# IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN THE MATTER OF: D.O.T. LITIGATION

CLARK NATURAL MEDICINAL SOLUTIONS LLC; NYE NATURAL MEDICINAL SOLUTIONS LLC; CLARK NMSD, LLC; INYO FINE CANNABIS DISPENSARY LLC; AND RURAL REMEDIES, LLC,

Appellants/Cross-Respondents,

v.

CLEAR RIVER LLC

Respondent,

Supreme Court Case No. 86771 iled

District Court Case No. 10,2023,09:42 AM
Elizabeth A. Brown
Clerk of Supreme Court

# APPELLANTS' APPENDIX VOLUME 2

CRAIG D. SLATER (SBN 8667) LUH & ASSOCIATES 8987 W. Flamingo Road, Suite 100 Las Vegas, Nevada 89147 702-367-8899 cslater@luhlaw.com COUNSEL FOR APPELLANTS

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#### MOC BLACK & WADHAMS

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Brigid M. Higgins, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 5990 Rusty J. Graf, Esq.

Nevada Bar No. 6322

10777 West Twain Avenue, 3rd Floor

Las Vegas, Nevada 89135 Telephone: (702) 869-8801 Facsímile: (702) 869-2669

E-mail: bhiggins@blackwadhams.law E-mail: rgraf@blackwadhams.law Attorneys for Clear River, LLC

In Re: DOT LITIGATION

#### DISTRICT COURT

#### CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Case No. A-19-787004-B

Consolidated with: A-19-786962-B

A-19-787540-W A-19-787035-C A-18-785818-W A-18-786357-W A-19-787726-C A-19-801416-B

Dept. No. XI

#### CLEAR RIVER, LLC'S MEMORANDUM OF COSTS

Pursuant to NRS 18.005 and 18.110, Defendant/Intervenor, CLEAR RIVER, LLC, by and through their counsel BRIGID M. HIGGINS, ESQ., and RUSTY GRAF, ESQ., of the law firm of BLACK & WADHAMS, hereby moved this court to recover costs of suit: as to ALL PLAINTIFFS/PETITIONERS. These costs were actually incurred and are of a reasonable amount. The following is a listing of those costs and disbursements incurred and paid!:

<sup>1</sup> See Appendix filed separately for exhibits and Declaration of counsel.

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## **Expense Type: Photocopies**

Date	Description	no.	Billable (\$)
5/6/2019	Copies	37	\$11.10
5/7/2019	Copies	71	\$21.30
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5/15/2019	Copies	123	\$36.90
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5/17/2019	Copies	152	\$45.60
5/20/2019	Copies	32	\$9.60
5/21/2019	Copies	148	\$44.40
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9/3/2019	Copies	.5	\$1.50
9/6/2019	Copies	17	\$5.10
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9/13/2019	Copies	9	\$2.70
9/17/2019	Copies	4	\$1.20
9/18/2019	Copies	29	\$8.70

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9/19/2019	Copies	9	\$2.70
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1/20/2020	Copies	16	\$4.80

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5/5/2020	Copies	136	\$40.80

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5/7/2020	Copies	30	\$9.00
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8/26/2020	Copies	74	\$22.20

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8/27/2020	Copies	18	\$5.40
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11/24/2020	Copies	28	\$8.40
11/25/2020	Copies	15	\$4.50

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		TOTAL:	\$10,588.80
11/15/2021	Copies	3552	\$1065.60

Expense Type: Court Filing Fees<sup>2</sup>

Date	Description	Billable (\$)
5/7/2019	Court Filing Fee	\$3.50
5/9/2019	(2) Court Filing Fees	\$7.00
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5/15/2019	Court Filing Fee	\$3.50
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12/12/2019	Court Filing Fee	\$3.50
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3/27/2020	Court Filing Fee	\$3.50
3/30/2020	Court Filing Fee	\$3.50
4/1/2020	Court Filing Fee	\$3.50

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See exhibit

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4/9/2020	Court Filing Fee	\$3.50
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7/18/2022	Odyssey Court Filing Fee	\$3.50

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7/18/2022	Odyssey Court Filing Fee Envelope #10269131	\$3.50
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## Expense Type: Westlaw Research Fees

Date	Description	Billable (\$)
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7/2/2019	WestLaw - Online Research, Document Displays (JRG)	\$86.8
7/3/2019	WestLaw - Online Research, Document Displays (JRG)	\$26.54
7/11/2019	WestLaw - Online Research, Document Displays (JRG)	\$26.54
7/12/2019	WestLaw - Online Research, Document Displays (JRG)	\$33.73
7/14/2019	WestLaw - Online Research, Document Displays (JRG)	\$288.8
7/17/2019	WestLaw - Online Research, Document Displays (JRG)	\$58.0
7/17/2019	WestLaw - Online Research, Document Displays (JRG)	\$238.41
8/14/2019	WestLaw - Online Research, Keycite, Document Displays (JRG)	\$115.98
8/15/2019	WestLaw - Online Research, Keycite, Document Displays (JRG)	\$46.0
8/20/2019	WestLaw - Online Research, Keycite, Document Displays (JRG)	\$10.59
8/28/2019	WestLaw - Online Research, Keycite, Document Displays (JRG)	\$52.78
8/13/2019	WestLaw - Online Research, Keycite, Document Displays (SMW)	\$46.0
8/15/2019	WestLaw - Online Research, Keycite, Document Displays (SMW)	\$14.00
8/28/2019	WestLaw - Online Research, Keycite, Document Displays	
8/14/2019	WestLaw - Online Research, Keycite, Document Displays (SMW)	\$3.4
10/21/2019	WestLaw - Online Research - Multi-Search Keycites (JRG)	\$3.48
10/21/2019	WestLaw - Online Research - Multi-Search Document	
10/21/2019	WestLaw - Online Research - Multi-Search Document Displays (JRG)	\$57.69
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10/21/2019	WestLaw - Online Research - Multi-Search Transactional Searches (JRG)	\$17.54
10/21/2019	WestLaw - Online Research - Multi-Search Document Displays (JRG)	\$13.94

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10/21/2019	WestLaw - Online Research - Multi-Search Document Displays (JRG)	\$6.97
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10/21/2019	Searches (JRG)	\$26.32
	WestLaw - Online Research - Multi-Search Transactional	
10/21/2019	Searches (JRG)	\$17.54
2717171	WestLaw - Online Research - Multi-Search Document	J. S. S. S.
10/21/2019	Displays (JRG)	\$13.94
a State	WestLaw - Online Research - Multi-Search Document	
10/21/2019	Displays (JRG)	\$3.48
	WestLaw - Online Research - Multi-Search Document	30.00
10/8/2019	Displays (JRG)	\$49.03
Marking St. 183	WestLaw - Online Research - Multi-Search Document	2100
10/11/2019	Displays (MXL)	\$49.03
	WestLaw - Online Research - Multi-Search Document	1000
10/11/2019	Displays (MXL)	\$87.37
o ane on unit	WestLaw - Online Research - Multi-Search Document	446.40
10/21/2019	Displays (MXL)	\$24.51
VALUE AS DE SA	WestLaw - Online Research - Multi-Search Document	****
10/22/2019	Displays (MXL)	\$112.00
a to de la Carlo de la Car	WestLaw - Online Research - Multi-Search Document	017106
10/28/2019	Displays (MXL)	\$174.86
0.000	WestLaw - Online Research - Multi-Search Document	000.05
10/31/2019	Displays (SMW)	\$69.95
. 10 10 00 0	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document	640.00
1/8/2020	Displays, Transactional Searches (SMW)	\$40.00
	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document	\$252.00
3/11/2020	Displays (APD)	\$252.00
2/12/2022	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document	¢200 00
3/13/2020	Displays (APD)	\$288.00
2/22/2222	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document	\$12.00
3/23/2020	Displays (APD)	\$12.00
2/11/2020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document	\$216.00
3/11/2020	Displays (BMH) Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document	\$210.00
2/10/2020		\$96.00
3/19/2020	Displays (BMH) Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document	\$20.00
3/25/2020		\$252.00
3/23/2020	Displays (MXL) Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document	\$252.00
2/26/2020		\$60.00
3/26/2020	Displays (MXL) Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document	Φ00.00
3/27/2020	Displays (MXL)	\$24.00
314112020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document	Ψ2π.00
3/16/2020	Displays (JRG)	\$36.00

3/17/2020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document Displays (JRG)	\$36.00
3/19/2020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document Displays (JRG)	\$168.00
3/26/2020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document Displays (JRG)	\$24.00
3/30/2020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document Displays (JRG)	\$96.00
4/16/2020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document Display (APD)	\$80.00
4/8/2020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document Display (JRG)	\$50.00
4/13/2020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document Display (JRG)	\$80.00
4/14/2020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document Display (JRG)	\$20.00
4/16/2020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document Display (JRG)	\$70.00
4/17/2020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document Display (JRG)	\$130.00
4/24/2020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document Display (JRG)	\$40.00
4/29/2020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document Display (JRG)	\$100.00
4/30/2020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document Display (JRG)	\$100.00
5/29/2020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document Display (BMH)	\$90.00
6/22/2020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document Display (APD)	\$10.00
6/23/2020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document Display (APD)	\$20.00
6/11/2020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document Display (JRG)	\$60.00
6/24/2020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document Display (JRG)	\$110.00
6/25/2020	Westlaw: Online Research, Multi-Search Document Display (JRG)	\$80.00
7/2/2020	Westlaw Online Research	\$30.00
7/18/2020	Westlaw Online Research	\$60.00
7/20/2020	Westlaw Online Research	\$220.00
7/27/2020	Westlaw Online Research	\$230.00
7/28/2020	Westlaw Online Research	\$230.00
8/6/2020	Westlaw Online Research	\$10.00
8/6/2020	Westlaw Online Research	\$160.00
8/8/2020	Westlaw Online Research	\$40.00

	TOTAL:	\$6,291.37
12/31/2021	Westlaw Online Research	\$71.92
8/21/2020	Westlaw Online Research	\$70.00
8/14/2020	Westlaw Online Research	\$280.00

## **Expense Type: Parking Costs**

DATE	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
5/31/2019	Shannon M. Wilson: Douglas Parking LV10	\$28
6/5/2019	Brigid M. Higgins: Parking Fees for Hearings	\$151
6/11/2019	Shannon M. Wilson: Expense Reimbursement - Parking	\$24
6/17/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking Expense 5/24/19	\$30
6/17/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking Expense 5/30/19	\$30
6/17/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking Expense 5/31/19	\$30
6/17/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking Expense 6/10/19	\$30
6/17/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking Expense 6/14/19 1 of 3	\$10
6/17/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking Expense 2 of 3	\$30
6/17/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking Expense 6/14/19 3 of 3	\$26
6/18/2019	Shannon M. Wilson: Douglas Parking Reimbursement	\$21
6/18/2019	Shannon M. Wilson: Lewis St Garage Reimbursement	\$24
6/20/2019	Shannon M. Wilson: 2019.06.19 Parking Charges - Lewis St Garage	\$24
7/5/2019	Brigid M. Higgins: May 24, 2019 - Hrg - Parking	\$23
6/18/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking Expense 6/18/19	\$30
6/19/2019	Rusty Graf Parking 6/19/2019	\$30
6/20/2019	Rusty Graf Parking 6/20/2019	\$30
6/25/2019	Rusty Graf Parking 6/25/2019	\$30
7/1/2019	Rusty Graf Parking 7/1/19	\$30
7/2/2019	Rusty Graf Parking 7/2/19	\$30
7/23/2019	Brigid Higgins, Esq.: Parking for Preliminary Injunction Hearings and Cont'd Hearings	\$217
7/15/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking 7/15/19	\$30
7/17/2019	Rusty Graf Parking 7/17/2019	\$22
8/8/2019	Rusty Graf Parking 8/8/2019	\$14
8/14/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking 2019.08.12	\$18
8/22/2019	Brigid Higgins, Esq.: Parking Fees for Attending Preliminary Injunction Hearing	\$63
8/26/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking:7/24/19	\$3
7/24/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking: 7/24/19	\$30

	TOTAL:	\$1,555.00
7/28/2020	Payable To: Other (Not Listed): Rusty Graf, for Parking for Clear River Hearing	\$14
7/10/2020	City of Las Vegas: Parking (JRG)	\$25
3/19/2020	Payable To: Brigid Higgins, for Parking for Hearings - 02- 28-20 and 03-13-20	\$34
2/12/2020	Payable To: Rusty Graf, for Parking - 1/13/20 Parking - 1/27/20	\$36
1/14/2020	Brigid Higgins : Parking for Hearings	\$15
12/4/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking 10/15/19 \$10.00 Parking 11/12/19 \$26.00 Parking 11/18/19 \$18.00	\$54
11/15/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking 10/29/19	\$14
11/15/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking - 10/28, 10/30 and 11/5	\$38
10/24/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking on 9/27, 9/30 and 10/18/19	\$34
8/19/2019	Brigid M. Higgins: Parking Fees for Hearings	\$51
8/30/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking 2019.08.29	\$20
8/30/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking 2019.08.26	\$10
9/10/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking 2019.09.09	\$14
8/19/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking: 8/19/2019	\$18
8/16/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking: 8/16/2019	\$30
8/15/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking: 8/15/2019	\$30
8/14/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking: 8/14/2019	\$30
8/13/2019	Rusty Graf: Parking: 8/13/2019	\$30

#### Expense Type: Runner Services and Document Delivery

Date	Description	Billable (\$)
5/7/2019	RUNNER SERVICE: Leave for Signature: Order Granting Clear River, LLC Motion to Intervene; Location: District Court; eFile	\$25
5/8/2019	RUNNER SERVICE: Courtesy Copy: Answer to Complaint; Location: District Court	\$20
5/10/2019	RUNNER SERVICE: Drop-off/Hand Deliver: Order Shortening Time on Motion for Protective Order and To Quash Subpoena; Location: District Court; eFile	\$40
5/16/2019	RUNNER SERVICE: Courtesy Copy: Notice of Entry of Order of Defendant/Intervenor, Clear River, LLC's Order Shortening Time On Motion for Protective Order and to Quash Subpoena; Location: District Court	\$20

5/30/2019	RUNNER SERVICE: Courtesy Copy: Clear River, LLC's Joinder to Nevada Organic Remedies, LLC's Opposition to Plaintiffs' Motion to Compel; Location: District Court	\$20
6/18/2019	RUNNER SERVICE: Courtesy Copy: Joinder to Helping Hands Wellness Center Inc.'s Motion for Summary Judgment; Location: District Court;	\$20
6/20/2019	RUNNER SERVICE: Courtesy Copy: Clear River, LLC - Motion for Summary Judgment; Location: District Court;	\$20
6/24/2019	RUNNER SERVICE: Courtesy Copy: Clear River, LLC's Opposition to Plaintiffs' Motion to Release Cash Bond; Location: District Court;	\$20
6/25/2019	RUNNER SERVICE: Courtesy Copy: Clear River, LLC's Joinder To Defendant-Intervenor Lone Mountain Partners, LLC's Pocket Brief Regarding Interpretation of Statutes Enacted by Ballot Initiative; Location: District Court; eFile	\$25
7/22/2019	RUNNER SERVICE: Courtesy Copy: Clear River, LLC's Opposition to Plaintiffs' Renewed Motion to Release Cash Bond; Location: District Court;	\$20
7/22/2019	RUNNER SERVICE: Courtesy Copy: Clear River, LLC's Motion for Summary Judgment, Joinders, and Opposition; Location: District Court;	\$20
7/22/2019	RUNNER SERVICE: Courtesy Copy: Clear River, LLC's Notice of Compliance; Location: District Court;	\$25
7/23/2019	RUNNER SERVICE: Courtesy Copy: Clear River, LLC's Notice of Compliance; Location: District Court;	\$20
7/26/2019	RUNNER SERVICE: Drop-off/Hand Deliver: Cash \$119.46 for Hearing Transcript for Summary Judgment and Motion to Seal; Location: District Court;	\$20
7/30/2019	RUNNER SERVICE: Courtesy Copy: NOH, Clear River, LLC's Answer to Plaintiffs' Corrected First Amd Complaint; Location: District Court;	\$25
8/8/2019	RUNNER SERVICE: Expedited/Special; Drop-off/Hand Deliver; District Court; Invoice Payment; Efile	\$35
10/29/2019	RUNNER SERVICE: Other: Efile after signed by Judge: Defendant/Intervenor, Clear River, LLC's, Order Denying Its Motion for Partial Summary Judgment on the Petition for Judicial Review Cause of Action; Location: District Court; eFile	\$25
11/6/2019	RUNNER SERVICE: Pick-up: CLEAR RIVER, LLC'S, ORDER DENYING ITS MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT ON THE PETITON FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW CAUSE OF ACTION; Location: District Court; eFile	\$25
11/14/2019	RUNNER SERVICE: Expedited/Special; Drop-off/Hand Deliver; Other; EFILE: No; Check No. 1876 for \$180.00	\$35

2/13/2020	RUNNER SERVICE: Courtesy Copy: Clear River's Joinder to Essence' Motion to Dismiss; Location: District Court; eFile	\$25
distinct.	TOTAL:	\$485.00

#### **Expense Type: Transcripts**

DATE	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
6/11/2019	Florence Hoyt: Court Transcriber Fees, Check No. 1791	\$4000.00
6/17/2019	Florence Hoyt: Balance of Dailies	\$2954.12
7/24/2019	Florence M. Hoyt: Hearing Transcript on Motions for Summary Judgment and Motion to Seal	\$119.46
10/30/2019	Order No. 13-002577/Transcript of Hearing 10/29/19	\$270.45
	TOTAL:	\$7,344.03

#### Expense Type: Postage

DATE	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
9/13/2019	Postage to NV Dept of Taxation/Steve Gilbert (certified)	8.35
9/13/2019	Postage to City of Henderson Finance Dept/Jim McIntosh (certified)	6.95
9/25/2019	Postage to Advanced Resolution Management	0.55
10/29/2019	Postage to Jury to Verdict Trial Services	0.55
5/11/2020	FedEx to Dan Kutinac, JEA, Dept. XI	18.53
5/28/2020	Postage to Dominic Gentile, Esq.	0.55
7/15/2020	Postage to Litig Services	0.55
	TOTAL:	\$36.03

## Expense Type: Jury to Verdict Trial Services

DATE	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
6/6/2019	Jury to Verdict Trial Services: Transcripts, Invoice No. 2019-2059, Check No. 1786	\$950.00
7/8/2019	Jury to Verdict Trial Services: (Split of \$6,000 by six firms), Check No. 1843	\$1000.00
7/25/2019	Jury to Verdict Trial Services: Six-way split (\$4,650.00) Check No. 1843	\$775.00

8/28/2019	Jury to Verdict Trial Services: Invoice No. 2019-2066 Closing - \$2925.00 split 6 ways, \$487.50	\$487.50
	TOTAL:	\$3,212.50

#### **Expense Type: Advance Resolution Management**

DATE	DESCRIPTION	TOTAL
8/22/2019	Advanced Resolution Management: Clear River's share Re: MM Development Co. Check No. 1847	\$1809.00
10/5/2010	Advanced Resolution Management: Invoice #4616	\$1464.28
10/5/2019	Mediation, 09/18/2019 & 09/19/2019 Advanced Resolution Management: Invoice #4649	\$1404.28
10/10/2019	Mediation: 10/11/2019	\$1339.28
	TOTAL:	\$4,612.56

Clear River should be awarded a grand total of \$37,194.47 in taxable costs and disbursements, as well as prejudgment interest on said costs and disbursements in the amount of \$30,727.59 pursuant to NRS 17.130.

Dated this 8th day of August 2022

BLACK & WADHAMS

HIGGINS, ESQ. BRIGID M

Nevada Bar No. 5990

RUSTY GRAF, ESQ. Neyada Bar No. 6322

10777 W. Twain Ave., Suite 300

Las Vegas. NV 89135

BLACK & WADHAMS

Las Vegas, Nevada 89135 (702) 869-8801 FAX: (702) 869-2669

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to Administrative Order 14-2, MEMORANDUM OF COSTS AND

DISBURSEMENTS was electronically filed on the 8th day of August, 2022 and served through the Notice of Electronic Filing automatically generated by the Court's facilities and system to those parties listed on the Court's Master Service List.

Isl Allison Schmidt

An Employee of Black & Wadhams

Electronically file 3 8/11/2022 2:56 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

#### **HOLLEY DRIGGS, LTD.**

JAMES W. PUZEY, ESQ.

NV Bar No. 5745

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jpuzey@nevadafirm.com

800 South Meadows Pkwy., Suite 800

Reno, Nevada 89521

Telephone: 775/851-8700 Facsimile: 775/851-7681

Attorney for High Sierra Holistics, LLC

## EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

#### CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

In Re: D.O.T. Litigation:	CASE NO.: A-19-787004-B Consolidated with:  A-785818-W A-786357-W A-786962-B A-787035-C A-787540-W A-787726-C A-801416-B

DEPT. NO.: XXXI

#### MOTION TO RETAX AND SETTLE COSTS

COMES NOW, HIGH SIERRA HOLISTICS, LLC ("HSH"), by and through its attorney of record, James W. Puzey, Esq. of Holley Driggs, Ltd., and out of an abundance of caution, hereby moves this court to retax and settle the costs set forth in CPCM Holdings, LLC d/b/a Thrive Cannabis Marketplace, Cheyenne Medical, LLC and Commerce Park Medical, LLC ("Thrive")'s Verified Memorandum of Costs filed August 8, 2022 (the "Memorandum"). This Motion is made pursuant to NRS 18.110, and is supported by the following Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the pleadings and papers on file herein, and any arguments by counsel on the hearing on this matter.

Dated this 11<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022.

#### **HOLLEY DRIGGS, LTD.**

/s/ James W. Puzey JAMES W. PUZEY, ESQ. 800 South Meadows Parkway, #800 Reno, Nevada 89521

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#### **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

#### I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

Thrive cannot recover the costs claimed in the Memorandum against HSH. Thrive cannot recover costs because it never appeared in Case No. A-19-787726-C involving HSH, is neither a prevailing party in this action against the HSH nor does Thrive have a statutory right to recover its costs. Even if the Memorandum is considered, none of the claimed costs were reasonably, necessarily, and actually incurred as to the HSH's petition for judicial review. As a result, HSH requests that this Court award no costs to Thrive.

Finally, none of the claimed costs are appropriately partitioned amongst the numerous Plaintiffs.

#### II. RELEVANT FACTUAL BACKGROUND

#### A. The Proceedings and Settlement

Case No. A-19-787726-C was commenced on January 16, 2019. Thrive never intervened or otherwise appeared in the action. The primary and substantive causes of action were asserted against only the Nevada Department of Taxation (the "Department"). Namely, the causes of action for violation of substantive due process, violation of procedural due process, violation of equal protection, and petition for writ of mandamus were asserted exclusively against the Department.

Nearly one year later, prior to the trial in this matter, Case No. A-19-787726-C was consolidated with Case No. A-19-787004-B on December 6, 2019. Also prior to the trial, the Court determined that (i) the Department acted beyond the scope of its authority by replacing the requirement for a background check on each prospective owner with the 5 percent or greater standard in NAC 453D.255(1)<sup>1</sup> and (ii) that appeals were to be heard arising from the denial of licensure in the September 2018 retail licensure application competition.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Order Regarding Plaintiff Nevada Wellness Center, LLC's Motion for Summary Judgment on First Claim for Relief ("Order Granting Summary Judgment"), at 6:4-8, dated Aug. 15, 2020, on file herein.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part MM Development Company, Inc. and LivFree Wellness, LLC's Motion for Summary Judgment or for Writ of Mandamus ("FFCL re Summary Judgment"), at 3:10-14, dated July 11, 2020, on file

The trial in these proceedings began on July 13, 2020. Importantly, the proceedings were conducted in a series of three phases where only certain claims would be examined and determined in each phase. The First Phase addressed only the petition for judicial review (the "First Phase Claim"), the Second Phase addressed the equal protection, due process, declaratory relief, and permanent injunction claims (the "Second Phase Claims"), and the Third Phase would address writ of mandamus claims (the "Third Phase Claim").<sup>3</sup>

During the Second Phase of the proceedings, HSH settled with the State of Nevada,

Department of Taxation. See attached hereto by reference as **Exhibit 1**, a copy of said Settlement

Agreement. The Second Phase concluded with a decision issued by the Court on September 3,

2020.<sup>4</sup> Therein, the Court granted declaratory relief.<sup>5</sup>

Before beginning the next phase (i.e., the First Phase), the Court limited the evidence and record that could be considered for that phase to only the administrative record pursuant to the requirements of NRS 233B.135(1)(b).<sup>6</sup> More specifically, the Court determined that evidence related to a claim for judicial review is to be restricted to the administrative record because it contains all relevant evidence that resulted in the Department's analysis of the plaintiffs' applications.<sup>7</sup> The Court proceeded with and completed the First Phase thereafter.

#### **B.** The Memorandum of Costs

On August 8, 2022, Thrive filed their Memorandum, approximately twenty-one (21) days after the Second Phase Judgment was entered and eight (8) days after the First Phase Judgment was entered.<sup>8</sup> In the Memorandum, Thrive impermissibly claims a total of \$155,829.31 in costs. That is comprised of: Arbitrators/Mediators \$4,153.00, Color Copies/Prints \$5,283.85, Copies/Prints \$8,623.65, Court Fees \$5,028.95, Delivery Services/Courier (Special) \$2,012.70,

<sup>(</sup>continued)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Amended Trial Protocol No. 2, dated July 2, 2020, on file herein. The Second Phase preceded the First Phase.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Permanent Inj., at 6 n.8, Sept. 3, 2020 (the "Second Phase Judgment"). As noted therein, the Court recognized that HSH had reached a settlement with the Department prior to the issuance of the Second Phase Judgment. Id. <sup>5</sup> Id. at 29:3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Permanent Inj., at 11:4-9, Sept. 16, 2020 (the "First Phase Judgment").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See First Phase Judgment and Second Phase Judgment, respectively.

Delivery Services/Courier (Standard) \$260.00, Deposition/Court Transcripts \$117,601.97, Experts \$235.00, Litigation Support Vendors \$7,035.57, Local Travel/Parking \$830.00, Meals \$144.50, Pacer \$52.20, Postage \$16.74, Private Investigators \$705.00, Subpoena/Process Fee 3 \$860.00, Westlaw \$2,932.00, and Witness Fee \$54.18. 9 4

#### III. LEGAL STANDARD AND ARGUMENT

#### Α. Legal Standard

Even though trial courts have discretion to determine allowable costs, the Nevada Supreme Court requires that "statutes permitting the recovery of costs are to be strictly construed because they are in derogation of the common law." Bobby Berosini, Ltd. v. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, 114 Nev. 1348, 1352, 971 P.2d 383, 385 (1998); Gibellini v. Klindt, 110 Nev. 1201, 1205, 885 P.2d 540, 543 (1994). The trial court's discretion should also "be sparingly exercised when considering whether or not to allow expenses not specifically allowed by statute and precedent." Bergmann v. Boyce, 109 Nev. 670, 679, 856 P.2d 560, 566 (1993). Notwithstanding the court's discretion, the party seeking costs "must provide sufficient support for the court to conclude that each taxed cost was reasonable, necessary, and actually incurred." Village Builders 96 L.P. v. U.S. Laboratories, Inc., 121 Nev. 261, 277-78, 112 P.3d 1082, 1093 (2005).

In addition, the plain language of a statute governs the manner in which it is applied according to the language's ordinary meaning. A.F. Const. Co. v. Virgin River Casino Corp., 118 Nev. 699, 703, 56 P.3d 887, 890 (2002); Arguello v. Sunset Station, Inc., 127 Nev. 365, 370, 252 P.3d 206, 209 (2011); Waste Mgmt. of Nevada, Inc. v. W. Taylor St., LLC, 135 Nev. 168, 170, 443 P.3d 1115, 1117 (2019).

#### В. Thrive Cannot Recover the Claimed Costs.

1. Thrive is Neither a Prevailing Party nor Statutorily Permitted to Recover its Costs.

Thrive cannot recover against HSH because it is not a prevailing party in this matter. NRS Chapter 18 plainly states that costs are allowed only "to the prevailing party against any

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> See Mem. of Costs of Thrive, Aug. 8, 2022.

adverse party against whom judgment is rendered," and only to "the party *in whose favor judgment is rendered*." See NRS 18.020, 18. 110(1). Indeed, the Nevada Supreme Court persistently holds that a party cannot be considered a prevailing party where the matter does not proceed to judgment. *Northern Nevada Homes, LLC v. GL Construction, Inc.*, 134 Nev. 498, 500, 422 P 3d 1234, 1237 (2018); *Works v. Kuhn*, 103 Nev. 65, 68, 732 P.2d 1373, 1376 (1987).

HSH' First Phase Claims and Second Phase Claims were not litigated, they were settled. Consequently, the Second Phase Claims did not proceed to judgment in favor of Thrive, and there is no court order declaring any party as the prevailing party as to those claims. Further, pursuant to NRS 18.020, Thrive does not fall within any of the identified categories to recover its costs. See NRS 18.020. Indeed, with no judgment against HSH for either the Second Phase Claims or the First Phase Claim, Thrive cannot recover its claimed costs.

#### C. The Claimed Costs are not Reasonable and Necessary

Additionally, even though HSH had settled its action prior to the commencement of Phase I, nonetheless, Thrive cannot recover any of the claimed costs because they were not reasonably, necessarily, and actually incurred as part of the First Phase Claim. Following the mandate of NRS 233B.135(1)(b), the Court restricted the record and evidence for the First Phase to include only the administrative record. This necessarily excluded from the record all court filings, Westlaw legal research, photocopies, deposition and transcripts, documents delivered by runner, witness testimony, trial exhibits, trial transcripts, and any trial administrative services; which comprise all of Thrive's claimed costs. Indeed, the record consisted of only the plaintiffs' applications and related information that was before the Department when it evaluated the applicants and awarded the licenses.

Because the record for the First Phase Claim was restricted and did not include any of the evidence related to Thrive's claimed costs, the claimed costs were not reasonably, necessarily, and actually incurred as to the First Phase Claim. As costs that were not reasonable, necessary, and actually incurred for the First Phase Claim, they cannot be recovered in connection with the First Phase Judgment.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See First Phase Judgment, at 11:4-9.

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Moreover, even if the Court were to consider any of these claimed costs, Thrive includes requests for unnecessary, unreasonable and excessive costs. Assuming HSH as a settling party is responsible for any costs, Thrive's Memorandum of Cost and Disbursements does not identify which of the costs pertain to HSH. HSH was not the only Plaintiff in the consolidated action upon which Thrive relies in filing its Memorandum. Thrive sent no written discovery to HSH, took no depositions of anyone from HSH, took no witness testimony from HSH, sent no correspondence to HSH, engaged in no phone calls with HSH, nothing. Just as unapportioned joint offers of judgment are invalid for purposes of determining prevailing party eligibility for recovery of attorney's fees and costs against a party rejecting the offer under NRCP 68 (See *Parodi v. Budetti*, 115 Nev. 236, 984 P.2d 172 (1999)), unapportioned Memorandum of Costs should be invalid as there is no way for an opponent of the Memorandum to ascertain which costs are the result of litigation against which party. For that reason, under NRS 18.050, the Court has discretion in allowing costs and should not permit any of these to be attributed to HSH.

# D. Thrive's Memorandum of Costs does not fall within the parameters of NRS 18.020.

If Thrive's Memo of Costs is filed in connection with the *Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Permanent Injunction* e-filed and e-served on September 16, 2020 (9-16-2020 FFCL&PI") which denied the Petition of Judicial Review, then the Memo of Costs should be denied because the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI's denial of the Petition for Judicial Review is not one of the types of cases in which costs would be allowed to a prevailing party, pursuant to NRS 18.020, which provides:

NRS 18.020 Cases in which costs allowed prevailing party. Costs must be allowed of course to the prevailing party against any adverse party against whom judgment is rendered, in the following cases:

- 1. In an action for the recovery of real property or a possessory right thereto.
- 2. In an action to recover the possession of personal property, where the value of the property amounts to more than \$2,500. The value must be determined by the jury, court or master by whom the action is tried.
- 3. In an action for the recovery of money or damages, where the plaintiff seeks to recover more than \$2,500.
- 4. In a special proceeding, except a special proceeding conducted pursuant to NRS 306.040.
- 5. In an action which involves the title or boundaries of real estate, or the legality of any tax, impost, assessment, toll or municipal fine, including the costs

accrued in the action if originally commenced in a Justice Court. [1911 CPA § 435; RL § 5377; NCL § 8924] — (NRS A 1969, 435; 1977, 774; 1979, 65, 1725; 1981, 470; 1985, 1503, 1622; 1995, 2793)

In addition to the fact that HSH settled its action against the State of Nevada Department of Taxation before the First Phase of the Trial began, a Petition for Judicial Review, which is the subject of the First Phase of Trial, is not within any of the five (5) category of cases listed at NRS 18.020 and, therefore, the same does not provide authority for Thrive to seek an award of costs.

In Nevada, costs of suit are only recoverable if they are authorized by statute or court rule. Sun Realty v. Eighth Judicial Dist. Court In and For Clark County, 91 Nev. 774, 776, 542 P.2d 1072, 1074 (1975). As noted above, NRS 18.020 allows the prevailing party to receive its costs in the following five actions: (1) an action for the recovery of real property or a possessory right thereto; (2) an action to recover the possession of personal property valued more than \$2,500; (3) an action to recover money or damages of more than \$2,500; (4) a special proceeding; and (5) an action involving title or boundaries of real estate, the legality of any tax, assessment, toll, or municipal fine. Obviously, a petition for judicial review is not one of the five actions noted in NRS 18.020.

If the Legislature intended that costs be awarded for petitions for judicial review, the Legislature would have so expressly stated. Smith v. Crown Financial Services of America, 111 Nev. 277, 286, 890 P.2d 769, 775 (1995). Not only does the plain language of NRS 18.020 not reference petition for judicial review, but the legislature did not include more expansive phrases in the wording of the statute such as "including but not limited to" or "in other actions where the Court deems appropriate. Thus, the plain language of NRS 18.020 limits recovery of costs to only the five cases specified, and the Court must follow the plain language of the statute. See Harris Associates v. Clark County Sch. Dist., 119 Nev. 638, 641-42, 81 P.3d 532, 534 (2003). It is significant that the Legislature did not include petitions for judicial review in the types of cases for which a party may recover its costs. The Legislature is presumed to have knowledge of existing statutes related to the same subject, i.e., NRS Chapter 233B. See City of Boulder v.

General Sales Drivers, 101 Nev. 117, 119, 694 P.2d 498 (1985); Ronnow v. City of Las Vegas, 57 Nev. 332, 366, 65 P.2d 133 (1937).

Chapter 233B of the NRS does not classify a petition for judicial review as a special proceeding. NRS 233B.130 provides that judicial review in a district court is available to any party who is aggrieved by a final decision from an administrative proceeding in a contested case. An aggrieved party seeking review of a district court's decision on a petition for judicial review may appeal which "shall be taken as in other civil cases." NRS 233B.150. NRS Chapter 233B lacks any indication a petition for judicial review is a special proceeding. Rather, it indicates it is a "civil case."

NRS 233B.131 is the only section of Chapter 233B which addresses costs in that it allows a court to assess additional costs against a party unreasonably refusing to limit the record to be transmitted to the reviewing court in for a petition for judicial review. NRS Chapter 233B contains no other mention of assessing costs against a party in a petition for judicial review and it doesn't mention or make reference to NRS Chapter 18.

NRS 18.020, which was enacted in 1911, has been amended six times since then, with the most recent amendment occurring in 1995 where it added to subsection 4 the following language "except a special proceeding conducted pursuant to NRS 306.040." 1995 Stat. of Nev., at 2794. By amending NRS 18.020 multiple times and not including petitions for judicial review as one of the type of cases for which costs may be awarded, the Court may presume that the Legislature intended only to include those types of cases specified in NRS 18.020. See Williams v. Clark County Dist. Attorney, 118 Nev. 473, 487-88, 50 P.3d 536, 545 (2002) (Rose, J., concurring and dissenting in part) ("[W]e have often said that the legislature is presumed to know what it is doing and purposefully uses the specific language [it chooses].").

Therefore, the Memo of Costs should be denied because petitions for judicial review are not special proceedings for purposes of NRS 18.020.

#### E. Thrive was never a party to the HSH case

Thrive never intervened into Case No. A-19-787726-C nor have they made any appearance in the HSH case.

The Nevada Supreme Court has determined that consolidation does not merge two suits into a single cause or change the rights of the parties or make one party a party in a separate suit. See *Mikulich v. Carner*, 68 Nev. 161, 169, 228 P.2d 257, 260 (1951) citing *Johnson v. Manhattan R. Co.*, 289 U.S. 479, 535, Ct. 721, 77 L. Ed. 1331, 1345.

In *Mukulich v. Carner*, 68 Nev. 161, 170, 228 P.2d 257, 261 (1951), the Nevada Supreme Court relied on federal cases, which have consistently construed FRCP 42(a) consolidation orders providing for the combined trial of two or more cases as "not having the effect of merging the several causes into a single cause." In such a case, the trial court simply enters two separate judgments. *Mukulich*, 68 Nev. At 169, 228 P.2d at 261.

Even after consolidation, the actions retain their separate identities, and the parties and pleadings in one action do not automatically become parties and pleadings in the other action. *Mikulich*, 68 Nev. At 170, 228 P.2d at 261.

Thrive was granted intervention into Case No. A-19-787004-B by Court Order on April 22, 2019.

Over 7 ½ months later, the Order Granting Joint Motion to Consolidate was entered. Thrive never intervened or made an appearance in Case No. A-19-787726-C either before or after consolidation. Thrive never appeared via Answer or other pleadings either before or after consolidation.

