5/21/2024 4:26 PM Marilyn Burgess - District Clerk Harris County Envelope No. 87987533 By: Brenda Barrios Filed: 5/21/2024 4:26 PM

CAUSE NUMBER 2023-20312

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC *Plaintiffs*,

vs.

LAURA M. DELAGARZA, U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, and QUEST TRUST COMPANY FBO NIKOLA KNEZEVIC IRA # 11588-21

Defendant.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT

215TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

DEFENDANT'S ORIGINAL ANSWER AND AFFIRMATINE DEFENSES

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

Comes now, QUEST TRUST COMPANY FBO NIKOLA KNEZEVIC IRA # 11588-21 (hereinafter "Defendant") and files its Original Answer and Affirmative Defenses, and would show unto the Court as follows:

I. GENERAL DENIAL

1. Defendant enters a general denial as to each and every, all and singular, material allegations contained in the Plaintiffs current Petition and demands strict proof thereof by a preponderance of the evidence of such higher standard as may be applicable.

II. AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

- 2. Defendant pleads that Plaintiffs have failed to name all necessary parties to this
- suit. 3. Plaintiff's claims are barred, in whole or in part, to the extent Plaintiff's own acts or omissions caused or contributed to their alleged injury. Under Chapter 33 et. seq., of the Texas Civil Practice & Remedies Code, Defendant requests the trier of fact determine the proportionate responsibility of Plaintiff, co-defendants (if any) and any responsible third parties for the damages allegedly suffered by Plaintiff, be those damages suffered themselves, by other plaintiff, third parties or other parties to this suit, and to award Plaintiff judgment, if any, against

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Defendant for only those damages (if any) it is found to be proportionately responsible. If Plaintiff settles with any alleged tortfeasor, Defendant reserves its right to full credit for settlements under Chapter 33 of the Texas Civil Practice & Remedies Code. Defendant would also show the acts and omissions of any such settling parties should be submitted for consideration by the trier of fact in determining the relative responsibilities of all parties to the occurrence(s) made the basis of this lawsuit.

- 4. Plaintiff's claims are precluded, in whole or in part, because any alleged acts and/or omissions of Defendant were not the producing cause of Plaintiff's alleged damages. Rather, such damages, if any, were proximately caused by the acts, omissions, or breaches of other persons and/or entities, including Plaintiff, and the acts, omissions, or breaches were intervening and superseding causes of Plaintiff's damages, if any.
- 5. Defendant is not liable for the acts, omissions, or conduct of other persons or entities not authorized to act on its behalf. Further, Defendant is not liable for the acts or omissions of its agents, if any, who exceeded the scope of their authority.
- 6. Defendant pleads that Plaintiff has failed to plead and prove conditions precedent to recovery herein.

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PRAYER

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, QUEST TRUST COMPANY FBO NIKOLA KNEZEVIC IRA # 11588-21 prays the Court find in favor of Defendant and against Plaintiff in all respects and that Plaintiffs take nothing by way of their causes of action.

Respectfully submitted,

BARRY & SEWART, PLL

/s/John V. Burger

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ATTORNEYS FOR QUEST TRUST COMPANY FBO NIKOLA KNEZEVIC IRA # 11588-21

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Defendant's Original Answer and Affirmative Defenses was served upon all parties or their attorneys pursuant to the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure on this the 21st day of May, 2024.

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S John V. Burger John V. Burger

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e File on behalf of John Burger Bar No. 3378650 efile@barryandsewart.com

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AFFĬRMATIVE DEFENSES

Status as of 5/22/2024 8:16 AM CST

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