		Case 07-16226-lbr Doc 74	Entered 08/05/08 16:21:31	Page 1 of 4	
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partnersh	1	PITE DUNCAN, LLP		efiled 8/5/2008	
ip formed	0	STEVEN W. PITE (NV Bar #008226) EDDIE R. JIMENEZ (NV Bar #10376)			
in the	2				
State of	3	525 E. Main Street P.O. Box 12289			
Delaware	J	El Cajon, CA 92022-2289			
	4	Telephone: (702) 413-9692			
	-	Facsimile: (619) 590-1385			
	5	E-mail: ecfnvb@piteduncan.com			
	6	ABRAMS & TANKO, LLP			
		MICHELLE L. ABRAMS (NV Bar #005565)			
	7 3085 S. Jones Blvd., Suite C				
	0	Las Vegas, NV 89146			
	8	Telephone: 702-369-3724			
	9	Facsimile: 702-369-0651 E-mail: MAbrams@abramstanko.com	1		
	10	REED SMITH LLP JOHN S. SIAMAS (CA Bar # 49061) (pro hac vice) RAYMOND A. CARDOZO (CA Bar #173263) (pro hac vice) Two Embarcadero Center, Suite 2000			
	11				
	11				
	12	San Francisco, CA 94111-3922			
	10	Mailing Address:			
	13	P.O. Box 7936			
	14	San Francisco, CA 94120-7936 Telephone: +1 415 543 8700			
		Facsimile: +1 415 391 8269			
	15	jsiamas@reedsmith.com			
	16	rcardozo@reedsmith.com			
	10				
	17	Attorneys for Secured Creditor	MORTGAGE		
		ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC.,			
	SOLELY AS NOMINEE FOR PLAZA HOME MORTGAGE, INC., its successors and/or assigns				
	17				
	20	UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT			
	21				
	21	DISTRICT OF NEVADA			
	22	In re	Bankruptcy Case No. BK-S	-07-16226-LBR	
			Chapter 7		
	23	JOSHUA SCOTT MITCHELL AND STEPHANIE JUDITH MITCHELL,		DECLARATION OF WILLIAM C. HULTMAN IN SUPPORT OF MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC	
	24				
	24	Debtor(s).	REGISTRATION SYSTEM		
	25	Domi(s).	SUPPLEMENTAL BRIEF		
			MATTERS COURT IDEN	TIFIED FOR	
	26		ADDITIONAL JOINT HEA	ARING	
	27		Date: August 19, 2008		
			Time: 3:30 p.m.		
	00		-		

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- 1. I am Secretary of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS") 1818 Library Street, Suite 300, Reston, VA 20190. I am over the age of 18 years and am legally competent and able to make this declaration, which is based upon my personal knowledge. I have reviewed the documents discussed in this declaration, and if called upon to testify as to the facts set forth in this declaration, I could and would testify competently based on my review.
- 2. On July 9, 2008, I, through counsel for MERS, filed a declaration and supporting evidence responding to certain questions that the Court raised at the June 9, 2008 joint hearing in this matter. A true and correct copy of that declaration and its exhibits is attached hereto as Exhibit 1. I submit this declaration to furnish evidence on additional points relevant to the supplemental brief that MERS is filing herewith.
- 3. In the matters before the Court, the loan at issue is registered to a MERS Member who has entered into the MERS Membership Agreement on the terms that appear at Exhibit B to my prior declaration (attached here as Exhibit 1). Through the MERS Membership Agreement, MERS members agree to follow certain rules and MERS agrees to perform certain duties. MERS Members enter into a contract with MERSCORP, Inc., the operating company that owns and operates the MERS® System, to electronically register and track beneficial ownership interests and servicing rights in MERS registered mortgage loans. MERS Members agree to appoint MERS, which MERSCORP wholly owns, to act as their common agent, or nominee, and to name MERS as the lienholder of record in a nominee capacity on all recorded security instruments relating to loans registered on the MERS® System. When a promissory note is sold by the original lender to others, the various sales of the notes are tracked on the MERS® System.
- 4. Once MERS becomes the beneficiary of record as nominee, it remains such when beneficial ownership interests in the promissory note or servicing rights are transferred by one MERS Member to another, and it tracks such transfers electronically on the MERS® System. As ong as the sale of the note involves a member of MERS, MERS remains the beneficiary of record on the deed of trust and continues to act as nominee for the new beneficial owner. If a member is no

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onger involved with the loan after it is sold, an assignment of the lien from MERS to the non-MERS member is recorded in the county where the real property is located, and the mortgage loan is leactivated from the MERS® System.

- 5. The agreement between MERS and each Member also contains provisions regarding the filing of pleadings in MERS name and the execution of documents needed for legal proceedings. For example, Rule 8 provides that, with respect to each mortgage loan for which MERS is the beneficiary of record in the deed of trust (or mortgagee of record in the mortgage), the beneficial wher of such mortgage loan or its servicer shall determine whether foreclosure proceedings with respect to such mortgage loan shall be conducted in MERS name or in the name of another. In udicial foreclosure states, in the event the beneficial owner or its designated servicer chooses to have MERS conduct a foreclosure in the name of MERS, the promissory note associated with that oan must be endorsed in blank and in the possession of a MERS Certifying Officer (defined below). In non-judicial foreclosure states, if the Member chooses to have MERS foreclose under the power of sale provision in the security instrument and is not seeking a deficiency judgment, then the note loes not need to be in the possession of the Member's MERS Certifying Officer when commencing the foreclosure action; provided, however, that under no circumstances may the Member allege that the note is in MERS possession and seek enforcement of the note unless MERS actually possesses he note. In addition, MERS retains the right to sanction non-complying members under Rule 8. If a Member pleads MERS as the note-holder or brings an action in MERS name when the note is lost or cannot be located, then MERS may dismiss the action and/or sanction the Member.
- 6. Similarly, under the Membership Agreement, MERS provides Members a corporate resolution designating one or more employees of the Member a MERS Certifying Officer. As a MERS Certifying Officer, the Member's employee may, among other things (1) release the lien of any mortgage loan registered on the MERS® System to such Member; (2) assign the lien of any mortgage naming MERS as the mortgagee when the Member is also the current promissory note holder, or is shown to be registered to the Member; (3) foreclose upon the property securing any mortgage loan registered on the MERS® System to such Member; and (4) take any action necessary

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