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PR 25-0001

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07/07/2025

Bowen Greenwood
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

Case Number: pr 25-0001

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MONTANA ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, FLATHEAD
COUNTY

FILED

JUL 07 2025

Bowen Greenwood
Clerk of Supreme Court
State of Montana

KADIDJA SIERRA

Case No.: DV-25-62

Petitioner,

Judge Danni Coffman

vs.

LAURA L. LABELLE, INDIVIDUALLY
AND AS CO-TRUSTEE THE ALICE
RIPLEY INFELISE FAMILY TRUST u/d/t
December 29, 2022; PAYSON E. INFELISE
INDIVIDUALLY AND AS CO-TRUSTEE
OF THE ALICE RIPLEY INFELISE
FAMILY TRUST u/d/t December 29, 2022

MOTION FOR RECUSAL OF JUDGE
DANNI COFFMAN PURSUANT TO
MONT. CODE ANN. § 3-1-803

Respondents,

**DISCLAIMER: FEAR OF FURTHER RETALIATION BY JUDGE DANNI COFFMAN
FOR INVOKING MY CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS (ART. II, § 17)**

I, Laura Labelle, assert my constitutional right to due process (Mont. Const. art. II, § 17) with profound fear of retaliation from Judge Danni Coffman. Her blatant violations—unconstitutional orders and threats of contempt to award opposing counsel unlawful fees through misconduct—signal that she may double down, retaliating through even more egregious misjustice of law, surpassing her prior acts and further cementing her tremendous bias and disregard for the law, in a courtroom where no semblance of justice remains under her rule. Should Judge Coffman retaliate and double down as feared, her intent is clear: to fully extinguish all my U.S.

1 constitutional rights, leaving no trace of protection under her rule, and any further retaliation
2 would be on the record.

3 **PURSUANT TO MONT. CODE ANN. § 3-1-803**

4
5 COMES NOW Respondent Laura Labelle, appearing pro se, and respectfully moves this Court
6 for the immediate recusal of Judge Danni Coffman under Mont. Code Ann. § 3-1-803, on the
7 basis of demonstrable judicial bias, repeated due process violations, and unlawful conduct.
8

9 Disqualification is required where impartiality is reasonably in question. The following actions
10 occurred in rapid succession, each compounding the bias and violating Respondent's
11 constitutional rights:
12

13 **1. June 4, 2025 — Violation of Right to Respond**

14
15 On June 2, 2025, opposing counsel filed a response to Respondent's pleading. Less than 48 hours
16 later, on June 4, 2025, at 9:30 a.m., Judge Coffman issued an order cutting off Respondent's
17 reply rights — in direct violation of M.R.Civ.P. 6(c), which allows 14 days to reply (or 17 if
18 served by mail). This order denied Respondent's right to be heard, violating Mont. Const. art. II,
19 § 17 (due process).
20
21

22 **2. June 4, 2025 — Improper Ruling on Inoperative Motion**

23
24 On June 4, 2025, Judge Coffman improperly and unconstitutionally ruled on the inoperative May
25 23 motion (Doc. 6), in unison with opposing counsel's willful response, ignoring the operative
26 May 29 amended motion (Doc. 7), rendering her ruling void. Remarkably, both misapplied Rule
27
28

1 12(b)(6) instead of Rule 12(c), demonstrating solidifying collaboration. This unconstitutional act
2 reinforces her bias and collusion, violating Respondent's due process (Mont. Const. art. II, § 17).
3

4 **3. June 4, 2025 — First Veiled Threat**

5 That same June 4 order, Judge Coffman issued a veiled threat, stating that while pro se litigants
6 are afforded some latitude, "it does not excuse the filing of frivolous motions." By framing
7 Respondent's filings as potentially punishable, the Court placed her in an impossible position:
8 either submit without challenge, or risk judicial punishment for exercising her constitutional
9 rights for defending herself. The statement functioned as a judicial threat and intimidation
10 unlawfully chilling Respondent's constitutional right to access the court and reinforced judicial
11 bias.
12
13
14

15 **4. June 4, 2025 — Exposure to Further Unlawful Orders**

16 The June 4, 2025, order's veiled threat, cautioning against "frivolous motions," forces
17 Respondent into a precarious position where submitting exposes her to further unlawful orders.
18 Judge Coffman's bias, shown in her improperly rushed June 4 and 5 orders, denies Respondent's
19 right to respond and undermines her constitutional right to self-representation (Mont. Const. art.
20 II, § 17). Her rulings consistently bolster opposing counsel's lawless stance, including ruling on
21 inoperative motions, and mirror his language as if authored by him, creating unchecked judicial
22 overreach that threatens Respondent's due process and legal protections throughout all further
23 proceedings.
24
25
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1 **5. June 4, 2025 — Predetermined Denial of Motion**

2 In her June 4, 2025, order, Judge Coffman declared, “Whatever the substantive nature of her
3 motion, it is denied,” a brazen admission of bias and abdication of judicial duty. This
4 predetermined rejection, despite ruling on an inoperative May 23 motion (Doc. 6) as a
5 misapplied Rule 12(b)(6) instead of 12(c) in lockstep with opposing counsel, signals she neither
6 read nor evaluated Respondent’s motion, violating procedural fairness (Mont. Code of Jud.
7 Conduct, Canon 1.1). Her repeated cheerleading for counsel’s petition, touting its clarity, further
8 entrenches this collusion, amplifying the willful denial of due process (Mont. Const. art. II, § 17)
9 and demanding immediate recusal.

