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INDIANA CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

MONTHLY MEETING

AUGUST 28, 2009

ORIGINAL

Transcript of the proceedings held August 28, 2009, at 402 W. Washington Street, Conference Room A, Indianapolis, Indiana, before Heather S. Orbaugh, Notary Public in and for the County of Boone, State of Indiana, CCR: LA.

ACCURATE REPORTING OF INDIANA
William F. Daniels, Prop., RPR/CP, CM
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APPEARANCES
    David C. Carter, Vice Chairman
    Steven A. Ramos, Commissioner
    Tehiji G. Crenshaw, Commissioner
    Barry Baynard, Commissioner
    Charles D. Gidney, Commissioner
    John E. Garcia, Commissioner
    Joan T. Essex, Chief Financial Officer
    Robert D. Lange
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10:23 AM

AUGUST 28, 2009

I would like to call the Indiana

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Civil Rights Commission to order for our August monthly meeting or the monthly meeting for August, and we do have a quorum for the first time in months and thank you for coming. You have minutes which are now in the form of transcripts of the various meetings. May I have a motion to accept those or hear objections or comments or corrections if you have any?

MR. RAMOS: Motion to accept.

MR. CARTER: Second?

MR. CARTER:

MS. CRENSHAW: Second.

MR. CARTER: All in favor?

(Aye was heard.)

MR. CARTER: Any opposed?

(Nothing heard.)

MR. CARTER: Thank you. Ms. Essex, Financial

Report?

MS. ESSEX: You have the July 31 month ending financial report in your packets. For those of you who were not here last month, we did end the fiscal year in very good shape. We were requested to revert \$310,000 and we reverted

\$310,600, so we were \$600 to the good.

We are starting off the year with an anticipated reversion this fiscal year of only five percent, which is really only going to be about \$110,000 this year, so we are moving to, as always, to use our dollars wisely.

We have a Communications Plan that was just approved by the State Budget Agency. In that Communications Plan there has been \$10,000 allotted to run an advertising campaign on IndyGo buses in the City of Indianapolis. This is a new venture for us. We are hoping to reach 27,000 individuals per day and cover the entire Indianapolis metropolitan area and we hope to run this campaign for approximately six months.

We have a 1-800 number that we will use to gauge the response directly from the solicitations in the buses, and as we progress with that we will be giving you updates at that time.

MR. RAMOS: Questions?

MS. ESSEX: Sure.

MR. RAMOS: So you are only giving back five percent, is your budget by default down five percent so it is total net about the same?

MS. ESSEX: Yeah, net about the same.

MR. RAMOS: Okav. Good.

MR. CARTER: I have a question about all this

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reversion stuff. We have money each year that's allocated to us?

MS. ESSEX: Absolutely.

MR. CARTER: But it isn't really because we have to give some of it back. What if we really need it to conduct the business of the agency?

MS. ESSEX: We could always make a request to the Budget Agency, and we would have to have a very good justification obviously to do so. Previous experience that I have had, there have been agencies in the past that if they truly needed the dollars were able to go back and request either not to make the reversion that they are currently slated for in that fiscal year, but to also maybe go back and tap previous fiscal years' reversions showing that they gave that money back in good faith.

The whole reversion process is basically to give agencies as many dollars as you can up front so that they can go out and get grants, either federal, state, local grants and maybe have matching dollars and then be able to generate revenue from those grants and be able still to meet that reversion. So it is -- basically it is saying, okay, we are going to give you a little bit of extra money, but we want it back.

MR. CARTER: Okay. And everybody engages in creative bookkeeping?

