### IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF THOMAS JOSEPH HARRIS, DECEASED.

TODD ROBBEN,

Appellant,

VS.

THE ESTATE OF THOMAS JOSEPH HARRIS; AND THE THOMAS J. HARRIS TRUST,

Respondents.

Case No. 86096

Electronically Filed Aug 30 2023 07:33 AM Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court

### RESPONDENTS' APPENDIX

## Volume 3

Tara Flanagan, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Thomas J.

Harris and Trustee of the Thomas J. Harris Trust

By and through her Legal Counsel

Wallace & Millsap

F. McClure Wallace

Nevada Bar No. 10264

510 W. Plumb Lane, Suite A

Reno, Nevada 89509

(775) 683-9599

mcclure@wallacemillsap.com

Respondents, the Estate of Thomas J. Harris and the Thomas J. Harris Trust, by and through Tara Flanagan, in her capacity as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Thomas J. Harris and Trustee of the Thomas J. Harris Trust by and through her Legal Counsel hereby submits her Appendix in compliance with Nevada Rule of Appellate Procedure 30.

TITLE	DATE	BATE	VOL.
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Docketing Statement	2/3/2023	RA 815-825	11
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Last Will & Testament of Thomas Joseph Harris	6/12/2019	RA 1-6	1
Letters Testamentary	4/22/2021	RA 60-61	1
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Notice of Entry of Order	2/16/2023	RA 838-853	11
Notice of Hearing	4/15/2022	RA 102-105	1
Notice of Motion for Continuance and Motion for Continuance	5/23/2022	RA 138-139	2
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Petition to Confirm First and Final Accounting, Request for Final Distribution, and Request for Payment of Professional's Fees and Costs	4/15/2022	RA 106-137	1
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Petitioner, Todd Robben's Petition to Invalidate The Thomas J. Harris Will and Trust; Petitioner's Request for Appointment of Counsel Pursuant to NRS 136.200; Emergency Request for Stay of Final Distribution; Peremptory Challenge to Judge Nathan Tod Young filed by The Estate of Thomas J. Harris	7/26/2022	RA 263-352	4

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Petitioner's Reply in Support of Motion to Strike Respondents Unlawful Surreply	11/21/2022	RA 600-606	9
Petitioner's Verified Reply in Support of Motion for a Decision on the Pleadings; Petitioner's Motion Declining Oral Argument	12/23/2022	RA 726-742	10
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Verified Petition for Letters of Special Administration (NRS 140.010) and for Probate of Will and Issuance of Letters Testamentary (NRS 136.090)	3/10/2021	RA 43-57	1

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7	IN THE NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA	
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9	)	
10	IN RE: THE ESTATE OF THOMAS CASE NO.: 2021 PB00034	
11	JOSEPH HARRIS,	
12	NOTICE:OF APPEAL	
13	Deceased Separtment: 1	
14	JUDGE: Nathan Tod Young	
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17	Petitioner, Todd C. Robben appeals the decision, order and judgment pursuant	
13	to NRS §§ 155.190 from Judge Nathan Tod Young on June 21, 2022 <sup>1</sup> denying	
19	Petitioner counsel and granting the final accounting and final distribution in the above	
20	titled case.	
21	Respectfully,	
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24	/s/ Todd Robben	i.
25	06/27/2022	,
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27	The order appears to be dated June 22, 2022.	
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	Docket 84948 Document 2022-20590	

Docket 84948 Document 2022-20590

### **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I, Stephen James Robben, declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the following is true and correct copy of the filed document. That on June 27, 2022, service of the document was made pursuant to NRCP 5(b) by depositing a email to: F. McClure Wallace, counsel for Respondent, mcclure@wallacemillsap.com

DATED this 27 day of June, 2022

Submitted By: /s/ Stephen James Robben

510 W Plumb Ln., Reno, Nevada / (775) 683-9599

RECEIVED CASE NO.: 2021 PB00034

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BUBBIE P. WILLIAMS

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IN THE NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS

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THE ESTATE OF THOMAS JOSEPH HARRIS,

Deceased.

OPPOSITION TO EMERGENCY VERIFIED MOTION TO RECONSIDER: FOR CALCIFICATION (SIC); NOTICE OF NON HEARSAY PROOF OF THE THOMAS JOSEPH AND OLGA HARRIS LIVING TRUST: OPPOSITION TO EMERGENCY STAY REQUEST

TARA M. FLANAGAN, in her capacity as the Court appointed Successor Executor of the Estate of Thomas Joseph Harris (the "Estate"), by and through her attorneys Wallace & Millsap LLC, respectfully opposes and objects to the Emergency Stay Request - Emergency Verified Motion to Reconsider; Request for Calcification (sic); Notice of Non Hearsay Proof of the Thomas Joseph and Olga Harris Living Trust filed by Todd Robben on June 22, 2022, as well as Mr. Robben's Supplemental Points and Authorities filed on June 23, 2022 and Mr. Robben's associated Motion to Expedite Stay Request Pending Reconsideration on June 24, 2022 (collectively referred to as Mr. Robben's "Motion" or the "Motion to Reconsider"). This Response is made and based upon all papers and pleadings on file herein, the following Memorandum of Points and Authorities, and any oral argument the Court may wish to entertain.

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# Wallace & Millago 510 W Plumb Ln., Reno, Nevada / (775) 683-9599

### MEMORANDUM OF POINTS & AUTHORITIES

### . INTRODUCTION

On June 22, 2022, the Court held a continued hearing on Petition to Confirm First and Final Accounting, Request for Final Distribution, and Request for Payment of Professional's Fees and Costs previously filed by the Successor Executor (the "Petition"). Days before the June 21, 2022 hearing, Mr. Robben filed a Request for Appointment of Counsel in this matter. Mr. Robben also appeared at the June 21, 2022 hearing and presented argument in support of his Request. Mr. Robben's Request for Counsel was opposed by the Successor Executor, by and through her Counsel, during the June 21, 2022 hearing. No other response or objections to the Petition were received.

After thoroughly considering all filings and oral argument, the Court granted the Petition in full at the conclusion of the hearing. The Court codified and confirmed its ruling by the entry of its written Order Granting Petition to Confirm First and Final Accounting, Request for Final Distribution, and Request for Payment of Professional's Fees and Costs on June 22, 2022 (the Court's "Order").

Mr. Robben now seeks reconsideration and a stay of the Court's June 22, 2022 Order. However, his Motion fails as a matter of law because Mr. Robben has no standing upon which to assert any such request, as conclusively determined by this Court.

### II. APPLICABLE LAW

A motion for reconsideration must be presented in accordance with NJDCR 6(h) and DCR 13, and the determination of whether to grant reconsideration is within "the sound discretion of the [district] court." Navajo Nation v. Confederated Tribes & Bands of the Yakama Indian Nation, 331 F.3d 1041, 1046 (9th Cir. 2003; see also Riger v. Hometown Mortg., LLC, 104 F.Supp. 3d 1092, 1095 (D. Nev. 2015).

Well-established Nevada authority governs reconsideration of previously decided orders. In Masonry & Tile Contractors Ass'n of S. Nevada v. Jolley, Urga &

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510 W Plumb Ln., Reno, Nevada / (775) 683-9599

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Wirth, Ltd., the Nevada Supreme Court held a district court may reconsider a previously decided ruling only if different evidence is subsequently introduced or the decision is "clearly erroneous." See Masonry & Tile Contractors Ass'n, 113 Nev. 737, 741, 941 P.2d 486, 489 (1997). Indeed, the Nevada Supreme Court has confirmed that "only in very rare instances in which new issues of fact or law are raised supporting a ruling contrary to the ruling already reached should a motion for rehearing be granted. Moore v. City of Las Vegas, 92 Nev. 402, 405, 551 P.2d 244, 246 (1976) (emphasis added).