F. Thrive is prevented from seeking costs from HSH by paragraph 14 of its settlement with LivFree Wellness, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company ("LivFree"), MM Development Company, Inc., a Nevada corporation, ("MM"); ETW Management Group LLC, Global Harmony LLC, Just Quality, LLC, Libra Wellness Center, LLC, Rombough Real Estate, Inc., and Zion Gardens LLC, (collectively the "ETW Plaintiffs"); Nevada Wellness Center, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company ("NWC"); Qualcan, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, ("Qualcan").

Thrive and the State of Nevada Department of Taxation settled its action with certain Plaintiffs.

Section 14 of that Settlement Agreement provides:

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"14. If any Settling Party settles any other matter related to the Lawsuit (each, a "Future Settlement"), every other Settling Party shall be included as released parties in such Future Settlement on the same release terms and conditions as set forth herein; provided, however, that any Settling Party receiving such release shall bear its own costs and attorneys' fees with respect thereto as provided in this Agreement."

HSH settled its action with the State of Nevada Department of Taxation shortly thereafter. Therefore Thrive is subject to the "Future Settlement" provision of their earlier agreement. As such, since the State of Nevada Department of Taxation settled a "Future Settlement", Thrive is a released party "in such Future Settlement on the same release terms and conditions as set forth herein".

Paragraph C of the Recitals provides:

"C. The parties want to compromise and settle the Disputes in the Lawsuit by dismissing the claims in the Lawsuit by and between the Settling Parties, each Settling Party to bear its own costs and attorneys' fees, and to exchange mutual releases as provided in this Agreement."

As such, Thrive would be in violation of its settlement agreement if it was awarded any costs against HSH, as HSH is part of a "future settlement" and therefore each party is to bear its own costs and attorneys' fees.

#### IV. **CONCLUSION**

Based on the foregoing, HSH respectfully request that this Court grant this Motion to Retax and Settle Costs in its entirety and award Thrive no costs.

#### **AFFIRMATION**

Pursuant to NRS 239B.030, the undersigned does hereby affirm that the preceding document does not contain the social security number of any person.

Dated this 11<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022.

#### HOLLEY DRIGGS, LTD.

/s/ James W. Puzev

JAMES W. PUZEY, ESQ. 800 South Meadows Parkway, #800

Reno, Nevada 89521

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 11th day of August, 2022, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing MOTION TO RETAX AND SETTLE COSTS through the Court's electronic filing system pursuant to Administrative Order 14-2 to all parties currently receiving service in this matter on the electronic service list.

/s/ Kelsey Fusco

An Employee of Holley Driggs, Ltd.

# EXHIBIT 1

# EXHIBIT 1

#### SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Settlement Agreement is entered into as of August\_, 2020 (the "Effective Date") (this "Agreement"), among High Sierra Holistics, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company ("HSH") ("Settling Plaintiff"), the State of Nevada, Department of Taxation ("DOT") and TRNVP098, LLC a Nevada limited liability company ("TRNVP098") (collectively "Settling Defendants") or individually, a "Settling Defendant").

#### <u>RECITALS</u>

- A. HSH, TRNVP098 and the DOT (collectively the "Settling Parties" and individually, a "Settling Party") are all parties to a consolidated lawsuit pending in the District Court, Clark County, Nevada, as Case No. A-19-787004-B (the "Lawsuit").
- B. Within the Lawsuit there are claims and counterclaims relating to the disputes at issue in the Lawsuit (the "Disputes").
- C. The parties want to compromise and settle the Disputes in the Lawsuit by dismissing the claims in the Lawsuit by and between the Settling Parties, each Settling Party to bear its own costs and attorneys' fees, and to exchange mutual releases as provided in this Agreement.

NOW THEREFORE the Settling Parties agree:

#### DESCRIPTION OF TRANSFER AND ISSUANCES OF LICENSE

- 1. The Settling Defendant hereby assigns (subject to DOT and/or Cannabis Compliance Board ("CCB") approval) all rights, interest and title in the Nevada retail marijuana dispensary conditional license (the "Conditionally Approved License") to HSH contingent on the execution of a Purchase Agreement and as set forth below provided that each of the conditions set forth in this Agreement, including those set forth in Paragraphs 4-6 hereof, shall first be fulfilled:
  - > TRNVP098 hereby assigns 1 Lyon County conditional license to HSH.
- 2. The license described in this Agreement must be in good standing.
- 3. The license transfer pursuant to this Agreement cannot create a monopoly, as prohibited in NRS 678B.230 and NRS 678B.270.

#### TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP APPLICATIONS

- 4. As a condition and term of this settlement, the CCB agrees to make a good faith effort to expedite and process HSH's transfer of ownership application described in paragraphs 1 and 6 in this Agreement.
- 5. As a condition and term of the settlement, DOT agrees to take all necessary steps to attempt to have all other non-settling parties waive their costs and fees against the settling parties.

#### TIMING OF TRANSFERS

As a condition and term of this settlement, after the conditions precedent in Paragraphs 4-5 are met, the CCB agrees to make a good faith effort to expedite any Transfer of Interest request for the transfer of the license from TRNVP098 to HSH as set forth in Paragraph 1 above. The CCB agrees that it will make a good faith effort to expedite and process the Transfer of Interest request after submission thereof. For purposes of approving the transfers, HSH was previously and is currently approved by the DOT as an owner and operator of marijuana cultivation and distribution licenses in the state of Nevada. In compliance with Nevada law, HSH has operated pursuant to those licenses without any suspensions or revocations of those licenses. Any delays in approvals of the Transfer of Interest request due to no fault of transferor shall not be deemed a breach of this Agreement.

#### RELEASES AND DISMISSALS

- 7. As a condition and term of this settlement, within two business days after the conditions precedent in Paragraphs 4-6 are met, the parties will execute mutual releases in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, with each party to bear its own costs and attorneys' fees.
- 8. As a condition and term of this settlement, within two business days after the conditions precedent in Paragraphs 4-6 are met, HSH shall move to dismiss any and all claims in the cases listed below (the "Dismissed Claims"):
  - a. High Sierra Holistics, LLC v. State of Nevada, Department of Taxation, Case No.
     A-19-787726-C currently pending in the Eighth Judicial District Court of the State
     of Nevada, In and For the County of Clark;
  - b. High Sierra Holistics, LLC v. State of Nevada, Department of Taxation, Case No. 19-CV-00073 currently pending in the Third Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada, In and For the County of Lyon; removed to United States District Court for the District of Nevada; Case No. 3:19-CV-00271-MMD-CLB; consolidated into Case No. 3:19-CV-00270-LRH-CLB;
  - c. High Sierra Holistics, LLC v. State of Nevada, Department of Taxation, Case No. CV19-000142 currently pending in the Second Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada, In and For the County of Washoe; removed to United States District Court for the District of Nevada; Case No. 3:19-CV-00270-LRH-CLB

HSH will dismiss the Dismissed Claims with prejudice against DOT, as applicable, and without costs or fees to or from any such Settling Party.

9. HSH agrees to relinquish any and all administrative appeals to DOT and CCB which they may have or have arising out of the September 2018 retail marijuana store competition.

# CONTINUED PARTICIPATION BY SETTLING PLAINTIFFS

10. If any Settling Party settles any other matter related to the Lawsuit (each, a "Future Settlement"), every other Settling Party shall be included as released parties in such Future Settlement on the same release terms and conditions as set forth herein; provided, however, that any Settling Party receiving such release shall bear its own costs and attorneys' fees with respect thereto as provided in this Agreement.

# ADDITIONAL TERMS RELATING TO LICENSES AND TRANSFERS

- 11. This Settlement Agreement shall only be valid if the current litigation pending in Case No. A-19-787004-B is settled in its totality and/or the litigation results in TRNVP098 retaining the conditional license granted to it in Lyon County. Should it be determined that TRNVP098 is not entitled to retain the conditional license granted to it in Lyon County, then this Settlement Agreement shall be declared null and void and all monies and other items shall be returned to the party from which they originated.
- DOT and/or CCB agrees that the parties to this Agreement shall receive a fourteen (I4)-month extension of the current deadline of December 5, 2020 to February 5, 2022, for conditional licensees to obtain final inspections and approval from DOT and/or CCB on the conditional license received and that comparable extensions shall be extended to other parties that settle claims in this Lawsuit with the DOT and/or CCB. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for any jurisdiction that currently has a moratorium on new adult-use cannabis establishments (including but not limited to the Counties of Humboldt, Pershing, White Pine, Storey and Lander), DOT and/or CCB agrees to extend the deadline to obtain final inspections and approval from DOT and/or CCB on any and all conditional licenses owned by TRNVP098 in such jurisdiction for a period of fourteen (14) months after the date any moratorium is lifted in such jurisdiction.
- 13. DOT and/or CCB further agrees to make a good faith effort to perform final inspections on an expedited time period within 5 business days of the request for inspection for the new locations of the Settling Parties.

#### REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES

- 14. In the event that the DOT is no longer responsible for performing any of the conditions and/or requirements in this Agreement, then the entity that is responsible for performing such duties (e.g., the CCB or any related entity) shall be subject to the conditions and requirements provided in this Agreement. The State of Nevada, DOT represents and warrants that it has authority to sign this Agreement and bind the CCB.
- 15. TRNVP098 represents and warrants that it has full and complete control to assign the conditional license it was awarded and TRNVP098 shall indemnify, defend and hold HSH harmless from any and all costs, damages, fees (including attorneys' fees) or liability claimed by any entity claiming an ownership interest in the TRNVP098 conditional Lyon County license being transferred. TRNVP098 is not responsible for securing any ownership transfer approvals

#### 8/18/2020

from the DOT or CCB for the Lyon County license TRNVP098 transfers hereunder. HSH will be responsible for all costs associated with the ownership transfer applications with the state and any local jurisdiction. Nothing contained herein shall limit, waive, or revoke the DOT's or CCB's rights, powers, or duties under Nevada Administrative Code 453D.312.

- 16. Each of the Settling Parties hereto represent and warrant that they have had an adequate opportunity to seek and receive legal advice and counsel from an attorney of their choice regarding the content and effect of this Agreement, have actually received such counsel and advice as they deem prudent to receive in these circumstances, have read this Agreement in its entirety, understand all provisions of this Agreement and their import and effect, and enter into and execute this Agreement freely and voluntarily.
- 17. Each of the Settling Parties warrant and represent there are no other agreements made between any Settling Plaintiffs and any Settling Defendants involving conditions related to the transfer of any conditional licenses or related to any marijuana consumption lounges in the State of Nevada.

#### **OTHER TERMS**

- 18. <u>Purpose of Compromise and Settlement</u>. The parties have each entered into this Agreement solely for the purpose of settling and compromising the Disputes and the Lawsuit and nothing contained in this Agreement or its performance shall be deemed to be an admission or acknowledgment of: liability, the existence of damages or the amount of any damages relating to the Disputes or the Lawsuit.
- 19. Non-Participating Party Procedure: The Settling Parties agree to cooperate to obtain final resolution of Lawsuit ("Global Settlement") consistent with this Agreement.
- 20. <u>Cooperation & Non-Interference</u>. The parties agree that they will not use or refer to the Lawsuit as part of any interactions with or lobbying efforts to any governmental agency to prevent any other party from obtaining local government approval and/or from obtaining an approval at final inspection for the licenses retained by any party or assigned to any party, including but limited to a party seeking an extension or trying to secure additional time to obtain and SUP from a local jurisdiction.

#### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- 21. No Wrongdoing. The Partles acknowledge that this Agreement is entered into solely for the purpose of compromising disputed claims and avoiding the time and expense of litigation. It is expressly understood and agreed that this Agreement represents the settlement of disputed claims and nothing contained in this Agreement shall constitute or be treated as an admission of any wrongdoing or liability on the part of any Party hereto.
- 22. <u>Enforcement</u>. In the event of the breach of this Agreement by any party, the remedies of the non-breaching parties shall be limited to enforcement of this Agreement for breach of this Agreement.

23. <u>Mediation</u>. If the event of a dispute among the Parties concerning this agreement, the Parties agree they shall attempt to resolve such dispute through mediation with a mediator agreed upon by the Parties).

This Agreement to mediate all disputes applies even if some person or entity claims that this Agreement is void, voidable or unenforceable for any reason.

- 24. <u>Binding Effect</u>. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties and their respective heirs, successors and assigns contingent upon the execution of a final Purchase Agreement between HSH and TRNVP098. With this Agreement requiring approval of the Nevada Tax Commission, the binding effect of this Agreement specifically includes the CCB as successor to the DOT in its capacity as regulator of the marijuana program in the State of Nevada. Except as specifically provided in prior paragraphs of this Agreement, this Agreement is not intended to create, and shall not create, any rights in any person who is not a party to this Agreement.
- 25. Entire Agreement. This Agreement contains the entire agreement between the parties and may not be changed or terminated orally but only by a written instrument executed by the parties after the date of this Agreement.
- 26. <u>Construction</u>. The terms and conditions of this Agreement shall be construed as a whole according to its fair meaning and not strictly for or against any party. The parties acknowledge that each of them has reviewed this Agreement and has had the opportunity to have it reviewed by their attorneys and that any rule or construction to the effect that ambiguities are to be resolved against the drafting party shall not apply in the interpretation of this Agreement, including its exhibits or any amendments.
- 27. Partial Invalidity. Except with respect to Paragraph 5, if any term of this Agreement or the application of any term of this Agreement should be held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void or unenforceable, all provisions, covenants and conditions of this Agreement, and all of its applications, not held invalid, void or unenforceable, shall continue in full force and effect and shall not be affected, impaired or invalidated in any way.
- 28. Attorneys' Fees. In any action or proceeding to enforce the terms of this Agreement or to redress any violation of this Agreement, the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover as damages its attorneys' fees and costs incurred, including but not limited to mediation fees, whether or not the action is reduced to judgment. For the purposes of this provision, the "prevailing party" shall be that party who has been successful with regard to the main issue, even if that party did not prevail on all the issues.
- 29. Governing Law and Forum. The laws of the State of Nevada applicable to contracts made or to be wholly performed there (without giving effect to choice of law or conflict of law principles) shall govern the validity, construction, performance and effect of this Agreement. Any lawsuit to interpret or enforce the terms of this Agreement shall be brought in a court of competent jurisdiction in Lyon County, Nevada. The Parties acknowledge the matters involved in the Lawsuit and this Agreement may involve conduct and concepts in violation of Federal law regardless of

compliance with applicable State law. The Parties expressly waive the defense of illegality under the Federal Controlled Substances Act.

- 30. <u>Necessary Action</u>. Each of the Settling Parties shall do any act or thing and execute any or all documents or instruments necessary or proper to effectuate the provisions and intent of this Agreement.
- 31. <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which when duly executed and delivered shall be an original, but all such counterparts shall constitute one and the same agreement. Any signature page of this Agreement may be detached from any counterpart without impairing the legal effect of any signatures, and may be attached to another counterpart, identical in form, but having attached to it one or more additional signature pages. This Agreement may be executed by signatures provided by electronic facsimile transmission (also known as "Fax" copies), or by electronic signature, which signatures shall be as binding and effective as original signatures.
- 32. <u>Notices</u>. Any and all notices and demands by or from any party required or desired to be given under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be validly given or made if served either personally or if deposited in the United States mail, certified or registered, postage prepaid, return receipt requested. If such notice or demand is served by registered or certified mail in the manner provided, service shall be conclusively deemed given upon receipt or attempted delivery, whichever is sooner.
- 33. <u>Miscellaneous</u>. The headers or captions appearing at the commencement of the paragraph of this Agreement are descriptive only and for convenience in reference to this Agreement and shall not define, limit or describe the scope or intent of this Agreement, nor in any way affect this Agreement.

Masculine or feminine pronouns shall be substituted for the neuter form and vice versa and the plural shall be substituted for the singular form and vice versa in any place or places in this Agreement in which the context requires such substitution or substitutions, and references to "or" are used in the inclusive sense of "and/or".

[Signatures on following pages]

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

HIGH SIERRA HOLISTICS, LLC	TRNVP098, LLC
By:	Ву:
Print Name: Russell Edust	Print Name: Shane Terry
Title: MANAGING PACTINES	Title:_Managing Member
STATE OF NEVADA, DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION	
Ву:	
Print Name:	
Title:	

### SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Settlement Agreement is entered into as of August\_, 2020 (the "Effective Date") (this "Agreement"), among High Sierra Holistics, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company ("HSH") ("Settling Plaintiff"), the State of Nevada, Department of Taxation ("DOT") and TRNVP098, LLC a Nevada limited liability company ("TRNVP098") (collectively "Settling Defendants") or individually, a "Settling Defendant").

### RECITALS

- A. HSH, TRNVP098 and the DOT (collectively the "Settling Parties" and individually, a "Settling Party") are all parties to a consolidated lawsuit pending in the District Court, Clark County, Nevada, as Case No. A-19-787004-B (the "Lawsuit").
- B. Within the Lawsuit there are claims and counterclaims relating to the disputes at issue In the Lawsuit (the "Disputes").
- C. The parties want to compromise and settle the Disputes in the Lawsuit by dismissing the claims in the Lawsuit by and between the Settling Parties, each Settling Party to bear its own costs and attorneys' fees, and to exchange mutual releases as provided in this Agreement.

NOW THEREFORE the Settling Parties agree:

### DESCRIPTION OF TRANSFER AND ISSUANCES OF LICENSE

- 1. The Settling Defendant hereby assigns (subject to DOT and/or Cannabis Compliance Board ("CCB") approval) all rights, interest and title in the Nevada retail marijuana dispensary conditional license (the "Conditionally Approved License") to HSH contingent on the execution of a Purchase Agreement and as set forth below provided that each of the conditions set forth in this Agreement, including those set forth in Paragraphs 4-6 hereof, shall first be fulfilled:
  - > TRNVP098 hereby assigns 1 Lyon County conditional license to HSH.
- 2. The license described in this Agreement must be in good standing.
- 3. The license transfer pursuant to this Agreement cannot create a monopoly, as prohibited in NRS 678B.230 and NRS 678B.270.

### TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP APPLICATIONS

- 4. As a condition and term of this settlement, the CCB agrees to make a good faith effort to expedite and process HSH's transfer of ownership application described in paragraphs 1 and 6 in this Agreement.
- 5. As a condition and term of the settlement, DOT agrees to take all necessary steps to attempt to have all other non-settling parties waive their costs and fees against the settling parties.

### TIMING OF TRANSFERS

6. As a condition and term of this settlement, after the conditions precedent in Paragraphs 4-5 are met, the CCB agrees to make a good faith effort to expedite any Transfer of Interest request for the transfer of the license from TRNVP098 to HSH as set forth in Paragraph 1 above. The CCB agrees that it will make a good faith effort to expedite and process the Transfer of Interest request after submission thereof. For purposes of approving the transfers, HSH was previously and is currently approved by the DOT as an owner and operator of marijuana cultivation and distribution licenses in the state of Nevada. In compliance with Nevada law, HSH has operated pursuant to those licenses without any suspensions or revocations of those licenses. Any delays in approvals of the Transfer of Interest request due to no fault of transferor shall not be deemed a breach of this Agreement.

### RELEASES AND DISMISSALS

- 7. As a condition and term of this settlement, within two business days after the conditions precedent in Paragraphs 4-6 are met, the parties will execute mutual releases in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, with each party to bear its own costs and attorneys' fees.
- 8. As a condition and term of this settlement, within two business days after the conditions precedent in Paragraphs 4-6 are met, HSH shall move to dismiss any and all claims in the cases listed below (the "Dismissed Claims"):
  - a. High Sierra Holistics, LLC v. State of Nevada, Department of Taxation, Case No. A-19-787726-C currently pending in the Eighth Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada, In and For the County of Clark;
  - b. High Sierra Holistics, LLC v. State of Nevada, Department of Taxation, Case No. 19-CV-00073 currently pending in the Third Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada, In and For the County of Lyon; removed to United States District Court for the District of Nevada; Case No. 3:19-CV-00271-MMD-CLB; consolidated into Case No. 3:19-CV-00270-LRH-CLB;
  - c. High Sierra Holistics, LLC v. State of Nevada, Department of Taxation, Case No. CV19-000142 currently pending in the Second Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada, In and For the County of Washoe; removed to United States District Court for the District of Nevada; Case No. 3:19-CV-00270-LRH-CLB

HSH will dismiss the Dismissed Claims with prejudice against DOT, as applicable, and without costs or fees to or from any such Settling Party.

9. HSH agrees to relinquish any and all administrative appeals to DOT and CCB which they may have or have arising out of the September 2018 retail marijuana store competition.

## CONTINUED PARTICIPATION BY SETTLING PLAINTIFFS

10. If any Settling Party settles any other matter related to the Lawsuit (each, a "Future Settlement"), every other Settling Party shall be included as released parties in such Future Settlement on the same release terms and conditions as set forth herein; provided, however, that any Settling Party receiving such release shall bear its own costs and attorneys' fees with respect thereto as provided in this Agreement.

## ADDITIONAL TERMS RELATING TO LICENSES AND TRANSFERS

- 11. This Settlement Agreement shall only be valid if the current litigation pending in Case No. A-19-787004-B is settled in its totality and/or the litigation results in TRNVP098 retaining the conditional license granted to it in Lyon County. Should it be determined that TRNVP098 is not entitled to retain the conditional license granted to it in Lyon County, then this Settlement Agreement shall be declared null and void and all monies and other items shall be returned to the party from which they originated.
- 12. DOT and/or CCB agrees that the parties to this Agreement shall receive a fourteen (14)-month extension of the current deadline of December 5, 2020 to February 5, 2022, for conditional licensees to obtain final inspections and approval from DOT and/or CCB on the conditional license received and that comparable extensions shall be extended to other parties that settle claims in this Lawsuit with the DOT and/or CCB. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for any jurisdiction that currently has a moratorium on new adult-use cannabis establishments (including but not limited to the Counties of Humboldt, Pershing, White Pine, Storey and Lander), DOT and/or CCB agrees to extend the deadline to obtain final inspections and approval from DOT and/or CCB on any and all conditional licenses owned by TRNVP098 in such jurisdiction for a period of fourteen (14) months after the date any moratorium is lifted in such jurisdiction.
- 13. DOT and/or CCB further agrees to make a good faith effort to perform final inspections on an expedited time period within 5 business days of the request for inspection for the new locations of the Settling Parties.

### REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES

- 14. In the event that the DOT is no longer responsible for performing any of the conditions and/or requirements in this Agreement, then the entity that is responsible for performing such duties (e.g., the CCB or any related entity) shall be subject to the conditions and requirements provided in this Agreement. The State of Nevada, DOT represents and warrants that it has authority to sign this Agreement and bind the CCB.
- 15. TRNVP098 represents and warrants that it has full and complete control to assign the conditional license it was awarded and TRNVP098 shall indemnify, defend and hold HSH harmless from any and all costs, damages, fees (including attorneys' fees) or liability claimed by any entity claiming an ownership interest in the TRNVP098 conditional Lyon County license being transferred. TRNVP098 is not responsible for securing any ownership transfer approvals

from the DOT or CCB for the Lyon County license TRNVP098 transfers hereunder. HSH will be responsible for all costs associated with the ownership transfer applications with the state and any local jurisdiction. Nothing contained herein shall limit, waive, or revoke the DOT's or CCB's rights, powers, or duties under Nevada Administrative Code 453D.312.

- 16. Each of the Settling Parties hereto represent and warrant that they have had an adequate opportunity to seek and receive legal advice and counsel from an attorney of their choice regarding the content and effect of this Agreement, have actually received such counsel and advice as they deem prudent to receive in these circumstances, have read this Agreement in its entirety, understand all provisions of this Agreement and their import and effect, and enter into and execute this Agreement freely and voluntarily.
- 17. Each of the Settling Parties warrant and represent there are no other agreements made between any Settling Plaintiffs and any Settling Defendants involving conditions related to the transfer of any conditional licenses or related to any marijuana consumption lounges in the State of Nevada.

### **OTHER TERMS**

- 18. <u>Purpose of Compromise and Settlement</u>. The parties have each entered into this Agreement solely for the purpose of settling and compromising the Disputes and the Lawsuit and nothing contained in this Agreement or its performance shall be deemed to be an admission or acknowledgment of: liability, the existence of damages or the amount of any damages relating to the Disputes or the Lawsuit.
- 19. <u>Non-Participating Party Procedure:</u> The Settling Parties agree to cooperate to obtain final resolution of Lawsuit ("Global Settlement") consistent with this Agreement.
- 20. <u>Cooperation & Non-Interference</u>. The parties agree that they will not use or refer to the Lawsuit as part of any interactions with or lobbying efforts to any governmental agency to prevent any other party from obtaining local government approval and/or from obtaining an approval at final inspection for the licenses retained by any party or assigned to any party, including but limited to a party seeking an extension or trying to secure additional time to obtain and SUP from a local jurisdiction.

### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- 21. No Wrongdoing. The Parties acknowledge that this Agreement is entered into solely for the purpose of compromising disputed claims and avoiding the time and expense of litigation. It is expressly understood and agreed that this Agreement represents the settlement of disputed claims and nothing contained in this Agreement shall constitute or be treated as an admission of any wrongdoing or liability on the part of any Party hereto.
- 22. <u>Enforcement</u>. In the event of the breach of this Agreement by any party, the remedies of the non-breaching parties shall be limited to enforcement of this Agreement for breach of this Agreement.

23. <u>Mediation</u>. If the event of a dispute among the Parties concerning this agreement, the Parties agree they shall attempt to resolve such dispute through mediation with a mediator agreed upon by the Parties).

This Agreement to mediate all disputes applies even if some person or entity claims that this Agreement is void, voidable or unenforceable for any reason.

- 24. <u>Binding Effect</u>. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties and their respective heirs, successors and assigns contingent upon the execution of a final Purchase Agreement between HSH and TRNVP098. With this Agreement requiring approval of the Nevada Tax Commission, the binding effect of this Agreement specifically includes the CCB as successor to the DOT in its capacity as regulator of the marijuana program in the State of Nevada. Except as specifically provided in prior paragraphs of this Agreement, this Agreement is not intended to create, and shall not create, any rights in any person who is not a party to this Agreement.
- 25. Entire Agreement. This Agreement contains the entire agreement between the parties and may not be changed or terminated orally but only by a written instrument executed by the parties after the date of this Agreement.
- 26. <u>Construction</u>. The terms and conditions of this Agreement shall be construed as a whole according to its fair meaning and not strictly for or against any party. The parties acknowledge that each of them has reviewed this Agreement and has had the opportunity to have it reviewed by their attorneys and that any rule or construction to the effect that ambiguities are to be resolved against the drafting party shall not apply in the interpretation of this Agreement, including its exhibits or any amendments.
- 27. Partial Invalidity. Except with respect to Paragraph 5, if any term of this Agreement or the application of any term of this Agreement should be held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, vold or unenforceable, all provisions, covenants and conditions of this Agreement, and all of its applications, not held invalid, void or unenforceable, shall continue in full force and effect and shall not be affected, impaired or invalidated in any way.
- 28. Attorneys' Fees. In any action or proceeding to enforce the terms of this Agreement or to redress any violation of this Agreement, the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover as damages its attorneys' fees and costs incurred, including but not limited to mediation fees, whether or not the action is reduced to judgment. For the purposes of this provision, the "prevailing party" shall be that party who has been successful with regard to the main issue, even if that party did not prevail on all the issues.
- 29. Governing Law and Forum. The laws of the State of Nevada applicable to contracts made or to be wholly performed there (without giving effect to choice of law or conflict of law principles) shall govern the validity, construction, performance and effect of this Agreement. Any lawsuit to interpret or enforce the terms of this Agreement shall be brought in a court of competent jurisdiction in Lyon County, Nevada. The Parties acknowledge the matters involved in the Lawsuit and this Agreement may involve conduct and concepts in violation of Federal law regardless of

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compliance with applicable State law. The Parties expressly waive the defense of illegality under the Federal Controlled Substances Act.

- 30. <u>Necessary Action</u>. Each of the Settling Parties shall do any act or thing and execute any or all documents or instruments necessary or proper to effectuate the provisions and intent of this Agreement.
- 31. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which when duly executed and delivered shall be an original, but all such counterparts shall constitute one and the same agreement. Any signature page of this Agreement may be detached from any counterpart without impairing the legal effect of any signatures, and may be attached to another counterpart, identical in form, but having attached to it one or more additional signature pages. This Agreement may be executed by signatures provided by electronic facsimile transmission (also known as "Fax" copies), or by electronic signature, which signatures shall be as binding and effective as original signatures.
- 32. <u>Notices</u>. Any and all notices and demands by or from any party required or desired to be given under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be validly given or made if served either personally or if deposited in the United States mail, certified or registered, postage prepaid, return receipt requested. If such notice or demand is served by registered or certified mail in the manner provided, service shall be conclusively deemed given upon receipt or attempted delivery, whichever is sooner.
- 33. <u>Miscelleneous</u>. The headers or captions appearing at the commencement of the paragraph of this Agreement are descriptive only and for convenience in reference to this Agreement and shall not define, limit or describe the scope or intent of this Agreement, nor in any way affect this Agreement.

Masculine or feminine pronouns shall be substituted for the neuter form and vice versa and the plural shall be substituted for the singular form and vice versa in any place or places in this Agreement in which the context requires such substitution or substitutions, and references to "or" are used in the inclusive sense of "and/or".

[Signatures on following pages]

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

Print Name: Shane Terry

Title: Managing Member

HIGH SIERRA HOLISTICS, LLC

Print Name: LUSSELL EAUST

Title: Mandante Parini

STATE OF NEVADA. DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION

Print Name: Metanie Young

Title: Executive Director

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

HIGH SIERRAY HOLISTICS, LLC	
Ву:	
Print Name: Lussell EdusT	
Title: MANAGING PACTINE	
STATE OF NEVADA, DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION	
Ву:	
Print Name:	
Title:	

TRNVP098, LLC

Ву:\_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: Shane Terry

Title:\_Managing Member

Electronically 5ile 00 8/11/2022 2:56 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

### **HOLLEY DRIGGS, LTD.**

JAMES W. PUZEY, ESQ.

NV Bar No. 5745

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jpuzey@nevadafirm.com

800 South Meadows Pkwy., Suite 800

Reno, Nevada 89521

Telephone: 775/851-8700 Facsimile: 775/851-7681

Attorney for High Sierra Holistics, LLC

## EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

### CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

In Re: D.O.T. Litigation:	CASE NO.: A-19-787004-B Consolidated with: A-785818-W A-786357-W A-786962-B A-787035-C A-787540-W
	A-787726-C A-801416-B DEPT. NO.: XXXI

### MOTION TO RETAX AND SETTLE COSTS

COMES NOW, HIGH SIERRA HOLISTICS, LLC ("HSH"), by and through its attorney of record, James W. Puzey, Esq. of Holley Driggs, Ltd., and out of an abundance of caution, hereby moves this court to retax and settle the costs set forth in DEEP ROOTS HARVEST, INC.'s ("Deep Roots") Verified Memorandum of Costs filed August 8, 2022 (the "Memorandum"). This Motion is made pursuant to NRS 18.110, and is supported by the following Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the pleadings and papers on file herein, and any arguments by counsel on the hearing on this matter.

Dated this 11<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022.

### HOLLEY DRIGGS, LTD.

/s/ James W. Puzey JAMES W. PUZEY, ESQ. 800 South Meadows Parkway, #800 Reno, Nevada 89521

### **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

### I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

Deep Roots cannot recover the costs claimed in the Memorandum against HSH. Deep Roots cannot recover costs because it never appeared in Case No. A-19-787726-C involving HSH, is neither a prevailing party in this action against the HSH nor does Deep Roots have a statutory right to recover its costs. Even if the Memorandum is considered, none of the claimed costs were reasonably, necessarily, and actually incurred as to the HSH's petition for judicial review. As a result, HSH requests that this Court award no costs to Deep Roots.

Finally, none of the claimed costs are appropriately partitioned amongst the numerous Plaintiffs.

### II. RELEVANT FACTUAL BACKGROUND

### A. The Proceedings and Settlement

Case No. A-19-787726-C was commenced on January 16, 2019. Deep Roots never intervened or otherwise appeared in the action. The primary and substantive causes of action were asserted against only the Nevada Department of Taxation (the "Department"). Namely, the causes of action for violation of substantive due process, violation of procedural due process, violation of equal protection, and petition for writ of mandamus were asserted exclusively against the Department.

Nearly one year later, prior to the trial in this matter, Case No. A-19-787726-C was consolidated with Case No. A-19-787004-B on December 6, 2019. Also prior to the trial, the Court determined that (i) the Department acted beyond the scope of its authority by replacing the requirement for a background check on each prospective owner with the 5 percent or greater standard in NAC 453D.255(1)<sup>1</sup> and (ii) that appeals were to be heard arising from the denial of licensure in the September 2018 retail licensure application competition.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Order Regarding Plaintiff Nevada Wellness Center, LLC's Motion for Summary Judgment on First Claim for Relief ("Order Granting Summary Judgment"), at 6:4-8, dated Aug. 15, 2020, on file herein.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part MM Development Company, Inc. and LivFree Wellness, LLC's Motion for Summary Judgment or

The trial in these proceedings began on July 13, 2020. Importantly, the proceedings were conducted in a series of three phases where only certain claims would be examined and determined in each phase. The First Phase addressed only the petition for judicial review (the "First Phase Claim"), the Second Phase addressed the equal protection, due process, declaratory relief, and permanent injunction claims (the "Second Phase Claims"), and the Third Phase would address writ of mandamus claims (the "Third Phase Claim").<sup>3</sup>

During the Second Phase of the proceedings, HSH settled with the State of Nevada,

Department of Taxation. See attached hereto by reference as **Exhibit 1**, a copy of said Settlement

Agreement. The Second Phase concluded with a decision issued by the Court on September 3,

2020.<sup>4</sup> Therein, the Court granted declaratory relief.<sup>5</sup>

Before beginning the next phase (i.e., the First Phase), the Court limited the evidence and record that could be considered for that phase to only the administrative record pursuant to the requirements of NRS 233B.135(1)(b).<sup>6</sup> More specifically, the Court determined that evidence related to a claim for judicial review is to be restricted to the administrative record because it contains all relevant evidence that resulted in the Department's analysis of the plaintiffs' applications.<sup>7</sup> The Court proceeded with and completed the First Phase thereafter.

### **B.** The Memorandum of Costs

On August 8, 2022, Deep Roots filed their Memorandum, approximately twenty-one (21) days after the Second Phase Judgment was entered and eight (8) days after the First Phase Judgment was entered.<sup>8</sup> In the Memorandum, Deep Roots impermissibly claims a total of \$44,250.67 in costs. That is comprised of: Clerks' Fees \$1,102.49, Reporters' Fees \$16,553.45,

for Writ of Mandamus ("FFCL re Summary Judgment"), at 3:10-14, dated July 11, 2020, on file herein.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Amended Trial Protocol No. 2, dated July 2, 2020, on file herein. The Second Phase preceded the First Phase.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Permanent Inj., at 6 n.8, Sept. 3, 2020 (the "Second Phase Judgment"). As noted therein, the Court recognized that HSH had reached a settlement with the Department prior to the issuance of the Second Phase Judgment. Id. <sup>5</sup> Id. at 29:3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Permanent Inj., at 11:4-9, Sept. 16, 2020 (the "First Phase Judgment").

<sup>7</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See First Phase Judgment and Second Phase Judgment, respectively.

Expert Witness Fees \$235.00, Photocopies \$4,718.00, Long distance phone \$292.43, Postage \$106.63, Travel & lodging \$13,355.24, Miscellaneous Fees \$1,339.28, Computerized legal research \$1,472.93 and Trial technology services \$5,075.22. 9

### III. <u>LEGAL STANDARD AND ARGUMENT</u>

### A. Legal Standard

Even though trial courts have discretion to determine allowable costs, the Nevada Supreme Court requires that "statutes permitting the recovery of costs are to be strictly construed because they are in derogation of the common law." *Bobby Berosini, Ltd. v. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals*, 114 Nev. 1348, 1352, 971 P.2d 383, 385 (1998); *Gibellini v. Klindt*, 110 Nev. 1201, 1205, 885 P.2d 540, 543 (1994). The trial court's discretion should also "be sparingly exercised when considering whether or not to allow expenses not specifically allowed by statute and precedent." *Bergmann v. Boyce*, 109 Nev. 670, 679, 856 P.2d 560, 566 (1993). Notwithstanding the court's discretion, the party seeking costs "must provide sufficient support for the court to conclude that each taxed cost was reasonable, necessary, and actually incurred." *Village Builders 96 L.P. v. U.S. Laboratories, Inc.*, 121 Nev. 261, 277-78, 112 P.3d 1082, 1093 (2005).

In addition, the plain language of a statute governs the manner in which it is applied according to the language's ordinary meaning. A.F. Const. Co. v. Virgin River Casino Corp., 118 Nev. 699, 703, 56 P.3d 887, 890 (2002); Arguello v. Sunset Station, Inc., 127 Nev. 365, 370, 252 P.3d 206, 209 (2011); Waste Mgmt. of Nevada, Inc. v. W. Taylor St., LLC, 135 Nev. 168, 170, 443 P.3d 1115, 1117 (2019).

### **B.** Deep Roots Cannot Recover the Claimed Costs.

1. <u>Deep Roots is Neither a Prevailing Party nor Statutorily Permitted to Recover its Costs.</u>

Deep Roots cannot recover against HSH because it is not a prevailing party in this matter.

NRS Chapter 18 plainly states that costs are allowed only "to the prevailing party against any

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> See Mem. of Costs of Deep Roots, Aug. 8, 2022.

adverse party against whom judgment is rendered," and only to "the party *in whose favor judgment is rendered*." See NRS 18.020, 18. 110(1). Indeed, the Nevada Supreme Court persistently holds that a party cannot be considered a prevailing party where the matter does not proceed to judgment. *Northern Nevada Homes, LLC v. GL Construction, Inc.*, 134 Nev. 498, 500, 422 P 3d 1234, 1237 (2018); *Works v. Kuhn*, 103 Nev. 65, 68, 732 P.2d 1373, 1376 (1987).

