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FAYETTE LEGAL JOURNAL

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ESTATE NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that letters testamentary or of administration have been granted to the following estates. All persons indebted to said estates are required to make payment, and those having claims or demands to present the same without delay to the administrators or executors named.

Third Publication

DONALD G. KERFOOT, late of Connellsville, Fayette County, PA (3)

Personal Representative: Gloria Eileen Rohal c/o 815A Memorial Boulevard Connellsville, PA 15425 Attorney: Margaret Zylka House

RICHARD H. MILLER, late of North Union

Township, Fayette County, PA (3)

Co-Executors: Jason R. Miller and Michael Miller

c/o Fitzsimmons and Barclay

55 East Church Street, Suite 102

Uniontown, PA 15401

DORIS JEAN REID, a/k/a DORIS J. REID,

Attorney: James N. Fitzsimmons, Jr.

late of Fairchance, Fayette County, PA (3)

Personal Representative: Sharon D. Brewer

c/o 50 East Main Street

Blackstone Building

Uniontown, PA 15401

Attorney: Patrick C. McDaniel

MAUREEN C. SMITHBERGER, late of

South Union Township, Fayette County, PA (3)

Administrator: David Smithberger
c/o Adams and Adams
55 East Church Street, Suite 101
Uniontown, PA 15401
Attorney: Jason F. Adams

SHIRLEY ANNE THURBY, late of North

Union Township, Fayette County, PA (3)

Executor: Joseph E. Thurby, Sr.

c/o Adams and Adams

55 East Church Street, Suite 101

Uniontown, PA 15401

Attorney: Jason F. Adams

ERNEST W. WATSON, Jr., late of Lower

Tyrone Township, Fayette County, PA (3)

Personal Representative: Laurie A. Watson
129 Watson Road

East Millsboro, PA 15433

c/o 120 South Third Street

Connellsville, PA 15425

Attorney: John K. Greiner

Second Publication

LOUIS ANSELL, a/k/a LOUIS ANSELL, JR., late of Dunbar Township, Fayette County, PA (2)

Administratrix: Renee E. Ansell c/o Webster & Webster 51 East South Street Uniontown, PA 15401

Attorney: Webster & Webster

VIRGINIA MAE EBERHARTER, a/k/a VIRGINIA M. EBERHARTER, late of

Dunbar Township, Fayette County, PA (2)

Co-Executors:

James O. Rowan, Jr. and Wanda Brooks
c/o PO Box 760

Connellsville, PA 15425

Attorney: Carolyn W. Maricondi

CONNIE L. HARSHMAN, a/k/a CONNIE HARSHMAN, late of South Union Township,

Fayette County, PA (2)

Executrix: Jill Rowland
c/o Zebley Mehalov & White, P.C.
18 Mill Street Square
PO Box 2123
Uniontown, PA 15401
Attorney: Daniel R. White

PARKER ANDREW HESS, a/k/a PARKER

A. HESS, late of Redstone Township, Fayette County, PA (2)

Executrix: Heather Hess Richards
311 Twin Hills Road
Grindstone, PA 15442
c/o Meyers Evans Lupetin & Unatin, LLC
707 Grant Street, Suite 3200
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Attorney: Brendan B. Lupetin

CHARLES W. LEWIS, SR., a/k/a CHARLES W. LEWIS, late of Redstone Township, Fayette

County, PA (2)

Personal Representative: Louise Miller c/o Davis & Davis 107 East Main Street Uniontown, PA 15401 Attorney: James T. Davis

JOHN D. MCGARVEY, a/k/a DAN MCGARVEY, late of South Union Township,

Fayette County, PA (2)

Executor: James E. Higinbotham, Jr. c/o Higinbotham Law Offices
45 East Main Street, Suite 500
Uniontown, PA 15401
Attorney: James E. Higinbotham, Jr.

