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JUSTICE COURT LAS VEGAS NEVADA

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CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO Attorney General GARY J. MATHEWS **Deputy Attorney General** Nevada Bar Number 12255 Office of the Attorney General Fraud Unit 555 E Washington Ave., Ste. 3900 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 P: (702) 486-0661 F: (702) 486-0661 GMathews@ag.nv.gov Attorneys for State of Nevada

IN THE JUSTICE COURT, LAS VEGAS TOWNSHIP **CLARK COUNTY, STATE OF NEVADA**

THE STATE OF NEVADA. Case No.: 12F18420X Plaintiff. Dept. No.: 11 ٧. XOCHITL CERVANTES.

ID#2696944

Defendant.

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

The undersigned, CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO, Attorney General of the State of Nevada, by and through her Deputy Attorney General GARY J. MATHEWS, upon information and belief and under penalty of perjury, complains and charges the above named defendant has committed the following offenses:

XOCHITL CERVANTES, ("CERVANTES") d/b/a CSR SERVICES ("CSR"), has committed two (2) counts of MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD, all category "C" felonies in violation of NRS 205.372; NRS 645F.400; NRS 645F.405; NRS 195.020; one (1) count of EMBEZZLEMENT, a category "B" felony in violation of NRS 205.300; NRS 205.222; eight (8) counts of UTTERING A FORGED INSTRUMENT, all category "D" felonies in violation of NRS 205.100; one (1) count of PATTERN OF MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD, a category "B" felony in violation of NRS 205.372; and one (1) count of MULTIPLE TRANSACTIONS

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INVOLVING DECEIT IN THE COURSE OF ENTERPRISE OR OCCUPATION, a category "B" felony in violation of NRS 205.377.

All of the acts alleged herein have been committed on or between March 2009 and May 2010, by the above-named Defendant within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, in the following manner:

COUNT I

MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD

(Category "C" FELONY - NRS 205.372; NRS 645F.400; NRS 645F.405; NRS 195.020)

From on or about March 2009 and May 2010, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, either by virtue of their own actions or by actions of their agents or employees. knowingly and unlawfully made one or more false statements or misrepresentations concerning a material fact or knowingly concealed or failed to disclose a material fact, as a participant in a mortgage lending transaction, knowingly and unlawfully claimed, demanded, charged, collected or received compensation for the performance of a mortgage lending transaction, which they failed to complete or provide a full refund as agreed upon, which constitutes mortgage lending fraud, to wit:

On or between March 2009 and May 2010, CERVANTES met with HUGO DONIS ("DONIS") at CERVANTES' office located in Clark County, Nevada. DONIS signed an agreement for CERVANTES to provide a loan modification service at an upfront fee of \$2,500.00. CERVANTES made material representations that she would successfully negotiate a loan modification for DONIS or make a full refund. CERVANTES knowingly and unlawfully collected and received compensation for the performance and negotiation for a loan modification service which was never performed or a full refund provided. All of which constitutes the crime of MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD, a category "C" felony in violation of NRS 205.372; NRS 645F.400; NRS 645F.405.

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COUNT II

EMBEZZLEMENT

(Category "B" FELONY- NRS 205.300 and NRS 205.222)

Defendant, CERVANTES on or between February 2010 and December 2012, within the County of Clark, in the State of Nevada, did act as a bailee of any money, goods or property, and converted it to his own use, with the intent to steal it or to defraud the owner or owners thereof and/or was an agent, manager or clerk of any person, corporation, association or partnership, or any person with whom any money, property or effects have been deposited or entrusted, who used or appropriated the money, property or effects or any part thereof in any manner or for any other purpose than that for which they were deposited or entrusted, and the value of such property converted or appropriated was \$2,500.00 or more, to wit:

In her capacity as owner of CSR Services, CERVANTES was entrusted with \$4,962.06 in mortgage payments that CERVANTES collected from DONIS owner of the property located at 4454 Crimson Tide Ave., North Las Vegas, NV 89031. Instead of holding the money in trust and sending the collected mortgage payments to DONIS' service provider, CERVANTES converted the money to her own use by using the money for other purposes and depriving DONIS of the benefit or use of the funds.

All of which constitutes the crime of EMBEZZLEMENT, a Category "B" Felony in Violation of NRS 205.300 and NRS 205.222.

COUNT III

UTTERING FORGED INSTRUMENT

(Category "D" FELONY - NRS 205.110)

From on or about October 2010 to February 2011, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, CERVANTES, knowingly, feloniously and without lawful authority, forged or altered with intent to defraud, utter, offer, disposed of or put off as true or have in her possession with the intent to so utter, offer, dispose of or put off any forged writing, instrument or other thing, the false making, forging or altering of which is punishable as forgery, shall be guilty of forgery the same as if the person had forged the same, to wit:

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On or about February 2010, CERVANTES accepted money order # 68870411511 from DONIS in the amount of \$1,000.00 payable to the Bank of America. Upon acceptance of said money order CERVANTES altered the money order by making it payable to CERVANTES AND ASSOCIATES, then depositing the funds into her own account.

