	Case 2:15-cv-00207-APG-PAL Document 1	5 Filed 03/02/15 Page 1 of 11
1	JAMES E. SMYTH, II Nevada Bar No. 6506	
2	KAEMPFER CROWELL 8345 West Sunset Road, Suite 250	
3	Las Vegas, Nevada 89113 Telephone: (702) 792-7000	
4	Fax: (702) 796-7181 jsmyth@kcnvlaw.com	
5	RICHARD W. EPSTEIN	
6	MYRNA L. MAYSONET (Admitted Pro Hac Vice)	
7	GREENSPOON MARDER, P.A. 201 East Pine St., Suite 500	
8	Orlando, Florida 32801 Telephone: (407) 425-6559	
9	Facsimile: (407) 422-6583 richard.epstein@gmlaw.com	
10	<u>myrna.maysonet@gmlaw.com</u> Attorneys for Westgate, LLC	
11		DISTRICT COURT
12	DISTRICT	OF NEVADA
13		
14	JANINE VIRGA,	Case No.: 2:15-cv-00207-APG-PAL
15	Plaintiff,	REMAINING DEFENDANTS' ANSWER
16	vs.	TO PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT
17	CFI SALES & MARKETING, LTD, d/b/a and a/k/a WESTGATE RESORTS,; CFI	
18	SALES & MARKETING, INC., d/b/a and a/k/a WESTGATE RESORTS; CFI RESORTS	
19	MANAGEMENT, INC./ CFI SALES & MARKETING, LLC; WESTGATE	
20	RESORTS, LTD; WESTGATE RESORTS, INC., WESTGATE MARKETING, LLC,	
21	DOES 1 through 10 and ROE Corporations 11 through 20, inclusive,	
22	Westgate, LLC.	
23		ING, INC., CFI RESORTS MANAGEMENT,
24	INC., CFI SALES & MARKETING, LLC, W	ESTGATE RESORTS, LTD., and WESTGATE

RESORTS, INC., (collectively "Defendants"), by and through their attorneys of record, hereby file their Answer and Defenses to Plaintiff's, JANINE VIRGA, Complaint ("Complaint") and state as follows:

JURISDICTION

1. Defendants admit that this purports to be an action under state and federal laws prohibiting unlawful employment actions but deny that Plaintiff's claims have any merit or that she is entitled to relief.

Defendants admit that this court has jurisdiction over Title VII, N.R.S. Chapter
613 or N.R.S. Chapter 233, but deny that Plaintiff's claims have any merit or that she is entitled to any relief.

Defendants admit venue is proper but deny the rest of the allegations in paragraph
3 of the Complaint.

4. Defendants admit that Plaintiff has demanded this matter be heard by a jury but deny that her claims are sound or that she is entitled to any relief.

PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

5. Defendants admit that Plaintiff filed a Charge of Discrimination with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC") but deny that Plaintiff exhausted pre-suit requirements under Title VII or N.R.S. 613.330.

6. Defendants are without knowledge as to the allegations in paragraph 6 of the Complaint; hence, they deny the allegations.

7. Defendants admit that the EEOC issued a letter of determination on April 23, 2014, but deny the factual and legal merits of this determination or that Plaintiff is entitled to any relief.

8.	Defendants admit that the EEOC issued a Notice of Right to Sue but deny that	lt
Plaintiff exhau	sted all remedies.	

THE PARTIES

9. Defendants are without knowledge as to Plaintiff's residence at all times relevant

to the Complaint. Defendants deny the remaining allegations in paragraph 9 of the Complaint.

- 10. Defendants admit that venue is proper here but deny the rest of the allegations in paragraph 10 of the Complaint.
 - 11. Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 11 of the Complaint.
 - 12. Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 12 of the Complaint.
 - 13. Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 13 of the Complaint.
 - 14. Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 14 of the Complaint.
 - 15. Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 15 of the Complaint
 - 16. Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 16 of the Complaint.

17. Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 17 of the Complaint and further allege there is no individual liability under Title VII or N.R.S. 613.330 for the claims asserted in the Complaint.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 18. Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 18 of the Complaint.
- 19. Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 19 of the Complaint.

20. Defendants are without knowledge as to allegations in paragraph 20 of the Complaint and deny that Plaintiff was ever employed by Defendants.

