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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON FOR THE COUNTY OF KING

9 In re the Matter of

Case No. 22-4-08326-1 KNT

THE SHARON M. HAROLD IRREVOCABLE TRUST DATED NOVEMBER 12, 2004.

a Trust.

SUPPLEMENTAL BRIEF RE: LANE POWELL VIOLATIONS OF 18 U.S.C. §§ 4, 1503, 1505, 1512, 1513 AND 1622 IN SUPPORT OF JOINT VERIFIED OBJECTION (DKT 28)

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Respondents Charles A. Harold, Jr., John J. Harold, Angel Harold, Amy Jane Small and Josette Ramirez herein incorporate by reference all prior submissions to this Court in the captioned TEDRA matter, and all submissions in the case entitled, *Harold v. Paice*, Case No. 23-2-03980-7 as if fully set forth herein. Each and every allegation, argument, exhibit and objection previously submitted by Respondents is reiterated and realleged with the same force and effect as if fully stated in this document, the Supplemental Brief Regarding Lane Powell's Violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 4, 1503, 1505, 1512, 1513 and 1622 in Support of the Verified Joint Objection to Verified Petition for Approval of Interim Account; For Discharge of Successor Trustee; and For Appointment of Successor Trustee as follows:

I. INTRODUCTION

The language and actions in Lane Powell's proposed "Binding Nonjudicial Settlement and Release Agreement" under Chapter 11.96 RCW (hereinafter

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"Agreement") obstructs justice and violates Respondents' constitutional rights, rendering the Agreement fraudulent.

According to California Evidence Code §§ 1123(d) and 703.5, a written settlement agreement from mediation is not protected from disclosure if it demonstrates fraud, duress, or illegality relevant to the dispute.

Lane Powell's Agreement violates multiple fiduciary duties outlined in California Probate Code §§ 16000-16015, particularly loyalty, the duty to administer the trust solely in the interest of the beneficiaries (§ 16002), and the duty to keep beneficiaries reasonably informed (§16060).

The Agreement also violates provisions of 18 U.S.C. §§ 4 (Misprision of Felony), 1503 (Obstruction of Justice), 1505 (Obstruction of Government Agency Investigation), 1512 (Tampering with Witnesses), 1513 (retaliation Against a Witness, Victim or Informant), and 1622 (Subornation of Perjury).

Respondents have reserved the use of some exhibits for those "governmental or enforcement agencies" that Mr. Schilbach and Lane Powell attempt to obstruct with their Agreement.

II. <u>AUTHORITIES</u>

The following case law provides an informative overview of the issues Respondents will be discussing in our analysis of Lane Powell's Agreement.

<u>United States v. Sprecher</u>, 783 F. Supp. 133 (S.D.N.Y. 1992): The court held that an attempt to obstruct justice, even if unsuccessful, violates 18 U.S.C. § 1505. This case is relevant to Lane Powell's attempts to interfere with ongoing investigations.

<u>United States v. Sampson</u>, No. 17-343 (2d Cir. 2018): The Second Circuit affirmed a conviction for obstruction of justice and false statements, ruling that an inchoate attempt to tamper with a witness under section 1503(a) is prosecutable. This applies to Lane Powell's efforts to influence potential witnesses and investigations in active cases outside this Court.

<u>United States v. Cunan</u>, 152 F.3d 29 (1st Cir. 1998): The court upheld a conviction for attempting to persuade a former employee to sign a false affidavit. This case is relevant to the Agreement's requirement for Sharon to make false statements about the facts in this case.

<u>United States v. Lundwall</u>, 1 F. Supp. 2d 249 (S.D.N.Y. 1998): The court emphasized that deliberate concealment and destruction of relevant documents constitute obstruction of justice. This relates to Lane Powell's attempts to limit access to information and documents including their IOLTA and Trustees account of Trust.

<u>United States v. Stevens</u>, 771 F. Supp. 2d 556 (D. Md. 2011): An attorney was charged with obstruction for concealing and falsifying documents to influence an FDA investigation. This case is relevant to Lane Powell's attempts to influence ongoing investigations and their presentation of incomplete IOLTA records designed to conceal Trustee's malfeasance from beneficiaries.

