

# EXHIBIT Y

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
SUMMIT COUNTY, OHIO

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| <p>MEMBER WILLIAMS,</p> <p>Plaintiff,</p> <p>vs.</p> <p>KISLING, NESTICO &amp; REDICK, LLC, <i>et al.</i>,</p> <p>Defendants.</p> | <p>Case No. CV-2016-09-3928</p> <p>Judge Alison Breaux</p> |
| <p><b>AFFIDAVIT OF GARY PETTI</b></p>   |  |

I, Gary Petti, having been duly sworn, have personal knowledge of the following matters of fact, and testify as follows:

1. In March of 2012, I became employed as a prelitigation attorney with the law firm of Kisling, Nestico & Redick, LLC ("KNR") in Akron, Ohio. Before my employment with KNR, I had worked since 1997 as a personal-injury lawyer with the Akron-based law firm of Slater & Zurz, primarily on behalf of insurance companies on the defense side, and car-accident victims on the plaintiffs' side. I resigned from my position at Slater & Zurz to join KNR because my practice at Slater & Zurz required me to travel frequently to Columbus, Ohio, and the KNR position would allow me to remain closer to my home in Wadsworth, Ohio while my wife went back to school to obtain her degree as a nurse-anesthetist. My wife and I have three children, who, at the time, were ages 6, 10, and 13. When I left Slater & Zurz to join KNR, I took

approximately 200 cases with me, and continued to represent these clients through KNR.

2. While I was working for Slater & Zurz, I first learned that KNR paid kickbacks to certain chiropractors in the form of a "narrative fee." When I spoke with certain chiropractors from Plambeck-owned clinics who would occasionally refer me cases, they told me that KNR paid them a narrative-report fee every time the chiropractors referred a case to KNR, and asked if I would do the same. I told them that I would not. I did not understand at the time that this was KNR's firm-wide policy, as opposed to a practice followed by certain KNR attorneys, and when I went to work for KNR, I assumed that I would not be required to charge my clients for unnecessary narrative-fee expenses.

3. When I began working at KNR, I primarily worked on the cases that I had brought to the firm, and when I closed these cases, no narrative fee was charged to these clients because I never ordered narrative reports for them. It was always my understanding that the decision as to whether a narrative report is worthwhile in a case is the attorney's to make, upon consultation with the client. I always understood that narrative reports were only properly used to allow a medical professional to explain why the plaintiff's injuries were different or more challenging than they might appear from the contents of the medical records, and in doing so, provide information that was not included in the records.

4. As I began to work on cases from KNR that had been taken in and previously worked on by other KNR attorneys, I would see the narrative fee appear on the client's settlement statement. I assumed that these fees were for narrative reports that were ordered by the previous KNR attorney who worked on the case. I soon learned that these narrative reports ordered by KNR were very different from the narrative reports that I was accustomed to using, and were essentially worthless, containing no information that was not already apparent from the client's medical records. The narrative reports provided by Dr. Minas Floros of Akron Square

Chiropractic, a Plambeck-owned clinic in Akron, were especially bad, and the worst narrative reports I had ever seen. They appeared to follow a basic formula of a few sentences where Floros merely filled in the blanks with information that was readily apparent from the medical records. It was clear that virtually no time or effort could have been expended on his worthless narratives—certainly no effort remotely justifiable by the narrative fees being paid.

5. As I continued to work at KNR, and continued to close the cases that I brought to the firm, I began working on KNR cases that I had taken in while at the firm. On several occasions while I was working at KNR, I took calls from chiropractors from Plambeck-owned clinics who were present on the line with a patient that the chiropractors sought to refer to KNR.

6. In approximately mid-to-late November of 2012, my paralegal Megan Jennings began to collect a package of documentation on a case that was to be submitted to the defendant's insurance company, including police reports, and medical records. When she submitted this package to me for my approval, I noticed a charge for a narrative report in the documents. I immediately expressed my surprise and disapproval that the narrative fee would be included in this package, and asked Jennings why this was the case. I also told her that I am the lawyer, so I'm the one who gets to advise the client as to whether the narrative report is a justifiable expense. In response, Jennings informed me that narrative fees are paid on every case that comes in from Akron Square Chiropractic and other Plambeck-owned clinics, and that the check is made out to the chiropractor personally and sent directly to the chiropractor's house. I then told her that I would not approve of any such fees being charged to my clients without my express approval.

