In re:

the "Assignors").

| Laser Spine Institute, LLC ¹ | Case No. 2019-CA-2762 | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|--|--|--|--|
| CLM Aviation, LLC | Case No. 2019-CA-2764 | | | | |
| LSI HoldCo, LLC | Case No. 2019-CA-2765 | | | | |
| LSI Management Company, LLC | Case No. 2019-CA-2766 | | | | |
| Laser Spine Surgery Center of Arizona, LLC | Case No. 2019-CA-2767 | | | | |
| Laser Spine Surgery Center of Cincinnati, LLC | Case No. 2019-CA-2768 | | | | |
| Laser Spine Surgery Center of Cleveland, LLC | Case No. 2019-CA-2769 | | | | |
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| Laser Spine Surgery Center of St. Louis, LLC | Case No. 2019-CA-2772 | | | | |
| Laser Spine Surgery Center of Warwick, LLC | Case No. 2019-CA-2773 | | | | |
| Medical Care Management Services, LLC | Case No. 2019-CA-2774 | | | | |
| Spine DME Solutions, LLC | Case No. 2019-CA-2775 | | | | |
| Total Spine Care, LLC | Case No. 2019-CA-2776 | | | | |
| Laser Spine Institute Consulting, LLC | Case No. 2019-CA-2777 | | | | |
| Laser Spine Surgery Center of Oklahoma, LLC | Case No. 2019-CA-2780 | | | | |
| Assignors, | Consolidated Case No. | | | | |
| 5 | 2019-CA-2762 | | | | |
| to | | | | | |
| Soneet Kapila, | Division L | | | | |
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | | | | |
| Assignee. | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

OBJECTION TO CLAIMS OF THOMAS TOPPEL

¹ On April 8, 2019, the Court entered an order administratively consolidating this case with the assignment cases (collectively, the "Assignment Cases" or the "Assignment Estates") of the following entities: LSI Management Company, LLC; Laser Spine Institute Consulting, LLC; CLM Aviation, LLC; Medical Care Management Services, LLC; LSI HoldCo, LLC; Laser Spine Surgical Center, LLC; Laser Spine Surgery Center of Arizona, LLC; Laser Spine Surgery Center of St. Louis, LLC; Laser Spine Surgery Center of Pennsylvania, LLC; Laser Spine Surgery Center of Oklahoma, LLC; Laser Spine Surgery Center of Warwick, LLC; Laser Spine Surgery Center of Cleveland, LLC; Total Spine Care, LLC; and Spine DME Solutions, LLC (collectively,

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO OBJECT AND REQUEST A HEARING

The Assignee seeks an order disallowing the Toppel Claims (defined below) filed by Thomas Toppel. Responses must be filed and served on Assignee, Soneet R. Kapila, KapilaMukamal, LLP, 1000 South Federal Highway, Suite 200, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33616 and Scott Stichter, Stichter Riedel, Blain & Postler, P.A., 110 E. Madison Street, Suite 200, Tampa, Florida 33602 within 21 days from the service of this Objection. If no responses are filed, the Court may grant the relief without further notice. In the event a response is timely filed and served, the Court will hold a hearing to consider any timely filed responses and to consider this Objection. Any such hearing will be separately noticed.

Soneet Kapila, as Assignee for the Assignment Estates, objects to the claims filed by Thomas Toppel ("Toppel"), seeking to recover unsecured claims in the LSI bankruptcy case and, in support thereof, states:

BACKGROUND

- 1. On March 14, 2019, Laser Spine Institute, LLC ("LSI") executed and delivered an assignment for the benefit of creditors to the Assignee. The Assignee filed a Petition with the Court on March 14, 2019, commencing an assignment for the benefit of creditors proceeding pursuant to Chapter 727 of the Florida Statutes (the "LSI Assignment Case").
- 2. On July 7, 2019, Toppel submitted two proof of claims (collectively the "**Toppel Claims**"), copies of which are attached as **Composite Exhibit A**. The Toppel Claim was filed in the amount of \$250,000.00. The only documentation attached to the Tapp Claim was a correspondence from Christopher Fortunado, Esquire advising a potential lawsuit.
- 3. The Toppel Claims cannot be allowed as filed because they are filed in an unliquidated amount. The Assignment Statute (Chapter 727 of the Florida Statutes, 717.101 et seq.) requires that "Claims shall be in written form entitled "proof of claim," setting forth the name

and address of the creditor and the nature and <u>amount</u> of the claim, and executed by the creditor or the creditor's authorized agent." § 727.112(3), Fla. Stat. (Emphasis added).

