### SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIVIL DIVISION- Small Claims Branch

GIRMA ENDALE, Plaintiff.

V.

POSADA ROOFING & EXTERIORS INC.,

Defendant.

Case No. 2024-SCB-000097

Magistrate Judge Raquel Trabal

Next Court Event: Continued Initial Hearing July 2, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

**Remote Courtroom B-119** 

### ORDER GRANTING EXTENSION OF TIME TO SERVE BY ALTERNATE MEANS AND SCHEDULING CONTINUED INITIAL HEARING

This matter was before the court for a hearing April 29, 2024 for a hearing. Present was Counsel for Plaintiff while Defendant failed to appear. Plaintiff proffered that they attempted to serve the Defendant on multiple occasions and has been unable to do so. Plaintiff filed a motion for alternative service on March 27, 2024 as to the Defendant POSADA ROOFING & EXTERIORS INC. Plaintiff's motion is granted.

### **LOGIN INFORMATION:**

Instructions for how to access the hearing are attached to and incorporated in this Order. Parties must comply with all the attached instructions for participation in the remote hearing. Parties must check in to the remote hearing room by following the access instructions no less than 15 minutes before the start time of the hearing. Parties must remain available until the conclusion of the hearing. Any party who has difficulties accessing the remote Hearing can call the Judge's chambers at (202) 879-0095. Audio- or video-recording of remote proceedings is prohibited.

### **LEGAL SERVICE PROVIDERS:**

The parties may visit the Superior Court's website for more information about the Small

Claims & Conciliation Branch at https://www.dccourts.gov/services/civil-matters/requesting-10k-

or-less. If parties wish to consult with legal services providers, the Court encourages them to do

so in advance of the scheduled hearing by visiting the D.C. Bar website at www.lawhelp.org/DC/.

The parties may also contact the Neighborhood Legal Services Program Small Claims Resource

Center Hotline at (202) 849-3608. The Court encourages Defendants to consult with legal service

providers or an attorney in advance of the scheduled hearing.

FILINGS BY PARTIES:

The Court will not file documents on behalf of Self-Represented parties. Parties should

not email documents to the Court. The parties can find fillable PDF templates online at

https://www.dccourts.gov/services/forms/forms-by-location?location=smallclaims.

Self-Represented litigants can file documents by one of three methods:

1. Filing online through the Court's new electronic filing system. Information about that

system can be found at: https://www.dccourts.gov/superior-court/e-filing/new-system-

info-sessions

2. U.S. mail to the following address:

Superior Court of the District of Columbia

Civil Clerk's Office - Room 5000

500 Indiana Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20032

3. Putting the document in the drop box on the first floor of the Moultrie Courthouse at:

Superior Court of the District of Columbia

500 Indiana Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20032

Therefore, it is this, May 1, 2024, hereby:

ORDERED that Plaintiff's Motion to Extend Time for Service and by Service by

Alternative Means and File Proof of Service is GRANTED; and it is further

ORDERED that by July 2, 2024, Plaintiff must serve on Defendant: (1) a copy of this Order; (2) alias summons; (3) complaint; (4) initial order; and (5) any other documents required to be served on the Defendant as required by Super. Ct. Civ. R. 4 (m)(3), and file proof thereof; and it is further

ORDERED that as to Defendant POSADA ROOFING & EXERIOR INC. such service may proceed alternatively by serving the requisite documents by posting and text message; and it is further

ORDERED that the matter will be scheduled for a Further Initial Hearing on July 2, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in Remote Courtroom B-119

SO ORDERED.

Magistrate Judge Raquel Trabal Signed in Chambers

Copies via Odyssey to:	Copy by U.S. Mail to:
John Paul Mears, Esq.	John Paul Mears, Esq.
Counsel for Plaintiff	Regan Associates, Chartered
	1101 Connecticut Ave NW, Suite 801
	Washington, D.C. 20036
	Counsel for Plaintiff
	Posada Roofing & Exteriors Inc.
	12312 New Hampshire Ave
	Silver Spring, MD 20904
	Defendant

### **Civil Remote Hearing Instructions for Participants**

The following instructions are for participants who are scheduled to have cases heard before a Civil Judge in the **Remote Courtroom B119**. When connecting to the WebEx System, there are several options to connect to the court hearing remotely. Please follow the instructions below:

### AUDIO ONLY: (Dial-in by Phone)

- 1. Dial the toll free number: 1 (844) 992-4726 or (202) 860-2110
- 2. Enter Meeting ID: 129 230 4882#, press # again to enter session
  - Please call in no sooner than 5 minutes before your scheduled hearing time. Once
    you have joined the session, please place your phone on mute until directed
    otherwise. If you should happen to get disconnected from the call, please call back
    in using the phone number and Meeting ID provided and the courtroom clerk will
    mute your call until the appropriate time.

If you use the Laptop/Desktop Options, use the Audio Alternative \*

### LAPTOP/DESKTOP USERS:

### Option 1:

- 1. Open Web Browser in Google Chrome
- 2. Copy and paste the following address: <a href="https://dccourts.webex.com/meet/ctbb119">https://dccourts.webex.com/meet/ctbb119</a>
  OR

### Option 2:

- 1. Open Web Browser in Google Chrome
- 2. Copy and paste the following address: <a href="https://dccourts.webex.com">https://dccourts.webex.com</a>
- 3. Select Join
- 4. Enter the Meeting ID: 129 230 4882

\*AUDIO ALTERNATIVE: Instead of automatically using USE COMPUTER FOR AUDIO, select CALL-IN and follow the CALL-IN prompt window. Use a cell phone or desk phone. You will be heard clearer if you do not place your phone on SPEAKER. It is very important that you enter the MEETING ID# so that your audio is matched with your video.

### IPAD/SMARTPHONE/TABLET:

- 1. Go to App Store, Download WebEx App (Cisco WebEx Meetings)
- 2. Sign into the App with your Name and Email Address
- 3. Select Join Meeting
- 4. Enter: https://docourts.webex.com/meet/ctbb119
- 5. Click join and make sure your microphone is muted and your video is unmated (if you need to be seen). If you only need to speak and do not need to be seen, use the audio only option.
- 6. When you are ready click "Join Meeting". If the host has not yet started the meeting, you will be placed in the lobby until the meeting begins.

For Technical Questions or Issues Call: (202) 879-1928, Option 2.





### **District of Columbia Courts**

### Tips for Using DC Courts Remote Hearing Sites



The DC Courts have remote hearing sites available in various locations in the community to help persons who may not have computer devices or internet service at home to participate in scheduled remote hearings. The Courts are committed to enhancing access to justice for all.

There are five remote access sites throughout the community which will operate: Monday - Friday, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm.

### The remote site locations are:

Remote Site - 1 Balance and Restorative Justice Center 1215 South Capitol Street, SW Washington, DC 20003

Remote Site - 2 Balance and Restorative Justice Center 1110 V Street, SE Washington, DC 20020



Remote Site - 3
Balance and Restorative Justice Center
118 Q Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002

Remote Site - 4

Balance and Restorative Justice Center 920 Rhode Island Avenue, NE Washington, DC 20018 Remote Site - 5

2000 14<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, 2<sup>th</sup> Floor – Community Room Washington, DC 20009

If you want to use a remote site location for your hearing, call 202-879-1900 or email <a href="mailto:DCCourtsRemoteSites@dcsc.gov">DCCourtsRemoteSites@dcsc.gov</a> at least 24 hours before your hearing to reserve a remote access computer station. If you require special accommodations such as an interpreter for your hearing, please call 202-879-1900 at least 24 hours in advance of your hearing so the Courts can make arrangements.

\*You should bring the following items when you come to your scheduled site location\*

- 1. Your case number and any hyperlinks provided by the Courts for your scheduled hearing.
- Any documents you need for the hearing (evidence), including exhibits, receipts, photos, contracts, etc.
- 3. Materials for notetaking, including pen and paper.
- A facial covering will be required for entry into the remote hearing location; if you do not have a facial covering one will be provided.

Contact information to schedule your remote access computer station:

Call: 202-879-1900

Email: DCCourtsRemoteSites@dcsc.gov

<sup>\*</sup>Safety and security measures are in place at the remote sites.



### Superior Court of the District of Columbia Civil Division - Small Claims and Conciliation Branch 510 4th St NW, Room 120, Washington DC 20001 202-879-1120 | www.dccourts.gov

Case Number:

2024-SCB-000097

Case Style:

Girma Endale v. Posada Roofing & Exteriors Inc.

