

SAMPBELL S. WILLIAMS

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CAMPBELL & WILLIAMS ATTORNEYS AT LAW

700 SOUTH SEVENTH STREET LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89101 PHONE: 702/382-5222 FAX: 702/382-0540 Plaintiffs KIRK and AMY HENRY, by and through their attorneys of record, hereby file the following Motion for Contempt Against Defendant Kimtran Rizzolo and her Legal Counsel and for Enforcement of Monetary Sanctions Under Fed. R. Civ. P. 37.

DECLARATION OF PHILIP R. ERWIN IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS KIRK AND AMY HENRY'S MOTION FOR CONTEMPT AGAINST DEFENDANT KIMTRAN RIZZOLO AND HER LEGAL COUNSEL AND FOR ENFORCEMENT OF MONETARY SANCTIONS UNDER FED. R. CIV. P. 37

STATE OF NEVADA)
)ss
COUNTY OF CLARK)

I, PHILIP R. ERWIN, declare under penalty of perjury as follows:

- 1. I am a resident of Clark County, Nevada. I am over the age of eighteen (18) years and I am in all respects, competent to make this Declaration. This Declaration is based upon my personal knowledge, and if called upon to testify, I would testify as set forth in this Declaration.
- 2. I am a licensed attorney in the State of Nevada Bar Number 11563. I am an associate in the law firm CAMPBELL & WILLIAMS. I am one of the attorneys representing Plaintiffs Kirk Henry in the above-captioned action.
- 3. Defendant Kimtran Rizzolo and her legal counsel Herb Sachs, Esq. did not produce any supplemental discovery responses to me or my law firm on Friday, January 13, 2012 as mandated in this Court's Order (#567).
- 4. On January 17, 2012, I called Mr. Sachs regarding his client's failure to produce supplemental discovery in compliance with the Order (#567). Mr. Sachs informed me that he would not produce any supplemental discovery responses until Friday, January 20, 2012. He further stated that Ms. Rizzolo would be producing little to no new information at that time. This conversation was memorialized in written correspondence between me and Mr. Sachs. *See* Exhibit "1," Erwin Letter of January 17, 2012.

- 5. Ms. Rizzolo did not produce any supplemental discovery responses on January 20, 2012.
 - 6. I certify that all attached exhibits are true and correct copies
- 7. I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the United States and the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED this 23rd day of January, 2012.

/s/ Philip R. Erwin PHILIP R. ERWIN, ESQ.

POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I. INTRODUCTION

In short, Defendant Kimtran Rizzolo and her legal counsel Herb Sachs flatly refuse to comply with this Court's unequivocal Order (#567) compelling the production of discovery. On September 9, 2011, Plaintiffs Kirk and Amy Henry propounded Interrogatories and Requests for Production related to Ms. Rizzolo's fraudulent receipt of funds arising out of Defendant Rick Rizzolo's sale of his interest in a Philadelphia strip club. Despite the passage of more than four months and the entry of the Order (#567), Ms. Rizzolo has yet to adequately respond. Ms. Rizzolo's vexatious approach to discovery is entirely unsurprising and indicative of her fraudulent intent.

II. ARGUMENT

A. The Court Should Hold Ms. Rizzolo and Her Legal Counsel In Contempt Of Court For Their Willful And Persistent Disregard For The Federal Rules Of Civil Procedure And The Authority Of This Court.

Rule 37(b)(2)(D) provides for civil contempt in addition to other sanctions for a party's failure to comply with an order of the court regarding the production of discovery. See In re Heritage Bond Litigation, 223 F.R.D. 527, 531 (C.D. Cal 2004). "Civil contempt is



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characterized by the court's desire to compel a party's obedience to a specific and definite court order after the party has failed to take all reasonable steps within the party's power to comply."

Id. "Civil contempt is also characterized by the court's desire to compensate the contemnor's adversary for the injuries which result from the noncompliance." Id.

Civil contempt is established by clear and convincing evidence demonstrating that a party had notice of the terms of the court's order and violated that order. See Hi-Tek Bags, Ltd. v. Bobtron Int'l, Inc., 144 F.R.D. 379, 383 (C.D. 1992) (citing United States v. Powers, 629 F.2d 619, 626 n. 6 (9th Cir. 1980)). The contumacious act does not need to be intentional or willful. See In re Heritage Bond Litigation, 223 F.R.D. at 531.

Plaintiffs' Motion to Compel (#555) discovery related to Ms. Rizzolo's fraudulent dealings was granted on December 20, 2011 and the Court subsequently entered a written Order (#567) memorializing His Honor's findings. In sum, the Court ordered the following:

Defendant Kimtran Rizzolo shall serve fully responsive supplemental responses to Interrogatories and Requests for Production discussed in this order on or before **January 13, 2012**. To the extent that Defendant, after exercising due diligence, cannot produce all required information and documents by this deadline, she shall state in her responses the efforts she has made to comply and shall promptly further supplement her responses as soon as additional information or documents are obtained.

