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7	FOR THE DISTRICT	
8	LAC VIEUX DESERT BAND OF	
9	LAKE SUPERIOR CHIPPEWA	Case No. 2:08-cv-01067-ROS
10	INDIANS HOLDINGS MEXICO, LLC, a Corporate Enterprise of the	
11	Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake	
	Superior Chippewa Indians, a	
12	federally recognized Indian Tribe; and LAC VIEUX DESERT BAND OF	FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT
13	LAKE SUPERIOR CHIPPEWA	
14	INDIANS, a federally recognized	(CONTRACT AND TORT)
15	Indian Tribe,	
13	Plaintiffs,	
16	vs.	
17	ARTURO ROJAS CARDONA, an	
18	individual; JUAN JOSE ROJAS	
19	CARDONA, an individual; JUEGOS	
	DE ENTRETENIMIENTO Y VIDEOS DE GUADALUPE,	
20	SOCIEDAD DE	
21	RESPONSABILIDAD LIMITADA	
22	<b>DE CAPITAL VARIABLE</b> , a Mexico Limited Liability Company;	
23	ENTRETENIMIENTO DE	
۵۵	MEXICO, SOCIEDAD ANONIMA	
24	DE CAPITAL VARIABLE, a	
25	Mexico Registered Corporation; and	

ATLANTICA DE INVERSIONES

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1	CORPORATIVAS, SOCIEDAD
	ANONIMA DE CAPITAL
2	VARIABLE, a Panama Registered
3	Corporation; JUEGOS DE
	ENTRETENIMIENTO Y VIDEOS
4	DE MONTERREY, SOCIEDAD
5	DE RESPONSABILIDAD
	LIMITADA DE CAPITAL
6	VARIABLE, a Mexico Limited
_	Liability Company; ATLICO USA,
7	LLC, a Nevada Corporation; E-MEX
8	HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada
	Corporation; <b>ESCOBEDO</b>
9	RECREATION HOLDINGS, LLC, a
10	Nevada Corporation; GUADALUPE
10	RECREATION HOLDINGS, LLC,
11	a Nevada Corporation;
	MATAMORAS RECREATION
12	HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada
13	Corporation; <b>REYNOSA</b>
	RECREATION HOLDINGS, LLC,
14	a Nevada Corporation; SAN LUIS
1 -	POTOSI RECREATION
15	HOLDINGS, LLC, a Nevada
16	Corporation; SAN PEDRO
	RECREATION HOLDINGS, LLC,
17	a Nevada Corporation; <b>XYZ</b>
18	CORPORATIONS, I-X and DOES,
10	I-X
19	
	Defendants.
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First Amended Complaint - 2

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#### I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

Plaintiffs, Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians Holdings Mexico, LLC ("LVDHM"), a Corporate Enterprise of the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, a federally recognized Indian Tribe, and Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians ("TRIBE"), a federally recognized Indian Tribe, bring this action for breach of contract, conversion, breach of fiduciary duty, fraud, breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, constructive trust, and piercing the corporate veil against Defendants Arturo Rojas Cardona (Mexico and USA), Juan Jose Rojas Cardona (Mexico and USA), Juegos De Entretenimiento y Videos De Guadalupe, Sociedad de Responsabilidad Limitada de Capital Variable (Mexico), Entretenimiento De Mexico, Sociedad Anonima de Capital Variable (Mexico), Atlantica De Inversiones Corporativas, Sociedad Anonima (Panama), Juegos de Entretenimiento y Videos de Monterrey, Sociedad de Capital Variable (Mexico), ATLICO USA, LLC, (Nevada), E-MEX Holdings, LLC, (Nevada), Escobedo Recreation Holdings, LLC (Nevada), Guadalupe Recreational Holdings, LLC (Nevada), Matamoras Recreation Holdings, LLC (Nevada), Reynosa Recreation Holdings, LLC (Nevada), San Luis Potosi Recreation Holdings, LLC (Nevada), and San Pedro Recreational Holdings, LLC (Nevada) (all defendants are collectively referred to as "Defendants"). Defendants induced Plaintiffs to invest \$6,500,000.00 in a casino venture in Guadalupe, Mexico ("Guadalupe Casino") by promising Plaintiffs a 26% equity interest and 26% of the Guadalupe Casino's net revenues. Since the transfer of Plaintiffs' investment funds in 2006, Defendants agreements governing the transaction ("Partnership breached the Agreements") by withholding the share of the Guadalupe Casino's profit from

LVDHM.

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their own purposes, and refuse to either comply with the Partnership Agreements or refund the investment. Plaintiffs allege as follows: II. **PARTIES** 

Moreover, Defendants converted LVDHM's capital investment for

- Plaintiff LAC VIEUX DESERT BAND OF LAKE 1. **SUPERIOR** CHIPPEWA INDIANS HOLDINGS MEXICO, LLC was a Corporate Enterprise of the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, a federally recognized Indian tribe at all times relevant to this Complaint.
- Plaintiff LAC VIEUX DESERT BAND OF LAKE **SUPERIOR** CHIPPEWA INDIANS was a federally recognized Indian tribe at all times relevant to this Complaint.
- Defendant ARTURO ROJAS CARDONA ("ARTURO CARDONA") was an individual and resident of Mexico and the United States who served as an agent with actual and/or apparent authority to act on behalf of all Defendants and in fact acted on their behalf at all times relevant to this Complaint. The citizenship and domicile of ARTURO CARDONA are unknown to Plaintiffs.
- Defendant JUAN JOSE ROJAS CARDONA ("JUAN CARDONA") (alias: Pepe Rojas Cardona) was an individual and resident of Mexico who served as an agent with actual and/or apparent authority to act on behalf of all Defendants and in fact acted on their behalf at all times relevant to this Complaint. The citizenship and domicile of JUAN CARDONA are unknown to Plaintiffs.
- Defendant ENTRETENIMIENTO DE MEXICO, SOCIEDAD ANONIMA DE CAPITAL VARIABLE ("E-MEX") was a Registered Corporation organized under the laws of Mexico at all times relevant to this Complaint. Defendant ARTURO CARDONA is the manager, owner, and legal representative of

casinos operated by E-MEX.

Defendant JUEGOS

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JDG has a joint partnership with Defendant E-MEX.

**VIDEOS** 

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7. Defendant GUADALUPE RECREATION HOLDINGS, LLC ("GRH")

Defendant JUAN CARDONA is an agent of JDG's and handles the everyday

Defendant E-MEX. Defendant JUAN CARDONA is an agent of E-MEX and

handles the everyday affairs of E-MEX and holds himself out as the owner of the

CAPITAL VARIABLE ("JDG") was a limited liability company organized under

the laws of Mexico at all times relevant to this Complaint. Defendant ARTURO

CARDONA is the Manager and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Defendant

GUADALUPE, SOCIEDAD DE RESPONSABILIDAD LIMITADA

**ENTRETENIMIENTO** 

DE

(Nevada "NV" Entity # E0799242005-1) was a corporation organized under the

laws of Nevada at all times relevant to this Complaint. Defendant ARTURO

ROJAS, through the combination of his personal share ownership and the 77,500

shares he controls through his ownership of Defendant Atlantica de Inversiones

Corporativas, Sociedad Anonima de Capital Variable, is the sole owner of

Defendant GRH.

the shares in JDG.

affairs of JDG.

**8.** Defendant E-MEX HOLDINGS, LLC (NV Entity # E0699772006-4) was a corporation organized under the laws of Nevada at all times relevant to this Complaint. ARTURO CARDONA is the Manager. Whether the LLC has more than one member is unknown to Plaintiffs. Defendant E-MEX HOLDINGS, LLC is believed to be a "holding company" ("a company formed to control other

companies, usually confining its role to owning stock and supervising management." BLACK'S LAW DICTIONARY 275 (7th ed. 1999)). It is believed that the company was formed to "hold" Defendant E-MEX.

- **9.** Defendant ATLANTICA DE INVERSIONES CORPORATIVAS, SOCIEDAD ANONIMA DE CAPITAL VARIABLE ("ATLICO") was at all times relevant to this Complaint a Registered Corporation organized under the laws of Panama. ARTURO CARDONA is the owner of ATLICO. Defendant ATLICO holds 77,500 shares of Defendant GRH.
- **10.** Defendant ATLICO USA, LLC (NV Entity # E0955092006-3) was a corporation organized under the laws of Nevada at all times relevant to this Complaint. ARTURO CARDONA is the Manager. Whether the LLC has more than one member is unknown to Plaintiffs. ALTICO, USA, LLC is believed to be a "holding company" formed to "hold" Defendant ATLICO.
- 11. Defendant ESCOBEDO RECREATION HOLDINGS, LLC (NV Entity # E0090892006-3) was a corporation organized under the laws of Nevada at all times relevant to this Complaint. ARTURO CARDONA is the Manager. Whether the LLC has more than one member is unknown to Plaintiffs.
- **12.** Defendant MATAMORAS RECREATION HOLDINGS, LLC (NV Entity # E0052842006-2) was a corporation organized under the laws of Nevada at all times relevant to this Complaint. ARTURO CARDONA is the Manager. Whether the LLC has more than one member is unknown to Plaintiffs.
- **13.** Defendant REYNOSA RECREATION HOLDINGS, LLC (NV Entity # E0719942005-9) was a corporation organized under the laws of Nevada at all times relevant to this Complaint. ARTURO CARDONA is the Manager. Whether the LLC has more than one member is unknown to Plaintiffs.

