08-12-00331-CV

JUN 25 2013

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June 24, 2013

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Ms. Denise Pacheco Clerk of the Court Eighth Court of Appeals 500 East San Antonio Avenue Suite 1203 El Paso, TX 79901-2408 FILED IN COURT OF APPEALS

JUN 25 2013

DENISE PACHECO CLERK 8th DISTRICT

Re: Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals Case No. 08-12-00331-CV; In re Estate of Max D. Hopper, Deceased/ Stephen B. Hopper and Laura Wassmer v. Jo N. Hopper and JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.

Dear Ms. Pacheco:

Pursuant to T.R.App.P. Rule 9.6 this letter is addressed to you for referral to the Court. We request that the Court consider this letter as Appellants' response to the June 21, 2013 letter from counsel for Appellee/Cross-Appellant Mrs. Hopper suggesting that the standing issue should be determined prior to oral argument and to submission of the entire case as stated by the Court in its January 25, 2013 letter to the parties.

Counsel for Mrs. Hopper have used their June 21st letter as a vehicle to further argue their position. In fairness to Appellants, the Court is respectfully requested to consider the following response which is directed solely to the one case cited by Mrs. Hopper's counsel in their letter. Because this case was not cited in Mrs. Hopper's original motion, Appellants have not stated a position on whether *Singh v Duane Morris, LLP*, 338 S.W.3d 176 (Tex. App. – Houston [14th Dist.] 2011, pet. den.) is even relevant, much less dispositive, of the issue at hand.

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Assuming the Court is willing to consider same, Appellants' view of *Singh* is this: *Singh* was a legal malpractice case brought by the sole shareholder of a corporation. A majority of the appeals court held that because the alleged damages were incurred by the corporation¹ the shareholder-plaintiff lacked standing to prosecute the claim. The dissent argued that whether the damages were incurred by the individual or by the corporation went to the merits of the case, not to standing. The dissent pointed out that the majority misplaced its reliance on a Texas Supreme Court case that held that a shareholder could not recover for injuries to a corporation, but did not dispose of the case on the basis of standing.²

Whichever position is correct, *Singh* does nothing to inform the Court's decision in the present case in which the issue is whether Appellants' *revocable* transfer of interests in real property destroys their standing to prosecute this appeal. Appellants were harmed because of the unwanted transfer of the property interests to them and that harm continues. Appellants remain ready, willing and able to re-transfer the property interests to the Bank.

If the Court determines to decide the standing issue prior to submission of the entire case, Appellants request that the Court allow telephonic oral argument on the issue.

Mau Respectfully submitted.

Lawrence Fischman SBOT #07044000

¹ 338 S.W. 3d at 181.

² *Id.* 338 S.W.3d at 183-84.

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cc: Michael A. Yanof (via Fax) James A. Jennings (via Fax) Michael L. Graham (via Fax) John C. Eichman (via Fax)