#### IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA 1 2 ADAM MICHAEL SOLINGER, 3 Electronically Filed Petitioner, CASE NO.: 4 (District Court Case No. Izilzabeth 4. Brown 5 VS. Clerk of Supreme Court 6 CLARK COUNTY DIST. 7 COURT, FAMILY DIVISION, 8 THE HONORABLE MARY PERRY, DIST. 9 COURT JUDGE, DEPT. P, 10 Respondents, 11 12 and 13 CHALESE MARIE SOLINGER, 14 15 Real Party in Interest 16 17 **PETITIONER'S APPENDIX** 18 ADAM M. SOLINGER, ESQ. ALEX B. GHIBAUDO, ESQ. 19 Nevada Bar Number 13963 197 E. California Ave., Suite 250 20 2790 W. Sahara Ave Las Vegas, NV 89101 Las Vegas, NV 89102 **Counsel for the Real Party in Interest** 21 **Attorneys for Appellant** 22 23 24 Honorable Judge MARY PERRY 25 EIGHTH JUDICIAL DIST. CT. JUDGE 601 N. Pecos RD 26 Las Vegas, NV 89155 27 (702) 455-1340

28

**Respondent Court** 

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2 3	PLEADING PAGE NO	<u>•</u>
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7	COURT ORDERS	
8	Divorce Decree	3
10	May 31, 2022 Order Denying Stay	3
11	NOTICE PURSUANT TO NRAP 27	
12	Email Dated May 27, 2022	)
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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE BY E-FILING** I hereby certify that I am the Petitioner in this case, and that this 31st day of May, 2022, I electronically filed the foregoing Appellant's Appendix with the Clerk of the Court by using the ECF system which will send a notice of electronic filing to the following: Alex B. Ghibaudo, Esq. 197 E. California Ave., Suite 250 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 (702) 217-7442 Counsel for the Real Party in Interest Honorable Judge MARY PERRY EIGHTH JUDICIAL DIST. CT. JUDGE 601 N. Pecos RD Las Vegas, NV 89155 (702) 455-1340 Respondent Court By: /s/ Adam Solinger Adam M. Solinger. 

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Steven D. Grierson	
CLERK OF THE COU	RŢ
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1	EPAP Ctumb.
	Adam M. Solinger
2	7290 Sea Anchor Ct
	Las Vegas, Nevada 89131 Tel: (702) 222-4021
3	Email: attorneyadamsolinger@gmail.com
4	Zinani attornoj adamsomiger (e ginani com
٠,	Eighth Judicial District Court
5	Family Division
	Clark County, Nevada
6	ADAM MICHAEL SOLINGER, ) Case No.: D-19-582245-D
7	)
	Plaintiff, ) Department: P vs.
8	)
	CHALESE MARIE SOLINGER, )
9	)
10	Defendant. )
11	EMERGENCY EX PARTE APPLICATION FOR AN ORDER
	SHORTENING TIME ON PLAINTIFF'S EMERGENCY MOTION TO STAY JUDGEMENT PENDING APPEAL
12	TO STAT SUDGEMENT TENDING ATTEAL
13	
14	NOW INTO COURT comes Plaintiff, ADAM MICHAEL
15	SOLINGER, and respectfully moves that, pursuant to EDCR 5.513, the
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16	Court shorten time in which to hear Plaintiff's EMERGENCY MOTION
	TO CTAY HID CEMENT DENDING A DDE AL
17	TO STAY JUDGEMENT PENDING APPEAL
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Page 1 of 7

Case Number: D-19-582245-D

1	This application is made and based on all the papers and pleadings
2	on file herein and the declaration of counsel attached hereto. Attached as
3	an exhibit is the proposed order shortening time.
4	Dated Friday, May 27, 2022.
5	Respectfully Submitted,
6	/s/ Adam M. Solinger Adam M. Solinger
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I, ADAM MICHAEL SOLINGER, ESQ, provide this Declaration pursuant to NRS 53.045 and states the following:

- 1. I am the Plaintiff in the above-entitled action, and I am above the age of majority and am competent to testify to the facts contained in this declaration.
- 2. Concurrently with the filing of this OST, I am filing an emergency motion to stay the disbursement of funds ordered by the divorce decree that was entered on May 26, 2022.
- 3. As more fully set forth in the underlying motion, this Court ordered that funds be disbursed within a five day time frame. Traditionally, this time frame is 30 days. It is unclear why the time frame has been artificially shortened.
- 4. As a result, unless this Court takes action on the request to stay disbursement before the 5 days runs, the very request will become moot.

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# EXHIBIT A

1	OST Adam M. Solinger	
2	7290 Sea Anchor Ct Las Vegas, Nevada 89131	
3	Tel: (702) 222-4021 Email: attorneyadamsolinger@gmail.com	
4		
5	Eighth Judicial District Court Family Division Clark County, Nevada	
6	ADAM MICHAEL SOLINGER, ) Case No.: D-19-582245-D	
7	) Plaintiff, ) Department: P	
8	vs. )	
9	CHALESE MARIE SOLINGER, )	
10	Defendant. )	
11	ORDER SHORTENING TIME ON PLAINTIFF'S EMERGENCY	
12	MOTION TO STAY JUDGEMENT PENDING APPEAL	
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1	Upon application of Plaintiff and good cause appearing therefore:  IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the time for hearing on  EMERGENCY MOTION TO STAY HIPCEMENT DENDING
2	EMERGENCY MOTION TO STAY JUDGEMENT PENDING APPEAL
3	is hereby shortened and shall be heard on the day of
4	
5	, 2022 at the hour of in Department P
6	(Courtroom #13)/(via Video Conference (Bluejeans)) of the Family Court,
7	located at 601 N. Pecos Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89101.
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13	Respectfully Submitted by: Plaintiff
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.	/a/Adam M. Calingan
15	<u>/s/ Adam M. Solinger</u> Adam Solinger
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1	MOT Chunk
2	Adam M. Solinger 7290 Sea Anchor Ct
-	Las Vegas, Nevada 89131
3	Tel: (702) 222-4021 Email: attorneyadamsolinger@gmail.com
4	
5	Eighth Judicial District Court Family Division
	Clark County, Nevada
6	ADAM MICHAEL SOLINGER, ) Case No.: D-19-582245-D
7	Plaintiff, Department: P
8	vs. )
9	CHALESE MARIE SOLINGER, Hearing Requested
10	Defendant. )
11	EMERGENCY MOTION TO STAY JUDGEMENT PENDING
12	APPEAL NOW INTO COURT comes Plaintiff, ADAM MICHAEL
13	SOLINGER, and hereby submits his motion to stay the judgement of this
14	Court ordering the immediate disbursal of money held in trust to satisfy
15	the award of attorney's fees until after an appeal is decided.
16	This Motion is made and based upon the attached Points and
17	Authorities, the Declaration of Plaintiff attached hereto, and all papers
18	and pleadings on file herein.
19	Dated Friday, May 27, 2022.
20	Respectfully Submitted,
21	/s/ Adam M. Solinger Adam M. Solinger

Page 1 of 20

NOTICE: YOU MAY FILE A WRITTEN RESPONSE TO THIS MOTION WITH THE CLERK OF THE COURT AND PROVIDE THE UNDERSIGNED WITH A COPY OF YOUR RESPONSE WITHIN 14 DAYS OF YOUR RECEIPT OF THIS MOTION. FAILURE TO FILE A WRITTEN RESPONSE WITH THE CLERK OF THE COURT WITHIN 14 DAYS OF YOUR RECEIPT OF THIS MOTION MAY RESULT IN THE REQUESTED RELIEF BEING GRANTED BY THE COURT WITHOUT A HEARING PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED HEARING DATE.

# MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES INTRODUCTION

On May 25, 2022, this Court issued a final divorce decree. A notice of entry of order was filed by the Court's JEA on May 26, 2022. In that decree, the Court made several findings. As relevant to this motion to stay enforcement of the disbursement of the attorney's fees provision, this Court awarded Chalese attorneys' fees in the amount of approximately \$200,875. As part of that award, this Court ordered Adam's former attorney to immediately distribute the entirety of the money being held in trust to the benefit of Chalese with just over \$10,000 going to one of her former attorney's directly and the balance going to Chalese.

To be very clear, Adam does not dispute that Chalese is entitled to her portion of the remaining community property proceeds which total \$3,799.99. This motion merely seeks a stay of the balance that remains after that disbursal.

### I. STATEMENT OF FACTS

This Court's decree is incorporated by refence as though fully set forth here. The following are highlights as relevant to this motion to stay and not an exhaustive list of all the facts that will be litigated on appeal.

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As it relates to the procedural history section, this Court attempts to summarize the procedural history going by the docket entries. Curiously, this Court completely neglected to mention that Adam was awarded attorney's fees by Judge Moss twice. Specifically, Adam was awarded fees as a discovery sanction for Chalese's failure to respond to discovery in the amount of \$3,888.50. *See* February 19, 2019 Order. Judge Moss likewise ordered that she would normally award attorney's fees for Adam defending Chalese's countermotion to restore joint custody but deferred the issue to the time of trial. The decree is silent as to this deferral.

This Court also failed to note that Judge Bell denied Chalese's request for attorney's fees for Chalese's opposition to Adam's motion to disqualify because Chalese was not entitled to fees as she did not have to respond. It is unclear whether the Court's award of fees takes this denial into account.

Chalese was previously represented by Louis Schiender. Schiender filed an attorney's lien that was reduced to a judgment against Chalese by Judge Moss. Chalese sought to appeal that award of attorney's fees through Pecos as she believed that the award was unjustified given the work that he has done. That appeal was dismissed by the Nevada Supreme Court as the Court found the order awarding attorney's fees was not an

appealable order. *See Solinger v. Schneider, Esq.*, No. 81787, 2021 WL 1326846 (Nev. April 8, 2021).

Finally, throughout the procedural history section, the issue of whether attorney's fees are deferred is only noted twice and both of those deferrals were by this Court. It appears this is due to the fact that Judge Moss did not award Chalese attorney's fees. Indeed, the only fees that Judge Moss deferred was an award of \$10,000 under *Sargeant* for purposes of Chalese going to trial.

As is relates to the decree awarding attorney's fees specifically, this Court found a "large disparity of income" that necessitated an award of attorney's fees. The Court then proceeds to attempt to justify the award of attorney's fees on the basis that the Court did not like how Adam litigated this case. However, this appears to potentially retroactivekly sanction Adam which is grossly inappropriate. The Court never mentions the filings by Chalese, nor does the Court even acknowledge that Chalese had not been granted fees by Judge Moss.

The Court notes that Adam benefited from "the financial generosity of his parents." The Court makes no mention of the financial generosity of Chalese's mother. This crucial, unstated premise, is necessary to understand how Chalese was able to pay her legal fees that were generated by her own actions. For example, the Court can disagree with Judge Moss

modifying custody in June of 2019, but the Court cannot go back in time and change that. Adam was the prevailing party, not Chalese. Chalese's in ability to put the safety of the children first is what caused Judge Moss to change custody. Custody was not changed to punish Chalese, but to protect the children. This Court's repeated contention otherwise is not support by anything other than this Court's prejudice and bias against Judge Moss and, frankly, Adam.

The Court also does not mention that Chalese necessitated the withdrawal of her prior attorneys due to actions that were so prejudicial, this Court could not even hear them as it would forever taint Chalese in the Court's eyes. Thus, it appears that the Court takes every opportunity to blame Adam while never mentioning anything related to Chalese and her blame in this litigation.

### II. LAW AND ARGUMENT

NRCP 62(d)(2) provides that "[i]f an appeal is taken, a party is entitled to a stay by providing a bond or other security." In deciding whether to grant a stay, the Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure examine four factors. First, the Court considers (1) whether the object of the appeal will be defeated in the absence of a stay, (2) whether the appellant will suffer irreparable or substantial harm in the absence of a stay, (3) whether the respondent will suffer irreparable or substantial harm if a stay is

# a. Whether The Object Of The Appeal Will Be Defeated In The Absence Of A Stay.

The appeal of the decree will involve several issues of law. As relevant to this motion to stay, Adam is seeking to stay the order that Vince Mayo turn over all of the money being held in his trust account to Chalese and one of her former attorneys while Adam appeals the award of attorney's fees.

An appeal in this matter will not likely be resolved until approximately eighteen months after it begins. During that timeframe, it is unclear what Chalese intends to do with the money if it is immediately transferred.

The object of the appeal, as it relates to this motion is to reverse the award of attorney's fees. If Adam prevails on appeal and Chalese has spent the money, then Adam would get a judgment in his favor for the amount of money wrongly disbursed from Mayo's trust account. As noted by this Court in granting Chalese attorney's fees, the Court believes Chalese has very little ability to earn more money and is a children's hair stylist. Thus, Adam would have no way to collect on any judgment he receives if he is successful and his appeal would be illusory. Thus, this factor favors a stay.

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# b. Whether The Appellant Will Suffer Irreparable Or Substantial Harm In The Absence Of A Stay.

If Adam is successful, he would suffer irreparable harm if Chalese is transferred all of the money that is disputed and then spends it. This factor favors a stay to the extent that it's unclear what Chalese would do with the money if given it immediately instead of post appeal.

# c. Whether The Respondent Will Suffer Irreparable Or Substantial Harm If A Stay Is Granted.

Chalese will suffer no harm if a stay is granted. As it stands, Adam will be paying her child support. Chalese never asked for child support after this Court suddenly, and *sua sponte*, granted Chalese joint custody. Additionally, Chalese's attorney's fees have been paid in full, with the exception of Louis Schneider. However, as discussed in more detail below, this Court's unilateral grant of attorney's fees completely abridges Chalese's desire to contest this fee and Adam is in no position to appeal the grant of fees. Thus, part of this request would be to stay the award of fees to Schiender until such time as Chalese appeals the award as part of the underlying appeal.

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# d. Whether The Appellant Is Likely To Prevail On The Merits Of The Appeal.

Adam will prevail on appeal. This Court's order awarding attorney's fees is facially and fatally deficient to the point that it must be set aside for the reasons set forth below.

This Court makes no reference to the fact that Chalese's mother paid her attorney's fees. Chalese's fees to Pecos and Cramer/Ghibaudo have been paid in full and this Court went to great lengths to describe the income disparity between the parties. The Court does however mention that Adam's parents paid for his attorney's fees. It's unclear how the Court can use Adam's parents' generosity against him while remaining silent on Chalese's mother's generosity.

The Court cites to *Logan v*. *Abe* for the proposition that a party can recover attorney's fees despite a third party's payment of those fees. However, that case is distinguishable in several regards. First, that case involved an insurance's company paying the fees for its insured which was required under the terms of the insurance contract and not a gesture of goodwill. Additionally, the case had to do with a grant of fees because the Plaintiff did not beat the offer of judgment made by the Defendant. Neither of those facts are present here. Additionally, it does not account for Chalese's choice of one of the most expensive family law firms in town.

The Court makes no attempt to distinguish what fees Chalese incurred that she was "required" to incur.

For example, Chalese was required to seek new counsel after her actions caused Pecos to withdraw, but to award her those fees seems to be completely devoid of logic to the point that it gives the appearance of impropriety. It literally shocks the conscious and cannot be defended.

Additionally, Adam was not the only one that filed motions in this case. Chalese filed several herself. One example, when Chalese was represented by Schiender, she filed a motion to get money from the trust account after the sale of the former martial house in order to buy a new house for herself with Josh that she bought in violation of the joint preliminary injunction. Why should Adam pay for Chalese's attorney's fees for violating a court ordered injunction?

This Court cannot just categorize all attorney's fees as necessary expenses without an examination as to who is relatively responsible for the fees. To hold otherwise is just absurd. If the roles were reversed and Chalese filed every single motion in this case and Adam merely opposed them, then this Court's blanket grant of fees would require the spouse in the worse financial position to accede to every single demand or have to pay the other side's fees for their actions.

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Thus, this Court cannot do a blanket grant of fees without an analysis of the necessity of those fees. The Court is well aware of this requirement as the Court laid out the *Brunzell* factors, but the Court utterly failed to conduct an analysis under *Brunzell*. Once again, this omission leads to more than just the appearance of impropriety. Indeed, this failure alone will result in the award being overturned on appeal as the Court knows how to conduct this type of analysis as it did so for Chalese's expert witness.

Additionally, this Court cannot effectively use a time machine to go against the law of the case. Judge Moss did not award Chalese attorney's fees. She even deferred the \$10,000 grant of Sargeant fees until the time of trial because Chalese's mother was paying her expenses. By blanket granting Chalese fees for every single thing her attorneys did, this Court is effectively going back in time and retroactively awarding fees over what the previous judge did in this case. This is a direct violation of the law of the case doctrine. Previous decisions must be respected. This is the district court, not the appellate court. Additionally, and just as troubling, this Court's decree gives the impression that fees are being awarded as a litigation sanction. Surely, this Court knows that sanctions are to be done on a graduated scale and not done retroactively. This unjust punitive measure really cements the impropriety and cannot be explained given

the Court's previous ruling when Chalese's attorney asked that Adam be declared a vexatious litigant.

On the same topic of a blanket award of fees and law of the case, Pecos opposed Adam's request to disqualify this Court and asked for fees for responding. Judge Bell denied the request for fees as Chalese was not required to respond to the motion to disqualify. The memorandum of costs submitted by Pecos shows that Chalese was billed for the time spent preparing the opposition. Adam acknowledges that this Court awarded Chalese \$180,000 for Pecos' representation while the actual fees billed were just over \$207,000. However, this underscores the likelihood of success on appeal as this Court has not delineated its thinking in this regard. This Court cannot overrule Judge Bell's denial of fees.