4. The Assignee requests that the Toppel Claims be disallowed.

WHEREFORE, the Assignee requests that the Court (i) enter an order substantially in the form attached as **Exhibit B** disallowing the Toppel Claims, and (ii) grant such further relief to which he is entitled.

/s/ Scott A. Stichter

Scott A. Stichter (Florida Bar No. 0710679) Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler, P.A. 110 E. Madison Street, Ste. 200 Tampa, Florida 33602-4718 Telephone: (813) 229-0144

Facsimile: (813) 229-1811 Email: <u>sstichter@srbp.com</u>

sstichter.ecf@srbp.com
Counsel for Soneet Kapila, Assignee

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the *Objection to Claims of Thomas Toppel* has been furnished on February 23, 2024, via the Court's electronic filing portal to all counsel of record to and via U.S. Mail to:

Thomas Toppel C/O Christopher R. Fortunado 13363 Madison Avenue Lakewood, OH 44107

/s/ Scott A. Stichter

Scott Stichter

Filing # 192612901 E-Filed 02/23/2024 01:18:26 PM

Composite Exhibit A

In re:

| Laser Spine Institute, LLC CLM Aviation, LLC LSI HoldCo, LLC LSI Management Company, LLC Laser Spine Surgery Center of Arizona, LLC Laser Spine Surgery Center of Cincinnati, LLC Laser Spine Surgery Center of Cleveland, LLC Laser Spine Surgical Center, LLC Laser Spine Surgery Center of Pennsylvania, LLC Laser Spine Surgery Center of St. Louis, LLC Laser Spine Surgery Center of Warwick, LLC Medical Care Management Services, LLC Spine DME Solutions, LLC Total Spine Care, LLC Laser Spine Institute Consulting, LLC | Case No. 2019-CA-2762 Case No. 2019-CA-2764 Case No. 2019-CA-2765 Case No. 2019-CA-2766 Case No. 2019-CA-2767 Case No. 2019-CA-2768 Case No. 2019-CA-2769 Case No. 2019-CA-2770 Case No. 2019-CA-2771 Case No. 2019-CA-2772 Case No. 2019-CA-2773 Case No. 2019-CA-2774 Case No. 2019-CA-2775 Case No. 2019-CA-2776 Case No. 2019-CA-2777 |
|--|---|
| Laser Spine Institute Consulting, LLC Laser Spine Surgery Center of Oklahoma, LLC | Case No. 2019-CA-2777 Case No. 2019-CA-2780 |
| | |

Assignors,

To:

Soneet Kapila,

Assignee

Consolidated Case No. 2019-CA-2762

Division L

PROOF OF CLAIM

TO RECEIVE ANY DIVIDEND IN THESE PROCEEDINGS (THE "ASSIGNMENT CASES"), YOU MUST COMPLETE THIS PROOF OF CLAIM AND DELIVER IT TO THE ASSIGNEE, OR THE ASSIGNEE'S COUNSEL, NO LATER THAN:

JULY 12, 2019

THE ASSIGNEE'S NAME AND ADDRESS ARE AS FOLLOWS:
SONEET KAPILA, ASSIGNEE
1000 SOUTH FEDERAL HIGHWAY, SUITE 200
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33316

ASSIGNEE'S COUNSEL IS: EDWARD J. PETERSON, ESQUIRE STICHTER, RIEDEL, BLAIN & POSTLER, P.A. 110 E. MADISON ST., SUITE 200 TAMPA, FL 33602

