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LAW OFFICES 1 DANIEL J. OEHLER 2001 Highway 95, Suite 15 Bullhead City, Arizona 86442 (928) 758-3988 (928) 763-3227 (fax) diolaw@frontiernet.net 5 Daniel J. Oehler, Arizona State Bar No.: 002739 Attorney for Defendants 6 7 8 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MOHAVE 9 10 11 NANCY KNIGHT, NO.: CV-2018-04003 RESPONSE TO PLAINTIFF'S 12 Plaintiff. **MOTION FOR** 13 VS. RECONSIDERATION REGARDING PRE-SERVICE GLEN LUDWIG and PEARL LUDWIG, Trustees 14 OF PROCESS CONTACT of THE LUDWIG FAMILY TRUST; FAIRWAY **NECESSARY AND** 15 CONSTRUCTORS, INC.; MEHDI AZARMI; INDISPENSABLE PARTIES JAMES B. ROBERTS and DONNA M. ROBERTS, husband and wife; JOHN DOES 1-10; 16 JANE DOES 1-10; ABC CORPORATIONS 1-10; and XYZ PARTNERSHIPS 1-10. 17 Defendants. 18 19 COME NOW, the Defendants, by and through their attorney, the undersigned, 20 pursuant to this Court's Order entered October 26, 2022, that reads "IT IS ORDERED 21 directing Counsel Oehler to respond within the next 20 days to the Motion for 22 Reconsideration to Set Aside Plaintiff's Gag Order." More specifically, this Court at a Status 23 Conference hearing conducted on September 16, 2022, entered the following Order on this 24 25 issue: "IT IS ORDERED that Ms. Knight shall not be involved in the 26 service of the Parties needing joined, nor shall the Plaintiff, Ms. Knight, directly or indirectly have contact with the Parties 27 involved." See, this Court's hearing minutes, 9/16/2022, p. 2, 28 $\P 2.$

Subsequent to the entry of that Order, the Plaintiff has described the same as a "gag order" and the Court on October 26, 2022 ordered Defendants to file a response to Plaintiff's pro per Motion on the "gag order" portion of Plaintiff's filing.

Specifically, Plaintiff's Pro Per October 3, 2022, "gag order" portion of Plaintiff's Motion for Reconsideration, in pertinent part, reads as follows:

"COMES NOW Plaintiff Pro Per, Nancy Knight, requesting the Court set aside his Order demanding that Plaintiff Knight is to have no contact, directly or indirectly, with any of her over 400 neighbors in Tract 4076-B, Tract 4076-D and Tract 4163. Plaintiff did nothing wrong to be punished from discovery in this case or for her ability to convey options for remedy of existing violations as President of the Desert Lakes Subdivision Tract 4076 Unincorporated Association. Plaintiff's Constitutional First Amendment right to free speech is being violated by this Gag Order favoring the Defendants." See, Plaintiff's 10/03/2022 Motion for Reconsideration, p. 1, lines 24.5-28.5 through p. 2, lines 1-4.

The subject "gag order" came about as a result of Plaintiff's earlier conduct in transmitting what appears to be mass mailing to some if not all of the lot owners which are the subject matter of Plaintiff's current litigation and that have been determined by the Court in previous orders to be "necessary and indispensable" parties in the subject litigation. Plaintiff requested in Plaintiff's mass mailing that the "necessary and indispensable" parties join the Plaintiff and become members of Plaintiff's Unincorporated Association. (The subject Association will be legally treated as a partnership.) The alleged purpose of Plaintiff's Unincorporated Association is to amend, delete and change the original covenants, review future exceptions, variances, and effectuate new covenants. All of these actions are the subject matter of the underlying litigation in this matter. It appears that Plaintiff believes that Plaintiff's Unincorporated Association's proposed amendments and changes that might be acted upon in 2022 or 2023 would diffuse or eliminate the Defendants' defense of abandonment, such is not, of course, the case. If the covenants were abandoned over the past 30+ years, there is nothing to amend, change nor enforce.