When a motion for reconsideration raises "no new issues of law and makes reference to no new or additional facts," reconsideration is "superfluous" and it constitutes an "abuse of discretion" by the district court to entertain such a motion. Id. As such, motions for reconsideration are granted in "rare instances." Id.; see also Masonry & Tile Contractors Ass'n, 113 Nev. 737, 741, 941 P.2d 486, 489 (1997).

#### MR. ROBBEN DOES NOT HAVE STANDING III.

Mr. Robben seeks reconsideration of the Court's determination that he is not an interested person to this case. Specifically, the Court's June 22, 2022 Order held Mr. Robben is not an interested person in this matter, and does not have standing to participate or appear in this case. See Court Order of June 22, 2022. See Exhibit 1. The Court's ruling is correct, and as such Mr. Robben also has no standing upon which he can seek reconsideration of the Court's Order.

NRS 132.185 defines an "interested person" as "a person whose right or interest under an estate or trust may be materially affected by a decision of a fiduciary or a decision of the court." Here, Mr. Robben is not an interested person to this Estate proceeding because he is not a beneficiary of the Decedent's Last Will and Testament. Moreover, as a stepchild of the Decedent, Mr. Robben is not an intestate heir under NRS Chapter 134. Therefore, Mr. Robben is not an interested person to this case, has no standing to participate in this proceeding, and has no right or ability to seek reconsideration or stay regarding the Court's Order.

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Procedurally, Mr. Robben's Motion presents no new issues of law or fact regarding his complete lack of standing. As a result, Mr. Robben has failed to provide a basis for reconsideration of this controlling issue and has provided no basis upon which reconsideration of the Court's Order can be granted. Masonry & Tile Contractors Ass'n, 113 Nev. 737, 741, 941 P.2d 486, 489 (1997); see also Moore v. City of Las Vegas, 92 Nev. 402, 405, 551 P.2d 244, 246 (1976).

### IV. MR. ROBBEN IS NOT ELEGIBLE TO RECEIVE THE APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL

Mr. Robben also seeks reconsideration of the portion of the Court's Order denying his request for appointment of Counsel. However, as an individual with no standing, who is not an interested person to this matter, Mr. Robben is not able to receive an appointment of Counsel.

Mr. Robben's Motion restates his previously denied argument for the appointment of Counsel under NRS 136.200. Yet, as correctly determined by the Court in its Order, Mr. Robben is not even eligible to receive an appointment of Counsel in this matter. NRS 136.200 requires an individual, minor, or member of a class, to be an interested person in an estate proceeding to be eligible to receive an appointment of Counsel by the Court. See NRS 136.200. As found by the Court and confirmed above, Mr. Robben is not an interested person, has no standing, and as such cannot receive an appointment of Counsel in this matter under NRS 136.200.

Again, in seeking reconsideration of this issue, Mr. Robben's Motion presents no new issues of law or fact, failing to provide a basis for reconsideration of the Court's Order. *Masonry & Tile Contractors Ass'n*, 113 Nev. 737, 741, 941 P.2d 486, 489 (1997); see also Moore v. City of Las Vegas, 92 Nev. 402, 405, 551 P.2d 244, 246 (1976).

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## MR. ROBBEN DOES NOT OFFER ADMISSIBLE EVIDENCE, AND THE DOCUMENT HE ATTACHES TO HIS MOTION IS NOT RELEVANT

Finally, Mr. Robben seeks reconsideration of this Court's denial of his efforts to present inadmissible hearsay evidence at the hearing held on June 21, 2022. The Court's denial of Mr. Robben's attempt to admit hearsay evidence was correct, as Mr. Robben was attempting to present undisclosed out-of-court statement(s) from third parties. Moreover, Mr. Robben made this attempt without any foundational showing of the relevance or admissibility of the alleged document(s) or testimony he referred to for the first time at the June 21, 2022 hearing. See generally NRS 51; see also NRS 51.065.

In an attempt to get around the Court's proper evidentiary ruling, Mr. Robben now improperly attaches a document to his Motion for Reconsideration appearing to be a copy of a letter from the law firm Blanchard, Kranser & French related to the Thomas Harris Trust. While this document is inadmissible hearsay, and without waiving its objection to the admission of this document, the Successor Executor notes the document relates to the Thomas Harris Trust, which is not a part of this proceeding, is not before this Court, and has never been under the jurisdiction of this Court. The document does not refer to, or discuss, the Last Will and Testament of Thomas A. Harris, and as such only highlights the absence of any legal basis upon which Mr. Robben could be an interested person to this matter. Indeed, and importantly, the entirety of the wholly unsupported factual allegations in Mr. Robben's Motion relate solely to the Thomas Harris Trust, and the purported prior Thomas Joseph and Olga Harris Trust — not the Last Will and Testament of Mr. Harris long ago admitted to probate.

Therefore, the Court's evidentiary rulings were correct, and are only further supported by Mr. Robben's inappropriate attempt to circumvent the Court's rulings by attaching a fugitive document to his Motion. Mr. Robben is not an interested

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person, and cannot change that decisive ruling through inadmissible evidence which only further undermines his unsubstantiated allegations.

### VI. NO STAY IS WARRANTED OR PROPER

Mr. Robben's Motion provides no legal or factual basis to warrant reconsideration of the Court's Order, and as such no basis for the Court to stay its Order. Masonry & Tile Contractors Ass'n, 113 Nev. 737, 741, 941 P.2d 486, 489 (1997); see also Moore v. City of Las Vegas, 92 Nev. 402, 405, 551 P.2d 244, 246 (1976). Given the absence of standing Mr. Robben holds in this matter, any level of stay would be highly prejudicial to those properly interested in the Estate and are legally entitled to see its assets distributed and the administration concluded. Stated otherwise, allowing an individual with no standing to prejudicially delay this proceeding through filings lacking any legal merit would sanction a misuse of the justice system to the detriment of those rightfully interested in this proceeding. Mr. Robben's Motion raises no new issues of law or fact, nor identifies any relevant admissible evidence upon which he could be found to be an interested person to this matter. Therefore, any reconsideration of the Court's order would be "superfluous," and amount to an abuse of discretion. See Moore v. City of Las Vegas, 92 Nev. 402, 405, 551 P.2d 244, 246 (1976); see also Masonry & Tile Contractors Ass'n, 113 Nev. 737, 741, 941 P.2d 486, 489 (1997). Given the absence of any legal basis to consider, let alone grant any reconsideration of the Court's Order, there is certainly no basis to warrant a stay of the Court's Order – especially to an individual with no standing in this proceeding.

However, if for any reason the Court were to consider a stay of its Order, it should only do so upon requiring a significant bond in an amount which, at a minimum, takes into account the total risk and prejudice and harm to those rightfully interested in this proceeding. If any district court were to grant a stay, it does so upon "such bond, undertaking, or conditions as it deems just or appropriate." NRS 159.195. Here, the Successor Executor maintains no stay of the Court's Order

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is warranted or appropriate. Still, if any such stay were granted it should be only on the posting of a bond equal to the entire value of the Estate, as that amount would be prejudicially withheld from those properly interested in the matter. In that vein, no such stay should be effective until proof the bond is posted, and if the required bond is not posted in fifteen (15) days the ability to effectuate a stay should expire. With that said, at the risk of being repetitive, Mr. Robben has no standing to appear in this matter, has presented no legal basis for reconsideration of the Court's Order, and has presented no legal or practical justification for any stay of the Court's Order.

### VII. CONCLUSION

The Court carefully considered Mr. Robben's filings and oral presentation at the June 21, 2022 hearing, and provided Mr. Robben due consideration in reaching its June 22, 2022 Order. The Court's Order is correct, and as such, there is no basis to grant any reconsideration of the Court's Order, nor any stay of that Order. Moreover, Mr. Robben is not an interested person to this Estate, and has no standing to seek any type of reconsideration or stay of the Court's June 22, 2022 Order. Therefore, Mr. Robben's Motion and all associated filings are properly denied.

