Office of Outdoor Advertising

Public Meeting

August 11, 2022 11:00 AM

State Transportation Building

10 Park Plaza

2nd Floor

Boston, MA 02116

(via Webinar)

Present:

John Romano, Executive Director

PROCEEDINGS 1 2 3 JOHN ROMANO: Good morning, everyone. I am the Director of Outdoor 4 My name is John Romano. 5 Advertising for MassDOT. We are here for our August 2022 Office of Outdoor Advertising public meeting. 6 This meeting is being held virtually by 7 the Governor's Act extending certain COVID-19 measures 8 9 adopted during the State of Emergency and has been 10 extended through July 23, 2023 -- excuse me, through March of 2023. I apologize. 11 12 We are running this hearing through the 13 Zoom platform. 14 Please note that this meeting is being 15 recorded by our stenographer, who is in attendance. 16 He will provide a transcript of the meeting that will 17 be posted on our website when it is available. The meeting is accessible to people 18 with disabilities and individuals with limited English 19 20 proficiency. If you filed a request to be available 21 today and did not receive it, please contact MassDOT's 2.2 Office of Diversity and Civil Rights at 857-368-8580 23 or massdot.civilrights@dot.state.ma.us. 24 Jerry Kelleher of my staff will go

Office of Outdoor Advertising, August 11, 2022 1 through the Zoom controls for this meeting. 2 Go ahead, Jerry. 3 GERARD KELLEHER: Okay. We have only 4 the panelists are on the camera. 5 And if you'd like to ask a question, 6 please use the Raise Your Hand function. 7 And chat and interpretation are not functional for this Webinar. 8 9 If you cannot access the internet or 10 you have some other problem, you can call in at 301-11 715-8592, and I will recognize you when it's your turn 12 to speak. 13 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Anything else, 14 Jerry? 15 GERARD KELLEHER: No. 16 That's it, right? JOHN ROMANO: 17 GERARD KELLEHER: That's it. 18 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Please note that accessible versions of the meeting materials have been 19 20 previously posted to the OOA website and will be 21 referred to in the meeting. They've also posted those 22 links in the Q&A box if you need them. 23 I will go through the agenda. 24 Obviously, there is no physical sign-in

1 sheet, but we have the people who have signed up for the Webinar and we have that list. We will do the 2 3 attendance based on that. Jerry, if you could put the agenda up 4 5 on the screen when you have a minute? I'll do as we normally do. As Jerry 6 7 gets the agenda up, I will continue reading this. 8 I will go through the agenda for each 9 I will ask the proponent some questions. item. 10 As Jerry mentioned, everybody in the 11 public is currently muted and your camera is turned 12 off. 13 If you would like to speak at some point during the meeting when public comment is 14 15 requested, use the raise your hand function, as was 16 described by Jerry earlier. And you can also put your 17 question or comment in the Q&A box. 18 Please note that you can provide 19 comments in writing to us by email, as always. 20 Anybody who may be new to this meeting, 21 we do not make any decisions at the actual hearing. 22 Every item is taken under advisement, and decisions 23 are made usually within a few weeks, sometimes as 24 early as a week. We will give time for write-in

Office of Outdoor Advertising, August 11, 2022 1 comments to our email address, which is 2 OOAInformation@dot.state.ma.us. 3 You can send your comments in writing 4 there. 5 Also, we will have public comments at the end of each item, as we always do, and then a 6 7 final chance for overall comments at the end of the agenda. 8 9 So, with that, Jerry, we will start the 10 meeting. 11 So, the first item is the approval of 12 minutes from the July 14th public meeting. Are there 13 any questions or comments on that? 14 (No response.) 15 JOHN ROMANO: I am not seeing any hands 16 raised. No questions in the chat. So, with that, I 17 am going to mark those approved. 18 So, the first item up on the agenda 19 today, Jerry, if you could scroll down to Number 3, if 20 you could go to the regular agenda? Okay. Thank you, 21 sir. 22 Next is the first item up on the agenda 23 is Applications 2022002 and 003. These are new 24 structures facing east and west, 171 Pleasant Street