MS. ESSEX: Pretty much, yeah. You know, usually the agencies -- I don't know too many agencies that 2 fall short of their reversion. Some of the bigger agencies it is a little bit harder because five percent of over a hundred million dollar agency is much more than a \$5 million or a \$3 million agency. But I think everybody is agreeable to the system that is set up and I don't really think they 8 have too many issues with it. 9 MR. CARTER: Essentially it acts as an 10 incentive to cut expenditures? 11 MS. ESSEX: Well, that, and generate outside 12 money sources as well. 13 It's the old thing if you don't MR. CARTER: 14 need the money, you can get it; but if you do need it, you 15 can't get it. 16 MS. ESSEX: You can't have it. 17 MR. CARTER: The justice of which escapes me, but that's personal. Thank you. Are there any other 18 19 questions? 20 MR. RAMOS: Yes, I'm sorry. The number of 21 cases, are you going to cover that separately? 22 MS. ESSEX: We can go over that now if you 23 In your packets also there is a trend analysis that 24 we were -- I have been promising you for some time. And I 25 think you have the comparison of 2009 to 2008 and 2007 as

It looks as if from what I was looking at is that 2009 is really lower than 2008 and 2007 with regard to some of the influx of cases coming into the agency, for whatever So we are hoping though that this advertising campaign will boost those numbers.

I think it is just -- and I have said this before, I think it is just a lack of awareness that we exist. At the Indiana Black Expo we had a booth and I had several people come up and say we didn't know you were here. So we have got to get the word out, we have got to start making sure that people know or are aware of us.

MR. RAMOS: Good. Thank you.

MS. ESSEX: Uh-huh.

MR. CARTER: Since there isn't ever any, I am going to take old and new business together and ask if there is any of either? Apparently not. We are maintaining our tradition.

There are four consent agreements, Jeffery Johnson versus Centerstone of Indiana; Maria J. Kubiak versus Walgreen Company; Donald Gilmore versus Baker Concrete Construction, Inc.; and Sevasmia Panagiotides versus Carlos Gallegos. And may I have a motion to accept those consent agreements?

> MR. BAYNARD: So moved.

MS. CRENSHAW: Second.

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MR. CARTER: All in favor? (Aye was heard.) MR. CARTER: Opposed? (Nothing heard.) MR. CARTER: We have a number of Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order which have been in your packet. And I am going to take those individually because we may have some discussion about the third one. 9 versus -- Darden & Reinstatler versus Highland Springs South 10 Homeowners Association, Inc.; Bill Dailey, Greg Christenson, Judi Corbit, Jim Miller, Jeff Augustinovicz, Amanda Fronek, 11 Sleana Moore, Geoff Flinn, Todd Hancock, Ken Fronek, Keith 12 13 Brennan, Joe Davis, Dan Justus, and Jim Henderson. have a motion to accept those Findings of Fact, Conclusions 14 15 of Law, and Order? 16 MS. CRENSHAW: So move. 17 MR. CARTER: Second? 18 MR. GIDNEY: Second. 19 MR. CARTER: All in favor? 20 (Aye was heard.) 21 MR. CARTER: Opposed? 22 (Nothing heard.) 23 MR. CARTER: Cornwell versus Copeland, Real 24 Estate Agent; Jerry Tanselle, Manager; Robert Cowan Real 25 Estate Agent; and Talk 2 Tucker Realtors/F.C. Tucker

May I have a motion to accept that one? Company. MR. RAMOS: So moved. MR. CARTER: Second? MR. BAYNARD: Second. MR. CARTER: All in favor? (Aye was heard.) MR. CARTER: Opposed? 8 (Nothing heard.) 9 MR. CARTER: Okay. Beard versus Citizens Gas & Coke Utility. This was the case that we heard last month. 10 Have you had an occasion -- I believe you all had gotten a 11 12 copy of the arguments in the case and we have two alternate motions, both of which overrule the Complainant's 13 objections, one generally and the second specifically. 14 will argue why each objection should be overruled and if you 15 have other alternatives in mind about the case, now is the 16 time to make that motion; otherwise, if one of you would 17 please pick one of those two and make that motion. 18 19 MR. RAMOS: Do we have that paper? 20 MR. CARTER: Well, I can give you this copy. 21 MR. RAMOS: Do you want to formally read that 22 just so we have the options? 23 MR. CARTER: One is, "In the case Beard versus Citizens Gas & Coke Utility, I move that the Commission 24 25 enter an order that overrules Complainant's objection and

adopts the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order proposed by the administrative law judge in the proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order."

