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.

Case No. 2023-979

||v||

JOHN BIELUN,

Respondent.

Petitioner.

STIPULATION AND ORDER FOR SETTLEMENT OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION

This Stipulation for Settlement of Disciplinary Action ("Stipulation") is entered into by and between the State of Nevada, Department of Business and Industry, Real Estate Division ("Division"), through its Administrator Sharath Chandra ("Petitioner"), by and through their attorney of record, Phil W. Su, and RESPONDENT JOHN BIELUN ("Respondent") and by and through his attorneys of record, Quoc Thai of Dobberstein Law Group.

JURISDICTION AND NOTICE

During all relevant times, RESPONDENT was an executive board member/director of a common-interest community located in Henderson, Nevada, Resort Villa Owners Association (the "Association"), 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 and Condominium Hotels pursuant to the provisions of NRS 116.750.

SUMMARY OF FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS SET FORTH IN THE COMPLAINT

- 1. On November 16, 2023, the Division received an Intervention Affidavit from Complainant Wendy Sue Denman regarding an allegation that RESPONDENT sent one or more emails entitled "It Takes a Village" from an info@resortvillashomeowners.com email address to selected unit owners of Resorts Villa Owners Association. CICCH001-014.
- 2. Complainant alleged that RESPONDENT, from his info@resortvillashomeowners.com email account, sent an email that represented himself as a board member and that stated "inaccuracies and misinformation" and "called out previous and current board members with definitive descriptions of who they are and who he is targeting." CICCH001-014.
- 3. Attached to the Intervention Affidavit was the subject September 25, 2023, "It Takes a Village" email from the RESPONDENT. CICCH005-007.
- 4. Also attached to the Intervention Affidavit was an August 23, 2023, proxy request response email from Taylor Management attempting to address concerns the Association was facing a "financial crisis," out of Taylor Management's stated concern that such allegations could affect the marketability and value of the homes in the community. CICCH008-014.
- 5. On February 16, 2024, Division Investigator Christina Pitch sent an initial open investigation and request for information letter ("#1 RFI") to RESPONDENT, noting that "it [was] alleged that [he] violated NRS 116.3103 through NAC 116.405 as on or about 9/25/23 [he] represented [himself] as a board member and sent emails to selected unit owners containing inaccuracies and misleading information regarding the financial condition of the Association." CICCH015-017.
- On February 22, 2024, RESPONDENT replied to the #1 RFI, denying any violation of statute and requesting proof of allegations asserted in the open investigation letter. CICCH018.

- 7. On April 4, 2024, Investigator Pitch sent a second request for information letter ("#2 RFI") directed to the board of directors of the Association, including RESPONDENT, stating: "It was alleged that Mr. Bielun sent a unit owner an email that was filled with "inaccuracies" and "misinformation" which the unit owner found to be inappropriate and unacceptable (see enclosed email copy). Did the board grant Mr. Bielun the authority to send this email in his role as a board member?" CICCH019-023.
- 8. On April 7, 2024, RESPONDENT sent Investigator Pitch a responsive letter to the #2 RFI, stating that the September 25, 2023, letter contained "no inaccuracies or confidential information" and referring Investigator Pitch to another responsive letter he sent the Division regarding a separate, concurrent Division investigation against him, Case #2023-662. CICCH024-025.
- 9. That same weekend, Association board members Burgess, McCoy, Camicia, and Simpson sent responsive emails to Investigator Pitch, where each affirmed that the board never granted RESPONDENT authority to send any emails to other unit owners on behalf of the board. CICCH026; 027; 038; 039.
- 10. Camicia noted that the "It Takes a Village" website and emails were "the platform [RESPONDENT] created to publicize his own self-serving version of HOA "facts," and that the Resort Villas HOA board of directors did not authorize or request RESPONDENT to write or distribute the email referenced in RFI #2. CICCH040.
- 11. On May 27, 2024, the Division sent, via Certified Mail, an NRS 233B letter notifying the RESPONDENT that it would pursue disciplinary action in a hearing before the Commission for potential violations of NRS 116. CICCH041-042.

