IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

ESTATE OF REBECCA POWELL, THROUGH BRIAN POWELL, AS SPECIAL ADMINISTRATOR; DARCI CREECY, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS HEIR; TARYN CREECY, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS HEIR; ISAIAH KHOSROF, INDIVIDUALLY AND AS HEIR; AND LLOYD CREECY, INDIVIDUALLY,

Appellants,

VS.

VALLEY HEALTH SYSTEM, LLC, D/B/A CENTENNIAL HILLS HOSPITAL MEDICAL CENTER, A FOREIGN LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY,

Respondent.

Supreme Court No. 84861 District Court Case No. A-19-788787-C

> Electronically Filed Dec 12 2022 03:05 PM Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court

RESPONDENT'S OPPOSITION TO APPELLANTS' MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO MOTION TO REQUIRE POSTING OF OR INCREASING AMOUNT OF SUPERSEDEAS BOND BY APPELLANTS

S. BRENT VOGEL
Nevada Bar No. 6858
ADAM GARTH
Nevada Bar No. 15045
Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP
6385 South Rainbow Boulevard, Suite 600
Las Vegas, Nevada 89118

Telephone: 702-893-3383 Facsimile: 702-893-3789 Attorneys for Respondent

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

Appellants ("Plaintiffs") are engaged in a campaign of delay by misleading the District Court, this Court, and VHS's counsel regarding another excuse for more extensions of time.

Plaintiffs' appellate brief in this case was first due on October 25, 2022 after an unsuccessful settlement conference (**Exhibit "A"**). As evidenced by the email exchange, Plaintiffs requested a 60 day extension (until December 26, 2022), and VHS agreed to provide Plaintiffs a 30 day extension (**Exhibit "A"**). The day after requesting their extension, Plaintiffs' counsel emailed our office at 2:21 p.m. the day before a hearing was ordered by the District Court for a judgment debtors' examination of Plaintiffs to advise us that none of Plaintiffs would be appearing in defiance of the District Court's order (**Exhibit "B"**). One hour later, Plaintiffs' counsel advised that the requested 60-day extension (which VHS consented to give 30 days) was unnecessary since Plaintiffs' counsel obtained an automatic 14-day extension from this Court (**Exhibit "C"**).

After obtaining their 14-day extension to file their brief, on October 26, 2022,

¹ Plaintiffs further failed to comply with the District Court's order to supply required discovery 2 weeks in advance of the September 28, 2022 judgment debtors' examination, but the order to do so as well as any appearances for the examination were eventually stayed by the District Court pending the outcome of the instant appeal.

Plaintiffs sought another 60-day extension (**Exhibit "D"**), this time claiming a medical excuse, out of town medical appointments, and an extended convalescence as justification for this request. After VHS agreed to the additional 60-day extension (now 74 days from original due date), Plaintiffs obtained VHS's consent to file a joint motion for said extension, referring to the medical excuse to obtain VHS's consent (**Exhibit "E"**), which motion was granted and Plaintiffs have until January 9, 2022 to file their brief.

Promptly after obtaining the transcripts of the hearings pertaining to the Plaintiffs' late filed motion to stay enforcement proceedings, and after learning for the first time that a bond for \$500 had been filed by Plaintiffs (an amount far less that the judgment for \$122,000+ accrued interest already on file), VHS requested that the District Court raise the bond to reflect the amount of the judgment, which request was denied and is the subject of the motion underlying Plaintiffs' request to extend time to oppose. As is evident in VHS's motion now pending before this Court, Plaintiffs asserted that no bond was even necessary in this case (Appendix to VHS's pending motion, Vol. I, pp. 119-120), and Plaintiffs argued the inapplicability of the factors outlined in *Nelson v. Heer*, 121 Nev 832, 122 P.3d 1252 (2005), the very factors which comprise VHS's pending motion to increase the supersedeas bond.

Despite the claims of medical issues and extended convalescence during the

very period for which the extension was sought, Plaintiffs request an additional month's extension to oppose VHS's pending motion. In Plaintiffs' request, the excuse proffered by Mr. Padda is that he has been on trial since November 28, 2022 (curiously coinciding with the extended convalescence period the subject of which got him multiple extensions to file his appellants' brief in this matter), combined with the misleading statement that the pending motion is over 500 pages. While technically true that the motion and exhibits exceeds 500 pages, the motion itself is only 10 pages, and speaks to the very issues addressed by Plaintiffs themselves in the Court below, only this time, with accurate citations to the case law (unlike Plaintiffs did in the Court below).