Or, "In the case of Beard versus Citizens Gas & Coke Utility I move that the Commission enter an order that overrules Complainant's objection" -- and here is where it is different -- "addressing and rejecting each objection specifically and adopts the Findings of Facts, Conclusions of Law, and Order proposed by the administrative law judge in the proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order."

And other alternative would be accepting the objections, Complainant's objections and in that case remanding it for another hearing or --

MR. LANGE: For another proceeding.

MR. CARTER: And we haven't had an opportunity to discuss this, this is the first time we have been together about this case. If you would like to think about it more, I guess we could table it and put it off until next month, but otherwise now is the time to make a motion.

MR. GARCIA: I have got a question. Stating specifically, I mean what does that do? I mean as opposed to general.

MR. LANGE: It states the reason, or one or more reasons why the Commission rejects each objection that

the complainant made. The other one just more in a conclusory manner rejects the objections.

MR. CARTER: If Citizens Gas & Coke Utility should appeal this decision, assuming we decide in this manner, if they should appeal it, is an itemized argument for each objection or overruling each objection something that the Appeals Court is more interested in or --

MR. LANGE: Well, if you adopt one of the ones on that sheet of paper, it won't be Citizens appealing, it will be Beard. And it probably -- it gives the Court of Appeals more options if you don't express and state your reasons. On the other hand, it may be a fairer thing for the Complainant to tell him why he lost more specifically. It just kind of limits the Court's review to those reasons for rejecting the rejections rather than any others it or Citizens Gas might come up with on appeal.

MR. RAMOS: Don't both of them effectively ultimately give the same preserve right, they can come back on a specific item but the overall one doesn't -- it is more blanket, right? So the --

MR. LANGE: The overall one meaning the shorter version?

MR. RAMOS: Yes.

MR. LANGE: Yes, it is more blanket, right.

The result in either of those two is the same.

MR. CARTER: The first one --MR. LANGE: One may be harder for the Complainant to successfully appeal than the other. MR. CARTER: The first one would say -correct me if I am wrong -- that your objections were not persuasive and then the second one says your objections are not persuasive because and here is why? MR. LANGE: Yes, right. That is right. 8 9 MR. CARTER: Would anyone like to make a 10 motion? 11 I move we adopt the second one, MR. GARCIA: 12 the more specific. 13 MR. CARTER: Is there a second? 14 MS. CRENSHAW: so moved. 15 MR. CARTER: All in favor, please say aye. (Aye was heard.) 16 17 Any opposed or abstentions? MR. CARTER: (Nothing heard.) 18 19 MR. CARTER: Okay. So for the record, that is 20 the -- well, I read it, it is in the record so it is the second one, it is the one that contains the phrase 21 22 "addressing and rejecting each objection specifically." 23 MR. LANGE: I would note I found this morning in the Order that that is referring to, on Page 2 -- this is 24 going to be uncontroversial -- about halfway down under 25

