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15 Attorneys for Plaintiffs

16
17 **IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA**
18
19 **IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF NAVAJO**

20 GORDON GROSS and LILIANA
21 GROSS, husband and wife; 854 PINE
22 CREEK, LLC, an Arizona limited liability
23 company; BALD EAGLE RETREAT,
24 LLC, an Arizona limited liability company;
25 1501 RAINBOW VIEW, LLC, an Arizona
26 limited liability company; LAKESIDE
27 FAMILY INVESTMENTS, LLC, an
28 Arizona limited liability company,
STEVEN A. KERNAGIS AND SANDRA
K. KERNAGIS, trustees of THE STEVEN
AND SANDRA KERNAGIS TRUST
DATED MARCH 17, 2014; THOMAS P.
ZEHRING AND JEANNETTE ROSE
ZEHRING, trustees of THE ZEHRING
LIVING TRUST DATED MARCH 1,
2001; and JEANNETTE ZEHRING,

Plaintiffs,

v.

THE SHORES AT RAINBOW LAKE
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, an
Arizona domestic nonprofit corporation,

Defendant.

No.:

PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR
PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

Pursuant to Rule 65, Plaintiffs (collectively the "Homeowners") respectfully request that the Court enter a preliminary injunction against Defendant, The Shores at Rainbow

1 Lake Community Association (“Master HOA”), from enforcing the Amendment¹
2 precluding short-term rentals throughout the Master Community. As set forth in the
3 Complaint, the Homeowners seek (among other relief) a declaration that the Amendment
4 is invalid and an injunction against its enforcement because:

- 5 1) the Amendment implements a rental restriction already deemed contrary to
6 the original intent of the Townhome Declaration as determined by the
7 Arizona Court of Appeals in *Horton v. Hartsook*, No. 1 CA-CV 08-0095;
- 8 2) the Amendment, being unenforceable within the Townhomes HOA, is
9 invalid as to those Homeowners outside the Townhomes HOA, but otherwise
10 governed by the Master HOA, under A.R.S. §33-1817(A)(2); and
- 11 3) the Amendment is unenforceable under *Dreamland Villa Cmty. Club, Inc. v.*
12 *Raimy*, 224 Ariz. 42, 226 P.3d 411 (App. 2010) because it was not
13 reasonably foreseeable based on the language of the existing governing
14 documents and thus failed to give the Homeowners reasonable notice that the
15 Amendment’s rental restriction could be imposed by a generic majority
16 amendment provision.

17 This Motion is supported by the following Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the
18 attached exhibits, the Verified Complaint, and all other matters of record.

19 **Memorandum of Points of Authorities**

20 **I. Introduction**

21 The Homeowners are owners of real property located in The Shores at Rainbow
22 Lake (“Master Community”), who have been deprived of their right to lease their properties
23 by way of the Amendment to the Master Declaration. The Master Community is comprised
24 of various sections/tracts, some of which contain detached single-family homes (subject to
25 the Master Declaration) and some of which contain townhomes, including Rainbow Cove
26 at the Shores (“Townhome Community”) that is subject to the Townhome Declaration (as
27 well as the Master Declaration). The Amendment precludes short-term rentals throughout
28 the Master Community, including the Townhomes Community.

¹ The “Amendment” refers to the First Amendment to Amended and Restated Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for The Shores at Rainbow Lake recorded with the Navajo County Recorder at Instrument No. 2021-04383, and attached as Exhibit 1, which amends the Amended and Restated Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for The Shores at Rainbow Lake recorded with the Navajo County Recorder at Instrument No. 2001-17716 (“Master Declaration”) attached as Exhibit 2.

1 The Amendment is a blatant violation of the Homeowners’ property rights because
2 it restricts one of their fundamental rights as fee simple owners – the right to control the
3 occupancy of their property through lease. For all the reasons explained below, and as will
4 be proven in this case, the Homeowners had no notice that their right to lease their
5 properties, a right otherwise enshrined in the Master Declaration and the Townhome
6 Declaration, could be taken from them by a generic amendment provision. It was
7 particularly UNforeseeable that a rental restriction would be imposed by within the
8 Townhome Community given that the Arizona Court of Appeals *expressly* held in *Horton*
9 *v. Hartsook* that the original intent of the Townhome Declaration was to allow short-term
10 rentals. In that way, at least as to the Townhome Community, the Amendment seeks to
11 accomplish indirectly that which could not be accomplished directly. Because the
12 Amendment (which applies to the entire Master Community) is unenforceable as to the
13 Townhome Community as it is contrary to its original intent, the Amendment is rendered
14 unenforceable as to all because it does not satisfy A.R.S. §33-1817(A)(2).