DONALD M. SMALL, late of Connellsville

Township, Fayette County, PA (2)

Co-Executors: Gilbert Lawrence Small and Chris Lawrence Small c/o Riverfront Professional Center 208 South Arch Street, Suite 2 Connellsville, PA 15425 Attorney: Richard A. Husband

DOROTHY LOUISE MOORE WILSON, a/k/a DOROTHY LOUISE WILSON, late of

Belle Vernon Borough, Fayette County, PA (2)

Co-Executors: Lance Wilson

104 Grata Street Belle Vernon, PA 15012

and Craig S. Wilson 937 Leeds Avenue

Monessen, PA 15062

c/o Bassi, Vreeland & Associates, P.C.

PO Box 144 111 Fallowfield Avenue Charleroi, PA 15022 Attorney: Bradley M. Bassi

First Publication

MANSFIELD BRANSON, late of Uniontown,

Fayette County, PA (1)

Administratrix: Brandy Whitehead 175 Seven Road Sewickley, PA 15143 c/o 320 South Maple Avenue Greensburg, PA 15601 Attorney: James M. Fox

FRANCES T. COLDREN, late of Uniontown,

Fayette County, PA (1)

Executor: Fred C. Adams c/o Adams and Adams 55 East Church Street, Suite 101 Uniontown, PA 15401 Attorney: Jason F. Adams

MILDRED G. HACKETT, late of Uniontown,

Fayette County, PA (1)

Personal Representative: John R. Hackett c/o Davis and Davis 107 East Main Street

Uniontown, PA 15401 Attorney: Gary F. Frankhouser

HARRY JAMES STAFFORD, III, a/k/a HARRY J. STAFFORD, III, a/k/a HARRY J. STAFFORD, late of Dunbar Township, Fayette

County, PA (1)

Administratrix: Kimberly Murphy 114 Jimtown Road Dawson, PA 15428 c/o 201 North Chestnut Street P.O. Box 342

Scottdale, PA 15683 Attorney: James S. Lederach

LINDA TUTTLE, a/k/a LINDA K. TUTTLE,

late of Wharton Township, Fayette County, PA

Executor: Allen W. Tuttle, Jr. c/o 556 Morgantown Road Uniontown, PA 15401 Attorney: John A. Kopas, III

STEPHEN J. UTLAK, late of Uniontown,

Fayette County, PA (1)

Executrix: Jackie Wilhelm
c/o Adams and Adams
55 East Church Street, Suite 101
Uniontown, PA 15401
Attorney: Jason F. Adams

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS NAME REGISTRATION

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the provisions of the Fictitious Names Act of Pennsylvania that an application for registration of a fictitious name was filed with the Department of State of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, for the conduct of a business under the fictitious name of AFA with its principal office or place of business at 121 N. Pittsburgh St., Connellsville, PA 15425. The names and addresses, including street and number, if any, of all persons who are parties to the registration are: Aaron Zolbrod, 121 N. Connellsville, PA 15425. Pittsburgh St., Advocates for the Aging, LLC, 121 N. Pittsburgh St., Connellsville, PA 15425.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, May 1, 2018, at 9:30 a.m., before The Honorable Joseph M. George, Jr., in Courtroom No. 5,of the Fayette County Courthouse, for the sale of the South Side Elementary School by the Connellsville Area Board of School Directors.

Interested persons may appear at the aforementioned hearing to offer testimony in favor of or in opposition to the proposed sale.

SHERIFF'S SALE

Date of Sale: June 14, 2018

By virtue of the below stated writs out of the Court of Common Pleas of Fayette County, Pennsylvania, the following described properties will be exposed to sale by James Custer, Sheriff of Fayette County, Pennsylvania on Thursday, June 14, 2018, at 2:00 p.m. in Courtroom Number Five at the Fayette County Courthouse, Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

The terms of sale are as follows:

Ten percent of the purchase price, or a sufficient amount to pay all costs if the ten percent is not enough for that purpose. Same must be paid to the Sheriff at the time the property is struck off and the balance of the purchase money is due before twelve o'clock noon on the fourth day thereafter. Otherwise, the property may be resold without further notice at the risk and expense of the person to whom it is struck off at this sale who in case of deficiency in the price bid at any resale will be required to make good the same. Should the bidder fail to comply with conditions of sale money deposited by him at the time the property is struck off shall be forfeited and applied to the cost and judgments. All payments must be made in cash or by certified check. The schedule of distribution will be filed the third Tuesday after date of sale. If no petition has been filed to set aside the sale within 10 days, the Sheriff will acknowledge Prothonotary a deed to the property sold. (3 of 3)

> James Custer Sheriff Of Fayette County

No. 1989 of 2014 GD No. 78 of 2018 ED

AMERIKOHL MINING INC., Plaintiff,

VS.