### **ALIAS NOTICE OF CLAIM**

### **INITIAL HEARING NOTICE AND INSTRUCTIONS**

You are notified that Plaintiff has made a claim and is requesting judgment against you, as shown by the attached Statement of Claim. The Statement of Claim provides the reasons the Plaintiff is seeking a judgment from you. You are required to participate in the Initial Hearing at the date and time below.

**Initial Hearing Date:** 

**Initial Hearing Time:** 

Courtroom Location:

Tuesday, 07/02/2024

10:00 AM

Remote Courtroom B-119

Please see attached instructions for remote participation.

- 1) Legal Assistance: The court encourages people to reach out to legal services providers who might answer questions or provide free legal representation. For free legal assistance, call the <u>Small Claims Resource Center at (202) 849-3608</u>. Court employees are not permitted to give advice on legal questions.
- 2) Hearing Date: All counsel and unrepresented parties must participate in the hearing at the date and time listed above. The judge will establish a schedule and explain what happens next. You may also discuss a possible settlement with the other party.
- 3) **Default/Default Judgment:** If you, or your attorney, do not appear on the date and time listed above, a default or default judgment may be entered against you without any further court hearings.
- 4) Contact Us: If you have questions about participation in the hearing call the Small Claims and Conciliation Branch at 202-879-1120. For more information or to live chat, please visit:

https://www.dccourts.gov/services/civil-matters/requesting-10k-or-less.



Zabrina W. Dempson, Clerk of the Court Superior Court of the District of Columbia

### To Join by Computer, Tablet, or Smartphone:

1) Copy and Paste or Type the link into a web browser and enter the Webex Meeting ID listed below.

Link: dccourts.webex.com/meet/ctbb119

Meeting ID: 129 230 4882

- 2) When you are ready, click "Join Meeting".
- 3) You will be placed in the lobby until the courtroom clerk gives you access to the hearing.

### Or to Join by Phone:

- 1) Call 202-860-2110 (local) or 844-992-4726 (toll-free)
- 2) Enter the Webex Meeting ID listed above followed by "##"

### **Resources and Contact Information:**

- 1) For best practices on how to participate in Webex Meetings, click here <a href="https://www.webex.com/learn/best-practices.html">https://www.webex.com/learn/best-practices.html</a>.
- 2) For technical issues or questions, call the Information Technology Division at 202-879-1928 and select option 2.
- 3) For case questions, call the Small Claims and Conciliation Branch Clerk's Office at 202-879-1120.

### Accessibility and Language Access Information for Superior Court

### Persons with Disabilities:

If you have a disability as defined by the American Disabilities Act (ADA) and you require an accommodation, please call (202) 879-1700 or email <a href="mailto:ADACoordinator@dcsc.gov">ADACoordinator@dcsc.gov</a>. The D.C. Courts does not provide transportation service.

### Interpreting and Translation Services:

The D.C. Courts offers free language access services to people having business with the court who are deaf or who are non-English speakers. Parties to a case may request free translations of court orders and other court documents. To ask for an interpreter or translation, please contact the Clerk's Office at the telephone number at the top of the first page of this notice. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.dccourts.gov/language-access">https://www.dccourts.gov/language-access</a>.

Language access is important to the D.C. Courts. You can provide feedback on language services by visiting <a href="https://www.dccourts.gov/services/information-and-resources/interpreting-services#language-access">https://www.dccourts.gov/services/information-and-resources/interpreting-services#language-access</a>.

### Servicios de interpretación y traducción:

Los Tribunales del Distrito de Columbia ofrecen servicios gratuitos de acceso al idioma a las personas sordas o que no hablan inglés que tienen asuntos que atender en el tribunal. Las partes de un caso pueden solicitar traducciones gratuitas de las órdenes judiciales y otros documentos del tribunal. Para solicitar un intérprete o una traducción, póngase en contacto con la Secretaría en el número de teléfono que figura en la parte superior de la primera página de este anuncio. Para más información, visite https://www.dccourts.gov/language-access.

El acceso al idioma es importante para los Tribunales del Distrito de Columbia. Puede dar su opinión sobre los servicios de idiomas visitando <a href="https://www.dccourts.gov/services/information-and-resources/interpreting-services#language-access">https://www.dccourts.gov/services/information-and-resources/interpreting-services#language-access</a>.

### የቃልና የጽሑፍ ትርጓሜ አንልግሎቶች፡

የዲ.ሲ ፍርድ ቤቶች መስማት ለተሳናቸውና የእንግሊዝኛ ቋንቋ ተና*ጋ*ሪ ላልሆኑ በፍርድ ቤቱ ጉዳይ ላላቸው ሰዎች ነጻ የቋንቋ ተደራሽነት አንልግሎቶች ያቀርባል። ተከራካሪ ወንኖች የፍርድ ቤት ትእዛዞችና ሌሎች የፍርድ ቤት ሰነዶች በነጻ እንዲተረሳምላቸው መጠየቅ ይችላሉ። አስተርጓሚ ወይም የጽሑፍ ትርንም ለመጠየቅ፣ እባክዎን በዚህ ደብዳቤ የመጀመሪያ *ገጽ* አናት ላይ በተቀመጠው ስልክ ቁጥር የፍርድ ቤቱን መዝንብ ቤት ቢሮን ያና*ጋ*ግሩ። ለበለጠ መረጃ <u>https://www.dccourts.gov/language-access</u> ላይ ይሳብኝ።

የቋንቋ ተደራሽነት ለዲ.ሲ. ፍርድ ቤቶች አስፈላጊ ነው። የቋንቋ አንልግሎቶች በተመለከተ አስተያየትዎን https://www.dccourts.gov/services/information-and-resources/interpreting-services#language-access በመንብኘት መስጠት ይችላሉ።

### **Tips for Attending Remote Hearings - Civil Division**

Your court hearing may be held remotely. This means that you will participate by phone or by video conference instead of coming to the courthouse. Here are some tips on how to prepare.

### How do I know if I have a remote hearing?

The Court will contact you to tell you that your hearing is remote. They may contact you by sending you an email, letter in the mail, or by calling you.

### How do I take part in a remote hearing?

The Court will give you step-by-step instructions on how to take part in the remote hearing. If you lose your written notice, call the Small Claims Clerk's Office for instructions at:



202-879-1120

### Is there anything that I should do before the day of the hearing?

- Let the court know immediately if you cannot join a hearing because you do not have a phone or computer.
  - 2

Small Claims Clerk's Office: 202-879-1120

You may want to contact an attorney for legal help.



Small Claims Resource Center: 202-849-3608

- You can also find the list of legal services providers at <u>www.dccourts.gov/services/represent-yourself</u> by clicking on the link that says, "List of Legal Service Providers for Those Seeking an Attorney or Legal Advice".
- Evidence: if you want the judge to review photos or documents, ask the judge how to submit your evidence.
- Witnesses: tell the judge if you want a witness to testify at your hearing.
- Accommodations & Language Access: let the court know if you need an interpreter or other accommodation for your hearing.

### Tips for the Hearing



- Join the hearing a few minutes early!
- Charge your computer or phone and make sure you have enough minutes to join the call. Find a private and quiet space. If possible, be alone in a room during the hearing. Try to limit distractions as much as possible. If others are in the room with you, ask if they can be quiet during the hearing.
- Mute your microphone when you are not talking. Mute all sounds on your phone or computer.
- Say your name before you speak so the record is clear. Be prepared to identify your role in the hearing (e.g., observer, plaintiff, defendant, witness, etc.).
- Speak slowly and clearly so everyone hears what you are saying.
- Pause before speaking in case there is a lag. Use a headset or headphones if you can. This will free up your hands and sound better.
- Try not to talk over anyone else. Only one person can speak at a time. If you talk while someone else is talking, the judge will not be able to hear you.
- Have all your documents for the hearing in front of you. Have a pen and paper to take notes.
- If you are not ready for your hearing or want to speak with an attorney, you can ask the judge to postpone your hearing for another date.
- If your sound or video freezes during the hearing, use the chat feature or call the Clerk's Office to let them know that you are having technical issues.

