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Alicia L. Lerud
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1 2645 Transaction # 9835583 : dstaggs LINDSAY L. LIDDELL 2 Deputy District Attorney Nevada State Bar Number 14079 3 ELIZABETH HICKMAN Deputy District Attorney Nevada State Bar Number 11598 4 One South Sierra Street 5 Reno, NV 89501 lliddell@da.washoecounty.gov 6 ehickman@da.washoecounty.gov (775) 337-5700 7 ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANTS 8 9 IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT 10 OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE 11 * * * 12 ROBERT BEADLES, an individual, 13 Plaintiff, Case No. CV23-01341 14 Dept No. D9 VS. 15 JAMIE RODRIGUEZ, in her official 16 capacity as Registrar of Voters and in her personal capacity; the WASHOE COUNTY 17 REGISTRAR OF VOTERS, a government / agency; ERIC BROWN in his official 18 capacity as WASHOE COUNTY MANAGER and in his personal capacity, 19 ALEXIS HILL in her official capacity as CHAIRWOMAN OF WASHOE 20 COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS and in her personal 21 capacity; WASHOE COUNTY, a political subdivision of the State of Nevada, and 22 DOES I-X; and ROE CORPORATIONS I-X. 23 Defendants. 24 OPPOSITION TO 2nd MOTION TO REQUEST JUDGE SIMONS 25 26

Defendants, by and through counsel, Deputy District Attorney Lindsay Liddell, hereby oppose the "2nd Motion to Request Judge Simons" filed by Plaintiff Robert Beadles ("Beadles") on August 9, 2023. This Opposition is based on the following Memorandum of Points and Authorities and all papers and pleadings on file with this Court.

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I. INTRODUCTION

Beadles filed a Second Motion to request his preferred judge, Chief Judge Simons. This time, he attempts to provide legal authority to support his request. The legal authority cited is inapplicable, and does not support a party's request for judge reassignment.

Again, Defendants agree Judge Simons is a well-qualified judicial officer. However, a party cannot request their preferred judge. Such a request runs afoul of the Court's random assignment process, which serves to promote impartiality and fairness in the judicial system.

A motion to request one's preferred judge is not cognizable under Nevada law nor any rules of this Court. The Second Motion to Request Judge Simons should be denied.

II. THE MOTION IS INAPPROPRIATE AND SHOULD BE DENIED.

While his first Motion to Request Judge Simons is currently pending and has not been submitted to this court, Beadles filed a Second Motion to Request Judge Simons. He again expresses that Judge Simons would be an "ideal judge to preside over this case."

The Nevada Supreme Court Rules provide a limited opportunity to preempt an assigned judge. SCR 48.1. Upon filing a notice of peremptory challenge and paying the \$450 fee, the clerk is required to "randomly reassign the case to another judge within the district." SCR 48.1(2)(emph. added). The rule does not permit a party to judge shop by requesting their preferred judge. On the contrary, the rule includes timelines "designed to prevent its use as a device for 'judge shopping." Smith v. Eighth Jud. Dist. Ct. in & for Cnty. of Clark, 107 Nev. 674, 677, 818 P.2d 849, 852 (1991).

The authority cited in the Motion does not support Beadles's request. He cites Eighth Judicial District Court Rules, which are inapplicable here. He cites NRS 3.025 and 3.223, which authorize the Chief Judge to address case assignments, but provides no private right for a party to make such a request. The cases lack full citations, and are thus difficult to locate. For example, a search identifies numerous cases titled "Ferguson v. State." To the extent Beadles refers to *Matter of Guardianship of T.T.H.*, 134 Nev. 958, 421 P.3d 282 (2018), that case addressed a court's discretion to transfer a case from family court to district court. It has no bearing on whether a party can request reassignment to their preferred judge. *Id.*

There is no legal basis for a party's request to have the case assigned to their preferred judge. Beadles's Second Motion is an inappropriate attempt to contravene the random case assignment process. It is a waste of judicial resources and should be denied.

III. CONCLUSION

The Motion should be denied because it has no legal basis. "In fact, random assignment rules are specially intended to prevent judge shopping." *Shopping for a Venue: The Need for More Limits on Choice*, 50 U. Miami L. Rev. 267. Not only is this motion frivolous, but it is also needlessly duplicative of another motion Beadles filed one week prior. Pursuant to NRS 18.010(2), Defendants should be award attorneys' fees in connection with having to oppose the instant Motion.

AFFIRMATION PURSUANT TO NRS 239B.030

The undersigned does hereby affirm that the preceding document does not contain the social security number of any person.

Dated this 17th day of August 2023.

By ____/s/ Lindsay L. Liddell
LINDSAY L. LIDDELL
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ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANTS

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2	<u>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</u>
3	Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I certify that I am an employee of the Office of the District
4	Attorney of Washoe County, over the age of 21 years and not a party to nor interested in
5	the within action. I certify that on this date, the foregoing was electronically filed with the
6	United States District Court. Electronic service of the foregoing document shall be made in
7	accordance with the Master Service List as follows:
8	ROBERT BEADLES
9	Dated this 17th day August, 2023.
10	/s/ S. Haldeman
11	S. Haldeman
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