1	IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA		
2	IN THE SUPREME COURT (OF THE STATE OF NEVADA	
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4	OUR NEVADA JUDGES, INC.,	Electronically Filed	
5	Petitioner,	D-08-4001 2024 03:01 PM Elizabeth A. Brown	
6	vs.	Clerk of Supreme Court No 88412	
7	THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL		
8	DISTRICT COURT OF THE		
9	STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CLARK; and		
10	THE HONORABLE CHARLES J.		
11	HOSKIN, DISTRICT JUDGE,		
12	Respondents,		
13	And		
14	TROY A.MINTER; and JENNIFER		
15	R. EASLER,		
16	Real Parties in Interest.		
17	RESPONDENT'	S ANSWER TO	
18	PETITION FOR WRIT OF MANDAMUS		
19	The undersigned Respondent, (Charles J. Hoskin, District Judge, has	
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21	received the June 13, 2024 Order Directing Answer; the Supreme Court		
22	mandating an <i>Answer</i> from the unders	signed to Petitioner's Petition for Writ	
23	of Mandamus.		
24	C404 0F41	District Count Case	
25	Status of the	District Court Case	
26	The most recent hearing in	case D-08-402901-C occurred on	
27	December 5, 2022. That Evident	tiary Hearing, and the subsequent	
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December 8, 2022 Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order, resolved all outstanding issues then pending between the parties, Troy Minter and Jennifer Easler; with the exception being an award of attorney's fees, which was completed in the January 10, 2023 Order Awarding Attorney's Fees and Costs.

Defendant filed a Motion for Relief from Judgment or Order Pursuant to NRCP 60 on January 9, 2023. This Court denied that relief within its February 14, 2023 Order.

The next filing in the District Court was Petitioner, non-party, Our Nevada Judges, Inc.'s *Limited Motion to Unseal* (Motion), filed March 4, 2024. The *Motion* was filed simultaneously into two other cases, D-19-600476-C and D-23-661332-R. No differentiation between the cases was offered within the *Motion*.

This Court considered the *Motion*, applied the arguments to the law cited by the non-party and entered an Order Denying Limited Motion to Unseal on April 3, 2024. That Order is attached hereto as Exhibit 1 and fully incorporated herein. The Order includes findings relating to the law cited and a conclusion "that the non-party petitioner failed to adequately support their request."

Answer

The *Order Directing Answer* required this Court to file and serve an answer, including authorities, against issuance of the requested writ. Unfortunately, the *Petition for a Writ of Mandamus* was not filed into the District Court case. Petitioner did, however, following filing, provide this Court a copy of the *Petition*.

Petitioner's *Petition* is much broader, with different citations, compared to the *Motion* submitted to this Court (and the two other departments). This Court entered its April 3, 2024 *Order* as a determination of the limited issue raised and citations made within the *Motion*. Petitioner referenced several times that the *Motion* was unopposed. Such never guarantees a "win;" as the Court is tasked with resolving the pending issue by applying the facts to the cited authority. There were no disputed facts presented.

Petitioner, references this Court's decision in *Falconi v. Eighth Jud.*Dist. Ct. in & for Cnty. of Clark, 140 Nev. Adv. Op. 8, 543 P.3d 92, 95 (2024) several times in the *Petition*. That decision references the process utilized for a Court to overcome the presumption that family law proceedings are presumptively open.

Thus, to overcome the presumption, one must show three things: (1) closure serves a compelling interest; (2) there is a substantial

probability that, in the absence of closure, this compelling interest could be harmed; and (3) there are no alternatives to closure that would adequately protect the compelling interest.

Id., at 99. The *Motion* neither argued overcoming the presumption or even referenced the same. Rather, it was supported by inapplicable cites. As a result, this Court did not perform the analysis referenced in *Falconi* or make the findings to support the closure. The case at issue is statutorily closed as it stems from a paternity action. Thus, the question is whether to open the case.