Office of Outdoor Advertising, August 11, 2022 1 in Fall River by Boo Corporation. These are new 2 static boards. 3 Notice was sent to the municipality by 4 my office on July 12, 2022, to the mayor and the city 5 clerk. Is the applicant present? 6 7 PETER SALINO: Yes, Mr. Romano. 8 Counsel for the Applicant, Peter Salino. 9 JOHN ROMANO: Thank you, Mr. Salino. 10 Is there anybody here representing the municipality for which this sign is proposed? 11 12 (No response.) 13 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Not seeing any. 14 Are there any abutters present today? 15 (No response.) 16 GERARD KELLEHER: Somebody said they're 17 here from the Town of Rockland, Douglas Lapp. 18 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. That's for the 19 next -- that's the next application. Right now, we're 20 addressing Fall River. 21 GERARD KELLEHER: Yeah, I mentioned 22 that. 23 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Okay. I don't see 24 any abutters' hands raised for Fall River.

1 Is anybody present from the District Office? 2 3 (No response.) 4 JOHN ROMANO: I'm not seeing any. 5 Mr. Salino, as you know, we've had some email discussions back and forth with yourself and our 6 7 District 5 Office regarding their review of this 8 application. And there are some contingencies that we 9 will put on the permit based on their, you know, 10 review. And I know you are aware of those, and I will just read these quickly. 11 12 "Should the permit be granted, MassDOT 13 District 5 shall be notified prior to the placement of 14 controlled low-strength material to observe the 15 excavation hole. 16 MassDOT District 5 shall be notified 17 prior to the placement of the concrete footing. 18 MassDOT does not bear any responsibility for the design or review of the 19 20 billboard structure or its foundation. Our review was 21 only limited to ensure the proposed billboard did not 22 negatively impact our existing retaining wall. 23 MassDOT is not responsible for special 24 inspections noted on Sheet S-1 of the plan set. These

Office of Outdoor Advertising, August 11, 2022 1 inspections shall be coordinated with the local 2 building official." 3 You are aware of these and are okay with these contingencies? 4 5 PETER SALINO: Yeah. Mr. Romano, I 6 just want to say, we have a good working relationship 7 with District 5 down here. My client does a lot of 8 projects in this area. We've read them. We are fine 9 with the restrictions. We plan to give maybe too much 10 notice. Your guys might be sick of us. But, yes, no, 11 we want to be good neighbors. And whatever you 12 require, we will do. 13 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Great. Thank you 14 very much. 15 Is anybody present from Traffic 16 Operations? 17 (No response.) 18 JOHN ROMANO: Seeing none. 19 And, actually, this is a static 20 billboard so there is no need for any review by them. 21 Okay. Mr. Salino, was certified mail 22 notice to abutters sent out by you at least 30 days 23 prior to submitting your application to my office? 24 PETER SALINO: Yes, Mr. Romano. The

Office of Outdoor Advertising, August 11, 2022 1 mailing date was April 13, 2022. 2 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. And I do have 3 copies of the P.O. receipts. And that was submitted 4 with your package. I also have a copy of the letter. 5 Thank you for submitting those. Have you received any written comments 6 7 in support or opposition to your application? T have not. 8 PETER SALINO: 9 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. And neither have 10 we. 11 And based on the package that you 12 submitted, there was a ZBA approval on 12/2/2021 and reconfirmed on 7/7/22 by Fall River. 13 14 Is that your understanding? 15 PETER SALINO: Yes, Mr. Romano. The original special permit was 12/23/21. And, at your 16 17 Office's request, I had the building inspector for the 18 City of Fall River, Glenn Hathaway, reduce to writing on July 7, 2022, that his interpretation as the zoning 19 20 enforcement officer is that the special permit that 21 was previously granted would apply to a static billboard as well. 2.2 23 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Great. Thank you 24 very much.

