nevada statutes and case law provide district courts with broad discretion concerning child custody matters. Given such discretion in this area, we hereby adopt an "adequate cause" standard. That is, we hold that a district court has the discretion to deny a motion to modify custody without holding a hearing unless the moving party demonstrates "adequate cause" for holding a hearing. "Adequate cause" requires something more than allegations which, if proven, might permit inferences sufficient to establish grounds for a custody change. "Adequate cause" arises where the moving party presents a prima facie case for modification. To constitute a prima facie case it must be shown that: (1) the facts alleged in the affidavits are relevant to the grounds for modification; and (2) the evidence is not merely cumulative or impeaching.

(Internal Citations omitted.) <u>Id</u>. at 124-125. The Court FINDS William fails to establish in his affidavit and points and authorities "adequate cause" to require a hearing.

This Court may make an order at any time during the minority of the child for the custody, care, education, maintenance, and support of the minor children as appears in their best interests. NRS 125C.0045(1)(a). In custody matters, the polestar for judicial decisions is the best interest of the children. NRS 125C.0035 and Schwartz v. Schwartz, 107 Nev. 378, 812 P.2d 1268, 1272 (1991). Nevada statutes and case law provide that the district court has broad discretion concerning child custody matters. Rooney v. Rooney, 109 Nev. 540, 853 P.2d 123 (1993). The foundation of all custody determinations lies in the particular facts and circumstances of each case. Arnold v. Arnold, 95 Nev. 951, 604 P.2d (1979).

In his Motion to Modify Decree of Divorce, William is seeking to modify the award of primary physical custody to Ammie, to an award of joint physical custody to the parties pursuant to Truax v. Truax, 874 P.2d 10, 110 Nev. 437 (1994). William maintains that he is entitled to a change of custody because the parties never followed the Decree and followed a joint timeshare from August 2020 through March 2021. Ammie maintains that she has had primary physical custody of the children since the parties' separation in October 2017 (and since the divorce) and that the test for modifications of primary physical custody

is <u>Ellis v. Carucci</u>, 123 Nev. 145, 161 P.3d 239 (2007). Ammie acknowledges that the parties followed a "flexible timeshare" as both parties were working from home and the children were participating in distance learning from August 2020 to March 2021, until the children returned to in-person learning, and the parties resumed following the timeshare outlined in the Decree, the timeshare the parties had been following since their separation in August, 2017.

Pursuant to <u>Rivero v. Rivero</u>, 125 Nev. 410, 216 P.3d 213 (2009):

When considering whether to modify a physical custody arrangement, the district court must first determine what type of physical custody arrangement exists because different tests apply depending on the district court's determination. A modification to a joint physical custody arrangement is appropriate if it is in the child's best interest. NRS 125.510(2). In contrast, a modification to a primary physical custody arrangement is appropriate when there is a substantial change in the circumstances affecting the child and the modification serves the child's best interest. Ellis, 123 Nev. at 150, 161 P.3d at 242.

"If a parent has physical custody less than 40 percent of the time, then that parent has visitation rights and the other parent has primary physical custody." <u>Id</u>. at 226. The parties stipulated in the Decree of Divorce that Ammie would have primary physical custody of their children and William would have custody of the children Monday through Friday, from 3:30 p.m. (or after school if school is in session),

through 6:30 p.m. The parties alternated the weekends. According to
the parties' custody agreement in the Decree, Ammie had primary
physical custody and William had visitation, the Decree of Divorce
described an approximately 80/20 (alternating weekends) timeshare,
and the Decree labeled the arrangement as primary physical
custody/visitation rights.

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Reviewing the facts in the light most favorable to William, the parties shared joint physical custody from August 2020, through March 2021, and they have been following the timeshare in the Decree since April 2021, when the children returned to in-person schooling. Pursuant to Rivero, the district court should calculate the time during which a party has physical custody of a child over one calendar year. Id. at 225. 'Calculating the timeshare over a one-year period allows the court to consider weekly arrangements." Id. Calculating the time during which each party had physical custody of the children between August 2020, and August 2021, William had custody of the children approximately 30% of the parenting time and Ammie had custody of the children approximately 70% of the parenting time. Reviewing the evidence in the light most favorable to William, the Court FINDS the parties' custody arrangement was one of primary physical custody.