- 14. Defendant SAN LUIS POTOSI RECREATION HOLDINGS, LLC (NV Entity # E0090842006-8) was a corporation organized under the laws of Nevada at all times relevant to this Complaint. ARTURO CARDONA is the Manager. Whether the LLC has more than one member is unknown to Plaintiffs.
- **15.** Defendant SAN PEDRO RECREATION HOLDINGS, LLC (NV Entity # E0091202006-3) was a corporation organized under the laws of Nevada at all times relevant to this Complaint. ARTURO CARDONA is the Manager. Whether the LLC has more than one member is unknown to Plaintiffs.
- 16. All Corporate Defendants identified in paragraphs 5-15 above (collectively "Corporate Defendants") were at all times relevant to this Complaint the alter-egos of Defendants ARTURO CARDONA because of his ownership interest and position as an officer in each company and are also the alter-ego of JUAN CARDONA as he is the agent of each and every company. As stated above the domicile and citizenship of Defendant ARTURO CARDONA and defendant JUAN CARDONA is unknown to Plaintiffs.

#### **III. JURISDICTION**

17. Jurisdiction in the courts of the state of Arizona is proper and reasonable. Defendants contractually consented to resolve any disputes regarding the Defendants' defaults under the Partnership Agreements detailed herein in the courts of the state of Arizona. Additionally, the Defendants purposefully availed themselves of the laws of Arizona.

#### IV. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- A. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS REGARDING THE TRIBE'S DECISION TO CONDUCT BUSINESS WITH DEFENDANTS.
- 18. The TRIBE is a small, historically disadvantaged Indian tribe located on its

Reservation on the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. (See Ex. 27, Williams Declaration). The TRIBE recently made strides to overcome centuries of poverty through the operation of a modest casino on its Reservation pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act ("IGRA") 25 U.S.C. § 2701, et seq. and under its gaming compact with the State of Michigan. Id. The TRIBE's remote location, however, limits the potential growth of its casino. Id. Thus, the TRIBE was attracted to off-reservation investment opportunities for economic development to strengthen and diversify its economy, and to hedge against threats to the vitality of its gaming operations in the United States. Id.

Regulation of the Federal Gaming and Raffles Law, paving the way for the legalization of casino gambling in Mexico. Pursuant to the 2004 amendment, the Mexican Secretariat of Government through the Office of the Director General for Gaming and Raffles granted permits to operate casinos throughout Mexico. The granting of such permits was subsequently deemed legal by the Supreme Court of Mexico. One of these permits ("the Permit") was granted to Defendant E-MEX. Defendant ARTURO CARDONA is the legal representative, Manager, and majority shareholder and Defendant JUAN CARDONA is the agent of E-MEX and holds himself out in the public arena as the owner of the gaming facilities operated by E-MEX. The Permit allowed for gaming at up to sixty (60) sites throughout Mexico.

20. Defendant E-MEX utilized the Permit to conduct gaming at numerous sites all over Mexico, including in the state of Nuevo Leon, where the city of Guadalupe is located. To utilize the Permit in Guadalupe (a suburb of Monterrey, Mexico) Defendant E-MEX and Defendant JDG formed a joint venture under

which E-MEX was to allow JDG to utilize the Permit in exchange for JDG constructing and operating the gaming facility.

- 21. Defendants ARTURO CARDONA and Defendant JUAN CARDONA, and their common Louisiana-based attorney, Edwin Hunter, solicited investors in the United States to provide capital for the construction and development of casinos in Mexico to operate under the Permit. In particular, the Defendants targeted Indian tribes operating casinos in the United States as potential investors because of their reputation for having access to capital and familiarity with the gaming industry. The Defendants solicited the TRIBE's investment in numerous casinos including a casino development in Guadalupe, Mexico ("Guadalupe Casino").
- 22. After conducting initial diligence on the legality of gaming in Mexico, investigating the *bona fides* of the principals, particularly Defendants ARTURO CARDONA and JUAN CARDONA, and speaking with several other individuals who are and were based in Louisiana and Texas and that are investors in Defendants' ventures, the TRIBE determined the solicitation to be a credible opportunity.
- 23. On April 27, 2006, Edwin Hunter presented the TRIBE with a non-disclosure agreement regarding the proposed Guadalupe Casino to allow for the further investigation of a possible partnership. (See Ex. 1, Non-Disclosure Agreement). The TRIBE executed the non-disclosure agreement the following day. It also received and signed other non-disclosure agreements regarding other proposed gaming sites in Mexico for which ARTURO CARDONA and JUAN CARDONA were soliciting investment.
- **24.** Between April 28, 2006 and May 5, 2006, Defendant ARTURO CARDONA and Defendant JUAN CARDONA and their attorneys David Jimenez

and Hunter conducted many telephone calls with the TRIBE's Chairman, James Williams, Jr., and the TRIBE's attorneys, in which Edwin Hunter and David Jimenez presented a proposed partnership structure to the TRIBE and provided information for the TRIBE to conduct its initial diligence. (*See* Ex. 27, Williams Declaration).

25. On or about May 5, 2006, the TRIBE wire transferred a good faith deposit from its account at National City \$250,000.00 US to account number 1007715 at Texas National Bank for credit to SAN PEDRO HOLDINGS, LLC which is part of a joint account held by at least Defendant SAN PEDRO HOLDINGS, LLC, Defendant ESCOBEDO RECREATION HOLDINGS, LLC, Defendant MATAMORAS RECREATION HOLDINGS, LLC, Defendant REYNOSA RECREATION HOLDINGS, LLC, and Defendant SAN LUIS POTOSI RECREATION HOLDINGS, LLC. (See Ex 7, Statement of Payments, Ex. 23, Bank Account Information, and Ex. 27, Williams Declaration).

After the TRIBE decided to invest in only one casino site, Defendants ARTURO CARDONA and JUAN CARDONA proposed having Defendant JDG become the vehicle through which the TRIBE would structure its investment. (See Ex. 27, Williams Declaration). Defendants ARTURO CARDONA and JUAN CARDONA promised the TRIBE a 26% equity interest in Defendant JDG and rights to 26% of the net revenues of the Guadalupe Casino in exchange for a capital investment by the TRIBE of \$6,500,000.00 (inclusive of the \$250,000 it had already sent Defendants). Id. The 26% equity position and rights to 26% of net revenue was attractive to the TRIBE, as was the fact that Defendant GRH, the majority investor in JDG, was a Nevada corporation, and that the governing law for the investment was to be American rather than foreign law and the forum for

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disputes would be in the State of Arizona, where its tribal attorneys are located. (See Ex. 27, Williams Declaration).

#### FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS REGARDING THE TRIBE.

- 27. The TRIBE has a significant interest relating to the property and transactions which are the subject of this lawsuit because the funds used to invest in the Defendants' Mexican casino operation were tribal funds wired from tribal bank accounts to the Defendants' account. (See Ex 7, Statement of Payments, Ex. 21, Tribal Resolutions, and Ex. 23, Bank Account Information).
- 28. At the time that the TRIBE wired the first \$250,000 to Defendants, Plaintiff LVDHM did not exist. (See Ex. 23, Bank Account Information, and Ex. 27, Williams Declaration).
- **29.** The offer to invest in Defendants' Guadalupe venture was made to the TRIBE. (See Ex. 1, Non-Disclosure Agreement).
- **30.** The money used to advance and participate in the Defendants' Mexican casino investment was the property of the TRIBE and came from the TRIBE's general funds. (See Ex. 21, Tribal Resolutions).
- When LVDHM acted as signatory to the Partnership Agreements it was acting in a corporate capacity in the TRIBE's interest and exclusively utilizing the TRIBE's funds. (See Ex. 20, Articles of Incorporation).
- **32.** The tribal government has the duty under its tribal constitution to promote and protect the general welfare of the TRIBE and its members and to manage the economic affairs and property of the TRIBE. (See Ex. 27, Williams Declaration).
- **33.** An adverse ruling by the Court could result in the loss of millions of dollars belonging to the TRIBE's membership. *Id.*

### C. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS REGARDING THE FORMATION OF LVDHM BY THE TRIBE.

- **34.** In order to pursue what the TRIBE was led to believe was a legitimate opportunity for off-reservation economic development, the TRIBE created LVDHM as a holding company to enter into the necessary Partnership Agreements with the Defendants. (*See* Ex. 20, Articles of Incorporation).
- **35.** The Articles of Incorporation state that all shares of LVDHM are owned by the TRIBE. *Id.* In addition, they state that LVDHM's Board of Directors is to be composed from individuals who are also members of the Tribal Council. *Id.*

## D. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS REGARDING THE CITIZENSHIP, DOMICILE, AND RESIDENCY OF DEFENDANTS.

- **36.** It is believed that Defendants ARTURO CARDONA and JUAN CARDONA have several residences. The place where they maintain their permanent principal home is unknown to Plaintiffs.
- **37.** Defendant ARTURO CARDONA may be a resident of Mexico and/or several states in the United States as he held himself out as living in several states.
- 38. Defendant ARTURO CARDONA provided the TRIBE with an address located in Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota during the diligence phase of the transaction. (See Ex. 25, Resume). Additionally, he provided the TRIBE with a United States phone number with a 612 area code, which corresponds to the greater Minneapolis area. *Id.* The resume he gave the TRIBE describes him maintaining offices in Chicago, Minneapolis, and Mexico City. *Id.* The resume lists his projects as being in Minneapolis, Chicago, Tampa Bay, Mexico City, and Los Angeles. *Id.*
- 39. The Nevada Secretary of State reports on the officer list for Defendant

ATLICO USA, LLC, Defendant ESCOBEDO RECREATION HOLDINGS, LLC, Defendant GRH, Defendant SAN LUIS POTOSI RECREATION HOLDINGS, LLC, and Defendant SAN PEDRO RECREATIONAL HOLDINGS, LLC that "Manager" ARTURO CARDONA lives in Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota. (*See* Ex. 22, Nevada Secretary of State). Those records have been updated annually since 2005 and as recently as January 18, 2008. *Id*.

- **40.** The domestic charter for a company called Barakeil, LLC, registered on May 21, 2008, lists Defendant ARTURO CARDONA as the Manager, and lists his address as being in Lake Charles, Louisiana. (*See* Ex. 26, Barakeil).
- 41. During the initial diligence phase, Defendant ARTURO CARDONA provided the TRIBE with an article about him and one of his companies, Archon Design. (See Ex. 24, Archon Design and Tango Media). The article described Archon's offices as being located in "Minneapolis, Chicago, and Mexico City." Id. In the article it further stated "Staff: Four U.S.: myself: Arturo Rojas Cardona." Id. It then listed three other individuals in the Mexico City office. The implication was that ARTURO CARDONA headed up the Minneapolis and Chicago offices. Id.
- **42.** A website for Archon Design, a link to which Defendant ARTURO CARDONA provided to the TRIBE during the diligence phase, listed two addresses, one in Minneapolis and one in Chicago. *Id.* It also provided a phone number for a number currently listed in Chicago. *Id.*
- **43.** As recently as June 30, 2008, the World Wide Design Directory listed Archon Design with a Chicago address and a currently listed phone number in Chicago. *Id*.
- 44. The current website for the Tango Media design company, also owned by

Defendant ARTURO CARDONA, lists Chicago, Los Angeles, and Monterrey, Mexico, as the principal places of business. (*See* Ex. 24, Archon Design and Tango Media). The meetings that Defendants held in Mexico with Plaintiffs were usually all held at Tango Media's Monterrey offices.

- 45. Because Defendant ARTURO CARDONA is known to have offices in several cities in the United States, is known to have lived in the United States for numerous years and is believed to be currently living in the United States, it is possible that he is either a citizen of the United States or a dual national of the United States and Mexico. He may also be a citizen of Mexico lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence.
- 46. Defendant JUAN CARDONA was known to live in Monterrey, Mexico. (See Ex. 27, Williams Declaration). However after two shooting incidents, one of which targeted him personally and killed the driver in his vehicle, he is believed to have moved. In one e-mail to the Manager of LVDHM he reported that he left Monterrey after the first shooting to live somewhere else. (See Ex. 13, Email from J. Cardona to Chairman Williams). It is not known whether he has continued to reside in Mexico or whether he maintains a residence in the United States. The last time Plaintiffs were in Mexico, in April 2008, Defendant JUAN CARDONA appeared to be living in Monterrey. (See Ex. 27, Williams Declaration).
- 47. Defendant JUAN CARDONA is known to have lived in the United States for numerous years, to be an alumnus of the University of Iowa, and he indicated that some of his family members live in the United States. *Id.* He appears in manner and speech to be a person from the United States. *Id.* It is possible that he is a citizen of the United States or a dual national of both the United States and Mexico. He may also be a citizen of Mexico lawfully admitted to the United

States for permanent residence.

## E. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS REGARDING THE STRUCTURE OF THE TRANSACTION BETWEEN LVDHM AND DEFENDANTS.

- **48.** As indicated above, Defendants E-MEX and JDG formed a joint venture partnership to utilize the Permit to conduct gaming in Mexico.
- 49. To consummate the transaction between the TRIBE and Defendants, Defendant JDG transferred 26% of its shares to LVDHM. Upon completion of this transaction, and to the present, Defendant JDG has been comprised of three partners: Defendant GRH, which controls 73% of JDG; Defendant ARTURO CARDONA, who controls 1%; and LVDHM, which controls 26%. (*See* Ex. 6, Minutes from August 28, 2006 Shareholder's Meeting). ARTURO CARDONA is the Manager of GRH. GRH is a Nevada LLC which is comprised of two partners: Defendant ARTURO CARDONA, and Defendant ATLICO, a Panamanian company of which ARTURO CARDONA is believed to be the sole or majority shareholder.
- **50.** A Term Sheet, Security Agreement, Depository Agreement, Pledge Agreement, and the executed and notarized Shareholder's Meeting Minutes from the August 28, 2006 shareholders meeting (collectively "Partnership Agreements") of Defendant JDG explain the structure of the transaction.
  - a. <u>TERM SHEET INITIALED BY ARTURO CARDONA AND</u>

    <u>THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE TRIBE'S TRIBAL</u>

    <u>COUNCIL.</u>
- **51.** Defendants ARTURO CARDONA and JUAN CARDONA made written representations to the TRIBE's Chairman and attorney that are contained in a legally binding Term Sheet which was used to memorialize the intention of the

Parties before the agreements were executed. (*See* Ex. 2, Term Sheet). The Term Sheet contains no signature block but was verbally agreed to be legally binding. It was finalized some weeks before the other agreements. It was later initialed by the Parties. (*See* Ex. 2, Term Sheet and Ex. 6, Minutes from August 28, 2006 Shareholder's meeting).

52. The TRIBE verbally agreed to the Term Sheet because it had paid a \$250,000 deposit on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2006 and desired to have something in place to protect it while the specifics of the transaction could be memorialized in late August 2006. The Term Sheet laid out the general structure of the Parties' proposed agreement and served as an expression of their understandings.

**53.** Among others, the Term Sheet contains the following provisions:

If a dispute, controversy or claim ("Dispute") arises between the Parties relating to the interpretation or performance of the Project, or the grounds for the termination, appropriate representatives of each Party who shall have the authority to resolve the matter shall meet or confer within 10 days of written request of either party to attempt in good faith to negotiate a Resolution of the Dispute prior to pursuing other available remedies. Discussions and correspondence relating to trying to resolve such Dispute shall be treated as confidential information developed for the purpose of settlement.

Any Dispute which the Parties cannot resolve through mediation within ten (10) days, unless otherwise mutually agreed, shall be submitted to final and binding arbitration under the Rules of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce ("ICC"), by three (3) arbitrators appointed in accordance with the said rules, the arbitration places shall be Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico.

The Security and Depository Agreements shall be under the jurisdiction and laws of the State of Arizona, United States.

(See Ex. 2, Term Sheet).

**54.** The "Project" referenced in the dispute resolution section is defined as the casino in Guadalupe, Mexico in the Term Sheet. (*See* Ex. 2, Term Sheet).

55. The agreement to arbitrate applies to those disputes the Parties agreed to submit to arbitration. The Parties did not agree to submit to arbitration in instances where the Parties defaulted under the Security and Depository Agreements agreements once they were executed. (*See* Ex. 2, Term Sheet, Ex. 4, Security Agreement, Ex. 27, Williams Declaration).

56. The Term Sheet illustrates that even from early on in the negotiation between the Parties they agreed that the "Security and Depository Agreements shall be under the jurisdiction and laws of the State of Arizona, United States." (See Ex. 2, Term Sheet). Those agreements contain no arbitration provisions but rather conform to the agreement made in the Term Sheet that the "State Courts of Arizona" would have jurisdiction. (See Ex. 3, Depository Agreement, Ex. 4, Security Agreement, Ex. 27, Williams Declaration).

# b. <u>SECURITY AGREEMENT EXECUTED BY LVDHM, JDG,</u> <u>ATLICO, GRH, AND ARTURO CARDONA.</u>

57. On or about August 14, 2006, LVDHM executed a Security Agreement with Defendants JDG, ATLICO, GRH, and ARTURO CARDONA. (See Ex. 4, Security Agreement). The Security Agreement, inter alia, confers upon LVDHM a security interest in 26% of the partnership interest in Defendant GRH owned by Defendant ARTURO CARDONA, individually or through Defendant ATLICO. Id. This security interest was called the "Collateral" which, when coupled with the 26% interest in JDG purchased by LVDHM as part of the formation of its partnership with Defendants, would be sufficient to allow LVDHM to exercise corporate control over JDG. The Security Agreement authorized LVDHM to take

control of the Collateral in the event of an uncured default by JDG.

