BRYAN CAVE LLP, #145700 Sean K. McElenney, 016987 Jacob A. Maskovich, 021920

Two N. Central Avenue, Suite 2200

Phoenix, AZ 85004-4406

Telephone: Facsimile: E-Mail:

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(602) 364-7000 (602) 364-7070

skmcelenney@bryancave.com

jamaskovich@bryancave.com

Attorneys for Ancillary Co-Personal Representatives Leslie Hiatt and Sandra Evitt

## IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA

In the Matter of the Arizona Estate of, CHARLES H. EVITT,

Deceased.

No. PB2015-051215

DECLARATION OF LESLIE
HIATT IN SUPPORT OF MOTION
FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT
REGARDING JUDITH EVITTTHORNE'S PETITION FOR
ALLOWANCE OF CLAIM

FILED

15 DEC 28 PM 4: 38

(Hon. Andrew Russell)

I, Leslie Hiatt, make the following declaration:

- I am over the age of 18 years and competent to testify to the matters stated herein.
- 2. I am one of Decedent Charles H. Evitt's daughters. I am a resident of Centennial, Colorado. I am one of the Co-Personal Representatives appointed <u>In the Matter of the Estate of Charles H. Evitt</u> pending before the Fourth Judicial District of Johnson County, Wyoming, Cause No. PR-2013-003. I also have been appointed as a Co-Personal Representative in this ancillary probate proceeding pending before this Court.
- 3. In my capacity as the Co-Personal Representative in the Wyoming estate, and as the Co-Personal Representative in this ancillary estate, I am familiar with and I was personally involved in the administration of the Estate of Charles H. Evitt. The matters testified to herein are based upon my own personal involvement in those matters.
  - 4. Charles H. Evitt died on September 25, 2013.

- 5. At the time of his death, Charles H. Evitt was domiciled in Johnson County, Wyoming.
- 6. By Order dated October 30, 2013, the Estate of Charles H. Evitt was admitted to probate by the Wyoming court, and I was appointed as a Personal Representative in the Wyoming estate. The Court also appointed my sister, Sandra Evitt, and Mary Jo Evitt, my father's widow, as Co-Personal Representatives of the Wyoming estate.
- 7. In connection with our administration of the estate in Wyoming, we undertook efforts to identify all potential creditors of the estate. We reviewed the available business records left by my father. We also spoke with my father's accountant, Dennis R. Lawrence, CPA, to discuss with him any lenders or other creditors that were receiving regular payments from my father or any other known debts of my father at the time of his death.
- 8. In connection with that effort, we identified two potential creditors and gave those creditors notice of the probate. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a true and correct copy of the claims registry for the Wyoming estate.
- 9. On December 5, 12, and 19, 2013, we caused to be published in the Buffalo Bulletin a "Notice of Probate," as required by Wyoming statute. Among other things, this Notice of Probate gave creditors notice of the requirement for them to file claims against the estate with the Wyoming court. A true and correct copy of the Affidavit establishing publication of the Notice of Probate is attached hereto as Exhibit B.
- 10. After all claims of the estate had been addressed, the Wyoming court entered an Order of Sale of Real and Personal Property on May 27, 2014, and the personal representatives of the Wyoming estate executed a Stipulation for Distribution of Estate Property on August 27, 2014 ("Stipulation"). A true and correct copy of the Stipulation is attached hereto as Exhibit C.
- 11. In May 2015, I became aware of a letter sent by Lawrence B. Stevens, an attorney purporting to represent Judy Evitt-Thorne ("Demand Letter"). The Demand Letter

- 12. In the Demand Letter, Ms. Evitt-Thorne made claims, among other things, that she was entitled to certain personal property and the payment of \$150,000 upon my father's death.
- 13. I am aware that my father was married to Ms. Evitt-Thorne and that his marriage to Ms. Evitt-Thorne terminated in 1987.
- 14. On multiple occasions prior to his death, I specifically recall my father telling me that he no longer owed Ms. Evitt-Thorne anything and that any obligation he had to Ms. Evitt-Thorne had long ago been paid in full.
- 15. Based upon how long ago my father had divorced Ms. Evitt-Thorne, and his statements to me years previously, at no point did it ever occur to me, nor did I ever contemplate that Ms. Evitt-Thorne was a possible creditor of the estate.
- 16. By letter dated June 15, 2015, attorney Greg L. Goddard, who represents the Co-Personal Representative Mary Jo Evitt, sent a letter to Mr. Stevens making clear that the estate denied and rejected any claim or purported claim asserted by Ms. Evitt-Thorne. A true and correct copy of the letter from Mr. Goddard is attached hereto as Exhibit E.
- 17. On July 15, 2015, my attorney sent a copy of the Notice of Probate in the Wyoming court to Ms. Evitt-Thorne by certified mail. A true and correct copy of this certified letter and the return receipt signed by Mr. Stevens on July 20, 2015 are attached hereto as Exhibit F.
- 18. Ms. Evitt-Thorne has never submitted a claim in the Wyoming probate, or filed any document whatsoever with the Wyoming court concerning the Wyoming probate.

I have read the foregoing declaration and declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct

Executed on this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2015.

Leslie Hiatt

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