IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

CITY OF LAS VEGAS, A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OF NEVADA Appellant, vs. 180 LAND CO., LLC, A NEVADA LIMITED- LIABILITY COMPANY; AND FORE STARS, LTD., A NEVADA LIMITED-LIABILITY COMPANY, Respondents.	A, No. 84345 Electronically Filed Feb 17 2023 04:01 PM Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court
180 LAND CO., LLC, A NEVADA LIMITED-	No. 84640
LIABILITY COMPANY; AND FORE STARS, LTD., A NEVADA LIMITED-LIABILITY COMPANY, Appellants/Cross-Respondents, vs.	LANDOWNERS' OPPOSITION TO CITY'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE REPLY BRIEF ON APPEAL AND
CITY OF LAS VEGAS, A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OF NEVADA Respondent/Cross-Appellant.	ANSWERING BRIEF ON
LAW OFFICES OF KERMITT L. WATERS Kermitt L. Waters, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 2571 kermitt@kermittwaters.com James J. Leavitt, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 6032 jim@kermittwaters.com Michael A. Schneider, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 8887 michael@kermittwaters.com Autumn L. Waters, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 8917 autumn@kermittwaters.com 704 South Ninth Street Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 Telephone: (702) 733-8877 Facsimile: (702) 731-1964	CLAGGETT & SYKES LAW FIRM Micah S. Echols, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 8437 micah@claggettlaw.com 4101 Meadows Lane, Suite 100 Las Vegas, Nevada 89107 (702) 655-2346 – Telephone (702) 655-3763 – Facsimile

Attorneys for 180 Land Co., LLC and Fore Stars Ltd.

LANDOWNERS' OPPOSITION TO CITY'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE REPLY BRIEF ON APPEAL AND ANSWERING BRIEF ON CROSS-APPEAL

In its motion, the City asks for an extension of 30 days after this Court resolves the City's pending motion to strike to file its combined reply on appeal and answering brief on cross-appeal. However, the City's position presumes that it cannot work on the draft of its combined brief while the Court decides the motion to strike. Yet, the City should not be permitted to stand still during this interim, particularly because the Court expedited this appeal. *See* **Exhibit 1**.

The Landowners acquired the land that is the subject of this dispute eight years ago. As stated in the answering brief, the City delayed the Landowners for over 2½ years before finally foreclosing all development of their land. During the litigation, the City has intentionally delayed these cases by, among other things, removing all cases to federal court (long after the removal window closed), filing multiple and repeated motions to dismiss, filing motions to reconsider, and continually arguing issues already decided by the several district courts, causing every case to be up against the five-year rule of NRCP 41(e). Justice delayed is justice denied has become a reality to the Landowners for matters that are supposed to be brought to trial by the government within two years. See County of Clark v. Alper, 100 Nev. 382, 391, 685 P.2d 943, 949 (1984) (it is the government's affirmative duty to move an inverse condemnation action to trial within two years of the commencement of the action).

Importantly, the City's pending motion to strike was designed to delay the briefing in this appeal because all the documents that the City claimed were "outside the record" were court orders and City documents necessary to rebut specific arguments that the City raised in its opening brief. As reflected in the attached District Court order (see Exhibit 2, at 4-5), the City has intentionally delayed these matters. Therefore, the Landowners request that this Court deny the City's request for an extension of 30 days and expedite its ruling on the City's motion to strike. Alternatively, the Court should limit the extension for the City's combined brief following the Court's resolution of the pending motion to strike to no more than 15 days, which is reasonable since the City should have already begun drafting its combined brief and has three law firms working on this appeal (along with the City's own attorneys).

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Fifteen days is more than an adequate amount of time for the City to adjust its combined brief, given the vast resources that it has dedicated to this appeal.

Dated this <u>17th</u> day of February 2023.

CLAGGETT & SYKES LAW FIRM

/s/ Micah S. Echols

Micah S. Echols, Esq.

LAW OFFICES OF KERMITT L. WATERS Kermitt L. Waters, Esq. James J. Leavitt, Esq. Michael A. Schneider, Esq. Autumn L. Waters, Esq.

EXHIBIT 1

EXHIBIT 1

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

CITY OF LAS VEGAS, A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OF NEVADA,

Appellant,

VS.