WAYNE K. BAKER, Defendant.

Property Address: 294 Hope Hollow Road, Springhill Township, PA 15451

Parcel ID: 36-14-0132

Being the same premises which Doris M. Cobb, widow, granted and conveyed unto Wayne K. Baker, single, by Deed dated November 28, 1980, and recorded in the Fayette County Recorder of Deeds Office on December 4, 1980 in Deed Book 1281 page 778.

Judgment Amount: \$ 50,779.26 together with interest at the rate of six percent (6 %) from June 25, 2014, plus costs of suit.

UDREN LAW OFFICES, P.C.
WOODCREST CORPORATE CENTER
111 WOODCREST ROAD, SUITE 200
CHERRY HILL, NJ 08003-3620
856-669-5400

No. 67 of 2018 GD No. 76 of 2018 ED

Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Home Equity Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Trust Series INABS 2006-D, Home Equity Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates Series INABS 2006-D,

Plaintiff.

 \mathbf{V}

HARRY BRAXTON A/K/A HARRY M. BRAXTON JOYCE L. DUGAN A/K/A JOYCE L. BRAXTON

Defendant(s).

ALL THAT CERTAIN LOT OF LAND SITUATE IN TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH UNION, FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA:

BEING KNOWN AS 17 Feathers Avenue, (South Union Township), Uniontown, PA 15401 PARCEL NUMBER: 34-17-0010

IMPROVEMENTS: Residential Property

ANNE N. JOHN Esq. ATTORNEY AT LAW

No. 2628 of 2017 GD No. 94 of 2018 ED

FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION OF GREENE COUNTY, a corporation.

Plaintiff,

VS.

DONALD L. CUNNINGHAM and ELIZABETH A. CUNNINGHAM, Defendants.

ALL that certain tract of land situate in the Village of Messmore, German Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, containing 1.6136 acres.

Upon which is erected a single-family dwelling known locally as 269 Messmore Road, McClellandtown, PA 15458 and a Mobile Home with land known locally as 259 Messmore Road, McClellandtown, PA 15458.

For prior title see Record Book 2802-2483. Fayette County Assessment Map Nos.: 15-28-0241 and 15-28-0242.

No. 1045 of 2016 GD No. 84 of 2018 ED

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE PENNSYLVANIA HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY,

PLAINTIFF,

VS.

TERRI DARNELL, DEFENDANT.

ALL that certain lot of ground in the Township of South Union, County of Fayette, Pennsylvania, being known as Lot No. 6 and the easterly portion of Lot No. 5 in the George Mikluscak Plan of Lots, Fayette County, Pennsylvania Deed Book Volume 824, page 579, HAVING THEREON ERECTED DWELLING KNOWN AS 1220 BROWNFIELD ROAD UNIONTOWN, PA 15401.

TAX PARCEL ID# 34-27-0390.

Fayette County Book 3113, Page 1196.

TO BE SOLD AS THE PROPERTY OF TERRI DARNELL ON JUDGMENT NO. 2016 -1045

No. 2657 of 2017 GD No. 67 of 2018 ED

The Huntington National Bank, Plaintiff,

VS.

Samuel J. DelSignore; Arleen B. DelSignore, AKA Arlene B. DelSignore, Defendants.

ALL that certain parcel of land lying and being situate in the Township of Redstone, County of Fayette, and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, known as 803 Fairbank Hurber, AKA, 803 Fairbank Herbert Road, AKA Herbert -Fairbank Road, New Salem, PA 15468 having erected thereon a dwelling house.

Being known and designated as Tax ID No.: 30-36-003801

BEING the same premises which Samuel J. DelSignore, Sr. and Arlene B. DelSignore, his wife, by Deed dated August 30, 2011 and recorded in and for Fayette County, Pennsylvania in Deed Book 3163, Page 1638, granted and conveyed unto Arlene B. DelSignore.