HSH' First Phase Claims and Second Phase Claims were not litigated, they were settled. Consequently, the Second Phase Claims did not proceed to judgment in favor of Deep Roots, and there is no court order declaring any party as the prevailing party as to those claims. Further, pursuant to NRS 18.020, Deep Roots does not fall within any of the identified categories to recover its costs. See NRS 18.020. Indeed, with no judgment against HSH for either the Second Phase Claims or the First Phase Claim, Deep Roots cannot recover its claimed costs.

### C. The Claimed Costs are not Reasonable and Necessary

Additionally, even though HSH had settled its action prior to the commencement of Phase I, nonetheless, Deep Roots cannot recover any of the claimed costs because they were not reasonably, necessarily, and actually incurred as part of the First Phase Claim. Following the mandate of NRS 233B.135(1)(b), the Court restricted the record and evidence for the First Phase to include only the administrative record. This necessarily excluded from the record all court filings, Westlaw legal research, photocopies, deposition and transcripts, documents delivered by runner, witness testimony, trial exhibits, trial transcripts, and any trial administrative services; which comprise all of Deep Roots's claimed costs. Indeed, the record consisted of only the plaintiffs' applications and related information that was before the Department when it evaluated the applicants and awarded the licenses.

Because the record for the First Phase Claim was restricted and did not include any of the evidence related to Deep Roots's claimed costs, the claimed costs were not reasonably, necessarily, and actually incurred as to the First Phase Claim. As costs that were not reasonable, necessary, and actually incurred for the First Phase Claim, they cannot be recovered in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See First Phase Judgment, at 11:4-9.

connection with the First Phase Judgment.

Moreover, even if the Court were to consider any of these claimed costs, Deep Roots includes requests for unnecessary, unreasonable and excessive costs. Assuming HSH as a settling party is responsible for any costs, Deep Roots's Memorandum of Cost and Disbursements does not identify which of the costs pertain to HSH. HSH was not the only Plaintiff in the consolidated action upon which Deep Roots relies in filing its Memorandum. Deep Roots sent no written discovery to HSH, took no depositions of anyone from HSH, took no witness testimony from HSH, sent no correspondence to HSH, engaged in no phone calls with HSH, nothing. Just as unapportioned joint offers of judgment are invalid for purposes of determining prevailing party eligibility for recovery of attorney's fees and costs against a party rejecting the offer under NRCP 68 (See *Parodi v. Budetti*, 115 Nev. 236, 984 P.2d 172 (1999)), unapportioned Memorandum of Costs should be invalid as there is no way for an opponent of the Memorandum to ascertain which costs are the result of litigation against which party. For that reason, under NRS 18.050, the Court has discretion in allowing costs and should not permit any of these to be attributed to HSH.

## D. Deep Roots's Memorandum of Costs does not fall within the parameters of NRS 18.020.

If Deep Roots's Memo of Costs is filed in connection with the *Findings of Fact*, *Conclusion of Law and Permanent Injunction* e-filed and e-served on September 16, 2020 (9-16-2020 FFCL&PI") which denied the Petition of Judicial Review, then the Memo of Costs should be denied because the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI's denial of the Petition for Judicial Review is not one of the types of cases in which costs would be allowed to a prevailing party, pursuant to NRS 18.020, which provides:

NRS 18.020 Cases in which costs allowed prevailing party. Costs must be allowed of course to the prevailing party against any adverse party against whom judgment is rendered, in the following cases:

1. In an action for the recovery of real property or a possessory right thereto.

2. In an action to recover the possession of personal property, where the value of the property amounts to more than \$2,500. The value must be determined by the jury, court or master by whom the action is tried.

3. In an action for the recovery of money or damages, where the plaintiff seeks to recover more than \$2,500.

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4. In a special proceeding, except a special proceeding conducted pursuant to NRS 306.040.

5. In an action which involves the title or boundaries of real estate, or the legality of any tax, impost, assessment, toll or municipal fine, including the costs accrued in the action if originally commenced in a Justice Court. [1911 CPA § 435; RL § 5377; NCL § 8924] — (NRS A 1969, 435; 1977, 774; 1979, 65, 1725; 1981, 470; 1985, 1503, 1622; 1995, 2793)

In addition to the fact that HSH settled its action against the State of Nevada Department of Taxation before the First Phase of the Trial began, a Petition for Judicial Review, which is the subject of the First Phase of Trial, is not within any of the five (5) category of cases listed at NRS 18.020 and, therefore, the same does not provide authority for Deep Roots to seek an award of costs.

In Nevada, costs of suit are only recoverable if they are authorized by statute or court rule. Sun Realty v. Eighth Judicial Dist. Court In and For Clark County, 91 Nev. 774, 776, 542 P.2d 1072, 1074 (1975). As noted above, NRS 18.020 allows the prevailing party to receive its costs in the following five actions: (1) an action for the recovery of real property or a possessory right thereto; (2) an action to recover the possession of personal property valued more than \$2,500; (3) an action to recover money or damages of more than \$2,500; (4) a special proceeding; and (5) an action involving title or boundaries of real estate, the legality of any tax, assessment, toll, or municipal fine. Obviously, a petition for judicial review is not one of the five actions noted in NRS 18.020.

If the Legislature intended that costs be awarded for petitions for judicial review, the Legislature would have so expressly stated. Smith v. Crown Financial Services of America, 111 Nev. 277, 286, 890 P.2d 769, 775 (1995). Not only does the plain language of NRS 18.020 not reference petition for judicial review, but the legislature did not include more expansive phrases in the wording of the statute such as "including but not limited to" or "in other actions where the Court deems appropriate. Thus, the plain language of NRS 18.020 limits recovery of costs to only the five cases specified, and the Court must follow the plain language of the statute. <u>See</u> Harris Associates v. Clark County Sch. Dist., 119 Nev. 638, 641-42, 81 P.3d 532, 534 (2003). It is significant that the Legislature did not include petitions for judicial review in the types of cases

for which a party may recover its costs. The Legislature is presumed to have knowledge of existing statutes related to the same subject, i.e., NRS Chapter 233B. See City of Boulder v. General Sales Drivers, 101 Nev. 117, 119, 694 P.2d 498 (1985); Ronnow v. City of Las Vegas, 57 Nev. 332, 366, 65 P.2d 133 (1937).

Chapter 233B of the NRS does not classify a petition for judicial review as a special proceeding. NRS 233B.130 provides that judicial review in a district court is available to any party who is aggrieved by a final decision from an administrative proceeding in a contested case. An aggrieved party seeking review of a district court's decision on a petition for judicial review may appeal which "shall be taken as in other civil cases." NRS 233B.150. NRS Chapter 233B lacks any indication a petition for judicial review is a special proceeding. Rather, it indicates it is a "civil case."

NRS 233B.131 is the only section of Chapter 233B which addresses costs in that it allows a court to assess additional costs against a party unreasonably refusing to limit the record to be transmitted to the reviewing court in for a petition for judicial review. NRS Chapter 233B contains no other mention of assessing costs against a party in a petition for judicial review and it doesn't mention or make reference to NRS Chapter 18.

NRS 18.020, which was enacted in 1911, has been amended six times since then, with the most recent amendment occurring in 1995 where it added to subsection 4 the following language "except a special proceeding conducted pursuant to NRS 306.040." 1995 Stat. of Nev., at 2794. By amending NRS 18.020 multiple times and not including petitions for judicial review as one of the type of cases for which costs may be awarded, the Court may presume that the Legislature intended only to include those types of cases specified in NRS 18.020. See Williams v. Clark County Dist. Attorney, 118 Nev. 473, 487-88, 50 P.3d 536, 545 (2002) (Rose, J., concurring and dissenting in part) ("[W]e have often said that the legislature is presumed to know what it is doing and purposefully uses the specific language [it chooses].").

Therefore, the Memo of Costs should be denied because petitions for judicial review are not special proceedings for purposes of NRS 18.020.

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### E. Deep Roots was never a party to the HSH case

Deep Roots never intervened into Case No. A-19-787726-C nor have they made any appearance in the HSH case.

The Nevada Supreme Court has determined that consolidation does not merge two suits into a single cause or change the rights of the parties or make one party a party in a separate suit. See *Mikulich v. Carner*, 68 Nev. 161, 169, 228 P.2d 257, 260 (1951) citing *Johnson v. Manhattan R. Co.*, 289 U.S. 479, 535, Ct. 721, 77 L. Ed. 1331, 1345.

In *Mukulich v. Carner*, 68 Nev. 161, 170, 228 P.2d 257, 261 (1951), the Nevada Supreme Court relied on federal cases, which have consistently construed FRCP 42(a) consolidation orders providing for the combined trial of two or more cases as "not having the effect of merging the several causes into a single cause." In such a case, the trial court simply enters two separate judgments. *Mukulich*, 68 Nev. At 169, 228 P.2d at 261.

Even after consolidation, the actions retain their separate identities, and the parties and pleadings in one action do not automatically become parties and pleadings in the other action. *Mikulich*, 68 Nev. At 170, 228 P.2d at 261.

The Order Granting Joint Motion to Consolidate was entered on December 6, 2019. Deep Roots filed Answer to ETW Plaintiff's Third Amended Complaint, MM Development Company, Inc. & Livfree Wellness, LLC's Second Amended Complaint and Petition for Judicial Review or Writ of Mandamus, Answer to Nevada Wellness Center's Amended Complaint and Petition for Judicial Review or Writ of Mandamus, Answer to Rural Remedies' Complaint in Intervention, Petition for Judicial Review or Writ of Mandamus and Answer to the Serenity Plaintiffs' Second Amended Complaint on February 12, 2020. Deep Roots never intervened or made an appearance in Case No. A-19-787726-C either before or after consolidation. Deep Roots never appeared via Answer or other pleadings in the HSH case either before or after consolidation.

### IV. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

Based on the foregoing, HSH respectfully request that this Court grant this Motion to Retax and Settle Costs in its entirety and award Deep Roots no costs.

1	<u>AFFIRMATION</u>
2	Pursuant to NRS 239B.030, the undersigned does hereby affirm that the preceding
3	document does not contain the social security number of any person.
4	Dated this 11 <sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022.
5	HOLLEY DRIGGS, LTD.
6	
7	/s/ James W. Puzey
8	JAMES W. PUZEY, ESQ. 800 South Meadows Parkway, #800
9	Reno, Nevada 89521
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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 11th day of August, 2022, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing MOTION TO RETAX AND SETTLE COSTS through the Court's electronic filing system pursuant to Administrative Order 14-2 to all parties currently receiving service in this matter on the electronic service list.

/s/ Kelsey Fusco

An Employee of Holley Driggs, Ltd.

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### HOLLEY DRIGGS, LTD.

JAMES W. PUZEY, ESQ.

NV Bar No. 5745

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jpuzey@nevadafirm.com

800 South Meadows Pkwy., Suite 800

Reno, Nevada 89521

Telephone: 775/851-8700 Facsimile: 775/851-7681

Attorney for High Sierra Holistics, LLC

### EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

### **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA**

In Re: D.O.T. Litigation:	CASE NO.: A-19-787004-B Consolidated with:  A-785818-W A-786357-W A-786962-B A-787035-C A-787540-W A-787726-C A-801416-B
	A-801416-B

DEPT. NO.: XXXI

### MOTION TO RETAX AND SETTLE COSTS

COMES NOW, HIGH SIERRA HOLISTICS, LLC ("HSH"), by and through its attorney of record, James W. Puzey, Esq. of Holley Driggs, Ltd., and out of an abundance of caution, hereby moves this court to retax and settle the costs set forth in CLEAR RIVER LLC's ("Clear River") Verified Memorandum of Costs filed August 8, 2022 (the "Memorandum"). This Motion is made pursuant to NRS 18.110, and is supported by the following Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the pleadings and papers on file herein, and any arguments by counsel on the hearing on this matter.

Dated this 11<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022.

### **HOLLEY DRIGGS, LTD.**

/s/ James W. Puzey JAMES W. PUZEY, ESQ. 800 South Meadows Parkway, #800 Reno, Nevada 89521

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### **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

### I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

Clear River cannot recover the costs claimed in the Memorandum against HSH. Clear River cannot recover costs because it never appeared in Case No. A-19-787726-C involving HSH, is neither a prevailing party in this action against the HSH nor does Clear River have a statutory right to recover its costs. Even if the Memorandum is considered, none of the claimed costs were reasonably, necessarily, and actually incurred as to the HSH's petition for judicial review. As a result, HSH requests that this Court award no costs to Clear River.

Finally, none of the claimed costs are appropriately partitioned amongst the numerous Plaintiffs.

### II. RELEVANT FACTUAL BACKGROUND

### A. The Proceedings and Settlement

Case No. A-19-787726-C was commenced on January 16, 2019. Clear River never intervened or otherwise appeared in the action. The primary and substantive causes of action were asserted against only the Nevada Department of Taxation (the "Department"). Namely, the causes of action for violation of substantive due process, violation of procedural due process, violation of equal protection, and petition for writ of mandamus were asserted exclusively against the Department.

Nearly one year later, prior to the trial in this matter, Case No. A-19-787726-C was consolidated with Case No. A-19-787004-B on December 6, 2019. Also prior to the trial, the Court determined that (i) the Department acted beyond the scope of its authority by replacing the requirement for a background check on each prospective owner with the 5 percent or greater standard in NAC 453D.255(1)<sup>1</sup> and (ii) that appeals were to be heard arising from the denial of licensure in the September 2018 retail licensure application competition.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Order Regarding Plaintiff Nevada Wellness Center, LLC's Motion for Summary Judgment on First Claim for Relief ("Order Granting Summary Judgment"), at 6:4-8, dated Aug. 15, 2020, on file herein.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part MM Development Company, Inc. and LivFree Wellness, LLC's Motion for Summary Judgment or

The trial in these proceedings began on July 13, 2020. Importantly, the proceedings were conducted in a series of three phases where only certain claims would be examined and determined in each phase. The First Phase addressed only the petition for judicial review (the "First Phase Claim"), the Second Phase addressed the equal protection, due process, declaratory relief, and permanent injunction claims (the "Second Phase Claims"), and the Third Phase would address writ of mandamus claims (the "Third Phase Claim").<sup>3</sup>

During the Second Phase of the proceedings, HSH settled with the State of Nevada,

Department of Taxation. See attached hereto by reference as **Exhibit 1**, a copy of said Settlement

Agreement. The Second Phase concluded with a decision issued by the Court on September 3,

2020.<sup>4</sup> Therein, the Court granted declaratory relief.<sup>5</sup>

Before beginning the next phase (i.e., the First Phase), the Court limited the evidence and record that could be considered for that phase to only the administrative record pursuant to the requirements of NRS 233B.135(1)(b).<sup>6</sup> More specifically, the Court determined that evidence related to a claim for judicial review is to be restricted to the administrative record because it contains all relevant evidence that resulted in the Department's analysis of the plaintiffs' applications.<sup>7</sup> The Court proceeded with and completed the First Phase thereafter.

### **B.** The Memorandum of Costs

On August 8, 2022, Clear River filed their Memorandum, approximately twenty-one (21) days after the Second Phase Judgment was entered and eight (8) days after the First Phase Judgment was entered.<sup>8</sup> In the Memorandum, Clear River impermissibly claims a total of \$37,194.47 in costs. That is comprised of: Photocopies \$10,588.80, Court Filing Fees \$3,074.18,

for Writ of Mandamus ("FFCL re Summary Judgment"), at 3:10-14, dated July 11, 2020, on file herein.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Amended Trial Protocol No. 2, dated July 2, 2020, on file herein. The Second Phase preceded the First Phase.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Permanent Inj., at 6 n.8, Sept. 3, 2020 (the "Second Phase Judgment"). As noted therein, the Court recognized that HSH had reached a settlement with the Department prior to the issuance of the Second Phase Judgment. Id. <sup>5</sup> Id. at 29:3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Permanent Inj., at 11:4-9, Sept. 16, 2020 (the "First Phase Judgment").

<sup>7</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See First Phase Judgment and Second Phase Judgment, respectively.

Westlaw Research Fees \$6,291.37, Parking Costs \$1,555.00, Runner Services and Document Delivery \$485.00, Transcripts \$7,344.03, Postage \$36.03, Jury Verdict Trial Services \$3,212.50, and Advance Resolution Management \$4,612.56. 9

### III. <u>LEGAL STANDARD AND ARGUMENT</u>

### A. Legal Standard

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Even though trial courts have discretion to determine allowable costs, the Nevada Supreme Court requires that "statutes permitting the recovery of costs are to be strictly construed because they are in derogation of the common law." *Bobby Berosini, Ltd. v. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals*, 114 Nev. 1348, 1352, 971 P.2d 383, 385 (1998); *Gibellini v. Klindt*, 110 Nev. 1201, 1205, 885 P.2d 540, 543 (1994). The trial court's discretion should also "be sparingly exercised when considering whether or not to allow expenses not specifically allowed by statute and precedent." *Bergmann v. Boyce*, 109 Nev. 670, 679, 856 P.2d 560, 566 (1993). Notwithstanding the court's discretion, the party seeking costs "must provide sufficient support for the court to conclude that each taxed cost was reasonable, necessary, and actually incurred." *Village Builders 96 L.P. v. U.S. Laboratories, Inc.*, 121 Nev. 261, 277-78, 112 P.3d 1082, 1093 (2005).

In addition, the plain language of a statute governs the manner in which it is applied according to the language's ordinary meaning. A.F. Const. Co. v. Virgin River Casino Corp., 118 Nev. 699, 703, 56 P.3d 887, 890 (2002); Arguello v. Sunset Station, Inc., 127 Nev. 365, 370, 252 P.3d 206, 209 (2011); Waste Mgmt. of Nevada, Inc. v. W. Taylor St., LLC, 135 Nev. 168, 170, 443 P.3d 1115, 1117 (2019).

### B. Clear River Cannot Recover the Claimed Costs.

1. <u>Clear River is Neither a Prevailing Party nor Statutorily Permitted to Recover its Costs.</u>

Clear River cannot recover against HSH because it is not a prevailing party in this matter.

NRS Chapter 18 plainly states that costs are allowed only "to the prevailing party against any

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> See Mem. of Costs of Clear River, Aug. 8, 2022.

<sup>10</sup> See First Phase Judgment, at 11:4-9.

adverse party against whom judgment is rendered," and only to "the party *in whose favor judgment is rendered.*" See NRS 18.020, 18. 110(1). Indeed, the Nevada Supreme Court persistently holds that a party cannot be considered a prevailing party where the matter does not proceed to judgment. *Northern Nevada Homes, LLC v. GL Construction, Inc.*, 134 Nev. 498, 500, 422 P 3d 1234, 1237 (2018); *Works v. Kuhn*, 103 Nev. 65, 68, 732 P.2d 1373, 1376 (1987).

HSH' First Phase Claims and Second Phase Claims were not litigated, they were settled. Consequently, the Second Phase Claims did not proceed to judgment in favor of Clear River, and there is no court order declaring any party as the prevailing party as to those claims. Further, pursuant to NRS 18.020, Clear River does not fall within any of the identified categories to recover its costs. See NRS 18.020. Indeed, with no judgment against HSH for either the Second Phase Claims or the First Phase Claim, Clear River cannot recover its claimed costs.

### C. The Claimed Costs are not Reasonable and Necessary

Additionally, even though HSH had settled its action prior to the commencement of Phase I, nonetheless, Clear River cannot recover any of the claimed costs because they were not reasonably, necessarily, and actually incurred as part of the First Phase Claim. Following the mandate of NRS 233B.135(1)(b), the Court restricted the record and evidence for the First Phase to include only the administrative record. This necessarily excluded from the record all court filings, Westlaw legal research, photocopies, deposition and transcripts, documents delivered by runner, witness testimony, trial exhibits, trial transcripts, and any trial administrative services; which comprise all of Clear River's claimed costs. Indeed, the record consisted of only the plaintiffs' applications and related information that was before the Department when it evaluated the applicants and awarded the licenses.

Because the record for the First Phase Claim was restricted and did not include any of the evidence related to Clear River's claimed costs, the claimed costs were not reasonably, necessarily, and actually incurred as to the First Phase Claim. As costs that were not reasonable, necessary, and actually incurred for the First Phase Claim, they cannot be recovered in

connection with the First Phase Judgment.

Moreover, even if the Court were to consider any of these claimed costs, Clear River includes requests for unnecessary, unreasonable and excessive costs. Assuming HSH as a settling party is responsible for any costs, Clear River's Memorandum of Cost and Disbursements does not identify which of the costs pertain to HSH. HSH was not the only Plaintiff in the consolidated action upon which Clear River relies in filing its Memorandum. Clear River sent no written discovery to HSH, took no depositions of anyone from HSH, took no witness testimony from HSH, sent no correspondence to HSH, engaged in no phone calls with HSH, nothing. Just as unapportioned joint offers of judgment are invalid for purposes of determining prevailing party eligibility for recovery of attorney's fees and costs against a party rejecting the offer under NRCP 68 (See *Parodi v. Budetti*, 115 Nev. 236, 984 P.2d 172 (1999)), unapportioned Memorandum of Costs should be invalid as there is no way for an opponent of the Memorandum to ascertain which costs are the result of litigation against which party. For that reason, under NRS 18.050, the Court has discretion in allowing costs and should not permit any of these to be attributed to HSH.

## D. Clear River's Memorandum of Costs does not fall within the parameters of NRS 18.020.

If Clear River's Memo of Costs is filed in connection with the *Findings of Fact*, *Conclusion of Law and Permanent Injunction* e-filed and e-served on September 16, 2020 (9-16-2020 FFCL&PI") which denied the Petition of Judicial Review, then the Memo of Costs should be denied because the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI's denial of the Petition for Judicial Review is not one of the types of cases in which costs would be allowed to a prevailing party, pursuant to NRS 18.020, which provides:

NRS 18.020 Cases in which costs allowed prevailing party. Costs must be allowed of course to the prevailing party against any adverse party against whom judgment is rendered, in the following cases:

1. In an action for the recovery of real property or a possessory right thereto.

2. In an action to recover the possession of personal property, where the value of the property amounts to more than \$2,500. The value must be determined by the jury, court or master by whom the action is tried.

3. In an action for the recovery of money or damages, where the plaintiff seeks to recover more than \$2,500.

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4. In a special proceeding, except a special proceeding conducted pursuant to NRS 306.040.

5. In an action which involves the title or boundaries of real estate, or the legality of any tax, impost, assessment, toll or municipal fine, including the costs accrued in the action if originally commenced in a Justice Court. [1911 CPA § 435; RL § 5377; NCL § 8924] — (NRS A 1969, 435; 1977, 774; 1979, 65, 1725; 1981, 470; 1985, 1503, 1622; 1995, 2793)

In addition to the fact that HSH settled its action against the State of Nevada Department of Taxation before the First Phase of the Trial began, a Petition for Judicial Review, which is the subject of the First Phase of Trial, is not within any of the five (5) category of cases listed at NRS 18.020 and, therefore, the same does not provide authority for Clear River to seek an award of costs.

In Nevada, costs of suit are only recoverable if they are authorized by statute or court rule. Sun Realty v. Eighth Judicial Dist. Court In and For Clark County, 91 Nev. 774, 776, 542 P.2d 1072, 1074 (1975). As noted above, NRS 18.020 allows the prevailing party to receive its costs in the following five actions: (1) an action for the recovery of real property or a possessory right thereto; (2) an action to recover the possession of personal property valued more than \$2,500; (3) an action to recover money or damages of more than \$2,500; (4) a special proceeding; and (5) an action involving title or boundaries of real estate, the legality of any tax, assessment, toll, or municipal fine. Obviously, a petition for judicial review is not one of the five actions noted in NRS 18.020.

If the Legislature intended that costs be awarded for petitions for judicial review, the Legislature would have so expressly stated. Smith v. Crown Financial Services of America, 111 Nev. 277, 286, 890 P.2d 769, 775 (1995). Not only does the plain language of NRS 18.020 not reference petition for judicial review, but the legislature did not include more expansive phrases in the wording of the statute such as "including but not limited to" or "in other actions where the Court deems appropriate. Thus, the plain language of NRS 18.020 limits recovery of costs to only the five cases specified, and the Court must follow the plain language of the statute. <u>See</u> Harris Associates v. Clark County Sch. Dist., 119 Nev. 638, 641-42, 81 P.3d 532, 534 (2003). It is significant that the Legislature did not include petitions for judicial review in the types of cases

for which a party may recover its costs. The Legislature is presumed to have knowledge of existing statutes related to the same subject, i.e., NRS Chapter 233B. See City of Boulder v. General Sales Drivers, 101 Nev. 117, 119, 694 P.2d 498 (1985); Ronnow v. City of Las Vegas, 57 Nev. 332, 366, 65 P.2d 133 (1937).

Chapter 233B of the NRS does not classify a petition for judicial review as a special proceeding. NRS 233B.130 provides that judicial review in a district court is available to any party who is aggrieved by a final decision from an administrative proceeding in a contested case. An aggrieved party seeking review of a district court's decision on a petition for judicial review may appeal which "shall be taken as in other civil cases." NRS 233B.150. NRS Chapter 233B lacks any indication a petition for judicial review is a special proceeding. Rather, it indicates it is a "civil case."

NRS 233B.131 is the only section of Chapter 233B which addresses costs in that it allows a court to assess additional costs against a party unreasonably refusing to limit the record to be transmitted to the reviewing court in for a petition for judicial review. NRS Chapter 233B contains no other mention of assessing costs against a party in a petition for judicial review and it doesn't mention or make reference to NRS Chapter 18.

NRS 18.020, which was enacted in 1911, has been amended six times since then, with the most recent amendment occurring in 1995 where it added to subsection 4 the following language "except a special proceeding conducted pursuant to NRS 306.040." 1995 Stat. of Nev., at 2794. By amending NRS 18.020 multiple times and not including petitions for judicial review as one of the type of cases for which costs may be awarded, the Court may presume that the Legislature intended only to include those types of cases specified in NRS 18.020. See Williams v. Clark County Dist. Attorney, 118 Nev. 473, 487-88, 50 P.3d 536, 545 (2002) (Rose, J., concurring and dissenting in part) ("[W]e have often said that the legislature is presumed to know what it is doing and purposefully uses the specific language [it chooses].").

Therefore, the Memo of Costs should be denied because petitions for judicial review are not special proceedings for purposes of NRS 18.020.

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### IV. **CONCLUSION**

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### Ε. Clear River was never a party to the HSH case

Clear River never intervened into Case No. A-19-787726-C nor have they made any appearance in the HSH case.

The Nevada Supreme Court has determined that consolidation does not merge two suits into a single cause or change the rights of the parties or make one party a party in a separate suit. See Mikulich v. Carner, 68 Nev. 161, 169, 228 P.2d 257, 260 (1951) citing Johnson v. Manhattan R. Co., 289 U.S. 479, 535, Ct. 721, 77 L. Ed. 1331, 1345.

In Mukulich v. Carner, 68 Nev. 161, 170, 228 P.2d 257, 261 (1951), the Nevada Supreme Court relied on federal cases, which have consistently construed FRCP 42(a) consolidation orders providing for the combined trial of two or more cases as "not having the effect of merging the several causes into a single cause." In such a case, the trial court simply enters two separate judgments. Mukulich, 68 Nev. At 169, 228 P.2d at 261.

Even after consolidation, the actions retain their separate identities, and the parties and pleadings in one action do not automatically become parties and pleadings in the other action. Mikulich, 68 Nev. At 170, 228 P.2d at 261.

Clear River appeared in Serenity Wellness Center, LLC, et al. v. The State of Nevada, Department of Taxation, Case No. A-19-786962-B, at some time prior to July 1, 2019 (the "Serenity Action") when it filed a Motion for Summary Judgment. The Order Granting Joint Motion to Consolidate was entered on December 6, 2019, at least five months later. Clear River never appeared via Answer or other pleadings either in the HSH case before or after consolidation.

Based on the foregoing, HSH respectfully request that this Court grant this Motion to Retax and Settle Costs in its entirety and award Clear River no costs.

1	<u>AFFIRMATION</u>
2	Pursuant to NRS 239B.030, the undersigned does hereby affirm that the preceding
3	document does not contain the social security number of any person.
4	Dated this 11 <sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022.
5	HOLLEY DRIGGS, LTD.
6	
7	/s/ James W. Puzey JAMES W. PUZEY, ESQ.
8	800 South Meadows Parkway, #800
9	Reno, Nevada 89521
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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 

I hereby certify that on the 11th day of August, 2022, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing MOTION TO RETAX AND SETTLE COSTS through the Court's electronic filing system pursuant to Administrative Order 14-2 to all parties currently receiving service in this matter on the electronic service list.

/s/ Kelsey Fusco

An Employee of Holley Driggs, Ltd.

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CLARK HILL PLLC

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DOMINIC P. GENTILE (NSBN 1923)

Email: dgentile@clarkhill.com JOHN A. HUNT (NSBN 1888) Email: jhunt@clarkhill.com

MARK DZARNOSKI (NSBN 3398)
Email: mdzarnoski@clarkhill.com
A. WILLIAM MAUPIN (NSBN 1150)
3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy., #500
Las Vegas, Nevada 89169

Tel: (702) 862-8300; Fax: (702) 862-8400

Attorneys for TGIG Plaintiffs in case no. A-786962

### DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

	) Case No. <b>A-19-787004-B</b>
In Re: D.O.T. Litigation,	) Consolidated with: A-785818 A-786357 ) A-786962 ) A-787035 ) A-787540 ) A-787726 ) A-801416
	Dept. No. <b>31</b>
	) Hearing Requested ) Oral Argument Requested: Yes

# MOTION TO RETAX AND SETTLE COSTS (re: Clear River LLC's Memorandum of Costs filed on August 8, 2022)

TGIG, LLC, Nevada Holistic Medicine, LLC, GBS Nevada Partners, Fidelis Holdings, LLC, Gravitas Nevada, Nevada Pure, LLC, Medifarm, LLC, and Medifarm IV, LLC, Plaintiffs in Case A-19-786962-B ("Plaintiffs"), by and through counsel, the law firm CLARK HILL, PLLC, hereby submit their Motion to Retax and Settle Costs, pursuant to NRS 18.110(4), regarding *Clear River LLC's Memorandum of Costs* filed on August 8, 2022 ("Memo of Costs"). In addition, as more fully addressed bellowed, by this Motion, Plaintiffs contend Defendant/Intervenor, Clear River LLC ("Clear River") is simply not authorized as a matter of

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law to receive its costs under NRS 18.020.

This Motion is made and based upon the following points and authorities, the papers and pleadings on file herein, any attached exhibit, and any oral argument the court may allow.

### **POINTS & AUTHORITIES**

# I. INTRODUCTION

Clear River's Memo of Costs notes a total of \$37,194.47 in claimed costs. As more fully referenced below, the Memo of Costs should be denied. NRS 18.110.

### II. DISCUSSION

1. <u>Clear River's Memo of Costs should be denied because it is Plaintiffs, not Clear River, who fall within the definition of a "prevailing party" for purposes of an award of costs.</u>

"[S]tatutes permitting recovery of costs, being in derogation of the common law, must be strictly construed." Bergmann v. Boyce, 109 Nev. 670, 679, 856 P.2d 560, 566 (1993) (quoting Calcagagno v. Personalcare Health Management, 207 Ill. App. 3d 493, 152 Ill. Dec. 412, 418, 565 N.E.2d 1330, 1336 (Ill. App. 4th Dist. 1991) (citing Commissioners of Lincoln Park v. Schmidt, 395 Ill. 316, 69 N.E. 2d 869 (Ill. 1946))). In Village Builders 96, L.P. v. U.S. Laboratories, Inc., the Nevada Supreme Court held that "a district court's decision regarding an award of costs will not be overturned absent a finding that the district court abused its discretion." 121 Nev. 261, 276, 112 P.3d 1082, 1092 (2005) (citing U.S. Design & Constr. v. I.B.E.W. Local 357, 118 Nev. 458, 462, 50 P.3d 170, 172 (2002); Parodi v. Budetti, 115 Nev. 236, 240, 984 P.2d 172, 174 (1999)).

A party prevails "if it succeeds on any significant issue in litigation which achieves some of the benefit it sought in bringing suit." <u>Valley Elec. Ass'n v. Overfield</u>, 121 Nev. 7, 10, 106 P.3d 1198, 1200 (2005) (internal quotations omitted). To be a prevailing party, a party need not succeed on every issue. <u>See Hensley v. Eckerhart</u>, 461 U.S. 424, 434, 103 S.Ct. 1933, 76 L.Ed.2d

40 (1983) (observing that "a plaintiff [can be] deemed 'prevailing' even though he succeeded on only some of his claims for relief").

The Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Permanent Injunction, dated September 3, 2020 ("9-3-2020 FFCL&PI") granted the claim for declaratory relief, equal protection (in part) and injunctive relief. Accordingly, because of such rulings, it is Plaintiffs, not Clear River, who fall within the definition of a "prevailing party" for purposes of an award of costs. Accordingly, because Clear River is not a "prevailing party" in connection with the 9-3-2020 FFCL&PI, its request for costs should be denied.

2. <u>If Clear River's Memo of Costs is filed in connection with the Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Permanent Injunction</u> e-filed and e-served on September 16, 2020, it should be denied because it does not fall within the parameters of NRS 18.020.

Alternatively, if Clear River's Memo of Costs is filed in connection with the *Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Permanent Injunction* e-filed and e-served on September 16, 2020 (9-16-2020 FFCL&PI") which denied the Petition of Judicial Review, then the Memo of Costs should be denied because the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI's denial of the Petition for Judicial Review is not one of the types of cases in which costs would be allowed to a prevailing party, pursuant to NRS 18.020, which provides:

NRS 18.020 Cases in which costs allowed prevailing party. Costs must be allowed of course to the prevailing party against any adverse party against whom judgment is rendered, in the following cases:

- 1. In an action for the recovery of real property or a possessory right thereto.
- 2. In an action to recover the possession of personal property, where the value of the property amounts to more than \$2,500. The value must be determined by the jury, court or master by whom the action is tried.
- 3. In an action for the recovery of money or damages, where the plaintiff seeks to recover more than \$2,500.
- 4. In a special proceeding, except a special proceeding conducted pursuant to NRS 306.040.
- 5. In an action which involves the title or boundaries of real estate, or the legality of any tax, impost, assessment, toll or municipal fine, including the costs accrued in the action if originally commenced in a Justice Court. [1911 CPA § 435; RL § 5377; NCL § 8924] (NRS A 1969, 435; 1977, 774; 1979, 65, 1725; 1981, 470; 1985, 1503, 1622; 1995, 2793)

A Petition for Judicial Review, which is the subject of the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI, is not within any of the five (5) category of cases listed at NRS 18.020 and, therefore, the same does not provide authority for Clear River to seek an award of costs.

In Nevada, costs of suit are only recoverable if they are authorized by statute or court rule. Sun Realty v. Eighth Judicial Dist. Court In and For Clark County, 91 Nev. 774, 776, 542 P.2d 1072, 1074 (1975). As noted above, NRS 18.020 allows the prevailing party to receive its costs in the following five actions: (1) an action for the recovery of real property or a possessory right thereto; (2) an action to recover the possession of personal property valued more than \$2,500; (3) an action to recover money or damages of more than \$2,500; (4) a special proceeding; and (5) an action involving title or boundaries of real estate, the legality of any tax, assessment, toll, or municipal fine. Obviously, a petition for judicial review is not one of the five actions noted in NRS 18.020.

If the Legislature intended that costs be awarded for petitions for judicial review, the Legislature would have so expressly stated. Smith v. Crown Financial Services of America, 111 Nev. 277, 286, 890 P.2d 769, 775 (1995). Not only does the plain language of NRS 18.020 not reference petition for judicial review, but the legislature did not include more expansive phrases in the wording of the statute such as "including but not limited to" or "in other actions where the Court deems appropriate. Thus, the plain language of NRS 18.020 limits recovery of costs to only the five cases specified, and the Court must follow the plain language of the statute. See Harris Associates v. Clark County Sch. Dist., 119 Nev. 638, 641-42, 81 P.3d 532, 534 (2003). It is significant that the Legislature did not include petitions for judicial review in the types of cases for which a party may recover its costs. The Legislature is presumed to have knowledge of existing statutes related to the same subject, i.e., NRS Chapter 233B. See City of Boulder v.

General Sales Drivers, 101 Nev. 117, 119, 694 P.2d 498 (1985); Ronnow v. City of Las Vegas, 57 Nev. 332, 366, 65 P.2d 133 (1937).

Chapter 233B of the NRS does not classify a petition for judicial review as a special proceeding. NRS 233B.130 provides that judicial review in a district court is available to any party who is aggrieved by a final decision from an administrative proceeding in a contested case. An aggrieved party seeking review of a district court's decision on a petition for judicial review may appeal which "shall be taken as in other civil cases." NRS 233B.150. NRS Chapter 233B lacks any indication a petition for judicial review is a special proceeding. Rather, it indicates it is a "civil case."

NRS 233B.131 is the only section of Chapter 233B which addresses costs in that it allows a court to assess additional costs against a party unreasonably refusing to limit the record to be transmitted to the reviewing court in for a petition for judicial review. NRS Chapter 233B contains no other mention of assessing costs against a party in a petition for judicial review and it doesn't mention or make reference to NRS Chapter 18

NRS 18.020, which was enacted in 1911, has been amended six times since then, with the most recent amendment occurring in 1995 where it added to subsection 4 the following language "except a special proceeding conducted pursuant to NRS 306.040." 1995 Stat. of Nev., at 2794. By amending NRS 18.020 multiple times and not including petitions for judicial review as one of the type of cases for which costs may be awarded, the Court may presume that the Legislature intended only to include those types of cases specified in NRS 18.020. See Williams v. Clark County Dist. Attorney, 118 Nev. 473, 487-88, 50 P.3d 536, 545 (2002) (Rose, J., concurring and dissenting in part) ("[W]e have often said that the legislature is presumed to know what it is doing and purposefully uses the specific language [it chooses].").

