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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 9 10 11 SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE Case No.: 3:19-cv-1628-LAB-AHG COMMISSION, 12 **ORDER:** Plaintiff. 13 v. (1) RESETTING HEARING ON 14 MOTION TO AMEND ORDER GINA CHAMPION-CAIN AND ANI 15 **GRANTING RECEIVER'S MOTION** DEVELOPMENT, LLC, FOR APPROVAL OF SALE OF 737 16 Defendants, and WINDEMERE COURT PROPERTY; 17 AND 18 (2) MODIFYING HEARING TO BE AMERICAN NATIONAL 19 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE INVESTMENTS, INC., 20 Relief Defendant. [ECF NO. 440] 21 22 On August 28, 2020, Receiver Krista L. Freitag (the "Receiver") filed a Motion to 23

Amend Order Granting Receiver's Motion for Approval of Sale of 737 Windemere Court Property (the "Motion to Amend"). ECF No. 440. In particular, the Receiver requests that the Court's Order Granting Receiver's Motion for Approval of Sale of 737 Windemere Court Property (ECF No. 434) be amended to provide that the sale of the property is free

and clear of a disputed Deed of Trust recorded against the property by third-party creditor

Charles Riharb, and to approve the Receiver's proposal to set aside \$1,105,000 in

receivership funds pending resolution of the dispute. ECF No. 440 at 8-9. The Court set the Motion to Amend for hearing on the previously set hearing date and time of September 18, 2020 at 2:00 p.m., and set a deadline of September 11, 2020 for oppositions to be filed and a deadline of September 17, 2020 for the reply. ECF No. 441.

On September 11, 2020, Mr. Riharb filed a limited opposition to the Motion to Amend, disputing some of the background facts stated by the Receiver in the Motion to Amend, and requesting that his lien on the Windemere Court Property attach in the same validity and priority to the net sale proceeds as it had with respect to the property. ECF No. 452. Mr. Riharb also separately filed an evidentiary objection to a portion of the Receiver's declaration. ECF No. 453. The Court anticipates the Receiver will file a reply by the September 17, 2020 deadline.

On September 14, 2020, the Court took the three other property sale motions scheduled to be heard at the September 18, 2020 hearing (ECF Nos. 406, 408, 421) under submission, finding them suitable for determination on the papers without oral argument. ECF No. 455. However, in light of the dispute regarding the Motion to Amend, the Court has determined a hearing on that motion remains necessary.

Due to a conflict on the Court's calendar, the September 18, 2020 hearing on the Motion to Amend is **VACATED** and **RESET** for <u>September 21, 2020</u> at <u>4:00 p.m.</u> Further, due to the current COVID-19 public emergency,<sup>1</sup> the Court **MODIFIES** the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On March 23, 2020, Chief Judge Larry A. Burns amended his original Order in response to the COVID-19 public emergency, which, among other things, excuses personal appearance of counsel and parties at civil court proceedings and notes that judges retain discretion to hold civil proceedings telephonically. *See* CJO #18-A at ¶ 4B. His original order, CJO #18, is available on the Court website at

https://www.casd.uscourts.gov/\_assets/pdf/rules/Order%20of%20the%20Chief%20Judge %2018.pdf. His amended order, CJO #18-A, which amends paragraph four of CJO #18, is available on the Court website at

https://www.casd.uscourts.gov/\_assets/pdf/rules/Order%20of%20the%20Chief%20Judge %2018-a.pdf. These orders were extended until mid-September by CJO #34, which is available on the Court website at

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motion hearing to be via **videoconference** for the parties to the disputed Motion to Amend. **The Court will use its courtroom technology to ensure the motion hearing will still take place on the record.** To facilitate this modification, the Court hereby **ORDERS** as follows:

- The Court will use its official Zoom videoconferencing account to hold the 1. motion hearing on the Motion to Amend. If you are unfamiliar with Zoom: Zoom is Zoom available on computers through download on the website (https://zoom.us/meetings) or on mobile devices through the installation of a free app.<sup>2</sup> Joining a Zoom conference does not require creating a Zoom account, but it does require downloading the .exe file (if using a computer) or the app (if using a mobile device). Participants are encouraged to create an account, install Zoom and familiarize themselves with Zoom in advance of the hearing.<sup>3</sup> There is a free option for creating a Zoom account.
- 2. On September 17, 2020, the Court will send the Zoom invitation to counsel for the Receiver, Edward Fates, and Mr. Riharb's counsel, Mark Cramer and Russel Allyn, at their email addresses of record. No later than September 18, 2020, counsel for the Receiver and Mr. Riharb shall email the Court send an to at efile\_goddard@casd.uscourts.gov identifying any additional participants they expect to join. Counsel may forward the invitation to additional participants as they see fit, but must inform the Court that they have done so. Counsel for any other party may also request the Zoom invitation from the Court at the email address above, and must identify the expected

 $<sup>\</sup>underline{https://www.casd.uscourts.gov/\_assets/pdf/rules/Order\%20of\%20the\%20Chief\%20Judge \\ \underline{\%2034.pdf}.$ 

If possible, participants are encouraged to use laptops or desktop computers for the video conference, rather than mobile devices.

For help getting started with Zoom, visit: <a href="https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/categories/200101697-Getting-Started">https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/categories/200101697-Getting-Started</a>

participants for that party.

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3. Because Zoom may quickly deplete the battery of a participant's device, each participant should ensure that their device is plugged in or that a charging cable is readily available during the videoconference. Again, if possible, participants are encouraged to use laptops or desktop computers for the videoconference, as mobile devices often offer inferior performance. Participants shall attend the hearing by following the ZoomGov Meeting hyperlink in the invitation. Participants who do not have Zoom already installed on their device when they click on the ZoomGov Meeting hyperlink will be prompted to download and install Zoom before proceeding. Zoom may then prompt participants to enter the password included in the invitation.

- Each participant should plan to join the Zoom videoconference at least five **minutes before** the start of the hearing to ensure that the hearing begins promptly.
- 5. The Court will publish teleconference line information on the docket and on its public calendar for all non-parties and members of the public to use to listen to the hearing. Counsel for any non-party (other than Mr. Riharb) who wish to be heard telephonically make effect must a request to that to the Court at efile\_goddard@casd.uscourts.gov no later than September 18, 2020 at noon.
- Counsel for the Receiver is **ORDERED** to give notice of this Order to counsel for Mr. Riharb no later than **September 15, 2020**.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: September 14, 2020

Honorable Allison H. Goddard United States Magistrate Judge