See Order (#567), pgs. 12:24-13:2.

The Court expressly warned Ms. Rizzolo "that if she fails to comply with [the] order, she may be subject to appropriate sanctions under Rule 37(b)(2), which can include a citation for contempt of court." *Id.* at p. 6:3-6. Nevertheless, Ms. Rizzolo and her attorney Mr. Sachs did not produce *any* information or documents on or before January 13, 2012. *See* Declaration of Philip R. Erwin, Esq. In fact, they even failed to produce supplemental discovery responses when given additional time by Plaintiffs' counsel. *Id.* In light of the foregoing authority, His

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Honor should hold Rizzolo and her attorney Mr. Sachs in contempt as a result of their abject refusal to obey the Court's Order (#567).

B. The Court Should Award Attorneys Fees And Costs Under FRCP 37 As Dictated By The Order (#567)

In addition to warning Ms. Rizzolo about the potential for contempt sanctions, His Honor stated that if she "fails to fully and reasonably comply with this order, the Court will impose sanctions for such failure including, but not limited to, awarding Plaintiffs the expenses they incurred in prosecuting the...motion to compel as well as any future motion, together with other sanctions pursuant to Rule 37(a)(2), as may appear proper. *Id.* at p. 12:16-20. As such, Plaintiffs should be awarded all attorneys fees and costs incurred in their attempts to force Ms. Rizzolo to comply with discovery.

III. CONCLUSION

Accordingly, Plaintiffs Kirk and Amy Henry request that this Court enter an order holding Defendant Kimtran Rizzolo and her attorney Herb Sachs, Esq. in contempt of court for their successive violations of the Order (#567). Likewise, Plaintiffs ask that the Court impose monetary sanctions in the form of attorneys fees and costs incurred in bringing the Motion to Compel (#555) and the instant Motion. Finally, Plaintiffs request that the Court impose any other sanctions under Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(b)(2) that it deems appropriate under the circumstances.

DATED this 23th day of January, 2012.

HUNTERTON & ASSOCIATES

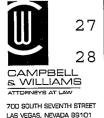
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that service of the foregoing was served on the 23rd day of January, 2012 via the Court's CM/ECF electronic filing system addressed to all parties on the e-service list.

/s/ Philip R. Erwin, Esq.
An Employee of Campbell & Williams



January 17, 2012

VIA U.S. MAIL and FACSIMILE (702) 384-9495

Herbert Sachs, Esq. 602 South Tenth Street Las Vegas, NV 89101

Re: Henry, et al. v. Rizzolo, et al.

Dear Mr. Sachs:

I am writing to confirm our earlier telephone conversation.

In the December 20, 2011 hearing, Magistrate Judge Foley granted Plaintiffs' Motion to Compel Discovery (#555) from your client, Kimtran Rizzolo. Magistrate Judge Foley also gave an extensive description of the information and documents that your client was being compelled to produce in this matter.

On January 4, 2012, Magistrate Judge Foley entered a written Order (#567) granting Plaintiffs' Motion to Compel and, once again, instructing Ms. Rizzolo about her obligations in discovery. Therein, he explicitly commanded that Ms. Rizzolo serve "fully responsive supplemental responses to the Interrogatories and Requests or Production. . on or before January 13, 2012." See Order (#567), p. 12:24-26. Additionally, Magistrate Judge Foley ordered that "[t]o the extent that [Ms. Rizzolo], after exercising due diligence, cannot produce all required information and documents by this deadline, she shall state in her responses the efforts she has made to comply and shall promptly further supplement her responses as soon as additional information or documents are obtained." Id. at pgs. 12:26-13:2.

Despite Magistrate Judge Foley's unequivocal instructions during the December 20, 2011 hearing and in the Order (#5670, you and your client failed to supplement discovery on January 13, 2012. Indeed, we did not receive a single document or supplemental response. Likewise, we did not receive supplemental responses explaining why Ms. Rizzolo was unable to comply with the Court's directions.

Accordingly, I called you today to inquire into the status of your client's tardy discovery responses. You flatly informed me that your client would not supplement her discovery responses until Friday, January 20, 2012. You further stated that your client would be producing little to no new information in her supplemental responses.

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PHONE: 702/382-5222 FAX: 702/382-0540 Simply put, Ms. Rizzolo has been given numerous opportunities to comply with her obligations in discovery. Nevertheless, she has done next to nothing in more than four months since Plaintiffs propounded their discovery requests. This obstructionist approach to discovery is patently unacceptable.

Please provide fully responsive answers to Plaintiffs' First Set of Interrogatories and Requests for Production by Friday, January 20, 2012. Otherwise, I will be forced to seek all appropriate relief from the Court. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

CAMPBELL & WILLIAMS

Philip R. Erwin, Esq.

cc: C. Stanley Hunterton, Esq. via facsimile (702) 388-0361 Dominic P. Gentile, Esq. via facsimile (702) 369-2666 Mark Bailus, Esq. via facsimile (702) 737-7702