7.11.19

1. PLEASE SPECIFY THE ASSIGNOR AGAINST WHICH YOU ASSERT A CLAIM: Laser Spine Surgery Center of Cleveland, LLC (IF YOU HAVE A CLAIM AGAINST MORE THAN ONE ASSIGNOR, YOU MUST FILE A SEPARATE CLAIM AGAINST EACH ASSIGNOR). 2. CREDITOR NAME (Your name): Thomas Toppel ADDRESS: 3476 Carrmunn Avenue ADDRESS: Graverand, Unio 44111 CITY, STATE, ZIP: Cleveland, Ohio 44111 TELEPHONE NUMBER: 440-241-7869 E-MAIL ADDRESS: care of attorney: learnedhand@live.com Please be sure to notify us if you have a change of address. Check box if address on claim differs from address to which this notice was sent: [] 3. BASIS FOR CLAIM: [] Goods Sold [] Wages, Salaries and Compensations [] Secured Creditor শুশ Services Performed [] Taxes [] Customer Deposit [] Money Loaned [] Shareholder xxxOther: Medical malpractice incurred 4. DATE DEBT WAS INCURRED: June 14, 2018 to September 24, 2018 \$250,000.00 5. AMOUNT OF CLAIM: 6. Does Claim amend, replace, or supplement a prior claim? If so, please state the date and amount of the prior claim(s): But this claimant reserves the right to supplement this current claim. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS: Attach copies of supporting documents, such as promissory notes, purchase order, invoices, itemized statement of running accounts, court judgments, or evidence of security interests. If the documents are not available, explain. If the documents are voluminous, attach a summary, CHED LETTER AND DOCUMENTS SEE ATTACHED LETTER AND DOCUMENTS
SIGNATURE: Sign and print name and title, if any, of the creditor or other person authorized to file this 8. claim: As required by law, the proof of claim and any supporting documentation you submit shall become a part of the public record related to the Assignment Cases. As a result, the Assignee and his professionals shall be permitted, and may be directed by the Court, to include such documentation, including to the extent provided, protected health information, in any subsequent pleading, notice, document, list, or other public disclosure made in connection with the Assignment Cases. Such inclusion by the Assignee and his professionals shall not constitute a "wrongful disclosure" under HIPAA, the Florida Information Protection Act of 2014, or any regulations promulgated thereunder. BY: Signature of Claimant or Representative Christopher R. Fortunato (Ohio 0038599) Print Name and Title Here 13363 Madison Avenue Lakewood, OHio 44107 216-228-1166

For Assignee's Use Only: Claim Number: Date:

216-228-3484 fax learnedhand@live.com Attorney for Claimant.

Attorney at Law 13363 Madison Avenue Lakewood, Ohio 44107 216-228-1166 Fax: 216-228-3484

learnedhand@live.com

June 11, 2019

Laser Spine Institute LLC c/o CT Corporation System 4400 Easton Commons Way Suite 125 Columbus, Ohio 43219

NOTICE PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE R.C. 2305.113

Dear Sirs:

This is to advise you that I have been retained by Thomas Toppel, who is presently considering bringing legal action against you. This legal action is a result of the medical care and treatment you rendered to Thomas Toppel on or about June 19. 2019.

Please advise your insurance representative of this statutory notice and letter of representation at the earliest possible time.

Very truly yours,

Christopher R. Fortunato

Attorney at Law 13363 Madison Avenue Lakewood, Ohio 44107 216-228-1166

Fax: 216-228-3484 learnedhand@live.com

June 11, 2019

Dr. Brad M. Picha, MD 1499 Boardman Canfield Road Boardman, OH 44512-4008

NOTICE PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE R.C. 2305.113

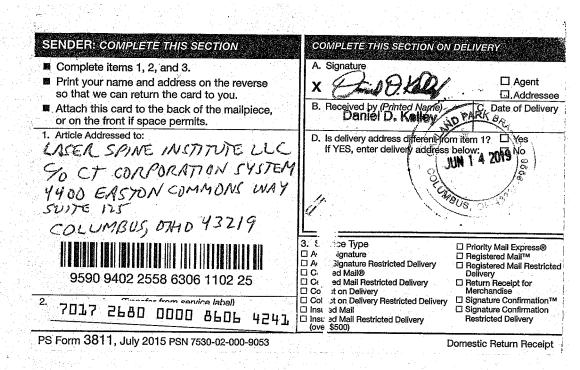
Dear Dr. Picha:

This is to advise you that I have been retained by Thomas Toppel, who is presently considering bringing legal action against you. This legal action is a result of the medical care and treatment you rendered to Thomas Toppel on or about June 19. 2019 and thereafter.