UDREN LAW OFFICES, P.C. WOODCREST CORPORATE CENTER 111 WOODCREST ROAD, SUITE 200 CHERRY HILL, NJ 08003-3620 856-669-5400

> No. 2667 of 2017 GD No. 64 of 2018 ED

KeyBank, N.A. successor by merger to First Niagara Bank,

Plaintiff

V.

SHIRLEY A HALFHILL Defendant(s).

ALL THAT CERTAIN LOT OF LAND SITUATE IN NORTH UNION TOWNSHIP, FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA:

BEING KNOWN AS 155 Piper hollow Rd, North Union, PA 15465

PARCEL NUMBER: 25160173 IMPROVEMENTS: Residential Property KML Law Group, P.C. Suite 5000 - BNY Independence Center 701 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19106 215-627-1322- Attorney for Plaintiff

> No. 2408 of 2017 GD No. 73 of 2018 ED

BAYVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, A DELAWARE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

4425 Ponce de Leon Blvd Coral Gables, FL 33146

Plaintiff.

 \mathbf{V} .

NIKKI D. HARDIN

Mortgagor(s) and Record Owner(s) 465 Maple Summit Road a/k/a 469 Maple Summit Road Mill Run, PA 15464 Defendant(s).

ALL THOSE TWO CERTAIN contiguous pieces or parcels of land situate in the TOWNSHIP OF STEWART, County of Fayette and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

TAX PARCEL #37-08-0031

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 465 Maple Summit Road a/k/a 469 Maple Summit Road Mill Run, PA 15464

IMPROVEMENTS: A residential dwelling.

SOLD AS THE PROPERTY OF: NIKKI D. HARDIN

No. 1574 of 2017 GD No. 72 of 2018 ED

PENNSYLVANIA HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY,

PLAINTIFF,

Vs.

SHEENA R. HUSAR A/K/A SHEENA R. HUSER,

DEFENDANT.

ALL those parcels of land in Masontown Borough, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, as shown in the John Karpineca, Jr. Plan of Lots, Plan Book 8, page 30; as follows:

- 1. Lot No. 15, containing 9,925 square feet; and
- 2. Eastern one-half of Lot 16; and

3. Western one-half of Lot No. 16.

HAYING THEREON ERECTED A
DWELLING KNOWN AND NUMBERED AS:
372 WEST CHURCH AVENUE
MASONTOWN, PA 15461.

Tax Parcel Nos. 21-06-0260; 21-06-0261; and 21-06-0262

Fayette Deed Book 3039, page 772

TO BE SOLD AS THE PROPERTY OF SHEENA R. HUSAR AKA SHEENA R. HUSER UNDER JUDGMENT NO. 2017-01574.

Phelan Hallinan Diamond & Jones, LLP

No. 1518 of 2017 GD No. 62 of 2018 ED

U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Structured Asset Securities Corporation, mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-EO1.

Plaintiff,

V

Gerald F. Jacobson, Defendant(s).

By virtue of a Writ of Execution No. 1518-OF-2017-GD, U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Structured Asset Securities Corporation, mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-EQl v. Gerald F. Jacobson, owner(s) of property situate in the GERMAN TOWNSHIP, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, being 540 Sixth Street, Hibbs, PA 15443

Parcel No.: 15-04-0055

Improvements thereon: RESIDENTIAL DWELLING

Phelan Hallinan Diamond & Jones, LLP

No. 2198 of 2017 GD No. 81 of 2018 ED

Pennymac Loan Services, LLC, Plaintiff

V.

Francis W. Lee, III, Defendant(s).

By virtue of a Writ of Execution No. 2198-OF-2017-GD, Pennymac Loan Services, LLC v. Francis W. Lee, III, owner(s) of property situate in the GEORGES TOWNSHIP, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, being 108 Victory Drive, Smithfield, PA 15478-1268

Parcel No.: 1425005741

Improvements thereon: RESIDENTIAL DWELLING

Phelan Hallinan Diamond & Jones, LLP

No. 2254 of 2017 GD No. 77 of 2018 ED

Bank of America, N.A., Plaintiff, V.

