TAVIA GALONSKI

2024 SEP 12 AMII: 4.1

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## IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS COUNTY OF SUMMIT

MINERABER WILLIAMS, ET AL.	)	CASE NO.: CV-2016-09-3928
Plaintiff -vs-	)	JUDGE JAMES A. BROGAN
KISLING NESTICO & REDICK LLC, ET AL.	) ) )	<u>ORDER</u>
Defendant	·	•

On June 10, 2024, this Court conducted a hearing on the Defendants' motion to hold plaintiffs' counsel, Peter Pattakos, in contempt of court for violating this Court's order finding that Julie Ghoubrial 's discovery deposition was confidential and its order that copies of her deposition be destroyed.

On February 12, 2024, this Court ordered that Julie Ghoubrial's deposition be filed under seal by the Summit County Clerk of Courts. Mr. Pattakos discovered the deposition and threatened opposing counsel that he would publish its contents.

On February 15, 2024, this Court conducted a telephone hearing in which it confirmed to all counsel that its order to seal Julie Ghoubrial's deposition included counsel.

On February 22, 2024, this Court issued a "nunc pro tunc" order that provided that Julie Ghoubrial's deposition is not available to anyone, including counsel, and that all counsel and their associates were directed to destroy any copies of that deposition. Lead counsel were directed to submit an affidavit, by February 21, 2024, that all copies of that deposition have been destroyed.

On February 19, 2024, Mr. Pattakos filed a pleading in response to this Court's order of February 12, 2024. Despite this Court's "clarification" that the sealing order

applied to counsel, Mr. Pattakos made numerous references to Julie Ghoubrial's sealed deposition in his motion.

At the contempt hearing, Mr. Pattakos' only defense to publishing contents of Julie Ghoubrial's deposition was that he didn's use quotations in the pleadings. Mr. Pattakos also admitted he had not destroyed his copy of Julie Goubrial's deposition as ordered by this Court.

This Court finds beyond a reasonable doubt that Peter Pattakos is in contempt of this court for publishing contents of Julie Goubrial's sealed deposition and in failing to file an affidavit with this court that he had destroyed his copy of Julie Goubrial's deposition.

This Court hereby fines Peter Pattakos One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for each contempt finding and orders Peter Pattakos to pay these fines to the Summit County Common Pleas' Clerk of Courts' Office by 4:00 P.M., on October 7, 2024.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

JUDGE JAMES BROGAN

Sitting by Assignment #18JA1214

Pursuant to Art. IV, Sec. 6

Ohio Constitution

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