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Subparagraph B, the third line, the first word of that line
    I will change from a-m to a-n, from am to an, just a typo.
                  MR. CARTER: Okay. Does anyone wish to change
    a motion or a vote based on that typo?
                  MR. LANGE: I will substitute a corrected
    page.
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                  MR. CARTER: All right. Anything that gives
    the appearance of literacy is always welcome.
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           Whitfield versus Villager Restaurant, Inc. Dow S.
    Henson; and Karen Henson. May I have a motion to accept
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    those findings of fact?
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                  MR. RAMOS: So moved.
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                  MR. CARTER: And a second?
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                  MR. BAYNARD: Second.
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                  MR. CARTER: All in favor?
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                            (Aye was heard.)
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                  MR. CARTER: Opposed?
18
                            (Nothing heard.)
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                  MR. CARTER:
                               Lapadat versus Steffey Insurance
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    Agency.
             May I have a motion to accept those?
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                  MR. BAYNARD: So moved.
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                  MR. CARTER: And a second?
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                  MR. GIDNEY: Second.
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                  MR. CARTER: All in favor?
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                            (Aye was heard.)
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1	MR. CARTER: Any opposed?
2	(Nothing heard.)
3	MR. CARTER: Weddle-Van Sickle versus Franklin
4	Gardens Family Restaurant, Inc. May I have a motion to
5	accept that?
6	MR. GIDNEY: So moved.
7	MR. CARTER: Second?
8	MR. RAMOS: Second.
9	MR. CARTER: All in favor?
10	(Aye was heard.)
11	MR. CARTER: Any opposed?
12	(Nothing heard.)
13	MR. CARTER: Rosie versus Equimax Lending.
14	May I have a motion to accept that?
15	MS. CRENSHAW: So moved.
16	MR. CARTER: Second?
17	MR. GIDNEY: Second.
18	MR. CARTER: All in favor?
19	(Aye was heard.)
20	MR. CARTER: Any opposed?
21	(Nothing heard.)
22	MR. CARTER: Thank you. And we move to report
23	by commissioners on complainant appeals. Any word from
24	Chair Blackburn?
25	MS. SHARP: Yes, Chair Blackburn recommends to

uphold the findings of the agency. MR. CARTER: Okay. May I have a motion to accept that recommendation? MS. CRENSHAW: So moved. MR. CARTER: Second? MR. RAMOS: Second. MR. CARTER: All in favor? 8 (Aye was heard.) 9 MR. CARTER: Opposed? 10 (Nothing heard.) 11 MR. CARTER: Okay. And my cases, at least one of these is from a while ago, I had four of them last month. 12 13 Buckley versus Landry's Seafood House d/b/a Joe's Crab Shack; Gordon versus Your Friends & Neighbors, Inc.; Palma 14 versus Kesler Schaefer Auto Auction; Watkins versus Ivy Tech 15 16 College; and Raphlah MD versus IUPUI Police. I recommend 17 that we uphold the no probable cause findings in each of 18 those. May I have a motion to accept that recommendation, 19 please? 20 MR. BAYNARD: So moved. 21 MR. GIDNEY: Second. 22 MR. CARTER: All in favor? 23 (Aye was heard.) 24 MR. CARTER: Thank you. Any opposed? 25 (Nothing heard.)

1	MR. CARTER: Mr. Baynard? Howard versus Eagle
2	Transport Group; and the case Wade versus Griswold Estates
3	Management Resources Development, Inc. Auburn Place
4	Apartments, LLC; Gonzales versus CVS Pharmacy; Millman
5	versus Indiana Horse Racing Commission. I will recommend to
6	the Commission that we uphold the director and the findings.
7	MR. CARTER: And may I have a motion to accept
8	that recommendation?
9	MR. GIDNEY: So moved.
10	MS. CRENSHAW: Second.
11	MR. CARTER: All in favor?
12	(Aye was heard.)
13	MR. CARTER: Any opposed?
14	(Nothing heard.)
15	MR. CARTER: Okay. Commissioner Crenshaw?
16	MS. CRENSHAW: In the case of Diaz versus M&M
17	Transport Services I make a recommendation that we uphold
18	the Deputy Director's finding of no probable cause.
19	MR. CARTER: May I have a motion to accept?
20	MR. GIDNEY: So moved.
21	MR. RAMOS: Second.
22	MR. CARTER: All in favor?
23	(Aye was heard.)
24	MR. CARTER: Any opposed?
25	(Nothing heard.)
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MR. CARTER: Commissioner Garcia. MR. GARCIA: First of all, I would like to --I did send that one back to you, right? MS. SHARP: Yes. I have it. 5 MR. GARCIA: Thank you. In the case of Jones versus Finlay Fine Jewelry Corporation, I concur with the 7 Deputy Director's conclusion of no probable cause. 8 MR. CARTER: May I have a motion to accept 9 that recommendation, please? 10 MR. BAYNARD: So moved. 11 MS. CRENSHAW: Second. 12 MR. CARTER: All in favor? 13 (Aye was heard.) 14 MR. CARTER: Commissioner Gidney? 15 MR. GIDNEY: Okay. In the cases of Matthews 16 versus Indiana Health & Rehabilitation Centers: Correa versus Wal-Mart; Boggs versus Sherie Proctor, David Fisher 1718 DSI Properties; Lee versus Tool Dynamics, LLC; and Williams 19 versus Belgrade Property Services I recommend that we uphold 20 the findings of the Executive Director and Deputy Director 21 of no probable cause. 22 MR. CARTER: May I have a motion to accept 23 those recommendations? 24 MR. RAMOS: So moved. 25 MS. CRENSHAW: Second.