15 Here, the Homeowners satisfy the typical preliminary injunction standards:

- 16 (1) the Master HOA is threatening to enforce the Amendment,² which results in
17 irreparable injury as it deprives the Homeowners of the right to use their
18 properties as they deem appropriate;³
- 19 (2) the Homeowners have a high likelihood of success on the merits;
- 20 (3) the Master HOA suffers essentially no harm if the Amendment is
21 preliminarily enjoined given that leasing has occurred without the rental
22 restriction for decades; and
- (4) public policy generally favors protecting private property rights and, in any

23 ² As discussed below, the Master HOA is threatening to levy fines for violations of the
24 rental restriction. The Master HOA has even noticed violation hearings against some of the
25 Homeowners. However, the Master HOA has voluntarily canceled/adjourned those
hearings due to improper notice. Presumably, based upon statements during those hearings,
the Master HOA will continue to take enforcement action in the future.

26 ³ It is anticipated that Defendants may try to argue that the Homeowners do not face
27 irreparable harm because lost rental income and monetary fines/penalties could be
28 remedied by money damages later. However, where damages may be uncertain, monetary
damages are typically inadequate. *IB Prop. Holdings, LLC v. Rancho Del Mar Apartments*
Ltd. P'ship, 228 Ariz. 61, 65, 263 P.3d 69, 73 (App. 2011).

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event, by enacting A.R.S. §33-1817, the Legislature has determined that the public policy of Arizona is to be protective as to amendments to HOA documents.

There are two *additional* policy reasons supporting preliminary injunctive relief – comity and judicial economy. The Arizona Supreme Court is currently considering a case that involves the precise issues stated on page 2, above. *Kalway v. Calabria Ranch HOA, LLC*, CV-20-0152-PR.⁴ At a minimum, the Court should enter a preliminary injunction until the Supreme Court rules in *Kalway* so the Court does not expend judicial resources where the applicable legal rules could change.

II. Relevant Factual Background

The Homeowners are all owners of residential real property located in the Master Community. *See* Verified Complaint at ¶9. The Homeowners enjoy their properties as second homes and use said properties for vacation and rental purposes. *Id.* at ¶10. The Homeowners and their properties are part of the Master Community, which is a common-interest community that includes the Townhome Community along with other tracts. *Id.* at ¶¶9-16.

The Master Community includes 164 single-family homes and is governed by the Master Declaration. *Id.* at ¶11. Of the 164 single-family homes in the Master Community, only 30 residents occupy the home full-time. *Id.* at ¶18. The Townhome Community is a small community made up of 24 attached townhomes, located within the Master Community, and is governed by the Townhome Declaration in addition to the Master Declaration. *Id.* at ¶14. Only 2 of the 24 townhomes in the Townhome Community are occupied by their owners full-time. *Id.* at ¶19.

The Townhome Declaration provides that the Townhome Community is subject to

⁴ As articulated by the Arizona Supreme Court, *Kalway* will decide: 1) whether a statement of general subjective purpose gives the notice required for an amendment; 2) whether A.R.S. § 33-1817(A) permits an amendment that facially applies to all of the lots, but does not apply to them uniformly; 3) whether notice of the power to amend by majority vote gives notices that “entirely new” or more specific provisions may be adopted; and 4) whether the terms of the Amended CC&Rs, made without the consent of all of the owners, unreasonably altered the nature of the terms of the Original CC&Rs or were unforeseeable to a purchaser. *See* Exhibit 3.