### Special Tips for Video Hearings (Click here for more information)



- Download the court's hearing software, WebEx, in advance and do a test run! The Court will provide you with a WebEx link in advance of the hearing.
- Set up the camera at eye level. If you are using your phone, prop it up so you can look at it without holding it.
- Look at the camera when you speak and avoid moving around on the video.
- Wear what you would normally wear to court.
- Sit in a well-lit room with no bright lights behind you.
- If possible, find a blank wall to sit in front of. Remember the
  judge will be able to see everything on your screen, so pick a
  location that is not distracting.



### **District of Columbia Courts**

### Tips for Using DC Courts Remote Hearing Sites



The DC Courts have **remote hearing sites** available in various locations in the community to help persons who may not have computer devices or internet service at home to participate in scheduled remote hearings. The Courts are committed to enhancing access to justice for all.

There are six remote access sites throughout the community which will operate: **Monday – Friday**, **8:30 am – 4:00 pm**.

### Remote Site - 1

Balance and Restorative Justice Center 1215 South Capitol Street, SW Washington, DC 20003

### Remote Site - 2

Balance and Restorative Justice Center 1110 V Street, SE Washington, DC 20020

### Remote Site - 3

Balance and Restorative Justice Center 118 Q Street, NE Washington, DC 20002

### The remote site locations are:



### Remote Site - 4

Balance and Restorative Justice Center 920 Rhode Island Avenue, NE Washington, DC 20018

### Remote Site - 5

Reeves Center 2000 14<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Community Room Washington, DC 20009

### Remote Site - 6

Reeves Center 2000 14th Street, NW, Suite 300N Office of the Tenant Advocate Washington, DC 20009 \*\*\* No walk-ins at this location\*\*\*

If you want to use a remote site location for your hearing, call 202-879-1900 or email <a href="mailto:DCCourtsRemoteSites@dcsc.gov">DCCourtsRemoteSites@dcsc.gov</a> at least 24 hours before your hearing to reserve a remote access computer station. If you require special accommodations such as an interpreter for your hearing, please call 202-879-1900 at least 24 hours in advance of your hearing so the Courts can make arrangements.

\*You should bring the following items when you come to your scheduled site location\*

- 1. Your case number and any hyperlinks provided by the Courts for your scheduled hearing.
- 2. Any documents you need for the hearing (evidence), including exhibits, receipts, photos, contracts, etc.
- 3. Materials for notetaking, including pen and paper.

Contact information to schedule your remote access computer station:

Call: 202-879-1900

Email: DCCourtsRemoteSites@dcsc.gov

<sup>\*</sup>Safety and security measures are in place at the remote sites.



### Tribunales del Distrito de Columbia

### Consejos para usar los sitios de audiencia remota de los Tribunales de DC



Los Tribunales de DC disponen de **sitios de audiencia remota** en distintos centros de la comunidad para ayudar a que las personas que no tienen dispositivos informáticos o servicio de Internet en su casa puedan participar en audiencias remotas programadas. Los Tribunales honran el compromiso de mejorar el acceso de toda la población a la justicia.

En toda la comunidad hay seis sitios de acceso remoto que funcionarán de lunes a viernes, de 8:30 am a 4:00 pm.

### Los centros de acceso remoto son:

### Sitio Remoto - 1

Balance and Restorative Justice Center 1215 South Capitol Street, SW Washington, DC 20003

### Sitio Remoto - 2

Balance and Restorative Justice Center 1110 V Street, SE Washington, DC 20020

### Sitio Remoto - 3

Balance and Restorative Justice Center 118 Q Street, NE Washington, DC 20002



### Sitio Remoto - 4

Balance and Restorative Justice Center 920 Rhode Island Avenue, NE Washington, DC 20018

### Sitio Remoto - 5

Reeves Center 2000 14<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Community Room Washington, DC 20009

### Sitio Remoto - 6

Reeves Center 2000 14th Street, NW, Suite 300N Office of the Tenant Advocate Washington, DC 20009 \*No se puede entrar sin cita previa\*

Si desea usar un sitio remoto para su audiencia, llame al 202-879-1900 o envíe un mensaje de correo electrónico a <a href="mailto:DCCourtsRemoteSites@dcsc.gov">DCCourtsRemoteSites@dcsc.gov</a> al menos 24 horas antes de la audiencia, para reservar una estación de <a href="mailto:computadora de acceso remoto">computadora de acceso remoto</a>. Si necesita adaptaciones especiales, como un intérprete para la audiencia, llame al 202-879-1900 al menos 24 horas antes de la audiencia para que los Tribunales puedan hacer los arreglos necesarios.

\*Cuando concurra al sitio programado debe llevar los siguientes artículos\*

- Su número de caso y todos los hipervínculos que le hayan proporcionado los Tribunales para la audiencia programada.
- Cualquier documento que necesite para la audiencia (prueba), incluidos documentos probatorios, recibos, fotos, contratos, etc.
- 3. Materiales para tomar nota, como papel y lápiz.

\*Los sitios de acceso remoto cuentan con medidas de seguridad y protección.

Información de contacto para programar su estación de computadora de acceso remoto:

Teléfono: 202-879-1900

Correo electrónico: DCCourtsRemoteSites@dcsc.gov

### SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIVIL DIVISION – SMALL CLAIMS BRANCH

GIRMA ENDALE,	*
444 Riggs Road NE	*
Washington, DC 20011	*
	*
Plaintiff,	*
•	*
<b>v.</b>	* Case No
	*
POSADA ROOFING & EXTERIORS	*
INC.,	*
12312 New Hampshire Ave	*
Silver Spring, MD 20904	*
	*
Serve:	*
Yovany Posada Cruz	*
12312 New Hampshire Ave	*
Silver Spring, MD 20904	*
• 5/	*
Defendant.	*
	*

### <u>VERIFIED COMPLAINT</u> (BREACH OF CONTRACT)

COMES NOW Plaintiff GIRMA ENDALE ("Plaintiff"), by and through his attorney,
John P. Mears, Esq. and Regan Associates, Chartered, and hereby moves for judgment against
Defendant Posada Roofing & Exteriors Inc. ("Defendant") on the grounds and in the amount as
hereinafter set forth:

- 1. Plaintiff is, and was at all times relevant herein, an adult resident of the District of Columbia.
- 2. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to D.C. Code § 11-921 and § 11-1321.
- Defendant is a Maryland corporation with its principal place of business in Maryland.

- 4. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant in this matter pursuant to D.C. Code § 13-423(a).
- 5. On August 17, 2022, Plaintiff and Defendant signed a written contract at Plaintiff's home whereby Defendant was to replace the roof of Plaintiff's home located at 444 Riggs Road NE, Washington, DC 20011 for \$4,000.00 (the "Contract").
  - 6. The Contract did not specify how or when the payment was to be made.
- The Contract provided that Defendant was to supply and install specified
   materials and perform all work necessary for the replacement of the roof on or before August 27,
   2022.
- 8. On August 18, 2022, Plaintiff provided Defendant an unsigned check as a sign of good faith to Defendant.
- On August 19, 2022, Defendant deposited this check and it was accepted despite it lacking Plaintiff's signature.
- 10. On or about August 19, 2022, Defendant started work on the roof replacement project and worked for a short period of time through August 27, 2022.
- 11. On August 27, 2022, Defendant had still not completed most work on the roof and asked Plaintiff to pay additional funds to him for purchasing materials.
- 12. The same day, Plaintiff provided Defendant a signed check for \$2000.00 for Defendant to purchase materials and continue work.
- Defendant deposited this second check as well and it was processed on August 29,2022.
- 14. Thereafter, Defendant breached his contract with Plaintiff by never returning to continue work and never finishing the project for which Plaintiff had paid Defendant, leaving

Plaintiff's roof unfinished and vulnerable to rain, weather and other damage.

- 15. This caused Plaintiff to experience water leaks into his home when it rained.
- 16. Plaintiff tried to contact Defendant regarding the incomplete work numerous times in the subsequent weeks and months, and received no response from Defendant.
- 17. Plaintiff subsequently learned from other individuals that Defendant has engaged in similar conduct with other homeowners and Plaintiff began searching for another, more reputable contractor to finish the work.
- 18. On May 19, 2023, Defendant's breach caused Plaintiff to be forced to contract for replacement roofing services of Michael & Son Services to complete the roof replacement and repair the damaged roof on his home for a cost of \$9,840.01.
- 19. Defendant further breached its contract with Plaintiff as Plaintiff also learned from the contractors at Michael & Son Services that Defendant used improper construction materials and used black plastic trash bags as material to cover the wood sheathing which resulted in extensive damage to the wood sheathing on the roof and caused the water leaks Plaintiff was experiencing in his home.
- 20. This resulted in Plaintiff being required to pay an additional \$1,485.00 to Michael & Son Services for the replacement of plywood sheathing on the roof of Plaintiff's home.
- 21. Defendant has further failed to respond to any and all of Plaintiff's inquiries and has failed offer any compensation for its clear breach of its contract with Plaintiff.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff Girma Endale hereby demands judgment against Defendant Posada Roofing & Exteriors Inc. in the amount of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00), plus interest and costs.