At every turn, Plaintiffs have sought to delay the day of reckoning here. They misled the Court below in opposition to VHS's summary judgment motion, and it was this Court which prevented that from going further, having overruled the District Court and granted summary judgment. Thereafter, they failed to timely object to the memorandum of costs in the Court below, but nevertheless requested a "do over" which was denied. Plaintiffs thereafter filed what will be demonstrated to be a baseless appeal (which brief has yet to be filed). Plaintiffs' counsel sought multiple extensions of time to file Plaintiffs' brief, claiming a medical excuse but now it is clear that he was going to trial, presenting this medical excuse to our firm and this Court to obtain his extension. Plaintiffs' counsel and his clients disobeyed District

Court orders to produce documents and appear for a judgment debtors' examination, and the day before the hearing, indicated they would not appear in defiance of that order, and filed an after business hours motion to stay enforcement of any collection proceedings. Now, after business hours on the day their opposition to the pending motion is due, Plaintiffs request an additional month to oppose a motion which they supposedly brief, this time claiming that there are so many materials to review in order to oppose. Instead of actually doing the work, they wasted everyone's time requesting extension after extension, to delay the case for VHS. Plaintiffs' motion to extend should not be granted. There are no new issues with which Plaintiffs' counsel is unfamiliar. The fact that Plaintiffs' counsel "snuck" in his motion to extend after business hours of the due date for opposition, without even so much as requesting a stipulated extension is further demonstration of the disingenuity of this attorney. He clearly knew that his favor well was exhausted, and rather than asking for a stipulation, hopes this Court will have more pity on him and grant the extension. This nonsense cannot go on any longer.

II. <u>LEGAL ARGUMENT</u>

All motions for extension of time must establish good cause for the requested extension and must be served on all parties. See NRAP 26(b)(1)(A); NRAP 27(a)(2). As the evidence submitted herewith demonstrates, the question of the Plaintiffs' counsel's candor with his adversary as well as with this Court is certainly

concerning. The evidence demonstrates that multiple extensions of time to file Plaintiffs' underlying brief in this matter were obtained on the premise that Mr. Padda was experiencing serious medical issues requiring out of state treatment and extended convalescence. In the very middle of that supposed convalescence is a trial for which he now claims is his excuse for requesting this extension. Moreover, the issues raised in VHS's pending motion were already supposedly addressed by Mr. Padda in the Court below, only to have him attempt to mislead this Court into believing that the motion at issue raises some obscure legal issue (which is does not) for which a month's extension is required to oppose. Plaintiffs' counsel squandered his extension requests and instead of substantively dealing with the legal issues involved in responding to this motion, he chose instead to ask this Court for another judicial lifeline at VHS's expense. The questionable conduct in obtaining and requesting extensions by Plaintiffs' counsel throughout this litigation should not be countenanced any further, his request should be denied, and VHS's pending motion be granted without opposition.

III. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

Given the evidence submitted herewith, Plaintiffs have met the good cause burden necessary to obtain the relief they seek. As such, Plaintiffs' motion should be denied in its entirety and VHS's pending motion be granted without opposition.

DATED this 12th day of December 2022.

LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD &
SMITH LLP
By /s/ Adam Garth
S. BRENT VOGEL
Nevada Bar No. 006858
ADAM GARTH
Nevada Bar No. 15045
6385 S. Rainbow Boulevard, Suite 600
Las Vegas, Nevada 89118
Tel. 702.893.3383

Attorneys for Respondent Valley Health

System, LLC

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 12th day of May, 2022, a true and correct copy

of RESPONDENT'S OPPOSITION TO APPELLANTS' MOTION FOR

EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO MOTION TO REQUIRE

POSTING OF OR INCREASING AMOUNT OF SUPERSEDEAS BOND BY

APPELLANTS was served upon the following parties by electronic service through

this Court's electronic service system and also by placing a true and correct copy

thereof in the United States Mail in Las Vegas, Nevada with first class postage fully

prepaid:.

Paul S. Padda, Esq.