### **AFFIRMATION**

The undersigned affirms this document does not contain the social security number or legally private information of any person.

DATED this 30th day of June 2022.

WALLACE & MILLSAP

F. McClure Wallace, Esq. State Bar No.: 10264 Patrick R. Millsap, Esq. Nevada Bar No.: 12043 510 W. Plumb Lane, Suite A

Reno, Nevada 89509 (775) 683-9599

mcclure@wallacemillsap.com patrick@wallacemillsap.com

Attorneys for Executor, Tara M. Flanagan

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# Wallace & Millaga 510 W Plumb Ln., Reno, Nevada / (775) 683-9599

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to NRCP 5(b)(2)(B), I hereby certify that I am an employee of WALLACE & MILLSAP counsel for Tara M. Flanagan, Executor of the Estate of Thomas Joseph Harris and that I caused to be served the foregoing document upon the following persons by USPS First Class Priority Mail:

Todd Robben P.O. Box 4251 Sonora, CA 95370

and via email to stephenrobbin@proton.me

Dated this 1st day of July 2022.

'Caroline Carter

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### LIST OF EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1 - Order Granting Petition to Confirm First and Final Accounting, Request for Final Distribution, and Request for Payment of Professional's Fees and Costs

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### Exhibit 1

### Exhibit 1

510 W Plumb Ln., Reno, Nevada / (775) 683-9599

Wallace & Millsap

CASE NO.: 2021 PB00034

DEPT NO.: I

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IN THE NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS

IN RE:

THE ESTATE OF THOMAS JOSEPH HARRIS,

Deceased

### ORDER GRANTING PETITION TO CONFIRM FIRST AND FINAL ACCOUNTING, REQUEST FOR FINAL DISTRIBUTION, AND REQUEST FOR PAYMENT OF PROFESSIONAL'S FEES AND COSTS

Tara M. Flanagan, in her capacity as the Court appointed Personal Representative (aka "Successor Executor") of the Estate of Thomas Joseph Harris (the "Estate"), by and through her counsel of record, F. McClure Wallace and Patrick R. Millsap of Wallace & Millsap, has presented her Petition to Confirm First and Final Accounting, Request for Final Distribution and Request for Payment of Professional Fees and Costs (the "Petition").

The Court conducted a properly noticed hearing on the Petition on May 24, 2022. The Court received no objections to the Petition. However, also on or about May 24, 2022, Mr. Todd Robben filed a Notice of Motion for Continuance and Motion for Continuance requesting up to a six-month continuance of the matter. Based on the presentations of Mr. Robben and Counsel for the Estate at the hearing, the Court granted Mr. Robben a short extension to demonstrate a basis upon which he could assert any standing in this matter, continuing the hearing on the Petition to June 21, 2022. Thereafter, Mr. Robben filed a Request for Appointment of Counsel on June 15,

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1 | 2022. The Court then conducted a continued hearing for approval of the Petition on 2 June 21, 2022. Again, the Court received no objections to the Petition beyond the 3 filings and presentation of Mr. Robben. Counsel for the Estate argued in favor of granting the Petition and presented legal arguments in opposition to Mr. Robben's filings and oral presentation, namely that Mr. Robben is not an interested person in this matter as defined by NRS 132.185, and as such lacks standing to object to the Petition or be appointed counsel by the Court pursuant to NRS 136.200.

Having considered the Personal Representative's Petition, Mr. Todd Robben's filings, and having heard the presentation of the Personal Representative by and through her Counsel, as well as the presentation of Mr. Todd Robben, appearing in pro per, the Court finds as follows:

### FINDINGS AND ORDER

- Thomas Joseph Harris (the "Decedent") died on December 30, 2019, as 1. a resident of Douglas County, Nevada.
- The Decedent's death was caused by a motor vehicle accident in Washoe 2. County, Nevada on or about December 19, 2019. The Decedent was not at fault for the motor vehicle accident.
- The Last Will and Testament of Thomas Joseph Harris was duly lodged with this Court on April 6, 2021.
- The Decedent's Last Will and Testament is a pour over will, identifying 4. the Decedent's Trust as the beneficiary of his Will. The Decedent's Trust is The Declaration of Trust Known as the Thomas J. Harris Trust, Dated June 12, 2019 (the "Decedent's Trust" or the "Trust").
- The Decedent's Last Will and Testament identified the following line of Executors: Jeff Robben, Scott Barton, and Tara Flanagan.
- On March 10, 2021, Scott Barton filed his Verified Petition for Letters of Special Administration (NRS 140.010) and for Probate of Will and Issuance of Letters Testamentary (NRS 136.090). Mr. Barton was the appropriate individual to seek

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appointment as the Personal Representative of the Estate because the first nominated executor, Mr. Robben, had passed away on November 11, 2020.

- On April 6, 2021, this Court entered its Order Admitting Will to Probate 7. and Issuing Letters Testamentary appointing Scott Barton to serve as the Personal Consistent with the Court's Order, Letters Representative of the Estate. Testamentary were issued to Scott Barton on April 22, 2021.
- Upon information and belief, pursuant to his appointment as the Estate's Personal Representative, Scott Barton began his efforts to administer the Decedent's Estate. Namely for purposes of this Petition, Mr. Barton continued Mr. Robben's previously initiated efforts to prosecute the wrongful death claims related to the Decedent's death, including retaining Ms. Julie Throop, Esq. to represent the Estate regarding the wrongful death of the Decedent.
- By and through its retained litigation Counsel, the Estate was able to 9. reach a pre-litigation resolution of all claims regarding the wrongful death of the Decedent, as discussed in greater detail below.
- Thereafter, and before completing the negotiated settlement or gaining 10. Court approval of the settlement on behalf of the Estate, Scott Barton notified Tara Flanagan he was resigning as the Personal Representative of the Estate.
- Consistent with her nomination as the next named executor of the 11. Estate by the Decedent's Will, Ms. Flanagan filed her Petition for Appointment of Successor Executor and for Issuance of Letters Testamentary on June 25, 2021.
- On July 27, 2021, the Court entered its Order Appointing Successor 12. Executor and Issuing Successor Letters Testamentary, and on August 17, 2021, the Court issued Letters Testamentary to Tara M. Flanagan.
- Pursuant to her appointment as the Personal Representative of the Estate, on August 30, 2021, Ms. Flanagan filed her Petition to Approve Settlement (the "Petition"), seeking this Court's confirmation of the settlement negotiated by Mr. Barton and Ms. Throop on behalf of the Estate regarding the Decedent's death, as

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well as authorizing Ms. Flanagan, in her capacity as the Estate's Personal Representative, to complete all remaining steps necessary to effectuate the settlement for the benefit of the Estate.

- 14. Thereafter, the Court held a hearing on September 9, 2021 on the Personal Representative's Petition. The hearing was attended by Thomas A. Harris, Counsel for Mr. Thomas A. Harris, the Personal Representative, Counsel for the Personal Representative, and the Estate's wrongful death Counsel, Julie Throop, Esq. At the hearing the Judge heard from all Counsel regarding the issue of Ms. Throop's attorney fees as raised by Mr. Thomas A. Harris by and through his Counsel. At the conclusion of the hearing, Mr. Harris withdrew any objection he had previously presented to Ms. Throop's fees incurred as wrongful death Counsel for the Estate. As a result, there is no objection before the Court to the Petition to Approve the Settlement filed by the Personal Representative, nor any objection to the settlement placed before the Court for confirmation.
- 15. On September 9, 2021 the Court entered its Order Granting Petition to Approve Settlement.
- 16. Pursuant to the Court's Order Granting Petition to Approve Settlement Tara M. Flanagan, in her capacity as the Estate's Personal Representative, finalized the settlement for the benefit of the Estate and deposited all settlement proceeds in the Estate's bank account. The Court finds Ms. Flanagan's efforts in this regard to have been dutifully and properly fulfilled.
- 17. On April 15, 2022, the Personal Representative filed the subject Petition to Confirm First and Final Accounting, Request for Final Distribution, and Request for Payment of Professional's Fees and Costs.
- 18. Shortly thereafter, the Estate's Inventory and Record of Value was appropriately filed.
- 19. As reported in the Personal Representative's Petition, Notice to Creditors was properly filed on April 22, 2021, and published in the Record Courier

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on April 29, May 6, and May 13, 2021. Proof of Publication of the Notice to Creditors was filed with the Court on May 20, 2021. No creditor's claims were filed against the Estate.