James V. Malone, in His Capacity as Heir of Edith L. Moore, Deceased Kenneth J Malone, in His Capacity as Heir of Edith L. Moore, Deceased Unknown Heirs, Successors, Assigns, and All Persons, Firms, or Associations Claiming Right, Title or Interest From or Under Edith L. Moore, Deceased,

Defendant(s).

By virtue of a Writ of Execution No. 2254-OF-2017-GD Bank of America, N.A. v. James V. Malone, in His Capacity as Heir of Edith L. Moore, Deceased Kenneth J. Malone, in His Capacity as Heir of Edith L. Moore, Deceased, Unknown Heirs, Successors, Assigns, and All Persons, Firms, or Associations Claiming Right, Title or Interest From or Under Edith L. Moore, Deceased, owner(s) of property situate in the DUNBAR BOROUGH, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, being 6 Ranch Road, Dunbar, PA 15431-1530

Parcel No.: 08-03-0283

Improvements thereon: RESIDENTIAL DWELLING

Phelan Hallinan Diamond & Jones, LLP

No. 264 of 2017 GD No. 83 of 2018 ED

Branch Banking & Trust Company, Plaintiff,

V.

Mark A. Proctor a/k/a Mark Proctor Deborah R. Proctor,

Defendant (s).

By virtue of a Writ of Execution No. 2017-00264 Branch Banking & Trust Company v. Mark A. Proctor a/k/a Mark Proctor Deborah R. Proctor, owner(s) of property situate in the NEWELL BOROUGH, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, being 405 Water Street, Newell, PA 15466

Parcel No.: 23-04-0010 Improvements thereon: RESIDENTIAL DWELLING

> No. 1100 of 2014 DSB No. 82 of 2018 ED

SOMERSET TRUST COMPANY, Plaintiff,

Vs.

DANIEL D. SZYMANSKI AND KIMBERLY S. SZYMANSKI, Husband and wife.

Defendant.

ALL THE RIGHT, TITLE, INTEREST AND CLAIM OF: DANIEL D. SZYMANSKI AND KIMBERLY S. SYZMANSKI, IN AND TO THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY:

ALL THOSE CERTAIN TWO (2) PARCELS OR TRACTS OF GROUND SITUATE IN SALTLICK TOWNSHIP, FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, BEING MORE FULLY DESCRIBED AT DBV 1512 PAGE 97.

BEING KNOWN AS 251 MILLERTOWN ROAD, INDIAN HEAD, PA 15446

PARCEL ID. 31190157 MAP NO. 31-19-0157 Nicholas A. Didomenico, Esquire McGrath McCall, P.C. Four Gateway Center, Suite 1040 444 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

> No. 2351of 2016 GD No. 79 of 2018 ED

NORTHWEST BANK, F/K/A NORTHWEST SAVINGS BANK, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO PRESTIGE BANK.

Plaintiff.

VS.

JACK R. TAYLOR and KERRI LOU TAYLOR.

Defendants.

All that certain tract of land situate in Washington Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, Being commonly known as 420 First Street Extension, Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania 15012, Tax Parcel ID No. 41-002-0006. (2 of 3)

No. 1476 of 2017 GD No. 80 of 2018 ED

PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO NATIONAL CITY BANK,

Plaintiff,

VS.

ERNEST A. WALTERS AND SHERRY L. WALTERS.

Defendants.

ALL THE RIGHT TITLE, INTEREST AND CLAIMS OF ERNEST A. WALTERS AND SHERRY L. WALTERS, OF, IN AND TO THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY:

ALL THAT CERTAIN LOT NO. 1 IN THE WALT ERS SUBDIVISION SITUATE IN SOUTH UNION TOWNSHIP, FAYETTE COUNTY PENNSYLVANIA, A PLOT OF WHICH IS RECORDED IN PLAN BOOK 45, PAGE 100.

RR 13 DUKAT STREET, UNIONTOWN, PA 15401.

