#### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA TAMPA DIVISION

# BURTON W. WIAND, as Receiver for OASIS INTERNATIONAL GROUP, LTD.; OASIS MANAGEMENT, LLC; AND SATELLITE HOLDINGS COMPANY,

Plaintiff,

v.

Case No: 8:20-cv-00862-VMC-TGW

CHRIS AND SHELLEY ARDUINI, et al.,

Defendants.

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# PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR DEFAULT JUDGMENT BY CLERK AGAINST DEFENDANT MATTHEW LEACH PURSUANT TO FED. R. CIV. P. 55(b)(1)

Plaintiff, BURTON W. WIAND, as Receiver for OASIS INTERNATIONAL GROUP, LTD.; OASIS MANAGEMENT, LLC; AND SATELLITE HOLDINGS COMPANY ("*Plaintiff*"), pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 55(b)(1) and Local Rule 1.07(b), moves the Clerk of Court to enter a default judgment in the amount of \$156,889.16 plus prejudgment interest beginning from the date of each false profit distribution through July 31, 2020 in the amount of \$23,430.12 and continuing thereafter at a per diem rate as a decimal of 0.0001647540 against Defendant, MATTHEW LEACH ("*Leach*"), and states as follows:

1. On April 15, 2019, Plaintiff was appointed by the Court presiding over *C.F.T.C. v. Oasis International Group, Ltd.*, Case No. 8:19-CV-886-T-33SPF (M.D. Fla.) (the *"Receivership Case"*), as the Receiver and directed Plaintiff to take custody, control and possession of the Receivership Estate. *See* Wiand Affidavit attached hereto as **Exhibit "A."** 

# **ENGLANDER FISCHER**

A T T O R N E Y S 721 First Avenue North • St. Petersburg, Florida 33701 Phone (727) 898-7210 • Fax (727) 898-7218 eflegal.com 2. In connection with Plaintiff's appointment in the Receivership Case, Plaintiff initiated this action and on April 14, 2020, Plaintiff filed his Complaint against Leach (Doc. 1). (Exhibit A  $\P$  3)

3. On July 1, 2020, Plaintiff substitute served Leach with the summons and complaint by service on his co-tenant, Jane Doe. See Affidavit of Service filed on July 22, 2020 (Doc. 245). (Exhibit A  $\P$  4).

4. Leach failed to serve or file a responsive pleading or otherwise defend this action. On August 6, 2020, Plaintiff moved for entry of a clerk's default. (Doc. 310). On August 7, 2020, the Clerk entered a default against Leach. (Doc. 312). (Exhibit A ¶ 5).

5. Upon information and belief, Leach is not an infant or an incompetent person or an active duty member of the U.S. Military. (Exhibit A  $\P$  6).

6. As set forth in the Complaint, Plaintiff seeks recovery of a sum certain in the amount of \$156,889.16 plus prejudgment interest beginning from the date of each false profit distribution through July 31, 2020 in the amount of \$23,430.12 and continuing thereafter at a per diem rate as a decimal of 0.0001647540 against Leach. *See* Compl. Ex. A at 55-57 (Doc. 1); (Exhibit A  $\P$  7).

7. The prejudgment interest in the amount of \$23,430.12 is calculated as directed by the 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals in *Wiand v. Dancing* \$, *LLC*, 578 Fed. Appx. 938 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2014).

#### Legal Memorandum

Fed.R.Civ.P. 55(a) provides that, "[w]hen a party against whom a judgment for affirmative relief is sought has failed to plead or otherwise defend, and that failure is shown by affidavit or otherwise, the clerk must enter the party's default." Additionally, Rule 55(b)(1) provides that if the plaintiff's claim is for an amount certain or can be made by certain computation (on plaintiff's request and with an affidavit showing the amount due), the clerk must enter judgment for that amount against a defaulted defendant. In this case, because Leach failed to respond to the Complaint, Leach is neither a minor nor an incompetent person, and Plaintiff has set forth the sum certain of \$156,889.16 plus prejudgment interest beginning from the date of each false profit distribution through July 31, 2020 in the amount of \$23,430.12 and continuing thereafter at a per diem rate as a decimal of 0.0001647540 with an affidavit showing same, the Clerk must enter a default judgment in the amount of \$156,889.16 plus prejudgment interest beginning from the date of each false profit distribution through July 31, 2020 in the amount of \$23,430.12 and continuing thereafter at a per diem rate as a decimal of 0.0001647540. *See Wiand v. Dancing \$, LLC*, 578 Fed. Appx. 938 947 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2014) (holding that the Receiver was entitled to recover prejudgment interest on FUFTA claim, "...in light of Florida's general rule that prejudgment interest is an element of pecuniary damages.")