10 **5. (a) Sub-Point: Chilling Effect on Future Relief**

11 This blanket denial chills Respondent’s right to seek future relief, deterring her from filing
12 meritorious motions and reinforcing a judicial environment where her constitutional access to the
13 court (Mont. Const. art. II, § 17) is systematically undermined.

14 **Judge Coffman violated Respondent’s Due Process right not once but twice—in rapid fire**
15 **succession—by improperly expediting both June 4 and June 5 orders, thereby**
16 **establishing a clear pattern of unconstitutional conduct and violating her constitutional due**
17 **process rights.**

18 **6. June 5, 2025 — Violation of Right to Be Heard**

19 On June 2, 2025, opposing counsel filed a motion seeking to compel Respondent to appear
20 through counsel. Less than 72 hours later, on June 5, 2025, Judge Coffman issued an order
21 granting that motion — without allowing Respondent her full reply period. This was in direct
22

1 violation of M.R.Civ.P. 6©, which allows 14 days to respond (or 17 days if served by mail). By
2 Judge Coffman expediting her order improperly, the judge denied Respondent her right to be
3 heard, violating Mont. Const. art. II, § 17 (due process).
4

5 **7. June 5, 2025 — Violation of Right to Self-Represent**
6

7 Judge Coffman's June 5, 2025, order parroted and wholeheartedly adopted opposing counsel's
8 June 2 motion, falsely asserting Respondent, as a co-trustee, represents a separate legal entity—a
9 baseless and egregious mischaracterization of Montana law. This unlawfully strips Respondent's
10 constitutional right to pro se representation in her fiduciary duty as a co-trustee (Mont. Const. art.
11 II, § 26), violating M.R.Civ.P. 83, while demonstrating blatant collusion and bias.
12
13

14 **8. June 5, 2025 — Absence of Independent Legal Judgment**
15

16 Judge Coffman's June 5, 2025, order, mandating counsel, displays a flagrant disregard for
17 independent legal analysis, wholly adopting opposing counsel's egregiously distorted
18 misapplication of corporate law. Both erroneously proclaim that a trust constitutes a legal entity
19 and that Respondent represents it, despite her being sued individually and as a co-trustee for
20 fiduciary duties, a shared falsehood that violates Montana law and due process (Mont. Const. art.
21 II, § 26). This alignment proves Judge Coffman's egregious bias, collusion, and collaboration,
22 necessitating immediate recusal.
23

24 **9. June 5, 2025 — Second Veiled Threat: Contempt and Legal Bar**
25

26 Judge Coffman's June 5, 2025 order, mandating counsel, includes the veiled threat "not legally
27 permitted to practice law in Montana," echoing opposing counsel's prior "guilty of contempt"
28

1 warning. This synchronized intimidation, targeting Respondent's pro se status, chills her
2 constitutional rights and mirrors counsel's stance, evidencing deliberate bias and collusion. This
3 second due process violation (Mont. Const. art. II, § 17) demands her immediate recusal.
4

5 **9. (a) Sub-Point: Pattern of Veiled Threats Across Orders**

6 Sub-Point: Pattern of Veiled Threats Across Orders Judge Coffman's June 4 order threatens with
7 "not excuse the filing of frivolous motions," while her June 5 order echoes counsel's contempt
8 stance with "not legally permitted," reflecting a consistent pattern of intimidation aligned with
9 his June 2 motion, underscoring their collusive suppression of Respondent's rights.

10 Coordinated threats of contempt and sanctions are being used to intimidate Respondent into
11 abandoning her constitutional right to self-representation.
12

13 These threats:

- 14 • Apply pressure to force her to retain counsel against her will and in violation of Mont. Const.
15 art. II, § 17 — a form of extortion;
16 • Deter her from filing motions by instilling fear of punishment for exercising her rights;
17 • Invoke contempt — with its associated risks of sanctions, attorney fees, and even jail time —
18 as a coercive mechanism to silence her and obstruct her ability to defend herself;
19 • Appear designed not only to intimidate but also to sidestep Montana Rule of Civil Procedure
20 1, enabling the Court to impose financial penalties that would otherwise be prohibited;
21 • Leave Respondent in an untenable position: either submit to the judge's unlawful violations
22 of her constitutional and due process rights, or risk further retaliation and unlawful sanctions
23 from Judge Coffman for asserting them — reinforcing the coercive effect of the judge's
24 coordinated threats;

25 underscoring the need for immediate recusal.

