APN: 001-053-07

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2024-251916 04/08/2024 03:57 PM

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WATHERINE J. BOWLING, CLERK RECORDER

ORDER GRANTING IN PART DEFENDANT'S MOTION FOR ATTORNEY'S FEES AND COSTS



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SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT GARY D. FAIRMAN DISTRICT JUDGE DEPARTMENT 2 WHITE PINE, LINCOLN AND EUREKA COUNTIE

Case No. CV-1108116

FILED

2022 JUL -8 AHTI: YO

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## IN THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WHITE PINE.

\*\*\*\*

DWAYNE REYNOLDS,

Plaintiff.

VS.

JENNA ROSEVEAR n/k/a JENNA TRUJILLO,

Defendant.

ORDER GRANTING IN PART
DEFENDANT'S MOTION FOR
ATTORNEY'S FEES AND COSTS

On October 4, 2021, petitioner, Dwayne Reynolds ("Dwayne"), pro se, filed an ex parte emergency motion regarding children. On October 6, 2021, the court entered an order setting evidentiary hearing on ex parte motion regarding children for November 17, 2021. At the November 17<sup>th</sup> hearing, respondent, Jenna Trujillo ("Jenna"), appeared in person with her counsel, Dennis M. Leavitt. Dwayne also appeared in person with his counsel, Brandon Leavitt. Mr. Dennis Leavitt advised the court that Jenna was prepared to go forward with the evidentiary hearing. Mr. Brandon Leavitt told the court that he had been retained on November 14, 2021, and requested a continuance for the evidentiary

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hearing as he was not prepared to proceed with the hearing having just been retained to represent Dwayne. Other issues concerning the parties were presented to the court resulting in an order entered November 30, 2021. The evidentiary hearing was continued to January 12, 2022. Subsequent to the hearing the court advised Mr. Dennis Leavitt to submit an affidavit of fees and costs.

On April 1, 2022, the evidentiary hearing was held and the court entered interim orders and set a status hearing for May 18, 2022. At the April 1 hearing the count instructed Mr. Dennis Leavitt that he may submit a request for attorney's fees.<sup>2</sup> On April 7, 2022, Jenna filed defendant's affidavit of fees and costs to which Dwayne filed an opposition on May 25, 2022. Jenna filed a reply on June 9, 2022. The court has reviewed the pleadings and finds that no further briefing or oral argument is required.3

## DISCUSSION

Mr. Leavitt's affidavit of fees with the attached statement includes fees and costs for the order to show cause hearing regarding contempt on October 21, 2021. Although a considerable number of issues have been resolved, the case has not been concluded. The court has reviewed Mr. Leavitt's fees and costs with reference to the initial hearing scheduled for November 17, 2021, which was continued. Jenna incurred attorney's fees and costs in preparation for and travel to Ely from Las Vegas by her attorney for the purpose of the hearing. Upon review of Mr. Leavitt's statement for November, 2021, the court finds the following attorney's fees to have been needlessly incurred by Jenna for a hearing that could have been avoided by communication from Mr. Brandon Leavitt to the court and Mr.

November 30, 2021, order at pg. 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See order after April 1, 2022, hearing at 3.

<sup>3 7</sup>JDCR7(11).

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STATE OF NEVADA 12

Dennis Leavitt: November 15, 2021, \$1,140.00; November 15, 2021, \$282.50; November 15, 2021, \$52.50; November 18, 2021, \$4,037.50 for a total of \$5,212.50. The court finds that the sum of \$5,512.50 to be reasonable under the Brunzell4 factors with respect to the character of the work, the number of hours billed for service, and counsel's experience. The court declines as premature entering any further orders concerning Jenna's request to be awarded additional fees and costs and will address Jenna's request to have the remaining attorney's fees and costs upon the conclusion of the present pending matters. The court further finds that Jenna's costs for her counsel's transportation and lodging expense for the November 17, 2021 hearing are appropriate to be reimbursed to her or Mr. Dennis Leavitt.

Good cause appearing.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Jenna's affidavit of fees and costs is GRANTED in part.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that Jenna be awarded the sum of \$5,512.50 for attorney's fees together with counsel's transportation and lodging expense for the hearing scheduled for November 17, 2021.

Dated this 2 day of July, 2022

Brunzell v. Golden Gate National Bank, 85 Nev. 345, 455 P.2d 31 (1969).

