Sidney St. F. Thaxter, Esq. sthaxter@curtisthaxter.com

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June 11, 2013

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Matthew Pollack, Clerk
Maine Supreme Court
205 Newbury Street, Room 139
Portland, ME 04101

RE:

Robert F. Almeder, et al. v. Town of Kennebunkport, et al.

Law Court Docket No. YOR-12-599

Dear Mr. Pollack:

Enclosed for filing in the above referenced docketed appeal, please find Appellants' Motion for Leave to File Brief of Appellants in Excess of 75-Page Limit of June 6, 2013 Order together with a proposed Order.

Copies of the enclosed were served via U.S. Mail upon counsel for the full parties to the appeal noted below.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Sidney St. F. Thaxter

SST/jvw Enclosures

Copy to (w/encl.):

Melissa A. Hewey, Esq. / Amy K. Tchao, Esq./Brian Willing, Esq.

Gregg R. Frame, Esq. / André G. Duchette, Esq.

Paul Stern, Deputy Attorney General

Alexander M. and Judith A. Lachiatto, pro se

Richard J. and Margarete K.M. Driver, pro se

Christopher E. Pazar, Esq.

STATE OF MAINE CUMBERLAND, SS.

SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT SITTING AS THE LAW COURT Docket No. YOR-12-599

ROBERT F. ALMEDER et al.,)
)
Dlaintiffa Annallanta) ADDELLANTS MOTION FOR LEAVE
Plaintiffs-Appellants,) APPELLANTS' MOTION FOR LEAVE
•) TO FILE BRIEF OF APPELLANTS
v.) IN EXCESS OF 75-PAGE LIMIT
	OF JUNE 6, 2013 ORDER
TOWN OF KENNEBUNKPORT and	,)
ALL PERSONS WHO ARE	
UNASCERTAINED,)
Defendants-Appellees.)

Pursuant to Rule 10 of the Maine Rules of Appellate Procedure and paragraph 6 of this Court's June 6 Order, appellants Robert F. Almeder et al. ("Appellants") move this Court for leave to file their brief in excess of 75 pages. As requested, Appellants attach hereto a proposed Table of Contents of their brief, which includes page numbers that indicate the proposed length of each section of the brief. In addition to the table of contents and in support of its motion, Appellants state as follows:

Appellants' brief must address adverse judgment related to four separate claims brought by three separate parties, which include claims by the Town for a public prescriptive easement as well as an easement by custom; claims by the State of Maine involving the intertidal zone; and a "class" prescriptive claim brought by backlot owners. Under the Rules, backlot owners, for example, have 50 pages to fully brief their one issue. Appellants' brief currently requires only 14 pages to address the backlot owners' claims. Furthermore, this Court asked Appellants to fully brief the issues involving Rule 54(b), which is included in their brief in addition to the substantive arguments raised in response to the Appellees' claims on appeal.

Finally, this case involves many novel questions of law including but not limited to:

- How does this court determine whether a group of individuals can pursue claims as a "class" of individuals?
- What is the evidentiary burden placed on prescriptive claimants attempting to establish a prescriptive easement over only roughly 33% of properties scattered across a larger parcel of land?
- What is the doctrine of Custom and can it be adopted in the State of Maine? WHEREFORE, Appellants respectfully request this Court grant its motion for leave to file a brief in excess of 75 pages and permit Appellants to file a brief up to and including 100

pages.

Dated: June 11, 2013

Sidney St. F. Thaxter, Bar No. 1301

David P. Silk, Bar No. 3136

Benjamin M. Leoni, Bar No. 4870

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Attorneys for Plaintiffs-Appellants

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1. The presumption of permission recognizes that recreational use is not typically "adverse" and protects generous landowners who allow others to recreate on their property from losing their property.	
rights forever	