<u>United States v. Price</u>, 951 F.2d 1028 (9th Cir. 1991): The court upheld the conviction of a defendant for obstruction of proceedings under 18 U.S.C. § 1505. The court emphasized that the crime of obstruction does not require the success of the obstructive act; it is sufficient that the defendant intentionally endeavored to obstruct a pending proceeding. This case supports the argument that Lane Powell's actions to stop the Oregon Protective Services investigation of Trustee Paice for Financial Elderly Abuse, even if not successful, constitutes an attempt to obstruct justice by interfering with ongoing investigations and proceedings

<u>United States v. Bryan</u>, 58 F.3d 933 (4th Cir. 1995): The Fourth Circuit affirmed the conviction of Bryan Corporation for obstruction of an administrative proceeding under 18 U.S.C. § 1505. The company was charged with making false and misleading statements to the FDA and withholding documents during an investigation. This case is relevant to Lane Powell's attempts to influence the outcome of investigations and legal proceedings through misleading statements and concealment of information acting as a surrogate Trustee for Trustee David Paice.

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III. ANALYSIS OF LANE POWELL'S AGREEMENT

A. Complaint to Oregon's Adult Protective Services.

The clause stating that "the Parties agree that the Oregon APS Investigation is no longer necessary" constitutes interference with an official government investigation, violating 18 U.S.C. § 1505. This also breaches the "Trustee" Paice's fiduciary duty of loyalty under California Probate Code § 16002, as it prioritizes "Trustee" Paice's interests over those of the beneficiaries. (Agreement, p. 3.)

Additional violations include: Obstruction of Justice (18 U.S.C. § 1505), Violation of Due Process (14th Amendment), Violation of Due Process (14th Amendment), First Amendment Violations (right to petition government and free speech), Coercion and Undue Influence, Violation of Public Policy, Witness Tampering (18 U.S.C. § 1512), Lack of Transparency (violating California Probate Code §16060), and Overreach of Authority.

B. Provisions Relating to the Trust.

The clause requiring Respondents to withdraw objections and approve all Trust Accountings violates multiple fiduciary duties, including the duty of loyalty (§16002) and the duty to keep beneficiaries informed (§16060) as well as California Penal Code § 155, concealment of assets prior to a ruling. (Agreement, p. 4.)

Additional violations include: Coercion and Undue Influence, Violation of Fiduciary Duty Due Process Violations (14th Amendment), Misrepresentation to the Court, Overreach of Authority, Unconscionable Agreement, and Violation of TEDRA Procedures.

C. Approval of Trustee's Attorneys' Fees and Costs.

Denying Respondents the right to audit or examine attorneys' invoices violates the trustee's duty of transparency (§16060) and the duty to administer the trust solely in the interest of beneficiaries (§16002). (Agreement, p. 4.)

Additional violations include: Coercion, Due Process Violations (14th Amendment), Violation of Court Order, Equal Protection Violations (14th Amendment), and Unconscionable Agreement.

D. Resignation of Current Trustee and Appointment of Successor Trustee.

Preventing the successor trustee from reviewing "Trustee" Paice's past communications and work product violates the duty to keep beneficiaries informed (§ 16060) and the duty of loyalty (§ 16002) and is an attempt to pierce an irrevocable Trust. (Agreement, p. 5.)

Additional violations include: Violation of Fiduciary Duty, Alteration of Irrevocable Trust Terms, Obstruction of Proper Trust Administration, Violation of Due Process, First Amendment Concerns, Undue Influence, Breach of Transparency Obligations, Concealment of Wrongdoing. (Agreement, p. 5.)

E. End to Civil Protection Action.

Agreeing to withdraw the Revision motion and dismiss the VAPO violates multiple laws and constitutional rights. (Agreement, p. 6.)

Violations include: Obstruction of Justice (18 U.S.C. § 1503, § 1505, § 1512), Witness Tampering (18 U.S.C. § 1512), First Amendment Violations, Due Process Violations, Equal Protection Violations, Misprision of Felony (18 U.S.C. § 4), Fiduciary Violations (California Probate Code §16002), and Prior Restraint (First Amendment violation).

F. Grantor's Admission of Fact.

Requiring Grantor (referred to as Sharon in the Agreement) to make potentially false statements violates multiple laws and ethical standards. (Agreement, p. 6.)

Violations include: False Admission of Fact (First Amendment violation), Withdrawal of Valid Claims (First Amendment violation), Obstruction of Justice (18 U.S.C. § 1505), Waiver of Rights (First and Fourteenth Amendment violation), Unsubstantiated Fee Claims, Due Process Violations, Misprision of Felony (18 U.S.C. § 4), and Prior Restraint (First Amendment violation).

SUPPLEMENTAL BRIEF RE: LANE POWELL VIOLATIONS - 5 OF 18 U.S.C. §§ 4, 1503, 1505, 1512, 1513 AND 1622

G. Non-Disparagement.

The non-disparagement clause includes the following language:

"Respondents specifically agree that they will not make bring any further legal proceedings or make any further complaints to governmental or enforcement agencies regarding David's Affiliates or any of the allegations underlying the Parties' Disputes. If any governmental agency or third party asks David, David's Affiliates or any of the Respondents to comment on their Disputes or this Agreement, such Party shall respond: "The matter is resolved and we have agreed not to discuss each other or our prior disputes." (Agreement, p. 7.)

The clause prohibiting further legal proceedings or complaints to "governmental or enforcement agencies" is a clearly an obstruction of justice. Per United States v. Price, 951 F.2d 1028 (9th Cir. 1991) the crime of obstruction does not require the success of the obstructive act; it is sufficient that the defendant intentionally endeavored to obstruct a pending proceeding. This violates 18 U.S.C. § 1505 (obstruction of proceedings before departments, agencies, and committees) and 18 U.S.C. § 1513(e) (retaliation against a witness, victim, or informant).

By requiring Respondents to respond to a governmental agency with a specific statement, "The matter is resolved and we have agreed not to discuss each other or our prior disputes," is a blatant imposition of a prior restraint on speech about potential crimes, which is unconstitutional under the First Amendment.

This language also constitutes subornation of perjury, as it forces Respondents to make false statements to law enforcement agencies which violates 18 U.S.C. § 1622.

Additionally, Lane Powell is aware of probable cause to believe their client, "Trustee" Paice engaged in "nefarious" behavior and since this clause attempts to prevent Respondents from reporting these crimes, Lane Powell is violating 18 U.S.C. § 4 (misprision of felony).

The expansive scope of this clause, which includes prohibiting criticism or disparagement of a wide range of individuals and entities, goes beyond typical non-disparagement provisions.

This clause also violates various whistleblower protection laws by attempting to prevent the reporting of potential wrongdoing to government agencies and the Washington State Supreme Court who has oversight of such matters.

The broad scope and potential consequences of this clause are unconscionable, especially because there is a significant power imbalance between Lane Powell, a 200-person international law firm, and Respondents who are appearing pro se.

By attempting to prevent parties from pursuing legal remedies or reporting to government agencies, this clause also violates due process and equal protection rights protected under the 14th Amendment.

H. <u>Performance and Good Faith Cooperation.</u>

As stated in the Agreement, "Each Party agrees to do all acts and execute and deliver such written instruments as may be necessary to carry out the terms and provisions of this Agreement. Each Party agrees to cooperate in good faith to carry out its purpose of a resolution of the Parties' disputes without trial." (Agreement, p. 7.)

Agreeing to cooperate to resolve disputes without trial is a blatant attempt to obstruct justice by preventing proper legal scrutiny of Trustee's and Lane Powell's potential crimes and breaches of fiduciary duty. This violates 18 U.S.C. § 1503 (obstruction of justice).

Lane Powell is aware of federal felonies committed by Trustee as alleged in the protection case (interception of Grantor's emails, misdirecting her mail, etc.) and since this clause attempts to prevent Respondents from reporting additional information to these agencies, it constitutes a prior restraint on free speech and violates 18 U.S.C. § 4 (misprision of felony). Cooperating to resolve disputes without trial does not absolve one of the legal duties to report known felonies.

This clause also involves concealing or misrepresenting facts that would otherwise be revealed under oath in court, thereby constituting subornation of perjury, violating 18 U.S.C. § 1622.

In addition, resolving disputes without trial to conceal assets from proper legal scrutiny violates the provisions of California Penal Code § 155, fraudulent concealment of assets pending a judgment. Agreeing to resolve disputes without trial breaches fiduciary duties because it prevents proper disclosure and accountability to beneficiaries.

Preventing matters from coming to trial also violates public policy by impeding the judiciary's role in upholding the law and protecting rights, such as this Court's duty to protect the express intent of Grantor as stated in the Trust instrument, "to provide for Grantor," nor to provide for Lane Powell's IOLTA.

A blanket agreement to avoid trial, conceal "murky" and "nefarious" activity from "government agencies" and prevent the judiciary from scrutinizing Lane Powell and "Trustee" Paice's behavior is unconscionable, especially since it attempts to shield and prevent serious legal consequences for him.

IV. LANE POWELL'S VIOLATION OF COURT ORDER AND FRAUD ON THE COURT.

Lane Powell's attempt to secure \$150,000 in settlement fees, despite this Court's previous ruling restricting additional payments from the Trust, constitutes a clear violation of a court order and amounts to fraud on the court.

Court Restriction: The court explicitly limited Lane Powell from taking additional funds from the Trust until they could prove what portion of their fees were for legitimate Trust business versus those that might be denied due to the "Trustee" Paice's potentially "nefarious" and "murky" behavior.

Contempt of Court: By proposing an Agreement that directly contravenes this Court's order, Lane Powell is demonstrating contempt for this Court's authority. This behavior undermines the judicial process and the court's role in overseeing trust administration.

Fraud on the Court: The attempt to obtain fees through settlement that were explicitly restricted by this Court's order could be construed as fraud on the court. This is particularly egregious given Lane Powell's status as officers of the court.

Breach of Fiduciary Duty: "Trustee" Paice has a fiduciary duty to act in the best interests of the Trust and its beneficiaries, not in the best interest of himself or Lane Powell's IOLTA. "Trustee" Paice and Lane Powell attempting to secure fees in violation of this Court's order breaches this duty.

Violations of The Rules of Professional Conduct ("RPC"), Rule 3.3 (Candor Toward the Tribunal): By proposing a settlement that contradicts this Court's order without disclosing this conflict, Lane Powell is violating their duty of candor to the court.

Violation of RPC, Rule 1.5 (Fees): Attempting to secure fees that have not been approved by this Court and may include amounts for "nefarious behavior" violates the requirement that fees be reasonable.

Violation of RPC, Rule 8.4 (Misconduct): The Lane Powell Agreement is behavior involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, and misrepresentation, as well as conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice.

Implications for the Settlement Agreement: (1) Unconscionability: the attempt to secure fees in violation of this Court order renders the entire settlement agreement unconscionable, as it is based on a fundamental misrepresentation of Lane Powell's right to these fees, and (2) Undue Influence: Lane Powell's superior knowledge of the Court's order and its attempt to circumvent it through settlement demonstrates undue influence over Respondents, who may not have been aware of the Court's restrictions.

VII. REQUESTS FOR SUA SPONTE RELIEF

Given that Lane Powell this Court, (as the presiding judge), are members of the Washington State Bar Association ("WSBA"), we respectfully request the following sua sponte relief:

- 1. Immediate Referral to the WSBA Office of Disciplinary Counsel: We request that the court refer Lane Powell and its involved attorneys to the WSBA Office of Disciplinary Counsel for investigation of potential violations of the Rules of Professional Conduct (RPC), particularly: RPC 1.5 (Fees), RPC 3.3 (Candor Toward the Tribunal), RPC 4.1 (Truthfulness in Statements to Others), and RPC 8.4 (Misconduct).
- 2. Judicial Reporting Obligation: This Court has an ethical obligation under the Code of Judicial Conduct, Rule 2.15 to take appropriate action when it's has knowledge that a lawyer has committed a violation of the Rules of Professional Conduct that raises a substantial question regarding the lawyer's honesty, trustworthiness, or fitness as a lawyer. We respectfully remind this Court of this duty given the evidence presented.
- 3. Appointment of Special Counsel: Given the potential conflicts of interest arising from all parties being WSBA members, Respondents request the appointment of an independent special counsel to investigate and make recommendations to the Court about: 1) The conduct of Lane Powell especially since Gail Mautner who is a member of the Washington State Bar Association's Real Property, Probate and Trust Section and has taught TEDRA law to members of this Court, their attorneys involved in this case, and 2) Lane Powell's IOLTA that at one time held ill-gotten Trust funds from Grantor's Trust.
- 4. Immediate Removal of Trustee and Appointment of Temporary Trustee:
 Given the evidence of misconduct and breaches of fiduciary duty, Respondents request the immediate removal of David Allen Paice as Trustee and the appointment of a temporary trustee to safeguard the trust's assets.
- 5. Forensic Accounting: Respondents request a court-ordered forensic accounting of the Trust, and Lane Powell's IOLTA to be paid for by Trustee David Allen Paice and Lane Powell, with emphasis on potential violations of RPC 1.15A (Safeguarding Property) and RPC 1.5 (Fees).

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- 6. Surcharge Against Lane Powell and David Allen Paice: Respondents request a surcharge against Lane Powell and David Allen Paice to restore the Trust to its pre-TEDRA case assets of approximately \$708,000, noting that this may also serve as a remedial measure under the WSBA disciplinary process.
- 7. **Stay of Proceedings:** Respondents request a stay of all proceedings related to the Trust until the WSBA investigation and any resulting disciplinary actions are concluded.
- 8. **Mandatory Ethics Training:** Respondents request that the court order all attorneys involved from Lane Powell to undergo mandatory ethics training, with a focus on duties to the judiciary and the handling of trust and IOLTA accounts.
- 9. Referral to Criminal Authorities: Given the potential criminal activities, including obstruction of justice, subornation of perjury, and misprision of felony, we request that the court refer this case to the appropriate federal criminal authorities for further investigation.
- 10. Public Disclosure: Given the public interest in maintaining the integrity of the legal profession, Respondents request that the court make public its findings regarding any ethical violations, subject to appropriate redactions to protect client confidentiality.

The conduct exhibited by Lane Powell not only violates specific Rules of Professional Conduct but also undermines public trust in the legal profession and judiciary.

Respondents believe these requested actions, while painful, are necessary to address the serious ethical concerns raised and to ensure the fair administration of justice in this case.

DATED: July 17, 2024 s/Charles A. Harold, Jr.

Charles A. Harold, Jr., Residual Beneficiary and

Respondent in pro se 1455 N. Tomahawk Rd. Apache Junction, AZ 85119

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OF 18 U.S.C. §§ 4, 1503, 1505, 1512, 1513 AND 1622

CHARLES A. HAROLD, JR., IN PRO SE 1455 N. TOMAHAWK ROAD APACHE JUNCTION, AZ 85119 (818) 652-6400;

1 2 3 4 5	DATED: July 17, 2024	s/John Harold John Harold, Residual Beneficiary and Respondent in pro se 230 Westmont Dr. Reedsport, OR 97467 Tel: (541) 662-6262 Email: john6231@live.com
6 7 8	DATED: July 17, 2024	s/Angel Harold Angel Harold, Residual Beneficiary and Respondent in pro se 26707 Isabella Pkwy Unit 202 Canyon Country, CA 91351
9		Tel: (661) 289-4238 Email: angelharold25@gmail.com
11	DATED: July 17, 2024	s/Amy Jane Small Amy Jane Small, Residual Beneficiary and
12 13		Respondent in pro se P.O. Box 352
14		Graeagle, CA 96103 Tel: (805) 827-0051 Email: ai harold9@gmail.com
15	DATED: July 17, 2024	Email: aj.harold9@gmail.com s/Josette Harold Ramirez
16 17	57(125. Suly 17, 2024	Josette Harold Ramirez, Residual Beneficiary and Respondent in pro se
18		11319 Playa St. Culver City, CA 90230
19		Tel: (310) 280-6229 Email: jobabe007@gmail.com
20		We certify that this memorandum contains 2,976
21		words, in compliance with the Local Civil Rules.
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1 CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE 2 I am and was at the time of service of these papers herein, over the age of 3 eighteen (18) years. On July 17, 2024, I caused the following documents: SUPPLEMENTAL BRIEF 4 RE: LANE POWELL'S VIOLATIONS OF 18 U.S.C. §§ 4, 1503, 1505, 1512, 1513 AND 5 1622 IN SUPPORT OF JOINT VERIFIED OBJECTION (DKT 28) to be electronically 6 7 served on the interested parties in this action as follows: 8 Gail E. Mautner, Esq. Counsel for David A. Paice, Trustee of the Aleksander Shilback, Esq. Sharon M. Harold Irrevocable Trust dated 9 LANE POWELL, PC November 12, 2004 1420 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4200 10 P.O. Box 91302 Seattle, Washington 98111-9402 11 Tel: (206) 223-7000 / Fax; (206) 223-7107 12 E-mail: mautnerg@lanepowell.com schilbacha@lanepowell.com 13 Paul Barrera, Esq. Counsel for Sharon M. Harold, Grantor of the 14 NORTH CITY LAW, PC Sharon M. Harold Irrevocable Trust dated 17713 Fifteenth Avenue NE, Suite 101 November 12, 2004 15 Shoreline, WA 98155-3839 Tel: (206) 413-7288 / Fax: (206) 367-0120 16 E-mail: paul@northcitylaw.com 17 John J. Harold Residual Beneficiary, Pro Se 18 230 Westmont Dr. Reedsport, OR 97467 19 Tel: (541) 662-6262 Email: john6231@live.com 20 21 Amy Jane Small Residual Beneficiary, Pro Se P.O. Box 352 22 Graeagle, CA 96103 Tel: (805) 827-0051 23 Email: aj.harold9@gmail.com 24 Residual Beneficiary, Pro Se Angel Harold 25 100 River Bend Rd. #103 reedsport, OR 97467 26 Tel: (661) 289-4238 Email: angelharold25@gmail.com 27

SUPPLEMENTAL BRIEF RE: LANE POWELL VIOLATIONS - 13 OF 18 U.S.C. §§ 4, 1503, 1505, 1512, 1513 AND 1622

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CHARLES A. HAROLD, JR., IN PRO SE 1455 N. TOMAHAWK ROAD APACHE JUNCTION, AZ 85119 (818) 652-6400;

1 2 3 4	Josette Harold Ramirez Residual Beneficiary, Pro Se 11319 Playa St. Culver City, CA 90230 Tel: (310) 280-6229 Email: jobabe007@gmail.com
5 6 7	Jenifer Sawyer Residual Beneficiary, Pro Se 1819 74th St. E Tacoma, WA 98404 E-mail:send2jen3@hotmail.com
7 8 9 10	Nicole Loomis Residual Beneficiary, Pro Se 31688D U.S. 97 Tonasket, WA 98855 E-mail: crazyapples10@gmail.com
11	via the electronic filing system maintained by the Clerk's Office at the above-captioned
12	court or by email if they were not registered to receive electronic service via the Clerk's
13	Office.
14	I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that
15	the foregoing is true and correct.
16	Dated July 17, 2024, at Apache Junction, Arizona.
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18	a/Charles A Harald Ir
19	<u>s/Charles A. Harold, Jr.</u> Charles A. Harold, Jr.
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