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BEFORE THE COMMISSION FOR COMMON-INTEREST COMMUNITIES AND CONDOMINIUM HOTELS

STATE OF NEVADA

SHARATH CHANDRA, Administrator, REAL ESTATE DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS & INDUSTRY, STATE OF NEVADA.

Petitioner.

VS.

MANTOVA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, CHARLES WRIGHT, PAMELIA LOWRY, and TRICIA YOST, (Entity Number C18509-2002)

Respondents.

Case No. 2023-384



MAY 10 2024

NEVADA COMMISSION FOR COMMON INTEREST COMMUNITIES AND CONDOMINIUM HOTELS

COMPLAINT FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION AND NOTICE OF HEARING

The Real Estate Division of the Department of Business and Industry, State of Nevada (the "Division"), by and through its counsel, Aaron D. Ford, Attorney General of the State of Nevada, and Phil W. Su, Senior Deputy Attorney General, hereby notifies Mantova Community Association ("RESPONDENT ASSOCIATION") and association board members Charles Wright, Pamelia Lowry, and Tricia Yost, ("RESPONDENT BOARD MEMBERS") of an administrative hearing before the Commission for Common-Interest Communities and Condominium Hotels, State of Nevada, which is to be held pursuant to Chapters 233B and Chapters 116 of the Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS") and Chapter 116 of the Nevada Administrative Code ("NAC"). The purpose of the hearing is to consider the allegations stated below and to determine if an administrative penalty will be imposed on the RESPONDENT pursuant to the provisions of NRS and NAC including, but not limited to NRS 116.785 and NRS 116.790.

JURISDICTION AND NOTICE

During all relevant times, RESPONDENT is a common-interest community located

in Henderson, Nevada (Entity Number C18509-2002) and is, therefore, subject to the provisions of Chapter 116 of each the Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS") and the Nevada Administrative Code ("NAC") (hereinafter collectively referred to as "NRS 116") and are subject to the jurisdiction of the Division, and the Commission for Common-Interest Communities pursuant to the provisions of NRS 116.750.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 1. RESPONDENT ASSOCIATION is a common-interest community located in Henderson, Nevada (Entity Number C18509-2002) with 123 units. *CCIC0004*; 0016-0019.
- 2. At all times relevant to the Complaint, the Respondent's management company was FirstService Residential, and managed by community manager Michelle Wolven. *CCIC0004*; 0016-0019.
- 3. At all relevant times, the RESPONDENT ASSOCIATION was governed by RESPONDENT BOARD MEMBERS Charles Wright, Pamelia Lowry, and Tricia Yost. *CCIC0004*; 0016-0019.
- 4. The Office of the Ombudsman for Owners in Common-Interest Communities and Condominium Hotels ("Ombudsman") initiated an audit ("Initial Audit") of RESPONDENT ASSOCIATION in February of 2023, completing the audit on May 8, 2023. *CCIC0001–CCIC0015*.
- 5. The Audit noted that the RESPONDENTS had initial non-compliance issues including delinquent reserve study and delinquent submission of reserve study Form 609. *CCIC 0001; 0007-0008*.
- 6. The Audit further determined that the Association's Reserve balance was allowed to be depleted from a level of 92% in 2016 to 16% funded as of 1/1/23. *CCIC 0001;* 0007-0008.
- 7. The Audit further determined that the RESPONDENTS relied upon Due-to accounts and failed to prepare an adequate budget to fund its daily operations, resulting in low Reserve funding. *CCIC* 0008-0009.
 - 8. The Audit further determined that the RESPONDENTS allowed unit owners

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and family members of unit-owners to be employed or to contract with the Association to provide services, and that some of those services required a license which the contractors did not have. CCIC 0009-0010.

- 9. The Audit further determined the RESPONDENTS did not have proper policies in place, or meeting minutes regarding, the purchase and use of gift cards purchased by Board members using board funds in lieu of petty cash disbursements. CCIC 0010-0011.
- 10. On May 10, 2023, the Ombudsman referred the Initial Audit to the Division's compliance division for further investigation. CCIC0001.
- On January 11, 2024, the Division opened an investigation against 11. Respondent association and issued a Request for Information (RFI) letter via certified mail to the RESPONDENTS, requesting response within ten (10) business days of the letter. CCIC0020-0022.
- In a letter dated January 11, 2024, the RESPONDENTS provided a response 12. to the RFI, which included a copy of reserve study adopted on 12/26/23, a draft of the Form 609, and a copy of a letter sent to the unit owners regarding the assessment increases adopted at the 12/26/23 board meeting. CCIC0023; 0024-0211.
- 13. The letter sent to unit owners noted that the Association's Reserve fund would only be 5% funded as of 1/1/24. CCIC0209.
- On March 30, 2024, the Division notified RESPONDENTS in writing that it would pursue disciplinary action in a hearing before the Commission for potential violations of NRS 116. CCIC0212-0213.

VIOLATIONS OF LAW

- 1. RESPONDENTS violated NRS 116.3103 pursuant to NRS 116.31152 by failing to timely perform its required quinquennial Reserve Study.
- 2. RESPONDENTS violated NRS 116.3103 pursuant to NRS 116.31152 by failing to timely submit a Reserve Study Form (Form 609) to the Division.
 - 3. RESPONDENTS violated NRS 116.3115(2)(b) pursuant NRS to

116.31152(1)(b)(c) by failing to exercise ordinary and reasonable care by allowing its Reserve balance to be depleted from a level of 92% in 2016 to 16% funded as of 1/1/23 and 5% funded as of 1/1/24.