- 21. Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 21 of the Complaint.
- 22. Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 22 of the Complaint.
- 24

23

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

		Case No.: 2:15-cv-00207	I
1	23.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 23 of the Complaint.	
2	24.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 24 of the Complaint.	
3	25.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 25 of the Complaint as Plaintiff was	
4	never employ	yed by Defendants.	
5	26.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 26 of the Complaint.	
6	27.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 27 of the Complaint.	
7	28.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 28 of the Complaint.	
8	29.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 29 of the Complaint.	
9	30.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 30 of the Complaint.	
10	31.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 31 of the Complaint.	
11	32.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 32 of the Complaint.	
12	33.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 33 of the Complaint.	
13		FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION	1
14		Race Discrimination/Harassment/Retaliation 42U.S.C. §2000E-2 (Title VII) NRS 613.330/42 U.S.C. §2000E-3(a)	
15			
16	34.	Defendants adopt all answers as stated in paragraphs 1 through 33 above.	
17	35.	Defendants are without knowledge as to the allegations in paragraph 35 of the	
18	Complaint; th	herefore, they deny the allegation.	
	36.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 36 of the Complaint.	
19 20	37.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 37 of the Complaint as Plaintiff was	
20	never employ	yed by Defendants.	
21	38.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 38 of the Complaint as Plaintiff was	
22	never employ	yed by Defendants.	
23	39.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 39 of the Complaint.	
24		4	
			1

1	40.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 40 of the Complaint.
2	41.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 41 of the Complaint.
3	42.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 42 of the Complaint.
4	43.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 43 of the Complaint.
5	44.	Defendants admit Plaintiff retained an attorney but deny the remaining allegations
6	in paragraph	44 of the Complaint.
7	45.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 45 of the Complaint.
8 9		<u>SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION</u> <u>Sex Discrimination/Harassment/Retaliation</u> 42 U.S.C. §2000e-2 (Title VII) / NRS 613.330/42 U.S.C. §2000e-3(a)
10	46.	Defendants adopt all answers as stated in paragraphs 1 through 45 above.
11	47.	Defendants admit Plaintiff is a female but deny she is entitled to any relief under
12		Title VII or N.R.S. 613.330.
13	48.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 48 of the Complaint.
14	49.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 49 of the Complaint.
15	50.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 50 of the Complaint.
16	51.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 51 of the Complaint.
17	52.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 52 of the Complaint.
18	53.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 53 of the Complaint.
19	54.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 54 of the Complaint.
20	55.	Defendants admit Plaintiff retained an attorney but deny the remaining allegations
21	in paragraph	55 of the Complaint.
22	56.	Defendants deny the allegations in paragraph 56 of the Complaint.
23		
24		5

	Case 2:15-cv-00207-APG-PAL Document 15 Filed 03/02/15 Page 6 of 11
	Defendants' Answer to Plaintiff's Complaint Case No.: 2:15-cv-00207
1	PRAYER FOR RELIEF
2	Defendants deny that Plaintiff is entitled to any relief for her claims as stated in this
3	section or subsections.
4	<u>DEFENDANTS' DEFENSES AND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES</u> <u>FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE</u>
5	57. Plaintiff cannot state a claim for which relief can be granted under any theory of the
6	law.
7	SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
8	58. Plaintiff's claims are untimely and outside the statutes of limitations imposed by
9	federal and state law.
10	THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
11	59. Defendants plead all applicable limitations periods, both as a bar to the claims and
12	requests for relief asserted in the Complaint and as limitations upon evidence to be
13	admitted or considered in connection with any proceedings in this case.
14	FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
15	60. Plaintiff failed to exhaust her administrative remedies or otherwise failed to comply
16	
17	with statutory requirements and thus cannot obtain relief under Title VII or N.R.S.
18	613.330.
19	61. Plaintiff failed to timely file a Charge of Discrimination against Defendants as
20	required by Title VII or N.R.S. 613.330.
21	<u>FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE</u>
22	62. Plaintiff's claims are barred to the extent that they exceed the scope of her Charge of
23	Discrimination.
24	
	6

X701XX A X

1	SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
2	63. Plaintiff cannot establish a prima facie case of hostile work environment under Title
3	VII or N.R.S. 613.330.
4	64. Plaintiff was not subjected to verbal or physical conduct because of her protected
5	classes.
6	65. Plaintiff was not subjected to unwelcome conduct because of her protected classes.
7	66. Any alleged conduct was not sufficiently severe or pervasive to alter the terms and
8	conditions of her employment.
9	67. There is no basis for holding Defendants vicariously liable for any alleged conduct.
10	SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
11	68. Defendants had a well promulgated and established anti-discrimination policy which
12	was known to Plaintiff.
13	69. Defendants exercised reasonable care to prevent and to immediately stop all forms of
14	illegal discrimination.
15	70. Plaintiff unreasonably failed to take advantage of any preventative and corrective
16	measures or otherwise avoid the harm alleged in the Complaint.
17	71. Plaintiff's failure to exhaust available remedies precluded Defendants from becoming
18	aware of the alleged discrimination or retaliation and taking corrective measures
19	within its control, barring Plaintiff's claims.
20	EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
21	72. Plaintiff cannot establish a <i>prima facie</i> case of disparate treatment under Title VII or
22	N.R.S. 613.330.
23	73. Plaintiff was not qualified for her job or job opportunities alleged in the Complaint.
24	7