All of which constitutes the crime of UTTERING FORGED INSTRUMENT, a Category "D" Felony in Violation of NRS 205.110.

COUNT IV

UTTERING FORGED INSTRUMENT

(Category "D" FELONY - NRS 205.110)

From on or about October 2010 to February 2011, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, CERVANTES, knowingly, feloniously and without lawful authority, forged or altered with intent to defraud, utter, offer, disposed of or put off as true or have in her possession with the intent to so utter, offer, dispose of or put off any forged writing, instrument or other thing, the false making, forging or altering of which is punishable as forgery, shall be guilty of forgery the same as if the person had forged the same, to wit:

On or about February 2010, CERVANTES accepted money order # 68870411500 from DONIS in the amount of \$283.00 payable to the Bank of America. Upon acceptance of said money order CERVANTES altered the money order by making it payable to CERVANTES AND ASSOCIATES, then depositing the funds into her own account.

All of which constitutes the crime of UTTERING FORGED INSTRUMENT, a Category "D" Felony in Violation of NRS 205.110.

COUNT V

UTTERING FORGED INSTRUMENT

(Category "D" FELONY - NRS 205.110)

From on or about October 2010 to February 2011, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, CERVANTES, knowingly, feloniously and without lawful authority, forged or altered with intent to defraud, utter, offer, disposed of or put off as true or have in her possession with the intent to so utter, offer, dispose of or put off any forged writing, instrument or other thing,

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the false making, forging or altering of which is punishable as forgery, shall be guilty of forgery the same as if the person had forged the same, to wit:

On or about February 2010, CERVANTES accepted money order # 68237958514 from DONIS in the amount of \$115.00 payable to the Bank of America. Upon acceptance of said money order CERVANTES altered the money order by making it payable to CERVANTES AND ASSOCIATES, then depositing the funds into her own account.

All of which constitutes the crime of UTTERING FORGED INSTRUMENT, a Category "D" Felony in Violation of NRS 205.110.

COUNT VI

UTTERING FORGED INSTRUMENT

(Category "D" FELONY - NRS 205.110)

From on or about October 2010 to February 2011, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, CERVANTES, knowingly, feloniously and without lawful authority, forged or altered with intent to defraud, utter, offer, disposed of or put off as true or have in her possession with the intent to so utter, offer, dispose of or put off any forged writing, instrument or other thing, the false making, forging or altering of which is punishable as forgery, shall be guilty of forgery the same as if the person had forged the same, to wit:

On or about February 2010, CERVANTES accepted money order # 68237958503 from DONIS in the amount of \$1000.00 payable to the Bank of America. Upon acceptance of said money order CERVANTES altered the money order by making it payable to NORMA LOPEZ, then converting the funds into her own use.

All of which constitutes the crime of UTTERING FORGED INSTRUMENT, a Category "D" Felony in Violation of NRS 205.110.

COUNT VII

UTTERING FORGED INSTRUMENT

(Category "D" FELONY - NRS 205.110)

From on or about October 2010 to February 2011, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, CERVANTES, knowingly, feloniously and without lawful authority, forged or altered

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with intent to defraud, utter, offer, disposed of or put off as true or have in her possession with the intent to so utter, offer, dispose of or put off any forged writing, instrument or other thing, the false making, forging or altering of which is punishable as forgery, shall be guilty of forgery the same as if the person had forged the same, to wit:

On or about February 2010, CERVANTES accepted money order # 68870423127 from DONIS in the amount of \$1000.00 payable to the Bank of America. Upon acceptance of said money order CERVANTES altered the money order by making it payable to CERVANTES AND ASSOCIATES, then depositing the funds into her own account.

All of which constitutes the crime of UTTERING FORGED INSTRUMENT, a Category "D" Felony in Violation of NRS 205.110.

COUNT VIII

UTTERING FORGED INSTRUMENT

(Category "D" FELONY - NRS 205.110)

From on or about October 2010 to February 2011, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, CERVANTES, knowingly, feloniously and without lawful authority, forged or altered with intent to defraud, utter, offer, disposed of or put off as true or have in her possession with the intent to so utter, offer, dispose of or put off any forged writing, instrument or other thing. the false making, forging or altering of which is punishable as forgery, shall be guilty of forgery the same as if the person had forged the same, to wit:

On or about February 2010, CERVANTES accepted money order # 68870423138 from DONIS in the amount of \$282.06 payable to the Bank of America. Upon acceptance of said money order CERVANTES altered the money order by making it payable to VT MANAGEMENT, then converting the funds into her own use.