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Therefore, the Memo of Costs should be denied because petitions for judicial review are not special proceedings for purposes of NRS 18.020.

3. <u>If Clear River's Memo of Costs pertains to the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI and assuming, arguendo, it falls within the parameters of NRS 18.020, the Memo of Costs should still be denied because the vast majority – nearly all -- of the claimed costs have nothing to do with the Petition for Judicial Review claim.</u>

If Clear River's Memo of Costs pertains to the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI and assuming, *arguendo*, it falls within the parameters of NRS 18.020, the Memo of Costs should still be denied because the vast majority – nearly all -- of the claimed costs have nothing to do with the Petition for Judicial Review claim.

Review of Clear River's Memo of Costs reveals that other than the initial filing fee, it is submitted that the claimed costs cannot be deemed to relate to the Petition for Judicial Review claim since such a claim was limited to the record submitted by the Department of Taxation. The costs referenced in Clear River's Memo of Costs pertain to discovery and trial, not the Petition for Judicial Review. Thus, such costs should be denied if same are claimed in connection with the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI which addressed the Petition for Judicial Review claim.

### III. CONCLUSION

Wherefore, as addressed above, Clear River's Memo of Costs should be denied and no costs assessed against Plaintiffs.

Dated this 11<sup>th</sup> day of August 2022.

#### CLARK HILL, PLLC

By /s/ Mark S. Dzarnoski, Esq.
John A. Hunt, Esq. (NSBN 1888)
Dominic P. Gentile, Esq. (NSBN 1923)
Mark S. Dzarnoski, Esq. (NSBN 3398)
A. William Maupin (NSBN 1150)
3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy., #500
Las Vegas, Nevada 89169
Attorneys for TGIG Plaintiffs

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of August 2022, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing via the Court's electronic filing system only, pursuant to the Nevada Electronic Filing and Conversion Rules, Administrative Order 14-2, to all parties currently on the electronic service list.

/s/ Tanya Bain
An Employee of Clark Hill

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DOMINIC P. GENTILE (NSBN 1923)

Email: dgentile@clarkhill.com JOHN A. HUNT (NSBN 1888) Email: jhunt@clarkhill.com

3800 Howard Hughes Parkway, Suite 500

Las Vegas, Nevada 89169

| Tel: (702) 862-8300; Fax: (702) 862-8400

Attorneys for TGIG, LLC, Nevada Holistic Medicine, LLC, GBS Nevada Partners, Fidelis Holdings, LLC, Gravitas Nevada,

Nevada Pure, LLC, Medifarm, LLC, and

Medifarm IV, LLC,, Plaintiffs in Case A-19-786962-B

DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

	) Case No. <b>A-19-787004-B</b>	
In Re: D.O.T. Litigation,	) Consolidated with: A-785818 ) A-786357 ) A-786962 ) A-787035 ) A-787540 ) A-787726 ) A-801416	
	) Dept. No. <b>31</b>	
	) Hearing Requested ) Oral Argument Requested: Yes	

#### MOTION TO RETAX AND SETTLE COSTS

(re: the *Verified Memorandum of Costs and Disbursements* filed on August 8, 2022, by CPCM Holdings, LLC d/b/a Thrive Cannabis Marketplace, Cheyenne Medical, Inc., and Commerce Park Medical, LLC)

TGIG, LLC, Nevada Holistic Medicine, LLC, GBS Nevada Partners, Fidelis Holdings, LLC, Gravitas Nevada, Nevada Pure, LLC, Medifarm, LLC, and Medifarm IV, LLC,, Plaintiffs in Case A-19-786962-B ("Plaintiffs"), by and through counsel, the law firm CLARK HILL, PLLC, hereby submit their Motion to Retax and Settle Costs, pursuant to NRS 18.110(4), regarding the *Verified Memorandum of Costs and Disbursements* filed on August 8, 2022 ("Memo of Costs"), by CPCM Holdings, LLC d/b/a Thrive Cannabis Marketplace, Cheyenne

Page **1** of **7** 

Medical, Inc., and Commerce Park Medical, LLC (collectively "Thrive"). In addition, as more fully addressed bellowed, by this Motion, Plaintiffs contend Thrive is simply not authorized as a matter of law to receive its costs under NRS 18.020.

This Motion is made and based upon the following points and authorities, the papers and pleadings on file herein, any attached exhibit, and any oral argument the court may allow.

### **POINTS & AUTHORITIES**

### I. INTRODUCTION

Thrive's Memo of Costs notes a total of \$155,829.31 in claimed costs. As more fully referenced below, the Memo of Costs should be denied. NRS 18.110.

### II. DISCUSSION

# 1. Thrive's Memo of Costs should be denied because it is Plaintiffs, not Thrive, who fall within the definition of a "prevailing party" for purposes of an award of costs.

"[S]tatutes permitting recovery of costs, being in derogation of the common law, must be strictly construed." Bergmann v. Boyce, 109 Nev. 670, 679, 856 P.2d 560, 566 (1993) (quoting Calcagagno v. Personalcare Health Management, 207 Ill. App. 3d 493, 152 Ill. Dec. 412, 418, 565 N.E.2d 1330, 1336 (Ill. App. 4th Dist. 1991) (citing Commissioners of Lincoln Park v. Schmidt, 395 Ill. 316, 69 N.E. 2d 869 (Ill. 1946))). In Village Builders 96, L.P. v. U.S. Laboratories, Inc., the Nevada Supreme Court held that "a district court's decision regarding an award of costs will not be overturned absent a finding that the district court abused its discretion." 121 Nev. 261, 276, 112 P.3d 1082, 1092 (2005) (citing U.S. Design & Constr. v. I.B.E.W. Local 357, 118 Nev. 458, 462, 50 P.3d 170, 172 (2002); Parodi v. Budetti, 115 Nev. 236, 240, 984 P.2d 172, 174 (1999)).

A party prevails "if it succeeds on any significant issue in litigation which achieves some of the benefit it sought in bringing suit." <u>Valley Elec. Ass'n v. Overfield</u>, 121 Nev. 7, 10, 106 P.3d 1198, 1200 (2005) (internal quotations omitted). To be a prevailing party, a party need not succeed on every issue. <u>See Hensley v. Eckerhart</u>, 461 U.S. 424, 434, 103 S.Ct. 1933, 76 L.Ed.2d

40 (1983) (observing that "a plaintiff [can be] deemed 'prevailing' even though he succeeded on only some of his claims for relief").

The Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Permanent Injunction, dated September 3, 2020 ("9-3-2020 FFCL&PI") granted the claim for declaratory relief, equal protection (in part) and injunctive relief. Accordingly, because of such rulings, it is Plaintiffs, not Thrive, who fall within the definition of a "prevailing party" for purposes of an award of costs. Accordingly, because Thrive is not a "prevailing party" in connection with the 9-3-2020 FFCL&PI, its request for costs should be denied.

# 2. <u>If Thrive's Memo of Costs is filed in connection with the Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Permanent Injunction e-filed and e-served on September 16, 2020, it should be denied because it does not fall within the parameters of NRS 18.020.</u>

Alternatively, if Thrive's Memo of Costs is filed in connection with the *Findings of Fact*, *Conclusion of Law and Permanent Injunction* e-filed and e-served on September 16, 2020 (9-16-2020 FFCL&PI") which denied the Petition of Judicial Review, then the Memo of Costs should be denied because the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI's denial of the Petition for Judicial Review is not one of the types of cases in which costs would be allowed to a prevailing party, pursuant to NRS 18.020, which provides:

NRS 18.020 Cases in which costs allowed prevailing party. Costs must be allowed of course to the prevailing party against any adverse party against whom judgment is rendered, in the following cases:

- 1. In an action for the recovery of real property or a possessory right thereto.
- 2. In an action to recover the possession of personal property, where the value of the property amounts to more than \$2,500. The value must be determined by the jury, court or master by whom the action is tried.
- 3. In an action for the recovery of money or damages, where the plaintiff seeks to recover more than \$2,500.
- 4. In a special proceeding, except a special proceeding conducted pursuant to NRS 306.040.
- 5. In an action which involves the title or boundaries of real estate, or the legality of any tax, impost, assessment, toll or municipal fine, including the costs accrued in the action if originally commenced in a Justice Court. [1911 CPA § 435; RL § 5377; NCL § 8924] (NRS A 1969, 435; 1977, 774; 1979, 65, 1725; 1981, 470; 1985, 1503, 1622; 1995, 2793)

A Petition for Judicial Review, which is the subject of the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI, is not within any of the five (5) category of cases listed at NRS 18.020 and, therefore, the same does not provide authority for Thrive to seek an award of costs.

In Nevada, costs of suit are only recoverable if they are authorized by statute or court rule. Sun Realty v. Eighth Judicial Dist. Court In and For Clark County, 91 Nev. 774, 776, 542 P.2d 1072, 1074 (1975). As noted above, NRS 18.020 allows the prevailing party to receive its costs in the following five actions: (1) an action for the recovery of real property or a possessory right thereto; (2) an action to recover the possession of personal property valued more than \$2,500; (3) an action to recover money or damages of more than \$2,500; (4) a special proceeding; and (5) an action involving title or boundaries of real estate, the legality of any tax, assessment, toll, or municipal fine. Obviously, a petition for judicial review is not one of the five actions noted in NRS 18.020.

If the Legislature intended that costs be awarded for petitions for judicial review, the Legislature would have so expressly stated. Smith v. Crown Financial Services of America, 111 Nev. 277, 286, 890 P.2d 769, 775 (1995). Not only does the plain language of NRS 18.020 not reference petition for judicial review, but the legislature did not include more expansive phrases in the wording of the statute such as "including but not limited to" or "in other actions where the Court deems appropriate. Thus, the plain language of NRS 18.020 limits recovery of costs to only the five cases specified, and the Court must follow the plain language of the statute. See Harris Associates v. Clark County Sch. Dist., 119 Nev. 638, 641-42, 81 P.3d 532, 534 (2003). It is significant that the Legislature did not include petitions for judicial review in the types of cases for which a party may recover its costs. The Legislature is presumed to have knowledge of existing statutes related to the same subject, i.e., NRS Chapter 233B. See City of Boulder v.

General Sales Drivers, 101 Nev. 117, 119, 694 P.2d 498 (1985); Ronnow v. City of Las Vegas, 57 Nev. 332, 366, 65 P.2d 133 (1937).

Chapter 233B of the NRS does not classify a petition for judicial review as a special proceeding. NRS 233B.130 provides that judicial review in a district court is available to any party who is aggrieved by a final decision from an administrative proceeding in a contested case. An aggrieved party seeking review of a district court's decision on a petition for judicial review may appeal which "shall be taken as in other civil cases." NRS 233B.150. NRS Chapter 233B lacks any indication a petition for judicial review is a special proceeding. Rather, it indicates it is a "civil case."

NRS 233B.131 is the only section of Chapter 233B which addresses costs in that it allows a court to assess additional costs against a party unreasonably refusing to limit the record to be transmitted to the reviewing court in for a petition for judicial review. NRS Chapter 233B contains no other mention of assessing costs against a party in a petition for judicial review and it doesn't mention or make reference to NRS Chapter 18

NRS 18.020, which was enacted in 1911, has been amended six times since then, with the most recent amendment occurring in 1995 where it added to subsection 4 the following language "except a special proceeding conducted pursuant to NRS 306.040." 1995 Stat. of Nev., at 2794. By amending NRS 18.020 multiple times and not including petitions for judicial review as one of the type of cases for which costs may be awarded, the Court may presume that the Legislature intended only to include those types of cases specified in NRS 18.020. See Williams v. Clark County Dist. Attorney, 118 Nev. 473, 487-88, 50 P.3d 536, 545 (2002) (Rose, J., concurring and dissenting in part) ("[W]e have often said that the legislature is presumed to know what it is doing and purposefully uses the specific language [it chooses].").

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Therefore, the Memo of Costs should be denied because petitions for judicial review are not special proceedings for purposes of NRS 18.020.

If Thrive's Memo of Costs pertains to the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI and assuming **3.** arguendo, it falls within the parameters of NRS 18.020, the Memo of Costs should still be denied because the vast majority – nearly all -- of the claimed costs have nothing to do with the Petition for Judicial Review claim.

If Thrive's Memo of Costs pertains to the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI and assuming, arguendo, it falls within the parameters of NRS 18.020, the Memo of Costs should still be denied because the vast majority – nearly all -- of the claimed costs have nothing to do with the Petition for Judicial Review claim.

Review of Thrive's Memo of Costs reveals that other than the initial filing fee, it is submitted that the claimed costs cannot be deemed to relate to the Petition for Judicial Review claim since such a claim was limited to the record submitted by the Department of Taxation. The costs referenced in Thrive's Memo of Costs pertain to discovery and trial, not the Petition for Judicial Review. Thus, such costs should be denied if same are claimed in connection with the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI which addressed the Petition for Judicial Review claim.

### III. **CONCLUSION**

Wherefore, as addressed above, Thrive's Memo of Costs should be denied and no costs assessed against Plaintiffs.

Dated this 11th day of August 2022.

### **CLARK HILL, PLLC**

By /s/ Mark S. Dzarnoski, Esq. John A. Hunt, Esq. (NSBN 1888) Dominic P. Gentile, Esq. (NSBN 1923) Mark S. Dzarnoski, Esq. (NSBN 3398) A. William Maupin (NSBN 1150) 3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy., #500 Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 Attorneys for TGIG Plaintiffs

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of August 2022, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing via the Court's electronic filing system only, pursuant to the Nevada Electronic Filing and Conversion Rules, Administrative Order 14-2, to all parties currently on the electronic service list.

/s/ Tanya Bain An Employee of Clark Hill

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DOMINIC P. GENTILE (NSBN 1923)

Email: dgentile@clarkhill.com JOHN A. HUNT (NSBN 1888) Email: jhunt@clarkhill.com

MARK DZARNOSKI (NSBN 3398)
Email: mdzarnoski@clarkhill.com
A. WILLIAM MAUPIN (NSBN 1150)
3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy., #500
Las Vegas, Nevada 89169

Tel: (702) 862-8300; Fax: (702) 862-8400

Attorneys for TGIG Plaintiffs in case no. A-786962

### DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

	) Case No. <b>A-19-787004-B</b>
In Re: D.O.T. Litigation,	) Consolidated with: A-785818 A-786357 A-786962 A-787035 A-787540 A-787726 A-801416
	) Dept. No. <b>31</b>
	<ul><li>Hearing Requested</li><li>Oral Argument Requested: Yes</li></ul>

### MOTION TO RETAX AND SETTLE COSTS

(re: the *Verified Memorandum of Costs* filed by Deep Roots Harvest, Inc. on August 8, 2022)

TGIG, LLC, Nevada Holistic Medicine, LLC, GBS Nevada Partners, Fidelis Holdings, LLC, Gravitas Nevada, Nevada Pure, LLC, Medifarm, LLC, and Medifarm IV, LLC, Plaintiffs in Case A-19-786962-B ("Plaintiffs"), by and through counsel, the law firm CLARK HILL, PLLC, hereby submit their Motion to Retax and Settle Costs, pursuant to NRS 18.110(4), regarding the *Verified Memorandum of Costs* filed on August 8, 2022 ("Memo of Costs"), by Deep Roots Harvest, Inc. ("Deep Roots"). In addition, as more fully addressed bellowed, by this Motion, Plaintiffs contend Deep Roots is simply not authorized as a matter of law to receive its

Page 1 of 7

costs under NRS 18.020.

This Motion is made and based upon the following points and authorities, the papers and pleadings on file herein, any attached exhibit, and any oral argument the court may allow.

### **POINTS & AUTHORITIES**

### I. INTRODUCTION

Deep Roots' Memo of Costs notes a total of \$44,250.67 in claimed costs. As more fully referenced below, the Memo of Costs should be denied. NRS 18.110.

# II. **DISCUSSION**

1. <u>Deep Roots' Memo of Costs should be denied because it is Plaintiffs, not Deep Roots, who fall within the definition of a "prevailing party" for purposes of an award of costs.</u>

"[S]tatutes permitting recovery of costs, being in derogation of the common law, must be strictly construed." Bergmann v. Boyce, 109 Nev. 670, 679, 856 P.2d 560, 566 (1993) (quoting Calcagagno v. Personalcare Health Management, 207 Ill. App. 3d 493, 152 Ill. Dec. 412, 418, 565 N.E.2d 1330, 1336 (Ill. App. 4th Dist. 1991) (citing Commissioners of Lincoln Park v. Schmidt, 395 Ill. 316, 69 N.E. 2d 869 (Ill. 1946))). In Village Builders 96, L.P. v. U.S. Laboratories, Inc., the Nevada Supreme Court held that "a district court's decision regarding an award of costs will not be overturned absent a finding that the district court abused its discretion." 121 Nev. 261, 276, 112 P.3d 1082, 1092 (2005) (citing U.S. Design & Constr. v. I.B.E.W. Local 357, 118 Nev. 458, 462, 50 P.3d 170, 172 (2002); Parodi v. Budetti, 115 Nev. 236, 240, 984 P.2d 172, 174 (1999)).

A party prevails "if it succeeds on any significant issue in litigation which achieves some of the benefit it sought in bringing suit." <u>Valley Elec. Ass'n v. Overfield</u>, 121 Nev. 7, 10, 106 P.3d 1198, 1200 (2005) (internal quotations omitted). To be a prevailing party, a party need not succeed on every issue. See Hensley v. Eckerhart, 461 U.S. 424, 434, 103 S.Ct. 1933, 76 L.Ed.2d

40 (1983) (observing that "a plaintiff [can be] deemed 'prevailing' even though he succeeded on only some of his claims for relief").

The Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Permanent Injunction, dated September 3, 2020 ("9-3-2020 FFCL&PI") granted the claim for declaratory relief, equal protection (in part) and injunctive relief. Accordingly, because of such rulings, it is Plaintiffs, not Deep Roots, who fall within the definition of a "prevailing party" for purposes of an award of costs. Accordingly, because Deep Roots is not a "prevailing party" in connection with the 9-3-2020 FFCL&PI, its request for costs should be denied.

2. <u>If Deep Roots' Memo of Costs is filed in connection with the Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Permanent Injunction e-filed and e-served on September 16, 2020, it should be denied because it does not fall within the parameters of NRS 18.020.</u>

Alternatively, if Deep Roots' Memo of Costs is filed in connection with the *Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Permanent Injunction* e-filed and e-served on September 16, 2020 (9-16-2020 FFCL&PI') which denied the Petition of Judicial Review, then the Memo of Costs should be denied because the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI's denial of the Petition for Judicial Review is not one of the types of cases in which costs would be allowed to a prevailing party, pursuant to NRS 18.020, which provides:

NRS 18.020 Cases in which costs allowed prevailing party. Costs must be allowed of course to the prevailing party against any adverse party against whom judgment is rendered, in the following cases:

- 1. In an action for the recovery of real property or a possessory right thereto.
- 2. In an action to recover the possession of personal property, where the value of the property amounts to more than \$2,500. The value must be determined by the jury, court or master by whom the action is tried.
- 3. In an action for the recovery of money or damages, where the plaintiff seeks to recover more than \$2,500.
- 4. In a special proceeding, except a special proceeding conducted pursuant to NRS 306.040.
- 5. In an action which involves the title or boundaries of real estate, or the legality of any tax, impost, assessment, toll or municipal fine, including the costs accrued in the action if originally commenced in a Justice Court. [1911 CPA § 435; RL § 5377; NCL § 8924] (NRS A 1969, 435; 1977, 774; 1979, 65, 1725; 1981, 470; 1985, 1503, 1622; 1995, 2793)

A Petition for Judicial Review, which is the subject of the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI, is not within any of the five (5) category of cases listed at NRS 18.020 and, therefore, the same does not provide authority for Deep Roots to seek an award of costs.

In Nevada, costs of suit are only recoverable if they are authorized by statute or court rule. Sun Realty v. Eighth Judicial Dist. Court In and For Clark County, 91 Nev. 774, 776, 542 P.2d 1072, 1074 (1975). As noted above, NRS 18.020 allows the prevailing party to receive its costs in the following five actions: (1) an action for the recovery of real property or a possessory right thereto; (2) an action to recover the possession of personal property valued more than \$2,500; (3) an action to recover money or damages of more than \$2,500; (4) a special proceeding; and (5) an action involving title or boundaries of real estate, the legality of any tax, assessment, toll, or municipal fine. Obviously, a petition for judicial review is not one of the five actions noted in NRS 18.020.

If the Legislature intended that costs be awarded for petitions for judicial review, the Legislature would have so expressly stated. Smith v. Crown Financial Services of America, 111 Nev. 277, 286, 890 P.2d 769, 775 (1995). Not only does the plain language of NRS 18.020 not reference petition for judicial review, but the legislature did not include more expansive phrases in the wording of the statute such as "including but not limited to" or "in other actions where the Court deems appropriate. Thus, the plain language of NRS 18.020 limits recovery of costs to only the five cases specified, and the Court must follow the plain language of the statute. See Harris Associates v. Clark County Sch. Dist., 119 Nev. 638, 641-42, 81 P.3d 532, 534 (2003). It is significant that the Legislature did not include petitions for judicial review in the types of cases for which a party may recover its costs. The Legislature is presumed to have knowledge of existing statutes related to the same subject, i.e., NRS Chapter 233B. See City of Boulder v.

General Sales Drivers, 101 Nev. 117, 119, 694 P.2d 498 (1985); Ronnow v. City of Las Vegas, 57 Nev. 332, 366, 65 P.2d 133 (1937).

Chapter 233B of the NRS does not classify a petition for judicial review as a special proceeding. NRS 233B.130 provides that judicial review in a district court is available to any party who is aggrieved by a final decision from an administrative proceeding in a contested case. An aggrieved party seeking review of a district court's decision on a petition for judicial review may appeal which "shall be taken as in other civil cases." NRS 233B.150. NRS Chapter 233B lacks any indication a petition for judicial review is a special proceeding. Rather, it indicates it is a "civil case."

NRS 233B.131 is the only section of Chapter 233B which addresses costs in that it allows a court to assess additional costs against a party unreasonably refusing to limit the record to be transmitted to the reviewing court in for a petition for judicial review. NRS Chapter 233B contains no other mention of assessing costs against a party in a petition for judicial review and it doesn't mention or make reference to NRS Chapter 18

NRS 18.020, which was enacted in 1911, has been amended six times since then, with the most recent amendment occurring in 1995 where it added to subsection 4 the following language "except a special proceeding conducted pursuant to NRS 306.040." 1995 Stat. of Nev., at 2794. By amending NRS 18.020 multiple times and not including petitions for judicial review as one of the type of cases for which costs may be awarded, the Court may presume that the Legislature intended only to include those types of cases specified in NRS 18.020. See Williams v. Clark County Dist. Attorney, 118 Nev. 473, 487-88, 50 P.3d 536, 545 (2002) (Rose, J., concurring and dissenting in part) ("[W]e have often said that the legislature is presumed to know what it is doing and purposefully uses the specific language [it chooses].").

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Therefore, the Memo of Costs should be denied because petitions for judicial review are not special proceedings for purposes of NRS 18.020.

If Deep Roots' Memo of Costs pertains to the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI and assuming **3.** arguendo, it falls within the parameters of NRS 18.020, the Memo of Costs should still be denied because the vast majority – nearly all -- of the claimed costs have nothing to do with the Petition for Judicial Review claim.

If Deep Roots' Memo of Costs pertains to the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI and assuming, arguendo, it falls within the parameters of NRS 18.020, the Memo of Costs should still be denied because the vast majority – nearly all -- of the claimed costs have nothing to do with the Petition for Judicial Review claim.

Review of Deep Roots' Memo of Costs reveals that other than the initial filing fee, it is submitted that the claimed costs cannot be deemed to relate to the Petition for Judicial Review claim since such a claim was limited to the record submitted by the Department of Taxation. The costs referenced in Deep Roots' Memo of Costs pertain to discovery and trial, not the Petition for Judicial Review. Thus, such costs should be denied if same are claimed in connection with the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI which addressed the Petition for Judicial Review claim.

### III. **CONCLUSION**

Wherefore, as addressed above, Deep Roots' Memo of Costs should be denied, and no costs assessed against Plaintiffs.

Dated this 11th day of August 2022.

### CLARK HILL, PLLC

By /s/ Mark S. Dzarnoski, Esq. John A. Hunt, Esq. (NSBN 1888) Dominic P. Gentile, Esq. (NSBN 1923) Mark S. Dzarnoski, Esq. (NSBN 3398) A. William Maupin (NSBN 1150) 3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy., #500 Las Vegas, Nevada 89169 Attorneys for TGIG Plaintiffs

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of August 2022, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing via the Court's electronic filing system only, pursuant to the Nevada Electronic Filing and Conversion Rules, Administrative Order 14-2, to all parties currently on the electronic service list.

/s/ Tanya Bain
An Employee of Clark Hill

Electronically file 33 8/11/2022 3:11 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

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DOMINIC P. GENTILE (NSBN 1923)

Email: dgentile@clarkhill.com JOHN A. HUNT (NSBN 1888) Email: jhunt@clarkhill.com

MARK DZARNOSKI (NSBN 3398)
Email: mdzarnoski@clarkhill.com
A. WILLIAM MAUPIN (NSBN 1150)
3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy., #500
Las Vegas, Nevada 89169

Tel: (702) 862-8300; Fax: (702) 862-8400

Attorneys for TGIG Plaintiffs in case no. A-786962

### DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Case No. A-19-787004-B

Consolidated with: A-785818
A-786357
In Re: D.O.T. Litigation,
A-787035
A-787035
A-787726
A-787726
Dept. No. 31

Hearing Requested
Oral Argument Requested: Yes

#### MOTION TO RETAX AND SETTLE COSTS

(re: Lone Mountain Partners LLC's Memorandum of Costs Pursuant to NRS 18.110 filed on August 9, 2022)

TGIG, LLC, Nevada Holistic Medicine, LLC, GBS Nevada Partners, Fidelis Holdings, LLC, Gravitas Nevada, Nevada Pure, LLC, Medifarm, LLC, and Medifarm IV, LLC,, Plaintiffs in Case A-19-786962-B ("Plaintiffs"), by and through counsel, the law firm CLARK HILL, PLLC, hereby submit their Motion to Retax and Settle Costs, pursuant to NRS 18.110(4), regarding *Lone Mountain Partners LLC's Memorandum of Costs Pursuant to NRS 18.110* filed on August 9, 2022 ("Memo of Costs"). In addition, as more fully addressed bellowed, by this Motion, Plaintiffs contend Defendant/Intervenor, Lone Mountain Partners, LLC ("LMP"), is

Page 1 of 7

 simply not authorized as a matter of law to receive its costs under NRS 18.020.

This Motion is made and based upon the following points and authorities, the papers and pleadings on file herein, any attached exhibit, and any oral argument the court may allow.

### **POINTS & AUTHORITIES**

### I. INTRODUCTION

LMP's Memo of Costs notes a total of \$71,431.72 in claimed costs. As more fully referenced below, the Memo of Costs should be denied. NRS 18.110.

# II. DISCUSSION

# 1. <u>LMP's Memo of Costs should be denied because it is Plaintiffs, not LMP, who fall within the definition of a "prevailing party" for purposes of an award of costs.</u>

"[S]tatutes permitting recovery of costs, being in derogation of the common law, must be strictly construed." Bergmann v. Boyce, 109 Nev. 670, 679, 856 P.2d 560, 566 (1993) (quoting Calcagagno v. Personalcare Health Management, 207 Ill. App. 3d 493, 152 Ill. Dec. 412, 418, 565 N.E.2d 1330, 1336 (Ill. App. 4th Dist. 1991) (citing Commissioners of Lincoln Park v. Schmidt, 395 Ill. 316, 69 N.E. 2d 869 (Ill. 1946))). In Village Builders 96, L.P. v. U.S. Laboratories, Inc., the Nevada Supreme Court held that "a district court's decision regarding an award of costs will not be overturned absent a finding that the district court abused its discretion." 121 Nev. 261, 276, 112 P.3d 1082, 1092 (2005) (citing U.S. Design & Constr. v. I.B.E.W. Local 357, 118 Nev. 458, 462, 50 P.3d 170, 172 (2002); Parodi v. Budetti, 115 Nev. 236, 240, 984 P.2d 172, 174 (1999)).

A party prevails "if it succeeds on any significant issue in litigation which achieves some of the benefit it sought in bringing suit." Valley Elec. Ass'n v. Overfield, 121 Nev. 7, 10, 106 P.3d 1198, 1200 (2005) (internal quotations omitted). To be a prevailing party, a party need not succeed on every issue. See Hensley v. Eckerhart, 461 U.S. 424, 434, 103 S.Ct. 1933, 76 L.Ed.2d 40 (1983) (observing that "a plaintiff [can be] deemed 'prevailing' even though he succeeded on only some of his claims for relief").

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The Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Permanent Injunction, dated September 3, 2020 ("9-3-2020 FFCL&PI") granted the claim for declaratory relief, equal protection (in part) and injunctive relief. Accordingly, because of such rulings, it is Plaintiffs, not LMP, who fall within the definition of a "prevailing party" for purposes of an award of costs. Accordingly, because LMP is not a "prevailing party" in connection with the 9-3-2020 FFCL&PI, its request for costs should be denied.

2. If LMP's Memo of Costs is filed in connection with the *Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Permanent Injunction* e-filed and e-served on September 16, 2020, it should be denied because it does not fall within the parameters of NRS 18.020.

Alternatively, if LMP's Memo of Costs is filed in connection with the *Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Permanent Injunction* e-filed and e-served on September 16, 2020 (9-16-2020 FFCL&PI") which denied the Petition of Judicial Review, then the Memo of Costs should be denied because the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI's denial of the Petition for Judicial Review is not one of the types of cases in which costs would be allowed to a prevailing party, pursuant to NRS 18.020, which provides:

NRS 18.020 Cases in which costs allowed prevailing party. Costs must be allowed of course to the prevailing party against any adverse party against whom judgment is rendered, in the following cases:

- 1. In an action for the recovery of real property or a possessory right thereto.
- 2. In an action to recover the possession of personal property, where the value of the property amounts to more than \$2,500. The value must be determined by the jury, court or master by whom the action is tried.
- 3. In an action for the recovery of money or damages, where the plaintiff seeks to recover more than \$2,500.
- 4. In a special proceeding, except a special proceeding conducted pursuant to NRS 306.040.
- 5. In an action which involves the title or boundaries of real estate, or the legality of any tax, impost, assessment, toll or municipal fine, including the costs accrued in the action if originally commenced in a Justice Court. [1911 CPA § 435; RL § 5377; NCL § 8924] (NRS A 1969, 435; 1977, 774; 1979, 65, 1725; 1981, 470; 1985, 1503, 1622; 1995, 2793)

A Petition for Judicial Review, which is the subject of the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI, is not within any of the five (5) category of cases listed at NRS 18.020 and, therefore, the same does not provide authority for LMP to seek an award of costs.

In Nevada, costs of suit are only recoverable if they are authorized by statute or court rule. Sun Realty v. Eighth Judicial Dist. Court In and For Clark County, 91 Nev. 774, 776, 542 P.2d 1072, 1074 (1975). As noted above, NRS 18.020 allows the prevailing party to receive its costs in the following five actions: (1) an action for the recovery of real property or a possessory right thereto; (2) an action to recover the possession of personal property valued more than \$2,500; (3) an action to recover money or damages of more than \$2,500; (4) a special proceeding; and (5) an action involving title or boundaries of real estate, the legality of any tax, assessment, toll, or municipal fine. Obviously, a petition for judicial review is not one of the five actions noted in NRS 18.020.

If the Legislature intended that costs be awarded for petitions for judicial review, the Legislature would have so expressly stated. Smith v. Crown Financial Services of America, 111 Nev. 277, 286, 890 P.2d 769, 775 (1995). Not only does the plain language of NRS 18.020 not reference petition for judicial review, but the legislature did not include more expansive phrases in the wording of the statute such as "including but not limited to" or "in other actions where the Court deems appropriate. Thus, the plain language of NRS 18.020 limits recovery of costs to only the five cases specified, and the Court must follow the plain language of the statute. See Harris Associates v. Clark County Sch. Dist., 119 Nev. 638, 641-42, 81 P.3d 532, 534 (2003). It is significant that the Legislature did not include petitions for judicial review in the types of cases for which a party may recover its costs. The Legislature is presumed to have knowledge of existing statutes related to the same subject, i.e., NRS Chapter 233B. See City of Boulder v. General Sales Drivers, 101 Nev. 117, 119, 694 P.2d 498 (1985); Ronnow v. City of Las Vegas, 57 Nev. 332, 366, 65 P.2d 133 (1937).

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Chapter 233B of the NRS does not classify a petition for judicial review as a special proceeding. NRS 233B.130 provides that judicial review in a district court is available to any party who is aggrieved by a final decision from an administrative proceeding in a contested case. An aggrieved party seeking review of a district court's decision on a petition for judicial review may appeal which "shall be taken as in other civil cases." NRS 233B.150. NRS Chapter 233B lacks any indication a petition for judicial review is a special proceeding. Rather, it indicates it is a "civil case."

NRS 233B.131 is the only section of Chapter 233B which addresses costs in that it allows a court to assess additional costs against a party unreasonably refusing to limit the record to be transmitted to the reviewing court in for a petition for judicial review. NRS Chapter 233B contains no other mention of assessing costs against a party in a petition for judicial review and it doesn't mention or make reference to NRS Chapter 18

NRS 18.020, which was enacted in 1911, has been amended six times since then, with the most recent amendment occurring in 1995 where it added to subsection 4 the following language "except a special proceeding conducted pursuant to NRS 306.040." 1995 Stat. of Nev., at 2794. By amending NRS 18.020 multiple times and not including petitions for judicial review as one of the type of cases for which costs may be awarded, the Court may presume that the Legislature intended only to include those types of cases specified in NRS 18.020. See Williams v. Clark County Dist. Attorney, 118 Nev. 473, 487-88, 50 P.3d 536, 545 (2002) (Rose, J., concurring and dissenting in part) ("[W]e have often said that the legislature is presumed to know what it is doing and purposefully uses the specific language [it chooses].").

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Therefore, the Memo of Costs should be denied because petitions for judicial review are not special proceedings for purposes of NRS 18.020.

3. If LMP's Memo of Costs pertains to the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI and assuming, arguendo, it falls within the parameters of NRS 18.020, the Memo of Costs should still be denied because the vast majority – nearly all -- of the claimed costs have nothing to do with the Petition for Judicial Review claim.

If LMP's Memo of Costs pertains to the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI and assuming, *arguendo*, it falls within the parameters of NRS 18.020, the Memo of Costs should still be denied because the vast majority – nearly all -- of the claimed costs have nothing to do with the Petition for Judicial Review claim.

Review of LMP's Memo of Costs reveals that other than the initial filing fee, it is submitted that the claimed costs cannot be deemed to relate to the Petition for Judicial Review claim since such a claim was limited to the record submitted by the Department of Taxation. The costs referenced in LMP's Memo of Costs pertain to discovery and trial, not the Petition for Judicial Review. Thus, such costs should be denied if same are claimed in connection with the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI which addressed the Petition for Judicial Review claim.

### III. CONCLUSION

Wherefore, as addressed above, LMP's Memo of Costs should be denied and no costs assessed against Plaintiffs.

Dated this 11th day of August 2022.

#### CLARK HILL, PLLC

By /s/ Mark S. Dzarnoski, Esq.
John A. Hunt, Esq. (NSBN 1888)
Dominic P. Gentile, Esq. (NSBN 1923)
Mark S. Dzarnoski, Esq. (NSBN 3398)
A. William Maupin (NSBN 1150)
3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy., #500
Las Vegas, Nevada 89169
Attorneys for TGIG Plaintiffs

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of August 2022, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing via the Court's electronic filing system only, pursuant to the Nevada Electronic Filing and Conversion Rules, Administrative Order 14-2, to all parties currently on the electronic service list.

/s/ Tanya Bain
An Employee of Clark Hill

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CLARK HILL PLLC

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DOMINIC P. GENTILE (NSBN 1923)

Email: dgentile@clarkhill.com JOHN A. HUNT (NSBN 1888) Email: jhunt@clarkhill.com

MARK DZARNOSKI (NSBN 3398)
Email: mdzarnoski@clarkhill.com
A. WILLIAM MAUPIN (NSBN 1150)
3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy., #500
Las Vegas, Nevada 89169

Tel: (702) 862-8300; Fax: (702) 862-8400

Attorneys for TGIG Plaintiffs in case no. A-786962

### DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

	) Case No. <b>A-19-787004-B</b>		
In Re: D.O.T. Litigation,	) Consolidated ) ) ) ) ) ) )	A-785818 A-786357 A-786962 A-787035 A-787540 A-787726 A-801416	
	) Dept. No. <b>31</b>		
	,	Hearing Requested Oral Argument Requested: Yes	

#### MOTION TO RETAX AND SETTLE COSTS

(re: Nevada Organic Remedies, LLC's Memorandum of Costs filed on August 9, 2022)

TGIG, LLC, Nevada Holistic Medicine, LLC, GBS Nevada Partners, Fidelis Holdings, LLC, Gravitas Nevada, Nevada Pure, LLC, Medifarm, LLC, and Medifarm IV, LLC,, Plaintiffs in Case A-19-786962-B ("Plaintiffs"), by and through counsel, the law firm CLARK HILL, PLLC, hereby submit their Motion to Retax and Settle Costs, pursuant to NRS 18.110(4), regarding *Nevada Organic Remedies, LLC's Memorandum of Costs* filed on August 9, 2022 ("Memo of Costs"). In addition, as more fully addressed bellowed, by this Motion, Plaintiffs contend Defendant/Intervenor/Counterclaimant, Nevada Organic Remedies, LLC ("NOR"), is

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 simply not authorized as a matter of law to receive its costs under NRS 18.020.

