## Cause No. 105,815-00-D

In re Estate of Harvey Lee Bryant, Deceased Jane A. Bryant, Applicant and Counter-Respondent v. In the 320<sup>th</sup> District Court William H. Bryant, Trustee, Independent Executor of the Estate of Harvey Lee Bryant, In and For Deceased, and Individually, Respondent and Counter-Applicant Potter County, Texas and Leslie M. Bryant, Putative Successor Independent Executor and Putative Successor Trustee and Individually, Respondent

## VEXATIOUS LITIGATOR AND SANCTIONS ORDER

## Came on to be heard:

- (1) Jane A. Bryant's Motion to Sanction and a Motion to Fine Leslie Bryant (in Absentia), Bill Bryant and Attorney Eric Wolfram for Committing Fraud, Theft, Perjury, Other Miscreant Actions and Making Invalid Debt Claims Against Jane to Steal Jane Anne Bryant's Inheritance While Violating the Rules of the Bryant Children's Trust, the Re-stated Will of Harvey L. Bryant, Texas Statutes and Common Law, and
- (2) Motion for Sanctions, filed by William H. Bryant, in all capacities, and Leslie M. Bryant, in all capacities. This motion includes a request for a vexatious litigator order.

The Court finds that timely and proper notice of the hearing was given to all parties. The hearing was conducted via Zoom. Jane Bryant appeared *pro se*. William H. Bryant appeared in person in all capacities, and by and through his attorney of record Frederic Wolfram. The Court called the hearing to order, took opening statements and then heard the evidence proffered by the parties.

Vexatious Litigator Order

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The Court judicially notices the following Court's files:

Cause No. 105,815-A-CV, In re Estate of Harvey Lee Bryant, Deceased, Jane A. Bryant, Applicant and Counter-Respondent v. William H. Bryant, Trustee, Independent Executor of the Estate of Harvey Lee Bryant, Deceased, and Individually, Respondent and Counter-Applicant and Leslie M. Bryant, Putative Successor Independent Executor and Putative Successor Trustee and Individually, Respondent, in the 47<sup>th</sup> District Court, in and for Potter County, Texas, the Honorable Steven Denny sitting by assignment.

Case Number: 07-18-00429-CV, In re Estate of Harvey Lee Bryant, Deceased, in the Seventh Court of Appeals, being an appeal from Cause No. 105,815-A-CV.

Cause No. 109,720-D-CV, In re Estate of Harvey Lee Bryant, Deceased, Jane A. Bryant, Applicant and Counter-Respondent v. William H. Bryant, Trustee, Independent Executor of the Estate of Harvey Lee Bryant, Deceased, and Individually, Respondent and Counter-Applicant and Leslie M. Bryant, Putative Successor Independent Executor and Putative Successor Trustee and Individually, Respondent, William H. Bryant, Trustee, Restated Bryant Family Trust, Garnishor v. LPL Financial Holdings, Inc., Garnishee, in the 47th District Court, in and for Potter County, Texas, the Honorable Steven Denny sitting by assignment.

Case No. 07-23-00441-CV, Jane Bryant v. William H. Bryant, Trustee and Restated Bryant Family Trust, in the Seventh Court of Appeals, being an appeal from Cause No. 109,720-D-CV.

Having considered the evidence and argument of the parties, the Court finds as follows:

- 1. William H. Bryant, in all capacities, and Leslie M. Bryant, in all capacities, are each a defendant under Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code § 11.001(1) and are each a moving defendant under Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code § 11.001(4).
- 2. Jane Bryant is a plaintiff under Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code § 11.001(5).
- 3. The above captioned case is litigation under Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code § 11.001(2).
- 4. Pursuant to Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code § 11.054, the Court further finds:
- 5. There is not a reasonable probability that Jane Bryant will prevail in the above captioned litigation against the defendants and that:
- 6. Ater a litigation has been finally determined against Jane Bryant, Jane Bryant repeatedly relitigates or attempts to relitigate, either:

- 7. The validity of the determination against the same defendants as to whom the litigation was finally determined, or,
- 8. The cause of action, claim, controversy, or any of the issues of fact or law determined or concluded by the final determination against the same defendants as to whom the litigation was finally determined. Specifically, Jane Bryant is relitigating claims barred by res judicata or by limitations, or both.
- 9. After notice and hearing, set forth above, the Court finds that Jane Bryant is a vexatious litigator and so designates her as a vexatious litigator.

On the motion of defendants, and pursuant to Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code § 11.101, this Court enters the following ORDER.

Jane Bryant is hereby PROHIBITED from filing or maintaining any new litigation in any Court in the State of Texas without permission of the appropriate local administrative judge described by Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code § 11.102(a), EXCEPT ONLY Case No. 07-23-00441-CV, Jane Bryant v. William H. Bryant, Trustee and Restated Bryant Family Trust, until final dismissal of the appeal.

If Jane Bryant disobeys this order, she is subject to contempt of court.

Jane Bryant may appeal from this order designating her a vexatious litigant.

The Court next considered the Motion for Sanctions under Rule 13 filed by the defendants. The Court, based on the evidence produced, finds that the motion and supporting documents filed by Jane Bryant in this case are groundless and brought in bad faith or groundless and brought for the purpose of harassment. The Court finds that there is no basis in law or fact for the claims of Jane Bryant and that such claims are not warranted by good faith argument for the extension, modification, or reversal of existing law.

The Court finds that defendants are entitled to recover attorney's fees as a sanction to compenstate them for having to respond to bad faith pleadings and claims. The finds that the number of hours expended by the attorney for defendants in responding to the bad faith claims of Jane Bryant are both reasonable and necessary. The Court finds that a reasonable hourly rate in Potter County, Texas, for legal services performed by the attorney for the defendants is \$400.00 per hour, and that a reasonable and necessary fee is \$3,000.00. The Court awards the sum of \$3,000.00 in favor of defendants and against Jane Bryant, as reasonable and necessary attorney's fees and as a sanction for violating Rule 13.

All relief not expressly granted in this order is hereby DENIED.

Date: 2/12/2024 11:05:28 AM

Judge Presiding