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IN THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LINCOLN

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In the Matter of the Estate

JEANNETTE ALLENE COX,

Deceased.

ORDER GIVING DIRECTION

A Petition for Probate of Will and Issuance of Letters was filed for this Estate on March 19, 1993. The Court admitted the Will to probate and issued Letter Testamentary on March 26, 1993. On April 22, 1993, the Executrix of the Will filed a Petition for Advice regarding whether certain property should be included in the estate, and on June 11, 1993, her attorney appeared before the Court and provided facts relating to that question. The Court now gives the following direction.

The facts appear to be as follows. On April 22, 1980, the Decedent in this case executed a Quitclaim Deed for a lot and all improvements on the lot. All interests in this property were conveyed to "The Cox Family Trust." The question raised here by the Executrix is whether this conveyance was invalid due to the fact it was made to a trust rather than to an individual or individuals as trustees for the trust. If the conveyance was invalid, then

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property is part of the decedent's Estate rather than part of the trust corpus.

The Court has found no Nevada Statute or case on point.

In Hodgkiss v. Northland Petroleum Consol., 67 P.2d 811 (1937), the Supreme Court of Montana held that a mineral deed made out to a trust was not void. The conveyance was made to the trust, and trustees were not named in the conveyance, but they were appointed under the trust agreement. Id. at 813. The Court stated:

A deed is sufficient if the grantee can be identified by extrinsic evidence. The trustees of the defendant trust were all parties to the trust agreement. They were identified persons. Accordingly, we hold that the mineral deed was not void for want of a proper grantee.

Id. at 814 (citation omitted). This Court agrees with the Montana court's reasoning and finds <u>Hodgkiss</u> to be persuasive authority to uphold the conveyance in this case.

The intent of a grantor should be followed whenever possible. It is clear that the Decedent here intended to convey the property in question to her Family Trust. The Family Trust document designated the Decedent and her husband as trustees. The Court therefore concludes the Quitclaim Deed was validly made to a proper grantee and the property became part of the trust corpus.

The Court hereby instructs the Executrix to act in accordance with the Court's direction and treating the following described property as in "The Cox Family Trust:"

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This document to which this certificate is attached is a full, true and correct copy of the original, on file and of record in the County Clarks Office, Ploche Nevade.

In winess whereof, I have haraunto set my band and affixed the Seal of the Seventh Judicial District Fourt in and for the County of Liscoin, State of

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