PAUL PADDA LAW, PLLC

4560 S. Decatur Blvd., Suite 300

Las Vegas, NV 89103

Tel: 702.366.1888

Fax: 702.366.1940

psp@paulpaddalaw.com
Attorneys for Plaintiffs

By /s/ Heidi Brown

An Employee of LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP

7

EXHIBIT A

From: Garth, Adam
To: Srilata Shah

Cc: Paul Padda; Shelbi Schram; Vogel, Brent; Brown, Heidi; San Juan, Maria; DeSario, Kimberly

Subject: RE: Re: Estate of Rebecca Powell - Request for extension to file appellate brief

Date: Tuesday, September 27, 2022 9:10:40 AM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

image002.png image003.png image004.png image005.png

We will agree to a 30 day extension. If that works for you, please prepare stipulation for our review prior to submission. Thanks.

Adam Garth

From: Srilata Shah <sri@paulpaddalaw.com> Sent: Monday, September 26, 2022 3:10 PM

To: Garth, Adam <Adam.Garth@lewisbrisbois.com>

Cc: Paul Padda <psp@paulpaddalaw.com>; Shelbi Schram <shelbi@paulpaddalaw.com>; Vogel,

Brent <Brent.Vogel@lewisbrisbois.com>

Subject: [EXT] Re: Estate of Rebecca Powell - Request for extension to file appellate brief

Dear Mr. Garth:

Our appellate brief is due on October 25, 2022. We are requesting a 60-day extension through December 26, 2022, to file our brief. We will forward a Stipulation Extending the Deadline if you are amenable to granting us the extension. Thank you. Sri

Srilata Shah, Esq.

PAUL PADDA LAW, PLLC (702) 366-1888 sri@paulpaddalaw.com paulpaddalaw.com



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4560 South Decatur Blvd, Suite 300 Las Vegas, Nevada 89103 Tele: (702) 366-1888

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EXHIBIT B

From: <u>Paul Padda</u>

To: Garth, Adam; Srilata Shah; Vogel, Brent

Cc: Lani Esteban-Trinidad

Subject: [EXT] Re: Estate of Rebecca Powell

Date: Tuesday, September 27, 2022 2:21:00 PM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>



Dear Messrs. Vogel and Garth,

I am writing to advise that none of the respondents in your Judgment Debtor proceeding will be able to appear tomorrow. As you know, they have very limited financial means and are unable to travel to Las Vegas. In fact, to my knowledge, they haven't stepped foot in Nevada since the passing of Rebecca Powell. I am providing this in advance to avoid any inconvenience. I will also be seeking relief from the Court regarding the same.

Regards, Paul Padda

Paul S. Padda, Esq.

PAUL PADDA LAW, PLLC (702) 366-1888 paulpaddalaw.com

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destroy this communication, any attachments, and all copies thereof. Thank you for your cooperation.

EXHIBIT C

From: Srilata Shah To: Garth, Adam

Cc: Paul Padda; Shelbi Schram; Vogel, Brent; Brown, Heidi; San Juan, Maria; DeSario, Kimberly [EXT] RE: Re: Estate of Rebecca Powell - Request for extension to file appellate brief Subject:

Date: Tuesday, September 27, 2022 3:10:47 PM

Attachments: image001.png

image002.png image003.png image004.png image005.png image006.png



Dear Mr. Garth:

Thank you for your prompt response to my email and agreeing to a 30-day extension. Paul reached out to the Court and was granted a 14-day extension. We should be able to file our brief withing the time granted by the Court. Thank you again for your professional courtesy. Sri

Srilata Shah, Esq.

PAUL PADDA LAW, PLLC (702) 366-1888 sri@paulpaddalaw.com paulpaddalaw.com





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From: Garth, Adam <Adam.Garth@lewisbrisbois.com>

Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2022 9:11 AM To: Srilata Shah <sri@paulpaddalaw.com>

Cc: Paul Padda <psp@paulpaddalaw.com>; Shelbi Schram <shelbi@paulpaddalaw.com>; Vogel, Brent <Brent.Vogel@lewisbrisbois.com>; Brown, Heidi <Heidi.Brown@lewisbrisbois.com>; San Juan, Maria <Maria.SanJuan@lewisbrisbois.com>; DeSario, Kimberly <Kimberly.DeSario@lewisbrisbois.com>

Subject: RE: Re: Estate of Rebecca Powell - Request for extension to file appellate brief

We will agree to a 30 day extension. If that works for you, please prepare stipulation for our review prior to submission. Thanks.