Please advise your insurance representative of this statutory notice and letter of representation at the earliest possible time.

Very truly yours,

Christopher R. Fortunato



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- Complete items 1, 2, and 3.
- Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
- Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to: DR BRAD M. PICKA LASER SPINC INSTITUTE LIC GOCT CORPORATION SYSTEM 4400 GASTON CIMMONS WAY SUITE 125 COLUMBUS 07+

9590 9402 5136 9092 5053 77

2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

A. Signature

☐ Addressee C. Date of Delivery

B. Received by (Printed Name) Daniel D. Kelley

☐ No

D. Is delivery address different from item 1? If YES, enter delivery address below:

- Service Type
- ☐ Adult Signature
 ☐ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery
- ☐ Certified Mail®
- ☐ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery
- ☐ Collect on Delivery
- ☐ Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery
- ☐ Insured Mail
 ☐ Insured Mail Restricted Delivery
- Priority Mail Express®

 Registered Mail™
 Registered Mail Restricted Delivery
 Return Receipt for
- Merchandise
- ☐ Signature Confirmation™ Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery

PS Form 3'/

530-02-000-9053

Domestic Return Receipt

Attorney at Law 13363 Madison Avenue Lakewood, Ohio 44107 216-228-1166

learnedhand@live.com

July 8, 2019

Mr. Edward J. Peterson, Esq. Stichter, Riedel, Blain & Postler, P.A. 110 E. Madison Street, Suite 200 Tampa, FL 33602

Re:

Proof of Claim for Thomas Toppel to:

Laser Spine Institute LLC

Laser Spine Surgery Center of Cleveland, LLC

Dear Mr. Peterson:

Enclosed please find a proof of claim for Thomas Toppel for damages incurred by one of the Laser Spine's surgeons, Brad M. Picha, MD, and his work performed on my client. You will find an invoice of the services generated by Laser Spine, most of which have already been paid by my client.

Additionally, I will be sending you medical records and other pertinent information. Mr. Toppel will be filing his lawsuit in the Court of Common Pleas for Cuyahoga County, Ohio very soon. I will present more information as the same is uncovered to demonstrate our damages.

Should you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,

Christopher R. Fortunato

CRF.c enc.

cc: Thomas Toppel

In re:

Laser Spine Institute, LLC CLM Aviation, LLC LSI HoldCo, LLC LSI Management Company, LLC Laser Spine Surgery Center of Arizona, LLC Laser Spine Surgery Center of Cincinnati, LLC Laser Spine Surgery Center of Cleveland, LLC Laser Spine Surgical Center, LLC Laser Spine Surgery Center of Pennsylvania, LLC Laser Spine Surgery Center of St. Louis, LLC Laser Spine Surgery Center of Warwick, LLC Medical Care Management Services, LLC Spine DME Solutions, LLC Total Spine Care, LLC Laser Spine Institute Consulting, LLC Laser Spine Surgery Center of Oklahoma, LLC

Assignors,

To:

Soneet Kapila,

Assignee

Case No. 2019-CA-2762 Case No. 2019-CA-2764 Case No. 2019-CA-2765 Case No. 2019-CA-2766 Case No. 2019-CA-2767 Case No. 2019-CA-2768 Case No. 2019-CA-2769 Case No. 2019-CA-2770 Case No. 2019-CA-2771 Case No. 2019-CA-2772 Case No. 2019-CA-2773 Case No. 2019-CA-2774 Case No. 2019-CA-2775 Case No. 2019-CA-2776 Case No. 2019-CA-2777 Case No. 2019-CA-2780

Consolidated Case No. 2019-CA-2762

Division L

PROOF OF CLAIM

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JULY 12, 2019

THE ASSIGNEE'S NAME AND ADDRESS ARE AS FOLLOWS:
SONEET KAPILA, ASSIGNEE
1000 SOUTH FEDERAL HIGHWAY, SUITE 200
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33316