180 LAND CO., LLC, A NEVADA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY; AND FORE STARS, LTD.,

Respondents.

180 LAND CO., LLC, A NEVADA LIMITED-LIABILITY COMPANY; AND FORE STARS, LTD., A NEVADA LIMITED-LIABILITY COMPANY,

Appellants/Cross-Respondents,

SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OF

VS.

No. 84345 FILED JUN 20 2022 ELIZABETHA BROWN CLERKODS SUPREME COURT BY DEPUTY CLERK

22-19405

No. 84640

CITY OF LAS VEGAS, A POLITICAL

NEVADA,

Respondent/Cross-Appellant.

ORDER REGARDING MOTIONS

City of Las Vegas, appellant in Docket No. 84345 and respondent/cross-appellant in Docket No. 84640 has filed a motion to consolidate these appeals and cross-appeal on the ground that they arise from the same district court litigation and involve the same factual and procedural background and the same parties and issues. NRAP 3(b)(2). Cause appearing, the motion is granted, and these appeals and cross-appeal shall be consolidated for all appellate purposes.

Respondents and appellants/cross-respondents 180 Land Co. LLC, and Fore Stars Ltd. (collectively, Landowners) have filed a response to the motion to consolidate in which they agree to consolidation but move

SUPREME COURT OF NEVADA to expedite the briefing based on financial pressures devolving from the imposition of the stay. The motion is opposed, and the Landowners have filed a reply.

The motion to expedite is granted to the following extent. City of Las Vegas shall have until August 16, 2022, to file and serve an opening brief in Docket No. 84345. Landowners shall likewise have until August 16, 2022, to file an opening brief on appeal in Docket No. 84640. Thereafter, briefing shall proceed in accordance with NRAP 28.1.

It is so ORDERED.

C.J.

McDonald Carano LLP/Las Vegas Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger, LLP Las Vegas City Attorney Leonard Law, PC Law Offices of Kermitt L. Waters EHB Companies, LLC

cc:

SUPREME COURT OF NEVADA

(O) 1947A

EXHIBIT 2

EXHIBIT 2

ELECTRONICALLY SERVED 12/12/2022 12:50 PM

Electronically Filed 12/12/2022 12:48 PM Alun CLERK OF THE COURT

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1	ORDR		
	LAW OFFICES OF KERMITT L. WATERS		
2	Kermitt L. Waters, Esq., Bar No. 2571 kermitt@kermittwaters.com		
3	James J. Leavitt, Esq., Bar No. 6032		
4	jim@kermittwaters.com		
4	Michael A. Schneider, Esq., Bar No. 8887		
5	michael@kermittwaters.com		
6	Autumn L. Waters, Esq., Bar No. 8917 autumn@kermittwaters.com		
_	704 South Ninth Street		
7	Las Vegas, Nevada 89101		
8	Telephone: (702) 733-8877		
9	Facsimile: (702) 731-1964		
	Attorneys for Plaintiffs Landowners		
10	DISTRICT	COURT	
11			
12	CLARK COUN	TY, NEVADA	
12			
13	FORE STARS, LTD; SEVENTY ACRES LLC,		
14	a Nevada liability company; DOE INDIVIDUALS I through X, DOE	Case No.: A-18-773268-C	
1.5	CORPORATIONS I through X, and DOE	Dept. No.: XXIX	
15	LIMITED LIABILITIES COMPANIES I		
16	through X,	ORDER GRANTING	
17			
	Plaintiffs,	PLAINTIFF LANDOWNERS' MOTION	
18	vs.	TO DETERMINE DATE OF VALUE	
19		PURSUANT TO NRS 37.120	
20	CITY OF LAS VEGAS, a political subdivision	Date of Hearing: November 15, 2022	
	of the State of Nevada; ROE government entities I though X, ROE LIMITED LIABILITY	Time of Hearing: 9:00 a.m.	
21	COMPANIES I though X, ROE quasi-		
22	governmental I through X,		
23			
23	Defendants.		
24			
25	Plaintiff Landowners' Motion To Deterr	nine Date of Value Pursuant to NRS 37.120,	
26			
	having come before the Court on November 15,	2022, with James J. Leavitt, Esq., Kermitt L.	
27	Waters, Esq., and Autumn Waters, Esq., of the L	aw Offices of Kermitt I. Waters and Disintiff's	
28	waters, Esq., and Autumn waters, Esq., of the L	aw onnees of Kerning L waters and Fiallith S	