58. The Security Agreement defines what will be considered a "Default" and contains a forum selection clause for resolving disputes regarding a "Default" by Defendants E-MEX, GRH, JDG, ATLICO and ARTURO CARDONA, collectively referred to in the Security Agreement as the "Mexican Counterparts." That forum selection clause provided that "Mexican Counterparts hereby consents to the jurisdiction of the Courts of the State of Arizona." (*See* Ex. 4, Security Agreement).

### c. <u>DEPOSITORY AGREEMENT EXECUTED BY JDG AND LVDHM.</u>

59. On or about August 25, 2006, LVDHM executed a Depository Agreement with Defendant JDG. (See Ex. 3, Depository Agreement). Section 2.3(a) of the Depository Agreement requires JDG to deposit on a daily basis 26% of the net revenues of the Guadalupe Casino, called the "Cash Flow Participation," into an account on behalf of LVDHM. Section 2.3(b) of the Depository Agreement provides that any Cash Flow Participation not deposited into such an account on behalf of LVDHM shall be held by JDG in a trust account for LVDHM.

## d. <u>PLEDGE AGREEMENT EXECUTED BY ARTURO</u> <u>CARDONA, GRH, JDG, AND LVDHM.</u>

60. LVDHM entered into a Pledge Agreement with Defendants GRH and JDG on or about August 25, 2006. (See Ex. 5, Pledge Agreement). The Pledge Agreement memorialized the arrangement whereby the Collateral under the Security Agreement would be delivered to the Secretary of the Board of Directors of JDG (who was also LVDHM's representative on the Board) in the event of default. If such default were not timely cured, the Pledge Agreement authorized

the Secretary of JDG to file the agreement with the Public Registry of Commerce of Nuevo Leon, Mexico, thereby consummating the transfer of the Collateral from Defendant ARTURO CARDONA to LVDHM.

#### e. **SHAREHOLDER'S MINUTES OF AUGUST 28, 2006.**

61. On or about August 28, 2006, Defendant JDG held a shareholders' meeting, chaired by Defendant ARTURO CARDONA, at which time JDG affirmed and acknowledged all of the aforementioned Partnership Agreements between LVDHM and JDG and, *inter alia*, appointed a representative of LVDHM to sit on and act as Secretary of JDG's Board of Directors. (*See* Ex. 6, Minutes from August 28, 2006 Shareholders' meeting). The minutes for this meeting were notarized and entered into the Mexican Public Registry for corporate documents. All Parties acknowledged by signature that the minutes also constitute a legally binding agreement with respect to the operation of the corporation under Mexican law.

## F. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS REGARDING THE TRANSFER OF THE TRIBE'S FUNDS TO THE DEFENDANTS.

Plaintiffs duly complied with its obligations pursuant to its partnership with the Defendants by transferring funds to the Texas National Bank account #100775 selected by Arturo and Juan Cardona. At the time that the TRIBE wired the first \$250,000.00 US to Defendants, LVDHM did not exist. (*See* Ex. 23, Bank Account Information, Ex. 27, Williams Declaration). The funds used to invest in the Defendants' Mexican casino operation were tribal general funds and they were wired from the TRIBE's bank accounts to the Defendants' account. (*See* Ex. 7, Statement of Payments, Ex. 21, Tribal Resolutions, Ex. 27, Williams Declaration). After the TRIBE created LVDHM there were three more wire transfers to the

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Defendants' Texas National Bank account #100775. (See Ex. 7, Statement of Payments). The combined total of the four wire transfers was \$6,500,000.00. The transfers were as follows:

- Around May 5, 2006, a \$250,000 wire transfer from the TRIBE's National City Bank account to San Pedro Recreation Holdings' Texas National Bank account;
- ii. Around August 28, 2006, a \$2,700,000 wire transfer from the TRIBE's Wells Fargo account to the San Pedro Recreation Holdings' Texas National Bank account;
- iii. Around August 28, 2006, a \$3,300,000 wire transfer from the TRIBE's Wells Fargo account to San Pedro Recreation Holdings' account;
- iv. Around August 30, 2006, a \$250,000 wire transfer from LVDHM's Wells Fargo account to San Pedro Recreation Holdings' Texas National Bank account.
- 63. Per the agreements LVDHM's investment was to provide the capital to fund Defendant JDG's responsibilities under its joint venture agreement with Defendant E-MEX namely, to operate a legally functioning gaming enterprise in Guadalupe, Mexico pursuant to the Permit.
- 64. Defendant Juegos de Entretenimiento y Videos de Monterrey, Sociedad de Capital Variable is named as a defendant in this lawsuit because Defendants used part of the funds transferred by the TRIBE to secure a contract through Juegos de Entretenimiento y Videos de Monterrey, Sociedad de Capital Variable with two Nevada Gaming Control Board licensed corporations, Ainsworth Game Technology and Aristocrat Technologies, Inc. (See Ex. 27, Williams Declaration).

The contracts were either to lease or purchase slot machines for use in the Guadalupe Casino. Defendant JUAN CARDONA LVDHM Manager and Tribal Chairman, Jim Williams, that he purchased the slot machines for their other casinos from those two companies. This fact was verified through direct discussion with representatives of Aristocrat Technologies. (*See* Ex. 27, Williams Declaration).

65. It is believed that Defendant JDG is using the funds generated at the Guadalupe Casino for other undisclosed third-party contracts. Despite its requests, however, LVDHM has not been granted access to any information regarding the third-party contracts.

### G. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS REGARDING THE DEFENDANTS' DEFAULT.

- **66.** LVDHM sought to manage its investment in Defendants' joint venture by securing an external auditor and retaining tax planning and management services for Defendant JDG.
- 67. On December 6, 2006 through December 8, 2006, representatives of LVDHM traveled to Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico. During this trip, LVDHM raised concerns about the auditing and tax planning of the Guadalupe Casino and Defendant JDG during meetings with representatives from JDG and Defendant E-MEX, along with representatives from the accounting firms Horwath Castillo Miranda ("HCM") and KPMG Cárdenas Dosal, S.C., and the law firm Baker & McKenzie.
- **68.** On or about December 11, 2006, LVDHM requested attorney Luis Jimenez-Robles of Baker & McKenzie to prepare a tax planning services memorandum on which LVDHM could rely to properly structure its affairs in

regard to its participation in Defendant JDG and the Guadalupe Casino.

- **69.** On December 14, 2006, LVDHM identified several concerns about Defendant JDG's operations of the Guadalupe Casino having to do with, *inter alia*: the need for better segregation of duties within JDG; LVDHM's need to maintain a significant level of management of or control over JDG's Guadalupe Casino gaming operation; LVDHM's need for more information regarding internal controls at the Guadalupe Casino; and LVDHM's need for HCM to participate actively in external auditing of the Guadalupe Casino's books to ensure proper accounting and distribution of LVDHM's Cash Flow Participation.
- **70.** Despite repeated commitments to do so, none of the Defendants took the actions necessary to address these concerns.
- **71.** On or about December 15, 2006, Mr. Jimenez-Robles of Baker & McKenzie provided a memo discussing Mexican law as it applies to joint ventures and taxation.
- **72.** On January 1, 2007, 60 days after the opening of the Guadalupe Casino, LVDHM's right to receive Cash Flow Participation under the Depository Agreement accrued.
- 73. On or about March 20, 2007, LVDHM attended a shareholders' meeting of Defendant JDG along with Defendant JUAN CARDONA regarding, *inter alia*: identification of JDG's revenues to date; mechanisms for LVDHM to legally receive funds from JDG after the payment of taxes all applicable taxes by JDG; the appointment of internal advisors for the development of adequate internal control standards at the Guadalupe Casino; the appointment of both internal and external auditors; and the identification of a process, including the execution of any and all necessary agreements, to accomplish each of these items. The minutes

for this meeting were notarized and entered into the Mexican Public Registry for corporate documents. All Parties acknowledged by signature that the minutes constituted a legally binding agreement with respect to JDG's operation under Mexican law.

- **74.** Subsequently, and despite their binding commitments evinced by their signature of the minutes of the March 20, 2007 meeting of Defendant JDG's shareholders, none of the Defendants ever took the actions necessary to address the concerns of LVDHM raised at this meeting.
- **75.** At the same March 20, 2007 meeting, Defendant JUAN CARDONA proposed purchasing LVDHM's 26% partnership interest in Defendant JDG. To that point, LVDHM had not received any of the Cash Flow Participation to which it was entitled.
- **76.** On or about March 20, 2007 and March 21, 2007, Defendant JUAN CARDONA and LVDHM negotiated the major terms of a proposed purchase of LVDHM's partnership interest in Defendant JDG, which terms were memorialized in a Letter of Intent. (*See* Ex. 8, Letter of Intent). In the Letter of Intent, Defendant JUAN CARDONA represented that Defendant E-MEX would buy out LVDHM's partnership interest in JDG for \$9,500,000.00 US no later than May 15, 2007.
- 77. On or about March 22, 2007, representatives from LVDHM and Defendant E-MEX finalized the Letter of Intent and Defendant JUAN CARDONA signed the Letter of Intent on March 30, 2007.
- **78.** On or about April 30, 2007, the Defendants' attorney David Jimenez represented that Defendant JUAN CARDONA would send the buyout funds directly to LVDHM on behalf of the Defendants, and that JUAN CARDONA

agreed to pay all applicable taxes on the buyout funds.