When a parent is seeking to modify an award of primary physical custody, as William is seeking, the correct standard is <u>Ellis v. Carucci</u>, 123 Nev. 145 (2007), where the Nevada Supreme Court concluded that a modification of primary physical custody is warranted only when (1) there has been a substantial change in circumstances affecting the welfare of the child, and (2) the modification serves the best interest of the child.

In his affidavit and points and authorities, William does not allege that there has been a substantial change in circumstances affecting the welfare of the children. Rather, William asserts that he is entitled to a "change of custody...because the parties never followed the Decree of Divorce." Reply at 6:19-21. However, in his Reply, William admits that the parties began following the timeshare in the Decree in "spring of 2021." Reply at 6:18. Reviewing the facts in the light most favorable to William as William addressed the best interest factors outlined in NRS 125C.0035(4) in his moving papers, the modification of custody would serve the child's best interest. However, William did not satisfy both elements of Ellis v. Carucci.

Pursuant to <u>Rooney</u>, "to constitute a prima facie case it must be shown that: (1) the facts alleged in the affidavits are relevant to the

grounds for modification; and (2) the evidence is not merely cumulative or impeaching." In this matter, the facts alleged in William's affidavits are not relevant to the grounds for modification as they do not satisfy both elements of <u>Ellis v. Carucci</u>, and the evidence is merely cumulative or impeaching.

Pursuant to <u>Rooney v. Rooney</u>, the Court FINDS there is no adequate cause to hold an evidentiary hearing or trial regarding William's Motion to Modify Decree of Divorce and William's motion is denied.

Child Support

William cites to no law (statutory or caselaw) to support his request that the Court deny Ammie's claim for "back child support" (which she is pursuing through the Family Support Division) or that the Court recalculate child support.

Pursuant to EDCR 2.20(c),

A party filing a motion must also serve and file with it a memorandum of points and authorities in support of each ground thereof. The absence of such memorandum may be construed as an admission that the motion is not meritorious, as cause for its denial or as a waiver of all grounds not so supported.

William failed to file a memorandum of points and authorities in support of his request the Court deny Ammie's claim for "back child"

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William's request is not meritorious and as cause for its denial.

support" or that the Court recalculate child support. The Court will

construe the absence of such memorandum as an admission that

Attorneys' Fees

The Court is required to review elements mandated by <u>Brunzell v. Golden Gate Nat'l Bank.</u> 85 Nev. 345, 455 P.2d 31 (1969) related to Ammie's attorney, Shelly Booth Cooley. First, as to qualities of the advocate, the Court FINDS attorney Cooley has been licensed to practice law for over seventeen years. The Court FINDS that attorney Cooley is a licensed attorney specializing in the practice of domestic relations. Next, as to character of work completed, the Court FINDS this matter related to William's underlying post-judgment motion. With respect to work actually performed, as noted herein, this case involved review of the underlying proceedings and understanding applicable law. With respect to the result, the Court FINDS Ammie was the prevailing party pursuant to NRS 18.010.

The Court FINDS that Ammie is entitled to an award of attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to EDCR 7.60(b), as William's Motion is frivolous, unnecessary, and unwarranted, multiples the proceedings in a case as to increase costs unreasonably and vexatiously and failed to

| 1 | comply with court rules. Pursuant to EDCR 5.501, William did not |
|----------|--|
| 2 | attempt to resolve the issues in dispute with Ammie prior to filing his |
| 3 | Motion and his Motion was filed in violation of EDCR 5.501. Pursuant |
| 4 | to <u>Rooney v. Rooney</u> , there is no adequate cause to hold an evidentiary |
| 5 6 | hearing or trial regarding William's Motion to Modify Decree of Divorce |
| 7 | |
| 8 | Pursuant to EDCR 2.20(c), William failed to file a memorandum of |
| 9 | points and authorities in support of his child support requests, which |
| 10 | may be construed as an admission that the motion is not meritorious |
| 11 | and as cause for its denial. |
| 12 | The Court is required to consider the parties' respective income as |
| 13 | set forth in <u>Miller v. Wilfong</u> , 121 Nev. 619, 119 P.3d 727 (2005). The |
| 14 | Court FINDS, on 07/09/2021, Ammie filed a Financial Disclosure Form |
| 15 16 | (FDF) listing total average gross monthly income (GMI) of \$14,183.34, |
| 17 | which comports with the attached payroll statements. The Court |
| 18 | FINDS, on 06/29/2021, William filed a FDF listing his GMI as |
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\$10,000.00. However, William provided a 06/15/2021 Earnings