- 4. RESPONDENTS violated NRS 116.3115 pursuant to NRS 116.31151 by failing to adequately prepare a budget to meet the association's operating expenses and to adequately fund the Reserve account.
- 5. RESPONDENTS violated NRS 116.3103 pursuant to NRS 116.3115(2)(b) by failing to exercise ordinary and reasonable care in allowing excessive Due-to obligations from its Reserve fund to its operating account to deplete the Reserve fund to extremely low levels.
- 6. RESPONDENTS violated NRS 116.3103 pursuant to NAC 116.405(8)(i) by failing to exercise ordinary and reasonable care by allowing unmonitored and unapproved acquiring and usage of gift cards by board members using board funds.

DISCIPLINE AUTHORIZED

Pursuant to the provisions of NRS 116.615; NRS 116.755; NRS 116.785; and NRS 116.790 the Commission has discretion to take any or all of the following actions:

- 1. Issue an order directing Respondent to take affirmative action to correct any conditions resulting from the violation.
- 2. Impose an administrative fine of up to \$1,000 for each violation by Respondent.
- 3. Order the Respondent to pay the costs of the proceedings incurred by the Division, including, without limitation, the cost of the investigation and reasonable attorney's fees.
- 4. Approve application to a court of competent jurisdiction for the appointment of a receiver for the Respondent.

The Commission may order one or any combination of the discipline described above.

NOTICE OF HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a disciplinary hearing has been set to consider this Administrative Complaint against the above-named RESPONDENT in accordance with Chapters 233B and 116 of the Nevada Revised Statutes and Chapter 116 of the Nevada Administrative Code.

THE HEARING WILL TAKE PLACE at the Commission meeting(s) scheduled for June 11-13, 2024, beginning at approximately 9:00 a.m. each day, or until such time as the Commission concludes its business. The Commission meeting will be held at the Nevada State Business Center, 3300 W. Sahara Avenue, 4th Floor, Nevada Room, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102 on June 11 and 12, 2024, with videoconferencing to Department of Business & Industry, Division of Insurance, 1818 E. College Parkway, Suite 103, Carson City, Nevada 89706. The Commission meeting will be held at the Nevada State Business Center. 3300 W. Sahara Avenue, 4th Floor, Tahoe Room, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102 on June 13, 2024, with videoconferencing to Department of Business and Industry, Division of Insurance, 1818 E. College Parkway, Suite 103, Carson City, Nevada 89706.

STACKED CALENDAR: Your hearing is one of several hearings that may be scheduled at the same time as part of a regular meeting of the Commission that is expected to take place on June 11-13, 2024. Thus, your hearing may be continued until later in the day or from day to day. It is your responsibility to be present when your case is called. If you are not present when your hearing is called, a default may be entered against you and the Commission may decide the case as if all allegations in the complaint were true. If you need to negotiate a more specific time for your hearing in advance because of coordination with an out of state witness or the like, please call Maria Gallo, Commission Coordinator, at (702) 486-4074.

YOUR RIGHTS AT THE HEARING: Except as mentioned below, the hearing is an open meeting under Nevada's open meeting law and may be attended by the public.

After the evidence and arguments, the commission may conduct a closed meeting to discuss your alleged misconduct or professional competence. You are entitled to a copy of the transcript of the open and closed portions of the meeting, although you must pay for the transcription. As a RESPONDENT, you are specifically informed that you have the right to appear and be heard in your defense, either personally or through your counsel of choice. At the hearing, the Division has the burden of proving the allegations in the complaint and will call witnesses and present evidence against you. You have the right to respond and to present relevant evidence and argument on all issues involved. You have the right to call and examine witnesses, introduce exhibits, and cross-examine opposing witnesses on any matter relevant to the issues involved.

You have the right to request that the Commission issue subpoenas to compel witnesses to testify and/or evidence to be offered on your behalf. In making this request, you may be required to demonstrate the relevance of the witness' testimony and/or evidence. Other important rights and obligations, including your obligation to answer the complaint, you have are listed in NRS Chapter 116 and NAC Chapter 116, including without limitation, NRS 116.770 through 116.780, and NAC 116.500 through NAC 116.635 and NRS Chapter 233B.

Note that under NAC 116.575, not less than five (5) working days before a hearing, RESPONDENT must provide to the Division a copy of all reasonably available documents that are reasonably anticipated to be used to support his position, and a list of witnesses RESPONDENT intend to call at the time of the hearing. Failure to provide any document or to list a witness may result in the document or witness being excluded from RESPONDENT'S defense. The purpose of the hearing is to determine if the RESPONDENT has violated the provisions of NRS 116, and to determine what administrative penalty is to be assessed against RESPONDENT.

DATED this 4 day of May, 2024.

REAL ESTATE DIVISION,
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS & INDUSTRY,

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STATE OF NEVADA

By: _

SHARATH CHANDRA, Administrator 3300 W. Sahara Ave. Ste 350 Las Vegas, Nevada 89102 (702) 486-4033

AARON D. FORD Attorney General

By: Isl Phil W. Su

PHIL W. SU (Bar No. 10450) Senior Deputy Attorney General 555 E. Washington Ave. Ste 3900 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 (702) 486-3655 Attorneys for Real Estate Division