Additionally, Adam will prevail on ordering him to pay Schiender's attorney's fees. Chalese objected to his fee, believed it was unwarranted and appealed Judge Moss' order. But for it being dismissed for jurisdiction and not being a final order, her position would be that the fees awarded were unreasonable. Adam is in no position to appeal that award of fees because Chalese has the information necessary for appeal. Yet, in a display of brazen bias, this Court shortcuts everything and ordered Adam to pay that fee in full with zero analysis under *Brunzell*. Chalese has no incentive to appeal this fee now as she is not responsible for it and

Adam is no position to be able to effectively prosecute the appeal in that regard.

In sum, this Court erroneously awarded Chalese the entirety of her legal fees without any attempt to justify awarding the entire amount. It quite literally shocks the conscious to see that the Court did not even attempt to cover up its naked bias in favor of Chalese. Chalese's fees were paid by her mother. As a result, attorney's fees were inappropriate and should not be considered in this case.

Even assuming *arguendo* that the *Logan* decision is extended to cover this situation, this Court cannot square the facial bias of holding Adam's parents' financial help against him, but not accounting for Chalese's mother's help. Additionally, *Logan* allows for the recovery of **reasonable** attorney's fees.

This Court has taken no steps to justify the reasonableness of Chalese's fees other than a blanket statement about the reasonableness of the work performed. One example is Adam's award of attorney's fees for Chalese's discovery violation in the amount of \$3,888.50, which is not mentioned anywhere in the decree. Chalese obviously incurred fees defending against that motion. Yet Adam has to now pay those fees? That perverts the very grant of fees.

The motion to disburse disputed funds held in trust in July and August of 2019 was likewise necessitated by Chalese violating the joint preliminary injunction and buying a house without court permission. Yet, Adam now has to pay for Chalese's attorney's fees.

The grant of attorney's fees in this case is substantively incorrect because the fees were paid by Chalese's mother as a gift to her, not a loan. Therefore, Chalese cannot recover those fees. Even if that were not the case, this Court's failure to analyze the reasonableness of Chalese's attorney's fees is fatal to the award and will be overturned on appeal. This Court is well aware of how to actually analyze the reasonableness of fees because it did so for Chalese's rebuttal expert. Indeed, the Court writes nearly a page of the decree justifying the award of Dr. O'Donohue's legal fees. Yet, the Court devotes no time to analyzing what were Chalese's reasonable attorney's fees that were occasioned and necessary in order to meet Adam in the courtroom on an equal basis and that is why Adam will prevail on appeal as it relates to fees.

## e. The Stay Should Be Granted

As set forth above, NRCP 62(d)(2) requires a stay pending appeal if a bond or other security is posted. Indeed, if the Court approves the bond or other security, the stay immediately takes effect. 1 | 2 | 3 | 4

Here, the Court has ordered that all of the money in Mayo's trust account be disbursed in the next five days. This request to stay seeks to stop the disbursement pending appeal. Thus, the other security that maintains the status quo is to keep the money in Mayo's trust account and order the stay as required under NRCP 62(d)(2).

Alternatively, Adam does not have the money to post the entirety of the award. Indeed, Adam only has what is in Mayo's trust account, minus Chalese's interest in the remaining community proceeds that he is not disputing. But, in *Nelson v. Heer*, the Nevada Supreme Court held that in determining what security is necessary for a stay pending appeal, the focus should be on what security will maintain the status quo and protect the judgment creditor pending appeal. 121 Nev. 832, 835 (2005) (the version of NRCP 62 in effect at the time of the decision made stays discretionary rather than mandatory and thus invited the district court to allow for other security that was not a bond for the entire amount of the judgment).

Thus, because Adam cannot post the entire judgment as a bond, Adam asks this Court to maintain the status quo and stay the disbursement while keeping the money in Mayo's trust account as security.

This Court should stay the disbursement order, with the exception of Chalese's remaining share of the community proceeds, as the stay factors set forth in NRCP 62 and NRAP 8 favor Adam.

### III. ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE PURSUANT TO 5.501

The notice of entry of order for the decree was filed yesterday May 26, 2022. Adam immediately began drafting this request to stay and emailed opposing counsel at 5:21 P.M. asking for the defense's position on a stay. Given the very short timeframe before action must occur, Adam is filing this motion now. If the defense agrees to the stay, they can file a notice of non-opposition.

# IV. NOTICE OF INTENT PURSUANT TO NRAP 27 TO SEEK EMERGENCY RELIEF.

Please be advised that Adam intends to file an emergency writ compelling a stay of the decree as outlined above in the event that this Court refuses to act before the deadline or otherwise denies the request to stay.

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# **CONCLUSION** V. Based upon the foregoing, Adam respectfully requests that this Court stay the order that the money in Mayo's trust account be disbursed immediately with the exception of Chalese's share of the remaining community proceeds. Dated Friday, May 27, 2022. Respectfully Submitted: /s/ Adam M. Solinger Adam M. Solinger

#### **DECLARATION OF ADAM MICHAEL SOLINGER**

I, ADAM MICHAEL SOLINGER, provide this Declaration pursuant to NRS 53.045 and states the following:

- 1. I am the Plaintiff in the above-entitled action, and I am above the age of majority and am competent to testify to the facts contained in this affidavit.
  - 2. I make this affidavit in support of the foregoing EMERGENCY MOTION TO STAY JUDGEMENT PENDING APPEAL
- 3. I have read said *Motion* and hereby certify that the facts set forth in the Points and Authorities attached thereto are true of my own knowledge, except for those matters therein contained stated upon information and belief, and as to those matters, I believe them to be true.
- 4. I declare under the penalty of perjury pursuant to the laws of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated Friday, May 27, 2022.

/s/ Adam M. Solinger
ADAM MICHAEL SOLINGER

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

## I hereby certify that the foregoing EMERGENCY MOTION TO STAY JUDGEMENT PENDING APPEAL

was filed electronically with the Eighth Judicial District Court in the above-entitled manner, on May 13, 2022. Electronic service of the foregoing document shall be made in accordance with the Master Service

List, pursuant to NEFCR 9, as follows:

Michancy Cramer, Esq. Attorney for Defendant

> <u>/s/ Adam M. Solinger</u> ADAM MICHAEL SOLINGER

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2			
3	MOFI DISTRICT COURT FAMILY DIVISION CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA		
4	ADAM MICHAEL COLINGED		
5	ADAM MICHAEL SOLINGER  Plaintiff/Petitioner  V.  Case No. D-19-582245-D  Dept. I		
6	CHALESE MARIE SOLINGER Defendant/Respondent  MOTION/OPPOSITION FEE INFORMATION SHEET		
7	Notice: Motions and Oppositions filed after entry of a final order issued pursuant to NRS 125, 125B or 125C are subject to the reopen filing fee of \$25, unless specifically excluded by NRS 19.0312. Additionally, Motions and Oppositions filed in cases initiated by joint petition may be subject to an additional filing fee of \$129 or \$57 in accordance with Senate Bill 388 of the 2015 Legislative Session.		
8	Step 1. Select either the \$25 or \$0 filing fee in the box below.		
9	\$25 The Motion/Opposition being filed with this form is subject to the \$25 reopen fee.  OR- OR- The Motion/Opposition being filed with this form is not subject to the \$25 reopen		
10	fee because:  The Motion/Opposition is being filed before a Divorce/Custody Decree has been entered.		
11	The Motion/Opposition is being filed solely to adjust the amount of child support established in a final order.  The Motion/Opposition is for reconsideration or for a new trial, and is being filed		
12	within 10 days after a final judgment or decree was entered. The final order was entered on  Other Excluded Motion (must specify)		
13	Step 2. Select the \$0, \$129 or \$57 filing fee in the box below.		
14	\$0 The Motion/Opposition being filed with this form is not subject to the \$129 or the \$57 fee because:  The Motion/Opposition is being filed in a case that was not initiated by joint petition.		
15	The party filing the Motion/Opposition previously paid a fee of \$129 or \$57.  \$129 The Motion being filed with this form is subject to the \$129 fee because it is a motion		
16	to modify, adjust or enforce a final order.  OR-  S57 The Motion/Opposition being filing with this form is subject to the \$57 fee because it is		
17	an opposition to a motion to modify, adjust or enforce a final order, or it is a motion and the opposing party has already paid a fee of \$129.		
18	Step 3. Add the filing fees from Step 1 and Step 2.  The total filing fee for the motion/opposition I am filing with this form is:		
19	Party filing Motion/Opposition: Adam M. Solinger Date 10/7/2020		
20	Signature of Party or Preparer /s/ Adam M. Solinger		
21			

#### **ELECTRONICALLY SERVED** 5/25/2022 3:58 PM

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•	CLERK OF THE COURT	

**DECD** 

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MARY PERRY DISTRICT JUDGE FAMILY DIVISION, DEPT. P AS VEGAS, NV 89101-2408

**DISTRICT COURT; FAMILY DIVISION CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** \* \* \* \* \*

Adam Michael Solinger, Case No.: D-19-582245-D Plaintiff. Dept. P

Date EHT: multiple

Chalese Marie Solinger, Time: 9:30 am

Defendant. )

### **DECREE OF DIVORCE**

This matter having come before the Court upon the scheduled Evidentiary Hearing held on May 10, 2021, January 21, 2022, March 1, 2022, March 2, 2022 March 3, 2022; held in person; and the Plaintiff appeared personally, selfrepresented; and the Defendant appeared personally, being represented by Michancy Cramer, Esq.; and the Court having read and reviewed all the papers and pleadings on file, heard and considered any testimony, exhibits and any prior rulings in this matter, and good cause appearing therefore, makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Decree and Orders.

### FINDINGS OF FACT

### Jurisdiction:

- 1. Both parties are residents of the State of Nevada, County of Clark, and the Court finds it has personal and subject matter jurisdiction over the parties, the minor children and the parties' property.
- 2. The minor children have resided in Nevada at all times relevant herein. including a period more than 6 months preceding the filing of this action, and Nevada is the Home State of the minor children, and pursuant to NRS 125A et. seq. this Court has initial, exclusive and continuing jurisdiction to make custodial determinations.

- 3. Plaintiff is and has been a bona-fide resident of Clark County, Nevada for the requisite six weeks prior to filing for divorce, and has continued to reside in Clark County ever since.
- 4. That the issues of custody (NRS 125C.0035(4)- the sole consideration is the best interests of the children; child support and other financial issues are to be adjudicated by the Court.
- 5. That there are separate and/or community property and/or debts to be adjudicated by the Court (NRS 125.150)
- 6. That there is the issue of attorney's fees to be adjudicated by the Court. *Personal:*
- 4. The parties were married May 12, 2012 in Las Vegas, Clark County, Nevada.
- 5. That the parties are the biological parents of two (2) minor child, to wit: Michael Adam Solinger (dob 6/16/15-currently just shy of age 7) and Marie Leona Solinger (dob 8/28/17- currently age 4).

## Pleadings:

- 6. Plaintiff (hereinafter referred to as "Plaintiff", "Adam" or "Father") filed the Complaint for Divorce on January 4, 2019 (Doc. 1), with claims regarding custody, child support, other child related issues, community property and/or debts to be adjudicated, separate property.
- 7. That the Summons and Complaint were personally served on the Defendant on January 7, 2019, per the Affidavit of Service (Doc. 5).
  - 8. Plaintiff filed Default (1/29/19 Doc. 7).
- 9. Defendant (hereinafter referred to as "Defendant", "Chalese" or "Mother") filed an Answer and Counterclaim (2/4/19 Doc. 12) and an Amended Answer and Counterclaim (2/7/19 Doc. 15).

- 10. Defendant filed a Motion to Set Aside Default (2/7/19 Doc. 16; Amended Motion Doc. 18).
- 11. The Court finds that as the parties moved forward it was presumed that the Default was set aside to hear the matter on its merits, but not reduced to writing in the Order following the motion hearing (3/19/19 -Doc. 47).
- 12. That in her Amended Counterclaim (2/7/19 Doc. 15), Defendant with claims for custody, child support, other child related issues, community property and/or debts to be adjudicated, separate property, alimony/spousal support, attorney's fees, and requested that she be permitted to return to the use of her former name to wit: Chalese Marie Anderson, or maintain her present name, at her sole discretion.

### Procedural History:

13. This matter was originally assigned to the Hon. Judge Cheryl Moss (Dept. I-Retired), and after the 2020 elections, was reassigned to Dept. U - challenged by Plaintiff and was reassigned Dept. P., on January 12, 2021.

## Dept. I Matters:

- 14. That this Court finds that a complete review of the case file has been necessary to understand and/or determine why the prior orders in this matter had been made.
- 15. While both parties filed numerous motions in this matter, almost all of Adam's motions were filed requesting to take more and more time away from Chalese.
- (a) At the initial hearing (3/19/19) the parties were awarded Joint Legal and Joint Physical Custody with a 4-3/3-4 timeshare;
- (b) 6/17/19 hearing- Adam's Emergency Motion for Change of Custody (Doc. 49) Adam's CPS inclusion regarding a chipped tooth was unsubstantiated; prior judge orders random testing of Chalese over minimal marijuana use (extremely low level in urine and nothing in hair); Adam unilaterally withholding the children;

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Adam then brings up Chalese's prescription for Xanax to use as needed for diagnosed anxiety and insisted on random drug test that includes Xanax; Adam and/or his agent (private investigator) following Chalese basically 24/7, including a GPS monitor as well as trespassing at her residence to take photos of the backyard; Chalese's attorney seeks to cancel this as it creates anxiety; Adam brings up Chalese's boyfriend's (Josh) custody case motions to use in this case, which the prior judge gets herself involved in, which this Court finds inappropriate; due to Josh driving the children to drinking a beer, prior judge shortens Chalese's custody to Adam having Primary Physical Custody with right of first refusal with Chalese's timeshare shortened to 2 days per week; prior judge stating that "I'm shortening her time to send a message...".

- (c) 10/3/19 hearing Motion to Continue Trial (Doc. 87); Plaintiff, who is an attorney, tried to refer a case to the prior judge in her gambling court in front of Defendant. Prior judge had to leave the courtroom due to how inappropriate it was. This occurred while the attorneys were in the hallway off record. Further, there was discussion regarding the Plaintiff threatening the District Court with a Writ.
- (d) 12/6/19 hearing on Chalese's Motion re Spousal Support, Attorney's Fees (Doc. 130). For the first time it was pointed out to the Court regarding Plaintiff's live in girlfriend, Jessica, and the issues of the Plaintiff having the children look to Jessica as their mother. This issue will be discussed further in these Findings at the appropriate time. (Continued to 12/9/19)
- (e) 12/9/19 Adam's Motion for Custody Evaluation was granted and was to include Plaintiff's girlfriend. Chalese's counsel pointed out to the Court that: "Custody is not an appropriate method to punish a parent you have to look at the best interest of the children. So she violates a court order you sanction her, give her warnings, but custody is not to be used as a sword that case law is clear." The Court orders Defendant preliminary attorney's fees,

(f) 2/26/20 hearing- Adam's Motion to Reconsider (Doc. 232); Chalese's Countermotion to Restore Joint Physical Custody (Doc.239) Adam argues that a Custody Evaluation will show that now Chalese suffers from mental illness and that the timing was a way to "resuscitate her case". The issue of the Court using custody time to punish Chalese; and that the income of a non-spouse should be considered so he could avoid paying his spousal support. Chalese argues that she has complied with all of the Court's requests; the prior judge ignored Chalese's argument and still only relief upon Josh (boyfriend) prior alleged acts to not provide Chalese her legal rights.

(g) 4/6-13/20 hearing- Adam's Motion for Change of Custody based upon Emergency Circumstances (Doc. 286); Chalese's Opposition and countermotion (Doc. 295), which included Adam's interrogation of children as to what goes on at Chalese's home; the prior judge solely used the issues of Josh to maintain the status quo.

Dept. P Matters (1/12/21 forward):

- (1) 2/18/21 hearing Adam's Motion to Terminate Spousal Support (Doc. 392); Chalese's Opposition and Countermotion (Doc. 394); Court modified spousal support and set trial dates.
- (2) 3/18/21 hearing on Adam's Motion to Modify Physical Custody Pending Trial (Doc. 404); Chalese's Opposition and Countermotion (Doc. 408); Modify Custody denied, Attorneys Fees deferred to trial.
- (3) 4/30/21- hearing on Chalese's Motion for Witness to Appear Virtually (Doc 410); Adam's Opposition (Doc 418) and Adam's Motion in Limine (Doc. 412); Chalese's Opposition (Doc. 414); Dr. Paglini and rebuttal witness allowed to appear via BlueJeans application; Dr.Paglini is the parties witness and not the Courts.
  - (4) *Trial-Day 1:* 5/10/21: The Court heard testimony of Dr. John Paglini.

- (5) Plaintiff filed a Motion to Disqualify Judge (5/13/21 Doc. 427); Defendant filed Opposition (5/14/21 Doc. 428); Judge filed Response (5/24/21-Doc. 429); Chief Judge Linda Bell heard the Motion on the pleadings; Decision & Order (6/24/21 Doc. 444) denying the Motion to Disqualify.
- (6) 7/8/21- hearing on Chalese's Motion Regarding Summer Custodial Time (Doc. 433); Adam's Opposition (Doc. 440); Based upon Adam's allegations of marijuana use, Court modified the custodial timeshare and time, as well as Chalese's phone calls with children; all other issues deferred to trial.
- (7) 9/17/21 Trial Day 2 -continued as Defendant's Counsel was ill. Was also the scheduled hearing on Adam's Motion re Intent to Withhold Children (Doc 458); Chalese's Opposition and Countermotion (Doc 461) and Errata (Doc. 462); Adam's Motion for Sanctions (Doc. 448) Motions continued to 9/27/21.
- (8) 9/27/21 hearing: trial dates reset- issues re Covid resolved. Spousal Support to end as of November 1, 2021.
- (9) 1/22/22 Trial Day 2- the Court heard testimony of Dr. Paglini, Investigator Curtis Doyal; the Court, made temporary orders pending finalization of trial: Joint Legal Custody, Joint Physical Custody, week on/week off schedule exchange on Wednesdays, third party pickup permitted, vacation time only in the summer; no right of first refusal, no withholding of children. Set trial date for Day 3.
- (10) 3/1/22 Trial Day 3 Court heard testimony of William Donahue, Joshua Lloyd and Jessica Sellers. All exhibits admitted with the exception of Adam's video exhibits which were not admitted.
- (11) 3/2/22 Trial Day 4 Court heard testimony of Jessica Sellers, the Plaintiff and Defendant.