1 the terms of the Master Declaration, which suggests that any amendment to the Master
 2 Declaration would directly affect and bind homeowners in the Townhome Community. *Id.*
 3 at ¶16. Section 2.30 of the Master Declaration, as originally recorded,⁵ does not prohibit or
 4 limit the ability of a homeowner to rent or lease their lots beyond the requirements that
 5 owners must lease their entire lot and notify the Master HOA of the lease and terms thereof:

6 **Leasing of Lots.** No Owner may lease less than his entire Lot. Upon
 7 leasing his Lot, an Owner shall promptly notify the Association of the
 8 commencement date and termination date of the lease and the names
 of each lessee or other person who will be occupying the Lot during
 the term of the Lease.

9 *Id.* at ¶¶17 and 20. Further, Section 2.18 of the Master Declaration, a section defining
 10 “Residential Use,” provides that leasing of a property by the owner shall not be considered
 11 a trade or business. *Id.* at ¶21.

12 Vacation rentals are common in Navajo County because of the cool summers and
 13 beautiful winters. *Id.* at ¶26. From the inception of the Master Community and the
 14 Townhome Community, vacationers have been a mainstay of the community, often visiting
 15 for short-term periods to experience the beauty and serenity of Pinetop. *Id.* at ¶27. On
 16 information and belief, significant numbers of the homeowners in both the Master
 17 Community and the Townhome Community have participated in short-term leasing. *Id.* at
 18 ¶28. In fact, as noted by the Arizona Court of Appeals, the Townhome Community was
 19 marketed for short-term vacation rentals for decades and were marketed as such by the
 20 original developer. *Horton v. Hartsook*, No. 1 CA-CV 08-0095.⁶ The Homeowners have
 21 rented out their homes as short-term rentals for years. *Id.* at ¶34. The ability to use short-

23 ⁵ Prior to the Master Declaration, the Master Community was governed by a prior
 24 Declaration that was recorded with the Navajo County Recorder in 1986 at Docket No.
 25 825, Page No. 248. It contained a nearly identical Section 2.30 to the Master Declaration.
 This further evidences the decades-long intent to allow leasing with no restriction as to
 duration.

26 ⁶ As noted in *Horton v. Hartsook*, the Townhome Declaration and Master Declaration are
 27 virtually identical with respect to the leasing language. Given the similarity of the language
 28 and the original intent of the Townhome Declaration noted by the Court of Appeals, it is
 difficult how Defendant could dispute that the original intent was the same under the
 Master Declaration.

1 term rentals as a way to defray the cost of ownership was highly desirable to the
2 Homeowners when they purchased their respective homes or, at least, is highly desirable
3 in their decision to continue to own their homes. *Id.* at ¶33.

4 The vacation rental industry was revolutionized by the establishment of platforms
5 such as VRBO and Airbnb. These platforms allow homeowners to market their homes to
6 more potential renters by broadening the potential renter base and allowing for individuals
7 to rent their homes on a short-term basis – typically less than 30 days. *Id.* at ¶31. The
8 Homeowners purchased their respective homes because the Master Community was known
9 and held out as one that, not only allowed, but *encouraged* short-term rentals. *Id.* at ¶¶27
10 and 32. Each of the Homeowners, as noted above, relies on the income from the short-term
11 rental of their home to ensure that they can meet the mortgage obligations and other
12 carrying costs for their property and continue their ownership and enjoyment of said home.
13 *Id.* at ¶33.

14 On August 15, 2020, the Master Association issued a straw ballot to the Community
15 to explore the Community’s interest in amending the Master Declaration to add a short-
16 term rental prohibition to the Declaration. *Id.* at ¶36. The ballot claimed that short-term
17 rentals cause increased noise, cars, and trash in the Master Community, but also provided
18 that short-term rentals were a good source of income for individuals who could not
19 otherwise afford to own their home. *Id.* at ¶37. The purpose of the straw poll was to assess
20 the Master Community’s attitude toward a potential short-term rental restriction in the
21 Master Declaration and stated that if at least sixty seven percent (67%) of the Community
22 was in favor, a vote would be held to amend the Declaration. *Id.* at ¶38.

