IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

JANET M. GUINN, Appellant, vs. THE STATE OF NEVADA BOARD OF PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINERS, Respondent. No. 46207 FEB 0 2 2007 JANETTE M. BLOOM CLERK OF SUPPREME COURT BY

ORDER OF AFFIRMANCE

This is a proper person appeal from a post-judgment order awarding attorney fees. Second Judicial District Court, Washoe County; Brent T. Adams, Judge.

We have reviewed the voluminous record, spanning more than a decade of acrimonious litigation. We have furthermore considered the documents filed in this proper person appeal, including the portion of the civil appeal statement that pertains to the attorney fees award, the answer filed by the attorney general¹ and appellant Janet M. Guinn's response thereto. Based upon our review, it appears that the award of attorney fees was within the discretion afforded the lower court. The award is proper under Nevada statute,² and "[w]e will not substitute our

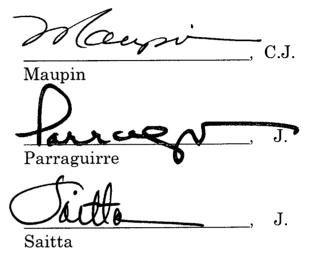
²NRS 622.410 (allowing recovery of regulatory agency attorney fees where fees were incurred in enforcement of regulatory action such as the professional licensing at issue here); NRS 18.010(2) (allowing recovery of attorney's fees where recovery was not more than \$20,000 or when the court finds that the claim was either brought or maintained without reasonable grounds or for the purposes of harassment; affirming the *continued on next page*...

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¹This court ordered an answer from the respondent in <u>Guinn v.</u> <u>Nevada Mental Health Inst.</u>, Docket No. 46206 (Order Directing Response, September 29, 2006).

opinion for that of the trial court unless as a matter of law there has been an abuse of discretion. The value to be placed on the services rendered by counsel lies in the exercise of sound discretion by the trier of the facts."³ We therefore

ORDER the judgment of the district court AFFIRMED.⁴



... continued

legislature's intent to "punish for and deter frivolous or vexatious claims and defenses").

³Brunzell v. Golden Gate Nat'l Bank," 85 Nev. 345, 350, 455 P.2d 31, 33-34 (1969); <u>see also Shuette v. Beazer Homes Holdings Corp.</u>, 121 Nev. 837, 863, 124 P. 3d 530, 549 (2005) (emphasizing that the district court must analyze statutory attorney fees requests "in light of the factors enumerated . . . in <u>Brunzell</u>" and provide sufficient support of the analysis's outcome); <u>Miller v. Wilfong</u>, 121 Nev. 619, 623, 119 P.3d 727, 730 (2005) (recognizing that the district court must consider the <u>Brunzell</u> factors when determining the reasonableness of statutory attorney fee awards).

⁴Having considered all of the issues raised by appellant in this appeal, we conclude that any of her contentions not discussed above lack merit and, therefore, do not warrant reversal of the district court's judgment.

SUPREME COURT OF NEVADA cc: Hon. Brent T. Adams, District Judge Janet M. Guinn Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto/Carson City Washoe District Court Clerk

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