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THE COWAN LAW FIRM

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l JEFFREY W. COWAN, ESQ., SBN 157474 The Cowan Law Firm 2 1541 Ocean Avenue, Suite 200 Santa Monica, California 90401 3 Tel: (310) 394-1420 Fax: (310) 394-1430 4 Attorney for Plaintiff Sharon Song Byrd 5 6 7 8 9 10 Sharon Song Byrd, an individual, 11 Plaintiff. 12 ٧8. 13 Tony Wafford, an individual, The Palms 14 Residential Care Facility, a California Corporation, and Does I through 100, 15 Defendants. 16 17 18 TO PRO SE DEFENDANT TONY WAFFORD: 19 20 21 22 23 24

ES SUPERIOR COURT

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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Case No. BC 403 677

(Action filed December 10, 2008; assigned to Hon. Michael C. Solner)

Plaintiff Sharon Byrd's Notice of Entry of Order Awarding Attorney's Fees and Costs

Dept.: 39

Please take notice that on February 17, 2012, the Court (Hon. Michael C. Solner presiding) entered an order granting Plaintiff's motion for fees and costs.

By:

A true copy of the Court's February 17, 2012 order is attached hereto.

DATED: February 22, 2012

THE COWAN LAW FIRM

Jeffrey W. Cowan

Attorney for Plaintiff Sharon Song Byrd

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CONFORMED COPY ORIGINAL FILED Superior Court of California County of Los Angeles

FEB 17 2012

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SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Sharon Song Byrd, an individual,

Plaintiff,

vs.

Tony Wafford, an individual, The Palms
Residential Care Facility, a California
Corporation, and Does 1 through 100,

Defendants.

Plaintiff,

(Action filed December 10, 2008;
assigned to Hon. Michael C. Solner)

[Proposed] Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion for Attorneys Fees and Costs

Dept.: 39

Plaintiff Sharon Song Byrd's motion for attorneys fees and costs regularly came on for hearing on January 25, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. in Department 39 of the Los Angeles County Superior Court. Jeffrey W. Cowan appeared on behalf of Plaintiff, and Defendant Anthony "Tony" R. Wafford appeared *in pro se*.

Defendant Wafford filed no opposition to the motion. Defendant's prior filing of a notice of appeal did not stay this action as to issues regarding Plaintiff's recovery of legal fees or costs. See Robertson v. Rodriguez, 36 Cal. App. 4th 347, 360 (1995). Moreover, Defendant is not entitled to any special consideration or treatment as a pro se litigant. See Nwosu v. Uba, 122

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122 Cal. App. 4th 1229, 1246-1247 (2004). As a result, the Court finds that Defendant Wafford waived all objections to Plaintiff's motion.

After considering the moving papers and hearing argument from Plaintiff's counsel, the Court grants the motion and rules as follows:

- 1. Plaintiff is awarded costs is the sum of \$16,370.21.
- 2. After deducting 50 hours of time (which the Court attributes to non-overlapping issues regarding Defendant Palms Residential Care Facility, which settled earlier in the lawsuit), the Court finds that Plaintiff's counsel Jeffrey W. Cowan reasonably spent 536 hours (to date) prosecuting this lawsuit and that his stated regular hourly rate (in 2011) of \$400 is reasonable for the Los Angeles legal community/market. The Court therefore grants a fee award of \$214,520 based on the foregoing figures (536 hours x \$400). The Court also finds that a multiplier of 1.1 is appropriate to the foregoing \$214,520 lode star figure and on that basis awards a total of \$235,972 in fees pursuant to the FEHA (including Government Code § 12965(b)).

The foregoing sums are due now, subject to immediate execution, and to the extent not paid immediately are subject to interest at the legal rate. It is so ordered.

DATED: Fd 17, 2012

By: M. hal

Judge of the Superior Court

Respectfully submitted by

JEFFREY W. COWAN, ESQ., SBN 157474

The Cowan Law Firm

1541 Ocean Avenue, Suite 200 Santa Monica, California 90401

Tel: (310) 394-1420 Fax: (310) 394-1430

Attorney for Plaintiff Sharon Song Byrd

PROOF OF SERVICE

I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to this action; my business address is 1541 Ocean Avenue, Suite 200, Santa Monica, California 90401.

On February 22, 2012 I served Plaintiff Sharon Byrd's Notice of Entry of Order Awarding Attorney's Fees and Costs on the interested parties in said action as indicated below:

Tony Wafford 254 North Hillcrest Boulevard Inglewood, CA 90301

[X] [BY MAIL] by placing a copy of said document for collection and mailing on the date indicated above, in a sealed envelope(s), addressed as set forth above, pursuant to ordinary business practices. I am "readily familiar" with this firm's practice of collecting and processing correspondence for mailing. Under that practice it would be deposited with the U.S. Postal Service at Santa Monica, California on that same day in the ordinary course of business.

[] [BY FACSIMILE] by transmitting a true copy by facsimile transmission at the time indicated on the transmission report from facsimile telephone number (310) 394-1430 to a facsimile machine maintained by the party on whom it was served, at the facsimile machine telephone number indicated on the attached service list. The transmission was reported as complete and without error. The transmission report which was properly issued by the transmitting facsimile machine is attached to the file copy of this document.

[] [BY OVERNIGHT COURIER] I caused to be delivered to and served by an *Overnight Courier* on all interested parties in said action, the above named document(s) by placing true copies thereof in enclosed sealed envelopes, delivery fees paid or provided for, and addressed as set forth above.

[X] [STATE] I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on February 22, 2012 at Santa Monica, California.

Jennifer Dooley