23 On December 21, 2020, the Master HOA issued a memo regarding the proposed
24 amendment to the Master Declaration. This memo was sent to all members of the Master
25 Community and included an attached a copy of the proposed Amendment to the Master
26 Declaration. *Id.* at ¶42. The memo included consent forms which, when completed by a
27 homeowner and returned, counted as a “yes” vote for the proposed Amendment. *Id.* at ¶43.
28 The Master HOA requested that the Master Community return the consent forms no later

1 than February 28, 2021. *Id.* at ¶¶44. As alleged in the Complaint, the Master HOA (and
2 those agents working on its behalf) engaged in misconduct during the “vote” process that
3 invalidated the purported passage of the Amendment. *Id.* at ¶¶36-55.

4 On February 26, 2021, *two days before the vote was to be closed*, Section 2.30 of
5 the Master HOA purported to amend the Declaration to preclude short-term rentals by
6 prohibiting any leases for a term of less than 30 days. *Id.* at ¶55. The Amendment deleted
7 the existing Section 2.30 and replaced it (in pertinent part) as follows:

8 2.30. Leasing of Lots.

9 (A) After December 31st, 2021, no Lot may be leased for a
10 term less than thirty (30) days.

11 (B) No portion of a Lot may be leased, other than the entire
12 Lot, and then only to a Single Family. For purposed of this Section
13 2.30, a Single Family may not consist of more than four (4)
14 individuals who are unrelated by blood, marriage or legal adoption.

15 *Id.* at ¶59; *see also* Exhibit 1. The Amendment was recorded on March 3, 2021 and went
16 into effect on January 1, 2022. *Id.* Since passing the Amendment, the Master HOA has
17 threatened to “strictly enforce” the Amendment by “monetary penalties [that] will be
18 substantial.” *Id.* at ¶¶60-63. On January 14, 2022, the Master HOA informed the owners
19 that the substantial monetary penalties referred to in the December 22, 2021 letter “may
20 include amounts equal to the advertised rate for the rental.” *Id.* Further, the Master HOA
21 has issued notices of violation hearings to consider the imposition of monetary penalties
22 against the Homeowners. *Id.* Although the Master HOA canceled those hearings due to
23 improper notice, based on statements during the hearing, the Master HOA made clear its
24 intent to re-notice the hearings and pursue enforcement notwithstanding this action. *Id.*

25 **III. Legal Analysis**

26 Preliminary injunctive relief is appropriate where: “(1) there is a real threat of
27 irreparable injury not remediable by damages; (2) the threatened harm to the [movants]
28 weighs more heavily in the balance than the actual injury to the [opponents]; (3) the
[movants] are likely to succeed in the trial on the merits and (4) public policy favors the

1 injunction.” *Burton v. Celentano*, 134 Ariz. 594, 595, 658 P.2d 247, 248 (App. 1982)
2 (citation omitted). The balance of hardships is the “critical element” and can be met by
3 demonstrating either (1) a combination of probable success on the merits and the possibility
4 of irreparable injury, or (2) the existence of serious questions going to the merits and the
5 balance of hardships tip sharply in the moving party’s favor. *Shoen v. Shoen*, 167 Ariz. 58,
6 63, 804 P.2d 787, 792 (App. 1990).

7 **A. The Homeowners are likely to succeed on the merits.**

8 CC&Rs, like the Master Declaration and Townhome Declaration, are contracts
9 under Arizona law. *Powell v. Washburn*, 211 Ariz. 553, 555, ¶8, 125 P.3d 373, 375 (2006).
10 A property owner who accepts a deed subject to restrictions assents to such restrictions and
11 is bound by them. *Duffy v. Sunburst Farms E. Mutual Water & Agric. Co., Inc.*, 124 Ariz.
12 413, 416, 604 P.2d 1124, 1127 (1980). Thus, where a conflict arises out of interpretation
13 of restrictive covenants, such as a declaration, the interpretation of such covenants is a legal
14 issue. Arizona has adopted the Restatement and its approach to interpreting such covenants,
15 which recommends that interpretation of restrictive covenants should give effect to the
16 intention of the parties, as determined by the language of the instrument, the circumstances
17 surrounding its adoption, and the purpose for which it was created. *See generally, Powell*,
18 *supra*.

