2777 Paradise Road, Suite 3002 SPARTACUS LAW FIRM T: (702) 660-1234

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APR 1 1 2025

REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

Nevada Bar No. 12033 SPARTACUS LAW FIRM

400 South Seventh Street, Suite 100

Las Vegas, Nevada 89101

Tel: (702) 660-1234 Fax: (702) 441-1626 Attorney for Respondent

BEFORE THE REAL ESTATE COMMISSION

STATE OF NEVADA

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

Case No.:

2024-660

Petitioner,

VS.

RESPONDENT'S MOTION TO CONTINUE THE ADMINISTRATIVE TRIAL

ANDREW J. AREVALO, (S.0184627)

Respondent.

COMES NOW, Respondent ANDREW J. AREVALO ("Respondent" or "Mr. Arevalo"), by and through his counsel of record, Chandon S. Alexander, Esq., and hereby submits this Motion to Continue the Administrative Trial. This Motion is based upon the following Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the Declaration of Chandon S. Alexander, Esq., the Declaration of Dustun Holmes, Esq., and any oral argument that may be permitted.

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

INTRODUCTION I.

"[D]enials of motions for reasonable continuances" are "an abuse of discretion where" "the delay is not the particular fault of counsel or the parties." Lord v. State, 107 Nev. 28, 42T: (702) 660-1234

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43 (1991); Colgain v. State, 102 Nev. 220 (1986); Banks v. State, 101 Nev. 771 (1985). Similarly, courts across jurisdictions have recognized that the unavailability of counsel due to scheduling conflicts—particularly when counsel is engaged in another trial—constitutes good cause for a continuance. See Oliveros v. County of Los Angeles, 120 Cal. App. 4th 1389 (2004); People v. Andrade, 86 Cal.App.3d 963, 150 Cal.Rptr. 662 (1978); Atkinson v. LoConti, 263 N.Y.S. 2d 505, 24 A.D. 2d 757 (1965).

Here, Respondent seeks a continuance because his counsel of record, Chandon S. Alexander, Esq., is required to appear in the United States District Court, District of Nevada, for a federal civil trial from May 12, 2025, through at least May 16, 2025. See Declaration of Chandon S. Alexander ("Alexander Decl.") at ¶¶ 3-4; Declaration of Dustun Holmes ("Holmes Decl.") at ¶¶ 3-4. This federal court appearance directly conflicts with the currently scheduled administrative trial in this matter, set for May 13-15, 2025. Alexander Decl. at ¶ 4; Holmes Decl. at ¶ 4.

Respondent emphasizes at the outset that this Motion is not made for the purpose of delay or due to any lack of diligence. Indeed, this matter was previously scheduled for the Commission's February session, and Respondent and his counsel appeared fully prepared to proceed on February 11 and 12, 2025. Alexander Decl. at ¶¶ 11-12. However, due to the Commission's calendar constraints and other matters requiring attention during that session, it became evident that this matter—which will require multiple days of testimony from six (6) witnesses—could not be heard at that time. Alexander Decl. at ¶¶ 13-14. The previous continuance was granted simply to avoid a bifurcated proceeding that would have unduly prejudiced Respondent. Alexander Decl. at ¶ 15.

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Significantly, the federal trial is a firm setting that cannot be rescheduled because the presiding Federal District Judge is sitting by designation from Montana. Alexander Decl. at ¶ 5; Holmes Decl. at ¶ 5-6. As noted by Attorney Holmes in his declaration, "Federal trial court schedules are generally inflexible, particularly when a visiting judge presides. This judicial economy consideration makes rescheduling nearly impossible. This trial date can not be moved or continued." Holmes Decl. at ¶ 6.

Accordingly, as argued herein, the Motion should be granted and the Commission should continue the administrative trial date until a date at least 90 days from the currently scheduled trial date, or such time thereafter as may be convenient for the Commission's calendar.

II. ARGUMENT

A. The Unavailability of Respondent's Counsel Due to a Conflicting Federal Trial Warrants a Continuance

It is well-established that the unavailability of counsel due to a scheduling conflict with another trial constitutes good cause for a continuance. In *People v. Andrade*, 86 Cal.App.3d 963, 150 Cal.Rptr. 662 (1978), the California Court of Appeal held that the unavailability of counsel because of another trial justified a continuance. Similarly, in *Atkinson v. LoConti*, 263 N.Y.S. 2d 505, 24 A.D. 2d 757 (1965), the court found that the unavailability of counsel with papers and records necessary for trial justified a continuance.