- **79.** On April 30, 2007, Baker & McKenzie provided LVDHM with a memorandum addressing potential tax implications of the proposed buyout.
- **80.** Through verbal confirmation from David Jimenez, Defendant JUAN CARDONA promised to call LVDHM shortly after April 30, 2007 to resolve the unfulfilled obligations owed by the Defendants to LVDHM.
- **81.** Despite the promise referenced immediately above, Defendant JUAN CARDONA never called anyone from LVDHM. On or about May 8, 2007, David Jimenez informed LVDHM's attorneys that JUAN CARDONA would not comply with his representations made in the Letter of Intent executed on March 22, 2007.
- 82. On or about May 10, 2007, LVDHM sent a "Demand and Intent to Send a Notice of Default" ("Demand") to JDG, GRH and ATLICO stating that the Defendants were not in compliance with the Partnership Agreements between the Parties. (See Ex. 9, Demand and Intent to Send Notice of Default). This Demand also noted that Defendant JDG had failed to disburse Cash Flow Participation funds to LVDHM or otherwise establish a trust account to hold such funds on LVDHM's behalf in accordance with JDG's obligations under the Security Agreement, the Depository Agreement, the registered and notarized Minutes of the JDG directors' meeting of March 20, 2007, and/or the verbal promises made by Defendant E-MEX to LVDHM on April 30, 2007. The Demand informed ARTURO CARDONA that LVDHM "has repeatedly attempted to contact JDG and E-MEX through E-MEX legal counsel regarding the requested actions." The letter described each of LVDHM's grievances and requested a cure of each issue.
- **83.** On or about May 14, 2007, Defendant ARTURO CARDONA's attorney Edwin Hunter sent an e-mail to LVDHM representing that ARTURO CARDONA

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would wire transfer the Cash Flow Participation owed to LVDHM. (*See* Ex. 10, Email from E. Hunter to J. Finch).

- **84.** On or about May 29, 2007, Edwin Hunter conducted a telephone call with LVDHM and stated that Defendant ARTURO CARDONA would transfer the Cash Flow Participation funds due and owing to LVDHM at some time during the week of June 4, 2007. No such transfer occurred the week of June 4, 2007.
- 85. On or about June 6, 2007, Edwin Hunter unilaterally pushed back the wire transfer date to June 15, 2007 (*See* Ex. 11, Email from E. Hunter to V. Kewenvoyouma). No payment was sent however.
- 86. On or about June 13, 2007, and still without ever having received a single Cash Flow Participation payment from the Defendants, LVDHM sent a "Notice of Default" to the Defendants. (*See* Ex. 12, Notice of Default). The Notice of Default was sent via Federal Express, an international courier, on June 13, 2007 to Defendant ARTURO CARDONA. The Notice of Default was also sent to Defendant JUAN CARDONA, and the Defendants' attorneys David Jimenez and Edwin Hunter.
- **87.** On or about June 14, 2007, Defendant JUAN CARDONA sent an e-mail to LVDHM containing excuses as to why Defendant JDG did not make the Cash Flow Participation payments to LVDHM. (*See* Ex. 13, Email from J. Cardona to Chairman Williams). Defendant JUAN CARDONA informed Plaintiffs that JDG was not prepared to issue an actual Cash Flow Distribution.
- **88.** Despite the representations by Defendant JUAN CARDONA and Edwin Hunter, no wire transfer was sent from JDG to LVDHM on June 15, 2007.
- **89.** The Defendants' attorneys David Jimenez and Edwin Hunter subsequently informed LVDHM that any payment from Defendant JDG to LVDHM would only

be made in the form of a loan subject to a promissory note executed by LVDHM, because JDG was not prepared to pay the money owed in the manner contemplated by the Parties. Plaintiffs were promised that Defendants would cancel the note not only after JDG generated audited financials and created the mechanisms pursuant to the Partnership Agreements to properly pay the TRIBE the Cash Flow Distributions.

- **90.** Plaintiffs accepted the loan arrangement because they were desperate to secure at least some of the money owed to them for the tribal general fund and it was presented to them that the only way they could receive the money owed to them was by agreeing to the loan. (*See* Ex. 27, Williams Declaration).
- 91. On or about July 7, 2007, Defendant JDG wire transferred \$500,000.00 in the form of a loan to LVDHM. The wire transfer of funds sent to LVDHM was from Texas National Bank. This amount was roughly equal to the estimated Cash Flow Participation owed to LVDHM through March 31, 2007. The payment did not constitute the proper issuance of a Cash Flow Distribution.
- 92. After the July 7, 2007 wire transfer, the Defendants cut off formal communications with LVDHM despite repeated attempts by LVDHM to contact them to resolve the outstanding issues concerning the proposed buy-out and Defendant JDG's failure to pay LVDHM the Cash Flow Participation. Finally, LVDHM's attorneys were able to make contact with the Defendants in late August, 2007, and a meeting was scheduled between LVDHM and the Defendants in Monterrey, Mexico.
- 93. On or about September 4, 2007, LVDHM's attorneys met with the Defendants' attorney David Jimenez and Defendant JUAN CARDONA. At the meeting, David Jimenez and Defendant JUAN CARDONA demanded that

LDVHM revoke the Notice of Default it had sent them on June 13, 2007 and stated that no further payments would be made until LVDHM did so. They promised that after LVDHM revoked it, that JDG would cancel the note, pay the Cash Flow Distribution funds due since the Casino commenced operations and would compensate Plaintiffs for the estimated value of their 26% interest in the net profit for the period April 1, 2007 through June 30, 2007. They also promised that JDG would pay estimated value of their 26% interest in the net profit for the period the July 1, 2007 through September 30, 2007 when due in October 2007.

- 94. Again feeling they had no option, on or about October 1, 2007, and in reliance upon the promises of David Jimenez and Defendant JUAN CARDONA made at the September 4, 2007 meeting, LVDHM sent a conditional "Revocation of Notice of Default" ("Revocation Notice") to Defendant ARTURO CARDONA. (See Ex. 14, Revocation of Notice of Default, Ex. 27, Williams Declaration). The Revocation Notice referenced the representations JUAN CARDONA had made on behalf of JDG to satisfy LVDHM's requests.
- **95.** The Revocation Notice contained numerous conditions. It stated the revocation would automatically become null and void if the Defendants failed to come into compliance with the terms of the Partnership Agreements within a reasonable time, "not to exceed 60 days."
- **96.** The Revocation Notice also required Defendant JDG to pay all money owed to LVDHM for the period through June 30, 2007 and September 30, 2007 within thirty (30) days, and required JDG to comply with its pre-existing contractual obligations to LVDHM.
- 97. None of the conditions contained in the Revocation Notice were satisfied by any of the Defendants. Thus, after the thirty (30) days for making the

payments and the sixty (60) days for satisfying the other obligation had elapsed, the Revocation Notice became null and void by its terms.

- **98.** No payments were wired to LVDHM by any of the Defendants.
- **99.** On or about November 2007, the Defendants' attorney David Jimenez contacted LVDHM and indicated that the Defendants would not issue the Cash Flow Distribution and would only wire the estimated funds owed subject to a promissory note executed by LVDHM.
- **100.** On or about November 6, 2007, LVDHM sent the Defendants a written demand for \$588,687.00 for the period of July 1, 2007 through October 31, 2007. This number was calculated by the TRIBE based on its review of daily e-mails the Casino's system generates and transmits to the TRIBE regarding the Casino's profits. The TRIBE has no idea if the numbers are accurate or whether they are or may be manipulated.
- **101.** On or about November 15, 2007, LVDHM met with the Defendants' attorney Edwin Hunter in Las Vegas, Nevada. At that meeting, Edwin Hunter represented that his clients, including Defendants ARTURO CARDONA and JUAN CARDONA, would make the Cash Flow Participation payments Defendant JDG owed to LVDHM. (*See* Ex. 27, Williams Declaration).
- **102.** On or about December 4, 2007, Edwin Hunter sent a letter to LVDHM stating that "Mr. Jose Rojas [Defendant JUAN CARDONA] informed me today that he intended to wire money to LVD on December 12, 2007." (*See* Ex. 15, Letter from E. Hunter to L. F. Boland dated December 4, 2007).
- **103.** No wire transfer or communication between any of the Defendants or their legal representatives and LVDHM occurred on December 12, 2007.
- 104. On or about December 14, 2007, LVDHM sent a letter to Defendant

obligations to LVDHM. (*See* Ex. 16, Letter from Chairman Williams to A. R. Cardona dated December 14, 2007). **105.** On or about December 14, 2007, Edwin Hunter sent a letter to LVDHM

ARTURO CARDONA regarding Defendant JDG's breach of its partnership

stating the Defendants would not pay LVDHM unless LVDHM extended the cure period for making the payments in writing. (*See* Ex. 17, Letter from E. Hunter to L. F. Boland dated December 14, 2007).