1	MR. CARTER: All in favor?
2	(Aye was heard.)
3	MR. CARTER: Any opposed?
4	(Nothing heard.)
5	MR. CARTER: And Commissioner Ramos.
6	MR. RAMOS: In the case of Russell versus KCA
7	Financial Services, Inc. I recommend that we uphold the
8	Deputy Director's findings of no probable cause.
9	MR. CARTER: May I have a motion to accept
10	that recommendation?
11	MR. GIDNEY: So moved.
12	MR. CARTER: Second?
13	MS. CRENSHAW: Second.
14	MR. CARTER: All in favor?
15	(Aye was heard.)
16	MR. CARTER: Any opposed?
17	(Nothing heard.)
18	MR. CARTER: Okay. What was that, three
19	months' work? In the Assignment of Appeals to
20	Commissioners, I will review Baker versus TSI Paving.
21	Commissioner Baynard, if you would review Warfield versus
22	Larue D. Carter Memorial Hospital. Commissioner Crenshaw,
23	Collins versus Forszt d/b/a MJF Rentals. Commissioner
24	Garcia, Diop versus General Hotels d/b/a Holiday Inn Select
25	Airport. Commissioner Ramos, Adcox versus Great Dane

Trailers. And Commissioner Gidney, Weekley versus Superior Construction, Inc. And there is one appeal per commissioner and all the commissioners for whom there is an appeal. Everyone is here. Wow.

Administrative update, please.

MS. ESSEX: I am speaking for the executive director who is out of town today, and we have had no administrative changes of late except for the fact that our interns have ended their time with us and they are all happily either back at school or getting ready to go back to school very soon. We are very pleased to have them and they did a stellar job.

> MR. CARTER: Is that it?

MS. ESSEX: That's it. Everyone is all happy.

MR. CARTER: The deputy director doesn't have

anything to say either?

MS. ESSEX: No.

MR. RAMOS: How was the conference down in

Evansville?

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MS. ESSEX: You know, my understanding was from everyone that went that it was very informative and everyone came away glad that they had gone. We did not have a commission meeting as we had planned down there, but maybe next year hopefully we can get the word out a little bit sooner. I think we were a little behind this year so we

will probably get that information out a little bit quicker next year so that you all have a chance to attend that if you care to.

MR. RAMOS: Any pending anticipatory changes coming through the new administration?

MS. ESSEX: No, I think really everything is slated to stay as it is. Right now we are -- the one thing that we will be looking toward is making sure every year the Department of Housing and Urban Development through our cooperative agreement requires us to make sure that all of our housing investigators attend one training event per year and we are -- we have the calendar for those trainings through the end of this year and we are slating our folks to make sure that they get their training in by June 30, which should not be a problem.

We do have the travel restrictions still in place for out of state travel, but because this is a mandatory training we have had no difficulties getting staff members trained even going out of state to Washington to have these done so that's very positive.

