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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO.: 07-43672 CA 09

STATE OF FLORIDA, OFFICE OF FINANCIAL REGULATION,

Plaintiff.

VS.

BERMAN MORTGAGE CORPORATION, a Florida corporation, M.A.M.C. INCORPORATED, a Florida corporation, DANA J. BERMAN, as Owner and Managing Member,

Defendants,

and,

DB ATLANTA, LLC, a Florida limited liability company, et al.,

Relief Defendants.

## ORDER GRANTING RECEIVER, MICHAEL I. GOLDBERG'S MOTION TO SELL THE PROPERTY OF OCEANSIDE ACQUISITIONS, LLC FREE AND CLEAR OF LIENS, CLAIMS, AND ENCUMBRANCES

THIS CAUSE came before the Court on Wednesday, July 15, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. for an evidentiary hearing upon the Motion of Michael I. Goldberg, as State Court Appointed Receiver over Relief Defendant, Oceanside Acquisitions, LLC ("Oceanside") to sell the Property of Oceanside Free and Clear of Liens, Claims, and Encumbrances, and the Court, having heard and considered the evidence presented by the parties through witness testimony and hearing exhibits,

FINDS as follows:



1. On December 11, 2007, this Court appointed Michael Goldberg as the Receiver (the "Receiver") over the Defendants and Relief Defendants in these Receivership proceedings.

- 2. One of the Relief Defendants, Oceanside, is an entity formed by Dana Berman and Keith Novak, which entity purchased condominium units at Gulf Island Resort in Pasco County, Florida (the "Units"). Two of the Units were sold prior to the establishment of the Receivership; a total of 17 units<sup>1</sup> remain unsold.
- 3. The Units were once owned by Gulf Island Resort, L.P. Gulf Island Resort, L.P. transferred the Units to Gulf of Mexico Enterprises, Inc. ("GME"). Later, Oceanside purchased the Units from GME, the record title owner. To complete its purchase of the Units, Oceanside borrowed \$1,700,000 from approximately 42 individuals (the "Lenders") through loans serviced by Defendant, M.A.M.C. Incorporated and secured as first and second position mortgages by the Units.
- 4. In 2003, Gulf Island Resort, L.P. and Alex Bistricer ("collectively, Bistricer") commenced a quiet title action in Pasco County Circuit Court styled Alex Bistricer, as limited partner of Gulf Island Resort, L.P. and Gulf Island Resort, L.P. v. Coastal Real Estate Associates, et al., Sixth Judicial Circuit Case No. 51-2003- CA- 942 ES (the "Quiet Title Action"). On May 9, 2007, the trial Court in the Quiet Title Action quieted title to the Units in Oceanside. The May 9, 2007 Partial Final Judgment was presented to this Court and the Court has taken judicial notice of same.
- 5. On June 13, 2008, this Court entered its Order Granting Receiver's Motion to Approve the Assignment of the Pasco County Matters to the Receivership Court. The Pasco

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Four of the seventeen units were transferred to Keith Novak by Chief Restructuring Officer, Alan Goldberg. The Receiver contests the validity of the transfers and contends that he still holds equitable title to these units.

County Court also entered its order granting the Receiver's motion to transfer the cases to this Court. Accordingly, the Quiet Title Action is before this Court as Eleventh Judicial Circuit Case No. 08-79169 CA (09).

- 6. At the hearing on the Receiver's instant motion, Bistricer, through counsel, argued that the time to appeal the Partial Final Judgment in the Quiet Title Action had not run and thus, that this Court did not have the authority to order the sale of the Units free and clear of liens. The Court finds, based on the Partial Final Judgment Quieting Title and applicable case law, that Oceanside holds legal title to the Units at issue in the Quiet Title Action and which are the subject of the Receiver's instant motion to sell the property free and clear of liens. The Court has also considered the case law presented by the parties regarding the circumstances in which a court may properly order the sale of property free and clear of liens and finds that the Court is authorized to order the sale of the Units based on the evidence presented and factual findings contained herein for the reasons stated on the record.
- 7. Based on the testimony of the representative of the Executive Committee of Lenders in relation to the Oceanside project, Gail Corenblum, who has observed the condition of the Units and has personal knowledge of same, the Court finds that the Units are in a state of disrepair requiring a substantial investment to repair, improve or otherwise rehabilitate the Units. Approximately a year ago, Ms. Corenblum observed that some of the Units had mold infiltration, substantial ceiling damage, and pigeon droppings had accumulated on the balconies. Ms. Corenblum testified that most of the Units have been stripped of cabinetry, wiring, plumbing fixtures, and other fixtures and that all Units were without electric power. Ms. Corenblum also testified that several of the Units had been cited for fire code violations in relation to the windows and that some Units are missing locks on the sliding glass doors.

8. Based on the testimony of Ms. Corenblum regarding Oceanside's attempts to raise money from the Lender group, the Court finds that the individual Lenders are unwilling or unable to contribute monies to repair, improve, or otherwise rehabilitate the Units.