19 Consistent with general contract law principles, an owner cannot assent to covenants
20 or restrictions of which the owner had no notice merely by relying upon a generic
21 amendment provision in the covenants:

22 As in *Armstrong*, to allow the generic amendment provision
23 present here to burden the homeowners’ individual lots would
24 unreasonably alter the nature of the covenants, to which
25 implicit agreement was historically given. As in *Lakeland*, we
26 must disallow the new burdens, as the circumstances of this
development indicate a lack of proper notice that such
servitudes could be imposed non-consensually under the
generic amendment power.

27 *Dreamland*, 224 Ariz. at 51, ¶38, 226 P.3d at 420 (citations omitted). Therefore, the proper
28 inquiry is whether the owner to be bound had reasonable notice from the original

1 declaration that the particular covenant could be imposed without the owner's consent. *See*
2 *id*; *see also Kalway v. Calabria Ranch HOA, LLC*, 2020 Ariz. App. Unpub. LEXIS 281, at
3 *19, ¶24 (Div. 2 2020) (Unpublished memorandum decision) (Brearcliffe, J., dissenting).⁷

4 **B. The Arizona Court of Appeals has already determined that short-term leasing**
5 **was intended under the Townhome Declaration.**

6 The Townhome Community, as noted above, is governed by the both the
7 Townhome Declaration and the Master Declaration. The Amendment changed only the
8 Master Declaration, but not the Townhome Declaration, presumably because it was known
9 that a rental restriction could not be imposed by amending the Townhome Declaration
10 because such an amendment would unreasonably alter the nature of the Townhome
11 Declaration. As discussed above, the proper inquiry is whether the Homeowners had notice
12 that the Master HOA could impose a restriction without their express consent.

13 The Court of Appeals has already held that the Townhome Declaration could not be
14 interpreted to include a durational restriction upon lot leasing in *Horton v. Hartsook*. The
15 Court reasoned (among other reasons) that because the Townhome Declaration
16 indisputably allowed owners to lease their properties and imposed essentially no
17 restrictions upon leasing (other than to provide notice), the exclusion of any language or
18 provisions restricting lease provision indicated an intent to allow short-term leasing. With
19 regard to interpreting whether the Amendment can be applied in the Townhome
20 Community, the Court need not strain to determine the intent of the parties as that
21 determination has already been noted by the Court of Appeals in *Horton*.⁸

22 To be clear, *Horton v. Hartsook* establishes that the drafters of the Townhome
23 Declaration intended to not only allow short-term leasing but to *specifically* exclude the
24 possibility of restricting lease duration. *See Horton* at ¶¶15, 16, and 20. As a result, the
25 inquiry as to validity of the Amendment under *Dreamland* must necessarily conclude that

26 _____
27 ⁷ As noted above, this unpublished memorandum decision from the Court of Appeals is
28 currently pending before the Arizona Supreme Court. *See Exhibit 3.*

⁸ The Court of Appeals noted in *Horton v. Hartsook* that, in the past, the original developer
and first owners at Rainbow Cove leased units therein. *Id.* At *6, ¶4.

1 the Amendment would be invalid as to the Townhome Community. Any conclusion
2 otherwise would allow the Master Association to unreasonably alter the nature of the
3 Townhome Declaration by using the generic amendment power under the Master
4 Declaration, where the direct amendment to the Townhome Declaration would require
5 unanimous consent under *Dreamland*.

6 **C. The Amendment cannot be enforced in the Master Community because the**
7 **Amendment did not comply with A.R.S. § 33-1817(A)(2) and does not comply**
8 **with the *Dreamland* rule.**

9 As a result of *Horton* and the discussion in Section III(A) above, the Amendment
10 applies to fewer than all of the lots of the Master Community. In that circumstance, A.R.S.
11 § 33-1817(A)(2) governs:

12 2. An amendment to a declaration may apply to fewer than all of the
13 lots or less than all of the property that is bound by the declaration and
14 an amendment is deemed to conform to the general design and plan
15 of the community, if both of the following apply:

16 * * * * *

17 (b) The amendment receives the affirmative vote or written
18 consent of all of the owners of the lots or property to which the
19 amendment applies.

