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16	Administrative Head of the New York State and	Local Retirement System and Trustee of the New	
17	York State Common Retirement Fund; and, for t	he New York City Pension Funds	
1/			
18		CT COURT	
19	CLARK COU	JNTY, NEVADA	
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20	IN RE WYNN RESORTS, LTD. DERIVATIVE LITIGATION	Lead Case No. A-18-769630-B Dept. No.: XVI	
21	DERIVATIVE EFFICATION	Dept. No.: AVI	
22		NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER DENYING DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO	
22		DISMISS AND GRANTING LEAD	
23		PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO STRIKE	
24		J	
	TO ALL DADWING AND THEIR ATTORNA	EWG OF BEGODE	
25	TO: ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:		
26	PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the ORDER DENYING DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO		
27	DISMISS AND GRANTING LEAD PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO STRIKE was		
28	signed by the Judge on the 4th day of Septembe	r, 2018 and filed with the Eighth Judicial District	

1	Court on the 5th day of September, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto.	
2	DATED this 6th day of September, 2018.	
3	WOLF, RIFKIN, SHAPIRO, SHULMAN & RABKIN, LLP	
4	By: /s/ Don Springmeyer, Esq.	
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# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 6th day of September, 2018, a true and correct copy
of NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER DENYING DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS AND
GRANTING LEAD PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO STRIKE was served by electronically filing
with the Clerk of the Court using the Odyssey eFileNV system and serving all parties with an
email-address on record, pursuant to Administrative Order 14-2 and Rule 9 of the N.E.F.C.R.

By <u>/s/ Christie Rehfeld</u>

Christie Rehfeld, an Employee of WOLF, RIFKIN, SHAPIRO, SCHULMAN & RABKIN, LLP

Electronically Filed 9/5/2018 3:28 PM Steven D. Grierson CLERK OF THE COURT

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19	York State Common Retirement Fund; and, for t	ne New Tork City Pension Funas		
20	DISTRICT COURT			
21 CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA		NIY, NEVADA		
22	IN RE WYNN RESORTS, LTD.	Lead Case No. A-18-769630-B		
23	DERIVATIVE LITIGATION	Dept. No.: XVI		
24		ORDER DENYING DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISMISS AND GRANTING LEAD PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO		
25		STRIKE		
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28	Ol	RDER		

AUG 2 3 2018

This matter came before the Court on August 9, 2018, for hearing on (1) the Motion to 1 Dismiss filed jointly by Defendants J. Edward Virtue, Clark T. Randt, Jr., Robert J. Miller, D. 3 Boone Wayson, John J. Hagenbuch, Jay L. Johnson, Patricia Mulroy, and Alvin A. Shoemaker (collectively, the "Board" or the "Director Defendants"), Matt Maddox, Kimmarie Sinatra, and Stephen A. Wynn (together with the Board, "Defendants"); and (2) Lead Plaintiffs, Thomas P. 5 DiNapoli, Comptroller of the State of New York, as Administrative Head of the New York State 7 and Local Retirement System and Trustee of the New York State Common Retirement Fund ("NYSCRF"), and the NYC Funds<sup>1</sup> Motion to Strike Defendant Kimmarie Sinatra's Reply on 8 Order Shortening Time. Appearing were Don Springmeyer, Esq., and Julie G. Reiser, Esq., for Lead Plaintiffs; Alex L. Fugazzi, Esq., and Matthew Solum, Esq., for Defendants D. Boone 11 Wayson, John J. Hagenbuch, Ray R. Irani, Jay L. Johnson, Robert J. Miller, Patricia Mulroy, Clark T. Randt, Jr., Alvin V. Shoemaker, J. Edward Virtue, Matthew Maddox, and Nominal 12

Kimmarie Sinatra; and Will Kemp, Esq. and Michael J. Gayan, Esq., for Plaintiff C. Jeffrey Rogers.

The Court, having read the pleadings and papers filed by the parties, reviewed the exhibits attached to the briefing, and considered the oral arguments of counsel, including the graphic

handout accepted by the Court, finds and concludes as follows:<sup>2</sup>

Defendant Wynn Resorts, Limited; J. Colby Williams, Esq., and Colleen C. Smith, Esq., for

Defendant Stephen A. Wynn; Erika Pike Turner, Esq., and James Kramer, Esq., for Defendant

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Variable Annuity Program.

are to be understood as such.