- 9. Based on testimony of E. Harold Gassenheimer, who is employed by the Receiver as Chief Operating Officer of M.A.M.C. Incorporated, regarding the assets and cash position of Oceanside, the Court finds that the Receivership has limited assets and does have the funds to repair, improve, or otherwise rehabilitate the Units.
- 10. Based on Ms. Corenblum and Mr. Gassenheimer's testimony relating to the Receiver's past efforts to market the Units for sale, the Court finds that pending litigation, including the Quiet Title Action, renders the Units unmarketable due to an inability of a prospective purchaser to obtain title insurance.
- 11. Intervenor, Gulf Island Beach and Tennis Club Condominium Association (the "Association") has moved to intervene in this Receivership case to seek payment of past due condominium assessments on the Units from the Receivership, which assessments are estimated by the Association at over \$150,000.00 and confirmed by the testimony of Ms. Corenblum.
- 12. Based on Ms. Corenblum and Mr. Gassenheimer's testimony, the Court finds that ad valorem property taxes on the Units also remain unpaid for the years 2006, 2007, and 2008, which taxes total approximately \$200,000.00.
- 13. Based on the testimony of Mr. Gassenheimer relating to the assets and cash position of Oceanside, the Court finds that the Receivership has limited assets and does not have the ability to pay to condominium fees and taxes for the Units, which condition places the Units in peril of loss to all interested parties by reason of foreclosure.

14. The Court finds that the circumstances render a sale of the Units necessary for the adequate protection of the rights of the parties. Under these circumstances, a sale of the units would preserve the real interests of the parties by transferring any claims and liens to the proceeds of sale.

- 15. The ultimate purpose of the Receivership is to provide a vehicle to marshal and preserve assets and maximize return to the lienholders. Allowing the Units to be sold would further the goals of the Receivership and all interested parties because monetizing the Units would prevent waste of the property while the Court adjudicates the different parties' right, title, and interest to the proceeds. It will also allow the Receivership to avoid liability for expenses associated with the Units such as the unpaid taxes and condominium association fees which continue to accrue and necessarily diminish the return for the Receivership, the Lenders and other interested parties. In this instance, the sale of the Units by the Receiver is expedient and proper.
- 16. This Court has the authority to order that title conveyed to any prospective purchasers be free and clear of any liens, claims, and encumbrances and that said claims, liens, and encumbrances be transferred to the proceeds of the sale of the Units.
- 17. Florida law requires the Court to monitor the sales of the Units by the Receiver carefully and to disapprove of any proposed sale for less than the property should reasonably be expected to sell.

Accordingly, it is ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that:

18. The Receiver is hereby authorized to market and sell the Units, including those units currently titled in the name of Oceanside and the four units transferred by Oceanside to

Keith Novak (which transfers the Receiver contests) should the latter become re-titled in the name of Oceanside.

19. The Receiver shall undertake an evaluation of the units, consult with and obtain pricing recommendations from no less than three licensed real estate brokers, and price the units in accordance with the average of the three estimates.

- 20. The Receiver is hereby authorized to contract with a real estate broker for the marketing and sale of the Units, subject to this Court's approval of the contract by motion and notice to all interested parties in the manner previously approved by the Court.
- 21. The Receiver shall have exclusive authority to negotiate the sale of Units and execute purchase and sale contracts for the Units with prospective purchasers subject to this Court's approval of the contracts by motion and notice to all interested parties in the manner previously approved by the Court.
- 22. Upon approval by the Court of the proposed sale of any unit(s), the prospective purchaser(s) shall receive title to the subject unit(s) free and clear of any and all liens, claims, and encumbrances including, but not limited to, those liens, claims, and encumbrances, if any, held by the parties in the Quiet Title Action, any actions to foreclose liens for condominium assessments including those of Intervenor, Gulf Island Beach and Tennis Club Condominium Association, the mortgages held by M.A.M.C. Lenders, and any actions by contract purchasers of the Units, which actions were transferred to the Receivership Court from Pasco County Circuit Court. The prospective purchaser(s) of the unit(s) shall receive clear title irrespective of

The Pasco County cases ordered transferred to the Receivership Court are: a. Deborah R. Abajian v. Oceanside Acquisitions, LLC, Sixth Judicial Circuit Case No. 51-07-CA-2370-WS; b. Cyril Latona v. Oceanside Acquisitions, LLC, Sixth Judicial Circuit Case No. 51-2007-CA3925-WS; c. James R. Patterson and Eileen M. Patterson v. Oceanside Acquisitions, LLC, Sixth Judicial Circuit Case No. 51-2007-CA-3925-WS; d. Cunningham

any filings in the public records, including but not limited to, the filings of Gulf Island Resort, L.P. or Bistricer.

23. The Receiver shall deposit the net proceeds from the sale of the Units, after payment of outstanding condominium fees and taxes, into the Court's Registry until further motion and order of this Court, which proceeds shall be subject to all liens, claims, and encumbrances, if any, claimed by any and all interested parties in the Units for future adjudication by the Court.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers this \_\_\_\_\_day of Applet, 2009.

THOMAS S. WILSON, JR. CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

Copies furnished to:

Counsel of Record Receivership Website

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and Elias v. Oceanside Acquisitions, LLC, Sixth Judicial Circuit Case No. 51-2007-CA-4792-WS; and Tina Hinton v. Oceanside Acquisitions, LLC, Sixth Judicial Circuit Case No. 51-2007-CA-4238-WS.

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STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF DADE
HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the
original on file in this office. 3 A0 20
HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK, of Creat and County Courts

Deputy Clerk