in-house counsel Elizabeth Ghanem, Esq. appearing on behalf of Plaintiff Landowners Fore Stars
Ltd and Seventy Acres, LLC ("Landowners"), and George F. Ogilvie III, Esq. and Christopher
Molina, Esq., of McDonald Carano LLP, and Andrew W. Schwartz, Esq., of Shute, Mihaly &
Weinberger, LLP, appearing on behalf of the City of Las Vegas ("City").

The Court having reviewed the papers and pleadings on file, heard argument of counsel, and for good cause appearing hereby finds and orders as follows:

This Court previously held: 1) "the legally permitted uses by right of the 17 Acre Property 1. [at issue in this matter] are single-family and multi-family residential;" 2) "that the City engaged in actions to authorize the public to enter onto the 17 Acre Property and preserve the 17 Acre Property for use by the public and surrounding neighbors meeting Nevada's standard for a per se regulatory taking thereby resulting in the taking of the entire 17 Acre Property by inverse condemnation;" 3) "[w]hen the government engages in per se regulatory taking actions, just compensation is automatically warranted, meaning there is no defense to the taking;" and, 4) "[a] jury trial is scheduled for December 5, 2022, wherein a jury will determine the fair market value of the 17 Acre Property as of the applicable date of valuation." See Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law Regarding Plaintiff Landowners' Motion to Determine "Property Interest." Filed September 16, 2021, p. 16; Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law Regarding Plaintiff Landowners' Motion to Determine Take and for Summary Judgment on the Third and Fifth Claims for Relief: Granting Summary Judgment on the Landowners' Fifth Claim for Relief and Denying Summary Judgment on the Landowners Third Claim for Relief, filed October 27, 2022, findings 147, 127, and conclusion ("FFCL Re: Take"). Emphasis supplied.

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1	2.	To determine the "applicable date of valuation," the Landowners' brought before this Court
2		Plaintiff Landowners' Motion To Determine Date of Value Pursuant to NRS 37.120.
3	3.	The Landowners' motion requested that this Court find the date of valuation in this case to
4		be October 10, 2022, pursuant to NRS 37.120. October 10, 2022 is the date this matter
5		was first set for trial, but the trial was continued to December 5, 2022, to accommodate the
6 7		City's counsel's sabbatical.
8	4.	The City opposed the Landowners' motion, arguing that NRS 37.120 does not apply to
9		inverse condemnation actions, like the pending action, and the date of valuation should be
10		the "date of taking."
11	5.	Having reviewed Landowners' Motion To Determine Date of Value Pursuant to NRS
12		37.120 and the related briefings and oral arguments on the matter, this Court hereby
13 14		GRANTS Plaintiff Landowners' motion. The Court is persuaded as to the controlling
15		language in <i>County of Clark v. Alper</i> , 100 Nev. 382, 391, 685 P. 2d 943, 949 (1984) and
16		language in County of Clark V. Tuper, 100 Nev. 362, 391, 663 1. 24 943, 949 (1964) and
17		McCarran Int'l. Airport v. Sisolak, 122 Nev. 645, 137 P.3d 1110, 1126-1127 (2006), as it
17		applies to the issue set forth by the Landowners' motion.
19	6.	In the Alper case, the Nevada Supreme Court held NRS 37.120 applies to set the date of
20		valuation in inverse condemnation cases. The Court held "NRS 37.120(1)(b) places the
21		burden on the government to move the case to trial within two years after the case is
22		commenced" and "[i]f it does not, and the delay is not primarily caused by the actions of
23 24		the landowner, the government must account for the increased value of the property."
24 25		<i>Alper</i> , at 391.
26	7	
20	7.	NRS 37.120 was also applied to determine the date of valuation in <i>Sisolak</i> , which was an

was also app to dete le dale S 57. 20 27 inverse condemnation case. 28

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- 8. Therefore, this Court will apply NRS 37.120 to set the date of valuation in this inverse condemnation case.
- 9. NRS 37.120(1) provides in pertinent part:

"To assess compensation and damages as provided in NRS 37.110, the date of the first service of the summons is the date of valuation, except that, if the action is not tried within 2 years after the date of the first service of the summons, and the court makes a written finding that the delay is caused primarily by the [government] or is caused by congestion or backlog in the calendar of the court, the date of valuation is the date of the actual commencement of the trial."