Statement listing a year to date (YTD) income of \$60,902.91. The Court

FINDS that 06/15/2021 was 25 weeks into 2021. Therefore, the Court

FINDS that William's actual GMI was \$10,556.52 (\$60,902.91 YTD

income for 2021/25 weeks into the year = \$2,436.12 per week income X

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| 1 | 52 weeks in a year = \$126,678.24 annual income/12 months in a year = | |
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| 2 | \$10,556.52 actual GMI). Accordingly, the Court FINDS an income | |
| 3 4 | disparity exists between the parties in Ammie's favor. Specifically, | |
| 5 | Ammie earns approximately \$3,626.82, or 26%, per month more than | |
| 6 | William (\$14,183.34 Ammie's GMI - \$10,556.52 William's GMI = | |
| 7 | \$3,626.82 difference). | |
| 8 | The Court FINDS Ammie's request for an award of attorneys' fees | |
| 9 | and costs in the total sum of \$ is reasonable based on the | |
| 11 | underlying procedural stance of the case, based on the pleadings before | |
| 12 | this Court and the Court's final orders. However, this Court is required | |
| 13 | to take into consideration the parties' respective financial positions | |
| 14 | when granting any award. | |
| 15 16 | <u>Decision</u> | |
| 17 | IT IS THERFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that | |
| 18 | William's Motion to Modify Decree of Divorce is denied. | |
| 19 | IT IS FURTHER ORDRED, ADJDUGED AND DECREED that | |
| 20 | Ammie's Countermotion for attorneys' fees and costs shall be granted in | |
| 21 22 | the sum of \$\frac{7,500.00}{}, plus interest at the legal rate, said | |
| 23 | amount ordered reduced to judgment. That said judgment is hereby | |
| 24 | | |
| 2.5 | Page 14 of 15 | |

| 1 | entered in favor of Ammie and against William. That said judgment is |
|-----|--|
| 2 | collectible using any legal means. |
| 3 | |
| 4 | |
| 5 | <u>Order</u> |
| 6 | IT IS SO ORDERED. |
| 7 | Dated this 9th day of September, 2021 |
| 8 | Vinsent Ochoa |
| 9 | 9C8 0B0 8AC9 0E06 |
| 10 | Vincent Ochoa District Court Judge |
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| | Page 15 of 15 |

1 **CSERV** 2 DISTRICT COURT 3 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 4 5 In the Matter of the Joint Petition CASE NO: D-20-613567-Z 6 for Divorce of: DEPT. NO. Department S 7 Ammie Ann Wallace and 8 William Shawn Wallace 9 10 **AUTOMATED CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 11 This automated certificate of service was generated by the Eighth Judicial District 12 Court. The foregoing Order was served via the court's electronic eFile system to all recipients registered for e-Service on the above entitled case as listed below: 13 Service Date: 9/9/2021 14 John Kelleher hjuilfs@kelleherandkelleher.com 15 16 Shelly Cooley scooley@cooleylawlv.com 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

FILED TRANS 1 NOV 03 2021 2 COPY 3 4 EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT 5 FAMILY DIVISION 6 7 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 8 IN THE MATTER OF THE JOINT 9 PETITION FOR DIVORCE OF: 10 AMMIE ANN WALLACE 11 CASE NO. D-20-613567-Z Plaintiff, 12 DEPT. S 13 and APPEAL NO. 83591 14 WILLIAM SHAWN WALLACE, 15 Defendant. 16 17 BEFORE THE HONORABLE VINCENT OCHOA 18 DISTRICT COURT JUDGE 19 TRANSCRIPT RE: MOTION HEARING 20 MATTER TAKEN UNDER ADVISEMENT 21 THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2021 22 23 24 D-20-613567-Z WALLACE 08/12/2021 TRANSCRIPT VERBATIM REPORTING & TRANSCRIPTION, LLC (520) 303-7356