	Case 2:15-cv-00207-APG-PAL Document 15 Filed 03/02/15 Page 8 of 11
	Defendants' Answer to Plaintiff's Complaint Case No.: 2:15-cv-00207
1	74. Plaintiff was not subjected to an adverse action.
2	75. Plaintiff was not treated less favorably than similarly situated individuals outside her
3	protected classes.
4	76. Any comparators identified by Plaintiff are not similarly situated to Plaintiff.
5	NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
6	77. Defendants had legitimate non-pretextual reasons for taking all employment actions
7	involving Plaintiff and these actions did not violate Title VII and N.R.S. 613.330.
8	TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
9	78. Plaintiff cannot establish a <i>prima facie</i> case of Retaliation under Title VII or N.R.S.
10	613.330.
11	79. Plaintiff did not engage in a protected activity.
12	80. Defendants did not take an adverse action against Plaintiff. Plaintiff resigned.
13	81. Plaintiff cannot show a causal connection to a retaliation claim under state or federal
14	law.
15	82. Plaintiff lacked a good faith reasonable belief that Defendants were engaged in
16	unlawful employment practices and a retaliation claim cannot lie under those
17	circumstances.
18	ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
19	83. Defendants had a legitimate non-pretextual reason for taking any adverse action
20	alleged in Plaintiff's Retaliation claim under Title VII and N.R.S. 613.330.
21	TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
22	84. Defendants had good reasonable beliefs that it was complying with federal and state
23	law.
24	8
	l V

1	85. Defendants exercised reasonable care to prevent and to immediately stop all forms of
2	illegal discrimination and retaliation and have acted in good faith.
3	86. Plaintiff unreasonably failed to take advantage of any preventative or corrective
4	measures or to otherwise avoid the harm alleged in the Complaint.
5	THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
6	87. Some or all of the claims asserted in the Complaint are barred by the equitable
7	doctrine of laches, waiver, estoppel, release and/or unclean hands.
8	FOURTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
9	88. Defendants conduct was not intentional, reckless or willful.
10	89. Plaintiff is prohibited from recovering damages that are not permitted by Title VII or
11	N.R.S. 613.330.
12	90. Plaintiff failed to mitigate her damages.
13	91. Plaintiff is not entitled to fees.
14	SIXTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
15	92. Defendants were not Plaintiff's employer at the time relevant to her claims. In
16	addition, Defendants have never been Plaintiff's employers as defined by Title VII or
17	N.R.S. 613.330.
18	93. Defendants were not employers under Title VII or N.R.S. 613.330.
19	SEVENTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
20	94. Plaintiff's discrimination and retaliation claims are barred to the extent they are based
21	upon her membership in unprotected categories.
22	
23	
24	
	9

EIGHTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

1	EIGHTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
2	95. Insofar as any of Defendants' policies or procedure had an adverse impact on
3	Plaintiff, such policies or practices nevertheless are lawful because they are job-
4	related and consistent with business necessity. 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e et seq.
5	96. Plaintiff's Title VII and state claims are barred because any alleged differential
6	treatment of Plaintiffs by Defendants were undertaken pursuant to a bonafide merit
7	system, bonafide seniority system, or bonafide factors other than membership in a
8	protected category. 42 U.S.C. § 2000e-2(h).
9	Defendants reserve the right to assert additional defenses which may be raised by discovery in
10	this action.
11	REQUEST FOR RELIEF
12	WHEREFORE, Defendants respectfully request this Court to:
13	(a) Issue Judgment for Defendants and against Plaintiff;
14	(b) Award Defendants all costs, including attorneys' fees, post judgment interest and
15	costs, related to the defense of this action; and
16	(c) All other relief deemed reasonable by this Court.
17	
18	DATED this 2 nd day of March, 2015.
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	10
	10

	Case 2:15-cv-00207-APG-PAL Document 15 Filed 03/02/15 Page 11 of 11
	Defendants' Answer to Plaintiff's Complaint Case No.: 2:15-cv-00207
1	
2	
3	GREENSPOON MARDER, P.A.
4	By: <u>/s/Myrna L. Maysonet</u> RICHARD W. EPSTEIN
5	Florida Bar No.:0229091) MYRNA L. MAYSONET
6	Florida Bar No.: 0429650) 200 East Broward Blvd., Suite 1500
7	Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 Telephone: (888) 491-1120
8	Facsimile: (954) 771-9264 richard.epstein@gmlaw.com
9	<u>myrna.maysonet@gmlaw.com</u> janna.sherwood@gmlaw.com
10	Attorneys for Westgate, LLC
11	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
12 13	I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 2 nd day of March, 2015, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court by using the CM/ECF system which will send a notice of electronic filing to:
14	CHRISTIAN GABROY, ESQUIRE
15	The District at Green Valley Ranch 170 South Green Valley Parkway Suite 280
16	Henderson, Nevada 89012
17	By: <u>/s/ Janna R. Sherwood</u> An Employee of Greenspoon Marder
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
I	
24	11
24	11