- (12) 3/3/22 Trial Day 5 Court heard remainder of Defendant's testimony. Ordered closing argument briefs by March 17, 2022; set return date for Decision for April 14, 2022<sup>1</sup>.
- (13) Chalese filed Motion to Place Back on Calendar for further Testimony (Doc. 494) set on Order Shortening Time to April 14, 2022, regarding incident between Chalese and Josh. No formal Opposition was filed by the Plaintiff. Motion was discussed but the Court did not reopen trial for new testimony. The Court moved the decision date forward to 5/26/22. Plaintiff sought to cautiously inquire of the Court on the amount of time had been taken regarding the issuance of the Final Decree.

### SPECIFIC FINDINGS -- WITNESSES

### Dr. John Paglini:

The Court ordered a Custody Evaluation, and Dr. Paglini was agreed to by the parties to provide same.

At the outset Dr. Paglini should have disclosed when he was retained that Adam referred a criminal case to Dr. Paglini, as it could create a conflict, which was not disclosed until later.

In his testimony at trial, Dr. Paglini stated that though Chalese had mild issues with stress related decision making, there was nothing that concerned him. He saw no psychosis so the elevated scores did not cause him concern, and stated that Chalese being in a high stress situation and with the problems with her pregnancy that she would react in a different way than normal. He was more concerned over dog feces in the backyard.

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Judge Perry contracted Covid-19 and thereafter acute pancreatitis and pneumonia, including hospitalization, between March 8 and April 9, 2022.

MARY PERRY DISTRICT JUDGE FAMILY DIVISION, DEPT. P AS VEGAS, NV 89101-2408 One of the issues the Court specifically wanted explored and so stated at the hearing when the evaluation was ordered, which was not explored by Dr. Paglini was that of "gate keeping".

This court finds that on certain subjects Dr. Paglini was degrading of Chalese's personal situation, basically centered on her financial situation, or lack thereof, while at the same time praising how wonderful Adam's father was in providing Adam with access to funds, as well as purchasing him a new home.

What became clear from Dr. Paglini's report and testimony, is that he focused on Chalese, and not much at all regarding Adam other than lack of proper pool security. The court finds it troubling that Adam had to have someone point out to him the dangers of the unfenced pool with small children around; yet, nevertheless, Adam believes that he can dictate other people's living habits in their own residence.

This Court finds that Dr. Paglini failed to fully follow what the Court ordered. Dr. Paglini seemed to solely focus on Chalese, and not the parties equally, as if he only performed the equivalent of a brief focus assessment on Chalese, as Adam had requested of the court, but was denied in favor of the full custody evaluation of both parties as was ordered.

Ultimately, upon review, the Court finds Dr. Paglini's report is incomplete, and while the Court may agree with certain aspects of the report and the testimony that dovetail with other testimony, the Court simply cannot accept same it in its entirety as completely credible.

# Dr. William O'Donohue (Defendant Rebuttal Expert):

Dr. O'Donohue's credentials are extensive and so is his work in the area of custody, evaluations, both preparing and being a rebuttal witness. He has testified as an expert a minimum of 200 times, and about a dozen as a rebuttal witness. That the Court finds and holds that Dr. O'Donohue is qualified to testify as an expert witness.

His testimony was based upon those facts that were placed in Dr. Paglini's report. His testimony was based only upon a review of what had occurred which was contained in Dr. Paglini's report, yet the Court finds his testimony enlightening.

Dr. O'Donohue testified that after listing multiple factors to be looked at in Dr. Paglini's report, he added his own factors as well as part of his testimony.

Dr. O'Donohue questioned Dr. Paglini's methodology in arriving at the various statements, failed to cover various subjects, and the like in Dr. Paglini's report. One example is Adam simply going into Chalese's residence without permission. Dr. Paglini did not explore how this could have affected Chalese, or consider Adam's motivation and the need to break into the other parent's home. Another is Chalese being in the hospital during hard labor for one of the children of the parties, and Adam was not there, but was out riding his bike and studying for the bar. Adam showed lack of displaying any priority as to child care and concern for his wife was noted.

Another would be Dr. Paglini's lack of any observation of emotional maturity; yet Dr. Paglini made a determination of Josh's emotional maturity and finances without ever speaking with Josh. There were other items of mere statement but without any exploration by Dr. Paglini (night-time medication; only Chalese's violation of Court orders with no mention of Adam's).

Dr. O'Donohue testified that Dr. Paglini's report is full of mere statements, without exploring the validity of such statements. In various circumstances, Dr. Paglini only reported Adam's side of various issues, and clearly accepted Adam's interpretation of matters, including downplaying Adam's own drug use, but failed to explore further as to mom's issues regarding each subject.

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That Dr. Paglini did not fully investigate as to the various stressors that having a private investigator follow her would have on Chalese, who already had an anxiety and PTSD issues; that pressuring her could create Chalese's unwillingness to deal with Adam.

Dr. O'Donohue did take notice of Chalese's working with children, her being a child's Hairstylist and nanny shows an affinity to children and being with them, and commented: "Skilled as primary care giver, show affinity toward it, and liking it, shows best interest to the children". Dr. O'Donohue also noted that preseparation, Chalese was a stay-at-home mother and primary caregiver of the children.

The Court finds this a reasonable questioning of Dr. Paglini's report since many things were never addressed (noted above). Chalese was in the hospital during hard labor for one of the children of the parties, and Adam was not there, but was out riding his bike and studying for the bar. There was a lack of displaying priority as to child care and concern for his wife. No exploring of this, but just a statement. No conclusions, yet it shows Dad's interests other than family.

Ultimately, the Court finds that Dr. O'Donohue's testimony and report to be very credible and useful and lends further credence to the Court's findings regarding Dr. Paglini's report/testimony.

# Investigator Curtis Doyal:

Mr. Doyal was hired by Adam to surveil Chalese. He testified that he did not recognize anyone in the courtroom, even though Chalese was in the courtroom.

The predominant occasion surrounding his report/testimony that Chalese drove recklessly. Testimony included the fact that it was very dark when he did the surveillance. That he saw a GMC pick-up truck and female drive up in that truck and went inside then came out with a child; that he lost sight of the initial

GMC, that he himself drove 90 miles an hour or more in attempting to catch the person in the truck, as he had no specified equipment to properly note how fast his subjects were traveling, and could not even be sure it was the same vehicle.

The Court finds that there is no showing by any sort of evidentiary value that this was, in fact, Chalese.

The Court finds that there was no evidentiary value to Mr. Doyle's testimony and cannot to be relied upon.

## Joshua Lloyd (Defendant's significant other):

Mr. Lloyd, while having difficulties with when something occurred, definitely remembered what occurred, in detail. The Court finds that there is blame to go around to all of the interconnected parties on this particular issue.

Overall, the Court does find Mr. Lloyd to be credible, as to those events in this matter, after he became comfortable and expanded his answers.

The court finds that there was no reason that Josh could not be a babysitter. He had joint custody of his own children.

# Jessica Sellers (Plaintiff's significant other):

The major issue with Jessica Sellers, is that she believes, together with the Plaintiff, with their testimony, that she is a better mother. They both testified as to Jessica's parenting abilities versus Chalese's, which is troublesome and cause for some concern. They both testified that Chalese could never be replaced but actions speak louder than words.

One example of Jessica's intentional interference is when Jessica picked up the children on exchange day at about 1:30 pm, knowing that Chalese would be picking them up after she got out of work, solely because Jessica promised swimming time to the children. She did not return the children to the day care prior to Chalese arriving to pick them up, causing further turmoil.

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Jessica is not credible when she says she does not want take the place of Chalese, even though she stated she picks up the children, goes to the parent teacher conference, doctor's appointments, child exchanges, and that she is the better mother. Her excuse was that if Chalese did then she wouldn't need to. The Court believes that if Jessica did not seek to usurp her place, Chalese would be comfortable going, as she was previously used to doing.

Jessica was the proximate cause of the driveway incident. Despite the fact that she had a Justice Court TPO against Josh and ordered that Josh was to remain inside the residence during child exchange, she chose to violate her own TPO by arriving at Josh's home, and parking across his driveway, creating the incident, knowing that Chalese/Josh and the children were not home but on their way, and required the driveway. Adam could have picked up the children to avoid this type of issue or Jessica parking across the street to avoid being on Josh's residential property.

What is clear is the Adam's intent to systematically demean Chalese on many levels, as a parent.

The Court finds that Ms. Sellers' (and the Plaintiff) attitude, testimony and/or opinion of their intent to undercut Chalese with Jessica in this regard is completely reprehensible.

# Adam Solinger (Plaintiff):

Adam Solinger is an attorney, and as such, when it came to following the law/rules, etc., there was a higher expectation from him as a self-represented individual in this matter (after January 2021).

Throughout this case, both pre and post Dept. P assignment, he conducted himself with some of the worse type of behavior the Court has seen to date, in the deliberate manner he treated the mother of his children, in deliberately seeking to actually demean and/or undercut her altogether.

His legal strategic approach leaves much to be desired and created unnecessary and unwarranted litigation.

Mr. Solinger, over the course of this case, has been the proximate cause of various issues that this Court was required to deal with.

These issues include but are not limited to:

- (a) Admits that hiring a PI to follow Chalese around or to place a tracking device on her vehicle to see if she was adhering to orders; this is not consistent with co-parenting.
- (b) Does not believe that it is abusive behavior to have strange men following Mom around in grocery stores, parking lots, chasing her in the streets or even her home. (Trial Video 3/2/22 timestamp 2:00 to 2:10)
- (c) Dad violated joint legal custodial provisions and picked, without consulting Chalese, schools, day cares, speech therapy, cutting daughter's hair (even though Chalese is a child hairdresser), etc. He tried to mislead by saying he consulted with Chalese then stating that CCSD chooses the school children go to.
- (d) That Adam exercised vacation time, usually reserved for the summer, in between Thanksgiving and Christmas 2020 and 2021, leaving Chalese with only two days of visitation with the children over the holidays, all due to the Christianity dinners on Sundays during this period of time. All of a sudden, Dad recognizes Christianity practices when he was always an atheist. The Court does not find Adam credible when he testified that he was not looking to "take time away from Chalese", but rather to celebrate Christian "dinners" with his girlfriend.
- (e) The Court finds that Adam lacks candor to the Court in situations when it benefits him not to do so.
- (f) The Court does not find the Plaintiff credible on many issues as to his intent. Ultimately with a combination of testimony, Adam's and Jessica's actions speak louder than words.

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# Micro Managing

#### THE COURT HEREBY FINDS:

That after vacating the community residence, and moving in with his girlfriend, Adam, without Chalese's knowledge and/or consent, entered Chalese's residence, taking video and still photos of the residence, causing heightened anxiety for Chalese. Chalese has also seen him sitting outside of her home when she saw the videos on the Ring doorbell video. There is also Adam's admitting to placaing a tracking device on Chalese's vehicle. The court finds Chalese credible on these issues. Once Adam moved out, he should not have entered the residence without Chalese's knowledge and consent or an absolute emergency.

That Adam trying to force Chalese to take the children to preschool or a particular day care on Mom's time is an attempt to micromanage Chalese and her ability to parent on her own time.

Adam attempted to take Chalese's boyfriend's deposition twice, against Nevada's rules, rather than only once.

Adam complained about Chalese picking the children up early from daycare, from which she was going to pick them up from daycare anyway as it was her time commencing when school let out, and she could pick them up at any time after that. This is another example of Adam's micro-managing.

Though agreeing to phone calls at 7 pm, calls did not take place. The Court finds Chalese's testimony more credible that she did try to call the children, but Adam would not answer the phone versus Adam's testimony that she never called.

That Adam mentioned in his Motion to change custody filed March 31, 2020 that he told Chalese that she needed to bathe the children every day to ensure the children are as clean as possible. He also ordered Chalese that the children had to be in bed by a certain time during her custodial timeshare. These are further examples of Adam's micro-managing.

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That in the same motion, Adam complained that he did not know the social distancing protocols of Chalese's chosen babysitter, when Chalese had an appointment she could not cancel. The Court finds that whomever Chalese would have left the children with, Adam would have complained about that as well.

Adam objected to when Chalese brought her boyfriend into the picture, yet he had a girlfriend.

These attempts to micro-manage Chalese and the children, clearly shows Adam's inability or unwillingness to co-parent and that there is no pleasing him. No matter what happens, Adam will always take an adverse position to Chalese's choices, even during a pandemic.

Adam complained that Chalese has chickens at her house, which could spread Covid.

During the pandemic, Adam complained that Josh and his children went grocery shopping. Like everyone else in Las Vegas during the pandemic, going grocery shopping, was and is, a necessity. This Court finds this complaint from Adam was frivolous and without merit.

That there have been no reports that Chalese has allowed Josh to be alone with the children or has allowed him to drive with the children, since 2020, and there was no evidence presented at trial. Chalese testified that she left one of the children with Josh in the middle of the night, as she had to take a trip the emergency room

The Court does not find that Adam is credible when he testified that he did not take time away from Chalese to celebrate "Christian" dinners with his girlfriend. It should be noted that both parties testified, that neither of them were religious per se, or celebrated holidays as a religious time as such. Adam testified that he is an atheist.

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At the beginning of COVID Pandemic, Adam withheld the children because of his "I know better than you" attitude on more than one occasion. Adam withheld all but 24 hours in April 2020, and even had the audacity to request Chalese clean her home daily to his specifications and that he be permitted to randomly inspect same, which the Court finds is overstepping the boundaries, and intolerable.

\* \* \* \* \*

Further, despite being an attorney, and having a legal researcher (girlfriend) to assist him for most of this case, Adam violated the Joint Preliminary Injunction when he decided to take mom off of health insurance when he changed jobs, even though no one gave him permission to do so.

The major issues the Court has with the Plaintiff is the controlling nature, micro management that he shown, as well as the complete disrespect he has for the mother of his children, blatantly inserting his current girlfriend into the "mother's role.

As an attorney, Adam's use and portrayal of an excuse of "ignorance" of the Family Court law, rules, etc. on multiple occasions is disingenuous. A pro per litigant cannot avoid proper application of the law on grounds that he lacked knowledge of procedural rules. See *Rodriguez v. Fiesta Palms, LLC*, 134 Nev. 654, 659, 428 P.3d 255, 259 (2018) (noting that a "litigant cannot use his alleged ignorance as a shield to protect him from the consequences of failing to comply with basic procedural requirements); *Sengel v. IGT*, 116 Nev. 565, 572, 2 P.3d 258, 262 (2000) (recognizing that the public has constructive knowledge of state law).

The Court finds that Adam engaged in bad faith and unreasonable conduct that "permeated the entirety of the litigation". Adam's behavior and actions taken in this matter can be categorized as misconduct so egregious that it raises concerns over integrity and fundamental fairness.

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# Chalese M. Solinger (Defendant):

That until this matter commenced, Chalese was the primary caregiver with all issues surrounding the children. Once this matter commenced, Chalese did not participate in the son's speech therapy, parent-teacher conferences, etc. Chalese was the primary caregiver and even Adam's testimony was that being the care giver was her role in the marriage. However, much of Chalese's responsiveness more than likely was stemming from Adam's controlling attitude and his insistence on having it his way only, including his insistence that his girlfriend, Jessica, be included in everything. Chalese's minimal income prohibits her ability to be involved during her work hours.

Chalese testified regarding the issue with Michael's birth, how difficult it was and how Adam could not be bothered. Apparently, Chalese and the children, when Michael was a newborn had to leave the home and go to Idaho for 1 ½ years because Adam had to deal with his studies.

Chalese testified as to Adam and Jessica's constant repeat of Marie having diaper rash, but they never brought her to a doctor. Chalese took her to the doctor and it turned out to be a yeast infection.

The Court finds that Chalese is credible in that she does work with Minor child at home practicing his speech therapy with a mirror.

The Court finds that Chalese did not take vacation time for two years because she could not afford to take the time off from work.

The Court finds that there was no testimony as there being any issues with the medication that Chalese was prescribed to take, and finds that there was no testimony that Chalese was abusing these medications.

The Court finds that Chalese's "paranoia" was justified in the way Adam, Jessica, and private investigators seemed to be always following her.

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MARY PERRY DISTRICT JUDGE FAMILY DIVISION, DEPT. P LAS VEGAS, NV 89101-2408 The Court finds Chalese credible in her rendition of what happened at the day care when Jessica decided to take the children home to go swimming, so close to Chalese's time share that Jessica did not return the children until Chalese had already arrived. Once school let out, it was on Chalese's timeshare, whether she picked the children up literally when school let out, or sometime during the school after-care program.

Overall, the Court finds Chalese to be very credible, including but not limited to her PTSD and anxiety, medication usage, and the like, as well as her testimony as to all of the issues that went on during this litigation.