**106.** On or about December 18, 2007, LVDHM sent a letter to Defendant ARTURO CARDONA regarding the revocation of the Notice of Default indicating LVDHM's desire to work with Defendants to resolve the issues. (*See* Ex. 18, Letter to A. R. Cardona from LVDHM dated December 18, 2007). LVDHM agreed to one final extension of the deadline to transfer all the funds owed by Defendants, setting a new and final deadline to receive the funds by 1 pm on December 21, 2007.

**107.** On or about December 21, 2007, Defendant JDG only transmitted \$275,000.00 to LVDHM in the form of a loan subject to a promissory note, which was signed by LVDHM. The amount was based on estimations for the period.

108. The wire transfer of funds sent to LVDHM originated from Texas National Bank. The amount was significantly less than the estimated \$588,687 owed through October 31, 2007 and only represented an estimated amount owed through June 30, 2007. Plaintiffs yet again felt they had no other choice but to accept the money in the form of a loan. (See ex. 27, Williams Declaration.) Plaintiffs were desperate to get the money, even in the form of a loan, given the fact that the holidays were approaching and the TRIBE needed money for its annual holiday expenditures for the tribal members. *Id*.

**109.** None of the Defendants made any payments to LVDHM due for the period of July 1, 2007 through September 30, 2007 as promised.

110. On or about December 28, 2007, LVDHM drafted and sent a letter regarding the "Continued Validity of the Notification of Default" to Defendants ARTURO CARDONA, JUAN CARDONA, E-MEX, JDG and Edwin Hunter. (See Exhibit 19, Continued Validity of the Notification of Default). This correspondence, sent via Federal Express, notified the Defendants that the Notice of Default remained effective because none of the Defendants had met the conditions contained in the Revocation Notice.

111. Over the next month, in various communications with Defendants and their attorneys, LVDHM urged the Defendants to cancel the loans, cure the arrears of the Cash Flow Participation payments that had never been issued and pay any amounts due for the period from July 1, 2007 forward. The Defendants failed to cure the defaults.

112. On or about January 28, 2008, LVDHM sent Defendant ARTURO CARDONA a revised letter via Federal Express regarding the "Continued Validity of the Notification of Default – Second Notice" via Federal Express. (See Ex. 19, Continued Validity of the Notification of Default). It identified the on-going default of Defendants and the obligation to cure their breach.

113. On or about February 11, 2008, LVDHM again sent a copy of the Continued Validity of the Notification of Default via e-mail to the Defendants' attorneys David Jimenez and Edwin Hunter. *Id.* A copy was also sent to Defendant JUAN CARDONA via e-mail. This letter notified all of the Defendants that due to continued non-compliance with their Partnership Agreements with LVDHM, the "Notice of Default" was still effective. Plaintiffs

repeatedly, but to no avail, sent these letters to Defendants in an effort to get their attention in hopes of reaching a prompt and amicable resolution of the outstanding issues among the Parties.

- 114. On February 29, 2008, LVDHM initiated the process described in the Pledge Agreement to secure for itself the Collateral (the additional 26% interest in Defendant JDG). To initiate that process LVDHM sent notice of a partnership meeting which was set for April 8, 2008 in Monterrey, Mexico. (See Ex. 27, Williams Declaration).
- **115.** On March 6, 2008 LVDHM learned through its attorneys that the Mexican Government confirmed that the permit under which Casino Guadalupe was supposed to operate is "inactive." *Id.*
- 116. Jim Williams, the Manager or LVDHM and the TRIBE's Chairman and his attorneys traveled to Monterrey to attend the partnership meeting called by LVDHM in accordance with the Pledge Agreement. *Id.* Attorney David Jimenez, after numerous months without any communication, contacted the TRIBE's counsel in Mexico and indicated that Defendant JUAN CARDONA requested that the meeting be held at Tango Media's offices rather than the location selected by LVDHM. *Id.* He said the Defendant JUAN CARDONA would participate in the meeting. *Id.*
- 117. On April 8, 2008 when Plaintiffs arrived for the meeting, Defendant JUAN CARDONA immediately indicated that he would not participate in the meeting as a partnership meeting and stated that the meeting was for "settlement purposes." *Id.* Because of this LVDHM had to forgo the meeting that it needed in order to initiate the process required by the Pledge Agreement. It chose to do so because it believed settlement would actually be discussed. *Id.*

118. However, the meeting involved JUAN CARDONA in a hostile manner telling Jim Williams that he would never return Plaintiffs' investment and then conversely agreeing that money was owed to the TRIBE and that they would provide audited financials, cancel the promissory notes and then issue the Cash Flow Distribution. (See Ex. 27, Williams Declaration). He gave numerous excuses as to why Defendants have not sent the money they owed Plaintiffs. *Id.* He indicated that they would provide us all the documentation we requested. He also said that they would send JDG's tax filings. *Id.* 

- 119. Finally, he stated that the best thing was for LVDHM to sell its interests. He asked Jim Williams to leave and return in the afternoon so that he could call an overseas financier who he said might be interested in buying LVDHM's shares (the same one who Defendants alleged would buy out LVDHM in the Letter of Intent of April 30, 2007). *Id*.
- **120.** At the afternoon meeting no settlement discussion occurred. However, they asked Plaintiffs to hold off on any further legal action so that a buy-out could be arranged. *Id*.
- **121.** Since that meeting Plaintiffs have received no communication directly from the Defendants, Defendants did not send the documentation they said they would, the promissory notes have not been canceled, LVDHM has yet to receive a single Cash Flow Distribution, and LVDHM did not receive any funds due, in the form of a loan or otherwise, for the period covering July 1, 2007 to the present.

## H. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS REGARDING THE FORUM FOR ADDRESSING DEFENDANTS' DEFAULTS.

**122.** The Parties, in an arms-length negotiation expressly agreed by contract in advance to submit to the jurisdiction of a specific court. Specifically, the

"Mexican Counterparts" explicitly consented to the jurisdiction of the Courts of the State of Arizona. (See Ex. 4, Security Agreement). Per the terms of the Security agreement, "Mexican Counterparts" means: (a) Defendant E-MEX; (b) Defendant GRH; (c) Defendant ATLICO; (d) Defendant JDG; (e) the "Asociacion en Participacion" created by Entretenimiento de Mexico, S.A. de C.V. and Juegos de Entretenimiento y Video de Guadalupe, S. de R. L. de C. V.; and (f) Defendant ARTURO CARDONA. *Id*.

took place concerning dispute resolution. The product of this discussion was that the Parties agreed Arizona was the best place to resolve disputes if a default pursuant to the Partnership Agreements were to take place. *Id.* Arizona was seen as the most convenient place for litigation because it was closer than Michigan for the Defendants and was easily reachable by them from Monterrey in Northern Mexico. *Id.* In fact JUAN CARDONA and ARTURO CARDONA sent their private jet to the United States to pick up the Tribal Council on several occasion and on at least one occasion sent the plane to Arizona to pick up on the Plaintiffs' attorney. Plaintiffs favored Arizona because it is where the tribal attorneys are located, which would reduce litigation and travel costs if a dispute were to arise. *Id.* Part of what attracted the TRIBE to the deal and induced them to invest was the fact that the Defendants agreed to resolve disputes in the courts of Arizona and agreed to have Arizona law govern the dispute to keep the TRIBE out of foreign courts. *Id.* 

**124.** The Security Agreement defines what will be considered a "Default" as follows:

Each of the following occurrences will constitute a Default:

- (a) A Default will occur hereunder or under any of the Transaction Documents.
- (b) Juegos de Guadalupe will fail to transfer to LVDHM its Cash Flow Participation from the Gross Daily Profit at the time and in the manner required by this Agreement or any material breach of Mexican Counterparts that impacts LVD Mexico Holdings, LLC's interest in the Pledged Revenues.
- (c) Mexican Counterparts will default in the due observance or performance of any of its other obligations in this Agreement or the Transaction Documents.
- (d) The Casino fails to open due to the fault of an action taken by Mexican Counterparts.

(See Ex. 4, Security Agreement).

- 125. The Security Agreement also bound the Parties to the following: "[t]his Agreement is intended to take effect as a sealed instrument and will be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of Arizona, without regard to its conflicts of law provisions. Mexican Counterparts agrees that any action or claim arising out of, or any dispute in connection with, this Agreement, any rights, remedies, obligations, or duties hereunder, or the performance or enforcement hereof or thereof, may be brought in the courts of Arizona." *Id*.
- **126.** Thus, Defendant ARTURO CARDONA when he signed the Security Agreement agreed that he as an individual, and Defendants E-MEX, ATLICO, GRH and JDG, would all resolve any disputes regarding an alleged Default in the forum selected.
- **127.** Due to their interlocking control structure and the fact that ARTURO CARDONA directly controls every Corporate Defendant as his alter, impliedly every Defendant agreed to the forum selection clause.
- 128. Defendants JUAN CARDONA, Juegos de Entretenimiento y Videos de

Monterrey, Sociedad de Capital Variable, ATLICO USA, LLC, E-MEX Holdings, LLC, Escobedo Recreation Holdings, LLC, Matamoras Recreation Holdings, LLC, Reynosa Recreation Holdings, LLC, San Luis Potosi Recreation Holdings, LLC, and San Pedro Recreational Holdings, LLC are not signatories to the Security Agreement. However, the non-contracting Parties are closely related to the contractual relationship because each participated in the transaction.