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Any factual findings that are more properly characterized as legal conclusions, and vice versa,

The NYC Funds are: New York City Employees' Retirement System, New York City Police

Pension Fund, Police Officer's Variable Supplements Fund, Police Supervisor Officers Variable Supplements Fund, New York City Fire Pension Fund, Fire Fighters' Variable Supplements Fund, Fire Officers' Variable Supplements Fund, Board of Education Retirement System of the City of New York, Teachers' Retirement System of the City of New York, and New York City Teachers'

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#### I. MOTION TO DISMISS

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## A. Standard

A plaintiff seeking to assert claims derivatively on behalf of a corporation must either demand that the corporation's board of directors take the action the plaintiff desires, or show that making such a demand would be futile. See Shoen v. SAC Holding Corp., 137 P.3d 1171, 1179–85 (Nev. 2006). To adequately plead demand futility, Shoen instructs Nevada courts to "examine whether particularized facts demonstrate: (1) in those cases in which the directors approved the challenged transactions, a reasonable doubt that the directors were disinterested or that the business judgment rule otherwise protects the challenged decision", id. at 641 (adopting standard from Aronson v. Lewis, 473 A.2d 805, 814 (Del. 1984)); or "(2) in those cases in which the challenged transactions did not involve board action or the board of directors has changed since the transactions, [whether there is] a reasonable doubt that the board can impartially consider a demand." Id. (adopting standard from Rales v. Blasband, 634 A.2d 927, 934 (Del. 1993)). "In practice, the Aronson and Rales 'disinterested and independent' tests often amount to the same analysis—i.e., whether directorial interest in the challenged act or the outcome of any related litigation negates impartiality to consider a demand." Id. at 641 n.62. The question of whether to apply Aronson or Rales "does not matter" so long as plaintiffs' allegations raise a "reasonable doubt" as to whether a majority of the board faces a "substantial likelihood of liability" for failing to act in the face of a known duty to act. Rosenbloom v. Pyott, 765 F.3d 1137, 1150 (9th Cir. 2014) ("Allergan") ("Under either approach, demand is excused if Plaintiffs' particularized allegations create a reasonable doubt as to whether a majority of the board of directors faces a substantial likelihood of personal liability for breaching the duty of loyalty.") (citing, inter alia, Guttman v. Huang, 823 A.2d 492, 501 (Del. Ch. 2003)).

Under Nevada law, the failure to act must be intentional or knowing. *Fosbre v. Matthews*, No. 3:09-CV-0467-ECR-RAM, 2010 WL 2696615, at \*6 (D. Nev. July 2, 2010) (under NRS § 78.138, plaintiffs must plead particularized facts showing that the acts or omissions of the defendant directors involved "intentional misconduct, fraud or a knowing violation of the law").

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 $^3$  All "¶ \_\_" references are to Lead Plaintiffs' Amended Complaint.

Litig., 722 F. Supp. 2d 453, 461 (S.D.N.Y. 2010)).

a pre-suit demand." *Id.* (emphasis added).

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However, plaintiffs need not show a "smoking gun of Board knowledge"; instead, plaintiffs may

rely on inferences drawn from circumstantial evidence. Allergan, 765 F.3d at 1155-56 (citing

reasonable probability of success on the claim." See La. Mun. Police Emps. 'Ret. Sys. v. Pyott, 46

A.3d 313, 351 (Del. Ch. 2012) ("Pyott"), rev'd on other grounds, 74 A.3d 612 (Del. 2013).

Rather, "[p]laintiffs need only 'make a threshold showing, through the allegation of particularized

facts, that their claims have some merit." Id. (citing Rales, 634 A.2d at 934). Further, the Court

must take as true the complaint's allegations and draw all fair inferences in favor of plaintiff.

Shoen, 137 P.3d at 1182. When a plaintiff alleges that a board, or a majority of it, was involved in

nearly all the decisions that allegedly give rise to a substantial likelihood of liability, "courts may

evaluate demand futility by looking to the whole board of directors rather than going one by one

through its ranks." Allergan, 765 F.3d at 1151, n.13 (citing In re Pfizer Inc. S'holder Derivative

Lead Plaintiffs filed their Amended Complaint on March 23, 2018. La. Mun. Police Emps.' Ret.