VIOLATIONS OF LAW ALLEGED IN THE COMPLAINT

1. RESPONDENT willfully and knowingly violated NRS 116.3103 through NAC 116.405(1) by failing to exercise ordinary and reasonable care when he acted outside the scope of his authority granted in the governing documents by representing himself as a board member in his "It Takes a Village" communications to unit owners, where he

provided his personal opinions and narratives regarding Association issues, without prior board approval.

2. RESPONDENT willfully and knowingly violated NRS 116.3103 through NAC 116.405(3)(d) by failing to exercise ordinary and reasonable care when he acted without authority first granted by the executive board by representing himself as a board member in his "It Takes a Village" communications to unit owners, where he provided his personal opinions and narratives regarding Association issues, without prior board approval.

PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

In an effort to avoid the time and expense of litigating these issues before the Commission, the RESPONDENT does not admit, but also agrees to waive his right to contest, the above factual allegations and violations of law, as alleged in the Complaint. The parties desire to compromise and settle the instant controversy upon the following terms and conditions:

- 1. The RESPONDENT agrees to pay the Division a total amount of TWO THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED SIXTY-FOUR DOLLARS and 62/100 cents (\$2,264.62) ("Amount Due"), consisting of zero administrative fines imposed by the Division, and the Division's pre-hearing costs and fees and pre-hearing attorney's fees in the amount of \$2,264.62.
 - a. The Amount Due shall be payable to the Division in thirty-six monthly (36) installment payments of \$62.91, with first payment due within thirty (30) days after the date of the order approving this settlement. Prepayments of the Amount Due may be made without penalty.
 - b. No grace period is permitted. If any monthly installment payment is not actually received by the Division on or before its due date, it shall be construed as an event of default by the RESPONDENT.

2.

RESPONDENT has voluntarily resigned from his executive board member

- 3. RESPONDENT further agrees that he will be barred from seeking election for, or appointment to, any NRS 116 executive board for a period of five (5) years from the effective date of this Order, and that if, after the completion of that period, he wishes to seek an executive board member position, he will first seek leave from this Commission.
- 4. RESPONDENT and the Division agree that by entering into this Stipulation, the Division does not concede any defense or mitigation that the RESPONDENT may have otherwise asserted and that once this Stipulation is approved and fully performed, the Division will close its file in this matter.
- 5. RESPONDENT agrees and understands that by entering into this Stipulation, RESPONDENT is waiving his right to a hearing at which he might otherwise present evidence in his defense, his right to a written decision on the merits of the complaint, his rights to reconsideration and/or rehearing, appeal and/or judicial review, and all other rights which may be accorded by the Nevada Administrative Procedure Act, the Nevada Common-Interest Communities and Condominium Hotels statutes and accompanying regulations, and the federal and state Constitutions. The RESPONDENT understands that this Agreement and other documentation may be subject to public records laws. The Commission members who review this matter for approval of this Stipulation may be the same members who ultimately hear, consider, and decide the Complaint if this Stipulation is either not approved by the Commission or is not timely performed by the RESPONDENT. The RESPONDENT fully understands that he has the right to be represented by legal counsel in this matter at his own expense.
- 6. Each party shall bear their own attorney's fees and costs, *except* as the Division's Attorney's pre-hearing costs and attorney's fees, as provided above.