129. Defendant JUAN CARDONA is the agent for all of the Defendants, handles the day-to-day operations of the Defendants, and has been one of the points of contact in all negotiations, and correspondence. He attended meetings as the proxy of his brother Defendant ARTURO CARDONA. He earned income from the transaction that lies at the heart of this Complaint and bears significant responsibility for the transaction with Plaintiffs. He is believed to be an officer in Defendants' companies and has dominion and control over the Guadalupe Casino.

130. The non-contracting Party Juegos de Entretenimiento y Videos de Monterrey, Sociedad de Capital Variable benefited from the Partnership Agreements because it is believed to have used Defendant JDG's funds (including those provided by LVDHM) to contract with two Nevada Gaming Control Board licensed corporations, Ainsworth Game Technology and Aristocrat Technologies, Inc., to either lease or purchase slot machines for use in the Guadalupe Casino. Defendant ARTURO CARDONA is the Manager, legal representative and at least majority shareholder of Juegos de Entretenimiento y Videos de Monterrey, Sociedad de Capital Variable.

**131.** ATLICO USA, LLC and E-MEX Holdings, LLC are believed to be holding companies designed to "hold" the interests of Defendants ATLICO and E-MEX. Defendant ARTURO CARDONA manages, is the legal representative and is a

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shareholder in ATLICO USA, LLC and E-MEX Holdings, LLC. (See Ex. 22, Nevada Secretary of State).

- 132. Every single wire transfer from the TRIBE was sent to account number 1007715 at Texas National Bank for credit to Defendant SAN PEDRO HOLDINGS, LLC which is part of a joint account held by at least Defendants SAN PEDRO HOLDINGS, LLC, ESCOBEDO RECREATION HOLDINGS, LLC. **MATAMORAS** RECREATION HOLDINGS, LLC, REYNOSA RECREATION HOLDINGS, LLC, and SAN LUIS POTOSI RECREATION HOLDINGS, LLC. (See Ex. 7, Statement of Payments, Ex. 23 Bank Account Information). Defendant ARTURO CARDONA was at all times relevant to this Complaint actively involved as the Manager, majority shareholder, owner, or beneficial owner in those Nevada registered LLCs. These corporations also maintain the exact same bank account, number 1007715. Id. Therefore, any of those companies could have control over the TRIBE's funds and have access to the funds.
- 133. It is believed that funds from Defendants' operations are commingled in the accounts held in the name of the aforementioned Nevada corporations at Texas National Bank and that the TRIBE's investment may have been moved between accounts at Texas National Bank, to other unknown accounts in the United States and Mexico and in and out of bank accounts in Panama held in the name of Defendant ATLICO or other unknown Panama registered companies.
- **134.** The Nevada LLC's named as Defendants benefited from the Partnership Agreements with Plaintiffs because the TRIBE's money was and may be in an account to which those entities have access. Defendant ARTURO CARDONA manages, is the legal representative, and is a shareholder of the companies.

Defendant JUAN CARDONA and ARTURO CARDONA requested that the money be wired to a single account in which it is not clear whether GRH even has a sub-account to segregate funds associated with the Guadalupe Casino, GRH or JDG. By accepting the TRIBE's money into that single account, all the known business that have access to it became transaction participants.

### I. DEFENDANTS PURPOSELY AVAILED THEMSELVES TO THE LAWS OF ARIZONA.

- 135. Defendants purposely availed themselves to the laws of Arizona because, as alleged above, the Defendants either agreed to the forum selection clause granting jurisdiction in the Courts of the state of Arizona or because they are the alter ego of ARTURO CARDONA and are transaction participants.
- **136.** On at least one occasion Defendants sent a private jet to Arizona to conduct business related to this transaction.
  - **137.** Defendants agreed that the governing law of this transaction shall be that of Arizona.

#### V. FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION – BREACH OF CONTRACT

- **138.** Plaintiffs herein reallege and incorporate by reference the allegations set forth above.
- **139.** The Defendants, through their principal Defendant ARTURO CARDONA and agent Defendant JUAN CARDONA, presented a partnership opportunity to the TRIBE.
- **140.** Specifically, Defendants ARTURO CARDONA and JUAN CARDONA promised the TRIBE a 26% equity interest in JDG and rights to 26% of the Gross Daily Profit of the Guadalupe Casino (Cash Flow Participation) in exchange for the TRIBE's capital investment \$6,500,000.00.

- 141. On behalf of the Defendants, Defendant ARTURO CARDONA executed a Term Sheet with LVDHM outlining the intended partnership structure for Defendant JDG. The Term Sheet expressed the intention that JDG would pay the Cash Flow Participation from the Guadalupe Casino to LVDHM. The Term Sheet outlined the intent of the transaction and was the foundation for the formal Partnership Agreements subsequently entered into by LVDHM with Defendants, ARTURO CARDONA, JUAN CARDONA, E-MEX, JDG, ATLICO, and GRH.
- **142.** On or about August 25, 2006, LVDHM executed a Depository Agreement with Defendant JDG.
- 143. Section 2.3(a) of the Depository Agreement requires Defendant JDG to deposit the Cash Flow Participation from the Guadalupe Casino into an account on behalf of LVDHM on a daily basis. Section 2.3(b) of the Depository Agreement provides that any Cash Flow Participation not deposited into such an account on behalf of LVDHM shall be held in a trust account for LVDHM.
- **144.** On or about August 14, 2006, LVDHM executed Security Agreement with Defendants JDG, ATLICO, GRH, and ARTURO CARDONA.
- 145. Sections 5(c) and (d) of the Security Agreement provides the Defendants "shall make all decisions regarding the company in conformance with its bylaws and at the direction of its Board of Directors, which at all times and at the direction of its Board of Directors... [and shall c]omply with all the applicable requirements, including all amendments thereto and with applicable provisions of Mexican Law... in connection with all Agreements executed for [sic] Juegos de Guadalupe [JDG] project."
- **146.** Section 7(a) and (b) of the Security Agreement further provides that a default under the Security Agreement shall occur upon a default of any transaction

- document, and/or if Defendant JDG fails to transfer Cash Flow Participation payments to LVDHM.
- 147. On or about August 28, 2006, Defendant JDG held a shareholders' meeting, chaired by Defendant ARTURO CARDONA, at which time JDG affirmed and acknowledged all of the aforementioned Partnership Agreements between LVDHM and JDG. The minutes for that meeting ("Shareholder Minutes") were certified and notarized, and constitute under Mexican law a legally binding agreement between all of the Defendants and LVDHM regarding the operation of the corporation under Mexican law.
- **148.** LVDHM performed all its obligations to transfer funds to its partners which it did in the four wire transfers and LVDHM attempted to appoint an external auditor as required.
- 149. Defendant JDG breached the Depository Agreement and Security Agreement by failing to pay the required Cash Flow Participation from the Guadalupe Casino to LVDHM and by thwarting LVDHM's efforts to vindicate its right to appoint external auditors to monitor the Guadalupe Casino's finances.
- **150.** Defendant JUAN CARDONA breached his agreement to make Cash Flow Participation payments to LVDHM on behalf of all of the Defendants.
- **151.** Defendants have breached the Depository Agreement, Security Agreement and the agreements memorialized in the various Shareholder Minutes, by failing to take actions necessary to effectuate the intent of those agreements with LVDHM by, *inter alia*, preventing LVDHM from conducting external auditing services and failing to issue Cash Flow Distributions to Plaintiffs.
- **152.** As a result of all of the Defendants' breaches described above, Plaintiffs suffered damages including but not limited to the loss of its \$6,500,000.00

investment that the Defendants arrogated for their own benefit and refuse to return to Plaintiffs, the lost opportunity from the potential investment of those funds in other ventures, unpaid Cash Flow Participation payments and dividends from Defendant JDG, interest thereon, and expenses, attorneys' fees and costs incurred by Plaintiffs in its attempts to enforce its agreements with the Defendants.

#### VI. <u>SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION – CONVERSION</u>

- **153.** Plaintiffs herein reallege and incorporate by reference the allegations set forth above.
- **154.** Plaintiffs transferred \$6,500,000.00 to the Defendants in a joint account accessible to ARTURO CARDONA and the Nevada LLC's who each shared the account.
- **155.** Pursuant to this partnership, Defendant JDG should have paid the Cash Flow Participation to LVDHM.
- **156.** Despite these contractual obligations and repeated oral and written promises, none of the Defendants ever paid the Cash Flow Participation to LVDHM.
- **157.** ARTURO CARDONA on behalf of the Defendants have thus wrongfully taken \$6,500,000.00 from Plaintiffs for their own benefit. The Defendants exert dominion and control over the funds invested, as well as the fruits of Plaintiff's investment in the Guadalupe Casino, namely the construction and operation of that facility and the profits arising therefrom.
- **158.** The Defendants' control of the funds invested by Plaintiffs is wrongful because the Defendants received the funds under the guise of promises to pay the Cash Flow Participation, but then refused to do so after receiving Plaintiffs' investment. Defendants' dominion over the investment deprived Plaintiffs of the

ownership and use of the money.