Sys. v. Wynn, 829 F.3d 1048, 1058 (9th Cir. 2016) ("LAMPERS") (citing Braddock v. Zimmerman,

906 A.2d 776, 786 (Del. 2006)). "[S]hareholders must allege that at least half of the board, as it

was constituted when the shareholders *filed* the amended complaint, was incapable of entertaining

Complaint on March 23, 2018: Defendants Hagenbuch, Johnson, Miller, Mulroy, Randt, Jr.,

Shoemaker, Virtue, and Wayson. Amended Complaint ¶ 1 n.1.3 Thus, to survive a motion to

There were eight board members at the time Lead Plaintiffs filed their Amended

The relevant directors for the demand futility analysis are those on the board at the time

The Relevant Board for Purposes of Demand Futility

"To show...'a substantial risk of liability,' the plaintiff does not have to demonstrate a

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dismiss, Plaintiffs must allege facts that show that demand is futile as to four of those eight directors. *AMERCO*, 252 P.3d at 698 (Nev. 2011) (citing *Beneville v. York*, 769 A.2d 80, 86 (Del. Ch. 2000)); *Shoen*, 137 P.3d at 1184 n.62.

# C. Lead Plaintiffs Adequately Pleaded Demand Futility

Lead Plaintiffs sufficiently pleaded that a majority of the Board faces a substantial likelihood of liability for two separate reasons, each of which as alleged independently satisfies demand futility: 1) for knowingly failing to take action in the face of credible and corroborated reports that Steve Wynn sexually harassed and abused Wynn Resorts employees, including failing to notify regulators of information material to Steve Wynn's suitability as a gaming licensee, and 2) for profiting on this information through insider trading that came at the Company's and shareholder's expense.

According to the Amended Complaint, by 2009, and certainly by 2016, the Board was aware that: (1) Steve Wynn had paid a multimillion-dollar settlement in 2005 (the "Settlement"); (2) Steve Wynn was engaged in an alleged "pattern" of sexual misconduct; and (3) it had an obligation to report such misconduct to gaming regulators. According to the Amended Complaint, a March 28, 2016, press release shows that the Board knew of the Settlement, of Steve Wynn's pattern of sexual misconduct, and also that it understood its obligation to report such conduct to gaming regulators and shareholders, stating: "[a]s a leader in a highly regulated industry, Wynn Resorts prides itself on transparency and full disclosure to regulators and shareholders. Allegations made by Ms. Wynn that the company would hide any relevant activities from our regulators are patently false." See e.g., ¶¶ 100; 139. Yet the Amended Complaint alleges that the Board consciously did just that, jeopardizing Wynn's gaming licenses and its \$2.4 billion casino currently under construction. ¶¶ 66, 102. According to the Amended Complaint, knowledge of this one incident of sexual assault is sufficient to have required the Board to conduct an investigation, as well as report the incident to gaming regulators.

In addition to alleged knowledge of the 2005 sexual assault and Steve Wynn's "pattern" of sexual misconduct, other circumstantial evidence alleged by Lead Plaintiffs supports that the

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among other things: (1) lawsuits filed with the EEOC and against the Board by Steve Wynn's victims, which allege that the Board knew of Steve Wynn's misconduct even earlier than 2016; (2) evidence that the Company's General Counsel, Defendant Sinatra, and at least two Board members, Steve Wynn and Elaine Wynn, knew about the 2005 assault as early as 2009; (3) the fact that Steve Wynn's "suitability" was critical to the Company's business; (4) the sheer magnitude and duration of Steve Wynn's illegal conduct, which involved at least hundreds of individual instances of sexual assault and harassment over the course of decades, along with a litary of additional red flags; (5) the Board's involvement in the Elaine Wynn/Okada litigation, which specifically involved serious allegations of sexual misconduct against Steve Wynn; (6) a lawsuit filed by Worldwide Wynn LLC, a subsidiary of Wynn Resorts, against Doreen Whennen, former Vice President of Hotel Operations at Wynn Las Vegas, to prevent her from disclosing notes concerning Steve Wynn's 2005 sexual assault; (7) that numerous Wynn employees reported Steve Wynn's sexual misconduct to senior Wynn executives and that Steve Wynn's inappropriate behavior was well-known by Wynn employees throughout the Company and on public display in various Wynn Las Vegas locations; (8) the Board's knowledge of a settlement in Arrowsmith, et al. v. Mirage Casino-Hotel, 2:97-cv-00638-RLH-LRL (D. Nev. 1997), in which Steve Wynn was accused of fostering an environment of harassment, sexually coerced relations, and sexual misconduct at his previous company; (9) the Board's knowledge that Steve Wynn paid a settlement to a Wynn employee relating to sexual misconduct allegations in 2006; (10) the Board's knowledge of NLRB proceedings from 2006 which documented Steve Wynn's flagrant misogyny and abusive treatment of his female employees; and (11) the Board's failure to act even after a Wall Street Journal article exposed Steve Wynn's sexual predation by allowing Steve Wynn to continue to live on the premises and to walk away with billions of dollars. See, e.g., ¶¶ 5-6, 12, 38, 42, 65-67, 73, 75-84, 86-95, 98, 99, 100, 102, 104-106, 148-51.

