



JUDGMENT

Court of Appeals

First District of Texas

NO. 01-18-00421-CV

THIM T. NGUYEN, ET AL., Appellants*

V.

MIKAL C. WATTS; FRANCISCO GUERRA IV; JOHN HUNTER CRAFT;
DAVID WATTS; WATTS GUERRA, LLP; WATTS GUERRA & CRAFT, LLP;
ROBERT C. HILLIARD; ROBERT C. HILLIARD LLP; AND HILLIARD MUNOZ
GONZALES, LLP, Appellees

Appeal from the 55th District Court of Harris County. (Tr. Ct. No. 2016-13749).

This case is an appeal from the final judgment signed by the trial court on May 8, 2018. After submitting the case on the appellate record and the arguments properly raised by the parties, the Court holds that there was reversible error in the portions of the trial court's judgment that granted summary judgment to Mikal Watts and Watts Guerra, LLP on Appellants' claims for barratry, as stated in our opinion, and for conspiracy and aiding and abetting to the extent those claims relate to the barratry claim. Accordingly, the Court **reverses** those portions of the trial court's judgment.

* Appellants' names are listed in an appendix as stated in a list provided by Appellants' counsel.

The Court further holds that there was no reversible error in the remaining portions of the trial court's judgment. Therefore, the Court **affirms** the remaining portions of the trial court's judgment.

The Court further **remands** the case to the trial court for further proceedings consistent with our opinion regarding Appellants' claims against Mikal Watts and Watts Guerra, LLP for civil barratry and the derivative claims of conspiracy and aiding and abetting that relate to the barratry claim.

The Court **orders** that Appellants, as listed in the attached appendix, jointly and severally, pay one half of the appellate costs. The Court **orders** that Mikal Watts and Watts Guerra, LLP, jointly and severally, pay one half of the appellate costs.

The Court **orders** that this decision be certified below for observance.

Judgment rendered May 28, 2020.

Panel consists of Chief Justice Radack and Justices Landau and Hightower. Opinion delivered by Justice Hightower.

APPENDIX

No.	Name of Appellant
1	Amy Hang Nguyen
2	An Ngoc Nguyen
3	An Ngoc Pham
4	An Van Nguyen
5	Andy Van Nguyen
6	Anh Duong Huynh
7	Anh Nguyen
8	Anh Que Nguyen
9	Anh Thi Nguyen
11	Ann Nguyen
12	Anthony Hoa Nguyen
13	Tieng Thi Nguyen, Independent Executrix of the Estate of Ba Nguyen, Deceased
14	Ba Thu Nguyen
15	Bac Hoai Le
16	Bao Van Nguyen
17	Be Chin Thi Huynh
18	Bien Van Tran
19	Bill Quang Nguyen
20	Billy Binh Duong
21	Billy Nguyen
22	Billy Van Tran
23	Binh V. Nguyen
24	Binh V. Nguyen
25	BNM Studio, LLC
26	Bon Van Nguyen
27	Bong Thi Ngo
28	Buong Thi Ho
29	Cam H Huynh
30	Cam Thi Lanh Nguyen
31	Chau Ho Nguyen
32	Chau Minh Nguyen
33	Chau Thien Nguyen
34	Chau Van Tran

35	Chi Huu Nguyen
36	Chi Thi Nguyen d/b/a New
37	Chi Van Tran
38	Chin Van Tran
39	Chung Khac Nguyen d/b/a E-Z Stop Seafood Deli
40	Chuong Van Vu
41	Co Van Mai
42	Cong Huu Phan
43	Cuong Minh Vo
44	Cuong Van Cao
45	Da Thi Nguyen
46	Dang Nguyen
47	Danny V Nguyen
48	Dao Van Phu
49	Dat Dinh
50	Dat Phat Truong
51	Dau Van Tran
52	David Dieu Nguyen
54	David Ngo
55	David Nguyen
56	Den Tran
57	Dich Bui
58	Dien Xuan Le
59	Dieu Van Nguyen
60	Dinh Ho
61	Dinh Nguyen
62	Dinh Nguyen
63	Doi Tran
64	Donald Hanh Tran
65	Dong Van Nguyen
66	Dong Van Pham
67	Dong Van Tran
68	Dong Viet Vu
69	Dua V Nguyen
70	Duc Hoai Nguyen
71	Duc Huu Nguyen