ASSIGNEE'S COUNSEL IS: EDWARD J. PETERSON, ESQUIRE STICHTER, RIEDEL, BLAIN & POSTLER, P.A. 110 E. MADISON ST., SUITE 200 TAMPA, FL 33602

PLEASE SPECIFY THE ASSIGNOR AGAINST WHICH YOU ASSERT A CLAIM: Laser Spine Institute LLC (IF YOU HAVE A CLAIM AGAINST MORE THAN ONE ASSIGNOR, YOU MUST FILE A SEPARATE CLAIM AGAINST EACH ASSIGNOR). 2. CREDITOR NAME (Your name): Thomas Toppel ADDRESS: 3476 Carrmunn Avenue ADDRESS: ويترون الأساويون لأناسف CITY, STATE, ZIP: Cleveland, Ohio 44111 TELEPHONE NUMBER: 440-241-7869 E-MAIL ADDRESS: care of attorney: learnedhand@live.com Please be sure to notify us if you have a change of address. Check box if address on claim differs from address to which this notice was sent: [] 3. BASIS FOR CLAIM: [] Goods Sold [] Wages, Salaries and Compensations [] Secured Creditor 작 Services Performed [] Taxes [] Money Loaned [] Customer Deposit [] Shareholder xxxXOther: Medical malpractice incurred DATE DEBT WAS INCURRED: June 14, 2018 to September 24, 2018 \$250,000.00 5. AMOUNT OF CLAIM: 6. Does Claim amend, replace, or supplement a prior claim? If so, please state the date and amount of the prior claim(s): But this claimant reserves the right to supplement this current claim. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS: Attach copies of supporting documents, such as promissory notes, purchase order, invoices, itemized statement of running accounts, court judgments, or evidence of security interests. If the documents are not available, explain. If the documents are voluminous, attach a summary. SEE ATTACHED LETTER AND DOCUMENTS
SIGNATURE: Sign and print name and title, if any, of the creditor or other person authorized to file this 8. claim: As required by law, the proof of claim and any supporting documentation you submit shall become a part of the public record related to the Assignment Cases. As a result, the Assignee and his professionals shall be permitted, and may be directed by the Court, to include such documentation, including to the extent provided, protected health information, in any subsequent pleading, notice, document, list, or other public disclosure made in connection with the Assignment Cases. Such inclusion by the Assignee and his professionals shall not constitute a "wrongful disclosure" under HIPAA, the Florida Information Protection Act of 2014, or any regulations promulgated thereunder. Signature of Claimant or Representative Christopher R. Fortunato (Ohio 0038599) Print Name and Title Here 13363 Madison Avenue Lakewood, OHio 44107 216-228-1166 For Assignee's Use Only: 216-228-3484 fax Claim Number: learnedhand@live.com Date: Attorney for Claimant.

Attorney at Law 13363 Madison Avenue Lakewood, Ohio 44107 216-228-1166

Fax: 216-228-3484

learnedhand@live.com

June 11, 2019

Laser Spine Institute LLC c/o CT Corporation System 4400 Easton Commons Way Suite 125 Columbus, Ohio 43219

NOTICE PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE R.C. 2305.113

Dear Sirs:

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Please advise your insurance representative of this statutory notice and letter of representation at the earliest possible time.

Very truly yours,

Christopher R. Fortunato

Attorney at Law 13363 Madison Avenue Lakewood, Ohio 44107 216-228-1166

Fax: 216-228-3484 learnedhand@live.com

June 11, 2019

Dr. Brad M. Picha, MD 1499 Boardman Canfield Road Boardman, OH 44512-4008

NOTICE PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE R.C. 2305.113

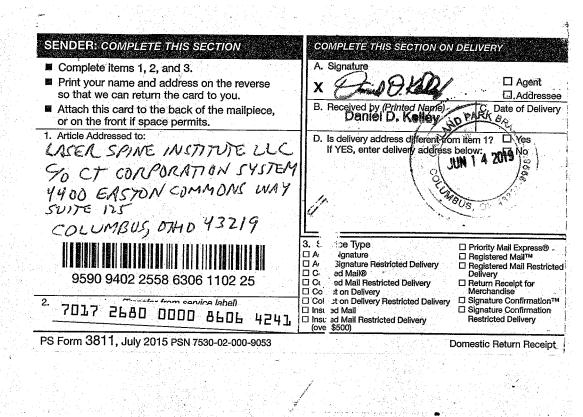
Dear Dr. Picha:

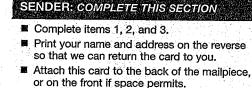
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Very truly yours,

Christopher R. Fortunato





1. Article Addressed to:

DR BRAD M. PICHA

LASER SPINE INSTITUTE LIC

GO CT CORPORATION SYSTEM

4400 EASTON CIMMONS WAY

SUITE 125 COLVMBUS OTH

43219



9590 9402 5136 9092 5053 77

2. Article Number (Transfer from service label)

3. Service Type

A. Signature

☐ Adult Signature
☐ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery

B. Received by (Printed Name)

Daniel D. Kelley

D. Is delivery address different from

If YES, enter delivery address below:

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

☐ Certified Mail®
☐ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery
☐ Collect on Delivery

☐ Collect on Delivery
☐ Collect on Delivery
☐ Insured Mail

☐ Insured Mail Restricted Delivery (over \$500)

Priority Mail Express®
☐ Registered Mail™
☐ Registered Mail Restricted
Delivery
☐ Return Receipt for
Merchandise

☐ Addressee

C. Date of Delivery

☐ No

Merchandise

☐ Signature Confirmation
☐ Signature Confirmation
Restricted Delivery

PS Form 3

530-02-000-9053

Domestic Return Receipt

Filing # 192612901 E-Filed 02/23/2024 01:18:26 PM

Exhibit B

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| Laser Spine Institute, LLC ¹ | Case No. 2019-CA-2762 | | | |
|---|-----------------------|--|--|--|
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| Total Spine Care, LLC | Case No. 2019-CA-2776 | | | |
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| Laser Spine Surgery Center of Oklahoma, LLC | Case No. 2019-CA-2780 | | | |
| Assignors, | Consolidated Case No. | | | |
| | 2019-CA-2762 | | | |
| to | | | | |
| Soneet Kapila, | Division L | | | |
| Assignee. | | | | |
| / | | | | |

ORDER SUSTAINING OBJECTION TO CLAIMS OF THOMAS TOPPEL

¹ On April 8, 2019, the Court entered an order administratively consolidating this case with the assignment cases (collectively, the "Assignment Cases" or the "Assignment Estates") of the following entities: LSI Management Company, LLC; Laser Spine Institute Consulting, LLC; CLM Aviation, LLC; Medical Care Management Services, LLC; LSI HoldCo, LLC; Laser Spine Surgical Center, LLC; Laser Spine Surgery Center of Arizona, LLC; Laser Spine Surgery Center of St. Louis, LLC; Laser Spine Surgery Center of Pennsylvania, LLC; Laser Spine Surgery Center of Oklahoma, LLC; Laser Spine Surgery Center of Warwick, LLC; Laser Spine Surgery Center of Cleveland, LLC; Total Spine Care, LLC; and Spine DME Solutions, LLC (collectively, the "Assignors").

| THESE CASES came on for hearing on upon the Objection to Claims of |
|---|
| Thomas Toppel (the "Objection"). The Objection seeks to disallow the Toppel Claims ² . The |
| Court, having considered the Objection, and being fully advised of the record, finds that the |
| Objection should be sustained. Accordingly, it is |
| ORDERED: |
| 1. The Objection is sustained. |
| 2. The Toppel Claims are disallowed. |
| DONE AND ORDERED in Hillsborough County, Florida this day of |
| , 2024. |
| |
| DADDEN BADE ANTE |
| DARREN FARFANTE Circuit Court Judge |

Copy to: Counsel of record

Exhibit B

² Capitalized claims not defined in the Order shall have the meaning set forth in the Objection.