Before I have my inspector give his 1 2 report, is there anything else that you would like to 3 add to your applications at this time? PETER SALINO: No, thank you. I think 4 5 we've -- we'll rest on the written papers that we filed in support of the application. 6 7 JOHN ROMANO: Thank you. 8 Okay. Marc Plante was the inspector on 9 this. 10 Marc, would you like to give your field 11 report, please? 12 Hold on one second. Technical difficulties. 13 14 MARC PLANTE: Okay now? 15 JOHN ROMANO: Here we go. 16 MARC PLANTE: All right. Thank you. 17 This is an application for a static 18 monopole facing Route 195 in the City of Fall River. There is a static monopole to the east, 19 20 but it's well over the 500-foot spacing rule, so 21 there's no spacing problem, no spacing issues. 22 There are no parks, playgrounds, 23 recreational areas within 300 feet of the location. And there are two businesses well 24

1 within the 500-foot spacing rule. So, this location, the sign is 2 3 conforming to the regulations, as noted. JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Anything else from 4 5 your standpoint, Marc? MARC PLANTE: No. As far as our 6 7 inspection is concerned, it's -- the only thing is there was no ramp issue because the City of Fall River 8 9 is well over 90,000 in population. So, everything is 10 fine at this location. 11 JOHN ROMANO: Great. Any comments, 12 questions from anybody in attendance today at the 13 meeting? 14 (No response.) 15 GERARD KELLEHER: No hands raised. JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Mr. Salino, with 16 17 that, we will take this application under advisement, 18 and we will get back to you. Thank you. Thank you, 19 PETER SALINO: 20 members of the Board, for your time. We appreciate it 21 very much. 22 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Thank you. 23 Okay. The next item up on the agenda is -- one second -- W.N. Realty, LLC, 61 Accord Park, 24

Application 2022D010 and 11, facing -- new structures 1 2 facing north and south, Rockland, MA. 3 Notification was provided to the municipality by my office on July 8 to the town 4 5 administrator and the town clerk. Is the applicant present? 6 7 EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: Good morning, Mr. Romano. This is Edward O'Sullivan on behalf of the 8 9 applicant. The applicant is present. And, just by 10 way of introduction, with me today are Richard Walker 11 and Tom Norton, the applicants from W.N. Realty; John 12 Michalak and Bryan Zimolka from Nitsch Engineering; Attorney Steve Guard, who is counsel to the firm; and 13 14 myself representing the applicant. 15 JOHN ROMANO: Is there anybody here 16 representing the municipality? I believe we had a 17 gentleman earlier. 18 GERARD KELLEHER: Douglas Lapp. 19 JOHN ROMANO: Douglas Lapp. 20 GERARD KELLEHER: He's still on there. 21 JOHN ROMANO: All right. Do you want 22 to speak or put anything in the chat? 23 GERARD KELLEHER: I'll allow it. 24 DOUGLAS LAPP: Hello. Can you hear me

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1 okay? JOHN ROMANO: Yes. 2 3 GERARD KELLEHER: Yes. 4 DOUGLAS LAPP: Great. So, yes, I'm 5 I'm really just here to listen and indicate the here. Town's full support for this project. And, certainly, 6 7 if you have any questions for me, I'm happy to try to 8 answer, but I'll defer to the applicant. 9 Thank you. 10 GERARD KELLEHER: Thank you. 11 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Thank you, Mr. 12 Lapp. 13 Okay. Are there any abutters present 14 today? 15 (No response.) 16 JOHN ROMANO: I'm not seeing anybody's 17 hands raised. GERARD KELLEHER: No hands. 18 JOHN ROMANO: Is anybody here from the 19 20 District Office? 21 (No response.) 22 JOHN ROMANO: We did get an email from 23 Bill Travers in District 5. The only thing that Bill 24 noted is that should the permit be granted, if any