26 **10. Coordinated Bypass of Montana Rule of Civil Procedure 1 by Judge Coffman**
27 **and Paul Sandry**

28 These coordinated threats, beyond simply chilling Respondent's constitutional rights, appear

1 intentionally crafted to circumvent the limits of Montana Rule of Civil Procedure 1, undermining
2 the default American Rule that each party bears their own legal costs unless authorized by statute
3 or contract. Judge Coffman and Paul Sandry seem to be working in concert to manufacture a
4 pretext for contempt threats and penalties — including attorney fees, unlawful sanctions, and
5 even potential jail time. This calculated detour around Rule 1 does not merely intimidate
6 Respondent; it weaponizes the judicial process to egregiously deny Respondent's constitutional
7 due process rights and lay the groundwork for punitive measures that would directly and
8 improperly benefit opposing counsel. This coordination raises grave constitutional concerns and
9 exposes a deeply troubling pattern of apparent collusion and corruption, flagrantly violating the
10 U.S. Constitution.
11

12 **11. Pattern of Collusion and Bias Across Orders**

13
14 The June 4 and June 5, 2025, orders collectively reveal a pattern of collusion and bias, as Judge
15 Coffman improperly rushed orders within 48–72 hours, misapplied corporate law (Mont. Const.
16 art. II, § 26, M.R.Civ.P. 6(c)), and parroted counsel's misaligned legal stance, including issuing
17 threats of "frivolous motions" and "not legally permitted" that mirror opposing counsel's "guilty
18 of contempt" warnings, looming as coordinated intimidation over Respondent's legal recourse,
19 and undermining her due process and pro se rights through this orchestrated effort and
20 misconduct that demands recusal.
21

22 **12. June 4 and 5, 2025 — Deliberate Denial of Timely Notice**

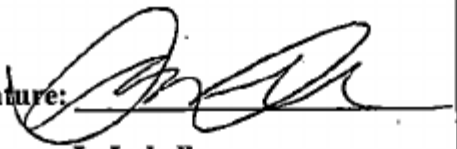
23
24 The June 4, 2025, order, filed at 9:30 AM, faced a staggering six-day delay before mailing on
25 June 9, while the June 5 order, despite the court's assertion of mailing, was never received by
26 Respondent, uncovered only through diligent docket review and a paid email request,
27
28

1 constituting improper service. This intentional suppression mirrors the improperly rushed 48-72
2 hour orders, blatantly violating M.R.Civ.P. 77(d)'s mandate for prompt notice and M.R.Civ.P.
3 6(c)'s 14/17-day response period. The clerk's initial promise of email notices at case onset, later
4 retracted with a denial of Respondent's email address despite its presence on pleadings, aligns
5 disturbingly with Judge Coffman's collusion. Her rulings, expedited to favor opposing counsel,
6 coupled with the clerk's mirrored inaction, weave a clear pattern of bias and coordination,
7 stripping Respondent of her due process rights and tilting the scales entirely toward counsel's
8 advantage.
9

10
11 The cumulative impact of Judge Coffman's conduct — rushing rulings within 48-72 hours,
12 denying reply time, misapplying Montana law, adopting counsel's distorted misapplication of
13 corporate law, unlawfully stripping Respondent's right to self-representation, issuing void
14 rulings on an inoperative motion, and repeatedly threatening Respondent with sanctions and
15 contempt for exercising constitutional rights — reveals a pattern of bias and judicial collusion.
16

17
18 These compounded violations of Mont. Const. art. II, §§ 17 and 26, M.R.Civ.P. 6(c), 77(d), and
19 Canon 1.1 of the Montana Code of Judicial Conduct demand her immediate recusal. Respondent
20 notifies the Court that an Affidavit for Disqualification is concurrently being filed pursuant to
21 Mont. Code Ann. § 3-1-805.
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2 Dated June 27, 2025
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Signature: 

By: Laura L. Labelle

1
2 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

3 I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of this Answer was served upon the Plaintiff(s)
4 or Plaintiff(s) attorney(s) by:

5 X Placing the same in the U.S. mail, postage fully paid thereon, addressed as follows:

6 — Hand delivering the same to the following address:

7 — Email (if allowed in your District) to the following address:

psaundry@jbsattorney.com

8 **Attorney's Address**

9 Paul A. Sandry

10 Johnson, Berg & Saxby, PLLP


11 221 First Avenue East

12 PO Box 3038

13 Kalispell, Montana 59903

14 (406) 755 5535

15 June, 27, 2025

16 Signature: 

17 By: Laura L. Labelle In Pro Per

ORIGINAL

Laura L. Labelle Pro Se
1210 Masselin Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90019
Telephone: (323) 842 - 4840
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CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT

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**MONTANA ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, FLATHEAD
COUNTY**

KADIDJA SIERRA

Petitioner,

vs.

Case No.: DV-25-62

Judge Danni Coffman

**LAURA L. LABELLE, INDIVIDUALLY
AND AS CO-TRUSTEE THE ALICE
RIPLEY INFELISE FAMILY TRUST u/d/t
December 29, 2022; PAYSON E. INFELISE
INDIVIDUALLY AND AS CO-TRUSTEE
OF THE ALICE RIPLEY INFELISE
FAMILY TRUST u/d/t December 29, 2022**

Respondents

**AFFIDAVIT OF LAURA L. LABELLE
IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO
RECUSE JUDGE DANNI COFFMAN**

I, Laura L. Labelle, declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Montana that
the following is true and correct:

1. I am the Respondent in the above-captioned matter. I am appearing in this case pro se.
2. I submit this affidavit pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. § 3-1-805 in support of my Motion to Recuse Judge Danni Coffman, based on multiple due process violations, factual evidence of judicial bias, and conduct that reflects coordination with opposing counsel rather than impartial judicial decision-making.
3. The following facts are personally known to me and support my good faith belief that Judge Coffman cannot remain impartial in this case:

1 **DISCLAIMER: FEAR OF FURTHER RETALIATION BY JUDGE DANNI COFFMAN**
2 **FOR INVOKING MY CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS (ART. II, § 17)**

3 I, Laura Labelle, assert my constitutional right to due process (Mont. Const. art. II, § 17) with
4 profound fear of retaliation from Judge Danni Coffman. Her blatant violations—unconstitutional
5 orders and threats of contempt to award opposing counsel unlawful fees through misconduct—
6 signal that she may double down, retaliating through even more egregious misjustice of law,
7 surpassing her prior acts and further cementing her tremendous bias and disregard for the law, in
8 a courtroom where no semblance of justice remains under her rule.