Adam Garth Partner Adam.Garth@lewisbrisbois.com

T: 702.693.4335 F: 702.366.9563

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From: Srilata Shah <sri@paulpaddalaw.com>
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2022 3:10 PM
To: Garth, Adam <Adam.Garth@lewisbrisbois.com>

Cc: Paul Padda sp@paulpaddalaw.com; Shelbi Schram shelbi@paulpaddalaw.com; Vogel, Brent

<Brent.Vogel@lewisbrisbois.com>

Subject: [EXT] Re: Estate of Rebecca Powell - Request for extension to file appellate brief

Dear Mr. Garth:

Our appellate brief is due on October 25, 2022. We are requesting a 60-day extension through December 26, 2022, to file our brief. We will forward a Stipulation Extending the Deadline if you are amenable to granting us the extension. Thank you. Sri

Srilata Shah, Esq.

PAUL PADDA LAW, PLLC (702) 366-1888 sri@paulpaddalaw.com paulpaddalaw.com





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EXHIBIT D

From: Paul Padda

To:Garth, Adam; Vogel, BrentCc:Brown, Heidi; DeSario, Kimberly

Subject: [EXT] RE: Re: Powell v. UHS -- NV Supreme Court Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 3:34:48 PM

Attachments: image001.png image002.png

9

Thank you. Yes, I will extend reciprocal courtesy.

Paul S. Padda, Esq.

PAUL PADDA LAW, PLLC (702) 366-1888 paulpaddalaw.com

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From: Garth, Adam <Adam.Garth@lewisbrisbois.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 3:33 PM

To: Paul Padda <psp@paulpaddalaw.com>; Vogel, Brent <Brent.Vogel@lewisbrisbois.com>

Cc: Brown, Heidi < Heidi. Brown@lewisbrisbois.com>; DeSario, Kimberly < Kimberly. DeSario@lewisbrisbois.com>

Subject: RE: Re: Powell v. UHS -- NV Supreme Court

As a professional courtesy, we will agree to the 60 day extension with the proviso that given the timing of your brief and our current trial schedule, we may need an extension of time on our respondent's brief and if we require the same courtesy, we want your assurance that we will get the same in return.

Adam Garth

Adam Garth Partner

Adam.Garth@lewisbrisbois.com



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From: Paul Padda <psp@paulpaddalaw.com> Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 1:54 PM

To: Garth, Adam Adam.Garth@lewisbrisbois.com; Vogel, Brent Brent.Vogel@lewisbrisbois.com

Cc: Brown, Heidi < Heidi. Brown@lewisbrisbois.com >; DeSario, Kimberly < Kimberly. DeSario@lewisbrisbois.com >

Subject: [EXT] RE: Re: Powell v. UHS -- NV Supreme Court

Thank you. I requested 60-days taking into account my personal circumstances which involve medical issues. I appreciate the agreement to 30-days but that will not be sufficient given my circumstances. I requested 60-days for a reason. As for the previous 14-day request, that was requested at that time with the anticipation I would be able to meet the deadline. Unfortunately, things have arisen that require I attend to my health. Please reconsider and let me know. Thanks.

Paul S. Padda, Esq.

PAUL PADDA LAW, PLLC (702) 366-1888 paulpaddalaw.com

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From: Garth, Adam < Adam.Garth@lewisbrisbois.com >

Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 1:48 PM

Cc: Brown, Heidi < Heidi. Brown@lewisbrisbois.com >; DeSario, Kimberly < Kimberly. DeSario@lewisbrisbois.com >

Subject: RE: Re: Powell v. UHS -- NV Supreme Court

We will agree to a 30 day extension if you would like to prepare the stipulation to extend on that basis.

As we understand it, your associate requested a 60 day extension on 9/26 to go until 12/26. At that time, we agreed to a 30 day extension which your firm chose not to pursue and instead sought the 14 day extension from the court. You have already had 3 ½ months to file your brief from the time the schedule was reinstated and months before that with time wasted for settlement conferences.

While we are understanding of your medical issues, this matter has been dragged out for years and we are consistently asked to extend professional courtesies to your office while our time has not been respected.

Let us know if the 30 days is acceptable.



Adam Garth
Partner
Adam.Garth@lewisbrisbois.com

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From: Paul Padda <psp@paulpaddalaw.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 1:36 PM

To: Vogel, Brent < Brent < Brent < Brent.Vogel@lewisbrisbois.com>; Garth, Adam < Adam.Garth@lewisbrisbois.com>

Subject: [EXT] Re: Powell v. UHS -- NV Supreme Court

Counsel, I have a medical procedure I will need to get and will be out of town prior to the Opening Brief being due. Please advise if you are willing to agree to a 60-day extension of time for Appellants to file an Opening Brief. Currently, our brief is due on November 9, 2022. Please let me know your position by 3 pm tomorrow. Thanks.