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1 **APPEARANCES:** 2 The Plaintiff: AMMIE ANN WALLACE SHELLY B. COOLEY, ESQ. For the Plaintiff: 3 The Cooley Law Firm 10161 Park Run Drive, #150 4 Las Vegas, Nevada 89145 (702) 265-4505 5 The Defendant: WILLIAM SHAWN WALLACE 6 For the Defendant: JOHN T. KELLEHER, ESQ. Kelleher & Kelleher, LLC 7 40 S. Stephanie Street, #201 Henderson, Nevada 89012 (702) 384-7494 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

D-20-613567-Z WALLACE 08/12/2021 TRANSCRIPT VERBATIM REPORTING & TRANSCRIPTION, LLC (520) 303-7356

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2021

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PROCEEDINGS

(THE PROCEEDINGS BEGAN AT 9:18:37)

(All parties appear via video conference)

THE COURT: -- Wallace versus Wallace. I read the documents. I really appreciate the stories you guys told me. Too bad you guys didn't agree, but it's both for a good (indiscernible). I saw --

THE PLAINTIFF: I'm not hearing anything.

UNIDENTIFIED VOICE: I think you froze.

THE COURT: We'll start with the Plaintiff introductions of the parties.

MR. KELLEHER: Good morning, Your Honor. John Kelleher, bar number 6012, on behalf of Mr. William Wallace, Your Honor. He is present by video.

MS. COOLEY: Shelly Cooley, bar number 8992, on behalf of Aimee Wallace, Plaintiff, who is present --

THE COURT: Thank you.

MS. COOLEY: -- via BlueJeans as well.

THE COURT: Okay. I see everyone's present on video. Defendant's motion, opposition by Plaintiff, and there's a reply. (Indiscernible) decree of divorce in this case. I've read the documents, but you can make your record.

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MR. KELLEHER: Thank you, Your Honor. Both parties admit in their pleadings that they followed a joint physical custody arrangement from August of 2020 through the very end of March of 2021. During those eight months, Your Honor, and six months after the filing of the divorce decree in this case, they were sharing joint physical/joint legal custody with my client having the children on at least an equal basis, if not the majority of the time on some of those weeks.

In fact, Your Honor, there's no question that the two months prior to August of 2020 that the Defendant in the case -- I'm sorry, the Plaintiff in the case, Your Honor,

Ms. Wallace -- was down in Texas taking care of an ill family member, and my client had the kids exclusively in her care -- in his care.

So, Your Honor, what we're saying is this, is that suddenly no request, no issues, my client is exercising the arrangement that they had been arranging -- been doing for many, many months, and then suddenly at the end of March she says, well, now the kids are going to be with me and you're going to get every other weekend, and you can come and be a babysitter and pick up the kids for their extracurricular activities, and that's going to be that, right, and goes to the DA's Office, even though she had not asked for any child support prior to that.

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So what we're asking, Your Honor, is that it's been very, very hard on the children. His oldest, William Wallace, has been sending him messages saying that Mom gets angry if he asks to speak to Dad. Dad has been a hands-on parent the entire time. And he signed this thing, Your Honor, with the understanding that they were going to -- that it was just something that you have to put into the court. This was his first go-around. They had been separated since 2017 and had a joint physical arrangement since that time.

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So we're asking the Court, Your Honor, to have the schedule be what they were doing all the way up through the beginning of April of this year, in 2021.

As far as other issues go, Your Honor, they spend nine pages maligning my client in their opposition, but then on page 11 they admit -- they admit that the schedule was exactly as he outlined it in his motion.

So this Court always acts in the best interest of the children. That's what the Court's mandate is. We believe that if you look at the timing of the case, Your Honor, that this divorce decree that he signs she waits until the six months expires. Right? Well, we're not looking to set aside the divorce decree. What we're looking to do, Your Honor, is for the best interest of the kids and what they have been doing all along. We think it's curious that all of a sudden,

you know, after six months runs out, oh, now I want to enforce this agreement that everyone agrees no one was doing before, during or after this divorce in any way, shape or form.