This Motion is made and based upon the following points and authorities, the papers and pleadings on file herein, any attached exhibit, and any oral argument the court may allow.

### **POINTS & AUTHORITIES**

### I. INTRODUCTION

NOR's Memo of Costs notes a total of \$22,068.92 in claimed costs. As more fully referenced below, the Memo of Costs should be denied. NRS 18.110.

# II. DISCUSSION

# 1. NOR's Memo of Costs should be denied because it is Plaintiffs, not NOR, who fall within the definition of a "prevailing party" for purposes of an award of costs.

"[S]tatutes permitting recovery of costs, being in derogation of the common law, must be strictly construed." Bergmann v. Boyce, 109 Nev. 670, 679, 856 P.2d 560, 566 (1993) (quoting Calcagagno v. Personalcare Health Management, 207 Ill. App. 3d 493, 152 Ill. Dec. 412, 418, 565 N.E.2d 1330, 1336 (Ill. App. 4th Dist. 1991) (citing Commissioners of Lincoln Park v. Schmidt, 395 Ill. 316, 69 N.E. 2d 869 (Ill. 1946))). In Village Builders 96, L.P. v. U.S. Laboratories, Inc., the Nevada Supreme Court held that "a district court's decision regarding an award of costs will not be overturned absent a finding that the district court abused its discretion." 121 Nev. 261, 276, 112 P.3d 1082, 1092 (2005) (citing U.S. Design & Constr. v. I.B.E.W. Local 357, 118 Nev. 458, 462, 50 P.3d 170, 172 (2002); Parodi v. Budetti, 115 Nev. 236, 240, 984 P.2d 172, 174 (1999)).

A party prevails "if it succeeds on any significant issue in litigation which achieves some of the benefit it sought in bringing suit." Valley Elec. Ass'n v. Overfield, 121 Nev. 7, 10, 106 P.3d 1198, 1200 (2005) (internal quotations omitted). To be a prevailing party, a party need not succeed on every issue. See Hensley v. Eckerhart, 461 U.S. 424, 434, 103 S.Ct. 1933, 76 L.Ed.2d 40 (1983) (observing that "a plaintiff [can be] deemed 'prevailing' even though he succeeded on only some of his claims for relief").

The Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Permanent Injunction, dated September 3, 2020 ("9-3-2020 FFCL&PI") granted the claim for declaratory relief, equal protection (in part) and injunctive relief. Accordingly, because of such rulings, it is Plaintiffs, not NOR, who fall within the definition of a "prevailing party" for purposes of an award of costs. Accordingly, because NOR is not a "prevailing party" in connection with the 9-3-2020 FFCL&PI, its request for costs should be denied.

2. If NOR's Memo of Costs is filed in connection with the *Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Permanent Injunction* e-filed and e-served on September 16, 2020, it should be denied because it does not fall within the parameters of NRS 18.020.

Alternatively, if NOR's Memo of Costs is filed in connection with the *Findings of Fact*, *Conclusion of Law and Permanent Injunction* e-filed and e-served on September 16, 2020 (9-16-2020 FFCL&PI") which denied the Petition of Judicial Review, then the Memo of Costs should be denied because the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI's denial of the Petition for Judicial Review is not one of the types of cases in which costs would be allowed to a prevailing party, pursuant to NRS 18.020, which provides:

NRS 18.020 Cases in which costs allowed prevailing party. Costs must be allowed of course to the prevailing party against any adverse party against whom judgment is rendered, in the following cases:

- 1. In an action for the recovery of real property or a possessory right thereto.
- 2. In an action to recover the possession of personal property, where the value of the property amounts to more than \$2,500. The value must be determined by the jury, court or master by whom the action is tried.
- 3. In an action for the recovery of money or damages, where the plaintiff seeks to recover more than \$2,500.
- 4. In a special proceeding, except a special proceeding conducted pursuant to NRS 306.040.
- 5. In an action which involves the title or boundaries of real estate, or the legality of any tax, impost, assessment, toll or municipal fine, including the costs accrued in the action if originally commenced in a Justice Court. [1911 CPA § 435; RL § 5377; NCL § 8924] (NRS A 1969, 435; 1977, 774; 1979, 65, 1725; 1981, 470; 1985, 1503, 1622; 1995, 2793)

A Petition for Judicial Review, which is the subject of the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI, is not within any of the five (5) category of cases listed at NRS 18.020 and, therefore, the same does not provide authority for NOR to seek an award of costs.

In Nevada, costs of suit are only recoverable if they are authorized by statute or court rule. Sun Realty v. Eighth Judicial Dist. Court In and For Clark County, 91 Nev. 774, 776, 542 P.2d 1072, 1074 (1975). As noted above, NRS 18.020 allows the prevailing party to receive its costs in the following five actions: (1) an action for the recovery of real property or a possessory right thereto; (2) an action to recover the possession of personal property valued more than \$2,500; (3) an action to recover money or damages of more than \$2,500; (4) a special proceeding; and (5) an action involving title or boundaries of real estate, the legality of any tax, assessment, toll, or municipal fine. Obviously, a petition for judicial review is not one of the five actions noted in NRS 18.020.

If the Legislature intended that costs be awarded for petitions for judicial review, the Legislature would have so expressly stated. Smith v. Crown Financial Services of America, 111 Nev. 277, 286, 890 P.2d 769, 775 (1995). Not only does the plain language of NRS 18.020 not reference petition for judicial review, but the legislature did not include more expansive phrases in the wording of the statute such as "including but not limited to" or "in other actions where the Court deems appropriate. Thus, the plain language of NRS 18.020 limits recovery of costs to only the five cases specified, and the Court must follow the plain language of the statute. See Harris Associates v. Clark County Sch. Dist., 119 Nev. 638, 641-42, 81 P.3d 532, 534 (2003). It is significant that the Legislature did not include petitions for judicial review in the types of cases for which a party may recover its costs. The Legislature is presumed to have knowledge of existing statutes related to the same subject, i.e., NRS Chapter 233B. See City of Boulder v. General Sales Drivers, 101 Nev. 117, 119, 694 P.2d 498 (1985); Ronnow v. City of Las Vegas, 57 Nev. 332, 366, 65 P.2d 133 (1937).

Chapter 233B of the NRS does not classify a petition for judicial review as a special proceeding. NRS 233B.130 provides that judicial review in a district court is available to any party who is aggrieved by a final decision from an administrative proceeding in a contested case. An aggrieved party seeking review of a district court's decision on a petition for judicial review may appeal which "shall be taken as in other civil cases." NRS 233B.150. NRS Chapter 233B lacks any indication a petition for judicial review is a special proceeding. Rather, it indicates it is a "civil case."

NRS 233B.131 is the only section of Chapter 233B which addresses costs in that it allows a court to assess additional costs against a party unreasonably refusing to limit the record to be transmitted to the reviewing court in for a petition for judicial review. NRS Chapter 233B contains no other mention of assessing costs against a party in a petition for judicial review and it doesn't mention or make reference to NRS Chapter 18

NRS 18.020, which was enacted in 1911, has been amended six times since then, with the most recent amendment occurring in 1995 where it added to subsection 4 the following language "except a special proceeding conducted pursuant to NRS 306.040." 1995 Stat. of Nev., at 2794. By amending NRS 18.020 multiple times and not including petitions for judicial review as one of the type of cases for which costs may be awarded, the Court may presume that the Legislature intended only to include those types of cases specified in NRS 18.020. See Williams v. Clark County Dist. Attorney, 118 Nev. 473, 487-88, 50 P.3d 536, 545 (2002) (Rose, J., concurring and dissenting in part) ("[W]e have often said that the legislature is presumed to know what it is doing and purposefully uses the specific language [it chooses].").

Therefore, the Memo of Costs should be denied because petitions for judicial review are not special proceedings for purposes of NRS 18.020.

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3. If NOR's Memo of Costs pertains to the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI and assuming, arguendo, it falls within the parameters of NRS 18.020, the Memo of Costs should still be denied because the vast majority – nearly all -- of the claimed costs have nothing to do with the Petition for Judicial Review claim.

If NOR's Memo of Costs pertains to the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI and assuming, *arguendo*, it falls within the parameters of NRS 18.020, the Memo of Costs should still be denied because the vast majority – nearly all -- of the claimed costs have nothing to do with the Petition for Judicial Review claim.

Review of NOR's Memo of Costs reveals that other than the initial filing fee, it is submitted that the claimed costs cannot be deemed to relate to the Petition for Judicial Review claim since such a claim was limited to the record submitted by the Department of Taxation. The costs referenced in NOR's Memo of Costs pertain to discovery and trial, not the Petition for Judicial Review. Thus, such costs should be denied if same are claimed in connection with the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI which addressed the Petition for Judicial Review claim.

### III. CONCLUSION

Wherefore, as addressed above, NOR's Memo of Costs should be denied and no costs assessed against Plaintiffs.

Dated this 11th day of August 2022.

### **CLARK HILL, PLLC**

By /s/ Mark S. Dzarnoski, Esq.
John A. Hunt, Esq. (NSBN 1888)
Dominic P. Gentile, Esq. (NSBN 1923)
Mark S. Dzarnoski, Esq. (NSBN 3398)
A. William Maupin (NSBN 1150)
3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy., #500
Las Vegas, Nevada 89169
Attorneys for TGIG Plaintiffs

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of August 2022, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing via the Court's electronic filing system only, pursuant to the Nevada Electronic Filing and Conversion Rules, Administrative Order 14-2, to all parties currently on the electronic service list.

/s/ Tanya Bain
An Employee of Clark Hill

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CLARK HILL PLLC

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DOMINIC P. GENTILE (NSBN 1923)

Email: dgentile@clarkhill.com JOHN A. HUNT (NSBN 1888) Email: jhunt@clarkhill.com

MARK DZARNOSKI (NSBN 3398)
Email: mdzarnoski@clarkhill.com
A. WILLIAM MAUPIN (NSBN 1150)
3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy., #500
Las Vegas, Nevada 89169

Tel: (702) 862-8300; Fax: (702) 862-8400

Attorneys for TGIG Plaintiffs in case no. A-786962

### DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

	) Case No. <b>A-19-787004-B</b>	
In Re: D.O.T. Litigation,	) Consolidated with: A-785818 A-786357 ) A-786962 ) A-787035 ) A-787540 ) A-787726 ) A-801416	
	) Dept. No. <b>31</b>	
	) Hearing Requested ) Oral Argument Requested: Yes )	

#### MOTION TO RETAX AND SETTLE COSTS

(re: Memorandum of Costs and Disbursements of Wellness Connection of Nevada, LLC filed on August 9, 2022)

TGIG, LLC, Nevada Holistic Medicine, LLC, GBS Nevada Partners, Fidelis Holdings, LLC, Gravitas Nevada, Nevada Pure, LLC, Medifarm, LLC, and Medifarm IV, LLC, Plaintiffs in Case A-19-786962-B ("Plaintiffs"), by and through counsel, the law firm CLARK HILL, PLLC, hereby submit their Motion to Retax and Settle Costs, pursuant to NRS 18.110(4), regarding the *Memorandum of Costs and Disbursements of Wellness Connection of Nevada, LLC* filed on August 9, 2022 ("Memo of Costs"). In addition, as more fully addressed bellowed, by this Motion, Plaintiffs contend Defendant, Wellness Connection of Nevada, LLC ("Wellness

Page 1 of 7

Connection"), is simply not authorized as a matter of law to receive its costs under NRS 18.020.

This Motion is made and based upon the following points and authorities, the papers and pleadings on file herein, any attached exhibit, and any oral argument the court may allow.

### **POINTS & AUTHORITIES**

### I. INTRODUCTION

Wellness Connection's Memo of Costs notes a total of \$55,301.48 in claimed costs. As more fully referenced below, the Memo of Costs should be denied. NRS 18.110.

### II. DISCUSSION

1. Wellness Connection's Memo of Costs should be denied because it is Plaintiffs, not Wellness Connection, who fall within the definition of a "prevailing party" for purposes of an award of costs.

"[S]tatutes permitting recovery of costs, being in derogation of the common law, must be strictly construed." Bergmann v. Boyce, 109 Nev. 670, 679, 856 P.2d 560, 566 (1993) (quoting Calcagagno v. Personalcare Health Management, 207 Ill. App. 3d 493, 152 Ill. Dec. 412, 418, 565 N.E.2d 1330, 1336 (Ill. App. 4th Dist. 1991) (citing Commissioners of Lincoln Park v. Schmidt, 395 Ill. 316, 69 N.E. 2d 869 (Ill. 1946))). In Village Builders 96, L.P. v. U.S. Laboratories, Inc., the Nevada Supreme Court held that "a district court's decision regarding an award of costs will not be overturned absent a finding that the district court abused its discretion." 121 Nev. 261, 276, 112 P.3d 1082, 1092 (2005) (citing U.S. Design & Constr. v. I.B.E.W. Local 357, 118 Nev. 458, 462, 50 P.3d 170, 172 (2002); Parodi v. Budetti, 115 Nev. 236, 240, 984 P.2d 172, 174 (1999)).

A party prevails "if it succeeds on any significant issue in litigation which achieves some of the benefit it sought in bringing suit." <u>Valley Elec. Ass'n v. Overfield</u>, 121 Nev. 7, 10, 106 P.3d 1198, 1200 (2005) (internal quotations omitted). To be a prevailing party, a party need not succeed on every issue. See Hensley v. Eckerhart, 461 U.S. 424, 434, 103 S.Ct. 1933, 76 L.Ed.2d

40 (1983) (observing that "a plaintiff [can be] deemed 'prevailing' even though he succeeded on only some of his claims for relief").

The Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Permanent Injunction, dated September 3, 2020 ("9-3-2020 FFCL&PI") granted the claim for declaratory relief, equal protection (in part) and injunctive relief. Accordingly, because of such rulings, it is Plaintiffs, not Wellness Connection, who fall within the definition of a "prevailing party" for purposes of an award of costs. Accordingly, because Wellness Connection is not a "prevailing party" in connection with the 9-3-2020 FFCL&PI, its request for costs should be denied.

2. <u>If Wellness Connection's Memo of Costs is filed in connection with the Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Permanent Injunction e-filed and e-served on September 16, 2020, it should be denied because it does not fall within the parameters of NRS 18.020.</u>

Alternatively, if Wellness Connection's Memo of Costs is filed in connection with the *Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Permanent Injunction* e-filed and e-served on September 16, 2020 (9-16-2020 FFCL&PI") which denied the Petition of Judicial Review, then the Memo of Costs should be denied because the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI's denial of the Petition for Judicial Review is not one of the types of cases in which costs would be allowed to a prevailing party, pursuant to NRS 18.020, which provides:

NRS 18.020 Cases in which costs allowed prevailing party. Costs must be allowed of course to the prevailing party against any adverse party against whom judgment is rendered, in the following cases:

- 1. In an action for the recovery of real property or a possessory right thereto.
- 2. In an action to recover the possession of personal property, where the value of the property amounts to more than \$2,500. The value must be determined by the jury, court or master by whom the action is tried.
- 3. In an action for the recovery of money or damages, where the plaintiff seeks to recover more than \$2,500.
- 4. In a special proceeding, except a special proceeding conducted pursuant to NRS 306.040.
- 5. In an action which involves the title or boundaries of real estate, or the legality of any tax, impost, assessment, toll or municipal fine, including the costs accrued in the action if originally commenced in a Justice Court. [1911 CPA § 435; RL § 5377; NCL § 8924] (NRS A 1969, 435; 1977, 774; 1979, 65, 1725; 1981, 470; 1985, 1503, 1622; 1995, 2793)

A Petition for Judicial Review, which is the subject of the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI, is not within any of the five (5) category of cases listed at NRS 18.020 and, therefore, the same does not provide authority for Wellness Connection to seek an award of costs.

In Nevada, costs of suit are only recoverable if they are authorized by statute or court rule. Sun Realty v. Eighth Judicial Dist. Court In and For Clark County, 91 Nev. 774, 776, 542 P.2d 1072, 1074 (1975). As noted above, NRS 18.020 allows the prevailing party to receive its costs in the following five actions: (1) an action for the recovery of real property or a possessory right thereto; (2) an action to recover the possession of personal property valued more than \$2,500; (3) an action to recover money or damages of more than \$2,500; (4) a special proceeding; and (5) an action involving title or boundaries of real estate, the legality of any tax, assessment, toll, or municipal fine. Obviously, a petition for judicial review is not one of the five actions noted in NRS 18.020.

If the Legislature intended that costs be awarded for petitions for judicial review, the Legislature would have so expressly stated. Smith v. Crown Financial Services of America, 111 Nev. 277, 286, 890 P.2d 769, 775 (1995). Not only does the plain language of NRS 18.020 not reference petition for judicial review, but the legislature did not include more expansive phrases in the wording of the statute such as "including but not limited to" or "in other actions where the Court deems appropriate. Thus, the plain language of NRS 18.020 limits recovery of costs to only the five cases specified, and the Court must follow the plain language of the statute. See Harris Associates v. Clark County Sch. Dist., 119 Nev. 638, 641-42, 81 P.3d 532, 534 (2003). It is significant that the Legislature did not include petitions for judicial review in the types of cases for which a party may recover its costs. The Legislature is presumed to have knowledge of existing statutes related to the same subject, i.e., NRS Chapter 233B. See City of Boulder v.

General Sales Drivers, 101 Nev. 117, 119, 694 P.2d 498 (1985); Ronnow v. City of Las Vegas, 57 Nev. 332, 366, 65 P.2d 133 (1937).

Chapter 233B of the NRS does not classify a petition for judicial review as a special proceeding. NRS 233B.130 provides that judicial review in a district court is available to any party who is aggrieved by a final decision from an administrative proceeding in a contested case. An aggrieved party seeking review of a district court's decision on a petition for judicial review may appeal which "shall be taken as in other civil cases." NRS 233B.150. NRS Chapter 233B lacks any indication a petition for judicial review is a special proceeding. Rather, it indicates it is a "civil case."

NRS 233B.131 is the only section of Chapter 233B which addresses costs in that it allows a court to assess additional costs against a party unreasonably refusing to limit the record to be transmitted to the reviewing court in for a petition for judicial review. NRS Chapter 233B contains no other mention of assessing costs against a party in a petition for judicial review and it doesn't mention or make reference to NRS Chapter 18

NRS 18.020, which was enacted in 1911, has been amended six times since then, with the most recent amendment occurring in 1995 where it added to subsection 4 the following language "except a special proceeding conducted pursuant to NRS 306.040." 1995 Stat. of Nev., at 2794. By amending NRS 18.020 multiple times and not including petitions for judicial review as one of the type of cases for which costs may be awarded, the Court may presume that the Legislature intended only to include those types of cases specified in NRS 18.020. See Williams v. Clark County Dist. Attorney, 118 Nev. 473, 487-88, 50 P.3d 536, 545 (2002) (Rose, J., concurring and dissenting in part) ("[W]e have often said that the legislature is presumed to know what it is doing and purposefully uses the specific language [it chooses].").

Therefore, the Memo of Costs should be denied because petitions for judicial review are not special proceedings for purposes of NRS 18.020.

3. <u>If Wellness Connection's Memo of Costs pertains to the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI and assuming, arguendo, it falls within the parameters of NRS 18.020, the Memo of Costs should still be denied because the vast majority – nearly all -- of the claimed costs have nothing to do with the Petition for Judicial Review claim.</u>

If Wellness Connection's Memo of Costs pertains to the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI and assuming, *arguendo*, it falls within the parameters of NRS 18.020, the Memo of Costs should still be denied because the vast majority – nearly all -- of the claimed costs have nothing to do with the Petition for Judicial Review claim.

Review of Wellness Connection's Memo of Costs reveals that other than the initial filing fee, it is submitted that the claimed costs cannot be deemed to relate to the Petition for Judicial Review claim since such a claim was limited to the record submitted by the Department of Taxation. The costs referenced in Wellness Connection's Memo of Costs pertain to discovery and trial, not the Petition for Judicial Review. Thus, such costs should be denied if same are claimed in connection with the 9-16-2020 FFCL&PI which addressed the Petition for Judicial Review claim.

## III. CONCLUSION

Wherefore, as addressed above, Wellness Connection's Memo of Costs should be denied and no costs assessed against Plaintiffs.

Dated this 11th day of August 2022.

#### **CLARK HILL, PLLC**

By /s/ Mark S. Dzarnoski, Esq.
John A. Hunt, Esq. (NSBN 1888)
Dominic P. Gentile, Esq. (NSBN 1923)
Mark S. Dzarnoski, Esq. (NSBN 3398)
A. William Maupin (NSBN 1150)
3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy., #500
Las Vegas, Nevada 89169
Attorneys for TGIG Plaintiffs

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of August 2022, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing via the Court's electronic filing system only, pursuant to the Nevada Electronic Filing and Conversion Rules, Administrative Order 14-2, to all parties currently on the electronic service list.

/s/ Tanya Bain
An Employee of Clark Hill

Bendavid Law

702.385.6114 7301 Peak Drive, Suite 150 Las Vegas, Nevada 89128 Electron/ca/lp/Бівед 8/11/2022 4:51 РМ

NATURAL MEDICINE, L.L.C. ("Natural Medicine") by and through its counsel of

	record, Jeffery A. Bendavid Esq. and Stephanie J. Smith, Esq. of Bendavid Law, and				
2	Plaintiff NEVADA WELLNESS CENTER, LLC ("NWC"), by and through its counse				
3	of record Theodore Parker, III, Esq. of Parker Nelson & Associates CHTD. (MM				
1	Livfree, Qualcan, Natural Medicine, and NWC are collectively referred to herein a				
$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$	"Settling Plaintiffs"), hereby move this court to retax and settle the costs set forth in				
7	Defendant Deep Roots Harvest, Inc. ("Deep Roots") Memorandum of Costs file				
3	August 8, 2022 (the "Memorandum"). This Motion is made pursuant to NRS 18.110				
)	and is supported by the following Memorandum of Points and Authorities, th				
0	pleadings and papers on file herein, and any arguments by counsel on the hearing of				
11	this matter. Dated this 11 <sup>th</sup>	day of August, 2022.			
12					
4					
15	KEMP JONES, LLP	CHRISTIANSEN TRIAL LAWYERS			
16	/s/ Nathanael Rulis	/s/ Whitney Barrett			
17	WILL KEMP, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 1205	PETER CHRISTIANSEN, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 5254			
8	NATHANAEL R. RULIS, ESQ.	WHITNEY BARRETT, ESQ.			
	Nevada Bar No. 11259	Nevada Bar No. 13662			
19	3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy.	710 S. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street			
20	17 <sup>th</sup> Floor	Las Vegas, NV 89101			
	Las Vegas, NV 89169 Attorneys for MM Development	Attorneys for Qualcan LLC			
21	Company &LivFree Wellness, LLC				
22					
23	BENDAVID LAW	PARKER NELSON & ASSOCIATES, CHTD.			
24	/s/ Stephanie J. Smith, Esq. JEFFERY A. BENDAVID, ESQ.	/s/ Theodore Parker, III, Esq			
25	NV Bar No. 6620	THEODORE PARKER, III, ESQ.			
	STEPHANIE J. SMITH, ESQ.	NV Bar No. 4716			
26	NV Bar No. 11280	JENNIFER DELCARMEN, ESQ.			
27	7301 Peak Dr., Suite 150 Las Vegas, NV 89128	Nevada Bar No. 12727 2460 Professional Ct., Suite 200			
28	Attorneys for Natural Medicine	Las Vegas, NV 89128			
20	L.L.C	Attorney for Nevada Wellness Center LLC			
//		-			

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#### MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

#### I. <u>INTRODUCTION.</u>

Deep Roots cannot recover the costs claimed in the Memorandum against the Settling Plaintiffs. Deep Roots cannot recover costs because it is neither a prevailing party in this action against the Settling Plaintiffs nor does Deep Roots have a statutory right to recover its costs. Even if the Memorandum is considered, none of the claimed costs were reasonably, necessarily, and actually incurred as to the Settling Plaintiffs' petitions for judicial review, or other phases. As a result, Settling Plaintiffs request that this Court award no costs to Deep Roots from Settling Plaintiffs.

#### II. RELEVANT FACTUAL BACKGROUND.

#### A. The Proceedings and Settlement.

This matter was commenced on January 4, 2019. Even though several parties were named as defendants, they were added only to comply with statutory mandate. NRS 233B.130(2)(a); *Washoe Cnty. v. Otto*, 128 424 (2012). The primary and substantive causes of action were asserted against only the Nevada Department of Taxation (the "Department"). Namely, the causes of action for violation of substantive due process, violation of procedural due process, violation of equal protection, and petition for writ of mandamus were asserted exclusively against the Department. Several Parties also intervened in subsequent months and years, with the final date to intervene occurring in February 2020, prior to the consolidation of all matters into the present above-captioned litigation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Each Settling Plaintiff had their own claims, for instance Natural Medicine asserted only declaratory relief, petition for judicial review and then writ claims, whereas NWC had equal protection and due process claims.

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Prior to the commencement of the trial phases in this matter, Settling Plaintiffs prevailed on several issues before the Court, including summary judgment that (i) the Department acted beyond the scope of its authority by replacing the requirement for a background check on each prospective owner with the 5 percent or greater standard in NAC 453D.255(1)<sup>2</sup> and (ii) that MM and LivFree's appeals are to be heard arising from the denial of their licensure of their applications in the September 2018 retail licensure application competition.<sup>3</sup>

The consolidated trial in these proceedings began on July 13, 2020. Importantly, the proceedings were conducted in a series of three phases where only certain claims would be examined and determined in each phase. The First Phase addressed only the petition for judicial review (the "First Phase Claim"), the Second Phase addressed the equal protection, due process, declaratory relief, and permanent injunction claims (the "Second Phase Claims"), and the Third Phase would address writ of mandamus claims (the "Third Phase Claim").4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Order Regarding Plaintiff Nevada Wellness Center, LLC's Motion for Summary Judgment on First Claim for Relief ("Order Granting Summary Judgment"), at 6:4-8, dated Aug. 15, 2020, on file herein. Natural Medicine's joinder to this motion was filed on March 18, 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part MM Development Company, Inc. and LivFree Wellness, LLC's Motion for Summary Judgment or for Writ of Mandamus ("FFCL re Summary Judgment"), at 3:10-14, dated July 11, 2020, on file herein.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Amended Trial Protocol No. 2, dated July 2, 2020, on file herein. The Second Phase preceded the First Phase.

Bendavid Law 702.385.6114 7301 Peak Drive, Suite 150 Las Vegas, Nevada 89128 During the Second Phase of the proceedings, the Settling Plaintiffs settled with certain Defendants.<sup>5</sup> The Second Phase concluded with a decision issued by the Court on September 3, 2020.<sup>6</sup> Therein, the Court granted declaratory relief.<sup>7</sup>

Before beginning the next phase (*i.e.*, the First Phase), the Court limited the evidence and record that could be considered for that phase to only the administrative record pursuant to the requirements of NRS 233B.135(1)(b).<sup>8</sup> More specifically, the Court determined that evidence related to a claim for judicial review is to be restricted to the administrative record because it contains all relevant evidence that resulted in the Department's analysis of the plaintiffs' applications.<sup>9</sup> The Court proceeded with and completed the First Phase thereafter. The Third Phase which was limited to only certain plaintiffs' claims is still pending before this Court.

#### **B.** The Memorandum of Costs.

On August 8, 2022, Deep Roots filed the Memorandum four days after the First Phase Judgment was entered.<sup>10</sup> In the Memorandum, Deep Roots impermissibly claims a total of \$44,250.67 in total costs that is comprised of: \$1,102.49 in various "Clerks' Fees"; \$16,553.45 in reporters' fees for depositions that includes both

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Natural Medicine entered into a subsequent settlement agreement on August 17, 20202 which was approved on August 27, 2020 by the NV Tax Commission.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Permanent Inj., at 6 n.8, Sept. 3, 2020 (the "Second Phase Judgment"). As noted therein, two additional Plaintiffs reached a settlement with the Department and certain Defendants prior to the issuance of the Second Phase Judgment. *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> *Id.* at 29:3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Permanent Inj., at 11:4-9, Sept. 16, 2020 (the "First Phase Judgment").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See First Phase Judgment and Second Phase Judgment, respectively.

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reporting and videotaping; \$235.00 in process server fees; \$4,718.00 in photocopies at 20 cents per page; \$292.43 in long distance telephone charges; \$106.63 in unidentified postage fees; \$13,355.24 in travel and lodging; \$1,339.28 in unnecessary "Miscellaneous Fees", \$1,472.93 in unidentified Legal Research that does not identify any topics or how they related to instant case or claims; \$5,075.22 for a trial technician.

#### III. LEGAL STANDARD AND ARGUMENT.

#### Legal Standard. A.

Even though trial courts have discretion to determine allowable costs, the Nevada Supreme Court requires that "statutes permitting the recovery of costs are to be strictly construed because they are in derogation of the common law." Bobby Berosini, Ltd. v. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, 114 Nev. 1348, 1352, 971 P.2d 383, 385 (1998); Gibellini v. Klindt, 110 Nev. 1201, 1205, 885 P.2d 540, 543 (1994).The trial court's discretion should also "be sparingly exercised when considering whether or not to allow expenses not specifically allowed by statute and precedent." Bergmann v. Boyce, 109 Nev. 670, 679, 856 P.2d 560, 566 (1993). Notwithstanding the court's discretion, the party seeking costs "must provide sufficient support for the court to conclude that each taxed cost was reasonable, necessary, and actually incurred." Village Builders 96 L.P. v. U.S. Laboratories, Inc., 121 Nev. 261, 277-78, 112 P.3d 1082, 1093 (2005).

In addition, the plain language of a statute governs the manner in which it is applied according to the language's ordinary meaning. A.F. Const. Co. v. Virgin River Casino Corp., 118 Nev. 699, 703, 56 P.3d 887, 890 (2002); Arguello v. Sunset Station, Inc., 127 Nev. 365, 370, 252 P.3d 206, 209 (2011); Waste Mgmt. of Nevada, Inc. v. W. Taylor St., LLC, 135 Nev. 168, 170, 443 P.3d 1115, 1117 (2019).

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#### B. Deep Roots Cannot Recover the Claimed Costs.

1. <u>Deep Roots is Neither a Prevailing Party nor Statutorily Permitted to Recover its Costs.</u>

Deep Roots cannot recover against the Settling Plaintiffs because it is not a prevailing party in this matter. NRS Chapter 18 plainly states that costs are allowed only "to the prevailing party against any adverse party against whom judgment is rendered," and only to "the party in whose favor judgment is rendered." See NRS 18.020, 18. 110(1). Indeed, the Nevada Supreme Court persistently holds that a party cannot be considered a prevailing party where the matter does not proceed to judgment. Northern Nevada Homes, LLC v. GL Construction, Inc., 134 Nev. 498, 500, 422 P 3d 1234, 1237 (2018); Works v. Kuhn, 103 Nev. 65, 68, 732 P.2d 1373, 1376 (1987).

The Settling Plaintiffs' First Phase Claims and Second Phase Claims were not litigated, they were settled. Notwithstanding, the Court entered summary judgment in favor of the Settling Plaintiffs.<sup>11</sup> Consequently, the Second Phase Claims did not proceed to judgment in favor of Deep Roots, and there is no court order declaring any party as the prevailing party as to those claims.

Further, pursuant to NRS 18.020, <u>Deep Roots does not fall within any of the identified categories to recover its costs</u>. *See* NRS 18.020. NRS 18.020, specifically states that costs to prevailing parties are awarded "against any adverse party against whom judgment is rendered..." Here there is no judgment entered against any of the Settling Plaintiffs. Indeed, with no actual judgment against Settling Plaintiffs for either the Second Phase Claims or the First Phase Claim, Deep Roots cannot recover its claimed costs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> See Order Granting Summary Judgment; see also FFCL re Summary Judgment.

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#### C. The Claimed Costs are not Reasonable and Necessary.

Deep Roots cannot recover any of the claimed costs because they were not reasonably, necessarily, and actually incurred as part of the First Phase Claim. Following the mandate of NRS 233B.135(1)(b), the Court restricted the record and evidence for the First Phase to include only the administrative record. This necessarily excluded from the record all court filings, Westlaw legal research, photocopies, deposition and transcripts, documents delivered by runner, witness testimony, trial exhibits, trial transcripts, and any trial administrative services; which comprise all of Deep Roots's claimed costs. Indeed, the record consisted of only the plaintiffs' applications and related information that was before the Department when it evaluated the applicants and awarded the licenses.

Because the record for the First Phase Claim was restricted and did not include any of the evidence related to Deep Roots's claimed costs, the claimed costs were not reasonably, necessarily, and actually incurred as to the First Phase Claim. As costs that were not reasonable, necessary, and actually incurred for the First Phase Claim, they cannot be recovered in connection with the First Phase Judgment.

Moreover, even if the Court were to consider any of these claimed costs, Deep Roots includes requests for unnecessary, unreasonable and excessive costs for vaguely documented, and unnecessary client representative travel and meals. Additionally, in the legal research fees there appears to be only a vague description of "Deep Roots Harvest" included, and legal research fees incurred even after trial for Phases 1 and 2 were completed. The Miscellaneous Fees appear to be Deep Roots trying to recover

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See First Phase Judgment, at 11:4-9.

1 costs to appear at mediation which is not a recoverable category. Indeed, closer 2 scrutiny of Exhibit 7 regarding travel costs includes other non-necessary expenses 3 including airfare of approximately \$577 per ticket for a simple roundtrip from Reno to 4 Las Vegas and back, grocery store charges, and even charges at what appear to be bars 5 at airports. Under NRS 18 et seq. the Court has discretion in allowing costs and should 6 not permit these, and further not apportion any costs to Settling Plaintiffs. 7 8 /// 9 /// 10 /// 11 /// 12 /// 13 14 /// 15 /// 16 /// 17 /// 18 /// 19 20 /// 21 /// 22 /// 23 /// 24 25 26 27

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1	IV.	CONCLUSION.		
2	Based on the foregoing, Settling Plaintiffs respectfully request that this Cou			
3	grant this Motion to Retax and Settle Costs in its entirety and award Deep Roots no			
4	costs.			
5		. 2022		
6	DATED this 11 <sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022.			
7	KEMP JONES, LLP	CHRISTIANSEN TRIAL LAWYERS		
8	//N / ID 1: E	/ / H// · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
9	<u>/s/ Nathanael Rulis, Esq.</u> WILL KEMP, ESQ.	<u>/s/ Whitney Barrett, Esq.</u> PETER CHRISTIANSEN, ESQ.		
10	Nevada Bar No. 1205 NATHANAEL R. RULIS, ESQ.,	Nevada Bar No. 5254 WHITNEY BARRETT, ESQ.		
11	Nevada Bar No. 11259	Nevada Bar No. 13662		
12	3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy. 17 <sup>th</sup> Floor	710 S. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street Las Vegas, NV 89101		
13	Las Vegas, NV 89169	Attorneys for Qualcan LLC		
14	Attorneys for MM Development Company &			
15	LivFree Wellness, LLC			
16	BENDAVID LAW	PARKER NELSON &		
17	BENDAVID EAV	ASSOCIATES, CHTD.		
18	/s/ Stephanie J. Smith, Esq.	/s/ Theodore Parker, III, Esq		
19	JEFFERY A. BENDAVID, ESQ. NV Bar No. 6620	THEODORE PARKER, III, ESQ. NV Bar No. 4716		
20	STEPHANIE J. SMITH, ESQ.	JENNIFER DELCARMEN, ESQ.		
21	NV Bar No. 11280 7301 Peak Dr., Suite 150	Nevada Bar No. 12727 2460 Professional Ct., Suite 200		
22	Las Vegas, NV 89128	Las Vegas, NV 89128 Attorneys for Nevada Wellness		
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Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT 1 **MTN** JEFFERY A. BENDAVID, ESQ. 2 Nevada Bar No. 6220 STEPHANIE J. SMITH, ESQ. 3 Nevada Bar No. 11280 4 **BENDAVID LAW** 7301 Peak Dr., Suite 150 5 Las Vegas, NV 89128 (702)385-6114 6 jbendavid@bendavidfirm.com ssmith@bendavidfirm.com 7 Attorneys for Natural Medicine L.L.C. 8 **DISTRICT COURT** 9 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 10 11 Case No. A-19-787004-B 12 **Consolidated with:** In Re: D.O.T. Litigation A-18-785818-W 13 A-18-786357-W 14 A-19-786962-B A-19-787035-C 15 A-19-787540-W A-19-787726-C 16 A-19-801416-B 17 Dept. No. **XXXI** 18 19 MOTION TO RETAX AND SETTLE COSTS REGARDING CLEAR RIVER LLC'S MEMORANDUM OF COSTS 20 21 Plaintiffs, MM DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, INC. D/B/A/ PLANET 13 22 ("MM") and LIVFREE WELLNESS, LLC D/B/A THE DISPENSARY ("LivFree"), 23 by and through their counsel of record, Will Kemp, Esq. and Nathanael R. Rulis, Esq., 24 of the law firm of Kemp Jones, LLP; and QUALCAN, LLC ("Qualcan") by and 25 through its counsel of undersigned counsel of record, Peter Christiansen, Esq. and 26 27 Whitney Barrett, Esq., of the law firm Christiansen Trial Lawyers; and Plaintiff-in-

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Intervention NATURAL MEDICINE, L.L.C. ("Natural Medicine") by and through its

1	counsel of record, Jeffery A. Bendavid E	sq. and Stephanie J. Smith, Esq. of Bendavio
2	Law, and Plaintiff NEVADA WELLNES	SS CENTER, LLC ("NWC") by and through
3	its counsel of record Theodore Parker, III	I, Esq. of Parker Nelson & Associates CHTD
5	(MM, Livfree, Qualcan, Natural Medicine	e, and NWC are collectively referred to hereir
6	as "Settling Plaintiffs"), hereby move this	s court to retax and settle the costs set forth in
7	Defendant Clear River LLC ("Clear River") Memorandum of Costs filed August 8	
8	2022 (the "Memorandum"). This Motion is made pursuant to NRS 18.110, and i	
9	supported by the following Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the pleadings an papers on file herein, and any arguments by counsel on the hearing on this matter.  Dated this 11 <sup>th</sup> of August, 2022	
10		
12		
13	THE POWER AND	
14	KEMP JONES, LLP	CHRISTIANSEN TRIAL LAWYERS
15	/s/ Nathanael Rulis, Esq. WILL KEMP, ESQ.	<u>/s/ Whitney Barrett, Esq.</u> PETER CHRISTIANSEN, ESQ.
16	Nevada Bar No. 1205 NATHANAEL R. RULIS, ESQ.,	Nevada Bar No. 5254 WHITNEY BARRETT, ESQ.
17	Nevada Bar No. 11259	Nevada Bar No. 13662
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19	Las Vegas, NV 89169	Las Vegas, NV 89101 Attorneys for Qualcan LLC
	Attorneys for MM Development	. , .
20	Company &   LivFree Wellness, LLC	
21	Zivi rec vi ettilessi, ZZe	
22	BENDAVID LAW	PARKER NELSON & ASSOCIATES, CHTD.
23	/s/ Stephanie J. Smith, Esq. JEFFERY A. BENDAVID, ESQ.	/s/ Theodore Parker, III, Esq.
24	NV Bar No. 6620	THEODORE PARKER, III, ESQ.
25	STEPHANIE J. SMITH, ESQ. NV Bar No. 11280	NV Bar No. 4716 JENNIFER DELCARMEN, ESQ.
26	7301 Peak Dr., Suite 150	Nevada Bar No. 12727
27	Las Vegas, NV 89128 Attorneys for Natural Medicine	2460 Professional Ct., Suite 200 Las Vegas, NV 89128
28	L.L.C	Attorneys for Nevada Wellness Center

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#### MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

#### I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>.

Clear River cannot recover the costs claimed in the Memorandum against the Settling Plaintiffs. Clear River cannot recover costs because it is neither a prevailing party in this action against the Settling Plaintiffs nor does Clear River have a statutory right to recover its costs. Even if the Memorandum is considered, none of the claimed costs were reasonably, necessarily, and actually incurred as to the Settling Plaintiffs' petitions for judicial review, or other phases. As a result, Settling Plaintiffs request that this Court award no costs to Clear River from Settling Plaintiffs.