Instead, this Court applied the request, made specifically within the *Motion*, to the cited authority and denied the relief. That analysis is contained within Exhibit 1 and incorporated as though fully set forth herein.

Petitioner then argues that this Court must have meant to "rely upon NRS 126.211 as a basis for the extensive sealing of the underlying matter." The instant case, as a case stemming from paternity law, under NRS 126, is statutorily sealed.

If requested to make an analysis on whether a portion, or the entirety of the case, should be unsealed, pursuant to the guidance in *Falconi*, this Court will do so. Absent such an argument, it would be presumptuous for this Court to interpret what Petitioner meant to argue, compared to what was actually argued within the *Motion*.

Should the Supreme Court be simply interpreting whether this Court appropriately issued the *Order Denying Limited Motion to Unseal* on April 3, 2024, based upon what was argued, the *Order* itself should answer that question.

However, if the purpose for requesting this *Answer* is to ask this Court to address the issues within the *Petition*, this Court is reluctant, as much of what is argued in the request to mandate this Court vacate its *Order* was not presented as part of the case below.

The case at issue has been closed, with no action for more than a year. If the *Falconi* decision was meant to permit unfettered access to highly sensitive cases without permitting the District Court to consider the compelling interests at stake, as argued by Petitioner, then such clarification is needed from the Supreme Court.

However, if the *Falconi* decision was meant to permit the District Court to consider "the critical importance of the public's access to the courts and the role that thoughtful, reasoned judicial decision-making plays in identifying the compelling interests at stake and determining; (1) if and when to order closure in any proceeding, be it family, civil, or criminal in nature; and (2) to what extent such closure should apply," then, on this record, the *Petition* should be denied with instructions to the Petitioner to

1 2	support their request more clearly and allow the District Court to consider		
3	the same. See <i>Id</i> . at 99.		
4	RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED		
5	Dated this 1st day of July, 2024		
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9 10	430 A47 AFB0 8747 Charles J. Hoskin		
11	District Court Judge		
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Exhibit 1

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CHARLES J. HOSKIN DISTRICT JUDGE FAMILY DIVISION, DEPT. E LAS VEGAS, NV 89101-2408

DISTRICT COURT FAMILY DIVISION CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

MINTER, TROY A.,

EASLER, JENNIFER R.,

Plaintiff,

Defendant.

Case No.:

Dept.: E

Sch. Hrg.: April 19, 2024

D-08-402901-C

ORDER DENYING LIMITED MOTION TO UNSEAL

This Court has reviewed the calendar for an upcoming hearing and FINDS that NRCP 1 and EDCR 1.10 state that the procedure in District Courts shall be administered to secure efficient, speedy, and inexpensive determinations in every action. Pursuant to EDCR 5.502(e)(3), this Court can consider a motion and issue a decision on the papers at any time without a hearing.

This Court has read and considered the current underlying pleadings in this matter and has reviewed this file. THIS COURT FINDS that a nonparty filed a Limited Motion to Unseal on March 4, 2024. As no hearing was requested, the matter was set on this Court's Chamber Calendar. No opposition has been offered by either party.

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THIS COURT FURTHER FINDS that the non-party petitioner cites to the *Rules Governing Sealing and Redacting Court Records;* specifically SRCR 3 to support their request. However, SRCR 1(4) specifically states that: "These rules do not apply to the sealing or redacting of court records under specific statutes, such as NRS Chapters ... 125 (dissolution), 126 (Parentage) ..." As such, that rule does not apply to the instant case.

THIS COURT FURTHER FINDS that the non-party petitioner indicates that, pursuant to SCR 230(1), they are seeking review for potential coverage. However, prior to the instant request, this case was closed, with no future actions pending. As such, there is no pending "proceeding" for electronic coverage to apply.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the non-party petitioner failed to adequately support their request. Thus, the *Limited Motion to Unseal* is DENIED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, all existing orders, not in conflict with this Order, shall remain in full force and effect.

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CASE CLOSED.

IT IS SO ORDERED

Dated this 3rd day of April, 2024

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