All of which constitutes the crime of UTTERING FORGED INSTRUMENT, a Category "D" Felony in Violation of NRS 205.110.

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COUNT IX

UTTERING FORGED INSTRUMENT

(Category "D" FELONY - NRS 205.110)

From on or about October 2010 to February 2011, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, CERVANTES, knowingly, feloniously and without lawful authority, forged or altered with intent to defraud, utter, offer, disposed of or put off as true or have in her possession with the intent to so utter, offer, dispose of or put off any forged writing, instrument or other thing, the false making, forging or altering of which is punishable as forgery, shall be guilty of forgery the same as if the person had forged the same, to wit:

On or about February 2010, CERVANTES accepted money order # 14-162323238 from DONIS in the amount of \$1000.00 payable to the Bank of America. Upon acceptance of said money order CERVANTES altered the money order by making it payable to CERVANTES AND ASSOCIATES, then depositing the funds into her own account.

All of which constitutes the crime of UTTERING FORGED INSTRUMENT, a Category "D" Felony in Violation of NRS 205.110.

COUNT X

UTTERING FORGED INSTRUMENT

(Category "D" FELONY - NRS 205.110)

From on or about October 2010 to February 2011, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, CERVANTES, knowingly, feloniously and without lawful authority, forged or altered with intent to defraud, utter, offer, disposed of or put off as true or have in her possession with the intent to so utter, offer, dispose of or put off any forged writing, instrument or other thing, the false making, forging or altering of which is punishable as forgery, shall be guilty of forgery the same as if the person had forged the same, to wit:

On or about February 2010, CERVANTES accepted money order # 14-162323239 from DONIS in the amount of \$282.06 payable to the Bank of America. Upon acceptance of said money order CERVANTES altered the money order by making it payable to CERVANTES AND ASSOCIATES, then depositing the funds into her own account.

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All of which constitutes the crime of UTTERING FORGED INSTRUMENT, a Category "D" Felony in Violation of NRS 205.110.

COUNT XI

MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD

(Category "C" FELONY - NRS 205.372; NRS 645F.400; NRS 645F.405; NRS 195.020)

From on or about March 2009 and May 2010, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, either by virtue of their own actions or by actions of their agents or employees, knowingly and unlawfully made one or more false statements or misrepresentations concerning a material fact or knowingly concealed or failed to disclose a material fact, as a participant in a mortgage lending transaction, knowingly and unlawfully claimed, demanded, charged, collected or received compensation for the performance of a mortgage lending transaction, which they failed to complete or provide a full refund as agreed upon, which constitutes mortgage lending fraud, to wit:

On or between March 2009 and May 2010, CERVANTES met with BENJAMIN GARCIA ("GARCIA") at CERVANTES' office located in Clark County, Nevada. signed an agreement for CERVANTES to provide a loan modification service at an upfront fee of \$2,100.00. CERVANTES made material representations that she would successfully negotiate a loan modification for GARCIA or make a full refund. CERVANTES knowingly and unlawfully collected and received compensation for the performance and negotiation for a loan modification service which was never performed or a full refund provided.

All of which constitutes the crime of MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD, a category "C" felony in violation of NRS 205.372; NRS 645F.400; NRS 645F.405.

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COUNT XII

MULTIPLE TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING FRAUD OR DECEIT

(Category "B" FELONY - NRS 205.377)

From on or about March 2009 to May 2010, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, CERVANTES, either by virtue of their own actions or by the actions of their agents or employees, knowingly and with the intent to defraud, engage in an act, practice or course of business or employed a device, scheme or artifice which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon a person by means of a false representation or omission of a material fact; to wit:

As set forth in Counts I and XI, CERVANTES committed multiple transactions involving fraud or deceit in course of enterprise or occupation in two or more mortgage lending transactions as set forth more fully in those counts. The purposes, results and methods of commission in all two instances was the same or similar.

CERVANTES' actions constitute the crime of MULTIPLE TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING FRAUD OR DECEIT IN COURSE OF ENTERPRISE OR OCCUPATION, a category "B" felony in violation of NRS 205.377.

COUNT XIII

PATTERN OF MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD

(Category "B" FELONY - NRS 205.372(2))

From on or about March 2009 to May 2010, within the County of Clark, State of Nevada, CERVANTES' either by virtue of their own actions or by the actions of their conspirators, agents or employees, knowingly and unlawfully committed mortgage lending fraud in two or more mortgage lending transactions having the same or similar purposes, results, accomplices, victims or methods of commission, or having other interrelated distinguishing characteristics; to wit:

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As set forth in Counts I and XI, CERVANTES' committed mortgage lending fraud in two or more mortgage lending transactions as set forth more fully in those counts. The purposes, results and methods of commission in all two instances was the same or similar.