	2 The presumption of permission is consistent with the liability
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	3. The presumption of permission in practice
(C. There is no better example of implied permission then when a
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1	D. The facts in this case demonstrate that the Town's few regulations
	combined with the "non-disruptive" recreational uses of the Beach fail,
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o h	The Superior Court committed reversible error by finding that beachfront wners objected to "objectionable" or "disruptive" recreational use but solding that the general acquiescence to most non-disruptive uses was ufficient to satisfy the element of acquiescence and deprive the owner's
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	l. An interruption of "silence" by denials, remonstrances, or permission
2	once in twenty years defeats the Appellee's prescriptive claims
7	3. The Town's prescriptive claims fail as a matter of law because the
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	1. The Superior Court's distinction between "non-disruptive" and
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	that requires a property owner to object to respectful and non-disruptive
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	property
	2. The undisputed evidence presented at trial defeats the element of
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7	he Town and Backlot Owners failed to produce evidence as to each
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t	o make findings of fact as to each Plaintiff's property
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E	
	defies the court's earlier ruling that the claimants had the burden
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I). The facts in the record are insufficient to prove a prescriptive easement
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VI. The Court erred in granting the public a recreational easement the custom because custom is not an accepted doctrine in Maine and the Town's evidence fails to establish all the requisite elements VII. The Court erred in reaching the issues involving public rights in tintertidal zone	ose tock ent					
intertidal zone	because					
 A. The State's position was already adequately represented by the Town	The Court erred in reaching the issues involving public rights in the intertidal zone					
VIII. The 180-member "class" of backlot owners is not generally distinguishable from the public at large and its "neighborly" use of the Beach is insufficient to deprive Plaintiffs of their property rights A. The group of backlot owners is not separable from the public generally and therefore have failed to show that they can pursue their claims as a "class." 1. Whether class use is distinguishable from the general public is based on the "reasonable expectations of the landowner."						
 distinguishable from the public at large and its "neighborly" use of the Beach is insufficient to deprive Plaintiffs of their property rights	•••••					
 A. The group of backlot owners is not separable from the public generally and therefore have failed to show that they can pursue their claims as a "class." 1. Whether class use is distinguishable from the general public is based on the "reasonable expectations of the landowner." 2. The court's reliance on the fact that TMF Group members live a defined portion of Town and are therefore entitled to bring c as a "class" ignores the Restatement's focus on the reasonable expectations of the landowner. B. The TMF Group failed to establish that a sufficient number of its members used any of Plaintiffs' individual properties so that an owner was on notice that they risked losing their property rights to a "class" of 187 individuals. 1. Standard of Proof						
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Specificity to support a class prescriptive easement for 197 had	ЛF					
ourses over each Disintiffs were set	klot					
owners over each Plaintiff's property	·····					
3. The evidence of use presented at trial is insufficient to put each Plaintiff on notice that 187 backlot owners claimed a right to use the contract of the c]					
their property	.SC					

	1. The court committed an error of law by failing to conclude that the TMF Group had rebutted the presumption of permission or had demonstrated hostile use
	2. Backlot owners' "neighborly" and respectful recreational use of the beach alongside Plaintiffs does not, as a matter of law,
	put Plaintiffs on notice that their rights are in jeopardy
	4. The TMF Group's choice to remain silent when present during meetings where Town officials stated that individuals had no right to recreate on Plaintiffs' properties has the opposite effect of putting Plaintiffs on notice that their rights were in
	jeopardy
D.	The TMF Group cannot prove each Plaintiff "acquiesced" to its use because many Plaintiffs have objected to various Backlot owners' use of the property
Tł sti	because many Plaintiffs have objected to various Backlot owners' use of the property se Superior Court improperly granted Appellees' "conditional pulation" to title in granting Appellees' motions for final judgment
Tł sti pu	because many Plaintiffs have objected to various Backlot owners' use of the property ne Superior Court improperly granted Appellees' "conditional pulation" to title in granting Appellees' motions for final judgment rsuant to Rule 54(b) Rule 54 Requires that Final Judgment Adhere to the Policy behind the
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that I have this 11th day of June, 2013, caused a copy of the foregoing Appellants' Motion for Leave to File Brief of Appellants in Excess of Page Limit to be served on counsel for the full parties listed below, by depositing the same in the United States mail, first-class postage prepaid, addressed as follows:

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Dated: June 11, 2013

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STATE OF MAINE CUMBERLAND, SS.	SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT SITTING AS THE LAW COURT Docket No. YOR-12-599
ROBERT F. ALMEDER et al.,)
Plaintiffs-Appellants,)) ORDER)
TOWN OF KENNEBUNKPORT and ALL PERSONS WHO ARE UNASCERTAINED,	
Defendants-Appellees.	
UPON CONSIDERATION of Appel	lants' Motion for Leave to File Brief of Appellants
in Excess of 75-Page Limit OF June 6, 2013	Order, the motion is GRANTED.
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that App	ellants are granted leave to file their brief of
appellants up to and including 100-pages.	
Dated:	Chief Justice/Justice

				`•