### **AFFIDAVIT**

I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that the foreogoing is true to the best of my

knowledge and recollection.

rirma Findale

Date: January 18, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ John P. Mears

John P. Mears, Esq. DC Bar No. 90005209

REGAN ASSOCIATES, CHARTERED 1101 Connecticut Ave NW Ste 801

Washington, DC 20036

Office: (202) 393-6000 x 749

Fax: (202) 393-4706

Email: jmears@racatty.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff



### Superior Court of the District of Columbia Civil - Civil Actions Branch 510 4th St NW, Room 120, Washington DC 20001 (202) 879-1133 | www.dccourts.gov

Case Number: 2024-SCB-000097

Case Caption: Girma Endale v. Posada Roofing & Exteriors Inc.

### NOTICE OF CLAIM

### **INITIAL HEARING NOTICE AND INSTRUCTIONS**

You are notified that Plaintiff has made a claim and is requesting judgment against you, as shown by the attached Statement of Claim. The Statement of Claim provides the reasons the Plaintiff is seeking a judgment from you. You are required to participate in the Initial Hearing at the date and time below.

Initial Hearing Date:

**Initial Hearing Time:** 

Courtroom Location:

Tuesday, 04/02/2024

9:00 AM

Remote Courtroom B-119

Please see attached instructions for remote participation.

- 1) Legal Assistance: The court encourages people to reach out to legal services providers who might answer questions or provide free legal representation. For free legal assistance, call the <u>Small Claims Resource Center at (202) 849-3608</u>. Court employees are not permitted to give advice on legal questions.
- 2) Hearing Date: All counsel and unrepresented parties must participate in the hearing at the date and time listed above. The judge will establish a schedule and explain what happens next. You may also discuss a possible settlement with the other party.
- 3) Default/Default Judgment: If you, or your attorney, do not appear on the date and time listed above, a default or default judgment may be entered against you without any further court hearings.
- 4) Contact Us: If you have questions about participation in the hearing call the Small Claims and Conciliation Branch at 202-879-1120. For more information or to live chat, please visit:

https://www.dccourts.gov/services/civil-matters/requesting-10k-or-less.



Zabrina W. Dempson, Clerk of the Court Superior Court of the District of Columbia

### To Join by Computer, Tablet, or Smartphone:

1) Copy and Paste or Type the link into a web browser and enter the Webex Meeting ID listed below.

Link: dccourts.webex.com/meet/ctbb119

Meeting ID: 129 230 4882

- 2) When you are ready, click "Join Meeting".
- 3) You will be placed in the lobby until the courtroom clerk gives you access to the hearing.

### Or to Join by Phone:

- 1) Call 202-860-2110 (local) or 844-992-4726 (toll-free)
- 2) Enter the Webex Meeting ID listed above followed by "##"

### **Resources and Contact Information:**

- For best practices on how to participate in Webex Meetings, click here https://www.webex.com/learn/best-practices.html.
- 2) For technical issues or questions, call the Information Technology Division at 202-879-1928 and select option 2.
- 3) For case questions, call the Civil Actions Branch Clerk's Office at (202) 879-1133.

### **ACCESSIBILITY AND LANGUAGE ACCESS**

### Persons with Disabilities:

If you have a disability as defined by the American Disabilities Act (ADA) and you require an accommodation, please call 202-879-1700 or email <u>ADACoordinator@dcsc.gov</u>. The D.C. Courts does not provide transportation service.

### **Interpreting and Translation Services:**

The D.C. Courts offers free language access services to people having business with the court who are deaf or who are non-English speakers. Parties to a case may request free translations of court orders and other court documents. To ask for an interpreter or translation, please contact the Clerk's Office listed for your case. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.dccourts.gov/language-access">https://www.dccourts.gov/language-access</a>.

### Servicios de interpretación y traducción:

Los Tribunales del Distrito de Columbia ofrecen servicios gratuitos de acceso al idioma a las personas sordas o que no hablan inglés que tienen asuntos que atender en el tribunal. Las partes de un caso pueden solicitar traducciones gratuitas de las órdenes judiciales y otros documentos del tribunal. Para solicitar un intérprete o una traducción, póngase en contacto con la Secretaría de su caso.

Para más información, visite <a href="https://www.dccourts.gov/language-access">https://www.dccourts.gov/language-access</a>.

El acceso al idioma es importante para los Tribunales del Distrito de Columbia. Puede dar su opinión sobre los servicios de idiomas visitando <a href="https://www.dccourts.gov/services/information-and-resources/interpreting-services#language-access">https://www.dccourts.gov/services/information-and-resources/interpreting-services#language-access</a>.

### የቃልና የጽሑፍ ትርጓሜ አንልባሎቶች፡

የዲ.ሲ ፍርድ ቤቶች መስማት ለተሳናቸውና የእንግሊዝኛ ቋንቋ ተና*ጋ*ሪ ላልሆኑ በፍርድ ቤቱ ጉዳይ ላላቸው ሰዎች ነጻ የቋንቋ ተደራሽነት አንልግሎቶች ያቀርባል። ተከራካሪ ወንኖች የፍርድ ቤት ትእዛዞችና ሌሎች የፍርድ ቤት ሰነዶች በነጻ እንዲተረጎሙላቸው መጠየቅ ይችላሉ። የቃል ወይም የጽሑፍ ትርጓሜ ለመጠየቅ እባክዎን በመዝንብዎ የተዘረዘረውን የጸሀፊ ቢሮ (ክለርክ'ስ ኦፊስ) ያናግሩ። ለተጨማሪ መረጃ https://www.dccourts.gov/language-access ይጎብኙ።

የቋንቋ ተደራሽነት ለዲ.ሲ. ፍርድ ቤቶች አስፈላጊ ነው። የቋንቋ አንልግሎቶች በተመለከተ አስተያየትዎን https://www.dccourts.gov/services/information-and-resources/interpreting-services#language-access በሙንብኘት ምስጠት ይችላሉ።

### **Tips for Attending Remote Hearings - Civil Division**

Your court hearing may be held remotely. This means that you will participate by phone or by video conference instead of coming to the courthouse. Here are some tips on how to prepare.

### How do I know if I have a remote hearing?

The Court will contact you to tell you that your hearing is remote. They may contact you by sending you an email, letter in the mail, or by calling you.

### How do I take part in a remote hearing?

The Court will give you step-by-step instructions on how to take part in the remote hearing. If you lose your written notice, call the Small Claims Clerk's Office for instructions at:



202-879-1120

### Is there anything that I should do before the day of the hearing?

- Let the court know immediately if you cannot join a hearing because you do not have a phone or computer.
  - 2

Small Claims Clerk's Office: 202-879-1120

You may want to contact an attorney for legal help.



Small Claims Resource Center: 202-849-3608

- You can also find the list of legal services providers by entering or clicking: <a href="https://www.dccourts.gov/sites/default/files/Quick-Reference-Consortium-Organizations.pdf">https://www.dccourts.gov/sites/default/files/Quick-Reference-Consortium-Organizations.pdf</a>
- Evidence: if you want the judge to review photos or documents, ask the judge how to submit your evidence.
- Witnesses: tell the judge if you want a witness to testify at your hearing.
- Accommodations & Language Access: let the court know if you need an interpreter or other accommodation for your hearing.