#### II. RELEVANT FACTUAL BACKGROUND.

#### A. The Proceedings and Settlement.

This matter was commenced on January 4, 2019. Even though several parties were named as defendants, they were added only to comply with statutory mandate. NRS 233B.130(2)(a); *Washoe Cnty. v. Otto*, 128 424 (2012). The primary and substantive causes of action were asserted against only the Nevada Department of Taxation (the "Department"). Namely, the causes of action for violation of substantive due process, violation of procedural due process, violation of equal protection, and petition for writ of mandamus were asserted exclusively against the Department. Several Parties also intervened in subsequent months and years, with the final date to intervene occurring in February 2020, prior to the consolidation of all matters into the present above-captioned litigation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Each Settling Plaintiff had their own claims, for instance, Natural Medicine asserted only declaratory relief, petition for judicial review and then writ claims, whereas NWC had equal protection and due process claims.

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702.385.6114 7301 Peak Drive, Suite 150 Las Vegas, Nevada 89128 Prior to the commencement of the trial phases in this matter, Settling Plaintiffs prevailed on several issues before the Court, including summary judgment that (i) the Department acted beyond the scope of its authority by replacing the requirement for a background check on each prospective owner with the 5 percent or greater standard in NAC 453D.255(1)<sup>2</sup> and (ii) that MM and LivFree's appeals are to be heard arising from the denial of their licensure of their applications in the September 2018 retail licensure application competition.<sup>3</sup>

The consolidated trial in these proceedings began on July 13, 2020. Importantly, the proceedings were conducted in a series of three phases where only certain claims would be examined and determined in each phase. The First Phase addressed only the petition for judicial review (the "First Phase Claim"), the Second Phase addressed the equal protection, due process, declaratory relief, and permanent injunction claims (the "Second Phase Claims"), and the Third Phase would address writ of mandamus claims (the "Third Phase Claim").<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Order Regarding Plaintiff Nevada Wellness Center, LLC's Motion for Summary Judgment on First Claim for Relief ("Order Granting Summary Judgment"), at 6:4-8, dated Aug. 15, 2020, on file herein. Natural Medicine's joinder to this motion was filed on March 18, 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part MM Development Company, Inc. and LivFree Wellness, LLC's Motion for Summary Judgment or for Writ of Mandamus ("FFCL re Summary Judgment"), at 3:10-14, dated July 11, 2020, on file herein.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Amended Trial Protocol No. 2, dated July 2, 2020, on file herein. The Second Phase preceded the First Phase.

Bendavid Law 702.385.6114 7301 Peak Drive, Suite 150 Las Vegas, Nevada 89128 During the Second Phase of the proceedings, the Settling Plaintiffs settled with certain Defendants.<sup>5</sup> The Second Phase concluded with a decision issued by the Court on September 3, 2020.<sup>6</sup> Therein, the Court granted declaratory relief.<sup>7</sup>

Before beginning the next phase (*i.e.*, the First Phase), the Court limited the evidence and record that could be considered for that phase to only the administrative record pursuant to the requirements of NRS 233B.135(1)(b).<sup>8</sup> More specifically, the Court determined that evidence related to a claim for judicial review is to be restricted to the administrative record because it contains all relevant evidence that resulted in the Department's analysis of the plaintiffs' applications.<sup>9</sup> The Court proceeded with and completed the First Phase thereafter. The Third Phase of trial has not yet occurred and is limited to specific parties with remaining Phase Three claims.

#### **B.** The Memorandum of Costs.

On August 8, 2022, Clear River filed the Memorandum, approximately four days after the First Phase and Second Phase were certified.<sup>10</sup> In the Memorandum, Clear River impermissibly claims a total of \$37,194.47 in total costs that is comprised of: \$10,588.80 in photocopies; \$3,074.18 in various court filing fees; \$6,291.37 in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Natural Medicine entered into a subsequent settlement agreement on August 17, 20202 which was approved on August 27, 2020 by the NV Tax Commission.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Permanent Inj., at 6 n.8, Sept. 3, 2020 (the "Second Phase Judgment"). As noted therein, two additional Plaintiffs reached a settlement with the Department and certain Defendants prior to the issuance of the Second Phase Judgment. *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> *Id.* at 29:3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Permanent Inj., at 11:4-9, Sept. 16, 2020 (the "First Phase Judgment").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See First Phase Judgment and Second Phase Judgment, respectively.

702.385.6114 7301 Peak Drive, Suite 150 Las Vegas, Nevada 89128 Westlaw Research Fees; \$1,555.00 in parking costs; \$485.00 in runner services and document delivery; \$7,344.03 for transcripts; \$36.03 for postage; \$3,212.50 for jury to verdict trial services; and \$4,612.56 for advance resolution management.<sup>11</sup>

#### III. LEGAL STANDARD AND ARGUMENT.

#### A. Legal Standard.

Even though trial courts have discretion to determine allowable costs, the Nevada Supreme Court requires that "statutes permitting the recovery of costs are to be strictly construed because they are in derogation of the common law." *Bobby Berosini, Ltd. v. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals*, 114 Nev. 1348, 1352, 971 P.2d 383, 385 (1998); *Gibellini v. Klindt*, 110 Nev. 1201, 1205, 885 P.2d 540, 543 (1994). The trial court's discretion should also "be sparingly exercised when considering whether or not to allow expenses not specifically allowed by statute and precedent." *Bergmann v. Boyce*, 109 Nev. 670, 679, 856 P.2d 560, 566 (1993). Notwithstanding the court's discretion, the party seeking costs "must provide sufficient support for the court to conclude that each taxed cost was reasonable, necessary, and actually incurred." *Village Builders 96 L.P. v. U.S. Laboratories, Inc.*, 121 Nev. 261, 277-78, 112 P.3d 1082, 1093 (2005).

In addition, the plain language of a statute governs the manner in which it is applied according to the language's ordinary meaning. *A.F. Const. Co. v. Virgin River Casino Corp.*, 118 Nev. 699, 703, 56 P.3d 887, 890 (2002); *Arguello v. Sunset Station, Inc.*, 127 Nev. 365, 370, 252 P.3d 206, 209 (2011); *Waste Mgmt. of Nevada, Inc. v. W. Taylor St., LLC*, 135 Nev. 168, 170, 443 P.3d 1115, 1117 (2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> See Clear River Mem. Of Costs, Aug. 8, 2022.

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#### B. Clear River Cannot Recover the Claimed Costs.

1. <u>Clear River is Neither a Prevailing Party nor Statutorily Permitted to Recover its Costs.</u>

Clear River cannot recover against the Settling Plaintiffs because it is not a prevailing party in this matter. NRS Chapter 18 plainly states that costs are allowed only "to the prevailing party against any adverse party against whom judgment is rendered," and only to "the party in whose favor judgment is rendered." See NRS 18.020, 18. 110(1). Indeed, the Nevada Supreme Court persistently holds that a party cannot be considered a prevailing party where the matter does not proceed to judgment. Northern Nevada Homes, LLC v. GL Construction, Inc., 134 Nev. 498, 500, 422 P 3d 1234, 1237 (2018); Works v. Kuhn, 103 Nev. 65, 68, 732 P.2d 1373, 1376 (1987).

The Settling Plaintiffs' First Phase Claims and Second Phase Claims were not litigated, they were settled. Notwithstanding, the Court entered summary judgment in favor of the Settling Plaintiffs. Consequently, the Second Phase Claims did not proceed to judgment in favor of Clear River, and there is no court order declaring any party as the prevailing party as to those claims. Further, pursuant to NRS 18.020, Clear River does not fall within any of the identified categories to recover its costs. See NRS 18.020. NRS 18.020, specifically states that costs to prevailing parties are awarded "against any adverse party against whom judgment is rendered..." Here there is no judgment entered against any of the Settling Plaintiffs. Indeed, with no actual judgment against Settling Plaintiffs for either the Second Phase Claims or the First Phase Claim.

Indeed, with no judgment against Settling Plaintiffs for either the Second

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See Order Granting Summary Judgment; see also FFCL re Summary Judgment.

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Phase Claims or the First Phase Claim, Clear River simply cannot recover its claimed costs.

#### C. The Claimed Costs are not Reasonable and Necessary.

Clear River cannot recover any of the claimed costs because they were not reasonably, necessarily, and actually incurred as part of the First Phase Claim. Following the mandate of NRS 233B.135(1)(b), the Court restricted the record and evidence for the First Phase to include only the administrative record. 13 This necessarily excluded from the record all court filings, Westlaw legal research, photocopies, deposition and transcripts, documents delivered by runner, witness testimony, trial exhibits, trial transcripts, and any trial administrative services; which comprise all of Clear River's claimed costs. Indeed, the record consisted of only the plaintiffs' applications and related information that was before the Department when it evaluated the applicants and awarded the licenses.

Because the record for the First Phase Claim was restricted and did not include any of the evidence related to Clear River's claimed costs, the claimed costs were not reasonably, necessarily, and actually incurred as to the First Phase Claim. As costs that were not reasonable, necessary, and actually incurred for the First Phase Claim, they cannot be recovered in connection with the First Phase Judgment.

Moreover, even if the Court were to consider any of these claimed costs, which it should not assess against Settling Plaintiffs, Clear River includes requests for unnecessary, unreasonable and excessive costs for: \$10,588.80 in unidentified photocopies; \$3,074.18 in various court filing fees; \$6,291.37 in unidentified Westlaw

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> See First Phase Judgment, at 11:4-9.

Research Fees; \$1,555.00 in parking costs for their own counsel to attend various court hearings; \$485.00 in runner services and document delivery; \$7,344.03 for transcripts; \$36.03 for postage; \$3,212.50 for jury to verdict trial services; and \$4,612.56 for Advanced Resolution Management.

Here, Clear River provides a scant 17 pages of documentation of its purported costs. It provides no documentation for its purported "photocopy fees" or how the listed fees relate whatsoever to the instant action. Indeed there is no log provided by Clear River to substantiate any of these "photocopy" charges at 30 cents per page. Clear River provides no documentation of its actual research such as topics or how any such research related to the instant action or even directly to Clear River. Further, the mediation fees are not a reasonable allowable cost to recover. There also appears to be no documentation whatsoever of the purported "postage" expended by Clear River. Indeed, all of these costs must be stricken as a matter of course for Clear River's failure to provide any documentation whatsoever.

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1	IV. <u>CONC</u>	<u>CLUSION.</u>	
2	Based on the foregoing, Settling Plaintiffs respectfully request that this Cour		
3	grant this Motion to Retax and Settle Costs in its entirety and award Clear River no		
4	grant this Motion to Retax and Settle Costs in its entirety and award Clear River n		
5	costs.		
6	DATED this 11 <sup>th</sup> day of August, 202	2.	
7	KEMP JONES, LLP	CHRISTIANSEN TRIAL	
8		LAWYERS	
9	/s/ Nathanael Rulis, Esq.		
10	WILL KEMP, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 1205	<u>/s/ Whitney Barrett, Esq.</u> PETER CHRISTIANSEN, ESQ.	
	NATHANAEL R. RULIS, ESQ.	Nevada Bar No. 5254	
11	Nevada Bar No. 11259 3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy.	WHITNEY BARRETT, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 13662	
12	17 <sup>th</sup> Floor	710 S. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	
13	Las Vegas, NV 89169	Las Vegas, NV 89101	
14	Attorneys for MM Development Company & LivFree Wellness, LLC	Attorneys for Qualcan LLC	
15			
16	BENDAVID LAW	PARKER NELSON & ASSOCIATES, CHTD.	
1.7			
17	/s/ Stenhanie J. Smith. Esa.	/s/ Theodore Parker. III. Esa.	
18	/s/ Stephanie J. Smith, Esq. JEFFERY A. BENDAVID, ESQ.	/s/ Theodore Parker, III, Esq. THEODORE PARKER, III,	
	JEFFERY A. BENDAVID, ESQ. NV Bar No. 6620	THEODORE PARKER, III, ESQ.	
18	JEFFERY A. BENDAVID, ESQ. NV Bar No. 6620 STEPHANIE J. SMITH, ESQ. NV Bar No. 11280	THEODORE PARKER, III, ESQ. NV Bar No. 4716 JENNIFER DELCARMEN,	
18 19	JEFFERY A. BENDAVID, ESQ. NV Bar No. 6620 STEPHANIE J. SMITH, ESQ. NV Bar No. 11280 7301 Peak Dr., Suite 150	THEODORE PARKER, III, ESQ. NV Bar No. 4716 JENNIFER DELCARMEN, ESQ.	
18 19 20 21	JEFFERY A. BENDAVID, ESQ. NV Bar No. 6620 STEPHANIE J. SMITH, ESQ. NV Bar No. 11280	THEODORE PARKER, III, ESQ.  NV Bar No. 4716  JENNIFER DELCARMEN, ESQ.  Nevada Bar No. 12727  2460 Professional Ct., Suite 200	
18 19 20	JEFFERY A. BENDAVID, ESQ. NV Bar No. 6620 STEPHANIE J. SMITH, ESQ. NV Bar No. 11280 7301 Peak Dr., Suite 150 Las Vegas, NV 89128	THEODORE PARKER, III, ESQ. NV Bar No. 4716 JENNIFER DELCARMEN, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 12727 2460 Professional Ct., Suite 200 Las Vegas, NV 89128 Attorneys for Nevada Wellness	
18 19 20 21 22	JEFFERY A. BENDAVID, ESQ. NV Bar No. 6620 STEPHANIE J. SMITH, ESQ. NV Bar No. 11280 7301 Peak Dr., Suite 150 Las Vegas, NV 89128	THEODORE PARKER, III, ESQ.  NV Bar No. 4716  JENNIFER DELCARMEN, ESQ.  Nevada Bar No. 12727  2460 Professional Ct., Suite 200  Las Vegas, NV 89128	
18 19 20 21 22 23	JEFFERY A. BENDAVID, ESQ. NV Bar No. 6620 STEPHANIE J. SMITH, ESQ. NV Bar No. 11280 7301 Peak Dr., Suite 150 Las Vegas, NV 89128	THEODORE PARKER, III, ESQ. NV Bar No. 4716 JENNIFER DELCARMEN, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 12727 2460 Professional Ct., Suite 200 Las Vegas, NV 89128 Attorneys for Nevada Wellness	
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18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26	JEFFERY A. BENDAVID, ESQ. NV Bar No. 6620 STEPHANIE J. SMITH, ESQ. NV Bar No. 11280 7301 Peak Dr., Suite 150 Las Vegas, NV 89128	THEODORE PARKER, III, ESQ. NV Bar No. 4716 JENNIFER DELCARMEN, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 12727 2460 Professional Ct., Suite 200 Las Vegas, NV 89128 Attorneys for Nevada Wellness	
18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	JEFFERY A. BENDAVID, ESQ. NV Bar No. 6620 STEPHANIE J. SMITH, ESQ. NV Bar No. 11280 7301 Peak Dr., Suite 150 Las Vegas, NV 89128	THEODORE PARKER, III, ESQ. NV Bar No. 4716 JENNIFER DELCARMEN, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 12727 2460 Professional Ct., Suite 200 Las Vegas, NV 89128 Attorneys for Nevada Wellness	

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Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT 1 **MRTX** JEFFERY A. BENDAVID, ESQ. 2 Nevada Bar No. 6220 STEPHANIE J. SMITH, ESQ. 3 Nevada Bar No. 11280 4 **BENDAVID LAW** 7301 Peak Dr., Suite 150 5 Las Vegas, NV 89128 (702)385-6114 6 jbendavid@bendavidfirm.com ssmith@bendavidfirm.com 7 Attorneys for Natural Medicine L.L.C. 8 DISTRICT COURT 9 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 10 Case No. A-19-787004-B 11 **Consolidated with:** 12 In Re: D.O.T. Litigation A-18-785818-W A-18-786357-W 13 A-19-786962-B 14 A-19-787035-C A-19-787540-W 15 A-19-787726-C A-19-801416-B 16 XXXI 17 Dept. No. 18 **HEARING REQUESTED** 19 MOTION TO RETAX AND SETTLE COSTS REGARDING CPCM 20 HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a THRIVE CANNABIS MARKETPLACE, CHEYENNE MEDICAL, LLC and COMMERCE PARK MEDICAL, LLC 21 Plaintiffs, MM DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, INC. D/B/A/ PLANET 13 22 ("MM") and LIVFREE WELLNESS, LLC D/B/A THE DISPENSARY ("LivFree"), 23 24 by and through their counsel of record, Will Kemp, Esq. and Nathanael R. Rulis, Esq., 25 of the law firm of Kemp Jones, LLP; and QUALCAN, LLC ("Qualcan") by and 26 through its counsel of undersigned counsel of record, Peter Christiansen, Esq. and 27 Whitney Barrett, Esq., of the law firm Christiansen Trial Lawyers; and Plaintiff-in-28 Intervention NATURAL MEDICINE, L.L.C. ("Natural Medicine") by and through its

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1	counsel of record, Jeffery A. Bendavid Eso	q. and Stephanie J. Smith, Esq. of Bendavid	
2	Law, and Plaintiff NEVADA WELLNESS CENTER, LLC ("NWC") by and through		
3	its counsel of record Theodore Parker, III, Esq. of Parker Nelson & Associates CHTD.		
4	(MM, Livfree, Qualcan, Natural Medicine,	and NWC are collectively referred to herein	
5			
6	as "Settling Plaintiffs"), hereby move this	court to retax and settle the costs set forth in	
7	Defendant CPCM HOLDINGS, LLC d/b/a	a THRIVE CANNABIS MARKETPLACE,	
8	CHEYENNE MEDICAL, LLC and	COMMERCE PARK MEDICAL, LLC	
9	(collectively, "Thrive") Memorandum	of Costs filed August 8, 2022 (the	
10		) TO 40 440 44	
11	"Memorandum"). This Motion is made pursuant to NRS 18.110, and is supported b		
12	the following Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the pleadings and		
13	papers on file herein, and any arguments by counsel on the hearing on this matter.		
14	Dated this 11 <sup>th</sup> of August, 2022		
15	KEMP JONES, LLP	CHRISTIANSEN TRIAL LAWYERS	
16	/s/ Nathanael Rulis, Esq.	/s/ Whitney Barrett, Esq.	
17	WILL KEMP, ESQ.	PETER CHRISTIANSEN, ESQ.	
10	Nevada Bar No. 1205	Nevada Bar No. 5254	
18			
19	NATHANAEL R. RULIS, ESQ.,	WHITNEY BARRETT, ESQ.	
	Nevada Bar No. 11259	Nevada Bar No. 13662	
	Nevada Bar No. 11259 3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy.	Nevada Bar No. 13662 710 S. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	
20	Nevada Bar No. 11259 3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy. 17 <sup>th</sup> Floor	Nevada Bar No. 13662 710 S. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street Las Vegas, NV 89101	
	Nevada Bar No. 11259 3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy. 17 <sup>th</sup> Floor Las Vegas, NV 89169 Attorneys for MM Development	Nevada Bar No. 13662 710 S. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	
20	Nevada Bar No. 11259 3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy. 17 <sup>th</sup> Floor Las Vegas, NV 89169	Nevada Bar No. 13662 710 S. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street Las Vegas, NV 89101	
20 21	Nevada Bar No. 11259 3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy. 17 <sup>th</sup> Floor Las Vegas, NV 89169 Attorneys for MM Development Company & LivFree Wellness, LLC	Nevada Bar No. 13662 710 S. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street Las Vegas, NV 89101 Attorneys for Qualcan LLC	
20 21 22	Nevada Bar No. 11259 3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy. 17 <sup>th</sup> Floor Las Vegas, NV 89169 Attorneys for MM Development Company & LivFree Wellness, LLC  BENDAVID LAW /s/ Stephanie J. Smith, Esq.	Nevada Bar No. 13662 710 S. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street Las Vegas, NV 89101 Attorneys for Qualcan LLC  PARKER NELSON & ASSOCIATES, CHTD.	
20 21 22 23	Nevada Bar No. 11259 3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy. 17 <sup>th</sup> Floor Las Vegas, NV 89169 Attorneys for MM Development Company & LivFree Wellness, LLC  BENDAVID LAW	Nevada Bar No. 13662 710 S. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street Las Vegas, NV 89101 Attorneys for Qualcan LLC  PARKER NELSON &	
20 21 22 23 24	Nevada Bar No. 11259 3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy. 17 <sup>th</sup> Floor Las Vegas, NV 89169 Attorneys for MM Development Company & LivFree Wellness, LLC  BENDAVID LAW /s/ Stephanie J. Smith, Esq. JEFFERY A. BENDAVID, ESQ. NV Bar No. 6620 STEPHANIE J. SMITH, ESQ.	Nevada Bar No. 13662 710 S. 7 <sup>th</sup> Street Las Vegas, NV 89101 Attorneys for Qualcan LLC  PARKER NELSON & ASSOCIATES, CHTD. /s/ Theodore Parker, III, Esq. THEODORE PARKER, III, ESQ. NV Bar No. 4716	
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#### MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

#### I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>.

Thrive cannot recover the costs claimed in the Memorandum against the Settling Plaintiffs. Most Notably Thrive cannot recover costs because it was one of the settling defendant parties, and entered into an agreement not to seek any attorneys' fees or costs against any of the parties to that agreement or against subsequent settling parties. Further, Thrive cannot recover costs because it is neither a prevailing party in this action against the Settling Plaintiffs nor does Thrive have a statutory right to recover its costs. Even if the Memorandum is considered, none of the claimed costs were reasonably, necessarily, and actually incurred as to the Settling Plaintiffs' petitions for judicial review, or other phases. As a result, Settling Plaintiffs request that this Court award no costs to Thrive from Settling Plaintiffs.

#### II. RELEVANT FACTUAL BACKGROUND.

#### A. The Proceedings and Settlement.

This matter was commenced on January 4, 2019. Even though several parties were named as defendants, they were added only to comply with statutory mandate. NRS 233B.130(2)(a); *Washoe Cnty. v. Otto*, 128 424 (2012). The primary and substantive causes of action were asserted against only the Nevada Department of Taxation (the "Department"). Namely, the causes of action for violation of substantive due process, violation of procedural due process, violation of equal protection, and petition for writ of mandamus were asserted exclusively against the Department. Several Parties also intervened in subsequent months and years, with the final date to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Each Settling Plaintiff had their own claims, for instance, Natural Medicine asserted only declaratory relief, petition for judicial review and then writ claims, whereas NWC had equal protection and due process claims.

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702.385.6114 7301 Peak Drive, Suite 150 Las Vegas, Nevada 89128 intervene occurring in February 2020, prior to the consolidation of all matters into the present above-captioned litigation.

Prior to the commencement of the trial phases in this matter, Settling Plaintiffs prevailed on several issues before the Court, including summary judgment that (i) the Department acted beyond the scope of its authority by replacing the requirement for a background check on each prospective owner with the 5 percent or greater standard in NAC 453D.255(1)<sup>2</sup> and (ii) that MM and LivFree's appeals are to be heard arising from the denial of their licensure of their applications in the September 2018 retail licensure application competition.<sup>3</sup>

The consolidated trial in these proceedings began on July 13, 2020. Importantly, the proceedings were conducted in a series of three phases where only certain claims would be examined and determined in each phase. The First Phase addressed only the petition for judicial review (the "First Phase Claim"), the Second Phase addressed the equal protection, due process, declaratory relief, and permanent injunction claims (the "Second Phase Claims"), and the Third Phase would address writ of mandamus claims (the "Third Phase Claim").<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Order Regarding Plaintiff Nevada Wellness Center, LLC's Motion for Summary Judgment on First Claim for Relief ("Order Granting Summary Judgment"), at 6:4-8, dated Aug. 15, 2020, on file herein. Natural Medicine's joinder to this motion was filed on March 18, 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part MM Development Company, Inc. and LivFree Wellness, LLC's Motion for Summary Judgment or for Writ of Mandamus ("FFCL re Summary Judgment"), at 3:10-14, dated July 11, 2020, on file herein.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Amended Trial Protocol No. 2, dated July 2, 2020, on file herein. The Second Phase preceded the First Phase.

During the Second Phase of the proceedings, the Settling Plaintiffs, except for Natural Medicine settled with certain Defendants, including Thrive.<sup>5</sup> However, Natural Medicine entered into a Future Settlement, and thereby became a Settling Party. The Second Phase concluded with a decision issued by the Court on September 3, 2020.<sup>6</sup> Therein, the Court granted declaratory relief.<sup>7</sup>

Before beginning the next phase (*i.e.*, the First Phase), the Court limited the evidence and record that could be considered for that phase to only the administrative record pursuant to the requirements of NRS 233B.135(1)(b).<sup>8</sup> More specifically, the Court determined that evidence related to a claim for judicial review is to be restricted to the administrative record because it contains all relevant evidence that resulted in the Department's analysis of the plaintiffs' applications.<sup>9</sup> The Court proceeded with and completed the First Phase thereafter. The Third Phase of trial has not yet occurred and is limited to specific parties with remaining Phase Three claims.

#### **B.** The Memorandum of Costs.

On August 8, 2022, Thrive filed the Memorandum, approximately four days after the First Phase and Second Phase were certified.<sup>10</sup> In the Memorandum, Thrive

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Las Vegas, Nevada 89128

<sup>| 5</sup> Natural Medicine entered into a subsequent settlement agreement on August 17, 22 | 20202 which was approved on August 27, 2020 by the NV Tax Commission.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Permanent Inj., at 6 n.8, Sept. 3, 2020 (the "Second Phase Judgment"). As noted therein, two additional Plaintiffs reached a settlement with the Department and certain Defendants prior to the issuance of the Second Phase Judgment. *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> *Id.* at 29:3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Permanent Inj., at 11:4-9, Sept. 16, 2020 (the "First Phase Judgment").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See First Phase Judgment and Second Phase Judgment, respectively.

impermissibly claims a total of \$155,829.31 in total costs that is comprised of: Arbitrators/Mediators \$4,153.00, Color Copies/Prints \$5,283.85, Copies/Prints \$8,623.65, Court Fees \$5,028.95, Delivery Services/Courier (Special) \$2,012.70, Delivery Services/Courier (Standard) \$260.00, Deposition/Court Transcripts \$117,601.97, Experts \$235.00, Litigation Support Vendors \$7,035.57, Local Travel/Parking \$830.00, Meals \$144.50, Pacer \$52.20, Postage \$16.74, Private Investigators \$705.00, Subpoena/Process Fee \$860.00, Westlaw \$2,932.00, and Witness Fee \$54.18. Many of these fees are not in recoverable categories, nor were they demonstrated to be necessary to the litigation.

#### III. LEGAL STANDARD AND ARGUMENT.

#### A. Legal Standard.

Even though trial courts have discretion to determine allowable costs, the Nevada Supreme Court requires that "statutes permitting the recovery of costs are to be strictly construed because they are in derogation of the common law." *Bobby Berosini, Ltd. v. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals*, 114 Nev. 1348, 1352, 971 P.2d 383, 385 (1998); *Gibellini v. Klindt*, 110 Nev. 1201, 1205, 885 P.2d 540, 543 (1994). The trial court's discretion should also "be sparingly exercised when considering whether or not to allow expenses not specifically allowed by statute and precedent." *Bergmann v. Boyce*, 109 Nev. 670, 679, 856 P.2d 560, 566 (1993). Notwithstanding the court's discretion, the party seeking costs "must provide sufficient support for the court to conclude that each taxed cost was reasonable, necessary, and

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> See Thrive Mem. Of Costs, Aug. 8, 2022.

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actually incurred." *Village Builders 96 L.P. v. U.S. Laboratories, Inc.*, 121 Nev. 261, 277-78, 112 P.3d 1082, 1093 (2005).

In addition, the plain language of a statute governs the manner in which it is applied according to the language's ordinary meaning. *A.F. Const. Co. v. Virgin River Casino Corp.*, 118 Nev. 699, 703, 56 P.3d 887, 890 (2002); *Arguello v. Sunset Station, Inc.*, 127 Nev. 365, 370, 252 P.3d 206, 209 (2011); *Waste Mgmt. of Nevada, Inc. v. W. Taylor St., LLC*, 135 Nev. 168, 170, 443 P.3d 1115, 1117 (2019).

# B. Thrive Has Already Agreed Not to Seek Costs Against the Settling Plaintiffs Pursuant to the July 28, 2020 Settlement Agreement.

Thrive signed a Settlement Agreement dated July 28, 2020, which was subsequently approved by the Cannabis Control Board and signed by the State of Nevada Department of Taxation ("DOT"). See Exhibit 1, attached hereto. This Settlement Agreement specifically provides as follows:

The parties want to compromise and settle the Disputes in the Lawsuit by dismissing the claims in the Lawsuit by and between the Settling Parties, each Settling Party to bear its own costs and attorneys' fees, and to exchange mutual releases as provided in this Agreement

Ex. 1, Recital C, p. 1.

Additionally, the Settlement Agreement goes on to state the following:

If any Settling Party settles any other matter related to the Lawsuit (each, a "Future Settlement"), every other Settling Party shall be included as released parties in such Future Settlement on the same release terms and conditions as set forth herein; provided, however, that any Settling Party receiving such release shall bear its own costs and attorneys' fees with respect thereto as provided in this Agreement.

Ex. 1, ¶14, p. 5.

LivFree, MM, Qualcan, NWC and Thrive were all signatories to the July 28, 2020 Settlement Agreement along with the DOT. Natural Medicine entered into a

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subsequent Settlement Agreement with the DOT, and which included terms in which Natural Medicine would contribute to some of the terms of the July 28, 2020 Settlement Agreement, thereby making it part of a Future Settlement. See Exhibit 2, attached hereto. By the plain language of the July 28, 2020 Settlement Agreement, Thrive has agreed not to seek any costs or fees against the signatories to that settlement and any future settling parties, who agree to bear their own costs and fees. As such, there can be no costs awarded to Thrive against the Settling Plaintiffs.

#### C. Thrive Cannot Recover the Claimed Costs.

Thrive is Neither a Prevailing Party nor Statutorily Permitted to Recover 1. its Costs.

Further, in addition to the fact that Thrive has already waived its ability to seek fees and costs against Settling Plaintiffs, Thrive cannot recover against the Settling Plaintiffs because it is not a prevailing party in this matter. NRS Chapter 18 plainly states that costs are allowed only "to the prevailing party against any adverse party against whom judgment is rendered," and only to "the party in whose favor judgment is rendered." See NRS 18.020, 18. 110(1). Indeed, the Nevada Supreme Court persistently holds that a party cannot be considered a prevailing party where the matter does not proceed to judgment. Northern Nevada Homes, LLC v. GL Construction, Inc., 134 Nev. 498, 500, 422 P 3d 1234, 1237 (2018); Works v. Kuhn, 103 Nev. 65, 68, 732 P.2d 1373, 1376 (1987).

The Settling Plaintiffs' First Phase Claims and Second Phase Claims were not litigated, they were settled. Notwithstanding, the Court entered summary judgment in favor of the Settling Plaintiffs. 12 Consequently, the Second Phase Claims did not

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See Order Granting Summary Judgment; see also FFCL re Summary Judgment.

any claimed costs.

proceed to judgment in favor of Thrive, and there is no court order declaring any party as the prevailing party as to those claims. Further, pursuant to NRS 18.020, Thrive does not fall within any of the identified categories to recover its costs, and it also settled. See NRS 18.020. NRS 18.020, specifically states that costs to prevailing parties are awarded "against any adverse party against whom judgment is rendered..." Here there is no judgment entered against any of the Settling Plaintiffs. Indeed, with no actual judgment against Settling Plaintiffs for either the Second Phase Claims or the First Phase Claim. Indeed, with no judgment against Settling Plaintiffs for either the Second Phase Claims or the First Phase Claims or the First Phase Claim, Thrive simply cannot otherwise recover

#### D. The Claimed Costs are not Reasonable and Necessary.

Thrive cannot recover any of the claimed costs because they were not reasonably, necessarily, and actually incurred as part of the First Phase Claim. Following the mandate of NRS 233B.135(1)(b), the Court restricted the record and evidence for the First Phase to include only the administrative record. This necessarily excluded from the record all court filings, Westlaw legal research, photocopies, deposition and transcripts, documents delivered by runner, witness testimony, trial exhibits, trial transcripts, and any trial administrative services; which comprise all of Thrive's claimed costs. Indeed, the record consisted of only the plaintiffs' applications and related information that was before the Department when it evaluated the applicants and awarded the licenses.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> See First Phase Judgment, at 11:4-9.

Because the record for the First Phase Claim was restricted and did not include 1 2 any of the evidence related to Thrive's claimed costs, the claimed costs were not 3 reasonably, necessarily, and actually incurred as to the First Phase Claim. As costs 4 that were not reasonable, necessary, and actually incurred for the First Phase Claim, 5 they cannot be recovered in connection with the First Phase, or at all by Thrive. 6 IV. CONCLUSION. 7 8 Based on the foregoing, Settling Plaintiffs respectfully request that this Court 9 grant this Motion to Retax and Settle Costs in its entirety and award Thrive no costs. 10 DATED this 11<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022. 11 KEMP JONES, LLP CHRISTIANSEN TRIAL 12 LAWYERS 13 /s/ Nathanael Rulis, Esq. <u>/s/ Whitney Barrett, Esq.</u> 14 WILL KEMP, ESQ. PETER CHRISTIANSEN, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 1205 Nevada Bar No. 5254 15 NATHANAEL R. RULIS, ESQ. WHITNEY BARRETT, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 13662 Nevada Bar No. 11259 16 710 S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street 3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy. Las Vegas, NV 89101 17 17<sup>th</sup> Floor Las Vegas, NV 89169 Attorneys for Qualcan LLC 18 Attorneys for MM Development Company & LivFree Wellness, LLC 19 20 **BENDAVID LAW** PARKER NELSON & 21 ASSOCIATES, CHTD. 22 /s/ Stephanie J. Smith, Esq. /s/ Theodore Parker, III, Esq. 23 JEFFERY A. BENDAVID, ESQ. THEODORE PARKER, III, NV Bar No. 6620 ESO. 24 STEPHANIE J. SMITH, ESQ. NV Bar No. 4716 NV Bar No. 11280 JENNIFER DELCARMEN, 25 7301 Peak Dr., Suite 150 ESQ. 26 Las Vegas, NV 89128 Nevada Bar No. 12727 Attorneys for Natural Medicine L.L.C 2460 Professional Ct., Suite 200 27 Las Vegas, NV 89128 Attorneys for Nevada Wellness Center

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# Exhibit "1"

#### SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Settlement Agreement is entered into as of July \_\_\_\_\_, 2020 (the "Effective Date") (this "Agreement"), among LivFree Wellness, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company ("LivFree"), MM Development Company, Inc., a Nevada corporation, ("MM"); ETW Management Group LLC, Global Harmony LLC, Just Quality, LLC, Libra Wellness Center, LLC, Rombough Real Estate, Inc., and Zion Gardens LLC, (collectively the "ETW Plaintiffs"); Nevada Wellness Center, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company ("NWC"); Qualcan, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company ("Qualcan") (collectively, "Settling Plaintiffs" or individually, a "Settling Plaintiff"); Lone Mountain Partners, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company ("NOR"); Greenmart of Nevada Organic Remedies, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company ("GreenMart"); Helping Hands Wellness Center, Inc., a Nevada corporation ("Helping Hands"); CPCM Holdings, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company, and Commerce Park Medical, LLC, a Nevada limited liability company (collectively "Thrive"); and the State of Nevada, Department of Taxation ("DOT") (collectively "Settling Defendants" or individually, a "Settling Defendant").