Office of Outdoor Advertising, August 11, 2022 1 tree trimming or cutting is required that that would 2 require a separate permit application directly with 3 the District and that you would have to go to the district to obtain that. Okay? 4 5 EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: Yes, sir. 6 Understood. 7 JOHN ROMANO: Is anybody present from 8 Traffic Operations? 9 (No response.) 10 JOHN ROMANO: So, we did get a note from Traffic Operations in regards to traffic studies, 11 12 that no traffic study would be required should the 13 permit be issued on this. 14 Was certified mail notice to abutters 15 sent out by the applicant at least 30 days prior to 16 submitting your application to our office? 17 EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: You went silent 18 there, John. You broke up. JOHN ROMANO: Sorry. Was certified 19 20 mail --21 EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: I think your 22 question was, was certified notice given to the 23 abutters in advance. Certified letters were sent to 24 all abutters on April 22^{nd} , and the receipts of which

1 copies were filed with our application. 2 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Great. Yes, and I 3 do have those receipts. EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: I can't hear John 4 5 at all. 6 JOHN ROMANO: Can you hear me now? Can 7 you guys hear me now? 8 GERARD KELLEHER: The panelists can. 9 JOHN ROMANO: Yeah. EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: Is that better? 10 11 JOHN ROMANO: Can you hear me, Ed? 12 EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: No. 13 JOHN ROMANO: Everybody else can. 14 TOM NORTON: Ed, can you hear me? Ι 15 think his volume is down. 16 EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: Hold on. 17 JOHN ROMANO: No problem. Take your time. 18 EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: Are you there? I 19 20 can't hear a word of what's going on. 21 GERARD KELLEHER: You might want to 22 call back in. 23 EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: Shoot. Hold on. 24 Do you want to ask him if he wants me to answer

Office of Outdoor Advertising, August 11, 2022 1 through the phone and you can put me on your machine, 2 raise your hand, or get his attention, John's 3 attention? JOHN ROMANO: I can hear Ed talk. 4 5 GERARD KELLEHER: Yeah. 6 EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: Yeah, for whatever 7 reason, I can't hear you now, John. I don't know why. 8 I was hearing you well up until I started speaking. But if you want to go this route, I can just answer 9 10 your questions through here, John, if that's appropriate. 11 12 TOM NORTON: Richard -- I mean, Ed, how 13 about the volume? Check your volume. 14 EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: No, my volume 15 didn't change, but I'll check it. 16 Is that any better, John? 17 JOHN ROMANO: I don't know. Can you hear? 18 EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: 19 Now I can. 20 JOHN ROMANO: All right. 21 EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: Okay. Sorry about 22 that. I don't know what the problem was. 23 JOHN ROMANO: That's all right. So, 24 Ed, yes, I do have the post office receipts and we do

Office of Outdoor Advertising, August 11, 2022 1 have a copy of the letter. 2 EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: Okay. Thank you. 3 JOHN ROMANO: All right. Has the applicant received any written comments in support or 4 5 opposition of your application? EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: We have received 6 7 numerous letters of support from the elected officials at the state, county, and local level in the Town of 8 9 Rockland. We've also received numerous letters of 10 support from many charitable and nonprofit organizations across the south shore, all of which 11 12 have been filed with our application. 13 And I should have mentioned at the 14 outset before this, by way of introduction and for the 15 record, Doug Lapp, who is on the phone, is the Town Administrator for the Town of Rockland. 16 17 JOHN ROMANO: And I'll let you know for 18 the record what I've received, in case you have further that you want to submit. But I received one 19 20 from Doug Lapp, from the board of selectmen from the 21 Town of Rockland, from Senator Keenan, from 22 Representative DeCoste. Some of these are duplicates. 23 Sorry about that. Massachusetts State Dealers 24 Association, Cardinal Cushing Centers, NVNA and