### SPECIFIC FINDINGS - OVERALL

#### THE COURT HEREBY FINDS:

The Court Finds that the way Chalese was treated by the prior Court was abhorrent. Without so much as an offer of proof she has been accused of doing multiple things which were absolutely legal to do. There were multiple allegations predominately against the boyfriend, Josh, and not against Chalese herself, for which the prior judge on various occasions reduced Chalese's custody. *It was argued at the time, that the prior Court, more than once,* reduced Chalese's custodial timeshare and/or actual time as a punishment, and this Court agrees. This Court considers the prior Court's so using custody as a punishment are improper, even to "get Chalese's attention". *Sims v. Sims*, 109 Nev. 1146, 1149, 865 P.2d 328, 330 (1993), *Wiese v. Granata*, 110 *Nev.* 1410, 1412, 887 P.2d 744, 746 (1994) (quoting *Dagher v. Dagher*, 103 Nev. 26, 28 n.3, 731 P.2d 1329, 1330 n.3 (1987)) "A court may not use changes of custody as a sword to punish parental misconduct."

The Court Finds that but for the above actions by the prior judge affirming Adam's actions (either directly or indirectly), Chalese would be awarded primary physical custody.

Further, the Court also Finds that Adam's behavior in having Chalese followed, a tracker on her car, the game-playing, and ultimately the false allegations and actions taken "minimize" Chalese, despite all the prior years of his working long hours leaving the children in Chalese's sole care, was proof that Chalese was a great mother, until he chose to replace his wife with another woman. His actions speak volumes.

In this matter Adam has had an issue with the Court disagreeing with his point of view. This is shown on multiple hearings, one of which was after the Court awarded spousal support. While it is true that the Court can consider a remarried party's new spouse's income under *Rodgers v. Rodgers*, 110 Nev. 1370, 887 P.2d 269 (Nev., 1994): "Although the narrow statutory definition of gross monthly income does not encompass community income, an examination of a remarried parent's "relative income" may properly include consideration of his or her one half interest in the new spouse's income. This theory does not necessarily hold true when litigants are not remarried. Adam wanted the Court to rely on the boyfriend's income, but not to do the same with Plaintiff and his live in girlfriend.

Further, after day 1 of trial, with other days pending, Adam apparently believed that the undersigned would not give him what he wanted, and sought to disqualify the undersigned by way of his Motion to Disqualify, which was ultimately denied.

A recurring theme in this case is Adam's perceived superiority over Mother when it comes to parenting. During the parties' marriage, Chalese provided nearly all of the child-rearing duties, supporting Adam so he could establish his career as an attorney, etc.

The Court finds that during this time period, Adam was working 60 + hours a week and leaving the children with mom. He had no problems with Chalese's ability to care for the children then, it is only after he has moved on that he now has problems with mom's ability to parent.

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The Court finds that Chalese from birth to the date of the commencement of this action was the sole/primary custodian and caregiver of the children, and that demeaning her abilities as a parent are unjustifiable.

Conversely, Adam preferred to perform virtually no parenting during the parties' marriage, and has admitted that was the "division of labor" as defined by him; this Court defines as Chalese does all the work with the children, as it pertains to school, doctors, etc., and Adam does nothing in this regard and was happy to delegate the responsibility. Adam started making negative allegations about Chalese's parenting, all for the purpose to again displace Chalese, and provide him with the majority of custodial timeshare, and then have Jessica, who already appears at functions such as parent-teacher meetings and the like in Adam's place.

In fact, at trial Jessica admitted on the stand that she is a better mother than Chalese. This avenue of thinking first appeared in this matter in December 2019 hearing.

Adam has shown that he believes that his opinions as to Chalese's "horrible judgment and reckless behavior" are true because Adam says they are true, none of which he was able to prove at trial. Adam did not attend a single speech therapy session with Michael prior to the separation. Adam refused to pay support to Chalese absent a Court order and insisted she get a job, and now accuses her of "refusing" to take Michael to speech therapy because she cannot get Michael across town with her work schedule and be able to take time off.

In this matter, we have both parties violating Court orders; but Adam's withholding the children from Chalese provides further impetus as to Adam's true motives - simply to undercut Chalese and cut her out of children's lives. The prior Judge did get Chalese's attention. Since that hearing, Chalese changed counsel, took the UNLV parenting class, took the COPE class, but he made it impossible for her to deal with him.

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Adam conducted himself in this divorce matter, which started out as a routine type matter, by way of scorched earth litigation. One definition of "scorched earth litigation" is conduct whose goal is to wear down the other side, create excessive amounts of work, and act relentless. This definition applies to Adam throughout this case. He persistently adopted a "war mentality", to "push the envelope", without much thought, if any, to economics or good faith.

Early on in this litigation, Adam used allegations about Chalese (abusing drugs), which turned out not to be true, in an attempt to withhold access, actually withholding access, and in some of those occurrences stated it was his "vacation time".

The Court finds that Adam believes he should be able to use CPS as his personal "go to" to investigate what he considers issues to be investigated.

Adam's continued bad faith and unreasonable conduct permeated the entirety of the litigation.

## **FACTORS PURSUANT TO NRS 125C.0025**

NRS 125C.0025 states that: When a court is making a determination regarding physical custody of children, there is a preference that joint physical custody would be in the best interest of a minor child. The Sole consideration is the best interest of the child. The minimum factors a court must consider is spelled out in NRS 125C.0035(4) as follows:

- (a) Wishes of the child if of sufficient age and capacity to inform an intelligent preference. This factor is neutral since neither child is of sufficient age and capacity to form an intelligent preference.
- (b) Nomination by parent/guardian. This factor is neutral due to there being no nomination by a parent or guardian.

(c) Which more likely to allow frequent associations and continuing associations and continuing relationship with other parent.

This case has been fraught with Adam's attempts to cut Chalese out of the children's lives, and replace her with his girlfriend. He would take vacation time during weekends throughout December, which was Chalese's regular timeshare, where she would end up having only have a couple of days during the month of December. Adam withheld the children from Chalese in April 2020 to the point where Chalese only received 24 hours with the children during that month. This occurred again at Christmas time (2020 and 2021).

Dr. Paglini stated that Chalese started counseling in order to deal with Adam.

Given that Adam continually filed motions which sought to reduce Chalese's timeshare, all based upon Adam's opinion of how Chalese should be parenting the children (see also micro managing herein).

When Chalese sought to switch days so the children could attend their cousin's birthday party, Adam refused to cooperate. This indicates Adam's inability and/or unwillingness to co-parent with Chalese.

Adam's attitude needs to change as the parties move into the future, and must actually co-parent with Chalese. For now, this factor favors Chalese.

# (d) Level of Conflict between parents

This is a very high conflict case. The court believes that both parents' have some fault to a degree, but moreso Adam with his constantly seeking to micromanage Chalese's life, her residence, her boyfriend, etc., keeping her passive, as such passivity is simply easier on Chalese due to her anxiety disorder, as testified by both Dr. Paglini and Dr. O'Donohue.

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### (e) Ability of parents to cooperate to meet the needs of the child.

As noted above, Adam tends to be extremely micro-managing of the children and their lives, to the point where he sought to have Chalese follow his orders when he demanded that he set bathing schedule and bedtimes for the children at Chalese's home, handed down a cleaning schedule for Chalese to follow in her home and the like.

Adam made sole decisions regarding the children as to school, medical issues and the like, without discussing same with Chalese, and only telling her later on.

Chalese is credible in her explanation of Marie's teeth issue for a procedure to rectify a problem before it became a necessity, and Adam not wanting to spend the money at that time as the procedure was not necessary at that moment, but within a couple of weeks it became necessary, and unfortunately Marie had to deal with a lack of her two front teeth much sooner than usual.

On the other hand, it is understandable that Chalese has backed off matters with Jessica's appearance into the scene, and the treatment she has received from Adam and Jessica and Chalese being pushed away.

Adam's attitude in all respects is that he is superior to Chalese as a parent, that her wishes and ideas should not be considered, and that it is "his way or the highway." Such attitudes demonstrate that Adam has impeded the parties' ability to cooperate to meet the children's needs.

For now, this renders this factor favors Chalese.

# (f) Mental and physical health of parents

There was no evidence of either party having uncontrollable mental health issues. Chalese has depression and anxiety, and she has stated she suffers from PTSD. Adam has had Chalese followed to the point where it made her feel like she was being followed everywhere. Adam sought to make it appear that mom was being paranoid. This was not paranoia. This was Adam seeking to instigate Page 23 of 55

an issue to make Chalese look bad. The intensity of the stressors of this divorce surely have triggered Chalese's anxiety.

Dr. Paglini noted that he believes that Adam has Mild Narcissistic tendencies, and a problem with control issues, and this Court agrees.

This Court believes that Chalese's passiveness with Adam's controlling history or narcissistic personality could be a reason for her to more likely disengage with Adam.

This factor is neutral but slightly favors Adam.

## (g) Physical, developmental, emotional needs of child

Up until January 2019, Chalese was involved with the children and their health appointments, school, etc. Chalese was the primary care taker and had a difficult pregnancy (not Plaintiff's child) during this case and was on bed rest so being able to participate became difficult. The parties' son has a speech impediment, but no other physical, developmental and/or emotional needs. Both parties know what needs to be done, leaving this factor as neutral.

# (h) Nature of relationship of child with each parent

There was No testimony that showed the children have anything but a good loving relationship with each parent. This factor is Neutral.

# (i) Ability of the child(ren) to maintain a relationship with siblings.

Adam has no other children. Chalese has another child, and the subject children have the right to their relationship with their sibling. Any minimization of Chalese's time interferes with this relationship and is not in the children's best interests. This factor favors Chalese.

# (j) History of abuse or neglect.

There was no testimony regarding abuse or neglect of the children. Even though Jessica tried to claim it was neglect for the children to have dirty fingernails, this does not rise to neglect. This factor is neutral.

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(k) Engaged in act of DV against child, parent or any other person residing with the child.

Adam's use of the children in an attempt to control Chalese is borderline domestic abuse and/or violence. This is one of the reasons why it is a rebuttable presumption that perpetrators of domestic violence should not have primary physical or joint physical custody of minor children.

Adam's stalking Chalese through private investigators sitting across from her home, Jessica sitting in her vehicle across from Chalese's home, Adam's invading Chalese's home after he moved out could also be deemed domestic abuse and/or violence.

This factor favors Chalese.

(l) Engage in act of abduction.

This has not been raised as an issue, therefore this factor is neutral.

(m) Other.

Prior to the testimony of Mr. O'Donohue, The Court had various impressions regarding Dr. Paglini's report due to the lack of exploring very important facts: Adam's withholding the children, taking his vacation time just on Chalese's weekends to keep Chalese from seeing the children for long periods of time. Adam's use of drugs, Adam's actions bordering domestic abuse and/or violence, Adam's entering Chalese's home uninvited. Mr. O'Donohue testimony mirrors the Court's thoughts that Dr. Paglini overall appeared biased in favor of Adam and against Chalese.

As to these factors and it appearing that Chalese receiving the majority of the factors, Chalese should be awarded primary physical custody; however, it is unfortunate that the prior judge, whether intentionally or overtly, enabled and/or endorsed these actions causing these stunts to continue.

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MARY PERRY DISTRICT JUDGE FAMILY DIVISION, DEPT. P The Court finds that Adam has repeatedly expressed hostility and animus towards Chalese, making derogatory comments that he was generally combative and unwilling to co-parent or confer with Chalese in any effective manner. The Court is concerned that Adam's denigration of Chalese affects the relationship in front of the child.

At the present time, this Court is willing to provide Adam the opportunity to show he can properly co-parent without the behavior he has already shown.

### Post-Trial Motion

That after the final day of trial in this matter, Chalese and her boyfriend, Josh, became involved in an incident/ argument which proceeded to, inter alia, Josh breaking the television. Josh was arrested at that time and charged with domestic violence. The Court finds that Chalese acted properly and appropriately in removing the children and calling the police.

\* \* \* \* \*

That should any Finding be more properly construed as a Conclusions of Law, the same shall be so construed.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. That the Court has jurisdiction pursuant to NRS 125.020, 125.120, 125.130, and to make orders as to the parties' legal status;
- 2. That the Court has the authority to make orders as it pertains to the marital estate, separate and/or community property/debts (NRS 125.150);
- 3. Legal custody involves having basic legal responsibility for a child and making major decisions regarding the child, including the child's health, education, and religious upbringing. *Rivero v. Rivero*, 125 Nev. 420-421, 216 P.3d 213, 221 (2009) (citing, *Mack v. Ashlock*, 112 Nev. 1062, 1067, 921 P.2d 1258, 1262 (1996)). Joint legal custody requires that the parents be able to cooperate, communicate, and compromise to act in the best interest of the child. *Id.* (citing, *Mosely v. Figliuzzi*, 113 Nev. 51, 60-61, 930 P.2d 1110, 1116 (1997)). In a joint legal custody situation, the

parents must consult with each other to make major decisions regarding the child's upbringing, while the parent with whom the child is residing at that time usually makes minor day-to-day decisions. *Id.* (citing, *Mack*, 112 Nev. at 1076, 921 P.2d at 1262).

- 4. That the Court has the authority to make orders as it pertains to Custody (NRS 125C, et.seq., *Rivero -v- Rivero*, 216, P.3d 213 (2009); 125 Nev. Adv. Op. No. 34 (August 27, 2009), *Wallace v. Wallace*, 112 Nev. 1015, 1019, 922 P.2d 541, 543 (1996) ("Matters of custody and support of minor children rest in the sound discretion of the trial court"); *Bluestein v. Bluestein*, 131 Nev., Adv. Op. 14, 345 P.3d 1044, 1048 (2015) reiterating that "in custody matters, the child's best interest is paramount");
- 5. When making a custody determination, the sole consideration is the best interests of the child. NRS 125C.0035(1); *Davis v. Ewalefo*, 131 Nev. 445, 451, 352 P.3d 1139, 1143 (2015). Moreover, the district court's order "must tie the child's best interest, as informed by specific, relevant findings respecting the [best interest factors1 and any other relevant factors, to the custody determination made." *Davis*, 131 Nev. at 451, 352 P.3d at 1143.
- 6. That the Court has the authority to make orders as it pertains to Child Support (NAC Chapter 425; NRS 125B et.seq., *Barbagallo v. Barbagallo*, 105 Nev. 546, 779 P.2d 532 (1989) ), *Wright v Osburne*, 114 Nev. 1367, 970 P.2d 1071, (1998);
- 7. When one party complains of an error that that party caused, the invited error doctrine bars appellate relief. *Pearson v. Pearson*, 110 Nev. 293, 297, 871 P.2d 343, 345 (1994). This doctrine applies to both "affirmative conduct and a "failure to act to prevent the error. *Id.* (internal quotations omitted). When Adam commenced his wrongful behavior by what appears to be his surveillance, accusations of drug and/or alcohol abuse, his claim she has mental health issues, combined with at the time, Chalese's pregnancy and other issues, he created the very issues he brought

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forth to the Court in order to obtain his own agenda. In the end after all of his bullying tactics, the only real (but misguided) statement he could make is that the children had dirty fingernails.

\* \* \* \* \*

That should any Conclusions of Law be more properly construed as a Finding, the same shall be so construed.

### **DECREE & ORDERS**

NOW THEREFORE, and good cause appearing; It Is Hereby

ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that this Court has personal and subject matter jurisdiction over the parties and the marital estate. The parties are incompatible in marriage, thus the bonds of matrimony now existing between the parties are wholly dissolved, and an absolute Decree of Divorce is hereby granted to the parties, and each of the parties is hereby returned to the status of a single, unmarried person. NRS 125.020 and NRS 125.120. This is a final and absolute Decree of Divorce, wholly and completely dissolving the marriage and dividing the assets and liabilities of the parties. NRS 125.130; and it is further

ORDERED that the Plaintiff has requested a name change, and she may resume the use of her prior surname of Chalese Anderson, or any other surname she has legally used at her sole discretion; and it is further

ORDERED that as this marriage was a short term marriage, and as both parties are in good physical condition, have the ability to work, and as temporary spousal support was ordered during the pendency of this matter, neither party is entitled to receive alimony/spousal support from the other; and it is further

#### PERMANENT BEHAVIORAL ORDER

ORDERED as set forth in this Behavior Order, the use of the pronoun "You" applies to BOTH the Plaintiff and the Defendant in this matter. Specifically, the parties are hereby ORDERED to comply with the following:

- 1. You shall not engage in any abusive contact (foul language, name calling, etc.) with the other party or children, including telephone calls, letters, e-mail, etc.
- 2. You shall avoid any unnecessary contact with the other party's family, friends, associates, neighbors, co-workers, "significant other", etc., and you shall not initiate conflicts with them.
- 3. You shall maintain respect toward the other party's friends, relatives, "significant other", etc.
- 4. You shall not contact any persons associated with the other party (including but not limited to: "significant others", friends, relatives, neighbors, employers, co-workers, business associates, and customers) for purposes of discussing court proceedings or making negative/disparaging allegations about the other party (this includes all forms of social media).
- 5. You will advise all your friends, relatives, and "significant others" if they express an intent or otherwise disparage, criticize, or harass the other party, that such behavior is disallowed, and that you could have your parenting time limited if you are unable to stop their negative behavior, and that you may be sanctioned if the Court finds that you knowingly allowed them, and/or did not take sufficient effort to prevent, them to violate the terms and intent of this Behavior Order.
- 6. Pursuant to EDCR 5.304 (eff. 6/11/22, formerly 5.301), you will **NOT,** nor shall anyone on your behalf, communicate, discuss, or provide any information concerning court issues or proceedings with the minor children; this includes audio and video thereto, and will take every precaution to secure copies of pleadings safely away from the eyes of the children at all times (including evidence or documentation from your side or the opposing party's side), unless authorized by the Court.
- 7. You shall focus on your children and keep in mind what is in the children's best interest.
- 8. You shall not, either directly or through third parties, including significant others, inappropriately question or interrogate your children about what occurs in the other parent's household, etc., and shall try to respect and not interfere with the children's privacy and relationship with the other parent; do not place your children in a loyalty bind between yourself and the other parent; your children need to be able to love both of you freely in both of your homes for healthy child development.