MR. RAMOS: I know the Commission does a phenomenal job with the Martin Luther King program, is there any anticipatory participation in Hispanic Heritage Month or Asian Heritage Month or Disability Week?

MS. ESSEX: We have talked about that from

time to time and we just have never been able to either because of staffing concerns or because of other things that are going on we just never seem to know about it enough in advance to be able to prepare for it. When is Hispanic --

MR. RAMOS: September 15. And it is interesting because it is September 15 to October 15 and people say that is kind of strange but there are a lot of activities in Hispanic history, you know, Columbus, October 12, and Independence, some of the different countries, so it is actually a fascinating process.

MS. ESSEX: Well, and that's the other part, too, is it goes in conjunction with the communications plan that I mentioned earlier is we had had a contact from of the local television stations wanting us to run, see if we were interested in running paid advertising and they were asking us what we were interested in and my response was multi-cultural events are things that we really need to start hitting a lot heavier.

I know that there is a -- it is, I don't know if it is a marathon but it is a walk and run type of thing that is Race for all Races. I would love to get ahold of those folks and start looking at those types of things.

MR. RAMOS: I can help you with that.

MS. ESSEX: Okay. Great. If you could send me some information on that, I would love to have a booth or

find some participation, maybe we could help sponsor, 1 2 something. MR. RAMOS: The Race for all Races is in the morning, I can get that information to you, but typically 4 the afternoon is the Fiesta Indianapolis, which is a Latino 5 event. MS. ESSEX: And we do participate in that 7 8 pretty heavily. MR. CARTER: On that same note I would like at 9 this point to point out, since it is sort of connected, next 10 year is the 20th Anniversary of the ADA on July 26. 11 12 MS. ESSEX: Okay. 13 MR. CARTER: And since we like round numbers, I mean this is the 19th anniversary, 19th anniversary isn't 14 something people pay attention to, but next July is the 20th 15 anniversary so some -- perhaps a partnership with ADA 16 Indiana which is a local funding and I guess they do 17 promote, and the Governors Council for Disabilities who are 18 19 I am sure planning things. 20 MS. ESSEX: I am sure they are. In fact, we have gotten information from the Disability Conference for 21 this year, we just started getting that information. 22 MR. CARTER: I am sure that is going to be a 23 big theme of this November, I believe it is. Are there any 24

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further announcements?

MS. ESSEX: The only other thing that I have, the Director wanted me to make sure that I handed each one of you this piece of literature. I will hand this to you after the meeting. We are partnering with the US Federal folks to help make sure that the word about the census gets out. And we are trying to get other agencies within Indiana state government to also get on board so that everyone gets counted.

I don't know, I have not attended one of these meetings. I know there is a meeting slated that will have further information on how we can do that and getting the word out and that, but this is the preliminary information and the director next month may have some more detailed information for you at that time.

MR. CARTER: Okay. If there are no further announcements, make note of the next meeting dates and we can adjourn, but stay for signatures and to receive your piece of literature. And we are adjourned.

(Proceedings adjourned at 10:52 a.m.)

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1	CERTIFICATE
2	STATE OF INDIANA)
3) ss: COUNTY OF BOONE)
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5	I, Heather S. Orbaugh, the undersigned Court Reporter and Notary Public residing and maintaining offices in the
6 7	certify:
8	That I reported to the best of my ability in machine shorthand all of the words spoken by all parties in attendance during the course of the ensuing proceedings,
10	including objections, if any, made by all counsel present;
	That I later reduced my shorthand notes into the
11 12	transcript is a true record to the best of my ability of
13	That I am not a relative or employee or attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor am I a relative or an
14 15	financially interested in this action.
16	
17	IN WITNESS HERETO, I have affixed my Notarial Seal and subscribed my signature below this 20th day of January,
18	2009.
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	Heats SQ
24 25	Notary Public County of Residence: Boone (Seal) My Commission Expires on: April 27, 2017