**159.** The acts, omissions, and conduct of all Defendants constitute negligence, gross negligence, reckless, intentional, knowing, extreme and/or outrageous conduct against Plaintiffs.

#### VII. THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION – BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTIES

- **160.** Plaintiffs herein reallege and incorporate by reference the allegations set forth above.
- **161.** As business partners, ARTURO CARDONA, JUAN CARDONA, JDG, GRH, E-MEX, and ATLICO owed LVDHM fiduciary duties of loyalty, care and good faith and fair dealing.
- 162. Despite these obligations, the Defendants have instead made false or misleading representations to Plaintiffs concerning Defendant JDG's accounts and monies due and owing to Plaintiffs as a result of its participation in the partnership. They have also failed to account for such unpaid monies. Furthermore, the Defendants have consistently frustrated LVDHM's effort to vindicate its rights to ensure adequate external auditing of JDG's operations. Defendants have thus acted adversely to the partnership.
- 163. Plaintiffs have been harmed by the Defendants' actions because Plaintiffs have been deprived of both investment capital and of the opportunity to enjoy the fruits of that capital, namely the Cash Flow Participation. Plaintiffs have been forced to expend additional time and money in an effort to recover the wrongfully withheld funds.
- **164.** The acts, omissions and conduct of all Defendants constitutes negligence, gross negligence, reckless, intentional, knowing, extreme and/or outrageous conduct against Plaintiffs.

#### VIII. FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION – FRAUD

**165.** Plaintiffs herein reallege and incorporate by reference the allegations set forth above.

166. The Defendants, through their principal, Defendant ARTURO CARDONA, and agent, Defendant JUAN CARDONA, intentionally misrepresented the partnership opportunity to the Plaintiffs from the outset of this transaction. Between April 28, 2006 and May 5, 2006, ARTURO CARDONA and JUAN CARDONA conducted several telephone calls with the TRIBE's Chairman, James Williams, Jr. and the TRIBE's attorneys, in which they each intentionally misrepresented the proposed partnership structure for Defendant JDG, JDG's intentions to legally operate the Guadalupe Casino pursuant to Mexican law, and the validity of the Permit.

**167.** Specifically, Defendants ARTURO CARDONA and JUAN CARDONA promised LVDHM a "26% equity interest" in Defendant JDG and intentionally misrepresented that LVDHM would receive "26% of the net revenue" in exchange for a "capital investment" of "\$6,500,000.00."

168. On March 20, 2007, in an effort to induce LVDHM to forbear from declaring a default under the Depository and Security Agreements, Defendant JUAN CARDONA promised, on behalf of all of the Defendants, to appoint internal advisors and external auditors for the Guadalupe Casino to ensure that LVDHM's tax concerns were properly addressed under the laws of Mexico. He also promised the Defendants would make the required Cash Flow Participation payments of Guadalupe Casino revenues to LVDHM since none had been made.

**169.** The above representations made by the Defendants were false. None of the Defendants ever made any attempt to accomplish any of their promised acts. All

manner and proceeded to misdirect the Plaintiffs. **170.** Between April 11, 2007 and April 30, 2007, LVDHM made extensive efforts to contact the Defendants to notify them that no action had been taken to

of the Defendants knew their representations were false at the time they were

made because they willfully failed to make any attempt to act in the promised

- efforts to contact the Defendants to notify them that no action had been taken to correct their defaults under the applicable Partnership Agreements; however, the Defendants intentionally avoided and refused to communicate with LVDHM.
- **171.** On June 15, 2007, after the Defendants received the Notice of Default from LVDHM, Defendants, through their attorneys David Jimenez and Edwin Hunter, promised to transfer funds due and owing to LVDHM. Again, all of the Defendants knew the promises and representations made by their attorneys were false and misleading, as no effort to comply with those promises was ever made.
- 172. In a series of correspondence from November 2007 through December 2007, Defendants and Defendants' attorney Edwin Hunter knowingly and intentionally delayed and refused to make Cash Flow Participation payments as promised to LVDHM. The Defendants also repeatedly asked for revocations of the Notice the Default and extensions to the period to cure the defaults but never fulfilled their promises when the Plaintiffs in good faith tried to cooperate with them.
- 173. Plaintiffs rightfully relied on each of the Defendants' aforementioned misrepresentations. LVDHM had no way of knowing the information supplied by the Defendants was false at the time it was presented by Defendants. Plaintiff's reliance on Defendants' misrepresentations caused injury to Plaintiffs because they were defrauded into transferring \$6,500,000.00 US to the Defendants' control, and because Plaintiffs delayed the exercise of contractual rights to collect

under the default provisions of the Partnership Agreements based upon the Defendants continued false misrepresentations, imposing significant opportunity costs in terms of lost time and resources.

**174.** The acts, omissions, and conduct of all Defendants constitute negligence, gross negligence, reckless, intentional, knowing, extreme, and/or outrageous conduct against Plaintiffs.

### IX. <u>FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION – BREACH OF THE IMPLIED</u> <u>COVENANT OF GOOD FAITH AND FAIR DEALING</u>

**175.** Plaintiffs herein reallege and incorporate by reference the allegations set forth above.

176. Defendants breached the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing with respect to the Depository Agreement, Security Agreement and Shareholder Minutes, by failing to take actions necessary to effectuate the intent of those Partnership Agreements with LVDHM, particularly by failing to properly structure Defendant JDG under Mexican law by withholding Cash Flow Participation payments due and owing to LVDHM and by preventing LVDHM from exercising its right to conduct or ensure the conduct of external auditing of the Guadalupe Casino.

**177.** The acts, omissions and conduct of all Defendants constitute negligence, gross negligence, reckless, intentional, knowing, extreme and/or outrageous conduct against Plaintiffs.

### X. <u>SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION – CONSTRUCTIVE TRUST</u>

**178.** Plaintiffs herein reallege and incorporate by reference the allegations set forth above.

179. In light of the Defendants' fraudulent conduct, their breach of fiduciary

duties owed to LVDHM, their conversion of Plaintiffs' \$6,500,000 investment and Cash Flow Participation payments, as set forth above, the Defendants thus hold LVDHM's investment principal and all accrued Cash Flow Participation monies as constructive trustees for LVDHM's benefit with a duty to transfer all such funds to LVDHM.

### XI. SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION - PIERCING THE CORPORATE VEIL

- **180.** Plaintiffs herein reallege and incorporate by reference the allegations set forth above.
- **181.** Defendant ARTURO CARDONAexercised complete domination of all Defendants and their officers and directors (himself), and completely financed and operated the same corporations through the misuse of fraudulent profits paid to those corporations or to related persons and entities while concealing an accounting of their scheme.
- **182.** Defendant ARTURO CARDONA used Defendant companies, created in his name, which he managed, owned, or was the named chairman to defraud the Plaintiffs of millions of dollars.
- **183.** Upholding the corporate entity in this case will sanction a fraud or promote injustice.
- **184.** Defendant ARTURO CARDONA's use of each defendant company assisted him to transfer funds between companies which appear to be separate, but are actually under complete control and domination of ARTURO CARDONA.
- **185.** Such domination was used to commit a fraud against the Plaintiffs as alleged herein.
- **186.** As a result Plaintiffs have suffered severe damages as alleged herein.

<b>187.</b> The Nevada LLC defendants are party to this piercing of the corporate veil
scheme because of the dominion and control Defendant ARTURO CARDONA
exercises over each and every one of those corporations and the possible
commingling of funds among the joint account the Nevada LLC defendants share.
188. Defendants are accordingly liable to Plaintiffs for piercing the corporate
veil in an amount to be proved at trial.
XII. PRAYER FOR RELIEF
WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs request judgment against all of the Defendants for
compensatory, exemplary and/or punitive damages, in addition to interest,
attorneys' fees and costs, and such equitable relief, including the imposition of a
constructive trust, as may be deemed proper by this Court.
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 14th day of July, 2008.
By: /s/ Steve M. Bodmer
Robert A. Rosette (Ariz. No. 18136)
Steve M. Bodmer (Ariz. No. 025074) Rosette & Associates, PC
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1	
2	Certificate of Service
3	
4	I hereby certify that on July 14, 2008, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk
5	of the Court using the ECF system. Notice of this filing will be sent by operation of the
6	Court's electronic filing system to all parties indicated on the electronic filing receipt.
7	
8	/s/ Steve M. Bodmer
9	
10	COPY of the foregoing mailed*/ electronically delivered ** this 14th day of
11	July 2008 to:
12	John T. Gilbert
13	Randy A. McCaskill ALVAREZ & GILBERT, PLLC
14	14500 N. Northsight Blvd., Ste. 216
15	Scottsdale, AZ 85260
16	Attorneys for Certain Defendants:
17	Atlico USA, LLC;
18	E-Mex Holdings, LLC; Escobedo Recreation Holdings, LLC;
19	Guadalupe Recreation Holdings, LLC;
20	Matamoraas Holdings, LLC; Reynosa Recreation Holdings, LLC;
21	San Luis Potosi Recreation Holdings, LLC; San Pedro Recreation Holdings, LLC; and
22	Xochipilli, LLC
23	
24	
25	
26	

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