TAX PARCEL NO. 34-24-012101

(2 of 3)

ANNE N. JOHN Esq. ATTORNEY AT LAW

No. 2614 of 2017 GD No. 93of 2018 ED

FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION OF GREENE COUNTY, a corporation,

Plaintiff,

VS.

SARAH L. WAMSLEY and WILLIAM M. WAMSLEY.

Defendants.

ALL that certain piece or parcel of land situate in German Township, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, being part of the Lambert Mining Village.

FOR prior title see Record Book 3264 at page 1504. Upon which is erected a double dwelling house known as Nos. 268-269 Lambert Mining Village, now known as Edenborn-Lambert, Inc., and having a street address of 416 Main Street, McClellandtown, Pennsylvania 15458.

Fayette County Assessment Map No.: 15-13-0016. (2 of 3)

SHERIFF'S SALE

Date of Sale: May 3, 2018

By virtue of the below stated writs out of the Court of Common Pleas of Fayette County, Pennsylvania, the following described properties will be exposed to sale by James Custer, Sheriff of Fayette County, Pennsylvania on Thursday, May 3, 2018, at 2:00 p.m. in Courtroom Number Five at the Fayette County Courthouse, Uniontown, Pennsylvania.

The terms of sale are as follows:

Ten percent of the purchase price, or a sufficient amount to pay all costs if the ten percent is not enough for that purpose. Same must be paid to the Sheriff at the time the property is struck off and the balance of the purchase money is due before twelve o'clock noon on the fourth day thereafter. Otherwise, the property may be resold without further notice at the risk and expense of the person to whom it is struck off at this sale who in case of deficiency in the price bid at any resale will be required to make good the same. Should the bidder fail to comply with conditions of sale money deposited by him at the time the property is struck off shall be forfeited and applied to the cost and judgments. All payments must be made in cash or by certified check. The schedule of distribution will be filed the third Tuesday after date of sale. If no petition has been filed to set aside the sale within 10 days, the Sheriff will acknowledge and Prothonotary a deed to the property sold. (3 of 3)

> James Custer Sheriff Of Fayette County

No. 1644 of 2017 GD No. 56 of 2018 ED

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., vs. DONALD YAUGER LAURA YAUGER

ALL THAT CERTAIN LOT OR PIECE OF GROUND SITUATE AS A PARCEL OR LOT OF GROUND LOCATED NEAR THE VILLAGE OF COOLSPRING, NORTH UNION TOWNSHIP, FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

BEING THE SAME PREMISES which Earnest E. Yauger and Patricia S. Yauger, by Deed dated January 29, 2008 and recorded January 29, 2008 in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds in and for Fayette County in Deed Book Volume 3051, Page 2237, granted and conveyed unto DONALD YAUGER, their son.

BEING KNOWN AS: 129 PINE RIDGE ROAD, LEMONT FURNACE, PA 15456 PARCEL #25-27-0253

Phelan Hallinan Diamond & Jones, LLP

No. 2323 of 2017 GD No. 4 of 2018 ED

JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, Plaintiff,

 \mathbf{V} .

John Yurkovich Teri Yurkovich, Defendant(s).

By virtue of a Writ of Execution No. 2323 OF 2017 GD, JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association v. John Yurkovich Teri Yurkovich, owner(s) of property situate in the SOUTH CONNELLSVILLE BOROUGH, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, being 1167 West Gibson Avenue, Connellsville, PA 15425-4859

Parcel No.: 33-04-0044, 33-04-004401 Improvements thereon: RESIDENTIAL DWELLING

JUDICIAL OPINION

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA CIVIL DIVISION

JACQUELINE M. HUNT and MICHAEL L.

MURDOCK, individually and as parents :

and natural guardians of ELI L. :

MURDOCK, a minor, :

Plaintiffs,

VS.

UNIONTOWN HOSPITAL and

NURSE JANICE SIMPSON, : No. 1338 of 2017, G.D. Defendants. : Judge Linda R. Cordaro

OPINION

Linda R. Cordaro, J.

April 12, 2018

SUMMARY

Before the Court is Defendant Uniontown Hospital's Preliminary Objections to Plaintiffs' Complaint. Defendant specifically objects to Count IV of Plaintiffs' Complaint, which asserts a cause of action for "loss of society, comfort, and companionship" for the alleged injuries to Plaintiffs' son.