Also, Your Honor, they file -- they file what they claim are exhibits, right, to a -- to their opposition which was filed a month before, three days before the hearing. And they're a bunch of exhibits that are irrelevant, and they don't even correspond to the opposition. Really what it is, is it's really trying to get some kind of reply to reply on the case, and we'd ask that you strike it.

But in any case, Your Honor, if, you know, if you have specific questions for me, Your Honor, I'm happy to answer them because there's arguments in there that my client wasn't working. In fact, he was working, and we provided you in August of 2017 his W2. But for a period of time, he was a stay-at-home father with the kids in 2017 while he looked for work.

So unless the Court has questions, Your Honor, we're asking to go back to the custodial schedule that was in place up until April of 2021. And if necessary, Your Honor, we're asking that you interview the children. Quinn is obviously young, but the two oldest ones -- or all three -- you could ask them what the timeshare is and what their relationship is with their father and with their mother in this case. And we

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believe that it's going to be exactly what we've told the Court and what actually the Plaintiff admits, which is that they were doing this timeshare.

And I leave you with this, Your Honor. There's absolutely no good reason posited by -- that's the thing that's so strange. There's 11 pages of -- I'm sorry, nine pages of nastiness to him. Right? But there's never any explanation as to why -- any good reason as to why we'd put in a draconian schedule in April when all along we're doing a joint physical schedule, Your Honor, for all those months both before and during and after the actual decree goes in. So with that, why don't we leave it to you.

THE COURT: Thank you.

Ms. Cooley, your reply to their big question is that -- you can go ahead, but I guess their big issue is that this is the way we've always done it, ignore the decree of divorce, continue to do what we have always done.

MS. COOLEY: Thank you, Your Honor. I'm a bit blown away. Dad keeps referring to our opposition saying that we admit that the parties followed a joint physical timeshare. He keeps referring to page 11. Page 11 says: From August of 2020 through March of 2021, the parties followed a flexible timeshare. Both Ammie and William were working from home. William was renting a home near Ammie's residence, and the

children went between the parties' homes freely during the day. The parties did what was necessary to remain employed and care for the children. However, when the children returned to in-person learning in March 2021, the parties resumed following the timeshare outlined in the decree, the same timeshare they had been following since their separation in August 2017.

The parties were not sharing joint physical custody. They've never shared joint physical custody of these children. And just because Dad keeps repeating the same refrain and referring to the same page in the opposition that doesn't support what Dad is saying does not make it true.

The reason we went into the history that we did in the opposition is while my client absolutely, absolutely admits that Dad is an involved, good dad, he is unstable. He's had housing situations; he's had job situations. So they agreed to follow this schedule at the time of their separation in August of 2017 because they wanted to ensure that the children had the same place to sleep when they were coming home from school and when they were going to school. That is the basis of this timeshare, Your Honor. It's not draconian. This is exactly what the parties had been following for three years, and this is what they -- they reverted back to this schedule once they went back to in-person learning.

Dad signed a consent to self-representation, Your Honor. I'm sure you were not unfamiliar with these documents in the divorce. I represented Ammie in the divorce, and I only represented Ammie. The consent to self-representation filed 9/4/2020, Dad acknowledged that he should have got legal advice, but he chose not to.

The fact that Dad didn't understand, allegedly -because he certainly has been able to reach out to

Mr. Kelleher, who is an extremely competent attorney. Dad
could have availed himself of Mr. Kelleher's services at the
time of the decree but chose not to. And the reason, Your
Honor, is because this is the schedule that the parties were
following.

My client has had and continues to have primary physical custody of the children. Dad wants to be involved in their extracurricular activities, which my client is absolutely fine with. This is why Dad is able to pick the kids up from school every day and keep them. He gives them to my client at 6:30. My client feeds them dinner, finishes up any necessary homework, does bedtime routine, and then they do that for the school schedule.

Now, I think it is important that we go into the standard for changing custody. Dad seems to absolutely gloss over that detail, Your Honor, and it's incredible. First Dad

claims that <u>Truax</u> (phonetic) is the standard for changing custody when we have a primary physical custody that's been established pursuant to a court order. The standard is <u>Ellis</u> <u>vs. Carucci</u>. And Dad doesn't even attempt to address those factors in his motion, Your Honor. He doesn't meet the standard. He doesn't address the factors. There is no adequate cause for a hearing.