Drawing all reasonable inferences in favor of Lead Plaintiffs, the Court concludes that the allegations listed above are sufficient to plead that the Board had actual knowledge of serious

allegations that Steve Wynn was violating the law. As a result, demand is futile since the Board faces a substantial likelihood of liability for its knowing and conscious inaction.

In addition, under Nevada law, Directors who trade on inside information have divided loyalty rendering them incapable of impartially considering a demand. *In re Las Vegas Sands Corp. Derivative Litig.*, No. A576669, 2009 Nev. Dist. LEXIS 11, at \*11 (EJDC Nov. 4, 2009). To establish a substantial likelihood of liability for insider trading, plaintiffs must allege that the directors "engaged in material trading activity at a time when (one can infer from particularized pled facts that) they knew material, non-public information about the company's financial condition." *Guttman v. Huang*, 823 A.2d 492, 502 (Del. Ch. 2003).

According to the Amended Complaint, five Wynn Directors – Wayson, Mulroy, Randt, Shoemaker, and Hagenbuch (together, the "Selling Directors") – collectively sold over 58,000 shares of Wynn Resorts common stock for a combined total of over \$6 million, outside of 10b5-1 trading plans, and following their March 28, 2016, acknowledgement of having been warned of serious misconduct by Steve Wynn. *See, e.g.*, ¶ 21, 30, 32, 34, 37, 40, 42, 108-115. According to the Amended Complaint, the sales were highly suspicious in that they were significant in magnitude, ranging anywhere from 28% – 100% of the Selling Directors' total holdings, or they were dramatically out of line with the Selling Directors' prior trading practices. *Id*.

The Court concludes that, solely for the purpose of evaluating demand futility, the Amended Complaint contains adequate allegations to support a finding that due to a majority of the Board of Directors trading activity there is an independent basis for finding that the Board faces a substantial likelihood of liability and is, therefore, incapable of considering a demand.

### II. MOTION TO STRIKE

The "[t]he function of a reply [brief] is to answer the arguments made in opposition to the position taken by the movant, not to raise new issues or arguments or change the nature of the primary motion." 56 Am. Jur. 2d Motions, Rules, and Orders § 26. "[A] trial court may grant a motion to strike issues raised for the first time in a reply memorandum." *Id.* Defendant Sinatra's reply brief delved into issues that were not addressed in the Motion to Dismiss. Accordingly, the

1	Court grants Lead Plaintiffs' Motion to Strike, but without prejudice to Defendant Sinatra filing a	
2	separate motion to dismiss at a later date.	
3	III. CONCLUSION	
4	For the foregoing reasons, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that:	
5	1. Defendants' Motion to Dismiss on demand futility is DENIED.	
6	2. Lead Plaintiffs' Motion to Strike is GRANTED without prejudice to Defendant	
7	Sinatra filing a separate motion to dismiss at a later date.	
8	DATED this Uth day of September, 2018	
9 10	District Court Judge 5T	
11	This Onder was singulated to all assumed beginning on Assumed 17, 2019	
12	This Order was circulated to all counsel beginning on August 17, 2018.	
13	Submitted by: WOLF, RIFKIN, SHAPIRO, SCHULMAN & RABKIN, LLP	
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24	Approved as to form and authorized by all defense counsel to sign.	
25	SNELL & WILMER L.L.P.	
26	By: /s/ Alex Fugazzi	
27	Patrick G. Byrne (Nevada Bar # 7636) Alex L. Fugazzi (Nevada Bar #9022)	
28	8 ORDER	

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5	Ray R. Irani, Jay L. Johnson, Robert J. Miller, Patricia Mulroy, Clark T. Randt, Jr., Alvin V. Shoemaker, J. Edward Virtue, Matthew Maddox, and Nominal Defendant Wynn Resorts, Limited
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