72	Duc V. Pham
73	Duc Van Le
74	Dung Anh Nguyen
75	Dung Hong Nguyen
76	Dung Minh Pham
77	Dung Ngoc Huynh
78	Dung Phuong Thi Tran
79	Dung Thi Doan
81	Dung Thi Pham
82	Dung Van Nguyen
83	Dung Van Nguyen
84	Dung Van Nguyen
85	Dung Van Nguyen
86	Duong Minh Le
87	Duy Quoc Ha
88	Duyen Van Tran
89	Elaine N. Le
90	Eric Oanh Nguyen
91	Frank Huynh
92	George Lai Lu
93	Gia Thi Nguyen
94	Giai Nguyen
95	Giau Nguyen
96	Ha Thi Nguyen
97	Ha Van Tran
98	Hai Cong Pham
100	Hai Minh Tran
101	Hai Tran
102	Hai Trung Vo
103	Hai Van Le
104	Hai Van Pham
105	Hai Van Phan
106	Hang Thi Nguyen
107	Hanh Thi Pham
108	Hanh V Tran
109	Hao Dinh Tran
110	Hao Thi Vo
111	Hao Van Ngo
112	He Thi Nguyen

113	Henry Nguyen
114	Hien Kim Thi Le
115	Khai Pham
116	Hien Van Dang
117	Hien Van Luong
118	Hien Van Nguyen
119	Hien Van Nguyen
120	Hieu Nguyen
121	Hieu Trung Tran
122	Hoa T. Le
123	Hoa Thi Bui
124	Hoa Thi Duong
125	Hoa Thi Nguyen
126	Hoan Thanh Nguyen
127	Hoang Van
128	Hoang Van Nguyen
129	Hoang Van Nguyen
130	Hoat Vu
131	Holly H. Nguyen
132	Hong Bui
133	Hong Hoa Thi Tran
134	Hong T. Thach
135	Hong Thanh Bui
137	Hue Tran
138	Hung H. Nguyen
139	Hung Hoa Nguyen
140	Hung Le
141	Hung Nguyen
142	Hung Tran
143	Hung Van Ha
144	Hung Van Pham
145	Huong Hoai Nguyen
146	Huong Tran
147	Jackie Lun Nguyen
148	Jimmy Nguyen
149	Jimmy Nguyen
150	John Nguyen
151	John Nguyen
152	John Nguyen
153	John Phuc Duong

154	John Thanh Nguyen
155	John Van Nguyen
156	John Vu
157	Johnny V Nguyen
158	Joseph Nguyen
159	Joseph Tinh Nguyen
160	Kevin Hoang
161	Khai Pham
162	Khang Quoc Le
163	Khang Thai Nguyen
164	Khang Trong Bui
165	Khanh Van Nguyen
166	Khanh Van Tran
167	Khanh Van Tran
168	Khoa Van Nguyen
169	Khoi Van Vu
170	Khuong Bao Nguyen
171	Kia Minh Lam
172	Kieu Diem Tran
173	Kim Anh Do
174	Kim Dung T Tran
175	Kim Oanh Thi Ngo
176	Kim Thi Chau
177	Kim Tran Nguyen
178	Kim-Anh Thi Vu
179	Ky Pham
180	Lai Le
181	Lam Nguyen
182	Lan Thi Nguyen
183	Lan Thi Nguyen
184	Lan Thi Vu
185	Lap Van Nguyen
186	Larry Liem Nguyen
187	Laura Trinh
188	Le Nguyen
189	Lee Van Nguyen
190	Liem Thanh Nguyen
191	Liem Thanh Nguyen
192	Lien Nguyen