- 7. Approval of Stipulation. Once executed, this Stipulation will be filed with the Commission and will be placed on the agenda for approval at its next public meeting. The Division will recommend to the Commission approval of the Stipulation. RESPONDENT agrees that the Commission may approve, reject, or suggest amendments to this Stipulation that must be accepted or rejected by RESPONDENT before any amendment is effective.
- 8. <u>Withdrawal of Stipulation</u>. If the Commission rejects this Stipulation or suggests amendments unacceptable to the RESPONDENT, the RESPONDENT may withdraw from this Stipulation, and the Division may pursue its Complaint before the Commission. This Stipulation then shall become null and void and unenforceable in any manner against either party.
- 9. Release. In consideration of the execution of this Stipulation, Association and RESPONDENT for himself, his heirs, executors, administrators, successors, and assigns, hereby releases, remises, and forever discharges the State of Nevada, the Department of Business and Industry, and the Division, and each of their respective members, agents, employees, and counsel in their individual and representative capacities, from any and all manner of actions, causes of action, suits, debts, judgments, executions, claims, and demands whatsoever, known and unknown, in law or equity, that RESPONDENT ever had, now has, may have, or claim to have against any or all of the persons or entities named in this section, arising out of or by reason of the Division's investigation of this action, this disciplinary action, and all matters related thereto.
- 10. <u>Indemnification</u>. RESPONDENT hereby agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the State of Nevada, the Department of Business and Industry, Petitioner, the Division, and each of their respective members, agents, employees, and counsel, in their individual and representative capacities, against any and all claims, suits, and actions brought against said persons and/or entities by reason of the Division's investigation, this disciplinary action, and all other matters relating thereto, and against any and all

expenses, damages, and costs, including court costs and attorney fees, which may be sustained by the persons and/or entities named in this section as a result of said claims, suits, and actions.

- Default. In the event of default of any of the above terms by RESPONDENT, 11. the RESPONDENT agrees that the Division may, at its option, rescind this Stipulation and Order and proceed with prosecuting this Complaint before the Commission, and that, upon Default, any unpaid balance of the administrative fine and costs, together with any attorney's fees and costs that may have been assessed, shall be due in full to the Division within ten (10) calendar days of the date of default. Debt collection actions for unpaid monetary assessments in this case may be instituted by the Division or its assignee.
- RESPONDENT has signed and dated this Stipulation and Order only after 12. reading and understanding all terms herein.

DATED: Ma	arch <u>5</u> , 2025	DATED:	March _	<u></u>	2025

NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, REAL ESTATE

DIVISION

SHARATH Administrator

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JOHN BIELUN

DOBBERSTEIN LAW OFFICE

Attorneys for Respondent John Bielun

Respondent Board Member

AARON D. FORD Attorney General

By: /s/ Phil W. Su

QUOC THAI (Bar No. 16015) PHIL W. SU (Bar No. 10450) Senior Deputy Attorney General 9480 S. Eastern Ave., Suite 225 Las Vegas, NV 89123

1 State of Nevada Way, Ste. 100

Las Vegas, Nevada 89119

(702) 486-3655

Attorneys for Real Estate Division

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BEFORE THE COMMISSION FOR COMMON-INTEREST COMMUNITIES AND CONDOMINIUM HOTELS

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3 4	SHARATH CHANDRA, Administrator, REAL ESTATE DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS & INDUSTRY, STATE OF	Case No. 2023-979			
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7	vs.				
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9	Respondent.				
10	ODDED DOD CHEEK ENGINE O	D DIOCIDI INA DV A CIDION			
11	ORDER FOR SETTLEMENT OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION				
12	IT IS ORDERED that the foregoing Stipulation and Order for Settlement o				
13	Disciplinary Action for RESPONDENT JOHN BIELUN, Case No. 2023-979, is approved				
14	in full.				
15	DATED: March, 2025				
16		COMMISSION FOR COMMON-INTEREST COMMUNITIES AND CONDOMINIUM			
17	l i	OTELS, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, STATE OF NEVADA			
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19	F	By: Phyllis Tomasso, Chairwoman			
20	Submitted by:	•			
21	AARON D. FORD				
22	Attorney General				
23	By: /s/ Phil W. Su				
24	PHIL W. SU (Bar No. 10450)				
25	Attorneys for Real Estate Division				
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