#### **RECITALS**

- A. LivFree, MM, ETW Plaintiffs, NWC, Qualcan, Lone Mountain, NOR, GreenMart, Helping Hands, Thrive, and the DOT (collectively the "Settling Parties" and individually, a "Settling Party") are all parties to a consolidated lawsuit pending in the District Court, Clark County, Nevada, as Case No. A-19-787004-B (the "Lawsuit").
- B. Within the Lawsuit there are claims and counterclaims relating to the disputes at issue in the Lawsuit (the "Disputes").
- C. The parties want to compromise and settle the Disputes in the Lawsuit by dismissing the claims in the Lawsuit by and between the Settling Parties, each Settling Party to bear its own costs and attorneys' fees, and to exchange mutual releases as provided in this Agreement.

NOW THEREFORE the Settling Parties agree:

#### DESCRIPTION OF TRANSFERS AND ISSUANCES OF LICENSES

- 1. The Settling Defendants hereby assign (subject to DOT and/or Cannabis Compliance Board ("CCB") approval) all rights, interest and title in the various Nevada retail marijuana dispensary conditional licenses (the "Conditionally Approved Licenses") to other entities as set forth below provided that each of the conditions set forth in this Agreement, including those set forth in Paragraphs 5-8 hereof, shall first be fulfilled:
  - Lone Mountain hereby assigns 1 City of Las Vegas conditional license to Qualcan;
  - ➤ Lone Mountain hereby assigns 1 Washoe County City of Reno conditional license, 1 Lincoln County conditional license, 1 Esmerelda conditional license, and 1 Eureka County conditional license to ETW Plaintiffs;

- ➤ Helping Hands hereby assigns 1 Unincorporated Clark County conditional license to LivFree;
- ➤ NOR hereby assigns 1 Unincorporated Clark County conditional license to MM;
- ➤ NOR hereby assigns 1 Carson City conditional license to Qualcan;
- GreenMart hereby assigns 1 Unincorporated Clark County conditional license to NWC:
- ➤ Thrive hereby assigns 1 Clark County City of Henderson conditional license (RD266) to ETW Management or a related-entity designee; and
- ➤ Lone Mountain hereby assigns 1 Douglas County conditional license to Thrive¹.
- 2. <u>LivFree Henderson</u>. To fully resolve the potential MM and LivFree appeals, the DOT and/or CCB agrees to issue a conditional Henderson license to LivFree and LivFree agrees that it will hold such license in abeyance (the "Limited Henderson License") until such time as both of the following two conditions are satisfied and provided that no Settling Party has exercised the "put option" described below: (1) the Henderson moratorium and/or restriction on the opening of additional adult-use cannabis establishments (the "Henderson Moratorium") is lifted; AND (2) the issuance of a final inspection certificate for this Henderson license does not require the DOT and/or CCB to exceed the current cap for Clark County licenses (presently 80 licenses) or any adjusted cap for Clark County licenses. Nothing herein shall be construed to excuse or eliminate any and all requirements or duties that LivFree is or maybe required to fulfill under state or local law pertaining to the Henderson conditional license in the event that conditions precedent 1 and 2 are fulfilled. Nothing in this Paragraph 2 shall prevent any Settling Parties issued conditional licenses in the City of Henderson from perfecting those conditional licenses if the Henderson Moratorium is lifted.

LivFree expressly does not commit to undertake any efforts to eliminate the existing Henderson Moratorium and, in fact, expressly reserves the right to undertake lobbying efforts to preserve any Henderson Moratorium, provided, however, that LivFree shall not seek any legal action to prevent the Henderson Moratorium from being lifted or seeking its continuance. Further, LivFree shall not engage in any tortious interference with any Settling Parties' ability to perfect any Henderson license and/or to receive the issuance of a final inspection certificate from both the City of Henderson and the State of Nevada (CCB). LivFree agrees that the existing Henderson Moratorium applies to the Henderson conditional license issued to LivFree hereunder (but does not apply to LivFree's existing operational Henderson dispensary license). To assist the DOT and/or CCB in reducing any potential issues with the current cap for Clark County licenses, LivFree agrees that, for a period of 5 years (the "Option Period") following execution of this Agreement, it will pay \$250,000, or any other price on which the parties are able to agree, to purchase one Henderson conditional licenses. No such Settling Defendant shall have any obligation whatsoever to sell LivFree any such Henderson conditional licenses and nothing in this Agreement should be construed as any indication that the DOT and/or CCB is suggesting that any Settling Defendant should exercise this "put option." However, LivFree agrees that any Settling Defendant, at their respective option (not obligation) and in their sole and unfettered discretion,

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Lone Mountain agrees that, subject to agreement to final terms by all parties to the Lawsuit, it will contribute its remaining Lander County, Mineral County, and White Pine County conditional licenses to a Global Settlement.

shall have a "put option" to sell to LivFree, and LivFree shall have the obligation to purchase, one such license from any Settling Defendant, whichever decides to exercise the option first (if at all), for \$250,000, or any other price on which the parties are able to agree, during the Option Period.

Nothing in this Paragraph 2 shall be construed to (a) prevent or limit any Settling Defendant's ability to operate the conditional Henderson licenses during the Option Period, (b) prevent or limit any Settling Defendant's ability to sell, assign, or otherwise transfer any Henderson conditional licenses during the Option Period to any other party at any time and upon any such terms as such Settling Defendant may agree, and (c) apply to any other licenses held by any affiliate of any Settling Defendant. Further, LivFree and DOT and/or CCB agree that the grant of any "put option" pursuant to this Paragraph 2 shall not constitute the creation of an "interest" (ownership or otherwise) in the Henderson conditional licenses for LivFree.

If LivFree acquires one of the conditional licenses through the exercise of the "put option", LivFree agrees that it will surrender either the Limited Henderson License or the license acquired through the "put option" (at LivFree's discretion to determine which of those options it will choose) to allow the DOT and/or CCB to reduce the existing or any future cap on total Clark County licenses. In no event shall LivFree have two additional Henderson conditional licenses by getting one directly or indirectly through this settlement (or any further settlement of the Lawsuit) and another through an exercise of the "put option", in addition to the already existing LivFree Henderson license.

In the event that the pre-condition of lifting the Henderson moratorium occurs and LivFree is not able to exercise in good faith the "put option", LivFree agrees to remain solely responsible for any and all local government and county approvals necessary for the CCB to reallocate a license which was not applied for during the September 2018 retail marijuana store competition.

- 3. All licensees described in this Agreement must be in good standing.
- 4. No license transfer pursuant to this Agreement can create a monopoly, as prohibited in NRS 678B.230 and NRS 678B.270.

### DISSOLUTION OF BOND AND INJUNCTION

- 5. As a condition and term of this settlement, within 2 business days of the execution of this Agreement by all Parties, Settling Plaintiffs shall file a motion for a return of the cash bond that they have posted and seek an order shortening time. Contemporaneously, Settling Plaintiffs will withdraw the pending Motion for Case Terminating Sanctions filed against the DOT seeking to strike its Answer to the Lawsuit.
- 6. As a condition and term of this settlement, the CCB agrees to make a good faith effort to expedite and process GreenMart's previously submitted Change of Ownership request for transfer of interests and/or ownership ("CHOW").
- 7. As a condition and term of this settlement, DOT will notify the Court and will file an appropriate Motion on OST in the Lawsuit informing the Court that it has determined that Lone Mountain, NOR, GreenMart, and Helping Hands (each, a "Tier 3 Party") have satisfied the DOT that each such Settling Defendant provided the information necessary in their respective applications to allow the DOT and/or CCB to conduct all necessary background checks and related actions and that Lone Mountain, NOR, GreenMart, and Helping Hands are being reassigned to Tier 2 status in the Lawsuit for purposes of the Preliminary Injunction or any other injunction that may be issued in the Lawsuit or any related proceedings. The Motion to be filed by DOT will

indicate the DOT's approval of the applications of the previously designated Tier 3 Defendant Intervenors and that final inspections may be completed for any establishments owned by Lone Mountain, NOR, GreenMart, and Helping Hands. All Parties will join in the DOT's Motion. The reassignment of the settling Tier 3 parties into Tier 2, is a material condition of this Agreement and a material condition and requirement for the assignments contained in Paragraph 1. In the event that a Tier 3 Party is prevented or precluded reassignment to Tier 2 or otherwise remains enjoined from perfecting its conditional licenses for any reason, whether by a court, another party to the Lawsuit, any third party, or otherwise, the assignments of conditional licenses identified in Paragraph 1 shall be void and of no effect, with title to the licenses identified in Paragraph 1 to remain with the transferring party and this Agreement shall be terminated without any further force or effect. In such instance, the DOT and/or CCB (or successor entity, as appropriate) and the proposed assignee shall perform all actions and execute all documents to ensure that such licenses remain with the affected transferring party.

### TIMING OF TRANSFERS

8. As a condition and term of this settlement, after the conditions precedent in Paragraphs 5-7 are met, the CCB agrees to make a good faith effort to expedite any and all CHOW requests for the transfer of licenses from existing licensee to another existing licensee as set forth in Paragraph 1 above. The CCB agrees that it will make a good faith effort to expedite and process all CHOWs after submission thereof. For purposes of approving the transfers, LivFree, MM, ETW Plaintiffs, NWC, Qualcan, and Thrive were previously and are currently approved by the DOT as owners and operators of medical and retail marijuana dispensary licenses in the state of Nevada. In compliance with NRS/NAC 453D, these parties have operated retail marijuana dispensaries without any suspensions or revocations of those licenses. Any delays in approvals of the CHOWs due to no fault of transferor shall not be deemed a breach of this Agreement.

### RELEASES AND DISMISSALS

- 9. As a condition and term of this settlement, within two business days after the conditions precedent in Paragraphs 5-8 are met, the parties will execute mutual releases in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B, with each party to bear its own costs and attorneys' fees.
- 10. As a condition and term of this settlement, within two business days after the conditions precedent in Paragraphs 5-8 are met, Settling Plaintiffs shall move to dismiss any and all claims in the cases listed below (the "Dismissed Claims"):
  - a. MM Development/LivFree action (Case No. A-18-785818-W);<sup>2</sup>
  - b. In Re: DOT Litigation (A-19-787004-B);
  - c. Nevada Wellness Center action (A-19-787540-W);<sup>3</sup>
  - d. Qualcan action (A-19-801416-B).

Settling Plaintiffs will dismiss the Dismissed Claims with prejudice against each Settling Party hereto, as applicable, and without costs or fees to or from any such Settling Party, Settling

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> However, MM will not dismiss its counterclaims against D.H. Flamingo in the associated cases.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> NWC's claims against Defendant Jorge Pupo will remain and not be dismissed as a result of this settlement.

Defendants reserve their rights to seek fees and costs from any Non-Settling Plaintiff (as defined below) in the Lawsuit.

- 11. LivFree/MM agree to stipulate with the DOT to dismiss the pending writ petition regarding the cell phone of Rino Tenorio (Supreme Court Case No. 79825).
- 12. MM Development, Nevada Wellness Center, and Liv Free agree to relinquish any and all administrative appeals to DOT and CCB which they may have or have arising out of the September 2018 retail marijuana store competition.

### CONTINUED PARTICIPATION BY SETTLING PLAINTIFFS

- 13. Further, upon the execution of this Agreement, the Settling Plaintiffs will file a Motion to Intervene as Defendants/Intervenors in the Lawsuit and participate in the Lawsuit in good faith and shall use best efforts to defend against the Lawsuit.
- 14. If any Settling Party settles any other matter related to the Lawsuit (each, a "Future Settlement"), every other Settling Party shall be included as released parties in such Future Settlement on the same release terms and conditions as set forth herein; provided, however, that any Settling Party receiving such release shall bear its own costs and attorneys' fees with respect thereto as provided in this Agreement.

### ADDITIONAL TERMS RELATING TO LICENSES AND TRANSFERS

- 15. As a condition and term of this settlement, the CCB agrees to make a good faith effort to expedite and process:
  - a. a CHOW to be filed by Helping Hands;
  - b. any CHOW submitted by NOR with respect to its licenses as the expedited handling of such CHOW requests may be necessary under the pending Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act proceeding involving NOR's parent company;
  - c. a CHOW to be submitted by Lone Mountain; and
  - d. any CHOW to be submitted by MM with respect to the transfer of cultivation and production licenses (medical and recreational) from West Coast Development Nevada, LLC.
- 16. DOT and/or CCB further agrees to perform final inspections on an expedited time period within 5 business days of the request for inspection for the new locations for the conditional licenses for the NOR proposed dispensary in Reno, NV and the MM proposed dispensary in Unincorporated Clark County, and any and all of Thrive's conditional licenses to be designated by Thrive.
- 17. DOT and/or CCB agrees to, in good faith, expedite the processing of Thrive's pending Change of Location Request for its Unincorporated Clark County license (RD263).
- 18. DOT and/or CCB agrees that all parties to this Agreement shall receive a fourteen (14)-month extension of the current deadline of December 5, 2020 to February 5, 2022, for conditional licensees to obtain final inspections and approval from DOT and/or CCB on any and all conditional licenses received and that comparable extensions shall be extended to other parties that settle claims in this Lawsuit with the DOT and/or CCB. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for any jurisdiction that currently has a moratorium on new adult-use cannabis establishments (including

but not limited to the City of Henderson, Douglas County, and the City of Reno), DOT and/or CCB agrees to extend the deadline for any Settling Party to obtain final inspections and approval from DOT and/or CCB on any and all conditional licenses in such jurisdiction for a period of fourteen (14) months after the date any moratorium is lifted in such jurisdiction.

- 19. LivFree agrees to reimburse Helping Hands for its expenses, through January 31, 2020 totaling \$890,000, related to building out the designated location at 8605 S. Eastern Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89123 for the Unincorporated Clark County license. Payment of the \$890,000 by LivFree is contingent upon approval of a special use permit ("SUP") for this location by the Clark County Commission and will be made no later than 10 business days after final approval of the SUP. LivFree will submit the application for the SUP in good faith no later than forty-five (45) days following the Effective Date or 45 days after the conclusion of trial, whichever is later. Helping Hands makes no representations or warranties regarding the SUP for the Eastern location. If Clark County does not approve the SUP for such location on or before March 31, 2021, LivFree may request a SUP at a different location and would not be required to pay Helping Hands \$890,000.
- 20. LivFree agrees to assume the lease, attached hereto as Exhibit A, for the premises located at 8605 S. Eastern Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89123 upon receipt of an estoppel certificate executed by the landlord. Assumption of the lease by LivFree is contingent upon approval of a SUP for this location by the Clark County Commission and will be made no later than 10 business days after final approval of the SUP. Helping Hands will remain liable for lease payments until LivFree assumes the lease and LivFree will have no liability on the lease if the SUP is not approved.
- 21. LivFree agrees to pay to Thrive the amount of \$400,000 and Helping Hands agrees to pay to Thrive the amount of \$100,000 upon approval of the transfer of the Thrive conditional license as set forth in paragraph 1 of this Agreement. LivFree and Helping Hands agree to cooperate with Thrive to report the payment set out in this Paragraph in the most tax-advantaged way to Thrive and its affiliates.

### REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES

- 22. In the event that the DOT is no longer responsible for performing any of the conditions and/or requirements in this Agreement, then the entity that is responsible for performing such duties (e.g., the CCB or any related entity) shall be subject to the conditions and requirements provided in this Agreement. The State of Nevada, DOT represents and warrants that it has authority to sign this Agreement and bind the CCB.
- 23. Lone Mountain represents and warrants that it has full and complete control to assign the conditional licenses it was awarded, that there are no ownership disputes and Lone Mountain shall indemnify, defend and hold settling parties harmless from any and all costs, damages, fees (including attorneys' fees) or liability claimed by the entity claiming an ownership interest in the Lone Mountain conditional licenses being transferred for only up to the time when the license transfer is completed. Lone Mountain is not responsible for securing any ownership transfer approvals from the DOT or CCB for any license Lone Mountain transfers hereunder. The designated assignee of the Lone Mountain conditional license will be responsible for all costs associated with the ownership transfer applications with the state and any local jurisdiction (including any costs incurred by Lone Mountain). Nothing contained herein shall limit, waive, or revoke the DOT's or CCB's rights, powers, or duties under Nevada Administrative Code 453D.312.

- 24. NOR represents and warrants that it has full and complete control to assign the conditional licenses it was awarded, that there are no ownership disputes or any persons claiming to have an interest in the conditional license being transferred and NOR shall indemnify, defend and hold settling parties harmless from any and all costs, damages, fees (including attorneys' fees) or liability claimed by any person or entity claiming an ownership interest in any of the NOR conditional licenses. NOR is not responsible for securing any ownership transfer approvals from the DOT or CCB for any license NOR transfers hereunder. The designated plaintiff assignee of any NOR conditional license will be responsible for all costs associated with the ownership transfer applications with the state and any local jurisdiction (including any costs incurred by NOR). NOR represents and warrants that any pending legal proceedings involving its Parent Company in Canada do not affect its ability to transfer the above licenses. Nothing contained herein shall limit, waive, or revoke the DOT's or CCB's rights, powers, or duties under Nevada Administrative Code 453D.312.
- 25. GreenMart represents and warrants that it has full and complete control to assign the conditional licenses it was awarded, that there are no ownership disputes and GreenMart shall indemnify, defend and hold the Settling Party to which GreenMart's Clark County license is transferred hereunder (i.e, NWC) harmless from any and all costs, damages, fees (including attorneys' fees) or liability claimed by the entity claiming an ownership interest in the Greenmart conditional licenses being transferred for only up to the time when the license transfer is completed. GreenMart is not responsible for securing any ownership transfer approvals from the DOT or CCB for any license GreenMart transfers hereunder. The designated plaintiff assignee of the GreenMart conditional license will be responsible for all costs associated with the ownership transfer applications with the state and any local jurisdiction (including any costs incurred by GreenMart). Nothing contained herein shall limit, waive, or revoke the DOT's or CCB's rights, powers, or duties under Nevada Administrative Code 453D.312.
- 26. Helping Hands represents and warrants that it has full and complete control to assign the conditional licenses it was awarded, that there are no ownership disputes or any persons claiming to have an interest in the conditional license being transferred and Helping Hands shall indemnify, defend and hold settling parties harmless from any and all costs, damages, fees (including attorneys' fees) or liability claimed by any person or entity claiming an ownership interest in any of the Helping Hands conditional licenses. Nothing contained herein shall limit, waive, or revoke the DOT's or CCB's rights, powers, or duties under Nevada Administrative Code 453D.312.
- 27. Thrive represents and warrants that it has full and complete control to assign the conditional license it was awarded, that there are no ownership disputes and Thrive shall indemnify, defend and hold settling parties harmless from any and all costs, damages, fees (including attorneys' fees) or liability claimed by the entity claiming an ownership interest in the Thrive conditional license being transferred for only up to the time when the license transfer is completed. Nothing contained herein shall limit, waive, or revoke the DOT's or CCB's rights, powers, or duties under Nevada Administrative Code 453D.312.
- 28. Each of the Settling Parties hereto represent and warrant that they have had an adequate opportunity to seek and receive legal advice and counsel from an attorney of their choice regarding the content and effect of this Agreement, have actually received such counsel and advice as they deem prudent to receive in these circumstances, have read this Agreement in its entirety, understand all provisions of this Agreement and their import and effect, and enter into and execute this Agreement freely and voluntarily.

29. Each of the Settling Parties warrant and represent there are no other agreements made between any Settling Plaintiffs and any Settling Defendants involving conditions related to the transfer of any conditional licenses or related to any marijuana consumption lounges in the State of Nevada.

### OTHER TERMS

- 30. The CCB agrees to recommend an industry funded study to the Cannabis Advisory Commission, a duly authorized public body pursuant to NRS 678A.300 and NRS 678A.310, to gather information and make recommendations to the CCB on the following matters: (1) what are reasonable additional actions, if any, can be taken to deter black-market sales; (2) analysis of adequacy of number and commercial need for additional marijuana licenses, if any, to serve the citizens of Nevada, including consideration of minority access to licensure, (3) recommendations of changes, if any, relating to state and local fees and taxation of the marijuana industry, and (4) analysis of adequacy of safeguards to protect minors.
- 31. <u>Purpose of Compromise and Settlement</u>. The parties have each entered into this Agreement solely for the purpose of settling and compromising the Disputes and the Lawsuit and nothing contained in this Agreement or its performance shall be deemed to be an admission or acknowledgment of: liability, the existence of damages or the amount of any damages relating to the Disputes or the Lawsuit.
- 32. <u>Non-Participating Party Procedure:</u> The Settling Parties agree to cooperate to obtain final resolution of Lawsuit ("Global Settlement") consistent with this Agreement.
- 33. Non-Transferability. For a period of 2 years from July 1, 2020, no license transferred to a Settling Plaintiff herein may be transferred to any entity without prior written approval of the party giving up the designated license in this Agreement. This prohibition on transfers shall not apply to good faith corporate mergers, buyouts and/or acquisitions, which shall not be utilized for purposes of circumventing this paragraph. For this same period of time, LivFree and MM or related entities will not obtain ownership of any GreenMart licenses transferred herein. This non-transferability provision shall not be circumvented by, including but not limited to, any consulting, management or licensing/IP agreement, or by other means. Specifically excepted from this prohibition is a transfer from a Settling Party to an additional plaintiff in the Lawsuit ("a Non-settling Plaintiff") provided that any such transfer is only utilized towards a global or more inclusive resolution of the Lawsuit (e.g., a transfer of a rural license from an ETW Plaintiff to a Non-settling plaintiffs such as Rural Remedies if Rural Remedies and NWC give complete releases approved by the State), subject to the consent of the Settling Defendant who transferred the license pursuant to this Agreement, which shall not be unreasonably withheld.
- 34. <u>Cooperation & Non-Interference</u>. The parties agree that they will not use or refer to the Lawsuit as part of any interactions with or lobbying efforts to any governmental agency to prevent any other party from obtaining local government approval and/or from obtaining an approval at final inspection for the licenses retained by any party or assigned to any party, including but limited to a party seeking an extension or trying to secure additional time to obtain and SUP from a local jurisdiction.

Despite the assignment of rural county licenses to certain Settling Parties, all parties hereto expressly reserve their right to vigorously oppose any legislative action regarding the relocation of such licenses to different jurisdictions. MM, LivFree, Qualcan, Thrive, and others have

expressly informed the Settling Parties that they are vehemently opposed to any such transfer. In the event of such transfer, MM, LivFree, Qualcan, Thrive and others expressly reserve their rights to file a declaratory relief action to prevent such relocation and/or seek other appropriate legal remedies.

35. <u>Location of Adult-Use Establishments</u>. The Parties agree that the physical address of any adult-use cannabis establishment utilizing any of the conditional licenses transferred pursuant to Paragraph 1 of this Agreement may not be within 1,500 feet of any adult-use cannabis establishment that existed as of the Effective Date of this Agreement. Nothing in this paragraph applies to any other licenses held by any parties or any entity that already has a special use permit.

### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- 36. <u>No Wrongdoing</u>. The Parties acknowledge that this Agreement is entered into solely for the purpose of compromising disputed claims and avoiding the time and expense of litigation. It is expressly understood and agreed that this Agreement represents the settlement of disputed claims and nothing contained in this Agreement shall constitute or be treated as an admission of any wrongdoing or liability on the part of any Party hereto.
- 37. <u>Enforcement</u>. In the event of the breach of this Agreement by any party, the remedies of the non-breaching parties shall be limited to enforcement of this Agreement for breach of this Agreement.
- 38. <u>Mediation</u>. If any of the Parties breaches or terminates this Agreement but one of the other Parties disputes the basis for that breach or termination, the Parties agree that in the first instance, they shall attempt to resolve such dispute through mediation with the Honorable Jennifer Togliatti (Retired) at Advanced Resolution Management ("ARM") (or, if she is not available, a mediator agreed upon by the Parties).

This Agreement to mediate all disputes applies even if some person or entity claims that this Agreement is void, voidable or unenforceable for any reason.

- 39. <u>Binding Effect</u>. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties and their respective heirs, successors and assigns. With this Agreement requiring approval of the Nevada Tax Commission, the binding effect of this Agreement specifically includes the CCB as successor to the DOT in its capacity as regulator of the marijuana program in the State of Nevada. Except as specifically provided in prior paragraphs of this Agreement, this Agreement is not intended to create, and shall not create, any rights in any person who is not a party to this Agreement.
- 40. <u>Entire Agreement</u>. This Agreement contains the entire agreement between the parties and may not be changed or terminated orally but only by a written instrument executed by the parties after the date of this Agreement.
- 41. <u>Construction</u>. The terms and conditions of this Agreement shall be construed as a whole according to its fair meaning and not strictly for or against any party. The parties acknowledge that each of them has reviewed this Agreement and has had the opportunity to have it reviewed by their attorneys and that any rule or construction to the effect that ambiguities are to be resolved against the drafting party shall not apply in the interpretation of this Agreement, including its exhibits or any amendments.

- 42. <u>Partial Invalidity</u>. Except with respect to Paragraph 7, if any term of this Agreement or the application of any term of this Agreement should be held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void or unenforceable, all provisions, covenants and conditions of this Agreement, and all of its applications, not held invalid, void or unenforceable, shall continue in full force and effect and shall not be affected, impaired or invalidated in any way.
- 43. <u>Attorneys' Fees.</u> In any action or proceeding to enforce the terms of this Agreement or to redress any violation of this Agreement, the prevailing party shall be entitled to recover as damages its attorneys' fees and costs incurred, including but not limited to mediation fees, whether or not the action is reduced to judgment. For the purposes of this provision, the "prevailing party" shall be that party who has been successful with regard to the main issue, even if that party did not prevail on all the issues.
- 44. Governing Law and Forum. The laws of the State of Nevada applicable to contracts made or to be wholly performed there (without giving effect to choice of law or conflict of law principles) shall govern the validity, construction, performance and effect of this Agreement. Any lawsuit to interpret or enforce the terms of this Agreement shall be brought in a court of competent jurisdiction in Clark County, Nevada. The Parties acknowledge the matters involved in the Lawsuit and this Agreement may involve conduct and concepts in violation of Federal law regardless of compliance with applicable State law. The Parties expressly waive the defense of illegality under the Federal Controlled Substances Act.
- 45. <u>Necessary Action</u>. Each of the Settling Parties shall do any act or thing and execute any or all documents or instruments necessary or proper to effectuate the provisions and intent of this Agreement.
- 46. <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which when duly executed and delivered shall be an original, but all such counterparts shall constitute one and the same agreement. Any signature page of this Agreement may be detached from any counterpart without impairing the legal effect of any signatures, and may be attached to another counterpart, identical in form, but having attached to it one or more additional signature pages. This Agreement may be executed by signatures provided by electronic facsimile transmission (also known as "Fax" copies), or by electronic signature, which signatures shall be as binding and effective as original signatures.
- 47. <u>Notices</u>. Any and all notices and demands by or from any party required or desired to be given under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be validly given or made if served either personally or if deposited in the United States mail, certified or registered, postage prepaid, return receipt requested. If such notice or demand is served by registered or certified mail in the manner provided, service shall be conclusively deemed given upon receipt or attempted delivery, whichever is sooner.
- 48. <u>Miscellaneous</u>. The headers or captions appearing at the commencement of the paragraph of this Agreement are descriptive only and for convenience in reference to this Agreement and shall not define, limit or describe the scope or intent of this Agreement, nor in any way affect this Agreement.

Masculine or feminine pronouns shall be substituted for the neuter form and vice versa and the plural shall be substituted for the singular form and vice versa in any place or places in this Agreement in which the context requires such substitution or substitutions, and references to "or"

are used in the inclusive sense of "and/or".

[Signatures on following pages]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

LIVFREE WELLNESS, LLC	MM DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, INC.
By: Wall Kay	By:
Print Name: Will Krup	Print Name:
Title: Attorney - Rr- Raet	Title:
ETW MANAGEMENT GROUP LLC	GLOBAL HARMONY LLC
By: ADNU K BULL	Ву:
Print Name:	Print Name: Add K But
Title: _ & COU	Title:
ZION GARDENS LLC  By:	JUST QUALITY LLC By:
Print Name: All K Rul	Print Name: Stan & Dur
Title: A C CC	Title:
LIBRA WELLNESS CENTER, LLC	ROMBOUGH REAL ESTATE, INC.
By:	By:
Print Name: Attan K But	Print Name: Atola K Buh
Title:	Title:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

LIVFREE WELLNESS, LLC	MM DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, INC.
By:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name: Leighton Koehler
Title:	General Counsel Title:
ETW MANAGEMENT GROUP LLC	GLOBAL HARMONY LLC
By:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
ZION GARDENS LLC	JUST QUALITY, LLC
By:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
LIBRA WELLNESS CENTER, LLC	ROMBOUGH REAL ESTATE, INC.
By:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:

### 7/27/2020

NEVADA WELLNESS CENTER, LLC	QUALCAN, LLC
By:	By:
Print Name: Theodore Panher W	Print Name: Peter S. Chr. stans
Title: ATTY	_ Title:
LONE MOUNTAIN PARTNERS, LLC	NEVADA ORGANIC REMEDIES, LLC
By:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
GREENMART OF NEVADA NLV, LLC  By:	HELPING HANDS WELLNESS CENTER, INC.  By:
Print Name:	
Title:	Title:
	CPCM Holdings, LLC, CHEYENNE MEDICAL, LLC, and COMMERCE PARK MEDICAL, LLC  By:
	Print Name:

NEVADA WELLNESS CENTER, LLC	QUALCAN, LLC
By:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
LONE MOUNTAIN PARTNERS, LLC	NEVADA ORGANIC REMEDIES, LLC
By:	By:
Print Name: George Archos	Print Name:
Title: Manager	Title:
GREENMART OF NEVADA NLV, LLC	HELPING HANDS WELLNESS CENTER, INC.
By:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
	CPCM Holdings, LLC, CHEYENNE MEDICAL, LLC, and COMMERCE PARK MEDICAL, LLC
	By:
	Print Name:
	Title:

NEVADA WELLNESS CENTER, LLC	QUALCAN, LLC
By:	By:
Print Name:	_ Print Name:
Title:	Title:
LONE MOUNTAIN PARTNERS, LLC	NEVADA ORGANIC REMEDIES, LLC
By:	By: Raywoud C. Whitaker III
Print Name:	Print Name: Raymond C. Whitaker III
Title:	Title: Authorized Person
GREENMART OF NEVADA NLV, LLC	HELPING HANDS WELLNESS CENTER, INC.
By:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
	CPCM Holdings, LLC, CHEYENNE MEDICAL, LLC, and COMMERCE PARK MEDICAL, LLC
	By:
	Print Name:
	Title:

NEVADA WELLNESS CENTER, LLC	QUALCAN, LLC
By:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
LONE MOUNTAIN PARTNERS, LLC	NEVADA ORGANIC REMEDIES, LLC
By:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
GREENMART OF NEVADA NLV, LLC	HELPING HANDS WELLNESS CENTER, INC.
By:	By:
Print Name: Elizabeth Stavola	Print Name:
Title: Manager	Title:
	CPCM Holdings, LLC, CHEYENNE MEDICAL, LLC, and COMMERCE PARK MEDICAL, LLC
	By:
	Print Name:
	Title:

## 7/27/2020

QUALCAN, LLC
By:
Print Name:
Title
Title:
NEVADA ORGANIC REMEDIES, LLC
By:
4 **
Print Name:
Title:
HELPING HANDS WELLNESS CENTER, INC.
By: Mases
Print Name: SEARIS TERTIFIED PLAN
Title: / RES 1 DEX
Title: 110cg
CPCM Holdings, LLC, CHEYENNE MEDICAL,
LLC, and COMMERCE PARK MEDICAL, LLC
By:
Print Name:
Title:

### 7/28/2020

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NEVADA WELLNESS CENTER, LLC	QUALCAN, LLC
Ву:	Ву:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
LONE MOUNTAIN PARTNERS, LLC	NEVADA ORGANIC REMEDIES, LLC
Ву:	Ву:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
GREENMART OF NEVADA NLV, LLC	HELPING HANDS WELLNESS CENTER, INC.
Ву:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
	CPCM Holdings, LLC, CHEYENNE MEDICAL, LLC, and COMMERCE PARK MEDICAL, LLC
	By:
	2,1
	Print Name:
	Title
	Title:



STATE OF NEVADA, DEPARTMENT OF **TAXATION** 

By: Melanie Young

Title: Executive Director

## Exhibit A

## PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

Exhibit A contains confidential lease terms for Helping Hands/LivFree Unincorporated Clark County Location\*

<sup>\*</sup> Confidential terms will be disclosed to Cannabis Compliance Board to the extent the CCB requires.

## **Exhibit B**

### Mutual Release

WHEREAS, the Settling Plaintiffs and the Settling Defendants (each individually, a "Party" and collectively, the "Parties") entered that certain Settlement Agreement entered into as of July \_\_\_, 2020 (the "Settlement Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to execute this Release in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Amendment.

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, and intending to be legally bound hereby, Company and Vendor hereby agree as follows:

1. Except for such rights, claims or obligations as may be created by the Settlement Agreement, LivFree, MM, ETW Plaintiffs, NWC, and Qualcan, forever, fully and unconditionally release and discharge:

Lone Mountain, NOR, Greenmart, Helping Hands, Thrive and the DOT, their past, present, and future subsidiaries, parents, affiliates, partners, joint venturers, heirs, successors, assigns, contractors, subcontractors, officers, directors, shareholders, members, managers, employees, accountants, agents, representatives, attorneys, insurers, successors and assigns (in their individual and representative capacities),

from any and all claims, demands, losses, damages, actions, causes of action, suits, debts, promises, liabilities, obligations, liens, costs, expenses, attorneys' fees, indemnities, subrogations (contractual or equitable) or duties, of any nature, character or description whatsoever, whether known or unknown, at law or in equity, fixed or contingent, accrued or not yet accrued, matured or not yet matured, anticipated or unanticipated, asserted or unasserted,

arising out of or related to, directly or indirectly, the Lawsuit and the Disputes, as defined in the corresponding Settlement Agreement.

2. Except for such rights, claims or obligations as may be created by the Settlement Agreement, Lone Mountain, NOR, Greenmart, Helping Hands, Thrive and the DOT, forever, fully and unconditionally releases and discharges:

LivFree, MM, ETW Plaintiffs, NWC, and Qualcan, their past, present, and future subsidiaries, parents, affiliates, partners, joint venturers, heirs, successors, assigns, contractors, subcontractors, officers, directors, shareholders, members, managers, employees, accountants, agents, representatives, attorneys, insurers, successors and assigns (in their individual and representative capacities),

from any and all claims, demands, losses, damages, actions, causes of action, suits, debts, promises, liabilities, obligations, liens, costs, expenses, attorneys' fees, indemnities, subrogations (contractual or equitable) or duties, of any nature, character or description whatsoever, whether known or unknown, at law or in equity, fixed or contingent, accrued or not yet accrued, matured or not yet matured, anticipated or unanticipated, asserted or unasserted,

arising out of or related to, directly or indirectly, the Lawsuit and the Disputes, as defined in the corresponding Settlement Agreement.

- 3. Each Party jointly and severally acknowledges that they may later discover material facts in addition to, or different from, those which they now know, suspect or believe to be true with respect to the Disputes, the Lawsuit or the negotiation, execution or performance of this Agreement. Each party further acknowledges that there may be future events, circumstances or occurrences materially different from those they know or believe likely to occur. It is the intention of the parties to fully, finally and forever settle and release all claims and differences relating to the Disputes or the Lawsuit. The releases provided in this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect notwithstanding the discovery or existence of any such additional or different facts or occurrence of any such future events, circumstances or conditions.
- 4. Each Party affirms that it has not filed with any governmental agency or court any type of action or report against any of the other Party other than the Lawsuit, and currently knows of no existing act or omission by any other Party that may constitute a claim or liability excluded from the releases set forth herein.
- 5. Effect of Release. In the event of any inconsistencies between this Release and the Settlement Agreement, the terms of this Release shall govern and control. Except as provided for herein, all other terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement shall remain unchanged and the parties hereby reaffirm the terms and conditions of the Settlement Agreement. This Release may only be varied by a document, in writing, of even or subsequent date hereof, executed by the parties hereto.

- 6. <u>Counterparts</u>. This Release may be executed in any number of counterparts, whether by original, copy, email or telecopy signature, each of which, when executed and delivered, will be deemed an original, but all of which together will constitute one binding agreement and instrument
- 7. Paragraphs 35 through 47 of the Settlement Agreement are hereby incorporated as if fully set forth herein and govern the interpretation of this Release.

