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

Supreme Court Case No. 63444

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LAS VEGAS SANDS CORP., a Nevada corporation, and SANDS CHINA, LTD., a Cayman Islands corporation,

Petitioners,

v.

## CLARK COUNTY DISTRICT COURT, THE HONORABLE ELIZABETH GONZALEZ, DISTRICT JUDGE, DEPT. XI,

Respondents,

and

STEVEN C. JACOBS,

Real Party in Interest.

## RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR ORAL ARGUMENT IN RELATED CASES No. 62944 AND 63444

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### I. INTRODUCTION

No one is more eager than real party in interest, Steven C. Jacobs ("Jacobs"), to have this case move forward. This case has been in what appears to be perpetual paralysis for nearly three years as a product of the Petitioners' discovery noncompliance. Respectfully, the oral argument request by Petitioners, Las Vegas Sands Corp. ("LVSC") and its controlled subsidiary, Sands China Limited ("Sands China"), is not designed to expedite a resolution.

For nearly three years, Jacobs has been precluded from prosecuting his rights, or even obtaining any merits discovery, notwithstanding that LVSC does not even dispute the fact that it is subject to jurisdiction nor did it seek any form of discovery stay. Rather, Sands China challenged the District Court's personal jurisdiction, which then prompted what was plainly contemplated as a short stay pending resolution of the jurisdictional issue. But, shortly thereafter, LVSC and Sands China ground the jurisdictional discovery process to a standstill, prompting the District Court to find that they had purposefully obstructed the discovery process and concealed evidence. Notably, even in their present request for oral argument, Petitioners continue to refuse to take ownership for their activities, which has led to this case's delay; instead preferring to blame the District Court as though it forced them to obstruct discovery.

The present request is a repeat of Petitioners' previously denied motion to consolidate these same two writ petitions. What Petitioners refer to as "Writ 2" and "Writ 3" are not "substantively related," as Petitioners contend. Nor does Writ 2 present a question of privilege as Petitioners erroneously suggest. It arises from LVSC and Sands China's disregard and violation of a discovery sanction imposed as a result of their misconduct. Neither of these petitions presents an honest question about the District Court's efficient management. Again, the paralysis of

this case is the desired byproduct of LVSC and Sands China's own actions. And they have benefited immensely from the delays they have procured.

Rather than delaying the resolution of the two remaining writs by coordinating them in some fashion, Jacobs asks this Court to proceed expeditiously with their resolution, regardless of oral argument scheduling. Indeed, Writ 3 presents a straight forward application of this Court's prohibition upon seeking writ relief when a party fails to pursue available appellate options in a timely manner. Petitioners consciously chose to forego an appeal over the exact same issue involving the exact same documents nearly two years ago. For Jacobs, it is hard to accept the continuous delays procured by Petitioners in the face of their confirmed discovery misconduct and election not to bring matters to this Court's attention much earlier.

No case should be frozen for three years before any merits discovery is permitted to occur with documents disappearing and memories fading. There is no need to coordinate oral argument on distinct writ issues that will only further perpetuate delay.

DATED 27th day of November, 2013.

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#### CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

I hereby certify that this brief complies with the formatting requirements of NRAP 32(a)(4), the typeface requirements of NRAP 32(a)(5) and the type style requirements of NRAP 32(a)(6) because this brief has been prepared in a proportionally spaced typeface using Office Word 2007 in size 14 font in double-spaced Times New Roman.

I further certify that I have read this brief and that it complies with the page or type-volume limitations of NRAP 32(a)(7) because, excluding the parts of the brief exempted by NRAP 32(a)(7)(C), it is proportionately spaced, has a typeface of 14 points or more and 479 words.

Finally, I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, it is not frivolous or interposed for any improper purpose. I further certify that this brief complies with all applicable Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure, in particular NRAP 28(e)(1), which requires that every assertion in this brief regarding matters in the record to be supported by appropriate references to the record on appeal. I understand that I may be subject to sanctions in the event that the accompanying brief is not in conformity with the requirements of the Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure.

DATED this <u>27th</u> day of November, 2013.

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I am an employee of PISANELLI BICE PLLC, and that on this 27th day of November, 2013, I electronically filed and served a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR ORAL ARGUMENT IN RELATED CASES No. 62944 AND 63444 properly addressed to the following:

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