- 10. Applying NRS 37.120, the date of valuation is the date of trial.
- 11. The date of first service of summons in this case was May 17, 2018, and the date this case
 was set for trial was October 10, 2022. Thus, there has been more than a 2 year delay
 from the date of the first service of summons to the date of trial.
 - 12. As set forth in Landowners' moving papers, the delay (from the date of service of summons to the date of trial) is 1,663 days and the City is attributed with, at least, 1,488 days of this delay, because the City filed three motions to dismiss, removed the matter to federal court (remand order back to State court was 1 year later). The City did not file an Answer to the Inverse Condemnation Complaint until March 18, 2021, nearly three years after service of summons.
 - 13. The City did not contest in its opposition or at oral argument that the delay in bringing this matter to trial is attributed to the City or that the delay in bringing this matter to trial was caused primarily by the City.

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14. Based upon the record, this Court finds that this matter was not tried within 2 years after the date of the first service of the summons, and hereby enters a written finding that the delay in bringing this matter to trial within 2 years was caused primarily by the City and, therefore, the date of valuation is the date of trial.

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- 15. The date of valuation shall be October 10, 2022, even though this matter is currently set for a December 5, 2022, trial, because the City caused a continuance of the trial date (to accommodate the City's counsel's sabbatical) after discovery closed. Given that the Landowners' appraiser used the October 10, 2022, date to determine the fair market value of the 17 Acre Property during discovery and because October 10, 2022, is commensurate to the actual trial date of December 5, 2022, the Court will maintain October 10, 2022 as the date of valuation.
 - 16. Therefore, the sole issue that will be presented to and decided by the jury at the December
 5, 2022, trial, is "the fair market value of the 17 Acre Property as of the applicable date of valuation" October 10, 2022. See FFCL Re: Take, conclusion.

1	IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Plain	ntiff Landowners' Motion To Determine Date of
2	Value Pursuant to NRS 37.120 is GRANTED	and the sole issue to be presented to and decided
3	by the jury at the December 5, 2022, trial, is "th	ne fair market value of the 17 Acre Property as of
4	the applicable date of valuation" - October 10, 2	2022. Dated this 12th day of December, 2022
5		
6		
7 8		DBB 1AF 40F6 AA6E
9		David M Jones District Court Judge
10	Submitted By:	Content Reviewed and Approved by:
11	LAW OFFICES OF KERMITT L. WATERS	McDONALD CARANO LLP
12	By: <u>/s/ James J. Leavitt</u> Kermitt L. Waters (NV Bar No. 2571)	By: <u>Declined to Sign</u> George F. Ogilvie III (NV Bar No. 3552)
13	James J. Leavitt (NV Bar No. 6032) Michael A. Schneider (NV Bar No. 8887)	Christopher Molina (NV Bar No. 14092) 2300 W. Sahara Avenue, Suite 1200
14	Autumn L. Waters (NV Bar No. 8917) 704 South Ninth Street	Las Vegas, Nevada 89102
15 16	Las Vegas, Nevada 89101	LAS VEGAS CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE Bryan K. Scott (NV Bar No. 4381)
10	EHB COMPANIES	Philip R. Byrnes (NV Bar No. 166) Rebecca Wolfson (NV Bar No. 14132)
18	Elizabeth Ghanem Ham, Esq. (NV Bar 6987) 1215 S. Fort Apache Road, Suite 120 Las Vegas, NV 89117	495 South Main Street, 6th Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
19	Attorneys for Plaintiffs Landowners	SHUTE, MIHALY & WEINBERGER, LLP Andrew W. Schwartz (CA Bar No. 87699)
20	1. ionicys for 1 ianicys Landowners	(Admitted pro hac vice) Lauren M. Tarpey (CA Bar No. 321775)
21		(Admitted pro hac vice) 396 Hayes Street
22		San Francisco, California 94102 Attorneys for City of Las Vegas
23		
24 25		
23 26		
27		
28		6

From:	James Leavitt
То:	George F. Ogilvie III; Christopher Molina
Cc:	Autumn Waters
Subject:	Landowners" Proposed Orders on DOV and the Pretrial Conference Request - 17 Acre Case
Date:	Monday, November 21, 2022 1:46:00 PM
Attachments:	Order Granting DOV Motion.docx
	Order Holding Moot LO Motion for Pretrial Conference.docx

George:

I hope you had a good weekend.