- 9. You shall not provide, either directly or through third parties, copies of any unsolicited documents (personal letters, court pleadings, etc.) to anyone associated with a party (family members, neighbors, employers, etc.) for the intended purpose of casting the other party in a negative light.
- 10. There shall be no harassment at the other party's place(s) of employment, including contacting the employer to make negative or disparaging allegations, to send or drop off evidence as it relates to these court proceedings that appears reasonably designed to put them, or likely to put them, in a bad light or to get them fired, or to have them suffer negative consequences as a result.
- 11. Neither party shall post, nor shall you allow significant others or family members on social media to post, including, but not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, LinkedIn, Tumblr, and Google+, or any other social media platform, any negative or disparaging allegation against or negative image of the other party or anyone associated with the other party.
- 12. Neither party shall interfere with the other party's contact with the minor children, including but not limited to telephone calls, e-mail, social networking, etc.
- 13. Neither party shall threaten to commit, or actually commit an act of violence upon the other party or upon the minor children, or upon the significant other, friend, relative, employer, employee, neighbor, etc. of a party.
- 14. All child custody exchanges, visitations, etc., shall be done in a civil, law-abiding manner and reasonably close to the times specified by the Court. In the event of an emergency or unforeseen circumstance that could affect an exchange of the children or the time of the exchange, the party experiencing the difficulty shall call or contact the other party via text messaging as soon as reasonably possible.
- 15. There shall be no invasion of the electronic devices, email accounts, social media accounts, separate bank accounts, safe deposit boxes, separate residences or separate vehicles, etc. of the other party.
- 16. That Plaintiff's current and/or future significant other shall not perform any duties rightfully belonging to the Defendant, including but not limited to meetings/events at school, doctor's appointments and the

MARY PERRY DISTRICT JUDGE FAMILY DIVISION, DEPT. P LAS VEGAS, NV 89101-2408 like. The two parents shall be listed at all schools as such, and they come before all others as emergency contacts.

- 17. Both parties are under a continuing obligation to provide to the other party any change in their cell phone numbers and/or e-mail address within forty-eight (48) hours of any change.
- 18. Both parties are to ensure that the other parent receive the proper parental respect i.e. children do not call their parents by their first name.
- 19. This Behavior Order shall remain in full force and effect unless and until otherwise ordered by this Court.

Contempt and Possible Sanctions: The parties are HEREBY PUT ON NOTICE THAT EACH AND EVERY VIOLATION of this Behavioral Order, if admitted to, or if found after evidentiary hearing to have committed an act that violates this Order, may result in the party being held in contempt of court pursuant to NRS Chapter 22, which could result in a fine of \$500, 25 days in jail, and/or attorney's fees for EACH VIOLATION (e.g., 4 separate violations could be 100 days in jail and/or \$2,000.00 in sanctions); it is further

THE PARTIES ARE HEREBY PUT ON NOTICE that if it is found by the Court, that if, in the future, one of the parents provides false information in an effort to sway the Court's decision in their favor, or slanders the opposing party in an untrue manner without significant evidence, that party may be sanctioned by the Court. The consequences may include requiring the party who knowingly made false statements or provided false evidence to pay for the other parent's Court costs and legal fees; additional fines and automatic removal of falsified document; modification of the decision making and physical custody in the other parent's favor; make-up visitation time; and may also include a referral to the appropriate authority as it relates to any potential criminal matter. If the Court determines that a party has unjustifiably denied or interfered with visitation granted by an order, the Court may take certain additional remedial measures to provide make-up time or to ensure future compliance; and it is further

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#### COMMUNICATION

ORDERED that all primary communications between the parties, except for emergencies affecting the children, shall be by Our Family Wizard program, for which any and all fees for use shall be borne by Adam (for both parties). ALL COMMUNICATION is to be polite, respectful, business like regarding child issues only, without swearing, criticizing, disparaging the other parent, or telling the other parent how to parent, or how to conduct their household. If an emergency arises regarding the minor children, Parties may contact the other Parent directly; and it is further

ORDERED that Each parent shall respond postings on OurFamilyWizard (Talking Parents or other texting app, collectively called "OurFamilyWizard") within 24 hours of posting. If a parent fails to respond to a posting on OurFamilyWizard within 24 hours, that parent's lack of response is deemed consent and approval to the information posted (i.e., vacation dates, medical appointments etc.). If a parent is going to be unavailable to check OurFamilyWizard for a period of time, the unavailable parent must post dates of unavailability to OurFamilyWizard at the beginning or prior to the period of unavailability. If a parent is unavailable for purposes of communications via OurFamilyWizard, the unavailable parent shall respond to the other parent within 24 hours of his/her becoming available/ the end of the notified period of unavailability; and it is further

ORDERED that Each party shall file proof that he activated an account with OurFamilyWizard within three (3) days of issuance of this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that Each parent shall keep their password to their OurFamilyWizard account private and shall not share their password or login information with anyone else except their attorney if needed for litigation. Neither

party shall permit any third party to communicate through his/her OurFamilyWizard account on his/her behalf.

#### CHILD CUSTODY

ORDERED that the Court believes the it is in the best interests of the children, despite the trial testimony, factors and the within findings of the Court, herein that the parties are awarded **Joint Legal Custody** over the two minor children, to wit: Michael Adam Solinger (dob 6/16/15-currently age 6¾), and Marie Leona Solinger (dob 8/28/17- currently age 5½).

Joint Legal Custody Orders:

- 1. That each party shall consult and cooperate with the other in substantial questions relating to religious upbringing, educational programs, significant changes in social environment, and healthcare of the child(ren).
- 2. That each party shall have access to healthcare and school records pertaining to the child(ren) and be permitted to independently consult with any and all professionals involved with the child(ren).
- 3. That all schools, healthcare providers, and regular daycare providers for the child(ren) shall be selected jointly by the parties. Each party is to ensure that the other party has full contact information of any and all providers. In the case of healthcare providers, both parties are to ensure that the healthcare providers have copies of all health insurance information.
- 4. That each party shall be empowered to obtain emergency healthcare for the child(ren) without the consent of the other party. Healthcare includes treatment for mental health, therapy and counseling. Each party shall notify the other party as soon as reasonably possible of any illness requiring medical attention, or any emergency involving the child(ren). Neither party may obtain non-emergency healthcare for the children without advance notice to the other party of the time and date of the appointment so that the other party may attend.
- 5. That each party shall have access to any information concerning the well-being of the child(ren), including, but not limited to, copies of report cards; school meeting notices; vacation schedules; class programs; requests for conferences; results of standardized or diagnostic tests; notices of activities involving the child(ren); samples of school work; order forms for school pictures; all communications from schools, healthcare providers, and regular daycare providers for the child(ren) to include the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of all such schools, healthcare providers, and regular daycare providers.
- 6. That each party shall advise the other party, if not communicated by the event originator (school, athletic association, etc.), within 24 hours of receipt of any such communication, of all school, athletic, church, and social events in which the child(ren) participate(s), and each agrees to notify the other party within a reasonable time after first learning of the future occurrence of any such event so as to allow the

other party to make arrangements to attend the event if he or she chooses to do so. Both parties may participate with the child(ren) in all such events, including but not limited to, attendance at school events, athletic events, church events, social events, open house, school plays, graduation ceremonies, school carnivals, etc.

- 7. That each party shall be prohibited from enrolling the child(ren) in extracurricular activities which infringes upon the other party's parenting time without advance authorization from the other party.
- 8. That each party shall provide the other party with the address and telephone number at which the minor child(ren) reside(s), and to notify the other party within seven (7) days after any change of address and provide the telephone number if said number changes.
- 9. That each party shall provide the other party with a travel itinerary to include destination, departure and return times whenever the child(ren) will be away from that party's home for a period of two (2) nights or more.
- 10. That the parties are to remember the they are both parents to the children, and that neither party shall disparage the other in the presence of the child(ren), nor shall either party make any comment of any kind that would demean the other party in the eyes of the child(ren).

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that specifically, as there has been during the pendency of this matter by Plaintiff/Dad, there will be no unilateral decisions on matters that are under the joint legal custody mandate (medical, school, etc.) in the future. If the parties do not agree, then they will need to find an alternative resolution to the issue or bring it before the court; and it is further

ORDERED that again, that the Court believes the it is in the best interests of the children, despite the trial testimony, factors and the within findings of the Court, herein the parties are awarded **Joint Physical Custody** of the minor children, to wit: Michael Adam Solinger (dob 6/16/15-currently age 6¾), and Marie Leona Solinger (dob 8/28/17- currently age 5½), and it is further

ORDERED, that in order to minimize parental contact, the parties shall follow the week on week off timeshare schedule with the Minor Children, with the exchanges taking place every Wednesday after school; with pickup allowed at after school day care; if there is no school, at 6:00 pm, at the location which the parties are currently using, or at some other designated location that the parties may agree, should either party move or the existing location become inconvenient, any new

location is to be reasonably central to both parties. Should a third party, or non-family member be meeting the other parent for child exchanges, then that parent is responsible to communicate the name and telephone number to the other parent; and it is further

ORDERED, that the receiving parent will provide transportation (pickup) the children; and it is further

### **HOLIDAYS**

ORDERED, that the parties shall utilize the following schedule as and for Holiday time:

1. *Monday Holidays*: Martin Luther King Day (3'd Monday in January), President's Day (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in February) and the like. The parties shall keep the regular weekly schedule, in that when a Monday holiday falls on their respective time, that party will have the Monday holiday, with the following exceptions:

Memorial Day Dad every year Labor Day Mom every year

- 2. Other Holidays. 4<sup>TH</sup> of July (when it falls), Nevada Day (last Friday in October), Halloween, Veterans Day, etc. The parties shall keep the weekly schedule, in that when a holiday falls on their respective time, that party will have the holiday.
- 3. Mother's Day (second Sunday in May), every year: If the holiday falls on Mother's usual weekly timeshare, there is no adjustment. If the holiday falls on Father's weekly timeshare, then Mother is entitled to have the child from 9:00am on the Saturday before Mother's Day, until drop off at school on Monday.
- 4. Father's Day (third Sunday in June), every year: If the holiday falls on Father's usual weekly timeshare, there is no adjustment. If the holiday falls on Mother's weekly timeshare, then Father is entitled to have the child from 9:00am on the Saturday before Father's Day, until 9:00 pm (as there is no school).

5. Children's birthday: (Michael - June 16<sup>th</sup>, and Marie -August 28<sup>th</sup>)

Mom - odd years, Dad - even years. If the child's birthday falls on a parent's usual weekly timeshare, there is no adjustment. If the holiday falls on the other parent's weekly timeshare, then that parent is entitled to have the child from 9:00 pm the evening prior (if no school) or after school if school is in session, until drop off at school the next morning, or if no school, 9:00 pm that birthday evening. The receiving parent will ensure that the children speak with the other parent for their birthday.

- 6. Parent's birthday, every year: (Adam July 1 and Chalese November 17<sup>th</sup>) If the parent's birthday falls on that parent's usual weekly timeshare, there is no adjustment. If the parent's birthday falls on the other parent's weekly timeshare, then the birthday parent is entitled to have the child from 9:00 am that day (if no school) or after school if school is in session, until that evening at 9:00 pm.
- 7. *Spring Break or other school breaks every year:* The parties shall utilize the regular weekly schedule.
- 8. Thanksgiving School Break: Overall, the parties shall keep the usual weekly schedule, with the exception for Thanksgiving Day as stated below.
- 9. Thanksgiving Day: Dad even years, Mom odd years: If Thanksgiving Break/Day falls during that parent's usual weekly timeshare, there is no adjustment. If Thanksgiving Day falls on the other parent's weekly timeshare, then that parent is entitled to have the Children from 6:00 pm on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving Day until 9:00 am on the Friday immediately following Thanksgiving Day.

10. Christmas - New Years/Winter Break: As neither parent has stated they celebrate the traditional Christmas holiday, the Winter Break shall be divided in half, with Mom having the first period every year- defined as from close of school to the midway point, and Dad having the midway point to the day prior to school resuming.

11. The parties are to understand that maintaining the weekly schedule as it relates to some of the holidays may appear unequal in any given year, but that over the course of time and the calendar, ultimately will equal out for both parties and is in the minor child's best interests, as well as to limit the parents' contact, since this is a high-conflict case.

12. Vacations: Given the weekly timeshare, each parent is entitled to take the minor child on a vacation during their respective timeshare, without further specialized times for vacations, so long as school is not interrupted.

Vacations shall otherwise be taken during the summer and/or when the children do not have school.

Each parent is permitted one (1) separate seven (7) day period allotted as vacation time (which would provide a one-time three weeks for vacation during the summer). As such, if a parent indicates an extended vacation, which would necessitate their utilizing their 7 day period during the other parent's regular time during the summer, they must, in writing, notify the other parent no later than May  $30^{th}$  of that year, and provide an itinerary within 14 days prior to exercising said time.

Under no circumstances is vacation time to be utilized to take the other parent's regular weekly timeshare, when the children are in school or during a "holiday" period.

Any use of the "vacation time" that is less than the seven (7) day period of time shall be construed as using their entire seven (7) days.

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MARY PERRY DISTRICT JUDGE FAMILY DIVISION, DEPT. P LAS VEGAS, NV 89101-2408 If either parent is taking a vacation outside the State of Nevada, they are to provide notice to the other parent of the trip, fourteen (14) days in advance for vacations within the United States and thirty (30) days' notice in advance for any vacations outside the United States, and provide an itinerary of said trip, which includes but is not limited to: destination, departure and return dates/times, etc. Each parent will ensure that the children are able to speak with the other parent prior to departure and upon return home, and usual telephone calls are suspended for the vacation period. Should a parent fail to notify or provide an itinerary within the time period allotted, they will forfeit the vacation time.

Should an uncontrollable event (airline delay due to weather, and the like) cause a delay in return the vacationing parent shall notify the other parent immediately. Such a delay will not be held against either parent, and no compensatory time is assumed or granted in such a situation, or for extenuating circumstances, may allow for makeup time, or for extenuating circumstances, may allow for makeup time.

13. School Events: School events which the minor child wishes to participate, is the responsibility of each parent, on their custodial time, to ensure the child's participation. Either/both parent(s) may participate and/or volunteer in a school event.

14. Educational: Parent/teacher conferences may be scheduled by each parent separately, if possible. While any and all communications should be sent to both parents, should any communication(s) from school be sent to only one parent (i.e. via email), same shall be forwarded to the other parent immediately. Any situation at school (i.e. discipline event) may be attended by either or both parents. Should the child be required to leave school, whether due to illness or discipline, if the custodial parent, or designated alternate, is not reachable by the school, the noncustodial parent may pick up the child, but deliver the child to the custodial parent as soon as possible **that day.** 

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MARY PERRY DISTRICT JUDGE FAMILY DIVISION, DEPT. P

Under no circumstances may a parent delegate any conference (for whatever reason) to a significant other. These conferences are for the parents only.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that the parties may, on their allotted weekly timeshare, take the minor child on a vacation, outing, visiting family, etc., which may or may not be outside the State of Nevada, without the other parent's permission; but, the parties shall simply notify the other parent of the trip, and contact information of where the children are to be in the case of emergency; and it is further

ORDERED that it is in the best interests of the children, due to the high conflict of the parties, that should the children desire to speak with the other parent, the parties will encourage the minor children to do so. Each child shall have unfettered access to the other parent to call the other parent at any time. Each parent is entitled to two (2) parent initiated telephone calls with the minor children during the other parent's timeshare, to be on Thursdays and Mondays at 7:00 pm. The custodial parent shall make the children available at those times; and it is further

ORDERED, that each parent is entitled to obtain daycare/babysitting providers of their choice during their custodial timeshare and there shall be NO Right of First Refusal; and it is further

ORDERED that various Miscellaneous Provisions are as follows:

- 1. Each parent to provide and maintain their own clothing, etc. for the minor child in their respective homes;
- 2. Should the child be on medication for an illness, each parent shall ensure that the other parent is provided with the medication at the time of custodial exchange;
- 3. Each parent shall ensure that the other parent is provided with the any extracurricular equipment the child may require at the time of custodial exchange;
- 4. Each parent to provide daycare/babysitting as necessary on their respective timeshare;
- 5. Neither parent may dictate whom the other parent utilizes for daycare/babysitting, or directly or indirectly interfere in any manner;

6. Neither parent is to make demands or seek to dictate how the other parent is to parent; however the parties are encouraged to discuss and work together regarding important topics, forward important and pertinent information (i.e. education, social, health concerns, etc.).

7. Each party shall ensure that both the child's biological parents are to be included on the child's forms (school, medical, etc.) Each parent may include other family members/relatives on any such forms, with all such notations as to relationship clearly stated on forms.