- All tax returns appropriately required of the Decedent have been filed. 20. A final estate tax return will be filed. There is no known liability due on this return.
- The Administrator has received no other communication or inquiry from any other taxing authority or any other claimant.
- The acts of the Tara Flanagan, in her capacity as the Successor Executor, are ordinary, necessary, and reasonable without exception.
- After all administrative expenses, legal expenses, and claims have been 23. paid, all remaining assets, including any after discovered assets, will be distributed to the Estate's sole beneficiary, the Thomas J. Harris Trust, dated June 12, 2019.
- The time necessary for the Successor Executor to complete the tasks 24. required of her has been ordinary, necessary, and reasonable.
- The gross value of the Estate for computing the Petitioner's Commission 25. is \$620,000.00.
- Pursuant to NRS 150.020, the Petitioner is entitled to \$13,550.00 in 26. ordinary compensation.
  - Counsel has rendered valuable services to the Petitioner. 27.
- The rates charged by Wallace & Millsap LLC are ordinary, necessary, 28. and reasonable.
- The services performed by Wallace & Millsap LLC are appropriate, 29. necessary, and reasonable without exception.
- Wallace & Millsap LLC has requested the sum \$20,638.00 in attorney's 30. fees.
- Wallace & Millsap LLC has requested the sum of \$994.78 for costs 31. advanced.
  - Finally, upon thorough review by this court, including review of Mr. 32. Page 5 of 8

510 W Plumb Ln., Reno, Nevada / (775) 683-9599 Wallace + Millage

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1 Robben's written filings and hearing Mr. Robben's oral presentation at both the May 24, 2022 hearing as well as the June 21, 2022 continued hearing, the Court determines Mr. Robben is not an "interested person" in this Estate as defined by NRS 132.185, and as such has no standing to object to the Petition, be appointed Counsel, or otherwise appear in this proceeding. Specifically, the Court heard from Mr. Robben, and after giving him additional time, Mr. Robben was unable to present any legal basis or admissible evidence to potentially allow a determination he is an interested person in this Estate. Therefore, Mr. Todd Robben is not an interest person to this Estate, and as such has no standing to oppose or object to the Petition or to otherwise appear in these proceedings.

WHEREFORE, as a result of the foregoing, considering the Petition to Confirm First and Final Accounting, Request for Final Distribution, and Request for Payment of Professional's Fees and Costs filed by the Personal Representative, considering Mr. Todd Robben's Notice of Motion for Continuance and Motion for Continuance, and hearing the presentation of Counsel and Mr. Robben, the Court having good cause ORDERS as follows:

- A. The First and Final Accounting of the Estate is approved without exception.
- B. The acts of the Personal Representative with respect to the administration of the Estate are confirmed without exception
- C. It was proper to generally administer this Estate.
- D. There were no known prior distributions.
- E. The Personal Representative's requested ordinary fees and costs are necessary and reasonable in all respects.
- F. The Personal Representative is authorized and directed to pay herself \$13,550.00 in ordinary fees.

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- G. All actions and services rendered by Counsel for the Personal Representative were reasonable and appropriate.
- H. Counsel for the Personal Representative's requested fees and costs were necessary and reasonable in all respects.
- I. The Personal Representative is authorized and directed to pay the law firm of Wallace & Millsap LLC, the sum of \$20,638.00 as compensation for legal services rendered, and to be rendered by said attorney and paralegal for the benefit of the Estate.
- J. The Personal Representative is authorized and directed to pay the law firm of Wallace & Millsap LLC, the sum of \$994.78 for costs advanced and to be advanced in this Estate, for a total payment of fees and costs in the amount of \$21,632.78.
- K. The Personal Representative is authorized and directed to holdback \$5,000.00 for completion of all the Estate's tax needs, including paying the final accounting fees of the Estate.
- L. After all administrative expenses and professional fees are paid, the Personal Representative is authorized and directed to distribute the Estate's remaining assets, including any after discovered assets to The Declaration of Trust Known as the Thomas J. Harris Trust, Dated June 12, 2019, by and through Tara Flanagan as Successor Trustee.

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M	. The Personal Representative shall complete any and all remaining task
	necessary to complete the administration of this Estate, at which time
	the Executor shall request her discharge from this Court.

N. Mr. Todd Robben is not an interested person in this matter, has no standing in the proceedings, and as such his Request for Appointment of Counsel is denied.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 27 day of June 2022.

District Court Judge

Submitted by:

### WALLACE & MILLSAP

### 's / F. McClure Wallace

F. MCCLURE WALLACE, ESQ. State Bar No. 10264 PATRICK R. MILLSAP, ESQ. State Bar No. 12043 WALLACE & MILLSAP LLC 510 West Plumb Lane, Suite A Reno, Nevada 89509 (775) 683-9599 Telephone (775) 683-9597 Fax

Attorneys for Petitioner

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### RECEIVED

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BOBBIE R. WILLIAMS

BY DEPUTY

IN THE NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF THOMAS JOSEPH HARRIS,

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PO Box 4251

(209)540-7713

Sonora, CA 95370

Robben.ty@gmail.com

In Pro per

Deceased

CASE NO.: 2021 PB00034

PETITIONER'S REPLY IN SUPPORT OF EMERGENCY STAY REQUEST & EMERGENCY VERIFIED MOTION TO RECONSIDER; REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION; NOTICE OF NON HEARSAY PROOF OF THE THOMAS JOSEPH AND OLGA HARRIS LIVING TRUST

**DEPARTMENT: 1** 

JUDGE: Nathan Tod Young

Hearing Date: Not Set

Petitioner, Todd C. Robben submits his reply in support of reconsideration.

The Respondent's opposition completely fails to oppose the new facts and law presented to the court by the Petitioner, an interested person, that prove a *prima facie* case of undisputed presumed undue influence.

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The Petitioner also corrects the title of the motion to replace the typo "CALCIFICATION" with "CLARIFICATION"

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#### MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

#### I. INTRODUCTION

The Respondent incorrectly claims no new facts or law are presented in the Motion to Reconsider, this claim is out of hand and completely false. The motion speaks for itself. This court certainly may reconsider its decisions and orders in light of the overwhelming facts, evidence and law.

The Respondent, in a confession of error, rehashes the same argument it used at the June 21<sup>st</sup> 2022 hearing (lack of standing) and fails to argue the facts and points of authorities argued by this Petitioner.

In <u>Polk v. State</u>, 233 P. 3d 357 – Nev: Supreme Court 2010 the Court states "We have also determined that a party confessed error when that party's answering brief effectively failed to address a significant issue raised in the appeal. See <u>Bates v. Chronister</u>, 100 Nev. 675, 681-82, 691 P.2d 865, 870 (1984) (treating the respondent's failure to respond to the appellant's argument as a confession of error); <u>A Minor v. Mineral Co. Juv. Dep't</u>, 95 Nev. 248, 249, 592 P.2d 172, 173 (1979) (determining that the answering brief was silent on the issue in question, resulting in a confession of error); <u>Moore v. State</u>, 93 Nev. 645, 647, 572 P.2d 216, 217 (1977) (concluding that even though the State acknowledged the issue on appeal, it failed to supply any analysis, legal or otherwise, to support its position and "effect[ively] filed no brief at all," which constituted confession of error), overruled on other grounds by <u>Miller v. State</u>, 121 Nev. 92, 95-96, 110 P.3d 53, 56 (2005)."