BACKGROUND

When determining preliminary objections, "all material facts set forth in the challenged pleadings are admitted as true, as well as all inferences reasonably deducible therefrom." Feingold v. Hendrzak, 15 A.3d 937, 941 (Pa. Super. 2011), citing Haun v. Community Health Systems, Inc.,14 A.3d 120, 123 (Pa. Super. 2011). Preliminary objections that seek the dismissal of a cause of action should be sustained "only in cases in which it is clear and free from doubt that the pleader will be unable to prove facts legally sufficient to establish the right to relief." Id. If doubt exists as to whether a demurrer should be sustained, it should be resolved in favor of the non-moving party. Id. As such, this Court cites to the relevant facts alleged in the Complaint.

On August 16, 2017, Plaintiffs Jacqueline Hunt and Michael Murdock filed a Complaint in the Fayette County Court of Common Pleas. Ms. Hunt and Mr. Murdock are the parents and natural guardians of the minor child, Eli Murdock, and filed this suit individually and as parents and natural guardians of the minor child. Complaint at 1-2. In their Complaint, Plaintiffs allege that on June 29, 2015, Jacqueline Hunt gave birth at Uniontown Hospital. Id. at 8. The day after the baby's birth, at 6:30 AM, a nurse was feeding the baby, when the nurse fell asleep and dropped the baby. Id. at 9-11. The baby fell several feet and hit his head on a ceramic tile floor. Id. at 11.

After the fall, the baby was transported to Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh and diagnosed with a parietal skull fracture and an epidural hematoma. Id. at 14-17. The baby was evaluated for hypothermia and tremors, and also had a poor grasp while feeding. Id. at 15, 20.

At the time the Complaint was filed, the child was 25 months old. Id. at 23. Plaintiffs allege that the child continues to have physical and cognitive abnormalities as well as significant developmental delays as a result of his injury. Id. at 22-25. The developmental delays include issues with communication, speech, motor skills, walking, cognitive ability, the ability to sit, social and emotional development, physical development, and adaptive development. Id. at 26. He also suffers from a misaligned left eye. Id. Plaintiffs also claim that their child will continue to suffer from these disabilities, and that the full extent of his disabilities are not yet known. Id. at 23, 28.

In Count IV of their Complaint, Plaintiffs seek damages for the loss of society, comfort, and companionship of their injured child, and claim that they have been deprived of enjoying the life of their child without his cognitive abnormalities. Defendant Uniontown Hospital now objects to this claim on the basis that it is not recognized in Pennsylvania. This Court heard argument on March 19, 2018.

DISCUSSION

Pennsylvania courts have long recognized a cause of action for parents' loss of services of an injured child. E.g. Pennsylvania Railroad Co. v. Kelly, 31 Pa. 372,372 (Pa. 1858) ("Where a father sues for damages resulting from an injury to his child, he can only recover compensatory damages; to be measured by the loss of the child's services ... "); Czimmer v. Janssen Pharm., Inc.,122 A.3d 1043, 1060 (Pa. Super. 2015) ("Under Pennsylvania Law, personal injury to a minor gives rise to two separate and distinct causes of action, one the parents' claim for medical expenses and loss of the minor's services during minority, the other the minor's claim for pain and suffering and for losses after minority.").

In certain Pennsylvania cases, the Superior Court has held that the loss of services includes society and comfort. Rettger v. UPMC Shadyside, 991A.2d 915, 932 (Pa. Super. 2010). In Rettger, the parents of an adult child filed negligence and wrongful death claims against the hospital where their son was undergoing treatment for a brain tumor and later died. Id. at 920-922. After a jury verdict in favor of the plaintiffs, the hospital argued on appeal that the trial court erred in denying its motion for remittitur. Id. at 932. Specifically, the hospital argued that the value of "services" should have been relegated to household chores and similar work. Id. at 933. However, the court explained that the loss of services "extends to the profound emotional and psychological loss suffered upon the death of a parent or a child where the evidence establishes the negligence of another as its cause." Id.

