

STATE OF MINNESOTA

DISTRICT COURT

COUNTY OF CARVER

FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

PROBATE DIVISION

Case Type: Special Administration
Court File No. 10-PR-16-46

In the Matter of:Estate of Prince Rogers Nelson,

Decedent.

**MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF
MOTION TO CONFIRM ARBITRATION
AWARD****INTRODUCTION**

The parties agreed that Joseph T. Dixon, Jr. (the “Arbitrator”) be appointed as arbitrator to determine the amount of attorneys’ liens sought by Hansen, Dordell, Bradt, Odlaug & Bradt, PLLP (“Hansen Dordell”) in respect to the firm’s representation of Sharon Nelson, John Nelson, and Norrine Nelson (collectively “SNJ”) in the Estate Matter. On September 8, 2020, the Arbitrator determined that Hansen Dordell is entitled to entry of judgment establishing attorneys’ liens against SNJ, jointly and severally, in the amount of \$216,902.37 (hereinafter the “Award”). (Kemp Aff. Ex. 1). Based on the Award, Hansen Dordell now moves this Court to confirm the Award and for entry of judgment establishing attorney’s liens against SNJ’s interests in the Estate consistent with the Award.

FACTS

After settlement discussions, the parties agreed and advised the Arbitrator that a total amount subject to lien of \$216,902.37 to be just and equitable in this arbitration. (Sep. 16, 2020 Affidavit of Michael Kemp, Ex. 1.)

In the Award, the Arbitrator concluded that Hansen Dordell is entitled to a lien on SNJ’s

interest in the Estate in the amount of \$216,902.37. Accordingly, Hansen Dordell now seeks to confirm the Arbitrator's Award and have the attorney's lien entered against SNJ.

LEGAL ARGUMENT

Under the Uniform Arbitration Act, after a party to an arbitration proceeding receives a final arbitration award, "the party may file a motion with the court for an order confirming the award, at which time the court shall issue such an order unless the award is modified or corrected . . . or is vacated. . . ." Minn. Stat. § 572B.22. Minn. Stat. § 572B.26 gives the Court exclusive jurisdiction to enforce an agreement to arbitrate and to enter judgment on an arbitration award. The parties' agreement to arbitrate thus confers jurisdiction on the Court to decide this issue.

In this case, Hansen Dordell received the Award and is entitled to confirmation of that Award by this Court, which shall issue an Order confirming the Award as long as it has not been modified, corrected, or vacated. *Id.* Upon entering an Order confirming the Award, the Court must enter judgment in conformity with the Award. Minn. Stat. § 572B.25. Therefore, Hansen Dordell is entitled to the immediate entry of judgment establishing an attorney's lien in the amount of \$216,902.37 entered against SNJ's interest in the Estate.

CONCLUSION

For these reasons, Hansen, Dordell, Bradt, Odlaug & Bradt, PLLP respectfully requests that this Court confirm the Arbitrator's Award, and enter judgment establishing a lien against SNJ's interests in the Estate.

Respectfully submitted,

HANSEN, DORDELL, BRADT, ODLAUG
& BRADT, P.L.L.P.

Dated: September 16, 2020

By s/ Michael Kemp

Michael Kemp

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