20 Thus, an amendment which applies to fewer than all of the lots or less than all of
21 the property that is bound by the declaration must receive the affirmative vote or written
22 consent of not only the specified number of owners in the declaration but must also receive
23 such consent of *all of the owners* of the lots or property to which the amendment applies.
24 Here, it is clear that the Amendment fails to satisfy A.R.S. § 33-1817(A)(2). Because the
25 Amendment cannot apply to the Townhome Community, it necessarily applies to less than
26 all of the owners in the Master Community. There is no question that the Amendment did
27 **NOT** receive the consent of **ALL** owners of the Master Community.

28 Setting the statute aside (which is sufficient in itself), the Amendment fails under
the *Dreamland* analysis for reasons similar to that in the Townhome Community. The
Amendment unreasonably alters the Master Declaration as there was no such restriction or
notice of potential adoption of such a restriction in the original Section 2.30. The Master

1 Declaration (like the Townhome Declaration as noted in *Horton*) allowed for virtually
2 unlimited leasing subject to only 3 requirements: 1) owners must lease their entire lot; 2)
3 owners must notify the Master Association of lease commencement and termination dates;
4 and 3) owners must notify the Master Association of the names of each lessee or other
5 person who will be occupying the Lot during the lease term.

6 The drafters of the original lease provision language in the Master Declaration
7 clearly intended to not only allow leasing, but to allow leasing of *any* duration just as they
8 intended in the Townhome Declaration. No other conclusion can be legitimately reached
9 given the similarity of the language of those respective instruments. Both required notice
10 of a lease but had no limitation on the terms of the lease itself. Thus, while leasing was
11 clearly contemplated, the drafters stopped short of prohibiting leases based on duration or
12 any other terms of the lease relationship itself. Rather, just as in the Townhome
13 Declaration, the drafters of the original Master Declaration opted to allow the property
14 owners to determine the terms of the leases for the owners' respective properties. The
15 drafters certainly could have restricted lease duration if they wanted to. But they did not,
16 and that silence matters from a legal perspective when gleaning intent.

17 If one accepts that the language indicates an intent to allow short-term leasing – the
18 Amendment fails under *Dreamland* for lack of proper notice to the minority that the Master
19 Declaration could be changed in such a substantial way by a vote of the majority.
20 Alternatively, the drafters were merely silent as to lease duration – the Amendment still
21 fails under *Dreamland* because the minority would have had no notice that the Master
22 Declaration could be changed by a vote of the majority to adopt an entirely new restriction
23 upon use to which the original document was silent. This is buttressed by the language of
24 the amendment provision itself, which contemplates “amendments” to the existing
25 covenants but does not expressly contemplate the addition of *entirely new restrictions* that
26 did not exist before. See Master Declaration at Section 9.2(A) of (allowing for
27 “amendments” to the Declaration or Project Plat); see also *Webb v. Mullikin*, 142 S.W.3d
28 822, 828 (Mo. Ct. App. 2004) (holding that the phrase, “may amend these restrictions,”

1 permits change to existing covenants but *not* to add new or different covenants).

2 For these reasons, the Amendment is invalid as to the Master Community. The
 3 Association did not, and presumably cannot, obtain the unanimous consent required under
 4 the statute and *Dreamland* (they certainly did not and will not obtain the Homeowners’
 5 consent).

6 **D. The Homeowners face irreparable injury, while Defendants will suffer no**
 7 **harm if the Amendment is preliminarily enjoined.**

8 Irreparable injury is found when the party seeking the injunction can demonstrate
 9 that the damages they will suffer if the injunction is not granted cannot be repaired by
 10 money alone. *IB Prop. Holdings, LLC*, 228 Ariz. at 65, 263 P.3d at 73. While the
 11 Association might argue that monetary damages would be adequate to cure the injury to
 12 Homeowners here, such a conclusion ignores what is truly happening here: the taking of a
 13 portion of the Homeowners’ respective property rights.

14 As the Court is aware, land is viewed as “unique” such that damages are usually
 15 considered an inadequate remedy for the loss of land. *Woliansky v. Miller*, 135 Ariz. 444,
 16 446, 661 P.2d 1145, 1147 (App. 1983). That is particularly the case where, as here, the land
 17 is intended for personal use as opposed to merely for resale at a profit. *See id.* The
 18 Amendment, by prohibiting an important, and previously *allowable*, use of their property,
 19 infringes upon the Homeowners’ rights to use and enjoy their property as they see fit.
 20 Moreover, as noted above, many of the Homeowners may default on their mortgages
 21 without the income derived from short-term rental of their respective properties. To
 22 prohibit short-term rentals puts the Homeowners at risk of losing their homes altogether.
 23 Thus, the Homeowners face losing either significant sticks from their proverbial “bundle”
 24 or the “bundle” altogether.