In oral argument, the Court agreed that such conduct was inappropriate and improper and therefore ordered that the Plaintiff not make further contact with the parties that were ordered to be joined.

Plaintiff further, beginning on p. 7, lines 21-27, of Plaintiff's October 3, 2022 Motion regarding Plaintiff's gag order and other issues, makes the statement "Plaintiff pleads for the Court to lift the gag order, rule that the 'Plaintiff' to join indispensable parties is LFA" (referring to Defendants Ludwig, Fairway and Azarmi). The Plaintiff is now attempting to convert the Defendants into the Plaintiffs.

In effect, the basis for the elimination of the "gag order" as stated by the Plaintiff is that the Plaintiff's feels that it is a violation of her right to free speech, and that it should be eliminated as a result of an alleged violation of Plaintiff's constitutional rights, however, Plaintiff provides no legal basis for her argument.

It is the belief of the Defendants that Plaintiff's contact with most if not all of the "necessary and indispensable" parties was an effort to reach out to those individuals, sway their opinion to the position of the Plaintiff and obtain, via the acquiescence, signatures of the lot owners consenting or assenting to joining Plaintiff's Unincorporated Association without simultaneously advising each of the lot owners that in so doing, each joining lot owner would be agreeing to be fully and totally responsible, jointly and severally, to pay for any adverse judgments that might accrue from the conduct and partnership participation with the Plaintiff on behalf of and through Plaintiff's Unincorporated Association.

Beyond Plaintiff's October 3, 2022, filing, Plaintiff further discussed the issue of the "gag order" and is currently proffering to the Court an amendment that Plaintiff asks the Court to include in the formal order issued by the Court per Plaintiff's October 28, 2022 pleading that reads:

"IT IS ORDERED the Plaintiff, Defendants and Defendant's attorney, who are involved in litigating complete abandonment of the CC&Rs, shall not have any direct nor indirect personal or written contact with the to-be-joined nor joined indispensable or necessary parties regarding this case. However, Plaintiff, in her capacity as President of the Desert Lakes Tract 4076 Unincorporated Association shall have the ability to have contact, directly or indirectly, with any property owner in Tract 4076 including indispensable or necessary parties in order to perform in the capacity of the Architectural Committee for meetings regarding the Committee rules, variances or

exclusions, or for meetings regarding Amendments to the CC&Rs. No discussion regarding this case will be allowed among the Committee members at any designated meeting where the Plaintiff is in attendance. With the exception of President Nancy Knight, other committee members may, from time to time, discuss this case with anyone." See, 10/28/2022 Plaintiff's Proposed Orders for Service on Indispensable Parties, p. 6, lines 8-22.

Plaintiff effectively agreed on October 28, 2022, that Plaintiff should not contact the "necessary and indispensable parties" regarding this litigation, however, now seeks a Court order affirmatively permitting the Plaintiff in her capacity as self-appointed president of her Desert Lakes Tract 4076 Unincorporated Association (which refers to a non-existent tract or effectively multiple tracts in excess of the three tracts that are currently the subject of the pending litigation) that Plaintiff has Court purported authorized authority to conduct architectural committee meetings, committee rules, grant variances, exclusions or amendments to the existing CC&Rs, all of which are at the very heart and core of the subject litigation before this Court. Such contact and conduct is inappropriate under the totality of circumstances that are before this Court and should not be allowed until at least such point in time when all of the "necessary and indispensable" lot owners have actually been joined and are represented either on a pro per basis or by legal counsel, then, of course, Plaintiff and Defendants or Defendants' attorney would be free to contact the parties through their respective legal counsel or if self represented, directly with the "pro per" defendants.

One cannot separate the issues that Plaintiff has raised either in the litigation that is before this Court that squarely deals with abandonment of the covenants versus contemporaneous efforts by the Plaintiff to establish an organization to allegedly enforce, modify or amend the same covenants which are the subject of this abandonment litigation.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this // day of November, 2022.

LAW OFFICES OF DANIEL J. OEHLER

Daniel J. Oehler,

Attorney for Defendants

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1	COPY of the foregoing emailed this 11th day of November, 2022, to:
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