In Hatwood v. Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, the Superior Court affirmed that the loss of services includes loss of companionship, society, and comfort.

Hatwood v. Hosp. of the Univ. of Penn., 55 A.3d 1229, 1235-1236 (Pa. Super. 2012). There, the parents of a baby who suffered a brain injury during delivery and died 17 months later were entitled to damages for loss of companionship, society, and comfort. Id. at 1237.

Defendant Uniontown Hospital argues in its Preliminary Objections that these cases do not apply because they involve wrongful death cases. However, the Superior Court has held that "the definition of compensable services for the purpose of the death statute is similar to the definition of consortium as that term is applied in other negligence cases." Machado v. Kunkel, 804 A.2d 1238 , 1245 (Pa. Super. 2002), citing Summary of Pennsylvania Jurisprudence 2d Torts §25A2 (1999). Further, in at least one case, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania has allowed parents to recover for mental distress damages for the birth of a "defective, diseased child," which resulted from the tortious actions of a physician. Speck v. Finegold, 439 A.2d 110, 113-114 (Pa. 1981).

In Speck, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court aptly noted that "[i]t is fundamental that one may seek redress for every substantial wrong, and that a wrongdoer is responsible for the natural and probable consequences of his misconduct." Id. at 113. If the facts averred in the present case are true, the parents should be permitted to seek redress for their loss of companionship, society, and comfort of their injured son.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the Court finds that Defendant Uniontown Hospital has failed to prove the legal insufficiency of Count IV of Plaintiffs' Complaint. The Court therefore enters an Order denying Defendant Uniontown Hospital's Preliminary Objections.

ORDER

AND NOW, this 12th day of April, 2018, in consideration of Defendant Uniontown Hospital's Preliminary Objections, and after hearing argument on said Objections, it is hereby ORDERED and DIRECTED that said Objections are OVERRULED.

BY THE COURT: LINDA R. CORDARO, JUDGE

ATTEST: Nina Capuzzi Frankhouser Prothonotary

Registers' Notice

Notice by JEFFREY L. REDMAN, Register of Wills and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Orphans' Court Division of the Court of Common Pleas

Notice is hereby given to heirs, legatees, creditors, and all parties in interest that accounts in the following estates have been filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Orphans' Court Division of the Court of Common Pleas as the case may be, on the dates stated and that the same will be presented for confirmation to the Orphans' Court Division of Fayette County on

Monday, May 7, 2018 at 9:30 A.M.

Estate Number	Estate Name	<u>Accountant</u>
2617-0050	GEORGE LAZARCHECK	Georgia VanSickle, Executrix

Notice is also hereby given that all of the foregoing Accounts will be called for Audit on Monday, May 21, 2018 at 9:30 A.M.

in Court Room No. 1 of the **Honorable STEVE P. LESKINEN**, or his chambers, 2nd Floor, Courthouse, Uniontown, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, at which time the Court will examine and audit said accounts, hear exceptions to same or fix a time therefore, and make distribution of the balance ascertained to be in the hands of the Accountants.

Notice is also hereby given to heirs, legatees, creditors, and all parties in interest that accounts in the following estates have been filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Orphans' Court Division of the Court of Common Pleas as the case may be, on the dates stated and that the same will be presented for confirmation to the Orphans' Court Division of Fayette County on

Monday, May 7, 2018 at 9:30 A.M.

Estate Number	Estate Name	Accountant
2616-0871	JACOB W. TOWNSEND	David J. Townsend, Executor
2616-0443	DELAINE A. RUMBAUGH	Lois M. Watts and Margaret Jane Updegraff, Executrices

Notice is also hereby given that all of the foregoing Accounts will be called for Audit on Monday, May 21, 2018 at 9:30 A.M.

in Court Room No. 2 of the **Honorable JOHN F. WAGNER** or his chambers, 2nd Floor, Courthouse, Uniontown, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, at which time the Court will examine and audit said accounts, hear exceptions to same or fix a time therefore, and make distribution of the balance ascertained to be in the hands of the Accountants.

JEFFREY L. REDMAN
Register of Wills and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Orphans' Court Division (1 of 2)

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