8. Each party shall ensure that both the child's biological parents are to be the only included individuals on the child's forms (school, medical, etc.) Each parent may include other family members/relatives on any such forms with all such notations as to relationship clearly stated on forms for emergency/pickup use only if both parents cannot be reached.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Court reiterates its prior order that the children should go to school every day and the school supplies that are needed should, regardless of who purchased it, go with the child. Court further noted, the clothes that are purchased belong to the child and that it is either party's duty to return the clothes when the children goes with the other parent; and it is further

ORDERED that none of the shenanigans which occurred during the pendency of this action (following Chalese, false accusations of drug use/abuse, etc. or otherwise) should occur in the future, and are prohibited; and it is further

ORDERED that should any of the specific behavioral provisions, additional custodial provisions in the Decree be violated that upon a motion presented to the Court, it may be considered under the factors required for a modification of custody; and it is further

# CHILD SUPPORT, TAX ALLOCATION & MEDICAL EXPENSES

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that child support is dictated by statute and/or precedent, and pursuant to NRS Chapter 125 and/or NAC. As the parties share joint physical custody, child support is set pursuant to the formula provided in *Wright v Osburne*, 114 Nev. 1367, 970 P.2d 1071, (1998), and the amounts determined by the percentages provided under NAC Chapter 425; and it is further

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ORDERED that there are two (2) children for which child support applies pursuant to the following formula pursuant to NAC 425.140:

- 2. For two children, the sum of:
- (a) For the first \$6,000 of an obligor's monthly gross income, 22 percent of such income;
- (b) For any portion of an obligor's monthly gross income that is greater than \$6,000 and equal to or less than \$10,000, 11 percent of such a portion; and
- (c) For any portion of an obligor's monthly gross income that is greater than \$10,000, 6 percent of such a portion.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that based upon either filed Financial Disclosure Forms and/or the representations of the parties, both parties gross monthly income (GMI) are as follows:

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Plaintiff/Dad GMI = $9,799

6,000 \times 22\% = $1,320.00

3,799 \times 11\% = $\frac{417.89}{$1,737.89}

Defendant/Mom GMI = $2,377 x 22% = $523.14

$1,737.89 - $523.14 = $1,214.75 (rounded to $1,215.00)
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Plaintiff /Dad is obligated to pay Defendant/Mom \$1,215.00 per month, payable on or before the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month, commencing June 1, 2022; and it is further

ORDERED that while there were various deferrals of various sums in this action that became so overlapped, the Court orders that there are no arrears in child support as of the date of this Decree as to either party; and it is further

ORDERED that pursuant to NAC 425.160(1), any award of Child Support, except as otherwise provided by law, terminates when the child reaches 18 years of age or, if the child is still in high school, when the child graduates from high school or reaches 19 years of age, whichever comes first; and it is further

ORDERED that the parties shall share the tax return deduction for the minor children as follows:

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Plaintiff/Dad shall receive the tax deduction for Michael Adam Solinger in all tax years, commencing with tax year 2022;

Defendant/Mom shall receive the tax deduction for Marie Leona Solinger in all tax years, commencing with tax year 2022;

ORDERED that Plaintiff/Dad shall obtain, pay for, and maintain health insurance for the children without offset due to the disparity of income of the parties; and it is further

ORDERED that any unreimbursed medical, dental, optical, orthodontic or other health related expense incurred for the benefit of the minor child is to be divided between the parties at the rate of 65% paid by the Plaintiff and 35% paid by the Defendant due to the disparity in income, pursuant to the 30/30 Rule: either party incurring an out of pocket medical expense for the child shall provide a copy of the paid invoice/receipt to the other party within thirty days of incurring such expense, if not tendered within the thirty day period, the Court may consider it as a waiver of reimbursement. The other party will then have thirty days from receipt within which to dispute the expense in writing or reimburse the incurring party for one-half of the out of pocket expense, if not disputed or paid within the thirty day period, the party may be subject to a finding of contempt and appropriate sanctions; and it is further

### OTHER MISCELLANEOUS CHILD EXPENSES

ORDERED that the parties shall follow the following provisions as it pertains to any other child expenses:

- 1. Educational expenses include annual registration/enrollment fees, divided Adam- 65% and Mom- 35%.
- 2. Annual school supplies Father shall cover the annual cost for Michael and Mother shall cover the annual cost for Marie. Once Michael ages out, the parties shall split the costs for Marie.

- 3. School related expenses (field trips, lunches, etc.) will be divided Adam- 65% and Mom- 35%.
- 4. School supplies that require specialized equipment which retail over \$50 or more individually, shall be divided Adam- 65% and Mom- 35% between the parties (or as otherwise agreed upon), upon proof of comparison shopping for the most inexpensive cost for that item.
- 5. Extracurricular educational programs shall be discussed between the parents, including costs and agreed upon in writing.
- 6. Extracurricular activities (sports, lessons, etc.) shall be discussed between the parents, including costs. Each activity is a separate and distinct activity, not to be incorporated or associated with other activities. Either parent may enroll the child in an activity that exclusively falls on their timeshare at that parent's cost. Should the activity, i.e. team sports with a game schedule, with fall into both parents' timeshares, and the parties agree on the activity, then the cost shall be divided Adam- 65% and Mom- 35%, and each parent will ensure the child arrives for the activity on their timeshare. Activities shall not interfere with regards to the other parent's availability unless agreed upon, and shall not cause any financial hardship for a parent. Should the activity fall into both parents timeshares, but one parent cannot afford to pay for the activity on their own timeshare, the other parent may have the child attend the activity on only their own timeshare at their cost. Each parent shall ensure that the child gets to his activity during their timeshare in a but one parent cannot afford to pay for the activity on their own timeshare, the other parent may have the child attend the activity on only their own timeshare at their cost. Each parent shall ensure that the child gets to his activity during their timeshare in a timely manner.
- 7. Discussions must respect consideration of the other parent's monetary situation, and discussion of extra -curricular educational or activity programs is not to be an assumed agreement.

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#### SEPARATE AND/OR COMMUNITY PROPERTY & DEBTS

ORDERED that the prior marital community property residence has been sold, with each party having received \$50,000 from the net proceeds of sale, said distribution is the respective party's sole and separate property, and it is further

ORDERED that Chalese's interest in the real property located at 2256 Grand Clover Lane, Las Vegas, NV 89156 is her sole and separate property; and it is further

ORDERED that as to the issue of Adam's separate property interest in the proceeds of the sale of the former marital residence, Adam's father testified during Day 1 of Trial that he gave Adam a gift of equity when he sold the home to Adam, which evidenced by gift of equity letter provided by the mortgage lender and it was a part of the mortgage. The intent of the gift of equity was to give Adam a gift, not Chalese. Thus, Adam has a separate property interest in the proceeds from the sale of the home in the amount of \$85,000. The Abrams and Mayo Client Trust Account is holding a total amount of \$92,599.99 and any amount being held higher than the \$85,000, is \$7,599.99 which is community property (\$3,799.99 each), distribution of which is outlined herein; and it us further

ORDERED that Chalese Solinger's remaining community property share over the \$85,000 (\$3,799.99) shall be paid to her within five (5) days upon receipt by The Abrams and Mayo Law Firm of Notice of Entry of this Decree; and it is further

ORDERED that during the course of the litigation, there was an issue regarding an "art collection"; there was no testimony during Trial and the Court orders that this issue is moot; and it is further

ORDERED that the Plaintiff's 401k from the LV Defense Group, 401K Plan (employee #100126) in the approximate amount of \$46,325.19 (as of statement dated 12/31/2020-last provided into evidence) is to be divided equally between the parties (\$23,162.60 each) and said distribution is the respective party's

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sole and separate property. That should it be necessary, a Qualified Domestic Relations Order (QDRO) will be obtained through QDRO Masters with the fee for same divided equally between the parties, and both parties are to fully cooperate with QDRO Masters in the preparation of same; and it is further

ORDERED that the Plaintiff is earning retirement (PERS) through his employment with the Attorney General's Office. At such time said pension becomes vested, the Defendant would be entitled to her community property share from the commencement of employment through November 2021 under the time rule pursuant to *Gemma v. Gemma*, 778 P.2d 429, 105 Nev. 458 (Nev., 1989) and *Fondi v. Fondi*, 802 P.2d 1264, 106 Nev. 856 (Nev., 1990) and to select Option 2, with regard to his PERS survivorship benefit; and that a Qualified Domestic Relations Order (QDRO) will be obtained through QDRO Masters with the fee for same divided equally between the parties, and both parties are to fully cooperate with QDRO Masters in the preparation of same; and it is further

ORDERED that the Court confirms that both parties are in possession of various other separate and/or community personal property, not mentioned herein, and the property in each respective party's possession is their sole and separate property; and it is further

ORDERED that in the event any property has been omitted from this Decree that would have been community property or otherwise jointly held property under the law applicable as of the date hereof the concealing or possessory party will transfer or convey to the other party, at the other party's election: 1) the full market value of the other party's interest on the date of this Decree, plus statutory interest through and including the date of transfer or conveyance; or 2) the full market value of the other party's interest at the time that party discovers that he or she has an interest in such property, plus statutory interest through and including the date of transfer or conveyance; or 3) an amount

of the omitted property equal to the other party's interest therein, if it is reasonably susceptible to division; and it is further

#### ATTORNEY'S FEES AND COSTS

In this matter, there was a large disparity of income. Adam Solinger is an attorney working at the Attorney General's Office and Chalese is a childrens' hairdresser, after spending the majority of the marriage as a stay-at-home mother.

This would indicate the necessity of an award of attorney's fees to Chalese, from the beginning of this action. See <u>Sargeant -v- Sargeant</u>, 88 Nev. 223, 495 P.2d 618 (1972), wherein the Nevada Supreme Court stated that a spouse must be afforded their day in court without destroying their financial position. This would imply that they should be able to meet their adversary in the courtroom on an equal basis.

See <u>Albios v. Horizon Crntys.</u>, <u>Inc.</u>, 122 Nev. 409, 417, 132 P.3d 1022, 1028 (2006) (explaining that the district court generally may not award attorney fees absent authority under a statute, rule, or contract).

See <u>Brunzell v. Golden Gate National Bank</u>, 85 Nev. 345, 455 P.2d 31 (1969) factors. See <u>Miller v. Wilfong</u>, 121 Nev. 619, 623, 119 P.3d 727, 730 (2005) (providing that the district court must consider the Brunzell factors when awarding attorney fees).

See <u>Brunzell v Golden Gate National Bank</u>, 85 Nev. 345, 349, 455 P.2d 31, 33 (1969)- factors for attorney's fees: (a) Qualifications of Counsel; (b) Character of work to be done; (c) Actual work performed; (d) Result. See also: NRS 125.150(3) (giving the district court authority to grant attorney fees in divorce proceedings); <u>Miller v.Wilfong</u>, 121 Nev. 619, 624-25, 119 P.3d 727, 731 (2005) (finding attorney provided in the record on appeal is presumed to support the district court's decision. <u>Cuzze v. Univ. & Cmty. Coll. Sys. of Nev.</u>, 123 Nev. 598, 603, 172 P.3d 131, 135 (2007), fee awards reasonable when the record supported the Brunzell factors and the district court found an income disparity); <u>Wright v.</u>

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<u>Osburn</u>, 114 Nev. 1367, 1370, 970 P.2d 1071, 1073 (1998) (finding disparity of income a factor of consideration when awarding attorney fees).

Further, the district court is required to make such findings in awarding attorney fees; see *Stubbs v. Strickland*, 129 Nev. 146, 152 n.1, 297 P.3d 326, 330 n.1 (2013) (explaining that a district court must "make findings regarding the basis for awarding attorney fees and the reasonableness of an award of attorney fees").

EDCR 7.60 allows attorneys' fees as sanctions when a party "presents to the court a motion or an opposition to a motion which is obviously frivolous, unnecessary or unwarranted," "[s]o multiplies the proceedings in a case as to increase costs unreasonably and vexatiously," or "[f]ails or refuses to comply with [the Eighth Judicial District Court's] rules." The plain language of EDCR 7.60 makes no exception and instead can apply to any motion, regardless of the underlying case.

NRS 18.010(2)(b) provides for attorneys' fees "[w]ithout regard to the recovery sought," and therefore an award of a money judgment is not a prerequisite when seeking fees under NRS 18.010(2)(b). See. e.g., *Trs. of the Plumbers & Pipefitters Union Local 525 Health & Welfare Trust Plan v. Developers Sur. & Indem. Co.*, 120 Nev. 56, 63, 84 P.3d 59, 63 (2004) ("In 1985, the Legislature authorized the district court to award attorney fees 'without regard to the recovery sought, when the court finds that the claim, counterclaim, cross-claim or third-party complaint or defense of the opposing party was brought without reasonable ground or to harass the prevailing party."").

See, <u>Cuzze v. Univ. & Cmty. Coll. Sys. of Nev.</u>, 123 Nev. 598, 603, 172 P.3d 131, 135 (2007), fee awards reasonable when the record supported the Brunzell factors and the district court found an income disparity); <u>Wright v. Osburn</u>, 114 Nev. 1367, 1370, 970 P.2d 1071, 1073 (1998) (finding disparity of income a factor of consideration when awarding attorney fees).

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See, <u>Logan v. Abe</u>, 131 Nev. Adv. Op. 31, 350 P.3d 1139, (Nev., 2015), fees are appropriate even if third parties paid the fees on litigant's behalf.

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This Court's findings herein and a review of this matter reveals the level at which Adam prosecuted this divorce case, persistent emergency motions on Order Shortening Time, basically all seeking to have the Court reduce Chalese's time share on some false claim/complaint by Adam. This Court considers this level of prosecution was intended to harass, was frivolous and unnecessarily extending litigation, causing unnecessary delay, and to increase the cost of litigation, and when added to the previously found the level at which Adam prosecuted this matter in a scorched earth litigation tactic, requires fees to be awarded due to Adam's unwarranted behavior and his bad faith tactics.

In this matter there has been an extremely large disparity in the income of the parties. Adam is an attorney, who also benefits the financial generosity of his parents. Conversely, Chalese spent her time during the parties marriage as a stay-at-home mother, supporting Adam's quest to become an attorney. Chalese works as a hairdresser for children, without further training anywhere near that of Adam.

Throughout this litigation, Adam has been in the superior financial position, as well as authoring his own motions (since he is an attorney), leaving Chalese in a position of seeking counsel to properly represent her rights, preparing Oppositions, etc., without sufficient funds, as she was unable to author her documents herself. She truly was left without choice in that she required her own attorney to represent her.

Chalese has had to retain three different attorneys/firms in this matter.

- 1. Louis C. Schneider, Esq. filed and properly adjudicated an Attorney's Lien-- the prior judge reduced an award of attorney's fees in the amount of \$10,875.00, to judgment in its Order filed August 19, 2020, but stayed enforcement until the Court's final determination. This left Chalese without funds for an attorney, and then the payment of the earned (but reduced) fees was stayed.
- 2. Pecos Law Group multiple attorneys and staff involved submitted a Memorandum of Fees and Costs with Brunzell factors on March 22, 2022 for a total amount of Attorney's Fees & Costs requested of \$204,760.12. This Firm's involvement in this matter was for the majority of the persistent litigation (1999-2001) instituted by Adam, discovery, multiple Court hearings, etc., and the first day of trial.
- 3. Alex Ghibaudo, P.C. Michancy Cramer, Esq. submitted a Memorandum of Fees and Costs with Brunzell factors on May 12, 2022 for a total amount of Attorney's Fees & Costs requested of \$10,000 charged as a flat fee. This Firm appeared for Chalise as of December 2021 and adequately conducted the remaining trial days, and post-trial matters.

#### **EXPERT WITNESS FEES**

NRS 18.005(5) states: Reasonable fees of not more than five expert witnesses in an amount of not more than \$1,500 for each witness, unless the court allows a larger fee after determining that the circumstances surrounding the expert's testimony were of such necessity as to require the larger fee.

The Pecos Law Group billing statements indicates that Chalese's expert witness, Dr. William O'Donohue's fee, which was paid, was in the amount of \$4,750.00.

Pursuant to the factors as enumerated in *Frazier v. Drake*, 131 Nev. 632, 650-51, 357 P.3d 365, 377-78 (Ct. App. 2015) (listing factors the court should consider when determining whether to award more than \$1500 under NRS 18.005(5)): including "the importance of the expert's testimony to the prevailing party, the degree to which the expert's opinion aided the trier of fact in deciding the case[,] the extent and nature of the work performed by the expert," and the reasonableness of the expert's fees.

The Court finds that Dr. O'Donohue's testimony was crucial as his testimony in some ways agreed with, coincided with, provided further insight to, and/or was opposite to that of the only other expert, Dr. John Paglini, in his scope of reviewing/rebutting Dr. Paglini. Given that the Court has already noted herein that Dr. Paglini's report/testimony was missing some crucial situational facts, which were covered, in part, by Dr. O'Donohue, and provided the Court with a more complete picture of the situation in this matter. The excess of approximately \$3,200 over the limit in 18.005(5) is not excessive under the circumstances, and the Court is allowing the entire expert witness fee of \$4,750.00.

#### ATTORNEYS FEES AND COSTS

THEREFORE, given all of the Memorandums of Fees and Costs, Brunzell factors, pertinent statute(s) and/or case precedent, It Is Hereby

ORDERED this Court confirms the previously adjudicated \$10,875 attorney's fees award to Louis Schneider, Esq., and hereby lifts the stay of execution; and that the Abrams and Mayo Law Firm holding proceeds in their Client Trust account is instructed to distribute the \$10,875 to Louis Schneider, Esq., within five (5) days upon receipt of this Notice of Entry of this Decree to satisfy his judgment; and it is further

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ORDERED that the Court has reviewed the Brunzell factors in the Memorandum of Fees and Costs from the law firm of Alex Ghibaudo, PC (Michancy Cramer, Esq.) and find them appropriate and acceptable in light of the preparedness and performance at trial of counsel. That the amount of \$10,000.00 was paid in full was a flat fee to the firm, and that reimbursement is due to Chalese Solinger. That the Abrams and Mayo Law Firm are holding proceeds in their Client Trust account is instructed to distribute the amount of \$10,000 to Chalese Sollinger as and for reimbursement of attorney's fees paid within five (5) days upon receipt of Notice of Entry of this Decree; and it is further

ORDERED that that the Court has reviewed the Brunzell factors in the Memorandum of Fees and Costs from the law firm of Pecos Law Group. The Pecos Law Group represented Chalese during the bulk of the litigation, motion practice, etc. leading up to the trial in this matter, and amassed the largest bill of attorney's fees and costs of the three firms representing Chalese in this matter, at \$204,000 inclusive. The Court has reviewed the Brunzell factors from this firm and finds them appropriate and acceptable, especially in light of the level of litigation from the Plaintiff for the two years of their representation of Chalese.