9 Should Judge Danni Coffman retaliate and double down as feared, her intent is clear: to fully
10 extinguish all my U.S. constitutional rights, leaving no trace of protection under her rule.

11
12 **COORDINATED LANGUAGE AND AUTHORSHIP**

13 After thoroughly examining opposing counsel's filings and Judge Coffman's rulings, I believe he
14 authored her orders. Even if he did not, the structure, reasoning, and conclusions of her rulings so
15 closely mirror his arguments that they appear written in the same authorial voice. Her rulings
16 consistently adopt and advance his positions, reinforcing the appearance of judicial bias and
17 collaboration.
18

19 **PATTERN BEYOND ADVERSE RULINGS**

20 My statements are not based on dissatisfaction with the outcome. They are based on what I
21 personally observed in Judge Coffman's conduct and written orders. I observed Judge Coffman
22 rule contrary to Montana law, repeat opposing counsel's legal errors, issue a ruling on an
23 inoperative motion, and cite a non-governing rule in the exact manner as opposing counsel — in
24 exact unison. Not once, but twice, she blatantly and on the record violated Montana Rules of
25 Civil Procedure (M.R.Civ.P.) 6(c), knowingly and willfully stripping me of my right to be
26 heard. This cannot be dismissed as coincidence. Based on what I observed, I can see no other
27
28

1 explanation than a consistent and improper pattern of alignment with opposing counsel. The
2 specific incidents I observed are outlined below.

3 **BLATANT VIOLATIONS OF M.R.CIV.P. 6(c) TO BENEFIT OPPOSING COUNSEL**

4 Judge Danni Coffman has not once, but twice — in rapid-fire succession on June 4 (Exhibit 1)
5 and June 5, (Exhibit 2) 2025 — violated the mandatory Montana Rules of Civil Procedure
6 (M.R.Civ.P.) 6(c), which requires a 14-day reply period (extended to 17 days with mail service
7 under Rule 6(d)). This is a rule she is bound to follow. Her blatant breach, executed to benefit
8 opposing counsel and tilt the scales in his favor, directly undermines my due process rights under
9 Mont. Const. art. II, § 17. The specific incidents I observed are detailed below.

10
11 *(No short notice or ex parte order was issued in this case, and no grounds for such an exception*
12 *were present.)*

13 **JUDGE COFFMAN'S WILLFUL DISREGARD AND REPEATED VIOLATIONS OF**
14 **M.R.CIV.P. 6(c) ALONE ESTABLISH SERIOUS GROUNDS FOR RECUSAL**

15 I firmly believe these two blatant breaches alone demonstrate that Judge Coffman is not acting as
16 a neutral arbiter, but as an advocate for opposing counsel. Her actions leave no trace of judicial
17 impartiality. Additional incidents confirming this pattern are outlined below.

18 **JUDGE COFFMAN'S FIRST DENIAL OF MY RIGHT TO BE HEARD — JUNE 4, 2025**

19 On June 2, 2025, opposing counsel filed a response to my pleading. Less than 48 hours later, on
20 June 4, 2025, at 9:30 a.m., Judge Coffman issued an order cutting off my right to reply — in
21 direct violation of M.R.Civ.P. 6(c), which allows 14 days to reply (or 17 days if served by mail).
22 This order denied my right to be heard and violated Mont. Const. art. II, § 17 (due process).
23 Judge Coffman, as a judge, is required to faithfully execute her duties under Mont. Code Ann. §
24 3-1-801, which she has failed to do with such blatant disregard—even clearly evident on the
25 record—evoking grave concern that she can so easily commit and get away with such unchecked
26
27
28

1 violations of law.

2 **JUNE 5, 2025 — JUDGE COFFMAN'S SECOND DISREGARD AND VIOLATION OF**
3 **MY RIGHT TO BE HEARD**

4 On June 2, 2025, opposing counsel filed a motion seeking to compel me to appear through
5 counsel. Less than 72 hours later, on June 5, 2025, Judge Coffman granted that motion —
6 without allowing me the legally required reply period. This marked her second clear violation of
7 M.R.Civ.P. 6(c), again denying me my right to be heard and violating Mont. Const. art. II, § 17
8 (due process). Judge Coffman, as a judge, is required to faithfully execute her duties under Mont.
9 Code Ann. § 3-1-801, which she has failed to do with such blatant disregard—even clearly
10 evident on the record—evoking grave concern that she can so easily commit and get away with
11 such unchecked violations of law.
12

13 **JUNE 4, 2025 — JUDGE COFFMAN RULES ON AN INOPERATIVE MOTION IN**
14 **UNISON WITH OPPOSING COUNSEL PAUL SANDRY**

15 On June 4, 2025, Judge Coffman issued a ruling on my inoperative May 23 motion (Doc. 6),
16 ignoring my properly filed May 29 amended motion (Doc. 7). Showing full solidarity with
17 opposing counsel Paul Sandry's June 2 response to the same inoperative motion, both judge and
18 counsel deliberately ignored the operative motion—targeting the dead one instead. Their
19 coordinated actions reflect deliberate alignment and were procedurally improper.
20