"[a] point not urged in the trial court, unless it goes to the jurisdiction of that court, is deemed to have been waived and will not be considered on appeal." <u>Old Aztec Mine, Inc. v. Brown</u>, 97 Nev. 49, 52, 623 P.2d 981, 983 (1981); see also <u>Wolff v. Wolff.</u> 112 Nev. 1355, 1363-64, 929 P.2d 916, 921 (1996). One purpose of this rule is to allow the lower tribunal the first opportunity to decide the issue.

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### II. PETITIONER HAS STANDING

The Respondent relies on NRS 132.185 to wrongfully assert the Petitioner lacks standing. The statute clearly states an "Interested person means a person whose right or interest under an estate or trust may be materially affected by a decision of a fiduciary or a decision of the court. The fiduciary or court shall determine who is an interested person according to the particular purposes of, and matter involved in, a proceeding."

In this instant case, the Petitioner has a right and interest to both the estate and trust which is be materially affected by a decision of a fiduciary or a decision of the court.

The Respondent offer no points of authority, nor any precedent or case law to support its argument and NRS 132.185 is inapposite to the Respondent's argument.

The Nevada Legislature amended NRS 132.185 in 2015SB 185. The

Legislative intent is explained in the SENATE BILL NO. 484—COMMITTEE ON

JUDICIARY CHAPTER 524<sup>1</sup> [Approved: June 10, 2015] AN ACT relating to personal financial administration; revising provisions relating to the distribution and administration of the estate of a deceased person; revising provisions governing certain nonprobate transfers; revising provisions relating to the creation and administration of trusts; providing for the creation and administration of public benefit

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> (Added to NRS by 1999, 2252; A 2007, 2395; 2011, 1435; 2015, 3526) https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Statutes/78th2015/Stats201532.html#Stats201532 CH524

trusts; revising the powers that may be exercised by a trustee; revising provisions relating to directed trusts; revising provisions relating to the jurisdiction of a court in cases concerning the administration of the estate of a deceased person and the administration of trusts; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest: Existing law defines the term "interested person" for the purpose of determining who is entitled to receive notice of, and participate in, a proceeding relating to the estate of a deceased person. (NRS 132.185) Sections 9 and 11 of this bill amend this definition to include all persons whose interest in an estate or trust will be materially affected by a decision of a fiduciary or a decision of the court and that a person's status as an interested person is determined according to the particular purposes of, and the matter involved in, each proceeding.

The previous version stated:

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 NV Rev Stat § 132.185 (2013)

- 1. Interested person includes, without limitation, an heir, devisee, child, spouse, creditor, settlor, beneficiary and any other person having a property right in or claim against a trust estate or the estate of a decedent, including, without limitation, the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services in any case in which money is owed to the Department of Health and Human Services as a result of the payment of benefits for Medicaid. The term includes a person having priority for appointment as a personal representative and other fiduciaries representing interested persons. The meaning as it relates to particular persons must be determined according to the particular purposes of, and matter involved in, a proceeding.
- 2. The term does not include:
- (a) After a will has been admitted to probate, an heir, child or spouse who is not a beneficiary of the will, except for purposes of NRS 133.110, 133.160 and 137.080.
- (b) A person with regard to a motion, petition or proceeding that does not affect an interest of that person.

(c) A creditor whose claim has not been accepted by the personal representative if the enforcement of the claim of the creditor is barred under the provisions of chapter 11 or 147 of NRS or any other applicable statute of limitation.

(Added to NRS by 1999, 2252; A 2007, 2395; 2011, 1435)

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 Also, according to NRS 137.010 (1), "the attorney general or any interested person, including a devisee under a former will, may contest the will by filing written grounds of opposition to the probate thereof at any time before the hearing of the petition for probate." Here, the Petitioner is an "interested person" and "a devisee under a former will".

By failing to argue the Petitioner's points and authority, the Respondent has conceded this point as an admission of error. See <u>Bates v. Chronister</u>, supra (treating the respondent's failure to respond to the appellant's argument as a confession of error); <u>A Minor v. Mineral Co. Juv. Dep't</u>, supra (determining that the answering brief was silent on the issue in question, resulting in a confession of error)

Additionally, the Petitioner has the right to challenge the validity of the trust pursuant to NRS 30.040 Questions of construction or validity of instruments, contracts and statutes:

1. Any person interested under a deed, written contract or other writings constituting a contract, or whose rights, status or other legal relations are affected by a statute, municipal ordinance, contract or franchise, may have determined any question of construction or validity arising under the instrument, statute, ordinance, contract or franchise and obtain a declaration of rights, status or other legal relations thereunder.

#### II. NRS CHAPTER 134 IS INAPPOSITE

The Respondent incorrectly asserts the Petitioner lacks standing because "Moreover, as a stepchild of the Decedent, Mr. Robben is not an intestate heir under NRS Chapter 134." See Opposition page3 line 26-27.

Webster's dictionary definition of intestate<sup>2</sup> is "having made no valid will". The Respondent's argument and reliance on NRS 134 is inapposite since there was is a will and trust called the Thomas J. Harris Trust, and a previous will/trust called the Thomas Joseph and Olga Harris Living Trust. The Petitioner is the son of Olga Harris and stepson of Thomas J. Harris.

Conversely, according to NOLO<sup>3</sup>, "Stepchildren inherit when both spouses die without a will. If you have children from a previous relationship and die without a will and then your spouse later dies without a will, your spouse's property goes to your children. Nev. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 134.210."

NRS 134.210 states "Vesting of estate if both spouses die intestate. Whenever one spouse dies intestate, leaving heirs, if the other spouse dies intestate after the first spouse, without heirs, leaving property, the estate of the second spouse to die vests in the heirs of the first spouse to die, subject to expenses of administration and payment of legal debts against the estate."

### III. PETITIONER IS ELIGIBLE FOR APPOINTMENT OF COUNSEL

The Respondent states only states the first part of NRS 136.200 in its opposition on page 4 line 16-18 "Appointment of attorney to represent minors,

https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/intestate

https://www.nolo.com/legal-encyclopedia/intestate-succession-nevada.html

unborn members of interested class". Conveniently, the Respondent fails to include the rest of the statute title which states "or *nonresidents*" and the statute itself states

NRS 136.200 (1): "If a will is offered for probate and it appears there are minors or unborn members of a class who are interested, or if it appears there are other interested persons who reside out of the county and are unrepresented, the court may, whether there is a contest or not, appoint an attorney for them."

This Petitioner argued that he was a nonresident of Douglas County Nevada and entitled to the appointment of counsel as a "statutory right" as stated by the Nevada Supreme Court "there is no statutory right to appointment of counsel for appellate review in this type of civil case as there is in criminal cases and other types of civil cases. ...NRS 136.200" Casper v. Huber, 456 P. 2d 436 – Nev: Supreme Court 1969. "being non-residents — Judge Waters appointed appellant Flangas as their counsel pursuant to NRS 136.200." Matter of Estate of Herrmann, 677 P. 2d 594 – Nev: Supreme Court 1984

### IV. EVIDENCE OF THE THOMAS JOSEPH AND OLGA HARRIS LIVING TRUST IS ADMISSIBLE

The Respondent claims the courts refusal to admit proof of the Thomas Joseph and Olga Harris Living Trust was correct despite failing to argue the overwhelming law presented by the Petitioner that demonstrates that the evidence and sworn testimony was admissible and not hearsay and/or was exempt from any hearsay limitations.

By failing to argue the Petitioner's points and authority, the Respondent has conceded this point as an admission of error. See <u>Bates v. Chronister</u>, supra (treating the respondent's failure to respond to the appellant's argument as a confession of error); <u>A Minor v. Mineral Co. Juv. Dep't</u>, supra (determining that the answering brief was silent on the issue in question, resulting in a confession of error)

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Relevant evidence generally admissible; irrelevant evidence inadmissible:

- 1. All relevant evidence is admissible, except:
- (a) As otherwise provided by this title;
- (b) As limited by the Constitution of the United States or of the State of Nevada; or
- (c) Where a statute limits the review of an administrative determination to the record made or evidence offered before that tribunal.
- 2. Evidence which is not relevant is not admissible.