Paul S. Padda, Esq.

PAUL PADDA LAW, PLLC (702) 366-1888 paulpaddalaw.com

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EXHIBIT E

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

ESTATE OF REBECCA
POWELL, through Brian Powell as
Special Administrator; DARCI
CREECY, individually; TARYN
CREECY, individually; ISAIAH
KHOSROF, individually; LLOYD
CREECY, individually,

Appellants,

VS.

VALLEY HEALTH SYSTEM, LLC (doing business as "Centennial Hills Hospital Medical Center"),

Respondent.

Electronically Filed
Oct 31 2022 01:21 PM
Elizabeth A. Brown
Clerk of Supreme Court

Appeal No. 84861

JOINT MOTION TO PERMIT APPELLANTS ADDITIONAL TIME TO FILE AN OPENING BRIEF

Pursuant to Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure 26(b), 27 and 31, Appellants and Respondent Valley Health System, LLC, by and through their respective counsel, respectfully request that the Court grant this motion to permit Appellants sixty (60) additional days (or until January 9, 2023) to file an Opening Brief in this case. Currently, Appellants' Page 1 of 4

Opening Brief is due on November 9, 2022. In support of this motion, the parties rely upon the following:

- 1. Counsel for Appellants has communicated to counsel for Respondent that he is required to travel out of state due to medical circumstances prior to the current filing deadline of Appellants' Opening Brief. Because of these circumstances and the need to attend to serious health considerations, both before and after the current deadline, counsel for Appellants will not be able to meet the present deadline and will need additional time to file the Opening Brief.
- 2. The parties have communicated regarding this motion and the circumstances necessitating this additional request for more time to file an Opening Brief. The parties agree that permitting counsel for Appellants an additional 60-days, or until January 9, 2023, to file the Opening Brief is reasonable and warranted under the extraordinary circumstances set forth herein involving the health of Appellants' counsel. As reflected in the Court's record, counsel for Appellants has

only requested one prior extension of 14-days. This is Appellants' counsel's second request for an extension.

Based upon the foregoing, the parties jointly request (see Exhibit A) that the Court grant this motion and permit Appellants to file their Opening Brief on or before January 9, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Adam Garth

/s/ Paul S. Padda

S. Brent Vogel, Esq. Adam Garth, Esq. Attorneys for Respondent Paul S. Padda, Esq. *Attorney for Appellants*

Dated: October 31, 2022

Dated: October 31, 2022

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to the Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure, I hereby certify that on this day, October 31, 2022, the foregoing document entitled **JOINT MOTION TO PERMIT APPELLANTS ADDITIONAL TIME TO FILE AN ANSWERING BRIEF** was filed with the Supreme Court of Nevada through its electronic filing system. Service of the foregoing document shall be made in accordance with the Master Service List upon all registered parties and/or participants and their counsel.

/s/ Shelbi Schram				
Shelbi Schram, Paralegal	-			

EXHIBIT A

EXHIBIT A

Paul Padda

From:

Paul Padda

Sent:

Monday, October 31, 2022 8:22 AM

To:

Garth, Adam; Vogel, Brent

Subject:

Re: Motion for Extension - Powell et. al. v. Valley Health

Ok. Apologies to Brent for that typo.

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Garth, Adam <Adam.Garth@lewisbrisbois.com>

Sent: Monday, October 31, 2022 8:03:07 AM

To: Paul Padda <psp@paulpaddalaw.com>; Vogel, Brent <Brent.Vogel@lewisbrisbois.com>

Subject: RE: Motion for Extension - Powell et. al. v. Valley Health

Other than changing Brent's first initial from J to S, you may use my e-signature.



Adam Garth
Partner
Adam.Garth@lewisbrisbois.com

T: 702.693.4335 F: 702.366.9563

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From: Paul Padda <psp@paulpaddalaw.com> Sent: Friday, October 28, 2022 3:46 PM

To: Vogel, Brent < Brent. Vogel@lewisbrisbois.com >; Garth, Adam < Adam. Garth@lewisbrisbois.com >

Subject: [EXT] Re: Motion for Extension - Powell et. al. v. Valley Health

Counsel, please review and let me know if I have your consent to file.

Paul S. Padda, Esq.

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