FILED

12/12/2024

Bowen Greenwood CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT STATE OF MONTANA

Case Number: DA 24-0408

HEIDI A. GABERT

Plaintiff/Appellee,

and

DAWN FREEMAN

Intervenor/Appellee

v.

GARRY DOUGLAS SEAMAN,

Defendant/Appellant.

On Appeal from the Montana Nineteenth Judicial District Court Cause No. DV-22-95 Hon. Shane Vannatta, Presiding

APPELLANT'S UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE OPENING BRIEF [SECOND EXTENSION]

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Attorneys for Defendant/Appellant Garry Douglas Seaman David B. Cotner Brian T. Geer Cotner Ryan Law, PLLC 2700 Radio Way Missoula, MT 59808 dcotner@cotnerlaw.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff/Appellee Heidi A. Gabert David R. Paoli Paoli Law Firm, P.C. P.O. Box 8131 Missoula, MT 59802 davidpaoli@paoli-law.com

Attorneys for Intervenor/Appellee Dawn Freeman

Comes now Appellant Garry Seaman, through counsel, and under Rule 26 of the Montana Rules of Appellate Procedure, moves the Court for a 30-day extension of time up to and including January 20, 2025 to file his opening brief. The opening brief is currently due December 20, 2024. An affidavit is filed with this motion as required under Mont. R. App. P. 26. Counsel for Appellees have been contacted and do not object to this motion. This is Mr. Seaman's second request for an extension.

DATED: December 12, 2024.

WORDEN THANE P.C. *Attorneys for Defendant/Appellant*

<u>/s/Dillon Kato</u> Dillon Kato

DECLARATION

I, Dillon Kato, in compliance with Mont. R. App. P. 26(2) and under Mont. Code Ann. § 1-6-105, declare:

1. I am a licensed, practicing attorney in the State of Montana, and am employed as an associate attorney at the law firm Worden Thane P.C.

2. I am assisting in this appeal on behalf of Appellant Garry Seaman.

3. Appellant's Opening Brief was originally due November 20, 2024. On November 13, 2024, Appellant was granted his first request for an extension, and his Opening Brief is currently due December 20, 2024.

4. I am requesting an additional 30 days, until January 20, 2025, to complete and file the Opening Brief. This is the Appellant's second motion for extension of time.

5. I am in substantial need of an extension. Due to my current workload, I will be unable to finalize the Appellant's brief by the current deadline. In particular, since the first extension was granted, I have needed to spend a significant amount of time drafting a brief related to a show cause order in a matter pending in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, a motion to compel discovery for another matter in the Ravalli County District Court, and to attend a number of hearings for a Missoula-based client. Each of these timesensitive issues has arisen since the previous extension.

Unopposed Motion for Extension of Time with Affidavit in Support

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6. While working on these other projects, I have been reviewing the record and transcript, researching relevant law, and starting to draft the Opening Brief. I will continue to work diligently on this appeal, and the Opening Brief will be completed in the time requested, if not before.

7. Counsel for Appellee Heidi Gabert and counsel for Appellee Dawn Freeman have been contacted about this request and do not oppose.

8. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED: December 12, 2024.

Dillon Kato

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Dillon M. Kato, hereby certify that I have served true and accurate copies of the foregoing Motion - Unopposed to the following on 12-12-2024:

David Robert Paoli (Attorney) 257 West Front Street, Suite A P.O. Box 8131 Missoula MT 59802 Representing: Dawn Freeman Service Method: eService

David Brian Cotner (Attorney) 321 W. Broadway Suite 500 Missoula MT 59802 Representing: Heidi A. Gabert Service Method: eService

Reid J. Perkins (Attorney) 321 W. Broadway St., Ste. 300 Missoula MT 59802 Representing: Garry Douglas Seaman Service Method: eService

> Electronically signed by Christina DiMuro on behalf of Dillon M. Kato Dated: 12-12-2024