[Signature Page Follows]

LIVFREE WELLNESS, LLC	MM DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, INC.
By:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
ETW MANAGEMENT GROUP LLC	GLOBAL HARMONY LLC
By:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
ZION GARDENS LLC	JUST QUALITY, LLC
By:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
LIDDA WELLNIEGG GENTED, LLG	DOMBOLICH DEAL ESTATE INC
LIBRA WELLNESS CENTER, LLC	ROMBOUGH REAL ESTATE, INC.
By:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:

NEVADA WELLNESS CENTER, LLC	QUALCAN, LLC
By:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
LONE MOUNTAIN PARTNERS, LLC	NEVADA ORGANIC REMEDIES, LLC
By:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
GREENMART OF NEVADA NLV, LLC	HELPING HANDS WELLNESS CENTER, INC.
By:	By:
Print Name:	Print Name:
Title:	Title:
	CPCM Holdings, LLC, CHEYENNE MEDICAL, LLC, and COMMERCE PARK MEDICAL, LLC
	By:
	Print Name:
	Title:

STATE	OF	NEVADA,	DEPARTMENT	OF
TAXATI	ON			
Ву:				
Print Na	me:			
	_			
Title:				
Title:				

# Exhibit "2"

#### SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Settlement Agreement is entered into as of August \_\_\_\_, 2020 (the "Effective Date") (this "Agreement"), among Natural Medicine, LLC ("Natural Medicine") and the State of Nevada, Department of Taxation ("DOT").

### **RECITALS**

- A. Natural Medicine and the DOT (collectively the "Settling Parties" and individually, a "Settling Party") are parties to a consolidated lawsuit pending in the District Court, Clark County, Nevada, as Case No. A-19-787004-B (the "Lawsuit").
- B. Within the Lawsuit there are claims and counterclaims relating to the disputes at issue in the Lawsuit (the "Disputes").
- C. The parties want to compromise and settle the Disputes in the Lawsuit by dismissing the claims in the Lawsuit by and between the Settling Parties, each Settling Party to bear its own costs and attorneys' fees, and to exchange mutual releases as provided in this Agreement.

NOW THEREFORE the Settling Parties agree:

### **RELEASES AND DISMISSALS**

1. As a condition and term of this settlement, within two business days after the conditions precedent in Paragraphs 5-8 of the July 28, 2020 Settlement Agreement signed by the DOT and other parties to the Lawsuit are met, the Settling Parties will execute mutual releases in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A. Non-settling parties are not intended to benefit from the mutual releases in this or any subsequent litigation.

### ADDITIONAL TERMS RELATING TO LICENSES AND TRANSFERS

- 2. Natural Medicine agrees to pay \$100,000 towards the Paragraph 21 obligation of the July 28, 2020 Settlement Agreement signed by the DOT and other parties to the Lawsuit. Natural Medicine agrees to make its payments to LivFree in four equal quarterly installments over the year following execution of this-Agreement.
- 3. As a condition and term of this settlement, the CCB agrees to make a good faith effort to expedite and process Natural Medicine's previously submitted transfer of ownership application with Medifarm, LLC.

#### REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES

4. In the event that the DOT is no longer responsible for performing any of the conditions and/or requirements in this Agreement, then the entity that is responsible for performing such duties (e.g., the CCB or any related entity) shall be subject to the conditions and requirements provided in this Agreement. The State of Nevada, DOT represents and warrants that it has authority to sign this Agreement and bind the CCB.

### 8/17/2020

5. Each of the Settling Parties hereto represent and warrant that they have had an adequate opportunity to seek and receive legal advice and counsel from an attorney of their choice regarding the content and effect of this Agreement, have actually received such counsel and advice as they deem prudent to receive in these circumstances, have read this Agreement in its entirety, understand all provisions of this Agreement and their import and effect, and enter into and execute this Agreement freely and voluntarily.

### **OTHER TERMS**

6. Paragraphs 29-42 of the July 28, 2020 Settlement Agreement signed by the DOT and other parties to the Lawsuit are hereby incorporated in to this Agreement as though set forth herein and the Parties agree to be bound by those same provisions.

[Signatures on following pages]\_

### 8/17/2020

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first above written.

NATURAL MEDICINE, LLC  By:	STATE OF NEVADA, DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION
Print Name:	By: Melanie
Title:	Print Name: Melanie Young
California de Ca	Title: Executive Director

Electron/ca/lpfiled 8 8/12/2022 10:42 AM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

IOIN 1 CRAIG D. SLATER, ESQ. 2 Nevada Bar No. 8667 **LUH & ASSOCIATES** 3 8987 W. Flamingo Road, Suite 100 Las Vegas, NV 89147 4 T: (702) 367-8899 F: (702) 384-8899 5 cslater@luhlaw.com CLARK NATURAL MEDICINAL SOLUTIONS LLC, NYE NATURAL MEDICINAL SOLUTIONS LLC, CLARK NMSD LLC. and INYO FINE CANNABIS DISPENSARY L.L.C 7 8 DISTRICT COURT 9 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 10 11 IN RE: D.O.T. LITIGATION **CASE NO.**: A-19-787004-B Consolidated with A-785818 12 A-786357 A-786962 13 A-787035 A-787540 14 A-787726 15 A-801416 **DEPT. NO.: 31** 16 17 CLARK NATURAL MEDICINAL SOLUTIONS LLC, NYE NATURAL MEDICINAL 18 19 COMES NOW, Plaintiffs CLARK NATURAL MEDICINAL SOLUTIONS LLC, NYE 20

## SOLUTIONS LLC CLARK NMSD LLC AND INYO FINE CANNABIS DISPENSARY L.L.C.'S OMNIBUS JOINDER AND SUPPLEMENT TO MOTIONS TO RETAX

NATURAL MEDICINAL SOLUTIONS LLC, CLARK NMSD LLC and INYO FINE CANNABIS DISEPSARY L.L.C. by and through their counsel of record, CRAIG D. SLATER, ESQ. of the law firm LUH & ASSOCIATES, and hereby files this Omnibus Joinder to all Motions to Retax filed in this matter. Specifically, the moving parties hereby join in the arguments raised in the following Motions to Retax.

1) High Sierra Holistic's Motion to Retax re Thrive.

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2) High Sierra Holistic's Motion to Retax re Deep Roots

3)	High Sierra	Holistic's	Motion	to Retax	re Clear	River
~ /						

- 4) TGIG's Motion to Retax re Clear River
- 5) TGIG's Motion to Retax re Thrive
- 6) TGIG's Motion to Retax re Deep Roots
- 7) TGIG's Motion to Retax re Lone Mountain
- 8) TGIG's Motion to Retax re Nevada Organic Remedies
- 9) TGIG's Motion to Retax re Wellness Connection
- 10) Natural Medicine's Motion to Retax re Deep Root s Harvest
- 11) Natural Medicine's Motion to Retax re Clear River
- 12) Natural Medicine's Motion to Retax re Thrive

### SUPPLEMENTAL ARGUMENT TO MOTIONS TO RETAX

In addition to joining the arguments identified above, Nuveda and Inyo would like to point out the fact that Nuveda and Inyo did not assert any constitutional claims that were heard during Phase 2. Nuveda and Inyo's operative pleading is their First Amended Complaint that was filed on September 6, 2019. The operative complaint asserted the following claims for relief: 1) Petition for Judicial Review; 2) Petition for Writ of Certiorari; 3) Petition for Writ of Mandamus; and 4) Petition for Writ of Prohibition. None of these claims were heard during the 5-week trial conducted in this matter as part of Phase 2.

As pointed out in the Motions to Retax, the Memorandum of Costs filed by the various parties fail to identify which costs were incurred during Phase 1 versus those incurred during Phase 2. In that respect, the Memorandums are fatally flawed as it relates to Nuveda and Inyo because Inyo and Nuveda did not participate in Phase 2 and only participated in Phase 1.

1	DATED this <b>12<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022</b> .	
2		LUH & ASSOCIATES
3		/s/ Craig D. Slater
4		
5		CRAIG SLATER, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 8667
6		8987 W. Flamingo, Suite 100 Las Vegas, NV 89147
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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** I hereby certify that I am an employee of LUH & ASSOCIATES and that on the 12th day of August, 2022, I served a true and correct copy of the CLARK NATURAL MEDICINAL SOLUTIONS LLC, NYE NATURAL MEDICINAL SOLUTIONS LLC CLARK NMSD LLC AND INYO FINE CANNABIS DISPENSARY L.L.C.'S JOINDER AND **SUPPLEMENT TO MOTIONS TO RETAX** by serving as follows: \_X\_ Through the Court Authorized electronic mail to all parties listed on the master service list pursuant to Administrative Order 14-2 and Rule 9 of NEFCR: depositing said document(s) with the U.S. Postal Service: Addressed to the following person(s) at the address(es) listed below: /s/ Elizabeth Kite An Employee of Luh & Associates 

Page 1 of 3

Case Number: A-19-787004-B

BLACK & WADHAMS

Las Vegas, Nevada 89135 (702) 869-8801 FAX: (702) 869-2669 Electr 2014c 44 pp 142 5/19/2023 3:39 PM

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BLACK & WADHAMS

attached hereto, as entered to the Court on the 19th day of May 2023.

Dated this 19th day of May 2023.

## BLACK & WADHAMS

# /s/ Rusty Graf

Rusty Graf, Esq. (NSB 6322)
Brigid M. Higgins (NSB 5990)
10777 West Twain Avenue, Third Floor
Las Vegas, Nevada 89135
Attorneys for Defendant Intervenor
Clear River, LLC

BLACK & WADHAMS 10777 W. Twain Avenue, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89135 (702) 869-8801 FAX: (702) 869-2669 

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the Administrative Order 14-2 and N.E.F.C.R. 9, I did cause a true copy of the foregoing NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER DENYING IN PART AND GRANTING IN PART THE TGIG PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO RETAX AND SETTLE COSTS, AND AWARDING COSTS TO CLEAR RIVER, LLC, Clark County District Court Case No. A-19-786962-B, to be served electronically using the Odyssey File & Serve system, to all parties with an email address on record.

/s/ Diane Meeter
An Employee of Black & Wadhams

#### LLLUTTONIONLET DELIVED 5/19/2023 2:30 PM

2A App 425 Filed CLERK OF THE COURT

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ORDER BLACK & WADHAMS

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10777 West Twain Avenue, 3rd Floor

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Telephone: (702) 869-8801

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BLACK & WADHAMS

10777 W, Twain Avenuc, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Las Vegas, Nevada 89135 (702) 869-8801 FAX: (702) 869-2669

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Rusty Graf, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 6322 Brigid M. Higgins, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 5990 Las Vegas, Nevada 89135

Facsimile: (702) 869-2669 E-mail: rgraf@blackwadhams.law Attorneys for Defendant Intervenor

Clear River, LLC

DISTRICT COURT

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

In Re: DOT LITIGATION

Case No. A-19-787004-B

Consolidated with: A-19-786962-B

A-19-787540-W

A-19-787035-C A-18-785818-W

A-18-786357-W A-19-78776-C A-19-801416-B

Dept. No. XXXI

ORDER DENYING IN PART AND GRANTING IN PART THE TGIG PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO RETAX AND SETTLE COSTS, AND AWARDING COSTS TO CLEAR RIVER, LLC

1. On August 8, 2022, Clear River, LLC ("Clear River, LLC") filed its Verified Memorandum of Costs with supporting documentation (Doc ID# 2868) in the amount of \$37,194.47.

2. The Motion to Retax and Settle Costs (re: Memorandum of Costs of Clear River, LLC filed on August 8, 2022) of Plaintiffs TGIG, LLC, Nevada Holistic Medicine. LLC, GBS Nevada Partners, Fidelis Holdings, LLC, Gravitas Nevada, Nevada Pure, LLC,

Page 1 of 8

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Medifarm, LLC, and Medifarm IV, LLC (the "TGIG Plaintiffs"), was filed August 11, 2022 (Doc ID# 2918) (the "Motion").

3. Several Plaintiffs filed joinders to the TGIG Plaintiffs' Motion (collectively the "Joinders") as follows:

NON-SETTLING Plaintiff's Green Leaf Farms Holdings LLC, Green Therapeutics LLC, NevCann LLC and Red Earth LLC's Joinder to Motions to Retax and Settle Costs, filed August 11, 2022 (Doc ID# 2927),

NON-SETTLING Plaintiff Rural Remedies LLC's Joinder to Motions to Retax and Settle Costs, filed August 12, 2022 (Doc ID# 2929),

NON-SETTLING Plaintiffs THC Nevada, LLC and Herbal Choice, Inc.'s Joinder to Motion to Relax and Settle Costs, filed August 12, 2022 (Doc ID# 2932),

SETTLING Plaintiffs Clark Natural Medicinal Solutions LLC, Nye Natural Medicinal Solutions LLC, Clark NMSD LLC and Inyo Fina Cannabis Dispensary LLC's Omnibus Joinder and Supplement to Motions to Retax, filed August 23,2022 (Doc ID# 2934). Each of the joining Plaintiffs are collectively the "Joinder Plaintiffs." The claims and arguments made by the other Plaintiffs have been and will be ruled upon in the other Orders governing Motions to Retax Clear River's costs by the Settling Plaintiffs, with "Settling Plaintiffs" referring to ETW Management Group LLC, Global Harmony LLC, Just Quality, LLC, Libra Wellness Center, LLC, Rombough Real Estate Inc. dba Mother Herb, Zion Gardens LLC, MM Development Company, Inc., LivFree Wellness, LLC, Natural Medicine LLC, Nevada Wellness Center, LLC, and Qualcan, LLC.

Costs must be allowed of course to the prevailing party against any adverse party against whom judgment is rendered. NRS 18.020. The term "prevailing party "is construed, and encompasses any party to the ligation who achieves its intended benefit. Valley Elec. Ass'n v. Overfield, 121 Nev. 7, 10, 106 P.3d 1198, 1200 (2005); see also Las Vegas Metro. Police Dept. v. Blackjack Bonding, Inc., 131 Nev. 80, 343 P.3d 608 (2015).

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- 5. Under NRS 18.110(1), "[t]he party in whose favor judgment is rendered, and who claims costs, must file with the clerk, and serve a copy upon the adverse party, within 5 days after the entry of judgment ... a memorandum of the items of the costs in the action or proceeding, which memorandum must be verified by the oath of the party, or the party's attorney or agent, or by the clerk of the party's attorney, stating that to the best of his or her knowledge and belief the items are correct, and that the costs have been necessarily incurred in the action or proceeding."
  - 6. The allowable costs are set forth in NRS 18.005 to include:
    - Clerks' fees.
    - 2. Reporters' fees for depositions, including a reporter's fee for one copy of each deposition.
    - 3. Jurors' fees and expenses, together with reasonable compensation of an officer appointed to act in accordance with NRS 16.120.
    - 4. Fees for witnesses at trial, pretrial hearings and deposing witnesses, unless the court finds that the witness was called at the instance of the prevailing party without reason or necessity.
    - 5. Reasonable fees of not more than five expert witnesses in an amount of not more than \$1,500 for each witness, unless the court allows a larger fee after determining that the circumstances surrounding the expert's testimony were of such necessity as to require the larger fee.
    - 6. Reasonable fees of necessary interpreters.
    - 7. The fee of any sheriff or licensed process server for the delivery or service of any summons or subpoena used in the action, unless the court determines that the service was not necessary.
    - 8. Compensation for the official reporter or reporter pro tempore.
    - 9. Reasonable costs for any bond or undertaking required as part of the action.
    - 10. Fees of a court bailiff or deputy marshal who was required to work overtime.
    - Reasonable costs for telecopies.
    - Reasonable costs for photocopies.
    - 13. Reasonable costs for long distance telephone calls.
    - 14. Reasonable costs for postage.
    - 15. Reasonable costs for travel and lodging incurred taking depositions and conducting discovery.
    - 16. Fees charged pursuant to NRS 19.0335.
    - 17. Any other reasonable and necessary expense incurred in connection with the action, including reasonable and necessary expenses for computerized services for legal research.
- 7. "Within 3 days after service of a copy of the memorandum, the adverse party may move the court, upon 2 days' notice, to retax and settle the costs, notice of which

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motion shall be filed and served on the prevailing party claiming costs. Upon the hearing of the motion the court or judge shall settle the costs." NRS 18.110(4).

- 8. Clear River, LLC timely filed its verified Memorandum of Costs with supporting documentation. As set forth in the Memorandum of Costs, Clear River, LLC claimed that it incurred and sought recovery of taxable costs in the amount of \$37,194.47.
- Clear River, LLC is a prevailing party as against the TGIG Plaintiffs. Clear River, LLC prevailed on all claims and defenses to retain its licenses, which the TGIG Plaintiffs variously sought to revoke or impair through their requested forms of relief and arguments. Clear River, LLC 's licenses were not lost or impaired by the litigation. Clear River, LLC prevailed on all issues against all Plaintiffs, and this makes Clear River, LLC a prevailing party. See Golightly & Vannah, PLLC v. TJ Allen, LLC, 132 Nev. 416,422,373 P.3d 103, 107 (2016).
- 10. The Court finds that the way in which Clear River, LLC was named as a defendant in this action, and the manner in which the various Plaintiffs' cases were consolidated and tried, do not preclude Clear River, LLC from being considered a prevailing party against any Plaintiff.
- This was a special proceeding in which declaratory relief was sought in addition to other claims, and the value of the property, i.e., the licenses at stake and Plaintiffs' alleged damages and purported loss of market share exceeded \$2,500. See NRS 18.020.
- 12. Clear River, LLC's costs fall within NRS 18.005's allowable categories and are properly awardable under NRS 18.020.
- 13. The TGIG Plaintiffs challenged Clear River, LLC 's Memorandum of Costs only on the basis that Clear River, LLC was not a prevailing party and that costs cannot

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be awarded in suites involving petitions for judicial review. See Motion, and Joinders, with Case Docket entry #s above. As set forth above, Clear River, LLC is a prevailing party. Further, TGIG argued Clear River's Memorandum of Costs does not seek costs solely relating to judicial review proceedings.

- The TGIG Plaintiffs did not challenge Clear River, LLC's Memorandum of Costs on the basis that any costs were unreasonable, unnecessary, incorrect, not actually incurred, or otherwise unsupported. The Motion to Retax did not set forth arguments or points and authorities challenging Clear River, LLC's Memorandum of Costs and did not claim or set forth any itemization that any cost categories, either specifically or generally, were unreasonable, unnecessary, or should not be awarded. As such, as to the nature, amount, and reasonableness of the costs Clear River, LLC seeks, the TGIG Plaintiffs did not oppose such costs and waived any right to challenge or contest the individual amount of costs set forth in Clear River, LLC 's Memorandum of Costs.
- 15. The Court finds that because the costs set forth in Clear River, LLC ' Memorandum of Costs were not opposed as to reasonableness, then they are reasonable, necessary, justifiable, actually incurred, and are supported by a declaration of counsel and documentation.
- 16. Notwithstanding the above and foregoing, as to the issue of the date from which a prevailing party may recover costs, the Court finds and determines that costs should be awarded only from the date of the filing of the answer by the party seeking costs.
- 17. Clear River, LLC answered the TGIG Plaintiffs' Second Amended Complaint and became a party as to the TGIG Plaintiffs for the purposes of recovering costs on February 12, 2020.

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the \_\_\_\_ day of May 2023, pursuant to Administrative Order 14-2 and N.E.F.C.R. 9, I did cause a true copy of the foregoing ORDER DENYING IN PART AND GRANTING IN PART THE TGIG PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO RETAX AND SETTLE COSTS, AND AWARDING COSTS TO CLEAR RIVER, LLC in District Court Consolidated Case No. A-19-787004-B, to be served electronically using the Odyssey File & Serve system, to all parties with an email address on record.

> /s/ Diane Meeter An Employee of Black & Wadhams

From: Amy Sugden <amy@sugdenlaw.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 12:39 PM

To: Diane Meeter; JDelCarmen@pnalaw.net; n.rulis@kempjones.com; jag@mgalaw.com;

clarence@ramoslaw.com; jschwarz@hone.law; jbendavid@bendavidfirm.com; wbarrett@christiansenlaw.com; jkahn@jk-legalconsulting.com; rich@nvlawyers.com; jon@nvlawyers.com; ehone@hone.law; Slbarra@pnalaw.net; maggie@nvlitigation.com;

ssmith@bendavidfirm.com; anthony@nvlawyers.com; jzimmerman@hone.law; lcr@h2law.com; kvm@h2law.com; jbraster@nblawnv.com; asharples@nblawnv.com; mdzarnoski@clarkhill.com; JTS@pisanellibice.com; cnewby@ag.nv.gov; Monica Davis

Cc: Rusty Graf; Brigid Higgins; e61469820+matter1234564084@maildrop.clio.com

Subject: Re: Proposed Clear River TGIG Order - Resubmitted Per Court Instruction of 5/17/23

Approved as to form and content on behalf of THC Nevada, LLC.

Thanks,

Amy Sugden

From: Diane Meeter <dmeeter@blackwadhams.law>

Date: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 10:19 AM

To: JDelCarmen@pnalaw.net <JDelCarmen@pnalaw.net>, n.rulis@kempjones.com <n.rulis@kempjones.com>, jag@mgalaw.com <jag@mgalaw.com <jag@mgalaw.com>, clarence@ramoslaw.com <clarence@ramoslaw.com>, jschwarz@hone.law <jschwarz@hone.law>, jbendavid@bendavidfirm.com <jbendavid@bendavidfirm.com>, wbarrett@christiansenlaw.com <wbarrett@christiansenlaw.com>, jkahn@jk-legalconsulting.com <jkahn@jk-legalconsulting.com>, rich@nvlawyers.com <ri>crich@nvlawyers.com>, jon@nvlawyers.com <jon@nvlawyers.com>, ehone@hone.law <ehone@hone.law>, Slbarra@pnalaw.net <Slbarra@pnalaw.net>, maggie@nvlitigation.com <maggie@nvlitigation.com>, Amy Sugden <amy@sugdenlaw.com>, ssmith@bendavidfirm.com <ssmith@bendavidfirm.com>, anthony@nvlawyers.com <anthony@nvlawyers.com</a>, ssmith@bendavidfirm.com <ssmith@bendavidfirm.com>, lcr@h2law.com <lcr@h2law.com>, kvm@h2law.com <, jbraster@nblawnv.com <jbraster@nblawnv.com>, asharples@nblawnv.com <asharples@nblawnv.com>, mdzarnoski@clarkhill.com <mdzarnoski@clarkhill.com>, lcr@h2law.com <lcr@h2law.com>, JTS@pisanellibice.com>, cnewby@ag.nv.gov <cnewby@ag.nv.gov>, Diane Meeter <a href="mailto:domeeter@blackwadhams.law">domeeter@blackwadhams.law></a>, Monica Davis <mdavis@blackwadhams.law>

Cc: Rusty Graf <rgraf@blackwadhams.law>, Brigid Higgins <br/>
bliggins@blackwadhams.law>, e61469820+matter1234564084@maildrop.clio.com<br/>
com<br/>
Subject: RE: Proposed Clear River TGIG Order - Resubmitted Per Court Instruction of 5/17/23

Counsel:

Pursuant to the Court's instruction in the Status Check this morning, we are re-submitting Clear River's Oder Denying in Part and Granting in Part TGIG's Motion to Retax and Settle Costs re: Clear River, LLC. The Court requested that you sign if you agree and if you do not, please indicate that you will be submitting a competing Order. This needs to be submitted to the Court by Friday.

From: Clarence Gamble <clarence@ramoslaw.com>

Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 12:40 PM

To: Dzarnoski, Mark; Diane Meeter; JDelCarmen@pnalaw.net; n.rulis@kempjones.com;

jag@mgalaw.com; jschwarz@hone.law; jbendavid@bendavidfirm.com;

wbarrett@christiansenlaw.com; jkahn@jk-legalconsulting.com; rich@nvlawyers.com; jon@nvlawyers.com; ehone@hone.law; Slbarra@pnalaw.net; maggie@nvlitigation.com;

amy@sugdenlaw.com; ssmith@bendavidfirm.com; anthony@nvlawyers.com; jzimmerman@hone.law; lcr@h2law.com; kvm@h2law.com; jbraster@nblawnv.com; asharples@nblawnv.com; lcr@h2law.com; JTS@pisanellibice.com; cnewby@ag.nv.gov;

Monica Davis

Cc: Rusty Graf; Brigid Higgins; e61469820+matter1234564084@maildrop.clio.com

Subject: RE: Proposed Clear River TGIG Order - Resubmitted Per Court Instruction of 5/17/23

You have my authority to affix my e-signature to the order as well.

#### Sincerely,

d: 720.536.4380 o: 303.733.6353 f: 303.865.5666

<a href="https://www.facebook.com/RamosInjuryFirm/">https://www.facebook.com/RamosInjuryFirm/> <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-ramos-injury-firm/">https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-ramos-injury-firm/> <a href="https://twitter.com/TheRamosLawFirm">https://twitter.com/TheRamosLawFirm</a> Clarence Gamble

Attorney

10190 Bannock St Suite 200 Northglenn, CO 80260 www.ramoslaw.com <a href="https://www.ramoslaw.com/">https://www.ramoslaw.com/</a> Attorneys Licensed in 22 States

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From: Rich Williamson < rich@nvlawyers.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2023 8:50 AM

To: Clarence Gamble; Dzarnoski, Mark; Diane Meeter, JDelCarmen@pnalaw.net;

n.rulis@kempjones.com; jag@mgalaw.com; jschwarz@hone.law;

jbendavid@bendavidfirm.com; wbarrett@christiansenlaw.com; jkahn@jklegalconsulting.com; Jon Tew; ehone@hone.law; Slbarra@pnalaw.net;

maggie@nvlitigation.com; amy@sugdenlaw.com; ssmith@bendavidfirm.com; Anthony

Arger; jzimmerman@hone.law; lcr@h2law.com; kvm@h2law.com; jbraster@nblawnv.com; asharples@nblawnv.com; lcr@h2law.com;

JTS@pisanellibice.com; cnewby@ag.nv.gov; Monica Davis

Cc: Rusty Graf; Brigid Higgins; e61469820+matter1234564084@maildrop.clio.com; Briana

Collings

Subject: RE: Proposed Clear River TGIG Order - Resubmitted Per Court Instruction of 5/17/23

You have my approval to affix my electronic signature.

Thanks,

Rich

Richard D. Williamson, Esq. Robertson, Johnson, Miller & Williamson 50 West Liberty Street, Suite 600

Reno, Nevada 89501

Telephone: (775) 329-5500 Facsimile: (775) 348-8300 Email: <u>Rich@NVLawyers.com</u>

Please visit our Website at: www.nviawyers.com

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From: Clarence Gamble <clarence@ramoslaw.com>

Sent: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 12:40 PM

From: Craig Slater <cslater@luhlaw.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2023 12:06 PM

To: Diane Meeter, nick@nrdarelaw.co; 'Mark Borghese (Other)'

Cc: Rusty Graf; Brigid Higgins

Subject: RE: Proposed Clear River TGIG Order - Resubmitted Per Court Instruction of 5/17/23

Diane,

You have my permission to affix my e-signature.

Craig

Craig D. Slater, Esq. Luh & Associates 8987 W. Flamingo Road, Suite 100 Las Vegas, NV 89147 T: (702) 367-8899 F: (702) 384-8899 cslater@luhlaw.com

From: Diane Meeter <dmeeter@blackwadhams.law>

Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2023 10:34 AM

To: Craig Slater (Other) <cslater@luhlaw.com>; nick@nrdarelaw.co; Mark Borghese (Other)

<contact@borgheselegal.com>

Cc: Rusty Graf <rgraf@blackwadhams.law>; Brigid Higgins <bhiggins@blackwadhams.law>

Subject: FW: RE: Proposed Clear River TGIG Order - Resubmitted Per Court Instruction of 5/17/23

Importance: High

#### Counsel:

Don't believe you were included the email that was sent yesterday. The Court requested that you sign if you agree and if you do not, please indicate that you will be submitting a competing Order. This needs to be submitted to the Court by Friday.

Diane Meeter

Legal Assistant to Rusty Graf, Esq. Legal Assistant to Chris Yergensen, Esq.



p: (702)869-8801 f: (702)869-2669

a: 10777 W. Twain Avenue, Suite 300

Las Vegas, NV 89135

w: www.blackwadhams.law e: dmeeter@blackwadhams.law

From: Nicolas Donath <nick@nrdarelaw.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2023 4:33 PM

To: Diane Meeter

Subject: RE: RE: Proposed Clear River TGIG Order - Resubmitted Per Court Instruction of 5/17/23

Agreed. You may affix my e-signature.

# Nicolas Donath, Esq.

Attorney at Law N.R. Donath & Associates



702-460-0718 (direct) 702-446-8063 (fax) 871 Coronado Center Drive Suite 200 Henderson, NV 89052 nick@nrdarelaw.com

### http://www.nrdarelaw.com

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From: Diane Meeter <dmeeter@blackwadhams.law>

Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2023 10:40 AM To: Nicolas Donath <nick@nrdarelaw.com>

Subject: FW: RE: Proposed Clear River TGIG Order - Resubmitted Per Court Instruction of 5/17/23

Importance: High

#### Counsel:

Don't believe you were included in the email that was sent yesterday. The Court requested that you sign if you agree and if you do not, please indicate that you will be submitting a competing Order. This needs to be submitted to the Court <u>by Friday</u>.

CSERV

## DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

In Re: D.O.T. Litigation

CASE NO: A-19-787004-B

DEPT. NO. Department 31

jcrain@christiansenlaw.com

## AUTOMATED CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This automated certificate of service was generated by the Eighth Judicial District Court. The foregoing Order was served via the court's electronic eFile system to all recipients registered for e-Service on the above entitled case as listed below:

Service Date: 5/19/2023

areams@naylorandbrasterlaw.com Amy Reams John Naylor jnaylor@naylorandbrasterlaw.com jbraster@naylorandbrasterlaw.com Jennifer Braster Heather Motta hmotta@mcllawfirm.com Peter Christiansen pete@christiansenlaw.com wbarrett@christiansenlaw.com Whitney Barrett tterry@christiansenlaw.com R. Todd Terry enunez@pnalaw.net Eloisa Nunez maggie@nvlitigation.com Margaret McLetchie Teresa Stovak teresa@nylawyers.com eileen@nvlawyers.com Eileen Conners

26 Jonathan Crain

27

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1	Todd Bice	tlb@pisanellibice.com
2	Steven Scow	sscow@kskdlaw.com
4	David Koch	dkoch@kskdlaw.com
5	Debra Spinelli	dls@pisanellibice.com
6	Mariella Dumbrique	mdumbrique@blacklobello.law
7	MGA Docketing	docket@mgalaw.com
8	Sarah Harmon	sharmon@baileykennedy.com
9	Dennis Kennedy	dkennedy@baileykennedy.com
10	Bailey Kennedy, LLP	bkfederaldownloads@baileykennedy.com
12	Patricia Stoppard	p.stoppard@kempjones.com
13	Ali Augustine	a.augustine@kempjones.com
14	Nathanael Rulis	n.rulis@kempjones.com
15	Chandi Melton	chandi@christiansenlaw.com
16	David Pope	dpope@ag.nv.gov
17	Norma Richter	nrichter@jfnvlaw.com
18 19	Adam Fulton	afulton@jfnvlaw.com
20	Jared Jennings	jjennings@jfnvlaw.com
21	Andrea Eshenbaugh	andrea@kskdlaw.com
22	Theodore Parker III	tparker@pnalaw.net
23	Alicia Ashcraft	ashcrafta@ashcraftbarr.com
24	Daniel Scow	dscow@kskdlaw.com
25	Olivia Swibles	oswibies@nevadafirm.com
26	Richard Holley, Esq.	rholley@nevadafirm.com
27 28		

Joseph Gutierrez	jag@mgalaw.com
Jared Kahn	jkahn@jk-legalconsulting.com
David Koch	dkoch@kochscow.com
Steven Scow	sscow@kochscow.com
Leilani Gamboa	lgamboa@bendavidfirm.com
Mark Dzarnoski	mdzarnoski@clarkhill.com
Lawrence Semenza	ljs@skrlawyers.com
Steven Handelin	steve@handelinlaw.com
Richard Williamson	rich@nvlawyers.com
Kathleen McConnell	khmcconnell@frontiernet.net
Kenneth Ching	ken@argentumnv.com
Dan Reaser	dwheelen@fclaw.com
D. Neal Tomlinson	neal@hyperionlegal.com
Michael Becker	Michael@702defense.com
Rory Vohwinkel	rory@vohwinkellaw.com
Lee Iglody	lee@iglody.com
Jennifer DelCarmen	jdelcarmen@pnalaw.net
Judah Zakalik	jz@pandalawfirm.com
Eric Hone	ehone@hone.law
Jamie Zimmerman	jzimmerman@hone.law
ames Pisanelli	lit@pisanellibice.com
Logan Willson	Logan@jfnvlaw.com

Anastasia Noe	anastasia@pandalawfirm.com
Craig Newby	cnewby@ag.nv.gov
Shannon Dinkel	sd@pisanellibice.com
Eservice Filing	eservice@thedplg.com
John Savage	jsavage@nevadafirm.com
Katherine MacElwain	kmacelwain@nevadafirm.com
Karen Morrow	kmorrow@hone.law
Dominic Gentile	dgentile@clarkhill.com
Tanya Bain	tbain@clarkhill.com
Gail May	Gail@ramoslaw.com
Jeffery Bendavid	jbendavid@bendavidfirm.com
Stephanie Smith	ssmith@bendavidfirm.com
Clarence Gamble	clarence@ramoslaw.com
Michelle MIller	michellemiller@millerlawinc.us
fames Puzey	jpuzey@nevadafirm.com
Michael Ayers	mayers@nevadafirm.com
James Puzey	jpuzey@nevadafirm.com
Karen Stecker	kstecker@conantlawfirm.com
Brett Scolari	bscolari@trykecompanies.com
Paul Conant	pconant@conantlawfirm.com
Conant Law Firm	docket@conantlawfirm.com
Rick Hsu	rhsu@mcllawfirm.com
Clarence Gamble	Clarence@ramoslaw.com

Jeffrey Whittemore	chase@sandelawgroup.com
Ben Ross	ben@litigationservices.com
Depository LIT	Depository@litigationservices.com
Craig Slater	efile@luhlaw.com
Alicia Vega	avega@litigationservices.com
James Beckstrom	jb@beckstromlaw.com
Suzanne Boggs	sb@beckstromlaw.com
Clarissa Reyes	creyes@clarkhill.com
Kelsey Fusco	kfusco@nevadafirm.com
Katherine Rodriguez	krodriguez@nevadafirm.com
April Allen	aallen@kskdlaw.com
ames Beckstrom	JB@Beckstromlaw.com
Suzanne Boggs	SB@Beckstromlaw.com
Susan Matejko - Administrative Assistant	smatejko@nevadafirm.com
Candice Mata	lawclerk@hone.law
Christopher Rose	lcr@h2law.com
abrena Clinton	sclinton@ag.nv.gov
Ciel Ireland	kireland@ag.nv.gov
Carson Bright	kdb@h2law.com
Vernon Nelson	vnelson@nelsonlawfirmlv.com
Sigal Chattah	Chattahlaw@gmail.com
Ben Lehavi	Ben@Benslaw.com
amy Sugden	amy@sugdenlaw.com

1 anthony@nvlawyers.com Anthony Arger 2 rgraf@blackwadhams.law Rusty Graf 3 **Brigid Higgins** bhiggins@blackwadhams.law 4 Diane Meeter dmeeter@blackwadhams.law 5 mstallsworth@blackwadhams.law 6 Marsha Stallsworth 7 Nicolas Donath Nick@nrdarelaw.com 8 Anedra Wylie Anedra@Benslaw.com 9 Staci Ibarra sibarra@pnalaw.net 10 Benjamin Gordon bgordon@nblawnv.com 11 Misty Janati misty@jfnvlaw.com 12 James@Benslaw.com James Beckstrom 13 14 Amanda Laub amanda@benslaw.com 15 Mary Pizzariello MPizzariello@ag.nv.gov 16 Kelly McGee kom@h2law.com 17 Susan Messina smessina@ag.nv.gov 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

ElectronAcAllon 6/14/4 6/12/2023 8:30 AM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

1	NOAS Others & Street					
2	CRAIG D. SLATER, ESQ.					
	Nevada Bar No. 8667  LUH & ASSOCIATES					
3	8987 W. Flamingo Road, Suite 100					
4	Las Vegas, NV 89147					
5	T: (702) 367-8899 F: (702) 384-8899 cslater@luhlaw.com					
6	CLARK NATURAL MEDICINAL SOLUTIONS LLC,					
7	NYE NATURAL MEDICINAL SOLUTIONS LLC, CLARK NMSD LLC. and INYO FINE CANNABIS DISPENSARY L.L.C					
	in case No. A-19-787035-C					
8						
9	DISTRICT COURT					
10	CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA					
11	****					
12	IN RE: D.O.T. LITIGATION  CASE NO.: A-19-787004-B					
13	Consolidated with A-785818 A-786357					
14	A-786962 A-787035					
	A-787540					
15	A-787726 A-801416					
16	DEPT. NO.: 31					
17						
18	NOTICE OF APPEAL					
19	PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that CLARK NATURAL MEDICINAL SOLUTIONS LLC,					
20	NYE NATURAL MEDICINAL SOLUTIONS LLC, CLARK NMSD LLC, and INYO FINE					
21	CANNABIS DISEPSARY L.L.C., by and through their attorneys of record, LUH & ASSOCIATES,					
22	CANNADIS DISEFSART L.L.C., by and unough their attorneys of record, LOTT & ASSOCIATES,					
23	hereby appeal from the following Orders and Notice of Entry of Orders:					
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1. Order Denying In Part and Granting In Part The TGIG Plaintiffs' Motion to Retax and Settle Costs, And Awarding Costs to Clear River, LLC, entered on May 19, 2023, notice of entry of which was served electronically on May 19, 2023. DATED this 12th day of June, 2023. **LUH & ASSOCIATES** /s/ Craig D. Slater CRAIG SLATER, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 8667 8987 W. Flamingo, Suite 100 Las Vegas, NV 89147 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** I hereby certify that on the 12st day of June 2023, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing via the Court's electronic filing system only, pursuant to the Nevada Electronic Filing and Conversion Rules, Administrative Order 14-2, to all parties currently on the electronic service list. /s/ Victoria Grant An Employee of Luh & Associates