21 **Misapplication of Governing Rule by Both Judge and Counsel**

22 Not only did both Judge Coffman and opposing counsel improperly rule on and respond to my
23 inoperative May 23 motion (Doc. 6), they did so using the wrong governing rule — citing
24 M.R.Civ.P. 12(b)(6) instead of the correct M.R.Civ.P. 12(c). This mirrored misapplication
25 further compounds the procedural misconduct and reinforces the appearance of coordinated legal
26 error.
27
28

1 **Procedural Breach: Ruling on an Inoperative Motion Instead of the Amended Filing**

2 Judge Danni Coffman's ruling on the inoperative May 23 motion (Doc. 6) on June 4, 2025,
3 rather than on the operative May 29 amended motion (Doc. 7), which remains active on the
4 docket and was never struck or ruled inadmissible, violates M.R.Civ.P. 15(a) and M.R.Civ.P.
5 7(b)(1). These rules mandate that amended pleadings be addressed and that motions must
6 respond to operative filings. This breach further undermines my right to due process under Mont.
7 Const. art. II, § 17.
8

9 **STATISTICAL IMPOSSIBILITY OF NEUTRAL CONDUCT**

10 The odds of both the judge and opposing counsel addressing the same inoperative motion, citing
11 the same incorrect rule and ignoring the operative motion within the same 48-hour window are
12 astronomically low.
13

14 **There is no credible way to interpret this synchronized pattern of conduct as**
15 **anything but coordinated — if not outright collusion.**

16 **JUNE 5, 2025 — JUDGE COFFMAN PARROTS VERBATIM OPPOSING COUNSEL'S**
17 **GROSS MISCHARACTERIZATION OF MONTANA CORPORATE AND CASE LAW**

18 Judge Coffman's June 5 order parrots opposing counsel Paul Sandry's gross
19 mischaracterization of Montana trust law. In perfect sync, both declare that the trust is a
20 legal entity and apply corporate law — which has no place here — to justify stripping me
21 of my constitutional right to represent myself as a co-trustee.

22 • **Point 1: Montana Law — Trusts Are Not Legal Entities**

23 Under Montana law, a personal trust is not considered a legal entity. Mont. Code
24 Ann. § 72-38-201 defines a trust as a fiduciary relationship — not a separate legal
entity.

25 • **Point 2: Right to Self-Representation as Co-Trustee**

26 Therefore, a co-trustee acting in her fiduciary capacity is permitted to represent
27 herself. Any attempt to impose corporate restrictions on this role is both legally
baseless and constitutionally impermissible under Mont. Const. art. II, § 26 and
M.R.Civ.P. 83.
28

1 • **Point 3: Coordinated Misapplication of Law**

2 This alignment between judge and counsel is not merely erroneous — it reflects
3 deliberate coordination of legal falsehoods intended to block my right to self-
representation.

4 **JUNE 5, 2025 — ABSENCE OF INDEPENDENT JUDICIAL ANALYSIS**

5 Judge Coffman's June 5 order reflects a wholesale adoption of opposing counsel Paul Sandry's
6 distorted and grossly misapplied corporate law theory — without a single indication of
7 independent judicial analysis. Sandry cites *Weaver v. Greybill* — a case involving unlicensed
8 shareholders attempting to represent an LLC — which is legally irrelevant to trusts and has no
9 bearing whatsoever on a co-trustee's right to self-represent.

10 This conduct reflects not only a legally indefensible reliance on Sandry's arguments, but also a
11 glaring abdication of judicial duty — confirming her deliberate refusal to perform independent
12 legal analysis. In doing so, Judge Coffman violated:

13 • **Montana Code of Judicial Conduct, Canon 2, Rule 2.2**, which mandates impartial, diligent
14 performance and independent legal analysis

15 • **Mont. Code Ann. § 3-1-801**, which requires judges to execute their duties according to law —
16 not by parroting counsel

17 • **M.R.Civ.P. 52(a)**, which obligates courts to independently find facts and state conclusions,
18 even in motion rulings

19 • **Mont. Const. art. II, § 17**, which guarantees every person the fundamental right to a fair and
20 impartial tribunal

21 Judge Coffman's reliance on — and misapplication of — both Sandry's grossly misapplied
22 corporate law theory and his irrelevant case citation provides further evidence of deliberate
23 coordination, judicial bias, and her adamant refusal to conduct any independent analysis, all in
24 violation of my constitutional rights under Mont. Const. art. II, § 17.
25

26 **JUNE 4, 2025 — PREDETERMINED DENIAL OF MOTION, NO MATTER HOW**
27 **LEGALLY SOUND**

1 In her June 4, 2025, order, Judge Coffman declared:

2 “Whatever the substantive nature of her motion, it is denied”

3 A brazen admission of bias, an abdication of judicial duty, and a direct display of zero judicial
4 neutrality.

5 This predetermined rejection, issued in response to my inoperative May 23 motion (Doc. 6) —
6 and mischaracterized as a Rule 12(b)(6) rather than a 12(c) — not only mirrors opposing
7 counsel’s June 2 response, but also sends a chilling and unmistakable message:

9 No matter how substantive or legally sound my motions or filings may be, she will deny them.

10 This conduct confirms the judge neither read nor evaluated my filing — a clear violation of
11 procedural fairness and the Montana Code of Judicial Conduct, Canon 1.1.