On June 22, 2022 this Petitioner was denied by Judge Young the ability to email the evidence to Judicial Assistant – Kelly Wagstaff: <a href="mailto:kwagstaff@douglas.nv.gov">kwagstaff@douglas.nv.gov</a> or other court clerk, and/or share the screen for an in-camera display of the confidential evidence.

The relevant material evidence proffered by the Petitioner was not, and is not, "hearsay" as wrongfully stated by Judge Nathan Tod Young and supported by Nevada statute NRS §§ 51 and controlling case law.

NRS 51.035 "Hearsay" defined. "Hearsay" means a statement offered in evidence to prove the truth of the matter asserted unless:

 The statement is one made by a witness while testifying at the trial or hearing;

(a) Inconsistent with the declarant's testimony;

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- (b) Consistent with the declarant's testimony and offered to rebut an express or implied charge against the declarant of recent fabrication or improper influence or motive;
- (c) One of identification of a person made soon after perceiving the person; or
- (d) A transcript of testimony given under oath at a trial or hearing or before a grand jury; or
- 3. The statement is offered against a party and is:
- (a) The party's own statement, in either the party's individual or a representative capacity;
- (b) A statement of which the party has manifested adoption or belief in its truth;
- (c) A statement by a person authorized by the party to make a statement concerning the subject;
- (d) A statement by the party's agent or servant concerning a matter within the scope of the party's agency or employment, made before the termination of the relationship; or
- (e) A statement by a coconspirator of a party during the course and in furtherance of the conspiracy.

Even if the Petitioner is wrong, the evidence of the Thomas Joseph and Olga Harris Living Trust is exempt from Nevada hearsay law pursuant to the following statutes:

NRS 51.075 General exception; other exceptions illustrative.

1. A statement is not excluded by the hearsay rule if its nature and the special circumstances under which it was made offer assurances of

accuracy not likely to be enhanced by calling the declarant as a witness, even though the declarant is available.

NRS 51.105 Then existing mental, emotional or physical condition.

- 1. A statement of the declarant's then existing state of mind, emotion, sensation or physical condition, such as intent, plan, motive, design, mental feeling, pain and bodily health, is not inadmissible under the hearsay rule.
- 2. A statement of memory or belief to prove the fact remembered or believed is inadmissible under the hearsay rule unless it relates to the execution, revocation, identification or terms of declarant's will.

NRS51.135 Record of regularly conducted activity. A memorandum, report, record or compilation of data, in any form, of acts, events, conditions, opinions or diagnoses, made at or near the time by, or from information transmitted by, a person with knowledge, all in the course of a regularly conducted activity, as shown by the testimony or affidavit of the custodian or other qualified person, is not inadmissible under the hearsay rule unless the source of information or the method or circumstances of preparation indicate lack of trustworthiness.

NRS51.215 Records of documents affecting interest in property. The record of a document purporting to establish or affect an interest in property, as proof of the content of the original recorded document and its execution and delivery by each person by whom it purports to have been executed, is not inadmissible under the hearsay rule if the record is a record of a public office and an applicable statute authorized the recording of documents of that kind in that office.

NRS51.225 Statement in document affecting interest in property. A statement contained in a document purporting to establish or affect an interest in property is not inadmissible under the hearsay rule if the matter stated was relevant to the purpose of the document, unless dealings with the property since the document was made have been inconsistent with the truth of the statement or the purport of the document.

NRS51.235 Statements in ancient documents. Statements in a document more than 20 years old whose authenticity is established are not inadmissible under the hearsay rule.

NRS 51.315 General exception; other exceptions illustrative.

- 1. A statement is not excluded by the hearsay rule if:
- (a) Its nature and the special circumstances under which it was made offer strong assurances of accuracy; and
  - (b) The declarant is unavailable as a witness.

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 2. The provisions of NRS 51.325 to 51.355, inclusive, are illustrative and not restrictive of the exception provided by this section.

In this case, the Petitioner has a letter from Abigail G. Stephenson, Esq. dated March 6, 2020 from Blanchard, Krasner & French acknowledging the existence of the August 26, 1998 trust known as the Thomas Joseph and Olga Harris Living Trust. Please see EXHIBIT A.

Ms. Stephenson is a witness and a lawyer and officer of the court. As a declarant was unavailable as a witness pursuant to NRS 51.075 and NRS 51.315(1)(a)(b).

Any transactions and conversations with or actions the Petitioner or others had with Olga Harris is admissible. NRS 48.075 Transactions and conversations with or actions of deceased person. Evidence is not inadmissible solely because it is evidence of transactions or conversations with or the actions of a deceased person.

The Petitioner doesn't even need to prove the existence or contents of the former Thomas Joseph and Olga Harris Living Trust to render the current Thomas J. Harris Trust null & void based on a prima facie case of presumed undue influence based on the undisputed facts that Jeff D. Robben, the brother of the Petitioner, was 1: The caretaker of Thomas J. Harris; 2: The Financial advisor for Thomas J. Harris; 3: Helped create the current Thomas J. Harris trust; 4. Had "undue influence" and "presumed undue influence" of Thomas J. Harris; 5: Jeff D. Robben influenced Thomas J. Harris to disinherit based on the animus and vexation of Jeff D. Robben.

"A rebuttable presumption of undue influence is raised if the testator and the beneficiary shared a fiduciary relationship, but undue influence may also be proved without raising this presumption." In re Estate of Bethurem, 313 P. 3d 237, 241 (2013), at 329. "The essence of a fiduciary or confidential relationship is that the parties do not deal on equal terms, since the person in whom trust and confidence is reposed and who accepts that trust and confidence is in a superior position to exert unique influence over the dependent party." Hoopes v. Hammargren, 725 P. 2d 238, 242 (1986) quoting Barbara A. v. John G., 145 Cal.App.3d 369, 193 Cal.Rptr. 422, 432 (1983). "Once raised, a beneficiary may rebut such a presumption by clear and convincing evidence." Betherum, at 241.

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If it turns out the Thomas Joseph and Olga Harris Living Trust is lost or destroyed, the Petitioner can produce two witnesses, Todd C. Robben and Stephen J. Robben to attest to the existence and contents of the Thomas Joseph and Olga Harris Living Trust. A third witness may include Abigail G. Stephenson, Esq. since the Thomas Joseph and Olga Harris Living Trust was addressed by Abigail G. Stephenson, Esq. dated March 6, 2020 from Blanchard, Krasner & French acknowledging the existence of the August 26, 1998 trust known as the Thomas Joseph and Olga Harris Living Trust. Please see EXHIBIT A

Further research will determine if a copy of the Thomas Joseph and Olga Harris Living Trust exists. If not, Petitioner can produce two witnesses, Todd C. Robben and Stephen J. Robben to attest to the existence and contents of the Thomas Joseph and Olga Harris Living Trust pursuant to [1] NRS 136.240(3) which provides: No will shall be allowed to be proved as a lost or destroyed will unless the same shall be proved to have been in existence at the death of the person whose will it is claimed to be, or be shown to have been fraudulently destroyed in the lifetime of such person, nor unless its provisions shall be clearly and distinctly proved by at least two credible witnesses.

Todd C. Robben and Stephen J. Robben could have attested under oath that Olga Harris, the mother of Petitioner Todd C. Robben spoke of the will/trust several times, including Petitioner's wedding day. The beneficiaries included Thomas J. Harris's son Todd Harris, note Thomas A. Harris was *not* a beneficiary and disinherited; Olga Harris's sons Jeff D. Robben and Todd C. Robben. Each was to receive one third.