Attached are the following Landowners' proposed orders relevant to the matters before Judge Jones at the November 15, 2022, hearing:

Order Granting Plaintiff Landowners' Motion to Determine Date of Value Pursuant to NRS 37.120; and,

Order Re: Plaintiff Landowners' Motion for NRCP 16 Pretrial Conference on Order Shortening Time.

Please let me know if we have your authority to affix your signature to these two orders. We intend to submit both Orders to Judge Jones Wednesday afternoon.

Thank you and have a great Thanksgiving.

Jim

Jim Leavitt, Esq. *Law Offices of Kermitt L. Waters* 704 South Ninth Street Las Vegas Nevada 89101 tel: (702) 733-8877 fax: (702) 731-1964

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1	CSERV	
2		ISTRICT COURT
3	CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA	
4		
6	Fore Stars Ltd, Plaintiff(s)	CASE NO: A-18-773268-C
7	VS.	DEPT. NO. Department 29
8	City of Las Vegas, Defendant(s)	
9		
10	AUTOMATED	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
11	This automated certificate of se	ervice 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: 12/12/2022	
14		
15	Philip Byrnes pt	oyrnes@lasvegasnevada.gov
16	Autumn Waters au	tumn@kermittwaters.com
17	Michael Schneider m	ichael@kermittwaters.com
18	James Leavitt jii	n@kermittwaters.com
19	Kermitt Waters ke	ermitt@kermittwaters.com
20	George Ogilvie III go	ogilvie@mcdonaldcarano.com
21 22	Amanda Yen ay	ren@mcdonaldcarano.com
22	Jelena Jovanovic jjo	ovanovic@mcdonaldcarano.com
24	Christopher Molina cr	nolina@mcdonaldcarano.com
25	Leah Jennings lje	ennings@mcdonaldcarano.com
26	Elizabeth Ham El	Ham@ehbcompanies.com
27		
28		

Ш

1	Elizabeth Ham	EHam@ehbcompanies.com
2 3	Todd Bice	tlb@pisanellibice.com
4	Jennifer Knighton	jknighton@ehbcompanies.com
5	Evelyn Washington	evelyn@kermittwaters.com
6	Stacy Sykora	stacy@kermittwaters.com
7	CluAynne Corwin	ccorwin@lasvegasnevada.gov
8	Craig Newby	cnewby@ag.nv.gov
9	Debbie Leonard	debbie@leonardlawpc.com
10 11	Karen Surowiec	ksurowiec@mcdonaldcarano.com
12	Andrew Schwartz	Schwartz@smwlaw.com
13	Lauren Tarpey	LTarpey@smwlaw.com
14	David Weibel	weibel@smwlaw.com
15	Jeffrey Galliher	jgalliher@lasvegasnevada.gov
16	Rebecca Wolfson	rwolfson@lasvegasnevada.gov
17	Mary Pizzariello	MPizzariello@ag.nv.gov
18 19	Ivette Garcia	ivette@kermittwaters.com
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I electronically filed the foregoing LANDOWNERS' OPPOSITION TO CITY'S MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE REPLY BRIEF ON APPEAL AND ANSWERING BRIEF ON CROSS-APPEAL with the Supreme Court of Nevada on the <u>17th</u> day of February 2023. I will electronically serve the foregoing document in accordance with the Master Service List as follows:

> Brandon P. Kemble, Esq. <u>brandon.kemble@cityofhenderson.com</u> Amanda B. Kern, Esq. <u>amanda.kern@cityofhenderson.com</u> Nicholas G. Vaskov, Esq. <u>nicholas.vaskov@cityofhenderson.com</u> CITY OF HENDERSON 240 Water Street, MSC #144, Henderson, Nevada 89009 (702) 267-1200 – Telephone Attorneys for Amicus Curiae Henderson City Attorney