12 In the same ruling, she goes on to cheerlead and advocate for counsel’s petition, repeatedly
13 praising its “clarity,” while admonishing and threatening me — further entrenching the
14 unmistakable conclusion of collusion and amplifying her willful, biased denial of my due process
15 rights under Mont. Const. art. II, § 17.

17 Her statement solidifies Judge Coffman’s outright inability — or refusal — to exercise judicial
18 neutrality in this matter.

19 **CHILLING EFFECT ON FUTURE RELIEF**

20 This blanket denial chills my right to seek future relief, deterring me from filing meritorious
21 motions and reinforcing a judicial environment where my constitutional access to the court
22 (Mont. Const. art. II, § 17) is systematically undermined.

24 **JUNE 4, 2025 — FIRST VEILED THREAT: CHILLING MY RIGHTS IN AN**
25 **EGREGIOUS DENIAL OF DUE PROCESS**

26 In that same June 4 order, Judge Coffman issued a veiled threat, stating that while pro se litigants
27 are afforded some latitude, “it does not excuse the filing of frivolous motions.”

1 By warning that my legitimate filing was potentially punishable, the judge placed me in an
2 impossible position: either submit without challenge to her authority and remain silent, or risk
3 unchecked and unlawful judicial retaliation for daring to exercise my constitutional right to
4 defend myself— particularly my right to challenge opposing counsel's filings.

5 Her statement functioned as both a threat and a tool of improper judicial intimidation — and as a
6 constitutional violation aligning her with opposing counsel. She intentionally and unlawfully
7 chilled my rights in an egregious denial of due process.
8

9 It further confirms deliberate collaboration and bias, and underscores the judge's ongoing effort
10 to strip me of my constitutional protections — all to the benefit of Paul Sandry.

11 **JUNE 5, 2025 — SECOND THREAT: CONTEMPT AND LEGAL BAR**

12 In her June 5, 2025, order mandating counsel, Judge Coffman issued a second threat: that I am
13 “not legally permitted to practice law in Montana” — a statement that echoes opposing counsel's
14 prior “guilty of contempt” warning.
15

16 This synchronized intimidation, targeting my pro se status, unlawfully chills my constitutional
17 rights and mirrors counsel's stance almost word for word — further evidencing deliberate bias
18 and collusion. It also appears designed to bypass Montana Rule of Civil Procedure 1, laying the
19 groundwork for sanctions or contempt penalties that would otherwise be impermissible.
20

21 This second due process violation (Mont. Const. art. II, § 17; U.S. Const., Amend. XIV, § 1)
22 confirms that I cannot receive a fair hearing before Judge Coffman.

23 **PATTERN OF COORDINATED THREATS ACROSS JUDGE COFFMAN'S JUNE 4**
24 **AND 5 ORDERS WITH SYNCHRONIZED INTIMIDATION TACTICS**

25 Judge Coffman's June 4 and June 5 orders reflect a coordinated pattern of threats: “not excuse
26 the filing of frivolous motions” and “not legally permitted to practice law in Montana.” Both
27 statements bolster and legitimize opposing counsel's June 2 contempt warning, and together
28

1 serve as synchronized intimidation tactics designed to silence me and pressure me to abandon my
2 constitutional right to self-representation and my fundamental right to due process — including
3 threats of unlawful monetary sanctions and even potential jail time.

4 **ESCALATING IMPACT OF JUDGE COFFMAN'S JUDICIAL THREATS**
5 **COORDINATED WITH OPPOSING COUNSEL ON MY PROTECTED RIGHTS**

6 These coordinated threats carry grave and compounding implications for my ability to access
7 justice and exercise my constitutionally protected rights:

- 8 • Apply pressure to force me to retain counsel against my will, in direct violation of Mont.
9 Const. art. II, § 17 — a form of judicial extortion;
- 10 • Deter me from filing motions by instilling fear of punishment for exercising protected rights;
- 11 • Invoke contempt — with its associated risks of sanctions, attorney fees, and even jail time —
12 as a coercive tool to silence me and obstruct my self-defense;
- 13 • Appear calculated not only to intimidate, but to sidestep Montana Rule of Civil Procedure 1,
14 enabling the Court to impose financial penalties that would otherwise be barred;
- 15 • Leave me in an untenable position: either submit to the judge's unlawful violations of my
16 constitutional and due process rights, or face further retaliation and sanctions for asserting them
— reinforcing the coercive impact of the Court's coordinated threats.

17 **COORDINATED BYPASS OF MONTANA RULE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE 1 BY**
18 **JUDGE COFFMAN AND PAUL SANDRY**

19 These coordinated threats, beyond simply chilling my constitutional rights, appear intentionally
20 crafted to circumvent the limits of Montana Rule of Civil Procedure 1, undermining the default
21 American Rule that each party bears their own legal costs unless authorized by statute or
22 contract. Judge Coffman and Paul Sandry seem to be working in concert to manufacture a pretext
23 for contempt threats and penalties — including attorney fees, unlawful sanctions, and even
24 potential jail time. This calculated detour around Rule 1 does not merely intimidate; it
25 weaponizes the judicial process to egregiously deny my constitutional due process rights and lay
26 the groundwork for punitive measures that would directly and improperly benefit opposing
27
28

counsel. This coordination raises grave constitutional concerns and exposes a deeply troubling pattern of apparent collusion and corruption, flagrantly violating the U.S. Constitution.