If the court decides otherwise, the case goes to probate with only two remaining blood hairs, Thomas. A. Harris and Petitioner, Todd C. Robben.

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This Petitioner has stated and will state again in simple terms that he desires a situation either by settlement, or court order, to remedy the matter to include the Petitioner into to trust with a reasonable percentage and to include a full accounting of any and all assets, money, expenses, etc. A complete transparent paper trail of the money trail. Where are the contents of the missing safe deposit box addressed as "Exhibit "A" to Declaration of Trust by Thomas J. Harris". See EXHIBIT B.

- 1. Safe Deposit Box: All of Trustor's right, title and interest in and to all contents in the safe deposit box located at Wells Fargo Bank in Carson City, NV, branch office, including but not limited to cash, bonds, stock, securities, and tangible property therein.
- 2. Bank Accounts: All cash, bonds, stock, securities and other property held with Wells Fargo Bank, including but not limited to account ####1233.
- 3. All Other Personal Property: All of Trustor's right, title, and interest suject to all liabilities attached thereto in all automobiles, boats, airplanes, vehicles, trailers, silverware, chinaware, wine, books, pictures, paintings, works of art, household furniture and furnishings, clothing, jewelry, pets, assets in digital form for which Trustor is the owner or author, including without limitation, lists of passwords, user account information, social media sites, blogs, e-books, and other Web-hoster materials, all digital albums and videos, websites on which Trustor conducts business transactions, and all other personal property (together with any insurance on such property) now owned or acquired later during Trustor's lifetime.

It is undisputed that the house in Minden, Nevada on Pebble Beach Court was transferred into the name of Jeff D. Robben and/or Jeff D. Robben Trust or sub trust. Said house of Thomas J. Harris was worth approximately \$450,000.00 dollars and the money should be put back into the Thomas J. Harris Trust to be distributed to the beneficiaries. There are questions as to another home on April Drive in South Lake Tahoe worth approximately \$1,500,000.00 dollars that should have been in the Thomas J. Harris trust.

This Petitioner believes the estate and trust value of the Thomas J. Harris Trust is grossly undervalued because of the fraud and theft that has occurred to transfer assets into other accounts to defraud the Thomas J. Harris beneficiaries of millions of dollars when just the two homes are added back in addition to the missing contents on the safe deposit box. Furthermore, Petitioner must see all insurance (death and life insurance payouts), Pension and 401K information in addition to at least the least twenty years of IRS and state tax returns

#### V. A STAY IS WARRANTED AND PROPER

This Petitioner has made a *prima facie* case on all fronts including the facts, and as a matter of law, the Petitioner is an interested person in this matter. The Respondent has also conceded to the points and authorities raised by the Petitioner.

The Petitioner has, without counsel, provided the complete legal roadmap of facts, evidence and law that show he is entitled to relief including the *prima facie* case of presumed undue influence of Jeff D. Robben over Thomas J. Harris to disinherit the Petitioner Todd C. Robben. A stay will preserve the money and assets to pay the Petitioner and any legal costs and attorney fees.

The undisputed undue influence also forced Thomas J. Harris into transferring his \$450K home on Pebble Beach Court in Minden, NV to Jeff D. Robben.

The stay creates a bond for the Respondent if the court appoints counsel, the money can be deducted from the expected recovery of the Petitioner by adding attorney fees on top of any recovery.

The Petitioner is indigent and unable to produce a bond.

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#### CONCLUSION

Reconsideration is appropriate in this rear case because of the overwhelming new facts, admissible evidence, law, controlling case law and the fact the Respondent has conceded to the merits of the instant Motion to Reconsider, and everything else presented and argued by the Petitioner.

The Petitioner filed written and noticed motions to the court prior to both the May 24<sup>th</sup> 2022 hearing and the June 21, 2022 hearing. The Respondent was served and no complaints, objections or issue was ever brought up by the Respondent or the court as to service/notice... The Respondent never filed a written opposition to the Petitioner filings/motions. From the beginning, the Responded has conceded to the Petitioner's motions and points of authority.

By failing to argue the Petitioner's points and authority, the Respondent has conceded this point as an admission of error. See <u>Bates v. Chronister</u>, supra (treating the respondent's failure to respond to the appellant's argument as a confession of error); <u>A Minor v. Mineral Co. Juv. Dep't</u>, supra (determining that the answering brief was silent on the issue in question, resulting in a confession of error)

"[t]he failure of the opposing party to file a memorandum of points and authorities in opposition to any motion shall constitute a consent to the granting of the motion." <u>Ghazali v. Moran</u>, 46 F. 3d 52 - Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit 1995

The Petitioner has, without counsel, provided the complete legal roadmap of facts, evidence and law that show he is entitled to relief including the *prima facie* case

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of presumed undue influence of Jeff D. Robben over Thomas J. Harris to disinherit the Petitioner Todd C. Robben. The Respondent has conceded and cannot overcome this presumption of undue influence and has conceded. The issue is decided and Responded is precluded to any further argument by *res judicata*. The Thomas J. Harris Trust is null & void.

This Petitioner has stated he prefers to settle this matter with the Respondent's pursuant in part to NRS 132.185<sup>4</sup> with the Respondents instead of rendering the Thomas J. Harris Trust null & void and disenfranchise the beneficiaries or cause any beneficiaries to lose money.

The Petitioner's demand for a full accounting and transparency of the Thomas J. Harris Trust and Jeff D. Robben and any related trusts will prove the undue influence of Jeff D. Robben caused money and assets to be transferred/stolen from the Thomas J. Harris trust. Said money and assets must be put back into the Thomas J. Harris trust or a trust/account to be determined. The value of the Thomas J. Harris trust would increase and cover any money paid to this Petitioner. Possibly all beneficiaries will receive additional money even with the Petitioner receiving at least what Thomas A. Harris (the son of Thomas J. Harris) received.

This court can appoint counsel to help remedy this ungodly situation and keep everyone calm since this is a very, very contentious case which involves multiple trusts including both the Thomas J. Harris Trust, and the Thomas J. and Olga Harris Living Trust ... It also includes any trust, estate or will related to Jeff D. Robben since there was fraud and theft. There is potentially millions of dollars of money and assets

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> "Interested person means a person whose right or interest under an estate or trust may be materially affected by a decision of a fiduciary or a decision of the court. The fiduciary or court shall determine who is an interested person according to the particular purposes of, and matter involved in, a proceeding."

that are missing. Interestingly, the Respondents' do not even deny the criminal allegations in this Petitioner's verified motions.

Despite this instant case being filed in relation to the Thomas J. Harris "estate" rather than "trust", this court has jurisdiction<sup>5</sup> to make orders and provide declaratory relief in both matters. For the record, this Petitioner was never provided any legal notice of the Thomas J. Harris trust or any related probate. The same for Jeff D. Robben and the Petitioner only learned of the death of his brother Jeff D. Robben in May 2022 despite Jeff passing away in November 2020.

Respectfully,

/s/ Todd Robben

07/02/2022

<sup>5</sup> Nevada Constitution Article 6, Section 6.

#### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, Stephen James Robben, declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the following is true and correct copy of the filed document. That on July 02, 2022, service of the document was made pursuant to NRCP 5(b) by depositing a email to: F. McClure Wallace, counsel for Respondent, mcclure@wallacemillsap.com

DATED this 02 day of July, 2022

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Submitted By: /s/ Stephen James Robben

#### IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF THOMAS JOSEPH HARRIS, DECEASED.

TODD ROBBEN,

Appellant,

vs. TARA FLANAGAN, IN HER CAPACITY AS THE COURT APPOINTED PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE,

Respondent.

No. 84948

FILED

JUL 0 8 2022

ELIZABETH A. BROWN
CLERK OF SUPREME COURT
BY DEPUTY CLERK

#### ORDER DISMISSING APPEAL

This is a pro se appeal from a district court order entered in a probate matter. Ninth Judicial District Court, Douglas County; Nathan Tod Young, Judge.