Karl Schleigh Hall, Esq. **RENO CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE** P.O. Box 1900, Reno, Nevada 89505 (775) 334-2050 – Telephone Attorney for Amicus Curiae City of North Las Vegas, City of Reno, and International Municipal Lawyers Association Micaela C. Rustia Moore, Esq. <u>moorem@cityofnorthlasvegas.com</u> <u>CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS</u> 2250 Las Vegas Blvd., N., Ste. 810, North Las Vegas, Nevada 89030 (702) 633-1057 – Telephone Attorney for Amicus Curiae City of North Las Vegas, City of Reno, and International Municipal Lawyers Association

Steven M. Silva, Esq. ssilva@nossaman.com

NOSSAMAN, LLP 895 Pinebrook Road, Reno, Nevada 89509 (775) 895-3036 – Telephone Attorney for Amicus Curiae City of North Las Vegas, City of Reno, and International Municipal Lawyers Association

> Matthew Leo Cahoon, Esq. <u>attorney@cityofelynv.gov</u> 501 Mill Street, Ely, Nevada 89301 (775) 289-2430 – Telephone Attorney for Amicus Curiae Nevada League of Cities

Robert D. Sweetin, Esq. <u>rds@dvclaw.com</u> **DAVISON VAN CLEVE, PC** 4675 West Teco Avenue, Ste. 230, Las Vegas, Nevada 89118 (725) 735-1715 – Telephone *Attorney for Amicus Curiae Nevada League of Cities*

George F. Ogilvie III, Esq. <u>gogilvie@mcdonaldcarano.com</u> John Christopher Molina, Esq. <u>cmolina@mcdonaldcarano.com</u> Amanda C. Yen, Esq. <u>ayen@mcdonaldcarano.com</u> <u>McDoNALD CARANO, LLP</u> 2300 West Sahara Avenue, Ste., 1200 Las Vegas, Nevada 89102 (702) 873-4100 – Telephone *Attorneys for City of Las Vegas* Bryan K. Scott, Esq. bscott@lasvegasnevada.gov Philip R. Byrnes, Esq. pbyrnes@lasvegasnevada.gov Rebecca L. Wolfson, Esq. <u>rwolfson@lasvegasnevada.gov</u> Jeffrey L. Galliher, Esq. jgalliher@LasVegasNevada.gov OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY 495 South Main Street, 6th Floor, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 (702) 229-6629 – Telephone Attorneys for City of Las Vegas

Debbie A. Leonard, Esq. <u>debbie@leonardlawpc.com</u> <u>LEONARD LAW, PC</u> 955 South Virginia Street, Ste. 220, Reno, Nevada 89502 (775) 964-4656 – Telephone *Attorney for City of Las Vegas*

Andrew W. Schwartz (pro hac vice) <u>schwartz@smwlaw.com</u> Lauren M. Tarpey (pro hac vice) <u>ltarpey@smwlaw.com</u> SHUTE, MIHALY & WEINBERGER, LLP 396 Hayes Street San Francisco, California 94102 (415) 552-7272 – Telephone Attorneys for City of Las Vegas Kermitt L. Waters, Esq. <u>kermitt@kermittwaters.com</u> James J. Leavitt, Esq., <u>jim@kermittwaters.com</u> Michael Schneider, Esq. <u>michael@kermittwaters.com</u> Autumn L. Waters, Esq. <u>autumn@kermittwaters.com</u> LAW OFFICES OF KERMITT L. WATERS 704 South 9th Street, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 (702) 733-8877 – Telephone Attorneys for 180 Land Co., LLC and Fore Stars Ltd.

Elizabeth Ghanem, Esq. <u>eham@ehbcompanies.com</u> <u>EHB COMPANIES, LLC</u> 1215 South Fort Apache Road, Ste. 120, Las Vegas, Nevada 89117 (702) 940-6930 – Telephone *Attorney for 180 Land Co., LLC and Fore Stars Ltd.*

/s/ Anna Gresl

Anna Gresl, an employee of CLAGGETT & SYKES LAW FIRM