25 Additionally, where damages may be uncertain, monetary damages may be
 26 inadequate and injunctive relief appropriate. *IB Prop. Holdings, LLC*, 228 Ariz. at 65, 263
 27 P.3d at 73. To determine whether monetary damages would be an adequate remedy at law,
 28 the Court must consider the difficulty of proving the damages with reasonable certainty.

1 *Id.* (citations omitted). Imposition of the Amendment and a failure to enjoin the Master
2 HOA will certainly result in lost rentals. Calculating those monetary damages is an
3 uncertain proposition because, if the Homeowners cow-tow to the Master HOA's threat,
4 there is no way to determine how many potential rentals were even lost.

5 Furthermore, under A.R.S. § 33-1806.01(D), owner associations are prohibited
6 from imposing "a fee or fine...on a member's rental property *any differently* than on an
7 owner-occupied property in the association." (Emphasis supplied). Here, the Master HOA
8 is expressly prohibited by statute from enforcing the Amendment by imposition of any
9 proposed monetary penalty because doing so would be to impose a fee or fine differently
10 than would be imposed on an owner-occupied property. **Given the ongoing threat of**
11 **hearings and monetary fines, it is critical that the Master HOA be preliminarily**
12 **enjoined from enforcing the Amendment so as to avoid unlawful monetary fines that**
13 **the Master HOA will no doubt seek to enforce as money judgments in court.** Again,
14 the Master HOA has already shown that it intends to conduct hearings and otherwise take
15 action to enforce the Amendment through monetary fines. These fines are unlawful under
16 statute, but if the Master HOA is not preliminarily enjoined, it will presumably continue to
17 conduct hearings, impose unlawful fines, and then seek to enforce those fines in court as
18 money judgments. Thus, the harm is not just the amount of the fine itself, but the time and
19 expense to be incurred by the Homeowners in defending these proceedings, the resources
20 of the *other* owners within the Master Community (who bear the costs of prosecution), and
21 the court system in Navajo County.

22 **E. Public policy supports a preliminary injunction.**

23 The Court needs no primer concerning the settled public policy that favors
24 protecting private property rights nor its fundamental underpinnings with respect to our
25 organic documents as a nation. *See e.g.*, U.S. CONST. amend. V. Furthermore, the public
26 policy of Arizona, as reflected by the Legislature's enactment of A.R.S. § 33-1817, is to
27 protect the minority from the majority as it pertains to CC&R amendments. That same
28 policy has been adopted as judicial policy as reflected by *Dreamland*. Finally, as noted

1 above, there are two additional policy reasons supporting preliminary injunctive relief –
2 comity and judicial economy. At a minimum, the Court should enter a preliminary
3 injunction that stops enforcement of the Amendment until the Supreme Court rules in
4 *Kalway*, at which point the parties can supplement briefing to the Court. After that, the
5 Court can set a hearing so the Court does not expend judicial resources conducting a
6 hearing where the applicable legal rules could change or be clarified.

7 **IV. Conclusion**

8 The Amendment must be enjoined because it represents an unfair restraint on the
9 Homeowners’ ability to use their property. Case law in Arizona is such that alienation of a
10 property right that was not foreseeable in the Declaration requires the unanimous consent
11 of all owners in the Community. This did not happen here and, because of that, the sliding
12 scale needed to support an injunction heavily favors the Plaintiffs. Consequently, the
13 Plaintiffs would respectfully request that this Court grant its preliminary injunction
14 enjoining the enforcement of the Amendment.

15 DATED this 10th day of February, 2022.

16 DYER BREGMAN & FERRIS, PLLC.

17
18 BY /s/ Stockton D. Banfield
19 Stockton D. Banfield
20 Charles M. Dyer
21 Attorneys for Plaintiff

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23 BY /s/ Matthew A. Klopp
24 Rick K. Carter
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