We're requesting that this -- that Dad's motion be denied outright and that the parties follow the schedule that they've been following since 2017.

Additionally, Your Honor, there's been no change in circumstances impacting the welfare of the children. Dad didn't address it, but I can tell you that there has been no change in circumstances. The children are thriving physically, developmentally, emotionally, and academically in the primary care of my client. There have been no change of circumstances, and the children's best interest would not be served by a change of custody.

The parties agreed that my client would have primary physical custody. And because that's in the decree, William has to overcome the presumption that that award, that the award of primary physical custody, is not in my client -- or is not in the children's best interests, which he can't do. He doesn't allege it in his motion; he doesn't allege it in

his reply. This motion should be denied on his moving paper.

With regard to child support, Dad isn't entitled to modify child support. That was agreed to in September of 2010. Exhibit 4 and -- let's see. Let's see. Exhibit 3 and 4 are the parties' exchanges regarding the child support agreement, Your Honor. Dad actually did initially start paying child support, and then he just stopped, as he typically does, Your Honor. Again, the reason why we went into the nine pages that we did is because Dad is -- he's unstable. He doesn't do anything with regularity.

With regard to his request to waive back child support, Your Honor, there's absolutely no basis in law for -- to grant that request. That's a Rule 11 violation to even make that request, Your Honor. There's no basis in law; there's no basis in fact. I am absolutely floored that that request was even made, Your Honor. It should not be granted.

My client is seeking an award of attorney's fees for having to defend against this obviously frivolous and unnecessary motion. Dad doesn't meet his standard in the moving papers. She's entitled to an award of attorney's fees pursuant to NRS 18.010 and EDCR 7.60(b). Nothing further to add at this time.

THE COURT: Thank you.

Mr. Kelleher --

MR. KELLEHER: Your Honor, just in response, if I --I'm sorry.

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THE COURT: I'll give you time to reply, but everything I know and everything you know and everything Ms. Cooley knows about the Nevada family law you're asking me to ignore in this motion.

MR. KELLEHER: Well, I'm not, Your Honor, if I may, because they're applying a standard, and we cited to the right cases and to the standard in this -- to this Court. It's on our page 7. Right? We -- in Rivero, the court held when considering whether to modify a physical custody arrangement, the District Court must first determine what type of physical custody arrangement exists, because there's different tests to apply depending on the District Court's determination.

There's no question -- and they don't deny it. Like if you hear how clever they word it, two months prior to August of 2020, so even in this -- even in the summer of 2020, going back to June, right, June and July Mother is not even in the state of Nevada. She's not even here. She's down in Texas with a family member. The kids are solely, one hundred percent, in his care, and they do not deny that. They've supplied nothing to the Court. They admit --

THE COURT: That was before the divorce and that's before he agreed to this.

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MR. KELLEHER: Right. But what I'm saying, Your Honor, is they've never followed the schedule. Right? They never followed the schedule from before they did the decree, once the decree was entered, and months after the decree they didn't follow it. And under <u>Rivero</u>, it says very specifically -- and I can give you the language -- is we don't care what you call it. What we look at is what were the parties doing, right? That's what they're trying to have you not, I guess --

THE COURT: But in <u>Rivero</u> I thought they said that we don't care what you call it, but that's before there's an order. In this, there is an order --

MR. KELLEHER: No, no, no. You look -- well, that's how you change it. What I'm saying is you have an order that they, one, never followed before they entered it and never followed it after they entered it until six months went by. And then apparently she must have thought there was some advantage to her after the six months and now says, well, now I'm going to enforce it. And he promptly filed a motion with the Court.

And the Court in these cases, Your Honor, always has to look at what's in the best interest of the children. The Court has to do that. And the children are coming to him, like they're horrified with this schedule. Horrified. They've never done that kind of schedule.

And even in the divorce decree, Your Honor, like the things that he signed, they're claiming he's unstable. But in the divorce decree, they're claiming that she only makes \$8583 a month and he makes 10,000 a month. That's truthful. So they have him making more than her. But when we filed the FDFs in the case, right, here we are a few months later, low and behold she makes 14,000 plus. She actually makes more than him. There's literally no instability with him in any way, shape or form, Your Honor. It's ridiculous.