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1	Hospice, the Boys and Girls Club, Wellspring, Cohasset
2	Gridiron Club, Scituate Little League, South Shore
3	Stars, Hingham Little League, Scituate Football,
4	Cohasset Education, Hingham Sports Partnership, Harbor
5	Women Hockey, and Hingham High School cross country
6	track and field. So, about a dozen, maybe a few more.
7	EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: Okay.
8	JOHN ROMANO: So, if you have others
9	that you want to mail into email into us, you can,
10	but that's the stack that I have.
11	EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: All right. There
12	is one other that I thought was sent in, and that's a
13	letter signed by all the members of the Plymouth
14	County Commission. And I'll provide that to your
15	office, again, after the meeting.
16	JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Yeah. No problem.
17	Okay. So, I'm just going to mark down here that there
18	are various submitted.
19	EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: And to answer your
20	question further, we have heard nothing in opposition.
21	JOHN ROMANO: Various submitted in
22	support, none in opposition.
23	And we have not received any in
24	opposition either. So, okay.

1 Special permit or variance, Town ZBA approved. As I mentioned before to you, Ed, in our 2 3 conversation, the Town approved an eight-second change in message that's in direct conflict with the state 4 5 regulation that messages cannot change any guicker than ten seconds. So, we would want to, if this were 6 7 to be approved, I would want to see that changed because that would be a direct conflict. It says 8 9 that, you know, you could change -- the Town is 10 allowing you to do something that is in violation of 11 our regulations. 12 RICHARD WALKER: Mr. Romano, that would 13 be perfectly acceptable to the applicant. I would 14 also note that the host agreement requires a ten-15 second -- no quicker than ten-second change as well in 16 compliance with the state regulation. So, we would be 17 subject to that as well as your condition permit over 18 the eight seconds. But we're happy to get a clarification on that special permit if the Board sees 19 20 fit to grant the state permit. JOHN ROMANO: Yeah. And in regards to 21 22 the host agreement, that really has no bearing on 23 anything that we do. So, you know, it's the special

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permit we look at. We would want to make sure that

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1 would be in line with the state regulations.

The other issue that I brought up with 2 3 the special permit is, you know, Conditions 2 and 3 of the ZBA decision that talks about concern with light 4 5 shining into residential properties. And, you know, it looks for, you know, proof that that won't happen. 6 7 And kind of the discussion in the meeting and stuff kind of refers or defers to state regulations taking 8 9 care of that, and that's really not the case. That's 10 incumbent upon the proponent. So, I had said to Mr. 11 O'Sullivan that we would want to see something in 12 writing that shows how you are going to meet that, those conditions. And I have not received anything 13 14 along those lines, because our regulations are not intended to solve the town or city's concerns about 15 16 their residents not having lights shine in their 17 windows. So, while we do have intensity regulations and light regulations, that's not the only thing. 18 The Town raised that in their special permit, so we would 19 20 want to see how that condition is being met. And so -21 22 RICHARD WALKER: Those issues were 23 brought up at the public hearing and vetted through

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that process. And much of the mitigation that was

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1 required is designed into the board. And I'm happy to 2 get a letter to supplement the application from the 3 zoning enforcement officer in the Town of Rockland 4 that would verify that the technology of the board 5 would comply with that condition. JOHN ROMANO: Perfect. That's all we 6 7 look for that shows that he feels his conditions are 8 met. 9 RICHARD WALKER: For sure. 10 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. So, and just as a 11 -- the other note as far as the special conditions, 12 the hours of operation are restricted by the Town that it can't operate between 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m., is 13 14 that correct? 15 EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: It is. 16 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. All right. So, as 17 far as the special permit or variance, that's 18 everything that I know. Is that -- do you guys concur with that? 19 20 EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: Yes. 21 RICHARD WALKER: Yes. 22 JOHN ROMANO: All right. Great. Thank 23 you. 24 With that, do you guys have anything