All of which constitutes the crime of PATTERN OF MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD, a category B felony in violation of NRS 205.372.

DATED this 13th day of November, 2012.

CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO

Attorney General

By: X

Deputy Attorney General

Fraud Unit

AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF ARREST WARRANT

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STATE OF NEVADA SS: COUNTY OF CLARK

I, Greg Painton, being first duly sworn, deposes and states, under penalty of perjury, that I am the Affiant herein and I am an Investigator, Peace Officer, with the State of Nevada, Office of the Attorney General, Bureau of Criminal Justice ("BCJ"). I have been assigned to the BCJ for five months (5). I previously served as a peace officer in Arizona for four years (4), where I graduated from the Western Arizona Law Enforcement Academy, after successfully completing eighteen weeks (18) of instruction in Arizona Post Basic Course of Training. Since moving to Nevada, I have completed 80 hours of written instruction, which permitted me to proceed in taking and passing the Nevada Post Category I Peace Officer's Exam. In my positions I have investigated various criminal offenses including crimes against persons, crimes against property, financial criminal offenses and in many cases assisted in preparation and execution of arrest warrants and search warrants. I have also obtained an Associate's degree in the study of Human Behavior from Mohave Community College in Arizona and am currently completing my Bachelor of Arts from Grand Canyon University Arizona, majoring in Criminal Justice Studies. These assertions are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

The BCJ has jurisdiction over crimes committed in Nevada contained in the Nevada Revised Statutes ("NRS"), including but not limited to Theft and Multiple Transactions Involving Fraud or Deceit contained within NRS 205.

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In support of the assertions to constitute the existence of probable cause for the requested arrest warrant, the following facts constitute evidence, which tends to demonstrate the criminal offense crime of MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD, a category C felony in violation of NRS 205.372, NRS 645F.400, NRS 645F.405; EMBEZZLEMENT, a category B felony in violation of NRS 205.300 and NRS 205.222; PATTERN OF MORTGAGE LENDING FRAUD, a category B felony in violation of NRS 205.372; MULTIPLE TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING UTTERING A FORGED INSTRUMENT, a category D felony in violation of NRS 205.100 and MULTIPLE TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING DECEIT IN THE COURSE OF ENTERPRISE OR OCCUPATION, a category B felony in violation of NRS 205.377, was committed between March 2009 and May 2010, by XOCHITL CERVANTES (CERVANTES) d/b/a CSR SERVICES (CSR).

This affidavit is made of my own personal knowledge, except where stated on information and belief, and as to those matters, I believe them to be true and if called as a witness, I will competently testify as to matters contained in this affidavit.

Your Affiant, along with Investigator Bravo, began this investigation when the BCJ reviewed complaints on or about May 2012, regarding the business practices of CERVANTES. The complaints allege CERVANTES was paid money for loan modification services that were not received and furthermore CERVANTES was entrusted with mortgage payments meant for the service providers. **CERVANTES** required the victims to pay an initial cost of \$2500 for consultation fees. The victims signed the contract provided by CERVANTES and on subsequent visits CERVANTES informed them that mortgage payments had to be made through her office. The victims were instructed to bring in the money orders made payable to their bank and it was explained to them by CERVANTES that she would send out the payments herself to their mortgage lender. After a couple of mortgage payments the victims contacted their respective banks and were informed that no mortgage payments had been received. The victims were able to obtain copies of their money orders from Western Union and MoneyGram and discovered that CERVANTES had converted the money for her own use. CERVANTES changed the money order pay to line from the victim's mortgage lender to Cervantes and Associates and others.

In the course of this investigation, Investigator Bravo interviewed the two victims and discovered that both victims were independent and had alike claims with their dealings with CERVANTES d/b/a CSR Services.

CONCLUSION

Based upon your Affiant's and Investigator Bravo's investigation, it was discovered that **CERVANTES** forged documents from victims, converted funds entrusted in her into her own use, failed to refund the victims upfront fees for loan modification services totaling \$4,600 and failed to refund the victims mortgage payments totaling \$4,962 made to **CERVANTES**. At the time of this Affidavit **CERVANTES** is aware of the investigation and allegations into her conduct. As of November 7, 2012, the total amount lost between the two (2) victims is approximately ten thousand sixty two dollars and six cents (\$10,062.06).

Wherefore, your Affiant requests that a warrant for the arrest of XOCHITL CERVANTES be issued.

Greg Painton Investigator

State of Nevada

Office of the Attorney General Bureau of Criminal Justice

STATE OF NEVADA
COUNTY OF CLARK
SUBSCRIBED and SWORN TO before me
by July Fox - McCoulout
this 7th day of Nov 2012

NOTARY PUBLIC, in and for said

County and State

