CLOSED

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

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| VITALY IVANOVICH SMAGIN,<br><br>Petitioner,<br><br>v.<br><br>ASHOT YEGIAZARYAN, a.k.a. ASHOT EGIAZARYAN,<br><br>Respondent. | CASE NO. CV 14-9764-R<br><br>ORDER APPROVING PETITIONER'S AMOUNT OF ATTORNEY'S FEES |

On March 17, 2016, this Court granted Petitioner's Motion for Summary Judgment ("Motion"). (Dkt. No. 56). That Order included an award of Petitioner's reasonable attorney's fees related to his Motion, in an amount to be submitted and approved by the Court. The Court has reviewed the Petitioner's Statement of Attorney's Fees, Respondent's Opposition, and Petitioner's Response. As discussed more fully below, this Court finds that Petitioner's requested attorney's fees in the amount of $113,323.40 is fair and reasonable.

Petitioner's counsel, Bruce H. Jackson, states that his firm spent a total of 248.7 hours working on Petitioner's Motion and preparing the attorney's fee statement. Attached to Mr. Jackson's Declaration is a table summarizing the firm's work on both the Motion and the

Statement of Attorney's Fees. The table includes information regarding who worked on the matter, what type of work they performed, and the total number of hours they billed. On the whole, this Court finds that the amount of hours Petitioner's counsel billed on this matter is reasonable and appropriate. The instant action is a complex case that required analysis and understanding of records from diverse forums including the London Court of International Arbitration, courts in England and Cyprus, and a Russian criminal prosecution. Furthermore, because the case concerns legal proceedings in multiple foreign countries, it also raised complicated issues of international law.

The Court further finds that the requested fees for the Petitioner's attorneys are reasonable based on their skill, experience, and reputation. The moving party must present the court with evidence that the requested hourly rate is "in line with those prevailing in the community for similar services by lawyers of reasonably comparable skill, experience, and reputation." *Blum v. Stenson*, 465 U.S. 886, 895-96 n.11 (1984). Here, Petitioner's counsel requests a rate of $966 per hour for Edward E. Poulton, $810 per hour for Bruce H. Jackson, $590 per hour for Henry Garfield, $420 per hour for Nicholas O. Kennedy, $350 per hour for Anne M. Kelts, $280 per hour for Nada K. Hitti, and $270 per hour for Cesar Tamondong. Each attorney and paralegal has credentials justifying such fees and the rates charged are consistent with the community standards for other litigation firms of Baker & McKenzie LLP's size in the San Francisco and London markets.

Plaintiff calculated the total fees as follows: (1) Edward E. Poulton 1.4 hours at $966 per hour, (2) Bruce H. Jackson 46.1 hours at $810 per hour, (3) Henry Garfield 37.3 hours at $590 per hour, (4) Nicholas O. Kennedy 6.7 hours at $420 per hour, (5) Anne M. Kelts 82.9 hours at $350 per hour, (5) Nada K. Hitti 73.3 hours at $280 per hour, and (6) Cesar Tamondong 1 hour at $270 per hour. Accordingly, Petitioner is awarded $113,323.40 in attorney's fees.

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**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that Respondent Ashot Yegiazaryan pay Petitioner's reasonable attorney's fees in the amount of $133,323.40.

Dated: March 22, 2017.

MANUEL L. REAL
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE