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15			
16	IN THE UNITED STATES	S DISTRICT COURT	
10	FOR THE DISTRIC		
17	NORTHERN D	DIVISION	
18			
10	PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION	DN)	
19	1200 K Street, N.W.	)	
20	Washington, D.C. 20005-4026,	)	
20	Plaintiff,	)	
21	V.	) ) Case No. 3:16-CV-00110	
22		)	
22	ACE REMAS, LLC, as Administrator of the	) COMPLAINT FOR PENSION	
23	William A. Remas Defined Benefit Pension Plan	) PLAN TERMINATION	
24	4790 Caughlin Parkway, #806	)	
24	Reno, Nevada 89519,	)	
25	Defendant.	)	
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2.

This action arises under Title IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, *as amended*, 29 U.S.C. §§ 1301-1461 (2012 and Supp. II 2014) ("ERISA"). Plaintiff, the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation ("PBGC"), files this Complaint, pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §§ 1342(a)(1), (2), and (3), 1342(c), and 1348(a), seeking an order (a) terminating the William A. Remas Defined Benefit Pension Plan ("Pension Plan"), (b) appointing PBGC statutory trustee of the Pension Plan, (c) establishing February 29, 2016, as the termination date for the Pension Plan, and (d) directing the Defendant and any other person or entity having possession, custody, or control of any records, assets, or other property of the Pension Plan, to transfer, convey and deliver all such records, assets, and property to the PBGC, as the statutory trustee upon request under 29 U.S.C. § 1342(d)(1).

## JURISDICTION AND VENUE

This Court has exclusive jurisdiction of this action pursuant to 29 U.S.C.
 \$\$ 1303(e)(3) and 1342(e) and (f).

Venue lies in this Court under 29 U.S.C. §§ 1303(e)(2) and 1342(g).

## **PARTIES**

3. Plaintiff, PBGC, is a wholly owned United States government corporation established under 29 U.S.C. § 1302(a) to administer the pension plan termination insurance program created by Title IV of ERISA. When an underfunded pension plan terminates, PBGC ensures the timely and uninterrupted payment of statutorily guaranteed pension benefits to plan participants and their beneficiaries. 29 U.S.C. §§ 1302(a)(2), 1321, 1322.

4. Defendant, Ace Remas, LLC ("Ace") is the Plan administrator of the Pension Plan within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. §§ 1301(a)(1) and 1002(16)(A). On information and belief, the Defendant is located in Reno, Nevada, and the Pension Plan is administered there.

1	5.	On information and belief, at all relevant times, William A. Remas and his	
2	spouse, Marsha I. Remas, jointly owned a 100% interest in Ace.		
3	THE PENSION PLAN		
4	6.	The Pension Plan is a tax-qualified, single-employer defined benefit pension plan	
5	that is covered by Title IV of ERISA. 29 U.S.C. § 1321(a).		
6	7.	The Pension Plan provides pension benefits to certain present and former	
7	employees of Ace and to their beneficiaries. On information and belief, the Pension Plan has nine		
8	participants, including William A. Remas, and PBGC estimates that the Pension Plan is		
9	underfunded by approximately \$888,000 on a termination basis.		
10			
11	8.	Ace is the contributing sponsor of the Pension Plan within the meaning of 29	
12	U.S.C. § 1301(a)(13).		
13			
14		CAUSE OF ACTION	
15	9.	On information and belief, since at least 2012, neither Ace nor any member of its	
16	controlled group paid any contributions to the Pension Plan required under ERISA. 29 U.S.C.		
17	§§ 1082-1083; 26 U.S.C. §§ 412, 430.		
18	10.	On information and belief, the Pension Plan now has less than \$5,000 in assets to	
19	cover accrued benefits with a present value of approximately \$899,000.		
20	11.	Plan asset statements for the Pension Plan state that between September 21, 2012	
21	and July 10, 2015, William A. Remas received 30 distributions of at least \$10,000 from the		
22	Pension Plan	("Distributions"), as follows:	
23			
24			
25			

Date	Amount
September 21, 2012	\$49,200
January 8, 2013	\$49,200
September 4, 2013	\$10,000
September 30, 2013	\$10,000
October 28, 2013	\$10,000
January 3, 2014	\$15,000
January 7, 2014	\$10,000
February 6, 2014	\$25,000
April 17, 2014	\$25,000
May 20, 2014	\$10,000
May 22, 2014	\$15,000
June 10, 2014	\$10,000
June 26, 2014	\$25,000
August 1, 2014	\$15,000
August 11, 2014	\$20,000
August 28, 2014	\$15,000
September 18, 2014	\$15,000
October 1, 2014	\$15,000
October 21, 2014	\$25,000
November 12, 2014	\$25,000
January 9, 2015	\$15,000

1	January 28, 2015	\$15,000
2	February 6, 2015	\$20,000
3	February 24, 2015	\$25,000
4	March 24, 2015	\$25,000
5 6	April 8, 2015	\$15,000
7	April 24, 2015	\$10,000
8	May 5, 2015	\$25,000
9	June 2, 2015	\$10,000
10	July 10, 2015	\$15,000

12. None of the Distributions were made by reason of William A. Remas's death.
13. On information and belief, immediately after each of the Distributions, the
Pension Plan had nonforfeitable pension benefits which were not funded.