### **Tips for the Hearing**



- Join the hearing a few minutes early!
- Charge your computer or phone and make sure you have enough minutes to join the call. Find a private and quiet space. If possible, be alone in a room during the hearing. Try to limit distractions as much as possible. If others are in the room with you, ask if they can be quiet during the hearing.
- Mute your microphone when you are not talking. Mute all sounds on your phone or computer.
- Say your name before you speak so the record clear. Be prepared to identify your role in the hearing (e.g., observer, plaintiff, defendant, witness, etc.).
- Speak slowly and clearly so everyone hears what you are saying.
- Pause before speaking in case there is a lag. Use a headset or headphones if you can. This will free up your hands and sound better.
- Try not to talk over anyone else. Only one person can speak at a time. If you talk while someone else is talking, the judge will not be able to hear you.
- Have all your documents for the hearing in front of you. Have a pen and paper to take notes.
- If you are not ready for your hearing or want to speak with an attorney, you can ask the judge to postpone your hearing for another date.
- If your sound or video freezes during the hearing, use the chat feature or call the Clerk's Office to let them know that you are having technical issues.

### Special Tips for Video Hearings (Click here for more information)



- Download the court's hearing software, WebEx, in advance and do a test run! The Court will provide you with a WebEx link in advance of the hearing.
- Set up the camera at eye level. If you are using your phone, prop it up so you can look at it without holding it.
- Look at the camera when you speak and avoid moving around on the video.
- Wear what you would normally wear to court.
- Sit in a well-lit room with no bright lights behind you.
- If possible, find a blank wall to sit in front of. Remember the judge will be able to see everything on your screen, so pick a location that is not distracting.



### **District of Columbia Courts**

### Tips for Using DC Courts Remote Hearing Sites



The DC Courts have **remote hearing sites** available in various locations in the community to help persons who may not have computer devices or internet service at home to participate in scheduled remote hearings. The Courts are committed to enhancing access to justice for all.

There are six remote access sites throughout the community which will operate: **Monday – Friday**, **8:30 am – 4:00 pm**.

### Remote Site - 1

Balance and Restorative Justice Center 1215 South Capitol Street, SW Washington, DC 20003

### Remote Site - 2

Balance and Restorative Justice Center 1110 V Street, SE Washington, DC 20020

### Remote Site - 3

Balance and Restorative Justice Center 118 Q Street, NE Washington, DC 20002

### The remote site locations are:



### Remote Site - 4

Balance and Restorative Justice Center 920 Rhode Island Avenue, NE Washington, DC 20018

### Remote Site - 5

Reeves Center 2000 14<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Community Room Washington, DC 20009

### Remote Site - 6

Reeves Center
2000 14th Street, NW, Suite 300N
Office of the Tenant Advocate
Washington, DC 20009
\*\*\* No walk-ins at this location\*\*\*

If you want to use a remote site location for your hearing, call 202-879-1900 or email <a href="mailto:DCCourtsRemoteSites@dcsc.gov">DCCourtsRemoteSites@dcsc.gov</a> at least 24 hours before your hearing to reserve a remote access computer station. If you require special accommodations such as an interpreter for your hearing, please call 202-879-1900 at least 24 hours in advance of your hearing so the Courts can make arrangements.

\*You should bring the following items when you come to your scheduled site location\*

- 1. Your case number and any hyperlinks provided by the Courts for your scheduled hearing.
- 2. Any documents you need for the hearing (evidence), including exhibits, receipts, photos, contracts, etc.
- 3. Materials for notetaking, including pen and paper.

\*Safety and security measures are in place at the remote sites.

Contact information to schedule your remote access computer station:

Call: 202-879-1900

Email: DCCourtsRemoteSites@dcsc.gov



### **Tribunales del Distrito de Columbia**

### Consejos para usar los sitios de audiencia remota de los Tribunales de DC



Los Tribunales de DC disponen de **sitios de audiencia remota** en distintos centros de la comunidad para ayudar a que las personas que no tienen dispositivos informáticos o servicio de Internet en su casa puedan participar en audiencias remotas programadas. Los Tribunales honran el compromiso de mejorar el acceso de toda la población a la justicia.

En toda la comunidad hay seis sitios de acceso remoto que funcionarán de lunes a viernes, de 8:30 am a 4:00 pm.

### Sitio Remoto - 1

Balance and Restorative Justice Center 1215 South Capitol Street, SW Washington, DC 20003

### Sitio Remoto - 2

Balance and Restorative Justice Center 1110 V Street, SE Washington, DC 20020

### Sitio Remoto - 3

Balance and Restorative Justice Center 118 Q Street, NE Washington, DC 20002

### Los centros de acceso remoto son:



### Sitio Remoto - 4

Balance and Restorative Justice Center 920 Rhode Island Avenue, NE Washington, DC 20018

### Sitio Remoto - 5

Reeves Center 2000 14<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Community Room Washington, DC 20009

### Sitio Remoto - 6

Reeves Center 2000 14<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Suite 300N Office of the Tenant Advocate Washington, DC 20009 \*No se puede entrar sin cita previa\*

Si desea usar un sitio remoto para su audiencia, llame al 202-879-1900 o envíe un mensaje de correo electrónico a <a href="mailto:DCCourtsRemoteSites@dcsc.gov">DCCourtsRemoteSites@dcsc.gov</a> al menos 24 horas antes de la audiencia, para reservar una estación de <a href="mailto:computadora de acceso remoto">computadora de acceso remoto</a>. Si necesita adaptaciones especiales, como un intérprete para la audiencia, llame al 202-879-1900 al menos 24 horas antes de la audiencia para que los Tribunales puedan hacer los arreglos necesarios.

\*Cuando concurra al sitio programado debe llevar los siguientes artículos\*

- Su número de caso y todos los hipervínculos que le hayan proporcionado los Tribunales para la audiencia programada.
- Cualquier documento que necesite para la audiencia (prueba), incluidos documentos probatorios, recibos, fotos, contratos, etc.
- 3. Materiales para tomar nota, como papel y lápiz.

\*Los sitios de acceso remoto cuentan con medidas de seguridad y protección.

Información de contacto para programar su estación de computadora de acceso remoto:

Teléfono: 202-879-1900

Correo electrónico: DCCourtsRemoteSites@dcsc.gov



### SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Civil Division - Small Claims and Conciliation Branch 510 4th Street, NW, Room 120, Washington, D.C. 20001 (202) 879-1120 | www.dccourts.gov

2024-SCB-000097

	Case N	
	Posada Roofing & Exteriors Inc.  Defendant(s)  12312 New Hampshire Ave	
vs.		
	Address	
	Silver Spring, MD 20904 City, State, Zip Code Phone Number	
-		
-		
-	Email Address	
	lete work on the roof, leaving the roof nent for unfinished services by cashing	
ompla	aint.	
fenda	ant in the amount of \$10,000 for the cost	
a diff	erent contractor and repairing damage	
a uiii	erent contractor and repaining damage	
	paym	



### SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Civil Division - Small Claims and Conciliation Branch 510 4th Street, NW, Room 120, Washington, D.C. 20001 (202) 879-1120 | www.dccourts.gov

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, ss: (Jima Teferd	Endale	<ul> <li>being first duly sworn on oath says</li> </ul>
the foregoing is a just and true statement of the amount and just grounds of defense.	ount owing by the defe	ndant to plaintiff, exclusive of all setoffs
Plaintiff Agent (Sign and Print Name)	Hol Consell	cticut Ny NVI Suite 801 WAShing City/State/Zip Dc 20036
Code Title:	Email	202-343-600 Phone No.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this <u>/8</u> day of_	January (mo	onth)  orlos A. Umana
		(Notary Public or Deputy Clerk)
/s/ John P. Mears 9000	5209	STATE OF THE STATE
Attorney for Plaintiff (Sign and Print Name) Bar	r No.	EXCHINES A
1101 Connecticut Ave NW Ste 801 Washington, DO	C 20036	COWWISSION
Address City/State/Zip C	Code	The state of the s
jmears@racatty.com (202) 919	9-5252	Place Notary Seal Here

See the Instructions to Defendants attached to this form, for more information.

Phone No.

Email

### **Instructions to Defendants**

### Important:

2024-SCB-000097

You must participate in your hearing on the date and time stated on the Notice to avoid the entry of a judgment by default. If you do not come to court for your hearing, a judgment by default may be entered against you for the amount of money demanded in the Statement of Claim. If that happens, the plaintiff could take money from your paycheck or your bank account, or take and sell your personal property, to pay the claim.

If you cannot participate in your hearing, call the Small Claims Clerk's Office at (202) 879-1120 as soon as you can for more information. You must go to the hearing unless the hearing is continued or cancelled. To find out if your hearing is still scheduled call the Small Claims Clerk's Office. Even if you want to admit the claim, and just need more time to pay, you must still come to court to explain your situation.

