

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION

CANDACE LOUISE CURTIS

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CIVIL ACTION NO. H-12-CV-592

vs.

ANITA KAY BRUNSTING, and
AMY RUTH BRUNSTING

AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF REMOVAL OF LIS PENDENS

STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF COMAL §

Before me, the undersigned authority, appeared Amy Ruth Brunsting who after being duly sworn by me did state:

1. My name is Amy Ruth Brunsting. I am over 18 years of age, competent to make this affidavit, and have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein.
2. This case involves the allegations of my sister, Candace Louise Curtis, who is disgruntled with the amount of information and accounting I and my sister have provided to her while acting in our capacity as Co-Successor Trustees of the Brunsting Family Living Trust.
3. The contentions of Candace are totally meritless, and I believe have more to do with the disappointment she feels in the fact that our parents did not feel she was competent to handle her own inheritance. She began issuing threats and demands within weeks after our mother died, and before we have had a chance to evaluate the proper handling of assets in the estate, including the largest asset, a farm in Iowa.
4. Her various complaints will be addressed in some greater detail if this court believes it has jurisdiction over the administration of a living trust. However, of immediate concern is the potential chilling effect that Candace filing of a *lis pendens* may have on the sale of our parent's residential homestead, which is scheduled to close on March 9, 2012.
5. As Co-Trustees, my sister and I have determined that it is impractical to give each of the five heirs, or the trusts set up for their benefit (as is the case for Candace), an undivided share of a house in Houston. We therefore have prepared and offered the house for sale. None of the heirs

have objected to this plan, including Candace. Our authority to sell is contained in Article IX, Section C of the Brunsting Family Living Trust. The specific provision regarding real estate appears on page 9-5 of the document under the heading of "Real Estate" and this section can be viewed in the copy of the trust supplied by Candace as an exhibit to her Complaint.

6. We first obtained an appraisal of the property. This is attached hereto as Exhibit "A". This appraisal, dated in January of this year, placed the fair market value of the property at \$410,000. We listed the property for \$469,000 and were fortunate enough to attract a buyer, Brett C. McCarroll, who offered \$469,000. The contract for this sale is attached as Exhibit "B". Although originally scheduled to close in February, the closing has been moved to this Friday, March 9.

7. As further evidence of the fair value of the proposed sale, I attach the Harris County Appraisal District tax appraisal, showing the taxable value of the property to be approximately \$270,000.

8. We have attempted to provide Candace with enough information to evaluate her position in the trust administration, and have sent her preliminary spreadsheets with a listing of assets and liabilities, as best we have been able to determine in the short time since our mother's death on November 11, 2011. She is not satisfied with the information we have provided and has stated her objective of tying up the administration of the estate until she gets a response that satisfies her. She is the only one of the five heirs who has taken this position, and as can be gleaned from her lengthy, and mostly inaccurate unsworn statement, filed with the complaint, relates to her animosity towards the two of us in the manner we attempted to aid our mother in the final months of her life.

9. If this sale is not consummated on the scheduled closing date, we have no assurance that the buyer will await the resolution of Candace's complaints and the sale will, in all likelihood, be lost. This will result in further expense to the trust estate for maintenance and upkeep to the property without any appreciation in the value. The house was originally shown for sale fully furnished. It is now empty. It's "buyer appeal" has been diminished and this could also jeopardize future sale prospects if this sale is lost.

10. The sale of the house is important for the trust estate, and should not be endangered simply because Candace is mad. We are asking the court to lift the lis pendens so the sale can be consummated, for the benefit of all of the heirs.


AMY RUTH BRUNSTING

Amy Ruth Brunsting

Sworn to and signed before me by ~~6th~~, on this 6th day of March, 2012.

Teresa Simmons
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas



Church of Christ
1665 Business Loop 35 S.
New Braunfels, TX 78130