The amount of costs expended are the usual and customary costs associated with litigation, i.e.: filing fees, witness fees (subpoena), document fees (subpoena) and the like, and all are approved in the total amount of \$15,309.69 (inclusive of expert fee).

The Pecos Law Group gave courtesy credits of \$27,010.72, and provided a "no Charge" in the amount of \$38,447.50, which was gracious of them, and same is so acknowledged by the Court.

When added together, the total amount of fees and costs actually charged in this matter was \$204.760.72, of which there is no amount due and owing to the The Pecos Law Group, and are all reimbursable to Chalese Solinger.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that Chalese Solinger is to be reimbursed her attorney's fees and costs in the total amount of \$180,000.00 (inclusive of fees and costs) of the total amount requested by The Pecos Law Group. That the Abrams and Mayo Law Firm are holding proceeds in their Client Trust account and is instructed to distribute the balance, after the payment to Louis Schneider, Esq. (\$10,875), and Chalese Solinger (\$10,000 + \$3,799.99 community property share) with a grand total of \$24,674.99, are to distribute the remaining balance of the funds held in their CTA (\$67,835.00) to Chalese Sollinger as and for reimbursement (as against the total to be paid of the Pecos Law Group fees) of attorney's fees paid within five (5) days upon receipt of Notice of Entry of this Decree. That the Abrams and Mayo Law Firm are to provide an "accounting" of the funds held in trust and the disbursements thereunder within ten (10) days of the disbursement deadline, same to be filed with the Court and served upon all parties/counsel; and it is further

ORDERED that all remaining attorney's fees due and owing to Chalese Solinger after the payments from the Abrams and Mayo CTA, in the approximate amount of \$112,165.00, are owed by Adam Solinger, personally. Chalese Solinger shall have judgment against Adam Solinger in said balance amount of \$112,165.00, and same is reduced to judgment, with interest at the legal rate until paid in full, collectable by any legal means, including a wage assignment, and it is further

ORDERED, that once the distribution is filed by The Abrams and Mayo Law Firm, this Court will also issue a separate order for judgment with the actual balance due and owing; and it is further

MARY PERRY DISTRICT JUDGE FAMILY DIVISION, DEPT. P LAS VEGAS, NV 89101-2408

#### STATUTORY PROVISIONS

ORDERED that Both parties are required to provide their Social Security numbers on a separate form to the Court and to the Welfare Division of the Department of Human Resources pursuant to NRS 125.30. Such information shall be maintained by the Clerk in a confidential manner and not part of the public record; and it is further

#### **ORDERED** that:

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** of the following provision of NRS 125C.0045(6):

PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF ORDER: THE ABDUCTION, CONCEALMENT OR DETENTION OF A CHILD IN VIOLATION OF THIS ORDER IS PUNISHABLE AS A CATEGORY D FELONY AS PROVIDED IN NRS 193.130. NRS 200.359 provides that every person having a limited right of custody to a child or any parent having no right of custody to the child who willfully detains, conceals or removes the child from a parent, guardian or other person having lawful custody or a right of visitation of the child in violation of this court, or removes the child from the jurisdiction of the court without the consent of either the court or all persons who have the right to custody or visitation is subject to being punished for a category D felony as provided in NRS 193.130.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the terms of the Hague Convention of October 25, 1980, adopted by the 14<sup>th</sup> Session of the Hague Conference on Private International Law apply if a parent abducts or wrongfully retains a child in a foreign country. The parties are also put on notice of the following provisions in NRS 125C.0045(8):

If a parent of the child lives in a foreign country or has significant commitments in a foreign country:

- (a) The parties may agree, and the court shall include in the order for custody of the child, that the United States is the country of habitual residence of the child for the purposes of applying the terms of the Hague Convention as set forth in subsection 7.
- (b) Upon motion of one of the parties, the court may order the parent to post a bond if the court determines that the parent poses an imminent risk of wrongfully removing or concealing the child outside the country of habitual residence. The bond must be in an amount determined by the court and may be used only to pay for the cost of locating the child and returning him to his habitual residence if the child is wrongfully removed from or concealed outside the country of habitual residence. The fact that a parent has significant commitments in a foreign country

does not create a presumption that the parent poses an imminent risk of wrongfully removing or concealing the child.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the parties are placed on notice of the following provisions in NRS 125C.0065:

- 1. If joint physical custody has been established pursuant to an order, judgment or decree of a court and one parent intends to relocate his or her residence to a place outside of this State or to a place within this State that is at such a distance that would substantially impair the ability of the other parent to maintain a meaningful relationship with the child, and the relocating parent desires to take the child with him or her, the relocating parent shall, before relocating:
- (a) Attempt to obtain the written consent of the non-relocating parent to relocate with the child;
- (b) If the non-relocating parent refuses to give that consent, petition the court for primary physical custody for the purpose of relocating.
- 2. The court may award reasonable attorney's fees and costs to the relocating parent if the court finds that the non-relocating parent refused to consent to the relocating parent's relocation with the child:
  - (a) Without having reasonable grounds for such refusal; or
  - (b) For the purposes of harassing the relocating parent.
- 3. A parent who relocates with a child pursuant to this section before the court enters an order granting the parent primary physical custody of the child and permission to relocate with the child is subject to the provisions of NRS 200.359

This provision does not apply to vacations outside Nevada planned by either party.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that they are subject to the provisions of NRS 31A.025 to 31A.240, inclusive, the parent obligated to pay child support shall be subject to wage assignment by that parent's employer should that parent become more than thirty days delinquent in said child support payments.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that either party may request a review of child support pursuant to NRS 125B.145 at least every three years to determine whether the order should be modified or adjusted.

DISTRICT JUDGE FAMILY DIVISION, DEPT. P LAS VEGAS, NV 89101-2408

#### OTHER PROVISIONS

ORDERED that the parties herein sign any and all documents that are reasonably necessary and appropriate to facilitate, as well as to effectuate the transfer of the property herein awarded, and that should any party fail to execute the necessary documents within sixty (60) days after the Notice of the Entry of the Decree of Divorce to comply with the terms herein, either party may apply to the Court, through ex-parte application, properly served on the other party, a request pursuant to NRCP 70(a) for appointment as attorney in fact to execute any and all documentation necessary to effectuate the terms of this Decree; and it is further

ORDERED that the terms set forth in this Decree of Custody may not be changed, modified, or terminated orally, and any such change, modification, or termination may only be made by a written instrument executed by the parties, or by further Order of the Court.

#### THIS IS A FINAL DECREE

Dated this 25th day of May, 2022



449 FAA A35D 2301 Mary Perry District Court Judge

1	CSERV		
2		DISTRICT COURT	
3		RK COUNTY, NEVADA	
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6	Adam Michael Solinger, Plaintif	f   CASE NO: D-19-582245-D	
7	VS.	DEPT. NO. Department P	
8	Chalese Marie Solinger,		
9	Defendant.		
10			
11	AUTOMATED CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE		
12	This automated certificate of service was generated by the Eighth Judicial District		
13	Court. The foregoing Decree of Divorce was served via the court's electronic eFile system to all recipients registered for e-Service on the above entitled case as listed below:		
14	Service Date: 5/25/2022		
15	Jack Fleeman jac	ck@pecoslawgroup.com	
16 17	Alicia Exley ali	cia@pecoslawgroup.com	
18	Adam Solinger ad	adam@702defense.com	
19	Louis Schneider les	lcslawllc@gmail.com	
20	Alex Ghibaudo ale	alex@glawvegas.com	
21	Michancy Cramer mi	ramer michancy@glawvegas.com	
22	Adam Solinger att	n Solinger attorneyadamsolinger@gmail.com	
23	Alex Ghibaudo alex@glawvegas.com		
24	7 Hea Officaudo ale	ZAWEIUW VOGUS.COM	
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### ELECTRONICALLY SERVED 5/31/2022 1:24 PM

Electronically Filed 05/31/2022 1:24 PM CLERK OF THE COURT

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**ORDR** 

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MARY PERRY DISTRICT JUDGE FAMILY DIVISION, DEPT. P

## DISTRICT COURT; FAMILY DIVISION CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

	* * * * *
Adam Michael Solinger	) Case No.: D-19-582245-D
Plaintiff,	) Dept. P
-VS	)
	) Date: Chambers
Chalese Marie Solinger	) Time: n/a
Defendant.	)
	ORDER

This matter having come before the court on the Plaintiff's Emergency Motion to Stay Judgment Pending Appeal and Emergency Motion for Order Shortening Time; and in reviewing this matter, the Court Finds:

- 1. The Court filed the Decree of Divorce (5/25/22 Doc. 508) and Notice of Entry (5/26/22 Doc. 509);
- 2. Plaintiff filed the Emergency Motion to Stay Judgment Pending Appeal (5/27/22 Doc. 510) and Emergency Motion for Order Shortening Time (5/27/22 Doc. 511).
- 3. Plaintiff submitted an Order Shortening Time, and the Court reviewed the underlying motion, and saw that there was no proof of service of the Ex-Parte Application for Order Shortening Time on opposing counsel. The Court returned the Order Shortening Time to the Plaintiff, requesting that it be resubmitted after service to opposing counsel and e-filing proof of same into the case.

- 4. Plaintiff resubmitted the Order Shortening Time, but did not efile proof of service with the Court of the ex-Parte Application as requested<sup>1</sup>. The Court took no further action, awaiting proof of service, which was never filed.
- 5. Plaintiff thereafter filed a Notice of Appeal (Friday, 5/27/22 -Doc. 512 at 5:04 pm), after the Court closed for the Memorial Day Weekend.
- 6. Defendant, through counsel, filed an Opposition to the Emergency Motion (5/27/22 Doc. 513).
- 7. In the Decree, the Court awarded attorney's fees to the Defendant, release of fees already awarded to the Defendant, but was stayed until conclusion of this matter, as well as disbursement of other amounts held in the Client Trust Account of the Abrams and Mayo Law Firm, as and for community property and attorney's fees, to be dispersed five (5) days after Notice of Entry, which would be Tuesday, May 31, 2022 (not counting day of service of Notice of Entry).
- 8. At the end of Trial, the Court requested that both parties file a Closing Brief, with any other closing argument, and to include any other matters that were pertinent. The Plaintiff failed and/or refused to file a Closing Brief. Defendant's counsel did file a Closing Brief.
- 9. The sole reason provided by the Plaintiff in his Motion for Stay, was the issue of payment of all attorney's fees, simply because the Court did not take "into account" that the prior Judicial Officer awarded attorney's fees to Adam in the amount of \$3,888.50 as it pertained to discovery, and a general argument as to the other attorney's fees awarded. Plaintiff also proffered an imprudent argument of attorney's fees awards under *Sargeant v. Sargeant*, 88 Nev. 223, 226, 495 P.2d 618 (1972), as noted in Defendant's Opposition, which are right on point, in that Sargeant fees is not a "one time only" award but rather goes throughout the case

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Maheu v. Eighth Jud. Dist. Ct. ex.rel. County of Clark, 88 Nev. 26, 34, 493 P.2d 709, 714 (1972); Turner v. Saka, 90 Nev. 54, 518 P.2d 608 (Nev., 1974); Matthews v. Second Jud. Dist. Ct. ex.rel. County of Washoe, 91 Nev. 96, 98, 531 P.2d 852, 853 (1975); and its progeny, all relating to procedural due process and ex-parte applications/orders.

including post decree matters, to keep the parties on "equal footing" throughout the children's minority.

- 10. The Plaintiff argues that the Court did not include his award of fees. By way of explanation of the fees awarded, if not fully clear in the Decree, are as follows:
- (a) The Court found that the Plaintiff was the primary reason for the majority of the litigation which took place in this matter, which the Court found to be unwarranted;
- (b) In the Decree, the Court found that much of the litigation was caused as a result of the Plaintiff's actions, and under appropriate case law, including, *inter alia*, *Sargeant*, *supra*, that given the disparity of income (Plaintiff an attorney with about \$10,000/GMI, versus the Defendant, who was a stay at home mother until the last couple of years at a fraction of what the Plaintiff earned), that an award of attorney's fees were warranted.
- (c) The fees to Louis Schneider, Esq., were already awarded, reduced to judgment and stayed until the conclusion of the case, which is the Decree.
- (d) The fees to the Alex Ghibaudo, PC lawfirm were flat fee, despite the attorney hours to prepare and the additional full days of trial; the firm provided a Memorandum of Fees and costs with Bruzell factors which the Court accepted (see (a) & (b) above).
- (e) The issue then becomes the Memorandum of Fees and Costs from The Pecos Law Group, with acceptable Brunzell factors, who handled the majority of the motion practice in this matter from August 2019 through September 2021. Despite their generosity of either "not charging (\$38,447.50)" or "courtesy credits (\$27,010.72)" of about \$65,000, there still were fees and costs in the total amount of \$204,760.72 in a divorce action that did not have any major financial issues, but rather the majority of the time spent on custody. The Court discounted the \$204,760.72 to a total of \$180,000.

(f) The Court requested a Closing Brief from the Plaintiff which was to address any other issue which the trial either did not cover or should be included in the Court's final Decree. The Plaintiff failed to provide a Closing Brief, wherein he could have provided the Court the prior fee award as it related to discovery.

(g) The Court finds that the \$3,888.50, as well as any other amounts for fees, as sought by the Plaintiff, is included as part of the discounted amount to The Pecos Law Group fees.

*NOW, THEREFORE*, with the Court having reviewed the pleadings and papers on file in this matter, and good cause appearing, It Is Hereby

ORDERED that the Plaintiff's Emergency Motion for Stay be and hereby is Denied; and it is further

ORDERED that all payments as ordered in the Decree of Divorce are to be timely disbursed by the Abrams and Mayo Law Firm; and it is further

ORDERED that the Hearing on Plaintiff's Motion to Reconsider Decision After Defendant's Motion to Place on Calendar and Take Testimony, the Defendant's Opposition and Countermotion thereto, currently set for June 22, 2022, shall be vacated. That once the Court is advised as to the issues on appeal, and depending on what may or may not be collateral to the appeal (or if necessary, once the appeal has concluded) this motion as well as Defendant's Countermotion for Attorney's Fees for the Motion for Stay shall be placed on the Court's calendar for hearing.

**SO ORDERED** 

Dated this 31st day of May, 2022

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Page 4 of 4 District Court Judge

1	CSERV		
2	DISTRICT COURT		
3	CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA		
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5	Adam Michael Solinger, Plaintif	CASE NO: D-19-582245-D	
6			
7	VS.	DEPT. NO. Department P	
8	Chalese Marie Solinger, Defendant.		
9	Defendant.		
10			
11	AUTOMATED CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE		
12 13	This automated certificate of service was generated by the Eighth Judicial District 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:		
14	Service Date: 5/31/2022		
15	Jack Fleeman jac	k@pecoslawgroup.com	
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18	Adam Solinger ada	nm@702defense.com	
19	Louis Schneider lcs	lawllc@gmail.com	
20	Alex Ghibaudo ale	x@glawvegas.com	
21	Adam Solinger att	orneyadamsolinger@gmail.com	
22	Alex Ghibaudo ale	x@glawvegas.com	
23	Michancy Cramer mi	chancy@glawvegas.com	
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#### Adam S <attorneyadamsolinger@gmail.com>

#### Solinger v. Solinger D-19-582245-D Notice Pursuant to NRAP 27

Adam S <attorneyadamsolinger@gmail.com>

Fri, May 27, 2022 at 10:58 AM

To: "Tyrrell, Brooke" <deptplc@clarkcountycourts.us>, Michancy Cramer <michancy@glawvegas.com>, Alex Ghibaudo <alex@glawvegas.com>, Charles Goodwin <charles@goodwinlawgroup.net>

Please be advised that I have filed an emergency motion to stay the disbursement of funds pending appeal. I have also filed a request for an order shortening time on that request. Given that the Court ordered the disbursement to occur within 5 days of service of the order, I will seek emergency relief from the Nevada Supreme Court if my request to stay is not granted.

Under NRAP 27(e), I am required to notify all parties. As this would be a writ of mandamus asking that the Supreme Court compel this Court to do something, the Court would be a party to the caption and the defendant would be the real party in interest. Thus, please allow this email to serve as notification of my intent to file an emergency motion as soon as it becomes necessary.

Adam M. Solinger

Electronically Filed 5/27/2022 6:10 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

1 OPPC

2 | Alex B. Ghibaudo, Esq.

Nevada Bar Number: 10592

Michancy M. Cramer

4 Nevada Bar Number: 11545

**ALEX GHIBAUDO, PC** 

197 E California Ave Suite 250

6 Las Vegas, Nevada 89104

T: (702) 462-5888 F: (702) 924-6553

E: alex@glawvegas.com
Attorney for Defendant

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#### EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT FAMILY DIVISION CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

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13 ADAM MICHAEL SOLINGER,

Plaintiff,

Defendant.

Plai

<sub>16</sub> vs.

17 CHALESE MARIE SOLINGER,

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BER,

Department P

Case Number: D-19-582245-D

#### **DEFENDANT'S OPPOSITION**

**COMES NOW**, Defendant, CHALESE SOLINGER ("Chalese"), by and through her attorney of record, MICHANCY M. CRAMER, ESQ., of ALEX GHIBAUDO, P.C., and hereby files this *Opposition*.