Before any case goes to trial in the Small Claims and Conciliation Branch, a trained mediator will meet with the parties to see if they can agree to a settlement. If the parties cannot reach a settlement with the mediator, then the case can be scheduled for a trial on another day.

If the plaintiff in your case has a lawyer, that lawyer's name and contact information are on the Statement of Claim. You may contact the plaintiff's lawyer about this case. You do not have to have a lawyer, but you may choose to get a lawyer or look for legal advice about this matter.

If you want a lawyer, but cannot afford to pay one, there are many organizations that the elp you, including:

• Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia: (202) 628-1161

• Legal Counsel for the Elderly (if age 60+): (202) 434-2120

• Tzedek DC: (202) 274-7386

• Neighborhood Legal Services Program: (202) 832-6577

DC Law Students in Court: (202) 638-4798

If you have witnesses, books, receipts, or other documents that relate to this case, you should bring them with you to court. If you want to have witnesses summoned to come to court, contact the Small Claims Clerk's Office for more information.

When you contact the Small Claims Clerk's Office about your case, remember to include your case number, contact information, and court date. Please know that court employees are not allowed to give you legal advice.

Usted puede obtener copias en español de este formulario en el Tribunal Superior del Distrito de Columbia, Edificio B, 510 4th Street, NW, Cuarto 120, Washington, D.C. 20001, o en: www.dccourts.gov.

You can get a copy of this form in Spanish at the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, Building B, 510 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Room 120, Washington, D.C. 20001, or at: www.dccourts.gov

### SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIVIL DIVISION – SMALL CLAIMS AND CONCILIATION BRANCH

GIRMA ENDALE,	n)r	
	*	
Plaintiff,	*	
,	*	
v.	*	Case No.
	w	
POSADA ROOFING & EXTERIORS	*	
INC.,	*	
X	*	
Defendant.	*	
	*	

### **APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF PRIVATE PROCESS SERVER**

COMES NOW Plaintiff GIRMA ENDALE ("Plaintiff"), by and through his attorney,
John P. Mears, Esq. and Regan Associates, Chartered, and hereby represents that he seeks to use
ABC Legal Services, a private agency of qualified process servers at least 18 years of age and
not otherwise a party to or otherwise interested in the claim, to privately and personally serve the
summons and complaint in this matter upon the Defendant.

Date: January 18, 2024 Respectfully submitted,

/s/ John P. Mears

John P. Mears, Esq. DC Bar No. 90005209 REGAN ASSOCIATES, CHARTERED 1101 Connecticut Ave NW Ste 801

Washington, DC 20036 Office: (202) 393-6000 x 749

Fax: (202) 393-4706

Email: jmears@racatty.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff



### SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Civil Division – Small Claims and Conciliation Branch 510 4<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W., Court Building B, Room 120, Washington, D.C. 20001 Telephone Number: (202) 879-1120 Website: www.dccourts.gov

Girma Endale Plaintiff(s)  v.	(The information collected on this form is used solely for court administration and statistical purposes.)
Posada Roofing & Exteriors Inc.	
Defendant(s)	
John P. Mears  Name (please print or type)	Relationship to Lawsuit:  Attorney for Plaintiff Self (Pro Se / No Attorney) Other:
Regan Associates, Chartered Firm Name (if applicable)	Service Method:  Certified Mail by Clerk (How many?)  With Restricted Delivery (check if applicable)
(202) 919-5252 90005209  Telephone No. Bar. No.	Registered Mail by Clerk (How many?)  With Restricted Delivery (check if applicable)  Special Process Server (You must file an Application for Approval of Special Process Server)
Do you need an interpreter? Tes No If yes, who	ich language(s)?
Amount in Controversy: \$1 - \$500 \$500.  Pending or re-filed case(s) related to the action being filed:  Case No.:	01 - \$2,500
NATURE OF SUIT: (Check ONE box only that most acc	curately describes your primary case)
A. CONTRACTS a claim based on an agreement bet	ween parties made either orally or in writing
■ Breach of Contract □ Breach of Wa □ Negotiable Instrument □ Loan □ Unpaid Wages □ Services Ren □ Debt Suit □ Home Improv	Rent Due
B. PROPERTY TORTS - a claim for an injury or wro	ng committed on the property of another Inaplicables
☐ Automobile     ☐ Conversion       ☐ Property Damage     ☐ Destruction	Shop Lifting  of Property Trespass
C. PERSONAL TORTS – a claim for an injury or wro	ng committed on the person of another
☐ Assault and Battery       ☐ Personal Injury         ☐ Automobile       ☐ Fraudulent Misrepresent	☐ Libel and Slander ☐ Slip and Fall station ☐ Negligence
D. UNIFORM ARBITRATION ACT – an action ba	ised E. SUBROGATION – a claim filed by one person in the place of another
F. FOREIGN JUDGMENT (DOMESTIC) – judgment, decree or order filed from another jur	G. COLLECTION – a claim filed by a seller / lender to collect a consumer debt
H.   FOREIGN JUDGMENT (INTERNATIONAL)	judgment, decree or order filed from another country
I. MEDICAL MALPRACTICE – a claim against Have you given notice of intention to file your lawsuit 90 descriptions.	a healthcare provider for professional misconduct lays prior to filing? Yes No

### Superior Court of the District of Columbia

GIRMA ENDALE,

Cause No. 2024-SCB-000097

Plaintiff.

**DECLARATION OF DUE DILIGENCE** 

V\$.

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POSADA ROOFING & EXTERIORS INC.,

Defendant.

NOTICE OR CLAIM INITIAL HEARING INSTRUCTIONS; STATEMENT OF CLAIM; VERIFIED COMPLAINT; CIVIL COVER SHEET; APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF PRIVATE PROCESS SERVER

I, Maxwell Millar, declare and state as follows:

- 1. I am an employee of ABC Legal Services, Inc., and am authorized to make this declaration on its behalf. I am a Private Investigator licensed by the State of Washington (WA license number 4866), over the age of eighteen, a resident of the State of Washington, a citizen of the United States of America, not a party to nor interested in the above captioned matter. If called upon to testify in this action, as to the matters set forth in this declaration, I could and would competently testify thereto.
- 2. On or about 02/27/2024, ABC Legal Services received a request to locate and serve the above captioned documents on Defendant POSADA ROOFING & EXTERIORS INC..

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- 6. During the course of this investigation, the following relevant information was discovered:
  - a. A search of Maryland Secretary of State records returned a record for Posada Roofing & Exteriors Inc. This record indicate that the status of the entity is "forfeited." This record includes a document indicating that Yovany Posada Cruz was the incorporator.
  - b. The address 12312 New Hampshire Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20904 appears on credit header records for Yovany Posada Cruz between January 2019 and October 2023.
  - c. The address 12719 LAYHILL RD APT 101, Silver Spring, MD 20906 appears on credit header records for Yovany Posada Cruz between September 2021 and March 2024.
  - d. The address appears 19825 Bazzellton Pl,, Montgomery Village, MD 20886 on credit header records for Yovany Posada Cruz between August 2022 and March 2024.
- 7. ABC Legal's database records document the following attempts at service on the defendant. The following information is based on my review of ABC Legal's database records, which are in my custody and control and known by me to be accurate and true:

  19825 Bazzellton Pl., Montgomery Village, MD 20886:

  3/7/2024 1:52 PM: There was no answer at the address. No answer at the neighbor's door.

3/9/2024 8:36 AM: I spoke with an individual who identified themselves as the resident and they stated subject unknown. I spoke with a neighbor who says not resident and a neighbor who doesn't recognize name. This is a residence. The resident has never seen the subject's name on mail.

