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Attorneys for Movant for Intervention

IN THE DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

DAVID J. RADICH and LI-RONG RADICH,)	No. 1:14-CV-00020
)	
Plaintiffs,)	EMERGENCY
)	MOTION UNDER
vs.)	LOCAL RULE 7.1.h.3(b)
)	
ROBERT GUERRERO,)	
in his official capacity as Commissioner)	
of the CNMI Department of Public Safety, and)	
LARISSA LARSON,)	
in her official capacity as Secretary)	
of the CNMI Department of Finance,)	
)	
Defendants.)	
)	
TANAPAG MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENT)	
TEACHER STUDENT ASSOCIATION,)	
)	
Movant for Intervention.)	
)	

Movant for Intervention Tanapag Middle School Parent Teacher Student Association hereby moves the Court, pursuant to Rule 4(a)(5) of the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, to extend the time for filing a Notice of Appeal by 30 days, to the extent doing so may be necessary to allow time for filing a notice after the resolution of the motion to intervene. Due to time constraints, this Motion is filed on an emergency basis pursuant to Local Rule 7.1.h.3(b).

CERTIFICATE PURSUANT TO LOCAL RULE 7.1.h.3(b)

I, Joseph E. Horey, hereby certify as follows:

A. The telephone and facsimile numbers and office addresses of the parties are as follows:

Plaintiffs:

Daniel Guidotti
Phone: 233-0777
Fax: 233-0776
Office Address: 2nd Floor, J.E. Tenorio Building
Gualo Rai, Saipan, CNMI

Defendants:

James M. Zarones
Phone: 237-7500
Fax: 664-2349
Office Address: Office of Attorney General (Civil)
Capitol Hill, Saipan, CNMI

Movants for Intervention:

Joseph E. Horey
Phone: 234-5684
Fax: 234-5683
Office Address: 201 Marianas Business Plaza
Susupe, Saipan, CNMI

B. The emergency arises from the possible imminent approach of the 30-day deadline for appeal from the Court's March 28, 2016, decision and order. The thirtieth day from that decision falls tomorrow, April 27, 2016. There is insufficient time between now and then for the resolution of the pending Motion to Intervene for Purposes of Appeal. Since the point of the Motion to Intervene is to file a notice of appeal, that Motion, though timely filed, would be rendered nugatory as a practical matter if Movant were to prevail, only to find that the time for the action it sought to take has already expired.

1 C. Counsel for Plaintiffs and Defendants have been notified of this motion by e-mail
2 of this date (3:11 pm), and will also be e-served contemporaneously with the filing of the motion,
3 by way of the Court's e-filing and service system.

4 I certify upon penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States and the
5 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands that the foregoing is true and correct.
6 Executed at Saipan this 26th day of April, 2016.

7
8 */s/ Joseph E. Horey*

9 _____
JOSEPH E. HOREY

10 **ARGUMENT**

11 In support of this Motion, Movant shows the Court the following:

12 1. The Decision and Order Granting Plaintiffs' Cross-Motion for Summary Judgment and
13 Denying Defendants' Cross-Motion for Summary Judgment (ECF No. 60) was entered in this
14 matter on March 28, 2016.

15 2. A notice of appeal must be filed within thirty days after entry of the judgment or
16 order appealed from. *See* Fed. R. App. P. 4(a)(1)(A).

17 3. Thirty days from March 28, 2016, is April 27, 2016.

18 4. If the Decision and Order constitutes a final judgment in this action, then the time to
19 file a notice of appeal from that judgment therefore expires April 27, 2016.

20 5. According to Movant's undersigned counsel's understanding of the rules, the Decision
21 and Order does not in fact constitute a final judgment, a final judgment has not yet been entered
22 in this matter, and the thirty-day time period for filing a notice of appeal has therefore not yet
23 begun to run, since no separate document entering judgment has been entered in the docket by
24

1 the Clerk of Court.¹

2 6. However, counsel is also cognizant that his understanding of the law has not always
3 proved correct, and recognizes the ambiguity created by the fact that the Decision and Order did
4 dispose, as a practical matter, of all claims and issues in the case, and therefore could arguably be
5 construed as final and appealable judgment.

6 7. Out of abundance of caution, and in light of the severity of the consequences of error,
7 Movant therefore now moves the Court to extend the time for filing a notice of appeal by the
8 thirty days authorized by rule (*see* Fed. R. App. P. 4(a)(5)), so that Movant’s ability to file such a
9 notice in the event its motion to intervene is granted will be beyond cavil.

10 Respectfully submitted this 26th day of April, 2016.

11 O’CONNOR BERMAN DOTTS & BANES
12 Attorneys for Movants

13
14 By: _____/s/_____
15 Joseph E. Horey

16 *1000-09-160426-PL-M extend time*

17
18
19 ¹ See generally Fed. R. Civ. P. 58(a) (“Every judgment . . . must be set out in a separate
20 document.”); Harmston v. City and County of San Francisco, 627 F.3d 1273, 1280-81 (9th Cir.
21 2010) (where no there is no separate document entering judgment, 30-day time to appeal does
22 not begin to run until 150 days from entry of actual final order, leaving a total of 180 days to
23 appeal). See also, e.g., In Re Maxtitle, Inc., 237 Fed. Appx. 274, 275 (9th Cir. 2007) (“To
24 comply with Rule 58, a sheet containing the judgment, usually prepared by the clerk, must be
distinct from any opinion or memorandum.”) (internal punctuation omitted) (*quoting Allah v.*
Superior Court, 871 F.2d 887, 890 (9th Cir.1989)); Mitchell v. State of Idaho, 814 F.2d 1404,
1405 (9th Cir. 1987) (eight-page document discussing facts and law and detailing reasons for the
district court’s decision “does not comply with the requirement of Fed. R. Civ. P. 58 that every
judgment shall be set forth on a separate document”) (internal punctuation omitted).