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff moves for entry of a Default Judgment in the amount of \$156,889.16 plus prejudgment interest beginning from the date of each false profit distribution through July 31, 2020 in the amount of \$23,430.12 and continuing thereafter at a per diem rate as a decimal of 0.0001647540 against Leach.

Respectfully submitted,

#### ENGLANDER FISCHER

<u>/s/ Beatriz McConnell</u> JOHN W. WAECHTER Florida Bar No. 47151 Primary: jwaechter@eflegal.com Secondary: dturner@eflegal.com COURTNEY L. FERNALD Florida Bar No. 52669 Florida Bar Certified, Appellate Practice Primary: cfernald@eflegal.com Secondary: tdillon@eflegal.com BEATRIZ MCCONNELL Florida Bar No. 42119 Primary: <u>bmcconnell@eflegal.com</u> Secondary: <u>tdillon@eflegal.com</u> ALICIA GANGI Florida Bar No. 1002753 Primary: <u>agangi@eflegal.com</u> Secondary: <u>tdillon@eflegal.com</u> ENGLANDER and FISCHER LLP 721 First Avenue North St. Petersburg, Florida 33731-1954 (727) 898-7210 / Fax (727) 898-7218 Attorneys for Plaintiff

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this day I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court by using the CM/ECF system and served by U.S. mail and/or email, as indicated, to the following: Matthew Leach, 236 Mitchell Road, Tannserville, NY 12485.

Dated: August 20, 2020.

<u>/s/ Beatriz McConnell</u> Attorney for Plaintiff Case 8:20-cv-00862-VMC-TGW Document 375 Filed 08/20/20 Page 5 of 6 PageID 2012

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Plaintiff,

v.

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CHRIS AND SHELLEY ARDUINI, et al.,

Defendants.

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# AFFIDAVIT OF PLAINTIFF BURTON W. WIAND IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR DEFAULT JUDGMENT AGAINST <u>DEFENDANT MATTHEW LEACH</u>

STATE OF FLORIDA ) COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH )

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, appeared Burton W. Wiand, who, first being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I am an attorney with Wiand Guerra King P.L. in Tampa, Florida. I make this affidavit in support of the Plaintiff's Motion for Entry of Default and Default Judgment Against Defendant, MATTHEW LEACH ("Leach"). I make this affidavit based on information personally known to me or gathered by me or by others at my request.

2. On April 15, 2019, I was appointed by the Court presiding over C.F.T.C. v. Oasis International Group, Ltd., Case No. 8:19-CV-886-T-33SPF (M.D. Fla.) (the "Receivership Case"), as the Receiver and directed to take custody, control and possession of the Receivership Estate.

Exhibit "A"

3. In connection with my appointment in the Receivership Case, I initiated this action and on April 14, 2020, I filed the Complaint against Leach (Doc. 1).

4. On July 1, 2020, I substitute served Leach with the summons and complaint by service on his co-tenant, Jane Doe. See Affidavit of Service filed on July 22, 2020 (Doc. 245).

5. Leach failed to serve or file a responsive pleading or otherwise defend this action. On August 6, 2020, I moved for entry of a clerk's default. (Doc. 310). On August 7, 2020, the Clerk entered a default against Leach. (Doc. 312).

6. Upon information and belief, Leach is not an infant, an incompetent person or an active duty member of the U.S. Military.

7. As set forth in the Complaint, I seek recovery of a sum certain in the amount of \$156,889.16 plus prejudgment interest beginning from the date of each false profit distribution through July 31, 2020 in the amount of \$23,430.12 and continuing thereafter at a per diem rate as a decimal of 0.0001647540 against Leach. See Compl. Ex. A at 55-57 (Doc. 1).

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.

BURTON

RY RUBLIC

JEFFREY C. RIZZO

COMMISSION # GG 303016 EXPIRES: April 30, 2023

# STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this day, before me, an officer duly authorized to take acknowledgements in the state aforesaid and in the county aforesaid, BURTON W. WIAND personally appeared to me, who is personally known to me to be the person described herein and executed the foregoing and acknowledged before me that he executed the same.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before the undersigned this O day of August, 2020.