193	Lien Thi Nguyen
194	Lien Van Vo
195	Liep Van Tran
196	Lieu Nguyen
197	Linda Ho
198	Linda Thi Phung
199	Linda Thuy Nguyen
200	Linda Tran
201	Linda Tran
202	Lisa Huong Huynh
203	Lisa Nguyen
204	Lo Van Ngo
205	Loan Do Pham
206	Loan Kim Nguyen
207	Loan Nguyen
208	Loan Tuong Pham
209	Loc Phi Nguyen
210	Long Ngoc Nguyen
211	Long Nguyen
213	Luan Nguyen
214	Lucky Thanh Ngo
215	Luot Thi Nguyen
216	Luu Hoa T Pham
217	Luyen Do
218	Mai H Tran
219	Mai Quynh Pham
220	Mai Thi Doan
221	Mai Thi Le
222	Man Minh Tran
223	Manh Huu Nguyen
224	Mao Quy Nguyen
225	Mary Ngo
226	Mary T. Nguyen
227	Melissa T Nguyen
228	Menh Van Nguyen
229	Michael Nguyen
230	Michael Nguyen
231	Michelle Le Tran
232	Micki Khanh Tran
233	Mike Pham

234	Minh Dinh Tran
235	Minh Duc Hong Vo
236	Minh Pham
237	Minh Tan Vo
238	Minh Trang Ngo
239	Minh Van Le
240	Minh Van Nguyen
241	Minh Van Nguyen
242	My Ai Tran
243	My Ha Thi Nguyen
244	My Ha Thi Tran
245	My Linh T. Nguyen
246	My Thanh Duong
247	My Thi Nguyen
248	Nam Be Tran
249	Nam Ngoc Nguyen
250	Nam Phuong Thi Do
251	Nam Van Le
252	Nam Van Nguyen
253	Nam Van Tran
254	Nancy Bui
255	Nancy Tran
256	Nga Thi Nguyen
257	Nga Thi Tran
258	Ngan T. Tran
259	Nghia M Nguyen
260	Ngoc Dung Thi Le
261	Ngoc-Trang Thi Nguyen
263	Nhan T. Tran
264	Nhanh Van Tran
265	Nhat D. Nguyen
266	Nhat Van Nguyen
267	Nhi Thi Nguyen
268	Nu Thi Nguyen
269	Oanh Hoang Nguyen
270	Oanh Nguyen
271	Oanh Thuc Hoang
272	Paul Phan Pham
273	Peter Duc Kieu
274	Peter Thanh Nguyen

275	Phat Tan Huynh
276	Phi-Linh Vu Nguyen
277	Phu Thanh Le
278	Phuc Du Nguyen
279	Phuc Huu Nguyen
280	Phung Ngoc Nguyen
281	Phuoc Van Nguyen
282	Phuong Kim Nguyen
283	Phuong Mai Thi Nguyen
284	Phuong Nga Thi Vu
285	Phuong Nguyen
286	Phuong Thi Lyanna
287	Quang Van Dang
288	Qui Quan Tran
289	Qui Thi Dang
290	Quoc Minh Vo
291	Quoc Tuan Nguyen
293	Quyên Hoang Nguyen
294	Quyên Pham
295	Ret Thi Ho
296	Richard Hien Vo
297	Sac Van Vu
299	Sang Thanh Bui
300	Sang Tran
301	Sao Thanh Nguyen
302	Sen Minh Nguyen
303	Si Van Pham
304	Simon H. Le
305	Son Kim Le
306	Son Truc Nguyen
307	Son Truong Le
308	Song Van Vo
310	Steven Nguyen
311	Steven Nguyen
313	Tai Lam
314	Tai Minh Ngo
315	Tai Thi Nguyen
316	Tam Dinh Nguyen
317	Tam Hong Tran
318	Tam M. Phan