More recently, in *Oliveros v. County of Los Angeles*, 120 Cal. App. 4th 1389 (2004), the California Court of Appeal addressed the denial of a continuance request where defense counsel was unexpectedly engaged in another trial. The Court overruled the denial, holding that a court must "look beyond the limited facts which cause a litigant to request a continuance

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and consider the degree of diligence in the efforts to get the case to trial." Id. at 1393. The Court emphasized that "the absence of trial counsel due to a scheduling conflict would lead to a lack of legal representation in court" and that "a civil litigant has a constitutional right to representation at trial." Id. The Court concluded that "[t]he right to counsel should not be abrogated because defendant's counsel of choice has a scheduling conflict." Id.

Nevada courts similarly recognize that denials of reasonable continuance requests constitute an abuse of discretion "where the purpose of the motion is to procure important witnesses and the delay is not the particular fault of counsel or the parties." Lord, 107 Nev. at 42-43; see also Colgain, 102 Nev. 220; Banks, 101 Nev. 771. While these cases address the unavailability of witnesses rather than counsel, the underlying principle applies with equal force to the present situation: a continuance is warranted when the unavailability is not the fault of the party seeking the continuance.

Here, Respondent's counsel, Chandon S. Alexander, Esq., is required to appear in the United States District Court, District of Nevada, for a federal civil trial scheduled from May 12, 2025, through at least May 16, 2025. Alexander Decl. at ¶¶ 3-4; Holmes Decl. at ¶¶ 3-4. This federal court appearance directly conflicts with the currently scheduled administrative trial in this matter, set for May 13-15, 2025. Alexander Decl. at ¶ 4; Holmes Decl. at ¶ 4.

Critically, the federal trial is a firm setting that cannot be rescheduled because the presiding Federal District Judge is sitting in designation from Montana. Alexander Decl. at ¶ 5; Holmes Decl. at ¶¶ 5-6. As Attorney Holmes explains, "Federal trial court schedules are generally inflexible, particularly when a visiting judge presides. This judicial economy consideration makes rescheduling nearly impossible. This trial date can not be moved or continued." Holmes Decl. at ¶ 6.

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The scheduling conflict is not the fault of Mr. Arevalo or his counsel, but rather stems from the coincidental scheduling of two trials at the same time. Alexander Decl. at ¶ 6. Given the impossibility of rescheduling the federal trial, particularly with a visiting judge from Montana presiding, a continuance of the administrative trial is the only reasonable solution to ensure that Mr. Arevalo is not deprived of his chosen counsel. *Id.* at ¶¶ 7-8.

As the *Oliveros* court recognized, a litigant's right to representation by counsel of choice should not be abrogated due to a scheduling conflict. 120 Cal. App. 4th at 1393. Forcing Mr. Arevalo to proceed without his chosen counsel—who has diligently prepared to represent Mr. Arevalo at trial—or to hastily retain new counsel unfamiliar with his case would severely prejudice his defense. Alexander Decl. at ¶ 8.

Accordingly, a continuance of the currently scheduled administrative trial date is warranted.

B. A Continuance of at Least 90 Days Is Reasonable Under the Circumstances

Given the nature of the scheduling conflict and the need to ensure that the new trial date does not conflict with other scheduled matters, Respondent respectfully requests a continuance of at least 90 days from the currently scheduled administrative trial date. Alexander Decl. at ¶

9. This time frame is reasonable and will allow for the orderly resolution of the federal matter before proceeding with the administrative trial in this case.

It is important to note that this administrative proceeding will require multiple days to complete, as Respondent intends to call six (6) witnesses to testify, including: (1) Mr. Arevalo himself; (2) Brooks Robinson, Esq., Mr. Arevalo's Colorado counsel; (3) Mark J. Chambers, Ph.D., a psychologist who is expected to testify regarding the results of his forensic psychological examination of Mr. Arevalo; (4) Ciarra Craig, a real estate agent who is

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expected to testify as to Mr. Arevalo's professional real estate credentials; (5) Arnold Argao, a real estate client of Mr. Arevalo who is expected to testify regarding Mr. Arevalo's professionalism and interaction during prior real estate transactions; and (6) Sandy Corrigan, a former real estate agent and former mother-in-law of Mr. Arevalo, who is expected to testify as to Mr. Arevalo's character. Alexander Decl. at ¶¶ 16-17.

Moreover, a 90-day continuance will not cause undue prejudice to any party. The allegations in this matter involve conduct that allegedly occurred well before the commencement of these proceedings, and a delay of 90 days will not materially impact the resolution of those claims. Alexander Decl. at ¶ 10. By contrast, proceeding with the administrative trial without Respondent's chosen counsel would substantially prejudice Respondent's ability to present a full and effective defense. *Id.* at ¶ 8.

While Respondent believes that a 90-day continuance is appropriate under the circumstances, Respondent would not oppose the Commission hearing this matter sooner than 90 days if the Commission chooses to do so by special session. Alexander Decl. at ¶ 18. Respondent's primary concern is ensuring that his counsel of record is able to represent him at the administrative trial, and Respondent is committed to working with the Commission to find a mutually agreeable date for the rescheduled proceeding.

III. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Respondent respectfully requests that the administrative trial in this matter, presently scheduled for May 13-15, 2025, be continued until a date at least 90 days from the currently scheduled trial date, or such time thereafter as may be convenient for the Commission's calendar.

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Dated this 11th day of April, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

SPARTACUS LAW FIRM

/s/ Chandon S. Alexander Chandon S. Alexander, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 12033 400 South Seventh Street, Suite 100 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 Attorney for Respondent

1	DECL				
2	Chandon S. Alexander, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 12033				
3	SPARTACUS LAW FIRM				
4	400 South Seventh Street, Suite 100 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101				
5	Tel: (702) 660-1234				
6	Fax: (702) 441-1626 Attorney for Respondent				
	Autorney for Kesponaeni				
7	BEFORE THE REAL ESTATE COMMISSION				
8	STATE OF NEVADA				
9	SHARATH CHANDRA, Administrator,	Case No.: 2024-660			
10	REAL ESTATE DIVISION, DEPARTMENT	Case 140 2024-000			
11	OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, STATE OF NEVADA,	RESPONDENT'S MOTION TO			
12	Petitioner,	CONTINUE THE ADMINISTRATIVE TRIAL			
13	VS.				
14					
15	ANDREW J. AREVALO, (S.0184627)				
16	Respondent.				
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18		J			
19	DECLARATION OF CHANDON S. ALI	EXANDER, ESO, IN SUPPORT OF			
20	RESPONDENT'S MOTION TO CONTIN				
21	CHANDON S. ALEXANDER, ESQ., hereby	deposes and states the following under the			
22	pains and penalties of perjury:				
23	1. That I am an attorney licensed to pr	ractice law in the State of Nevada and am			
24					
25	Counsel of Record for Respondent ANDREW J. AREVALO in case number 2024-660;				
26	2. That I have personal knowledge of	the facts and circumstances herein and could			
27	testify to the same;				

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- 3. That I am required to appear and represent a client as Plaintiff in a Federal Civil Case in the United States District Court, District of Nevada, on May 12, 2025, through at least May 16, 2025;
- 4. That this federal court appearance directly conflicts with the administrative trial in this matter, currently scheduled for May 13-15, 2025;
- 5. That the federal trial is a firm setting that cannot be rescheduled because the presiding Federal District Judge is sitting in designation from Montana, making rescheduling of that matter nearly impossible due to judicial economy considerations;
- 6. That this scheduling conflict is not the fault of Respondent or myself, but rather stems from the coincidental scheduling of two trials at the same time;
- 7. That Respondent has a right to representation by counsel of his choice, and proceeding with the administrative trial during my unavailability would effectively deprive him of that right;
- That forcing Respondent to proceed without his chosen counsel or to hastily 8. retain new counsel unfamiliar with his case would severely prejudice his defense;
- 9. That a continuance of at least 90 days from the currently scheduled administrative trial date would be reasonable under the circumstances and would allow for the orderly resolution of the federal matter before proceeding with the administrative trial in this case;
- 10. That a 90-day continuance will not cause undue prejudice to any party, as the allegations in this matter involve conduct that allegedly occurred well before the commencement of these proceedings;

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- That this matter was previously scheduled for hearing during the Commission's 11. February session, and Respondent and I appeared fully prepared to proceed on February 11 and 12, 2025;
- 12. That the Motion to Continue is not made for the purpose of delay or due to any lack of diligence on the part of Respondent or myself;
- That during the February session, it became evident that this matter could not be 13. heard due to the Commission's calendar constraints and other matters requiring attention;
- 14. That the previous continuance was granted to avoid a bifurcated proceeding that would have unduly prejudiced Respondent;
- 15. That a bifurcated proceeding would have been particularly prejudicial given the number of witnesses Respondent intends to call and the interrelated nature of their testimony;
- 16. That Respondent intends to call six (6) witnesses to testify, including: (1) Mr. Arevalo himself; (2) Brooks Robinson, Esq., Mr. Arevalo's Colorado counsel; (3) Mark J. Chambers, Ph.D., a psychologist who is expected to testify regarding the results of his forensic psychological examination of Mr. Arevalo; (4) Ciarra Craig, a real estate agent who is expected to testify as to Mr. Arevalo's professional real estate credentials; (5) Arnold Argao, a real estate client of Mr. Arevalo who is expected to testify regarding Mr. Arevalo's professionalism and interaction during prior real estate transactions; and (6) Sandy Corrigan, a former real estate agent and former mother-in-law of Mr. Arevalo, who is expected to testify as to Mr. Arevalo's character;
- 17. That given the number of witnesses and the nature of their testimony, this administrative proceeding will require multiple days to complete;

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1	8.	That while Respondent believes that a 90-day continuance is appropriate under
the circu	ımstan	ces, Respondent would not oppose the Commission hearing this matter sooner
than 90	days it	the Commission chooses to do so by special session;

19. That Attorney Dustun Holmes, Esq., who is co-counsel in the federal civil matter, has submitted a declaration confirming the federal court appearance and the impossibility of rescheduling that matter, a true and correct copy of which is submitted herewith.

I declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to the laws of the State of Nevada (NRS 53.045)¹

DATED this 11th day of April, 2025.

/s/ Chandon S. Alexander

CHANDON S. ALEXANDER, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 12033
400 South Seventh Street, Suite 100
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
Tel: (702) 660-1234
Fax: (702) 441-1626

Email: chandon@spartacuslawfirm.com
Attorney for Respondent

¹ NRS 53.045 Use of unsworm declaration in lieu of affidavit or other sworm declaration. Any matter whose existence or truth may be established by an affidavit or other sworn declaration may be established with the same effect by an unsworm declaration of its existence or truth signed by the declarant under penalty of perjury, and dated, in substantially the following form: 1. If executed in this State: "I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct."

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to Nev. R. Civ. P. 5(b), I hereby certify that on the 11th day of April, 2025

I caused the preceding document entitled **RESPONDENT'S MOTION TO CONTINUE**THE ADMINISTRATIVE TRIAL to be served on the following parties via the U.S. Postal

Service:

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REAL ESTATE DIVISION STATE OF NEVADA 3300 W. Sahara Avenue, Suite 350 Las Vegas, Nevada 89102 ATTN: Sharath Chandra

Aaron D. Ford Christal P. Keegan 5420 Kietzke Lane, Suite 202 Reno, Nevada 89511 Attorney for Real Estate Division

/s/ Chandon S. Alexander
An Employee of Spartacus Law Firm

		01 1 0 11 1 1				
	1	Chandon S. Alexander, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 12033				
	2	SPARTACUS LAW FIRM				
		400 South Seventh Street, Suite 100	q			
	3	Las Vegas, Nevada 89101				
	4	Tel: (702) 660-1234				
	5	Fax: (702) 441-1626 Attorney for Respondent				
	6	BEFORE THE REAL ESTATE COMMISSION				
	7	STATE OF NEVADA				
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2 162	9	SHARATH CHANDRA, Administrator, REAL ESTATE DIVISION, DEPARTMENT	Case No.: 2024-660			
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SP. 27777 La La (702)	15	Danier dans				
2 : (7	16	Respondent.	•			
I						
	17					
	18	DECLARATION OF DUSTUN HOLMES, ES	SQ. IN SUPPORT OF RESPONDENT'S			
	19	MOTION TO CONTINUE THE	ADMINISTRATIVE TRIAL			
	20					
	21	DUSTUN HOLMES, ESQ., hereby depose	s and states the following under the pains			
	22	and penalties of perjury:				
	23	That I am an attorney licensed to pr	actice law in the State of Nevada and am			
		1. That I am an anothey housed to pr	action law in the State of Novaca and and			
	24	Counsel of Record for a Federal Civil Case with Mr. Alexander as Plaintiff;				
	25	2. That I have personal knowledge of	the facts and circumstances herein and could			
	26	Z. Z	but an amanagement was and my and and and			
	27	testify to the same;				
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- 3 Mr. Alexander's presence is required and mandatory in the Federal District Court, District of Nevada, on May 12, 2025, through at least May 16, 2025.
- 4. That, as I understand it, this date conflicts with the date set for the administrative trial of Mr. Arevalo set for May 13-15.
- 5. The trial in the Federal District Court is a firm setting, and the presiding Federal District Judge is sitting in designation from Montana. This judicial economy consideration makes rescheduling nearly impossible
- 6. Federal trial court schedules are generally inflexible, particularly when a visiting judge presides. This judicial economy consideration makes rescheduling nearly impossible. This trial date can not be moved or continued.

I declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to the laws of the State of Nevada (NRS $53.045)^{1}$

DATED this 10 day of April 2025.

DUSTUN HOLMES, ESO. Nevada Bar No. 12776 McMenemy Holmes PLLC 1645 Village Center Circle, Suite 291 Las Vegas, Nevada 89117

¹ NRS 53.045 Use of unsworn declaration in lieu of affidavit or other sworn declaration. Any matter whose existence or truth may be established by an affidavit or other sworn declaration may be established with the same effect by an unsworn declaration of its existence or truth signed by the declarant under penalty of perjury, and dated, in substantially the following form: 1. If executed in this State: "I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct."