IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

INGER HANSSON, Appellant,

vs.
SERVICE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS,
INC., A TENNESSEE CORPORATION;
BOULEVARD MALL I, LLC, A NEVADA
LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY; AND
BOULEVARD MALL II, LLC, A
NEVADA LIMITED LIABILITY
COMPANY,
Respondents.

No. 38141

FILED

SEP 1 0 2002

CLERK OF SUPREME COURT

BY

CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK

ORDER OF AFFIRMANCE

Inger Hansson appeals from the district court's denial of her motion for a new trial. On appeal, Hansson argues that the district court abused its discretion by failing to grant the motion because the respondents' attorney made two "golden rule" arguments during closing argument. We disagree. Because the jury had ample evidence from which it could decide in the respondents' favor, and in light of the circumstances surrounding the respondents' attorney's misconduct, it cannot be said that the misconduct permeated the proceedings to the degree that the jury's

¹See Canterino v. The Mirage Casino-Hotel, 117 Nev. 19, 25, 16 P.3d 415, 419 (2001) (concluding that the district court abused its discretion in granting a new trial because "the jury's award was amply supported by the evidence and counsel's conduct did not permeate the trial and taint the verdict"), modified on reh'g on other grounds 118 Nev. ____, 42 P.3d 808 (2002).

verdict was the product of passion and prejudice.² Thus, there was no "palpable abuse" of discretion in the district court's ruling.³ Accordingly, we

ORDER the judgment of the district court AFFIRMED.

Shearing

J.

Rose

J.

Becker

cc: Hon. Allan R. Earl, District Judge Joseph Y. Hong Thorndal Armstrong Delk Balkenbush & Eisinger/Las Vegas Clark County Clerk

²See <u>DeJesus v. Flick</u>, 116 Nev. 812, 816, 7 P.3d 459, 462 (2000) (setting forth the standard for obtaining a new trial based on attorney misconduct).

³<u>Allum v. Valley Bank of Nevada</u>, 114 Nev. 1313, 1316, 970 P.2d 1062, 1064 (1998) (noting that we will not disturb the district court's ruling on a motion for a new trial absent a "palpable abuse" of discretion) (quoting <u>Pappas v. State, Dep't Transp.</u>, 104 Nev. 572, 574, 763 P.2d 348, 349 (1988)).