This *Opposition* is based upon the attached Memorandum of Points and Authorities, any supporting exhibits provided in on file herein, any/all pleadings and papers on file herein, and any further evidence or argument presented to the

Court at the hearing of this matter.		
As set forth herein, Chalese respectfully requests that the Court:		
1. Enter an Order denying Plaintiff's Motion in its entirety;		
2. Award Chalese any other relief this Court deems just and appropriate.		
DATED this 27 <sup>th</sup> day of May, 2022.		
DATED this 27 day of May, 2022.		
Respectfully Submitted,		
//s//Michancy M. Cramer		
Michancy M. Cramer, Esq.  Attorney for Defendant		
Thiorney for Definition		

### MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

## FACTS

After over three (3) years of baseless litigation, Plaintiff, ADAM SOLINGER ("Adam") completely failed to make his case before this Court. His exhibits were admitted fully and without objection pursuant to stipulation by Defendant, CHALESE SOLINGER ("Chalese") and her counsel. This Court repeatedly advised Adam that nothing he had presented amounted to grounds that would overcome this State's preference for joint custody and yet he persisted. We're now in a position to be finally done with this case and, in a move that surprises no one, Adam is trying to prevent dispersal of funds that were awarded to Chalese while also threatening an appeal.

Adam's motion indicates that he has, yet again, failed to understand the laws, rules, and precedent that govern both attorneys and the Court in the Family Court Division. His motion is procedurally improper, vexatious, and without legal justification.

#### II. LAW AND ANALYSIS

#### A. Adam Makes Several Irrelevant Claims

Adam begins by claiming that Judge Moss's award to him of \$3,888.50 as a discovery sanction from February of 2019 is relevant to the present award. He also mentions that Judge Moss deferred an award of fees for an Opposition that he filed

opposing Chalese's attempts to restore Joint Physical Custody.

To begin, this Court has already made clear that many of the Orders issued by the previous Court were improper. Chalese was punished for alleged use of marijuana, but, as this Court pointed out, marijuana is legal in this State, this is a State Court, and there was never any proof offered that Chalese was actually *abusing* marijuana. More alarming, the previous Court admitted in open court to modifying child custody and taking Joint Physical Custody away from Chalese as a way of "getting her attention." Such a modification is strictly prohibited and there is a litany of caselaw already cited by this Court in the Decree affirming that. The Decree is incorporated pursuant to EDCR 10(c). Now Adam wants to hang his hat on past orders that were likely improper in the first place. That makes no sense.

The discovery sanction Adam references was in 2020, not 2019. The Answer was not even filed until February of 2019 so there was no way discovery could have been in dispute by February 19, 2019. As Adam admits, that matter was deferred to trial. Just because he was not awarded fees does not mean it was not considered. In fact, the Decree was quite clear in that the totality of the litigation was taken under consideration. The Court noted in its opinion that Pecos Law Group charged \$204,000 in fees with \$27,010.72 in courtesy credits and \$38,447.50 in legal services were provide at "No Charge." Chalese was awarded \$180,000 in legal fees. There is nothing in the Court's order to substantiate

were somehow ignored.

Judge Bell denying Chalese's countermotion for fees and costs in opposing Adam's ill-considered motion to disqualify is irrelevant. Adam's motion was a baseless, vexatious motion (as have been the majority of his filings in this case) and all it did was delay and obstruct the handling of this matter. Adam claims it is "unclear" whether the Court's award of fees takes this into account; however, the wording in the Decree makes it clear that the Court's award is based on the totality of the litigation and the circumstances, not on one particular finding or ruling.

Adam has clearly picked through the history of the case, desperately trying to paint a picture that he is somehow entitled to an award or he has been wronged. He attempts to pick out a few discrete instances as justification for his motion, but his efforts are misplaced. Adam complains that the Decree does not recite the entire procedural history of the case when in reality, if the entire history of the case was recited, the Decree would be hundreds of pages long. Adam has filed so often and so vexatiously in this case that the register of actions is as long as novel. The Decree succinctly and appropriate referenced several noteworthy filings, but did not recite the entire case history in exact detail; nor is it required to.

#### B. Adam Misinterprets Sargeant v Sargeant

The Nevada Supreme Court's ruling in *Sargeant v. Sargeant*, 88 Nev. 223, 226, 495 P.2d 618 (1972) provides that a party "must be afforded [their] day in

court without destroying [their] financial position" and that they "should be able to meet [their] adversary in the courtroom on an equal basis." Adam appears to be operating under the presumption that this means the preliminary award of \$10,000 that Judge Moss awarded Chalese at the start of litigation is *all* that Chalese is entitled to under *Sargeant*. By its very wording, the Court's opinion in *Sargeant* says otherwise. "Equal footing" does not mean that an initial, preliminary award somehow precludes any further award under *Sargeant*. There is nothing in the plain language reading of *Sargeant* that precludes a court from awarding additional fees and costs at the conclusion of litigation.

Adam characterizes this award as a retroactive sanction which, frankly, is demonstrative of how Adam views this entire case. When he does not get his way, everyone else is wrong and his actions are flawless. Reality is a lot harsher than that. Adam over litigated this case and has made repeated and outrageous claims against Chalese and her loved ones and he has simply failed to prove his case. He was given literally years to litigate this matter. He conducted numerous depositions. He filed motion after motion after motion. He has treated opposing counsel with arrogant disdain. And he has done all of this at his own peril.

As any family court practitioner would have advised him, if a party is not reasonable in family court, they run the very real risk of paying the opposing party's fees and costs. Not only does *Sargeant* provide the Court with the legal basis to award fees based on the financial position of the parties, but the numerous

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27 28 cases and statutes cited by the Court in the Decree provide additional basis.

Adam goes on to complain that Chalese's filings are not mentioned. This is a disingenuous argument if there ever was one. Adam filed over and over and over again in this case, each time seeking to take more and more time and control away from Chalese. Of course Chalese filed – she HAD to file because she had to not only oppose his filings, but she has had to fight for every minute of time she has had with her children for the last three years. This is a beast of Adam's creation; it is neither Chalese's nor this Court's fault if he doesn't like the outcome of unleashing that beast.

NRS 18.010(2)(b) provides that "[i]t is the intent of the Legislature that the court award attorney's fees pursuant to this paragraph and impose sanctions...in all appropriate situations to punish for and deter frivolous or vexatious claims and defenses because such claims and defenses overburden limited judicial resources." In the present matter, Adam has put forth a baseless claim that appears anchored to his misapplication of the Court's ruling in Sargeant. As Adam has told us many, many times, he is the plaintiff and an attorney. A pro se litigant does not get away with this kind of vexatious litigation; Adam most certainly should not. Chalese should be awarded her fees and costs in having to oppose this frivolous motion.

#### C. **Brunzell Factors WERE Briefed**

Contrary to Adam's suggestion that the Court did not consider the factors

33 (1969), the Court in fact DID. Page 46 of the Decree (on file herein) did recite the factors that the Court considered. On page 51 of the Decree, the Court found the *Brunzell* factors, as briefed by counsel, "appropriate and acceptable" for both Alex Ghibaudo, PC and Pecos Law Group. The Court accepted the briefing from both law firms as appropriate and acceptable. There is no need for rote recitation when the memorandum of fees and costs from both firms is on file herein. Furthermore, Adam was given notice and opportunity to oppose both memorandums. He did not. Nor did he bother filing a closing brief as directed by the Court.

outlined in Brunzell v. Golden Gate National Bank, 85 Nev. 345, 349, 455 P.2d 31,

#### D. Chalese Was Not Given Funds

Adam claims that his parent's generosity was held against him, but Chalese's was not. Chalese was not *given* funds to litigate this case; nor was she able to benefit from a legal education herself. Her mother loaned her money. The promissory note she signed was submitted as Defendant's Exhibit YY. All exhibits were admitted by stipulation, but Chalese is happy to submit another copy if the Court directs her to do so. Other than the funds this Court ordered paid directly to counsel, the rest of the money awarded will be going right back to Chalese's mother.

Adam, on the other hand, was given money. He hired one of the community's premier family law firms, The Abrams & Mayo Law Firm, with partner Vince Mayo sitting co-counsel for much of this case. His father testified to gifting him \$85,000 in equity for the marital residence and Adam currently resides

in a home that was gifted, in part, to him and Jessica Sellers by his parents.

Adam's parents are both medical professionals with his father being a
gastroenterologist.

Adam goes on to essentially argue that Chalese lost motions in front of Judge Moss and it is what it is – she lost so she's not entitled to fees. Not only were several of Judge Moss's rulings flawed, such as when she changed custody to get Chalese's attention, and those flaws were argued by Chalese's counsel at the time. This argument also indicates Adam's own inability to accept responsibility. He CHOSE to over litigate this case. He CHOSE to chip away at Chalese's time with the children to the point that she barely had custodial time with them. He CHOSE to file motion after motion after motion. He CHOSE to have her followed. He CHOSE to file repeated CPS reports. He CHOSE not to be a cooperative co-parent, but rather a vexatious, arrogant litigant. Adam does not get to escape responsibility now by blaming Judge Moss.

#### E. Adam's Motion Is Without Merit

Adam proceeds to argue under NRAP 8(c), but his motion was filed days before his appeal. In fact, his notice of appeal was filed as this Opposition was being prepared for filing. Nevertheless, the factors as outlined in NRAP 8(c) are offered below:

### (1) Whether the object of the appeal or writ petition will be defeated if the stay or injunction is denied;

While Adam claims the object of his appeal will be the award of attorney fees, it is highly doubtful that he is going to accept any part of the Court's order in

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light of his history of vexatious and meritless demands, as well as his rude and unfounded accusations of bias. It is more than likely that the object of his appeal is going to be the entire Decree. He essentially stated as much in open court. Nothing Adam has briefed or argued supports his claim and the caselaw on point has been cited extensively by the Court. Adam has been given every opportunity to course correct and he chose to litigate this case to the bitter end. He failed to prove his case and is dissatisfied with the outcome; however, that does not change the fact that Chalese is still entitled to meet him "on equal footing" before the Court. Whether he "won" or "lost" is irrelevant, given the Court's ruling in Sargeant and the vast income disparities in this case, Adam was going to pay fees and costs. He chose to over litigate this case, forced Chalese to respond to protect her rights as a parent, and now he is bearing the fruit of those decisions. If he actually follows through and only appeals the award of fees and costs, which is doubtful, he is not likely to succeed. Admittedly, without the stay, the object of his appeal would be defeated insomuch as it is money and will go to paying back Chalese's mother for the fees she paid on her behalf.

# (2) Whether appellant/petitioner will suffer irreparable or serious injury if the stay or injunction is denied;

Adam of course claims he will suffer irreparable harm or injury if the stay is denied; however, as briefed above, he is unlikely to succeed on the merits of his appeal. The stay he seeks involves the dispersal of money. Adam has to pay Chalese anyways. He is not going to be irreparably harmed by the loss of money that, really, he never possessed. It was a gift of equity in the marital residence.

Adam is a practicing attorney who earns a very comfortable living as such. His family is wealthy as demonstrated by the fact that they have purchased two homes for Adam.

Adam has improperly interpreted the holding in *Sargeant* and fails to accept responsibility for his own behavior and decisions in handling this case. Chalese has outstanding bills that she has to pay; primarily, the promissory note that she signed agreeing to pay her mother back for the loan of legal fees.

# (3) Whether respondent/real party in interest will suffer irreparable or serious injury if the stay or injunction is granted;

Chalese has already been irreparably harmed by this litigation. Her mother has loaned her hundreds of thousands of dollars in retaining attorneys, hiring experts, and litigating this monstrosity of a divorce. It is time for this case to be done, the bills to be paid, and life to go on. Of course Adam is not going to settle for that because he is apparently constitutionally unable to move on, but that does not mean that Chalese needs to live another two years with these bills hanging over her head in an appeal that Adam is more than likely going to lose.

# (4) Whether appellant/petitioner is likely to prevail on the merits in the appeal or writ petition.

Adam's motion already indicates that his appeal facially insufficient. He clearly does not understand the application of *Sargeant* and lacks the self-awareness to understand that the award of fees is not based on a discrete, single finding, but rather the case as a whole and specifically on how he conducted himself during this case. This Court made specific findings that there was blame to

go around, but that Adam's "continued bad faith and unreasonable conduct permeated the entirety of the litigation." (See Decree, on file herein, page 21.) "Findings of fact, whether based on oral or other evidence, must not be set aside unless clearly erroneous, and the reviewing court must give due regard to the trial court's opportunity to judge the witnesses' credibility." NRCP 52(a)(6).

Despite his over abundance of confidence, Adam is highly unlikely to prevail on an appeal. There is more than sufficient grounds for the award of fees and costs as well as the entirety of the Court's Findings of Facts and Conclusions of Law. Adam's behavior has been abominable and, frankly, this writer found the Decree gracious and optimistic in light of his actions over the past three and half years.

Adam's request for a stay should be denied.

# F. Chalese Should Be Granted Her Fees And Costs For Having To Oppose This Frivolous Motion

Chalese should be awarded her fees and costs for having to oppose this frivolous motion pursuant to NRS 18.010. Upon the Court's direction, a memorandum of fees and costs with the appropriate *Brunzell* analysis can be submitted.

## III. CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, based upon the foregoing, and for the reasons set forth herein, Chalese respectfully requests that the Court:

1. Enter an Order denying Plaintiff's Motion in its entirety;

1	2. Award Chalese any other relief this Court deems just and appropriate.		
2	<b>DATED</b> this 27th day of May, 2022.		
3	Respectfully Submitted,		
4	Respectivity Submitted,		
5	//s//Michancy M. Cramer		
6	Michancy M. Cramer, Esq.		
7	Attorney for Defendant		
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#### **DECLARATION OF MICHANCY M. CRAMER, ESQ.**

- 1. I, Michancy M. Cramer, Esq., represent the Defendant, Chalese Solinger, in the above action and am competent to testify to the facts contained herein.
- 2. Alex Ghibaudo, Esq. of this firm did reach out via email to Plaintiff, Adam Solinger, regarding the procedural and substantive deficiencies in his Motion today, May 27, 2022, and Adam declined to compromise.
- 3. Since I was retained to represent Chalese Solinger in December of 2021 Adam has filed multiple motions on a variety of issues. My office has represented her on those motions and continues to do so.
- 4. Adam is unwilling to accept virtually anything that is not completed exactly as he sees fit. For example, a motion was filed in March by Chalese regarding an incident in her home. She then filed for an OST that was granted. Adam promptly filed for *another* OST because he was not satisfied with the date that was given and he wanted an earlier date.
- 5. Chalese continues to incur fees and costs defending herself against Adam's vexatious and harassing litigation.
- 6. I have prepared and read the foregoing Opposition and believe the facts as stated to be true, and as to those facts stated upon information and belief, I believe them to be true.
- 7. I am signing this Declaration in support of the above Opposition because of the application for an OST that Adam filed and in the interest of getting it

1		filed immediately. My client shall be made available to testify under oath in
2		support of this Opposition should the Court deem it necessary.
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4	8.	Further declarant sayeth naught.
5		I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Nevada
6		(NRS 53.045 and 28 U.S.C. § 1746), that the forgoing is true and
7		correct.
8		DATED this 27 <sup>th</sup> day of May, 2022.
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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I declare under penalty of perjury, under the law of the State of Nevada, that I served a true and correct copy of *Defendant's Opposition*, on May 27, 2022, as follows:

- [ ] 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 system;
- [x] By depositing a copy of same in a sealed envelope in the United States Mail, postage pre-paid, in Las Vegas, Nevada;
- [ ] Pursuant to EDCR 7.26, sent via facsimile by duly executed consent for service by electronic means.

To the following address:

Adam Solinger 7290 Sea Anchor Ct Las Vegas, NV 89131 attorneyadamsolinger@gmail.com Plaintiff

//s//Michancy M. Cramer

Alex Ghibaudo, P.C. Attorneys for Defendant

#### EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT FAMILY DIVISION CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Adam Solinge	er	Case Nun	nber: <b>D-19-582245-D</b>	
Plaintiff/Petitioner				
vs.		Departme	nt: P	
Chelese Solin	ger	MOTION	//ODDOSITION	
Defendant/Re	spondent		MOTION/OPPOSITION FEE INFORMATION SHEET	
Notice: Motions and Oppositions after entry of a final Order issued pursuant to NRS 125, 125B, or 125C are subject to the reopen filing fee of \$25, unless specifically excluded by NRS 19.0312. Additionally, Motions and Oppositions filed in cases initiated by Joint Petition may be subject to an additional filing fee of \$129 or \$57 in accordance with Senate Bill 388 of the 2015 Legislative Session.  Step 1. Select either the \$25 or \$0 filing fee in the box below:				
[] \$25				
-OR- [x] <b>\$0</b>	[ ] The Motion/O has been enter [ ] The Motion/O support estab [ ] The Motion/O being filed w	Motion/Opposition is being filed solely to adjust the amount of child ort established in a final Order.  Motion/Opposition is for reconsideration or for a new trial and is g filed with 10 days after a final judgment or Decree was entered.  Einal Order was entered on:		
Step 2. Selec		filing fee in the box below:		
[x] \$0	[x] The Motion/C	Motion/Opposition being filed is not subject to the \$129 or \$57 fee because:  The Motion/Opposition is being filed in a case not initiated by Joint Petition.  The party filing the Motion/Opposition previously paid a fee of \$129 or \$57  Motion/Opposition being filed with this form is subject to the \$129 fee because a Motion to modify, adjust, or enforce a final Order.		
-OR- [] <b>\$129</b> -OR-				
[] \$57	Opposition to a Moti	The Motion/Opposition being filed is subject to the \$57 fee because it is an Opposition to a Motion to modify, adjust, or enforce a final Order or it is a Motion and the opposing party has already paid a fee of \$129.		
<b>Step 3.</b> Add the filing fees from Step 1 and Step 2:				
The total filing fee for the Motion/Opposition I am filing with this form is [x] \$0 [] \$25 [] \$57 [] \$82 [] \$129 [] \$154				
Party filing Motion/Opposition: Defendant Date: 5-24-22				
Signature of l	Party or Preparer: //s	//Michancy M. Cramer		