He had the kids totally in his care for months, months of the summer of 2020 when she wasn't even in the state of Nevada. He's worked since 2017. And really, Your Honor, the applicable case here is <u>Rivero</u>. When someone comes in, and you can come in at any time, you look at what the schedule has been. And they clearly admit, right, they clearly admit — although they try and word it on page 9 — 9 of their opposition, right, nine pages in they say, yeah, that's true. We didn't follow the schedule. We were not following the schedule in that decree of divorce that was done in 2020. We did not follow it.

So this Court, Your Honor, can look under the case law. And we would never mislead the Court in any way, shape or form. We would never do that. And, in fact, Your Honor, when you have situations where someone hasn't asked for child

support, and she wasn't, right, and you have a schedule that's different than what they were doing and he thinks there's an agreement, the Court could absolutely go back. But he's paying child support, so that order is kind of -- is sort of a separate issue.

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6 The main issue here, Your Honor, is the custody of 7 the children and the schedule for these kids. And they're very, very upset, Your Honor, with the schedule as it stands. 8 And her own statements, Your Honor, belie her position. 10 Because what she's basically telling the Court is he's fine to 11 be with the kids three hours a day, right, pick the kids up 12 like he's a babysitter, if you look at the schedule she wants 13 to foist on him. He's fine to come and pick up the kids, do 14 baseball with them, you know. He's coached these kids in 15 baseball throughout their lives, which they don't deny. 16 Right? But then you can only have every other weekend. 17 they never did that, Your Honor. They didn't do it.

And I'll be really clear, Your Honor. If that had been the schedule, they wouldn't have gotten along from 2017 all the way through this divorce decree. Right? That's why he trusted her. He didn't have counsel. He thought, okay, that means I'm going to have to pick up on the days that are —— like every day I'm going to be required to pick up from school. But he didn't think that that truncated his other

time. Right?

That's the issue here, Your Honor. It's like, look, from 2017 to 2020, when they're not living together, they had a schedule, and it was not this schedule, no way, shape or form. So we're asking, Your Honor, that the applicable case here is <u>Rivero</u>. <u>Rivero</u> says that you look at what the parties are actually doing and what they've been doing. And that's not what is in that decree. And they don't deny that, and my client clearly has stated that.

And also, Your Honor, the Court has to act in what is in the children's best interest. And it's not in the best interest to have what amounts to a parentectomy in this case. If you read the Mosley vs. Figerillo (phonetic) case, it says that having a dad on an every other weekend schedule is equal to a parentectomy. So we're asking, rather, the Court grant our motion in full in this case, and if necessary, to interview the children. If it's necessary, we can ask these kids -- they're old enough -- as to what the schedule was like even years ago. And it was not this schedule.

THE COURT: Okay.

MS. COOLEY: Your Honor, I need to address <u>Rivero</u> very quickly. It's an --

MR. KELLEHER: Well, respectfully, we're going to ask that you deny that. You get a -- there's a motion, an

1 opposition, and then a, you know, a response. 2 THE COURT: I'm going to take the case under 3 advisement. I thank you. I'll try to get a decision out in 4 the next seven days. I may call one of the attorneys to -- if 5 there's an order, to do the order with findings. 6 MR. KELLEHER: Thank you, Your Honor. 7 THE COURT: Depending on how I decide the case. that okay with both sides? 9 MS. COOLEY: It's your courtroom, Your Honor. THE COURT: Okay. I know, but I try to make sure, 10 11 you know, we try to reduce friction as much as possible. 12 MR. KELLEHER: Thank you, Your Honor. 13 MS. COOLEY: Thank you, Your Honor. 14 THE COURT: Thank you. Have a good day. 15 MS. COOLEY: You too. 16 THE COURT: Stay safe, everyone. 17 MS. COOLEY: Bye-bye. 18 (PROCEEDINGS CONCLUDED AT 9:38:40) 19 20 21 22 23 24

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17

ATTEST: I do hereby certify that I have truly and correctly transcribed the digital proceedings in the above-entitled case to the best of my ability. /s/ Lee Ann Nussbaum LEE ANN NUSSBAUM, CET Certified Electronic Transcriber

