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SUPREME COURT
STATE OF WASHINGTON
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No. 102560-2 COA No. 84310-9

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

AMINA J. CONDEL,

Respondent,

v.

FRANK GARRETT CONDEL,

Petitioner.

ADDITIONAL AUTHORITIES PURSUANT TO RAP 10.8 IN SUPPORT OF AMENDED OBJECTIONS TO RESPONDENT'S RAP 18.1(d) AFFIDAVIT OF FEES AND EXPENSES

> C. Nelson Berry WSBA No. 8851 Attorney for Petitioner

Berry & Beckett, P.L.L.P. 1708 Bellevue Avenue Seattle, Washington 98122 (206) 441-5444 On pp. 2-3 of the Respondent's Reply to

Petitioner's Objections to RAP 18.1(d) Affidavit of

Fees and Expenses, the Respondent's attorneys

assert, without citation to any legal authority:

The Court of Appeals was well within its authority when it awarded Amina attorney fees. When Amina filed her petition for domestic violence order for protection, former chapter 26.50 RCW¹ governed civil DVPO proceedings. Garrett filed an appeal of entry of that DVPO. Therefore, RCW 26.50 still governs this proceeding. Under former RCW 26.50.060(1)(g), the court has discretion to require a respondent in a DVPO proceeding to pay petitioner's reasonable attorney fees.

However, Amina first requested an award based on RCW 26.50.060(1)(g) when she filed her Response Brief on March 6, 2023, months after RCW 26.50 had been repealed.

According to this Court's holding in Cassanigi v.

¹ The DVPA (RCW 26.50) was repealed by 2011 ch. 215 § 170, effective July 1, 2022. Its provisions are now codified under Civil Protection Orders, ch. 7.105 RCW.

General Elec. Credit Corp., 132 Wn.2d 433, 441,938 P.2d 819 (En Banc 1997):

Absent a saving clause, "[a] repealing act terminates <u>all</u> rights dependent upon the repealed statute and all proceedings based on it." [Citations omitted].

RCW 26.50.060(1)(g) is thus **not** the "applicable law" required by RAP 18.1(a).

Also, in *Mahler v. Szuc*s, 135 Wash.2d 398,434, 957 P.2d 632(En Banc.1998), this Court held:

... the party seeking fees bears the burden of proving the reasonableness of the fees. [Citation omitted].

Under the lodestar methodology, a court must first determine that counsel expended a reasonable number of hours in securing a successful recovery for the client. Necessarily, this decision requires the court to exclude from the requested hours any wasteful or duplicative hours and any hours pertaining to unsuccessful theories or claims. [Citation omitted]. Counsel must provide contemporaneous records documenting the hours worked.

According to Johnson v. State, Dept. of Transp.,

177 Wn.App. 684, 699, 313 P.3d 1197 (2013):

Although such records need not to be exhaustive, any reconstructed hours 'should be credited <u>only if</u> reasonable under the circumstances and <u>supported</u> by other evidence such as testimony or secondary documentation'.

Yet the Respondent's attorneys did **not** provide any "contemporaneous records" or "other evidence" supporting their reconstructed hours.

They have thus failed to meet their burden.

Respectfully submitted this 27th day of March, 2024.

I declare that this Memorandum contains 349 words in compliance with RAP 10.8(b)

C. Nelson Berry WSBA #8851

Attorney for Petitioner

BERRY & BECKETT, PLLP

March 27, 2024 - 11:34 AM

Transmittal Information

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Additional Authorities Pursuant to RAP 10.8 In Support Of Amended Objections to Respondent's RAP 18.1(d) Affidavit of Fees and Expenses

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