1	12719 LAYHILL RD APT 101, Silver Spring, MD 20906:				
2	2/14/2024 10:56 AM: There was no answer at the address.				
3	2/14/2024 11:00 AM: I spoke with an individual who identified themselves as the new				
4	resident and they stated subject unknown. I spoke with a neighbor who says not resident, a				
5	property manager/landlord who says not resident and an on-site worker who doesn't				
6	recognize name.				
7	12312 New Hampshire Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20904:				
8	1/28/2024 3:00 PM: I spoke with an individual who identified themselves as the person in				
9	charge and they stated subject moved. At the address I observed a package/mail addressed				
10	to another. I spoke with a neighbor who says not resident and a property manager/landlord				
11	who says not resident. Resident is the new house's owner and reported that the subject				
12	moved out he bought the house for about a year from now				
13	8. After a diligent search, I have been unable to locate an address for service of the				
14	documents in this matter upon the defendant.				
15					
16	I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of District of Columbia that				
17	the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge on the date and time herein				
18	noted.				
19					
20	Executed this 26th day of March, 2024 at Portland, Oregon				
21	DocuSigned by:				
22	Maxwell Mellar				
23	—9321C716520F490  Maxwell Millar				

### SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIVIL DIVISION – SMALL CLAIMS AND CONCILIATION BRANCH

GIRMA ENDALE,	**
	*
Plaintiff,	*
	*
V.	* Case No. 2024-SCB-000097
	*
POSADA ROOFING & EXTERIORS	*
INC.,	*
	*
Defendant.	*
	*

### **MOTION FOR ALTERNATIVE SERVICE**

COMES NOW Plaintiff GIRMA ENDALE ("Plaintiff"), by and through his attorneys,

John P. Mears, Esq. and Regan Associates, Chartered, and hereby moves this Honorable Court to

permit Plaintiff to serve Defendant by an alternative method pursuant to the Superior Court

Rules of Procedure for the Small Claims and Conciliation Branch Rule 4(e)(2). In support of this

motion, Plaintiff states as follows:

- 1. This action for breach of contract arising from Defendant's breach of a contract to complete repair and replacement work on Plaintiff's roof was filed January 18, 2024, and the initial hearing notice and instructions were received from this Court on January 19, 2024.
- 2. The same day, undersigned counsel, on behalf of Plaintiff, submitted a request to ABC Legal Services for service of process upon the Defendant through Yovany Posada Cruz at 12312 New Hampshire Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20904, who is the designated agent for service of process as found through the Maryland Secretary of State's business entity search system. See Exhibit A, Business Entity Search Results; Exhibit B, ABC Legal Order Confirmation.
- 3. Mr. Cruz is the same person Plaintiff had contracted with to complete the work on his roof and is believed to be the sole shareholder, owner, officer, and only individual associated

This motion is set for remote hearing on 4/29/2024 at 11:00 am in remote courtroom B119

with the Defendant corporation.

- 4. On January 28, 2024, ABC Legal Process Server Duclos Keusseu attempted service upon the Defendant at that address and spoke with several individuals who noted that Mr. Cruz had moved away. See Exhibit C, First Affidavit of Non-Service dated February 6, 2024.
- 5. On January 30, 2024, Plaintiff authorized and ordered an investigation to be conducted by ABC Legal to find a current, servable address for Defendant and Mr. Cruz.
- 6. On February 5, 2024, ABC Legal's investigation resulted in a servable address found at 12719 Layhill Rd Apt 101, Silver Spring, MD 20906.
- 7. On February 14, 2024, ABC Legal Process Server Aaron Hutton attempted service at this second address and again discovered that Mr. Cruz either no longer lived there or had not been a resident there. See Exhibit D, Second Affidavit of Non-Service dated February 15, 2024.
- 8. On February 15, 2024, undersigned counsel requested an affidavit of due diligence from ABC Legal as to their efforts to locate and serve Defendant and Mr. Cruz.
- 9. Undersigned counsel also attempted to send all pleadings and the initial hearing notice and instructions to defendant via certified mail, return receipt requested, to the New Hampshire Ave address listed on the Maryland business entity search system. This envelope was returned to undersigned counsel as undeliverable and unable to forward on February 27, 2024.
- 10. On February 20, 2024, undersigned counsel was informed by ABC Legal that an additional address was found in their investigation at which service should be attempted before providing an affidavit of due diligence.
- 11. On February 24, 2024, Plaintiff then approved an additional service attempt at the new address located at 19825 Bazzellton Place, Montgomery Village, MD 20886.

- 12. On March 7, 2024, ABC Legal Process Server Marcus Bazemore attempted service at this address and received no answer from the address or from the neighbor. A second attempt on March 9, 2024, resulted in Mr. Bazemore discovering that Mr. Cruz either no longer lived at that address or had moved. *See* Exhibit E, Third Affidavit of Non-Service dated March 12, 2024.
- 13. On March 12, 2024, following receipt of this third affidavit of non-service, undersigned counsel again requested an affidavit of due diligence from ABC Legal Services and has been working to obtain one since that date for purposes of filing a motion for alternative service.
- 14. Undersigned counsel was subsequently able to obtain an affidavit of due diligence from ABC Legal Services late in the afternoon on March 26, 2024 which reflects the extensive efforts their private investigator, Maxwell Milar, took to locate a servable address for Defendant and Mr. Cruz. See Affidavit of Due Diligence of Maxwell Milar.
- 15. Thus, despite Plaintiff's diligent efforts to locate and serve Defendant, Plaintiff has been unable to do so.
- 16. Plaintiff is employed as a houseman at a local D.C. area hotel and receives the services of undersigned counsel through a union legal plan benefit, but has been forced to expend substantial sums of money already to pay for investigation and service fees to locate Defendant. Plaintiff therefore requests that, given this substantial financial hardship and his limited financial resources, that this Court allow him to serve Defendant by Posting an Order of Publication on this Court's website in accordance with Sup. Ct. R. Proc. Small Cl. & Concil. 4(e)(3).

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests this Honorable Court:

1) Grant Plaintiff's concurrently filed Motion to Reinstate;

- 2) Grant this Motion for Alternative Service;
- 3) Permit Plaintiff to serve Defendant by Posting an Order of Publication on the Court's Website pursuant to Sup. Ct. R. Proc. Small Cl. & Concil. 4(e)(3);
- 4) In the alternative, permit Plaintiff to serve Defendant by Publication in accordance with Sup. Ct. R. Proc. Small Cl. & Concil. 4(e)(2);
  - 5) Order any further relief this Court deems just and proper.

Date: March 27, 2024 Respectfully submitted,

/s/ John P. Mears

John P. Mears, Esq.
DC Bar No. 90005209
REGAN ASSOCIATES, CHARTERED
1101 Connecticut Ave NW Ste 801
Washington, DC 20036

Office: (202) 393-6000 x 749 Fax: (202) 393-4706

Email: jmears@racatty.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this **27th day of March**, **2024**, I sent a copy of the foregoing to Defendant via US Mail at its last known address at 12312 New Hampshire Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20904.

### POSADA ROOFING & EXTERIORS INC.: D21039011

Department ID Number: D21039011 **Business Name:** POSADA ROOFING & EXTERIORS INC. Principal Office: 12312 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVE SILVER SPRING MD 22030 Resident Agent: 1 YOVANY POSADA CRUZ 12312 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVE SILVER SPRING MD 20904 Status: ACTIVE Good Standing: THIS BUSINESS IS NOT IN GOOD STANDING Reason(s) Entity is NOT in Good Standing: Annual Report Due For 2023 Annual Report Due For 2022 **Business Type:** CORPORATION **Business Code:** 03 ORDINARY BUSINESS - STOCK Date of Formation/ Registration: 10/22/2020 State of Formation: MD Stock Status: STOCK

EXHIBIT A

Close Status:

NO

### John Mears

From:

noreply@abclegal.com

Sent:

Friday, January 19, 2024 1:38 PM

To:

John Mears

Subject:

Thank You for Your Order for Reference ID REF-14711258

TimeMattersID:
TM Contact:
TM Contact No:
TM Matter No:
TM Matter Reference:



Hi,

Thank you for choosing ABC Legal.

We've received your order. Our team of experts is on it.

### Sign in to:

- See real-time status updates 24/7.
- Download proof(s) by clicking the Proofs button in the Status Overview box.
- Get a copy of your invoice.

Reference #: **REF-14711258**Order Type: **Process Service** 

Uploaded File(s): Complete Complt Pkt.pdf

Rush Requested: **No** Parties To Serve: **1** 

Party: Yovany Posada Cruz: 12312 New Hampshire Ave, Silver Spring, Montgomery

County, MD 20904

Questions? <u>Visit our FAQ page</u> to learn more. We look forward to helping you streamline your service of process needs.



ABC Legal Services, 633 Yesler Way, Seattle, WA 98104 (206) 521-9000 | This is a transactional email.

EXHIBIT

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

**GIRMA ENDALE** 

Plaintiff/Petitioner

Cause No.:

2024-SCB-000097

VS.

POSADA ROOFING & EXTERIORS INC.