JUNE 4 AND 5, 2025 — DELIBERATE DENIAL OF TIMELY NOTICE

The June 4 order, filed at 9:30 a.m., was not mailed until June 9 — a staggering six-day delay.

The June 5 order, though claimed to have been mailed, was never received. I only discovered it through a manual docket review and a paid email request, rendering service both improper and prejudicial. These delays violate M.R.Civ.P. 77(d)'s requirement of prompt notice and M.R.Civ.P. 6(c)'s 14/17-day response period.

At the outset, the clerk's office assured me that all notices would be sent via email. That policy was later revoked based on the false claim that my email address was unavailable — despite it being printed on every pleading. These irregularities, combined with the judge's pattern of improperly expedited rulings favoring opposing counsel, reveal a disturbing pattern of judicial bias and coordination between the judge and counsel.

To this day, the Court has never sent me the judge's June 5 ruling, rendering service improper and in violation of procedural notice requirements

PATTERN OF COLLUSION AND BIAS ACROSS ORDERS

The June 4 and June 5, 2025, orders collectively reveal a pattern of collusion and bias. Judge Coffman improperly rushed rulings within 48–72 hours, misapplied corporate law (Mont. Const. art. II, § 26; M.R.Civ.P. 6(c)), and parroted opposing counsel's distorted legal arguments — including threats of "frivolous motions" and "not legally permitted to practice law in Montana," which directly echo counsel's prior "guilty of contempt" warning. These coordinated threats establish a mechanism of intimidation and a pretext to unlawfully impose attorney fees, sanctions, and even potential jail time.

Such synchronized tactics operate as coordinated intimidation, unlawfully chilling my ability to

1 seek relief and eroding both my pro se rights and my due process protections under the U.S. and
2 Montana Constitutions, through a sustained pattern of judicial and procedural misconduct.
3 This blanket denial of fair process is intended to deter me from filing meritorious motions,
4 reinforcing a judicial environment in which my constitutional access to the courts (Mont. Const.
5 art. II, § 17) is systematically and deliberately obstructed.

6
7 **COMPREHENSIVE VIOLATIONS OF MONTANA LAW AND CONSTITUTIONAL**
8 **RIGHTS COMMITTED BY JUDGE COFFMAN**

9 **Violations of Judicial Canons**

- 10 • **Canon 1, Rule 1.1** – Requires judges to uphold the integrity and independence of the
11 judiciary. Apparent favoritism toward opposing counsel Paul Sandry, particularly the mirrored
12 language and conduct outlined in Point 14, undermines this foundational duty.
- 13 • **Canon 2, Rule 2.2** – Demands impartiality in all rulings. The judge's denial of fair process
14 through rushed 48–72-hour orders and alignment with opposing counsel's arguments reflects a
15 failure to adjudicate impartially.
- 16 • **Canon 2, Rule 2.4(B)** – Prohibits external influences on judicial conduct. If Judge Coffman
17 coordinated with Mr. Sandry, this constitutes a direct breach.
- 18 • **Canon 2, Rule 2.9(A)** – Forbids ex parte communications unless expressly permitted for
19 procedural purposes. Any undisclosed contact or strategic alignment with Mr. Sandry would
20 violate this provision.
- 21 • **Canon 3, Rule 3.1(B)** – Requires judicial competence in applying the law. Misapplying
22 corporate law to a trust action demonstrates a failure to meet this standard.

23 **Expanded Rule 2.2 Violation**

- 24 • Montana Code of Judicial Conduct, Rule 2.2: "A judge shall uphold and apply the law and
25 shall perform all duties of judicial office fairly and impartially."

26 This rule requires independent analysis, which was not observed here. Instead, the judge adopted
27 opposing counsel's Weaver v. Greybill citation without scrutiny and issued rulings without
28 allowing proper response time, violating both M.R.Civ.P. 6(c) and Mont. Const. art. II, § 17.

Violations of Statutes and Civil Procedure

1 • **Mont. Code Ann. § 3-1-801** – Mandates judges perform duties faithfully and in accordance
2 with law. Ignoring M.R.Civ.P. 6(c) and 15(a) constitutes a direct violation.

3 • **M.R.Civ.P. 6(c)** – Requires courts to allow 14 days (plus 3 for mailing) for replies. Judge
4 Coffman's pattern of issuing rulings within 48–72 hours blatantly contravenes this rule.

5 • **M.R.Civ.P. 15(a)** – Requires the court to address the operative amended pleading. Instead, the
6 judge ruled on an inoperative motion (May 23, Doc. 6), while ignoring the controlling May 29
7 amended motion (Doc. 7).

8 • **M.R.Civ.P. 7(b)(1)** – Requires that motions and rulings address current, live pleadings. That
9 standard was ignored here.