14. On information and belief, none of the Distributions was used in whole or in part to pay benefits under the Pension Plan to the Pension Plan's other participants.

15. PBGC is authorized by 29 U.S.C. § 1342 to commence proceedings to terminate a plan whenever PBGC determines, *inter alia*, that: (a) the plan has not met the minimum funding standard required under section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code, 29 U.S.C.
§ 1342(a)(1); (b) a plan will be unable to pay benefits when due, 29 U.S.C. § 1342(a)(2); and (c) there is a distribution under the plan to a participant who is a substantial owner if: (i) such distribution has a value of \$10,000 or more, (ii) such distribution is not made by reason of the

death of the participant, and (iii) immediately after the distribution, the plan has nonforfeitable benefits which are not funded. 29 U.S.C. §§ 1342(a)(4), 1343(c)(7).

16. PBGC has determined, pursuant to 29 U.S.C. \$\$ 1342(a)(1), (2), and (3), that the Pension Plan has not met the minimum funding standard required under section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code, that the Pension Plan will be unable to pay benefits when due, and that there were 30 distributions under the Pension Plan to a participant who is a substantial owner of \$10,000 or more, not made by reason of the death of such participant, and immediately after each such distribution, the Pension Plan had nonforfeitable benefits which were not funded.

17. On February 23, 2016, in accordance with 29 U.S.C. § 1342(c), PBGC issued a Notice of Determination (the "Notice") to Ace, as plan administrator of the Pension Plan, notifying Ace that PBGC determined that the Pension Plan has not met the minimum funding standard required under section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code, that the Pension Plan will be unable to pay benefits when due, and that there were 30 distributions under the Pension Plan to a participant who is a substantial owner of \$10,000 or more, not made by reason of the death of such participant, and immediately after each such distribution, the Pension Plan had nonforfeitable benefits which were not funded. A copy of the Notice is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

18. PBGC also caused a notice to be published in a local newspaper on February 29, 2016, advising the Pension Plan's participants of PBGC's determination both to terminate the Pension Plan and to have February 29, 2016 established as the Pension Plan's termination date. This notice was published in the Reno Gazette-Journal.

19. Pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 1342(c), a district court may order the termination of a pension plan if necessary to protect the interests of participants, to avoid any unreasonable

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deterioration of the financial condition of the plan, or to avoid any unreasonable increase in liability to the PBGC insurance fund.

20. PBGC has determined that termination of the Pension Plan is necessary to protect the interests of participants.

21. Pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 1348(a)(4), a district court establishes the date of termination of a pension plan covered by Title IV when PBGC and the plan administrator have not agreed on a date of termination.

22. As of the filing of this Complaint, PBGC and the Pension Plan administrator have not agreed on a date of termination.

23. February 29, 2016 should be established as the date of the Pension Plan's termination pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 1348(a)(4), because as of that date, the Pension Plan's participants received constructive notice of the Pension Plan termination, and they no0 longer had any justifiable expectations of the Pension Plan's continuation.

24. Pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 1342(c), a trustee for a pension plan shall be appointed by the court upon granting a decree of plan termination. Further, 29 U.S.C. § 1342© provides that PBGC may request that it be appointed as trustee of a plan in any case.

25. PBGC is ready, willing, and able to serve as statutory trustee of the Pension Plan.

## **REQUEST FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, PBGC respectfully requests that this Court grant judgment for PBGC and issue an order granting the following relief:

1. Adjudicating the Pension Plan terminated pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 1342(c);

2. Appointing PBGC statutory trustee of the Pension Plan pursuant to 29 U.S.C.

25 || § 1342(c);

1	3. Establishing February 29, 2016, as the termination date of the Pension Plan		
2	pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 1348(a)(4);		
3	4. Directing Ace and any other person or entity having possession, custody or		
4	control of any records, assets or other property of the Pension Plan, to transfer, convey and		
5	deliver all such records, assets, and property to PBGC as statutory trustee upon request under 29		
6	U.S.C. § 1342(d)(1); and		
7	5. Granting such other rel	ief as the Court deems just and proper.	
8	Dated: Washington, D.C.	Respectfully submitted,	
9	February 29, 2016		
10		/s/ Ralph L. Landy	
11	Local Counsel:	ISRAEL GOLDOWITZ	
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