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March 16, 2006

Martin A. Miller Stephen G. Newman Thomas R. O'Toole John A. Ruth Alicia Embley Turner

**FILED**<sup>\*</sup>

MAR 1 6 2006

Missouri Public Service Commission

The Honorable Colleen M. Dale Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge Missouri Public Service Commission P.O. Box 360 Jefferson City, MO 65102-0360

Re: Case Nos. WC-2006-0082, et al.

Dear Judge Dale:

Please find enclosed for filing in the referenced matters the original and five copies of a Motion for an Order to Show Cause Why the Complaints Should Not Be Dismissed on Grounds that a Complainant is Engaging in the Unauthorized Practice of Law; Respondents' Traverse and Motion to Strike Complainant's Response to Answers of Folsom Ridge and Big Island Homeowners Water and Sewer Association, Inc.; and Respondents' Suggestions in Opposition to Complainants' Motion to Compel.

Would you please bring these filings to the attention of the appropriate Commission personnel.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this filing. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

NEWMAN, COMLEY & RUTH P.C.

By:

Conlei Mark W. Comley comleym@ncrpc.com

Joseph J. Schrader

Joseph J. Schrader Stan Temares Ben F. Weir Duane Stoyer Charles E. McElyea Reginald V. Golden

MWC:ab Enclosure

cc: Office of Public Counsel General Counsel's Office Cathy Orler Cindy Fortney Dean Leon Fortney Judy Kenter Benjamin D. Pugh

## **BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION** OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

| OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI  |                                    | FILED⁴                                |
|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Cathy J. Orler, et al.  | )<br>)                             | MAR 1 6 2006                          |
| Complainants,<br>v.   | )<br>Case No. WC-2006-0082, et al. | Missouri Public<br>Service Commission |
| Folsom Ridge, LLC,  | )                                  |                                       |
| and   | )                                  |                                       |
| Big Island Homeowners<br>Water and Sewer Association, Inc.,<br>f/k/a Big Island Homeowners<br>Association, Inc. | )<br>)<br>)<br>)                   |                                       |
| Respondents.  | )                                  |                                       |

## **MOTION FOR AN ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE WHY THE COMPLAINTS SHOULD** NOT BE DISMISSED ON GROUNDS THAT A COMPLAINANT IS ENGAGING IN THE UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE OF LAW

Come now Folsom Ridge, L.L.C and Big Island Homeowners Water and Sewer Association, Inc. and for their above entitled motion respectfully submit the following to the Commission:

1. On January 19, 2006, Ms. Orler filed a pleading entitled Complainants' Response to Respondent's Motion to Continue Holding Pending Motions in Abeyance and for Rescheduling of Second Prehearing Conference. Unmistakably she did so on behalf of not only herself but also on behalf of the other complainants whose complaints have been consolidated under the case number above. This was not an isolated incident.

2. Recently, on March 9, 2006, Ms. Orler filed a motion to compel and a pleading purporting to be a response to Respondents' answers to the complaints. Despite the way in which these pleadings were entitled, it was evident in the prayer of each that Ms. Orler was not only representing herself in this matter but also the other complainants.

- 3. The practice of law is defined in Section 484.010, RSMo 2000:
- 1. The "**practice of the law**" is hereby defined to be and is the appearance as an advocate in a representative capacity or the drawing of papers, pleadings or documents or the performance of any act in such capacity in connection with proceedings pending or prospective before any court of record, commissioner, referee or any body, board, committee or commission constituted by law or having authority to settle controversies.

Although a natural person is qualified to appear in court or in an administrative agency on his or her own behalf, a natural person who is not a licensed attorney cannot represent another whether he or she does so for consideration or not. *Klingensmith v. Thurman*, 339 S.W.2d 300, 301 (St. L.

Ct. App.1960).

The normal effect of a representative's unauthorized practice of law is to dismiss the cause or treat the particular actions taken by the representative as a nullity. <u>Strong v. Gilster Mary Lee Corp.</u>, 23 S.W.3d 234, 241 (Mo.App. E.D.2000); <u>Joseph Sansone Co. v. Bay View Golf Course</u>, 97 S.W.3d 531, 532 (Mo.App. E.D.2003).

Schenberg v. Bitzmart, Inc. 178 S.W.3d 543, 544 (Mo.App. E.D., 2005)

4. Ms. Orler is not a licensed attorney and by regularly filing pleadings on behalf of

the other complainants in this matter she is engaging in the unauthorized practice of law.

WHEREFORE, Respondents respectfully request the Commission enter its order to Ms. Orler and the other complainants to show cause why the complaints should not be dismissed on

grounds that she has engaged in the unauthorized practice of law.

Respectfully submitted,

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Charles E. McElyea #22118

Phillips, McElyea #221180 Phillips, McElyea, Carpenter & Welch, PC 85 Court Circle P.O. Box 559 Camdenton, MO 65020 (573) 346-7231 (573) 346-4411 FAX

Attorneys for Folsom Ridge, L.L.C, and Big Island Homeowners Water and Sewer Association, Inc., f/k/a Big Island Homeowners Association, Inc.

## Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing document was sent via e-mail on this 16th day of March, 2006, to General Counsel's Office at gencounsel@psc.mo.gov; and Office of Public Counsel at opcservice@ded.mo.gov; and via U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, to:

Cathy Orler, 3252 Big Island Drive, Roach, MO 65787, Cindy Fortney, 3298 Big Island Drive, Roach, MO 65787, Dean Leon Fortney, P.O. Box 1017, Louisburg, KS 66053, Judy Kenter, 1794 Big Island Drive, Roach, MO 65787, Benjamin D. Pugh, 1780 Big Island Drive, Roach, MO 65787, Joseph J. Schrader, 1105 Yorktown Pl., DeLand, FL 32720, Stan Temares, 371 Andrews Trail Court, St. Peters, MO 63376, Ben F. Weir, 3515 SW Meyer Blvd., Blue Springs, MO 64015, Duane Stoyer, 702 Ridgeview Dr., Washington, MO 63090.

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