10 • **Mont. Const. art. II, § 17** – Guarantees due process. That guarantee was repeatedly violated
11 through denial of notice, time to reply, and fair adjudication

12 **DISCLAIMER: FEAR OF FURTHER RETALIATION BY JUDGE DANNI COFFMAN**
13 **FOR INVOKING MY CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS (ART. II, § 17)**

14 I, Laura Labelle, assert my constitutional right to due process (Mont. Const. art. II, § 17) with
15 profound fear of retaliation from Judge Danni Coffman. Her blatant violations—
16 unconstitutional orders and threats of contempt to award opposing counsel unlawful fees
17 through misconduct—signal that she may double down, retaliating through even more
18 egregious misjustice of law, surpassing her prior acts and further cementing her tremendous
19 bias and disregard for the law, in a courtroom where no semblance of justice remains under
20 her rule. Should Judge Danni Coffman retaliate and double down as feared, her intent is clear:
21 to fully extinguish all my U.S. constitutional rights, leaving no trace of protection under her
22 rule, and any further retaliation will be documented on the record.
23
24
25
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1 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is
2 true and correct.

3
4 Executed on June 27, 2025, at Los Angeles, California.

5
6 Signature: 

7 Laura L. Labelle

8
9 State of California

10 County of Los Angeles

11
12
13 Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on this 27th day of June, 2025, by Laura L.
14 Labelle, proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person who appeared before
15 me.

16 Signature of Notary Public: 

17
18
19 [Seal of Notary Public]



1 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

2 I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of this Answer was served upon the Plaintiff(s)
3 or Plaintiff(s) attorney(s) by:

4 X Placing the same in the U.S. mail, postage fully paid thereon, addressed as follows:

5 Hand delivering the same to the following address:

6 Email (if allowed in your District) to the following address:

psaundry@jbsattorney.com

7 **Attorney's Address**

8 Paul A. Sandry

9 Johnson, Berg & Saxby, PLLP


10 221 First Avenue East

11 PO Box 3038

12 Kalispell, Montana 59903

13 (406) 755 5535

14 June, 27, 2025

15 Signature: 

16 By: Laura L. Labelle In Pro Per

EXHIBIT 1

June 4, 2025 Order

Hon. Danni Coffman
 District Court Judge, Dept. E
 Flathead County Justice Center
 920 South Main Street, Suite 310
 Kalispell, MT 59901
 Phone: (406) 758-5906

MONTANA ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, FLATHEAD COUNTY

KADIDJA SIERRA,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	Cause No. DV-15-2025-0000062-BC
)	
vs.)	
)	ORDER DENYING MOTION FOR
)	JUDGMENT ON THE PLEADINGS
LAURA L. LABELLE, Individually and)	
as Co-Trustee of the of the Alice Ripley)	
Infelise Family Trust u/d/t December 29,)	
2022; PAYSON E. INFELISE,)	
Individually and as Co-Trustee of the)	
Alice Ripley Infelise Family Trust u/d/t)	
December 29, 2022)	
)	
Respondents.)	

Respondent Laura Labelle has filed a "Motion for Judgment on the Pleadings." The Court interprets her motion as a 12(b)(6) Motion to Dismiss or possibly a Motion for a More Definite Statement. Whatever the substantive nature of her motion, it is denied. The Verified Petition is very straightforward and is not vague or confusing. There are no additional facts that need to be pled. "It is well settled that Montana's rules of civil procedure, including Rule 8(a), M.R.Civ.P., are notice pleading statutes." *Kunst v. Pass*, 1998 MT 71, ¶ 35 (citations omitted). Pursuant to Rule 8(a), M.R.Civ.P., a complaint must put a defendant on notice of the facts the plaintiff intends to prove; the facts must disclose the elements necessary to make the claim; and the complaint must demand judgment for the relief the plaintiff seeks. *Id.*

The Verified Petition sets forth the essential elements of the claim. It is apparent that the Petitioner alleges that the co-trustees have not performed their duties as co-trustees of the Alice Ripley Infelise Family Trust, including distributing the trust funds to the beneficiaries and accounting.

Labelle is cautioned that while *pro se* litigants are afforded some latitude by Montana Courts, it does not excuse the filing of frivolous motions. The motion is denied.

ELECTRONICALLY SIGNED AND DATED BELOW.

c: Paul A. Sandry
Kadidja Sierra
Payson E. Infelise
Laura L. Labelle

Electronically Signed By:
Hon. Judge Danni Coffman
Wed, Jun 04 2025 09:23:23 AM

EXHIBIT 2

June 5, 2025 Order

Hon. Danni Coffman
District Court Judge, Dept. E
Flathead County Justice Center
920 South Main Street, Suite 310
Kalispell, MT 59901
Phone: (406) 758-5906

MONTANA ELEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, FLATHEAD COUNTY

KADIDJA SIERRA,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	Cause No. DV-15-2025-0000062-BC
)	
vs.)	
)	ORDER ON MOTION REQUIRING
LAURA L. LABELLE, Individually and)	LABELLE TO APPEAR THROUGH
as Co-Trustee of the of the Alice Ripley)	COUNSEL
Infelise Family Trust u/d/t December 29,)	
2022; PAYSON E. INFELISE,)	
Individually and as Co-Trustee of the)	
Alice Ripley Infelise Family Trust u/d/t)	
December 29, 2022)	
)	
Respondents.)	

As requested by counsel for Petitioner, Respondent Laura L. Labelle is advised that she may only represent herself in her individual capacity but may not represent herself *pro se* in her capacity as Co-Trustee of the subject trust. Legal entities may not appear via agents or representatives who are not legally permitted to practice law in Montana.

ELECTRONICALLY SIGNED AND DATED BELOW.

c: Paul A. Sandry
Kadidja Sierra
Payson E. Infelise
Laura L. Labelle