7. Within a few days, I was working with Jennings on another case that was affiliated with Akron Square Chiropractic. On November 28, 2012; I emailed Jennings about this case to instruct her that no narrative fee was to be paid on it. I wrote, "Remember, no reports from

doktor flooroos," deliberately misspelling his name in an effort to defuse tension with humor. I also wrote, as a follow-up to our previous conversation, "I've asked a number of adjusters about the importance of those reports and the most common response is nearly uncontrolled laughter." This comment, while hyperbolic, referred to the fact that on the occasions when I attempted to refer to Plambeck narrative-reports in negotiating settlements on behalf of KNR clients, the insurance adjusters paid absolutely no regard to these reports.

8. Within approximately two weeks of having sent this email to Jennings, KNR terminated my employment. I was told by KNR attorney John Regan that I was "not a good fit" there. I could not disagree and little else was said in the meeting. I understood that by stating that I was "not a good fit" at KNR, Regan was only referring to my unwillingness to participate in KNR's schemes to defraud their clients, like with the narrative fees, as there were no other issues of which I was made aware. At that point, I was glad to leave KNR and the practice of law, and have since been working in the construction business.

9. During my time working at KNR, I became aware of the firm's so-called investigators, including Aaron Czetli and Michael Simpson. I would often witness Czetli and Simpson performing odd jobs around KNR's Akron office, such as stuffing envelopes and putting up holiday lights. Although I had ample opportunity to observe their activities, comings, goings, and work-product, I never witnessed or became aware of these so-called investigators performing any actual investigations. To my knowledge, their only involvement with client matters was to meet potential clients and sign them to KNR fee agreements.

10. Within a few months before KNR terminated my employment, KNR Managing Partner Rob Nestico criticized me in front of other KNR attorneys for my unwillingness to be dishonest to potential KNR clients. This happened in a meeting where all KNR prelitigation attorneys were present, and Nestico played a recording of a phone call that I had over the firm's phone line

with a potential client. On this call, a car-accident victim told me that he was an independent contractor and sub-contractor, and was concerned about recovering lost wages for work missed due to his car-accident injuries. I advised this potential client that his status as a contractor would make it more complicated to recover damages because he would have to prove not only that he did not work as a result of the accident, but also that he would have otherwise worked on certain jobs, for a certain amount of money during the same time period. After Nestico played the recording of the phone call for everyone in the room, he asked what I had done wrong on the call. The answer, according to Nestico, was that I was too honest with the client in advising him of the complications in recovering damages due to his status as an independent contractor, and that I did not tell the potential client "what he wanted to hear."

11. On March 23, 2017, I received a phone call from a man who identified himself as Attorney Brian Roof with the law firm of Sutter O'Connell, and said that he represents KNR and Nestico in the above-captioned lawsuit. He asked me if I was familiar with the lawsuit and the recently filed proposed Second Amended Complaint. I told him that I was, and had read a press release about the Second Amended Complaint. He asked me about my time at KNR and what documents I took with me when I left, and he said that it was his clients' position that all such documents were confidential. I interpreted this as a threat, and told Mr. Roof that as far as I'm concerned, everything in the press release is true, and that I was terminated by KNR because of my refusal to participate in their kickback schemes.

12. Every document I have disclosed and all information I have provided to Plaintiffs' counsel in this litigation was and is, to the best of my knowledge and understanding, evidence of fraud and illegal activity by KNR. I do not believe that any of it is confidential or subject to any confidentiality agreement. I can't imagine that my own emails mocking the fraud would be confidential.

I affirm the above to be true and accurate to the best of my knowledge under penalty of perjury.

[Signature]      4/3/17  
Signature of Affiant      Date

State of Ohio  
County of Summit

Sworn to and subscribed before me on 4-3-2017

at Sharon Center, Ohio.

[Signature]  
(Signature of Notary Public)



(Notary Public Seal)

Attorney Peter G. Pattakos  
Resident Summit County  
Notary Public, State of Ohio  
My Commission Has No Expiration Date  
Sec 147.03 RC

Peter Pattakos  
(Printed Name of Notary Public)

Notary Public, State of Ohio

My commission expires on N/A