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REGISTER OF ACTIONS CASE NO. D-20-613567-Z

In the Matter of the Joint Petition for Divorce of: Ammie Ann Wallace and William Shawn Wallace

naaaaaa

Case Type: Divorce - Joint Petition

Subtype: Joint Petition Subject Minor(s) late Filed: 09/04/2020

Date Filed: 09/04/2020
Location: Department S
se Number: D613567

Cross-Reference Case Number: D61356
Supreme Court No.: 83591

PARTY INFORMATION

Petitioner

Wallace, Ammie Ann Now Known

As Olsen, Ammie Ann

Lead Attorneys Shelly B. Cooley Retained 7022654505(W)

Petitioner

Wallace, William Shawn

John T. Kelleher Retained 702-384-7494(W)

Subject Minor Wallace, Miller Clyde

Subject Minor Wallace, Quinn Rose

Subject Minor Wallace, William Shawn, Jr.

EVENTS & ORDERS OF THE COURT

08/12/2021 All Pending Motions (9:15 AM) (Judicial Officer Ochoa, Vincent)

Minutes

08/12/2021 9:15 AM

 DEFENDANT'S MOTION O MODIFY DECREE OF DIVORCE...PLAINTIFF'S OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANT'S MOTION TO MODIFY DECREE OF DIVORCE AND COUNTERMOTION FOR ATTORNEY'S FEES AND COSTS Attorney Shelly Cooley appeared by audiovisual with Plaintiff (Mom). Attorney John Kelleher appeared by audiovisual with Defendant (Dad). Arguments regarding Custody. COURT ORDERED, as follows: Matter UNDER ADVISEMENT. Decision will be issued in one week. This Court may call upon one of the attorneys to prepare the proposed findings of facts.

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Location: Family Courts Images Help

REGISTER OF ACTIONS CASE NO. D-20-613567-Z

In the Matter of the Joint Petition for Divorce of: Ammie Ann Wallace and William Shawn Wallace

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Case Type: Divorce - Joint Petition
Subtype: Joint Petition Subject Minor(s)

Date Filed: 09/04/2020
Location: Department S
Cross-Reference Case Number: D613567
Supreme Court No.: 83591

PARTY INFORMATION

Petitioner

Wallace, Ammie Ann Now Known

As Olsen, Ammie Ann

Lead Attorneys Shelly B. Cooley Retained 7022654505(W)

Petitioner

Wallace, William Shawn

John T. Kelleher Retained 702-384-7494(W)

Subject Minor Wallace, Miller Clyde

Subject Minor Wallace, Quinn Rose

Subject Minor Wallace, William Shawn, Jr.

EVENTS & ORDERS OF THE COURT

08/12/2021 Minute Order (11:00 AM) (Judicial Officer Ochoa, Vincent)

Minutes

08/12/2021 11:00 AM

MINUTE ORDER FROM CHAMBERS NRCP 1 and EDCR 1.10 state that the procedure in district courts shall be administered to secure efficient, speedy, and inexpensive determinations in every action. Co-Petitioner, William Wallace, filed Defendant's Motion to Modify Decree of Divorce on June 18, 2021. Petitioner, Ammie Wallace, filed Plaintiff s Opposition and Countermotion on July 9, 2021. The matter came before the Court on August 18, 2021, and the matter was taken under advisement at the hearing. The Court Orders the following: 1. Mr. Wallace s (Co-Petitioner/Defendant) Motion to Modify Decree of Divorce is denied. 2. Ms. Wallace s (Petitioner/Plaintiff) Countermotion for attorney s fees shall be granted. Ms. Wallace s attorney, Shelly Booth Cooley, Esq., shall file a Brunzell Affidavit and relevant billing statements. 3. Ms. Wallace's attorney, Shelly Booth Cooley, Esq., shall prepare the order. The Order shall contain detailed findings including the facts of the case and an analysis of the relevant law. The portion of the order awarding attorney s fees shall include a discussion of the applicable statute, which party is the prevailing party, and why the actions may be considered vexatious or without merit. The specific amount of attorney s fees shall be left blank. The proposed order shall be submitted in PDF and Word format. A copy of the Minute Order shall be provided to both parties.

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