1 that you want to add to your application at this time 2 before my inspector gives his report? 3 EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: If I may defer a 4 final comment until after the inspector's report, if 5 that's appropriate? JOHN ROMANO: Sure. Yeah, no problem. 6 7 EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: Thank you, John. 8 JOHN ROMANO: So, with that, Chris 9 Chaves is my inspector. He'll give his report. 10 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: Thank you, John. 11 As you mentioned, this is a proposed 12 two-sided electronic monopole facing north and south on Route 3 in the Town of Rockland. 13 The area is of business character. 14 15 There are two businesses within 500 feet of the sign, 16 the proposed location. 17 There is one issue on the inspection. 18 The proposed location violates the federal-state agreement, Section 2, Subsection b of the spacing of 19 20 sign structures. "No sign may be located adjacent to 21 or within 500 feet of an interchange or intersection 22 at grade, information center, or rest area measured 23 along the interstate highway from the nearest point of the beginning or ending of pavement widening at the 24

exit from or entrance to the main travel way. This subsection does not apply in cities and towns over 50,000 in population." It is not over 50,000 in population. So, the subsection does apply. Therefore, this location at this time does not conform.

7 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. So, the population of Rockland is well under 50,000, is that correct? 8 9 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: That is correct. 10 JOHN ROMANO: With that, Ed, I'm sure 11 you want to give your final thoughts on adding some 12 information. And, as was discussed with you before, 13 we're happy to take any written information that you 14 want in regards to the, you know, report we just gave 15 to evaluate before any final decision is made on the 16 application.

17 EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: Thank you, John. 18 What I'd just like to say is we believe that we do have a discrepancy in how the measurement 19 20 was conducted, not necessarily in the process of the 21 measurement but from where the so-called Point C would 22 be located on the highway. We'll provide additional 23 information for your office to review and for Chris to 24 review.

1 But we would like to request a copy of Chris' report, specifically as it relates to where the 2 3 Point C location is on the highway. And that might expedite how we view this going forward. So, we would 4 5 appreciate that. And I have no other comments. T'd ask 6 7 if the applicants or counsel has anything that he would like to add, or our engineers. 8 9 Gentlemen, anything you'd like to add 10 to this? 11 RICHARD WALKER: I have no further 12 comment, Ed. You summarized our position. We're looking forward to supplementing the application based 13 14 on the state's interpretation of the location of Point 15 C, and then we'll go from there. TOM NORTON: Ed, I have no further 16 17 comment other than my comments yesterday about the, you know, how this project has -- this site was 18 19 selected by the Board versus an opposing site on the 20 other side of the highway and the fact that it best 21 served the community and the location and the impact on the neighbors, and that's about it. 22 23 Thank you for your consideration. 2.4 JOHN ROMANO: Thank you. Is there

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1 anybody else? All set, Ed? Sorry about that. 2 EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: No, I believe we're 3 all set. 4 5 Thank you, John. JOHN ROMANO: Is there anybody else in 6 7 attendance that has any questions, comments that they'd like to add or ask about this application? 8 9 (No response.) 10 GERARD KELLEHER: No hands up. 11 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. With that, we will 12 take this application under advisement. 13 EDWARD O'SULLIVAN: Thank you. 14 JOHN ROMANO: Thank you. 15 Okay. The next item on the agenda is The only thing new is the 16 For the Record. 17 applications for permits from Outfront Media Boston, 18 There are 29 applications for bicycle permits. LLC. Those were approved in Boston on 8/2. 19 20 Everything else is the same. 21 Any comments or questions on those? 22 (No response.) 23 GERARD KELLEHER: No hands raised. 24 JOHN ROMANO: Any other final public

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1	comment on anything related to outdoor advertising?
2	(No response.)
3	GERARD KELLEHER: No, sir.
4	JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Seeing none, we
5	will adjourn at 11:34.
6	Thank you all very much.
7	(Whereupon, the proceedings were
8	concluded on August 11, 2022, at 11:34 a.m.)
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CERTIFICATE

I, Judith Luciano, do hereby certify that the foregoing record is a true and accurate transcription of the proceedings in the above-captioned matter to the best of my skill and ability.

Judith Luciano

Judith Luciano

******All names not provided were spelled phonetically to the best of my ability.