Review of the notice of appeal and documents before this court reveals a jurisdictional defect. NRAP 3A(a) allows only an aggrieved party to appeal. Generally, a party is a person who has been named as a party to the lawsuit and who has been served with process or appeared. Valley Bank of Nev. v. Ginsburg, 110 Nev. 440, 447, 874 P.2d 729, 734 (1994). It does not appear that appellant was named as a party in the proceedings below. And while any "interested person" may participate in probate actions, an "interested person" is defined as someone "whose right or interest under an estate or trust may be materially affected by a decision of a fiduciary or a decision of the court. The fiduciary or court shall determine who is an interested person according to the particular purposes of, and matter involved in, a proceeding." NRS 132.185; see also NRS 132.390.

SUPREME COURT OF NEVADA

(O) 1947A

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Here, the district court determined that appellant was not an interested person in the underlying matter under NRS 132.185 and thus lacked standing to object to the probate petition or otherwise appear in the proceedings. Under these circumstances, it appears appellant lacks standing to appeal under NRAP 3A(a). Accordingly, this court lacks jurisdiction and

ORDERS this appeal DISMISSED.

Gilver

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Pickering

cc: Hon. Nathan Tod Young, District Judge

Todd Robben

Wallace & Millsap LLC Douglas County Clerk

SUPREME COURT OF NEVADA



#### Case No. 2021-PB-00034 1

JUL 13 2022 Douglas Courtey District Court Clark

Dept. No. I

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2022 JUL 13 AM 10: 59

BUBBIE IL WICLIAMS

IN THE NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS

8 In Re: 9

The Estate of

ORDER

THOMAS JOSEPH HARRIS,

Deceased.

THIS MATTER comes before the court upon the following filings: "Emergency Stay Request[;] Emergency Verified Motion to Reconsider; Request for Calcification; Notice of Non Hearsay Proof of The Thomas Joseph and Olga Harris Living Trust" filed on June 22, 2022; Supplemental Points and Authorities filed on June 23, 2022; "Motion to Expedite Stay Request Pending Reconsideration[;] Request for Submission" filed on June 24, 2022; an opposition filed on July 1, 2022; and "Petitioner's Reply in Support of Emergency Stay Request & Emergency Verified Motion to Reconsider; Request for Clarification; Notice of Non Hearsay Proof of The Thomas Joseph and Olga Harris Living Trust" filed on July 5, 2022.

Having examined all relevant pleadings and papers on file herein, the court now enters the following order, good cause appearing:

THAT the requests set forth above are DENIED.

An "Order Granting Petition to Confirm First and Final Accounting, Request for

HON, NATHAN TOD YOUNG JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDGE DOUGLAS COUNTY P.O. BOX 218 MINDEN, NV 89423

Final Distribution, and Request for Payment of Professional's Fees and Costs" was entered in writing on June 22, 2022. A Notice of Appeal was filed on June 27, 2022, by Todd Robben, with a Case Appeal Statement filed on June 28, 2022. An Order Dismissing Appeal issued on July 8, 2022, by the Supreme Court of the State of Nevada.

Separate from the appeal, Todd Robben requests this court reconsider the ruling set forth within the Order dated June 22, 2022. "A district court may reconsider a previously decided issue if substantially different evidence is subsequently introduced or the decision is clearly erroneous." *Masonry and Tile Contractors Ass'n of S. Nev. v. Jolley, Urga & Wirth, Ltd.*, 113 Nev. 737, 741, 941 P.2d 486, 489 (1997). Reviewing the filings entered after the written order issued on June 22, 2022, the court does not find substantially different evidence subsequently introduced or that the court's decision is clearly erroneous. Therefore, the motion to reconsider is denied.

Tod Robben also requests this court's order dated June 22<sup>nd</sup> be stayed. The Supreme Court of the State of Nevada considers the following factors in deciding whether to issue a stay:

- (1) whether the object of the appeal will be defeated if the stay is denied;
- (2) whether appellant will suffer irreparable or serious injury if the stay is denied;
- (3) whether respondent will suffer irreparable or serious injury if the stay is granted; and
- (4) whether appellant is likely to prevail on the merits in the appeal.

Mikohn Gaming Corp. v. McCrea, 120 Nev. 248, 251, 89 P.3d 36, 38 (2004) (citing NRAP 8(c)); see also Fritz Hansen A/S, Petitioner v. Eighth Jud. Dist. Ct., 116 Nev. 650, 657, 6 P.3d 982, 986 (2000). "We have not indicated that any one factor carries more weight than the others, although Fritz Hansen A/S v District Court recognizes that if one or two factors are especially strong, they may counterbalance other weak factors." Mikohn

HON. NATHAN TOD YOUNG
9<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDGE
DOUGLAS COUNTY
P.O. BOX 218
MINDEN, NV 89423

Gaming Corp., 120 Nev. at 251, 89 P.3d at 38. 1 Considering the appeal has now been dismissed, it does not appear likely that 2 appellant is to prevail on the merits given that the object of the appeal has already been 3 4 defeated. The court finds this to be an especially strong factor. Balancing the relevant 5 considerations, the court finds insufficient reason to grant the requested stay. 6 IT IS SO ORDERED. 7 Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of July, 2022. 8 NATHAN TOD YOUNG 9 District Judge 10 11 Copies served by mail this 13 day of July, 2022, to: 12 Wallace & Millsap 13 510 W. Plumb Lane, Suite A Reno, NV 89509 14 15 Todd Robben P.O. Box 4251 16 Sonora, CA 95370 17 18 Department I Judicial Executive Assistant 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

HON. NATHAN TOD YOUNG

9<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDGE DOUGLAS COUNTY P.O. BOX 218 MINDEN, NV 89423

## 510 W Plumb Ln., Reno, Nevada / (775) 683-9599 Wallace & Millsap

#### RECEIVED

JUL 15 2022

Douglas County

FILED

2022 JUL 15 PM 3: 00

BOBBIE R. WILLIAMS CLERK

C. WALKER

IN THE NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS

IN RE:

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DEPT NO.: I

THE ESTATE OF THOMAS JOSEPH HARRIS,

CASE NO.: 2021 PB00034

Deceased.

#### NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on July 13, 2022, this Court entered an Order, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

#### **AFFIRMATION**

The undersigned affirms this document does not contain the social security number or legally private information of any person.

DATED this 14th day of July 2022.

WALLACE & MILLSAP

F. McClure Wallace, Esq. State Bar No.: 10264 Patrick R. Millsap, Esq. Nevada Bar No.: 12043

510 W. Plumb Lane, Suite A

Reno, Nevada 89509 Ph: (775) 683-9599

mcclure@wallacemillsap.com patrick@wallacemillsap.com

Attorneys for Executor, Tara M. Flanagan

# Wallace $\neq$ Willage 510 W Plumb Ln., Reno, Nevada / (775) 683-9599

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Pursuant to NRCP 5(b)(2)(B), I hereby certify that I am an employee of WALLACE & MILLSAP counsel for Tara M. Flanagan, Executor of the Estate of Thomas Joseph Harris and that I caused to be served the foregoing document upon the following:

Todd Robben P.O. Box 4251 Sonora, CA 95370

Dated this 14th day of July 2022.

Caroline Carter

#### LIST OF EXHIBITS

Exhibit 1 - Order

### Exhibit 1

## Exhibit 1

## RECEIVED Case No. 2021-PB-00034 Dept. No. I In Re: The Estate of

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#### JUL 13 2022 FILED

ORDER

Douglas County District Court Clark

2022 JUL 13 AM 10: 59

BOBBIE R. WILLIAMS CLERK

C. WALKER \_\_DEPUTY

IN THE NINTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS

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HON. NATHAN TOD YOUNG

9<sup>th</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT JUDGE DOUGLAS COUNTY P.O. BOX 218 MINDEN, NY 89423