320	Tam Thi Nguyen
321	Tam Thi Pham
322	Tam V. Le
323	Tan Phat Nguyen
324	Tang Van Nguyen
325	Thai Quang Tran
326	Thai Van Nguyen
327	Tham Thi Dinh
328	Thang V. Tran
329	Thang Van Tran
330	Thanh Ba Nguyen
331	Thanh Cao Huynh
332	Thanh Minh Hoang
333	Thanh Ngoc Huynh
334	Thanh Van Nguyen
335	Thanh Van Nguyen
336	Thanh Van Nguyen
337	Thanh Van Tran
338	Thanh-Huong Thi
339	Thanh-Huyen Nguyen
340	Thanh-Linh Vu Nguyen
341	Thao Phuong Thi
342	Thao Van Pham
343	Thi Truong Nguyen
344	Thien Huong Le
345	Thim Thi Nguyen
346	Thin Le
347	Thinh T. Nguyen
348	Thomas Thanh Nguyen
349	Thong Van Trinh
350	Thu Hanh Thi Huynh
352	Thu Trang T Nguyen
353	Thu V. Nguyen
355	Thuan Nguyen
356	Thuong Tran
357	Thuong Truong
358	Thuy Anh Thi Le
359	Thuy Le Pham
360	Thuy Linh Thi Nguyen
361	Thuy Thi Hoang

362	Thuy Thi Thu Nguyen
363	Thy Phuong T. Le
364	Tien Le
366	Tien Van Nguyen
367	Tien Van Nguyen
368	Tieng Nguyen
369	Tiffany Vo
370	Tin Van Ho
371	Tina Chau Vu
372	Tina Hoang
373	Tinh Viet Nguyen
374	Toan Ba Nguyen
375	Toan D. Nguyen
376	Toan T. Nguyen
377	Tom Phan
378	Tommy Thong Nguyen
379	Tony Nguyen
380	Tony Tang
381	Tony Thai Nguyen
382	Trang Kim Nguyen
383	Trang Mai
384	Trang Thi Nguyen
385	Trang Thuy Au
386	Trang Xuan Dinh
387	Tri Nguyen
388	Tru Ngoc Dang
390	Trung K Hoang
391	Trung Thanh Nguyen
392	Trung Tran
393	Tu Tran
394	Tu Van Nguyen
395	Tuan Anh Nguyen
396	Tuan T. Dang
397	Tuoi Ngoc Nguyen
398	Tuong Huu Nguyen
399	Tuong Le Pham
400	Tuy Nguyen
401	Tuyen Bang Nguyen
402	Tuyen Minh Hoang

403	Tuyet Nguyen
404	Tuyet Thi Nguyen
405	Ut T. Chau
406	Ut Thi Le
407	Ut V. Nguyen
408	Ut Van Nguyen
409	Uyen T Dinh
410	Van Hong Truong
411	Van Huu Duc Nguyen
412	Van Vo
413	Vi Duc Luu
414	Victor Tran
415	Victoria Nguyen
416	Viet Anh Nguyen
417	Vinh V Nguyen
418	Vinh Van Nguyen
419	Vu Nguyen
420	Vui Le
421	Vuong Van Nguyen
422	Xe Thi Dao
423	Xinh Van Nguyen
424	Xuan Van Pham
425	Bao Loc Ho
426	Dung Van Lai
427	Loc Phuoc Duong
428	Minh Din Dui
429	Quyên Duc Doan
430	Luon Danh Nguyen
431	Victoria Hue Vu
432	Doi Nguyen
433	Nghia Huu Nguyen
434	Thuan Kim Nguyen
435	Tuong Vi Ngoc Nguyen
436	Christopher Hoang Tran
437	Sharon Bich Nhu Tran
438	Nang Van Tran
439	Jennifer Nguyen