Defendant/Respondent

Hearing Date: 04/02/2024

AFFIDAVIT OF NON-SERVICE OF

NOTICE OR CLAIM INITIAL HEARING INSTRUCTIONS; STATEMENT OF CLAIM; VERIFIED COMPLAINT; CIVIL COVER SHEET; APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF PRIVATE PROCESS SERVER

The undersigned, being first duly sworn, on oath deposes and says: That s(he) is now and at all times herein mentioned was a citizen of the United States, over the age of eighteen, not an officer of a plaintiff corporation, not a party to nor interested in the above entitled action, has the authority to serve pleadings in the State named below, and is competent to be a witness therein.

Affiant states s(he) attempted to serve POSADA ROOFING & EXTERIORS INC. c/o Yovany Posada Cruz, REGISTERED AGENT at the address of: 12312 New Hampshire Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20904 and was unable to effect service for the following reasons:

PAGE 1 OF 1

ORIGINAL AFFIDAVIT OF NON-SERVICE

1/28/2024 3:00 PM: I spoke with an individual who identified themselves as the person in charge and they stated subject moved. At the address I observed a package/mail addressed to another, I spoke with a neighbor who says not resident and a property manager/landlord who says not resident. Resident is the new house's owner and reported that the subject moved out... he bought the house for about a year from now....

☐ NEW ADDRE	ESS FOR SER	RVICE	
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		<b>,</b>	
Duclos Keusseu			
	. '		 

Residing or doing business at: 8610 Shorthills Court, Clinton, MD 20735

REF: REF-14711258

My commission expires DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: SS

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BE

ROMAIN WILLIAMS

My Commission Expires 08/14/2024

Tracking #: 0123208883

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

**GIRMA ENDALE** 

Plaintiff/Petitioner

Cause No.: 2024-SCB-000097

Hearing Date: 04/02/2024

VS.

POSADA ROOFING & EXTERIORS INC.

Defendant/Respondent

AFFIDAVIT OF NON-SERVICE OF

NOTICE OR CLAIM INITIAL HEARING INSTRUCTIONS; STATEMENT OF CLAIM; VERIFIED COMPLAINT; CIVIL COVER SHEET; APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF PRIVATE PROCESS SERVER

The undersigned, being first duly sworn, on oath deposes and says; That s(he) is now and at all times herein mentioned was a citizen of the United States, over the age of eighteen, not an officer of a plaintiff corporation, not a party to nor interested in the above entitled action, has the authority to serve pleadings in the State named below, and is competent to be a witness therein.

Affiant states s(he) attempted to serve POSADA ROOFING & EXTERIORS INC. c/o Yovany Posada Cruz, REGISTERED AGENT at the address of: 12719 LAYHILL RD APT 101, Silver Spring, MD 20906 and was unable to effect service for the following reasons.

2/14/2024 10:56 AM: There was no answer at the address.

2/14/2024 11:00 AM: I spoke with an individual who identified themselves as the new resident and they stated subject unknown. I spoke with a neighbor who says not resident, a property manager/landlord who says not resident and an on-site worker who doesn't recognize name.

Aaron Hutton

Residing or doing business at: 506 Diamondback dr. #236, Gaithersburg, MD 20878

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 15th

Notary Public / Deputy Clerk

ATIQA KHAN NOTARY PUBLIC MONTGOMERY COUNTY

MARYLAND Commission Expires 09-26-2026

REF: REF-14711258

PAGE 1 OF 1 ORIGINAL AFFIDAVIT OF NON-SERVICE





### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

GIRMA ENDALE

Plaintiff/Petitioner

Cause No.: 2024-SCB-000097

VS.

Hearing Date: 04/02/2024

POSADA ROOFING & EXTERIORS INC.

Defendant/Respondent

AFFIDAVIT OF NON-SERVICE OF

NOTICE OR CLAIM INITIAL HEARING INSTRUCTIONS; STATEMENT OF CLAIM; VERIFIED COMPLAINT; CIVIL COVER SHEET; APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF PRIVATE PROCESS SERVER

The undersigned, being first duly sworn, on oath deposes and says: That s(he) is now and at all times herein mentioned was a citizen of the United States, over the age of eighteen, not an officer of a plaintiff corporation, not a party to nor interested in the above entitled action, has the authority to serve pleadings in the State named below, and is competent to

Affiant states s(he) attempted to serve POSADA ROOFING & EXTERIORS INC. c/o Yovany Posada Cruz, REGISTERED AGENT at the address of: 19825 Bazzellton PI,, Montgomery Village, MD 20886 and was unable to effect service for the following reasons:

3/7/2024 1:52 PM: There was no answer at the address. No answer at the neighbor's door.

3/9/2024 8:36 AM: I spoke with an individual who identified themselves as the resident and they stated subject unknown. I spoke with a neighbor who says not resident and a neighbor who doesn't recognize name. This is a residence. The resident has never seen the subject's name on mail.

NEW ADDRESS FOR SERVICE

Residing or doing business at: 1001 Frederick Rd Unit 21112, Baltimore, MD 21228

Subscribed and sworn to before me this

AHD KHALIFA

**Notary Public Howard County** Maryland My Commission Expires Sept. 30, 2025

**EXHIBIT** 

REF: REF-14711258

PAGE 1 OF 1 ORIGINAL AFFIDAVIT OF NON-SERVICE





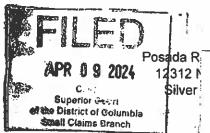


Superior Court of the District of Columbian Civil Division - Small Claims and Conciliation Branch 510 4th St NW, Room 120, Washington DC 20001 202-879-1120 | www.dccourts.gov



Washington, D.C. Permit No. 1726

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Girma Endale v. Posada Roofing & Exteriors Inc.

To: Posada Roofing & Exteriors Inc.

Case Number:

2024-SCB-000097

### NOTICE OF DISMISSAL FOR LACK OF SERVICE

Plaintiff(s) having failed to file an affidavit evidencing service on defendant(s) within the time allowed by Rule 4(m) of the District of Columbia Superior Court Rules of Procedure for the Small Claims and Conciliation Branch, the Clerk hereby enters a dismissal of the statement of claim without prejudice.

### Accessibility and Language Access Information for Superior Court

### Persons with Disabilities:

If you have a disability as defined by the American Disabilities Act (ADA) and you require an accommodation, please call (202) 879-1700 or email <u>ADACoordinator@dcsc.gov</u>. The D.C. Courts does not provide transportation service.

### Interpreting and Translation Services:

The D.C. Courts offers free language access services to people having business with the court who are deaf or who are non-English speakers. Parties to a case may request free translations of court orders and other court documents. To ask for an interpreter or translation, please contact the Clerk's Office at the telephone number at the top of the first page of this notice. For more information, visit https://www.dccourts.gov/language-access.

Language access is important to the D.C. Courts. You can provide feedback on language services by visiting-https://www.dccourts.gov/services/information-and-resources/interpreting-services#language-access.

### Servicios de interpretación y traducción:

Los Tribunales del Distrito de Columbia ofrecen servicios gratuitos de acceso al idioma a las personas sordas o que no hablan inglés que tienen asuntos que atender en el tribunal. Las partes de un caso pueden solicitar traducciones gratuitas de las órdenes judiciales y otros documentos del tribunal. Para solicitar un intérprete o una traducción, póngase en contacto con la Secretaría en el número de teléfono que figura en la parte superior de la primera página de este anuncio. Para más información, visite https://www.dccourts.gov/language-access.

El acceso al idioma es importante para los Tribunales del Distrito de Columbia. Puede dar su opinión sobre los servicios de idiomas visitando <a href="https://www.dccourts.gov/services/information-and-resources/interpreting-services#language-access">https://www.dccourts.gov/services/information-and-resources/interpreting-services#language-access</a>.

የቃልና የጽሑፍ ትርጓሜ አንልግሎቶች፡

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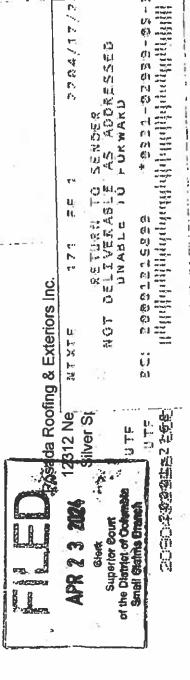
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Permit No. 1726



hearing, please contact the Clerk's Office immediately for more information. If Plaintiff does not participate, the case You are named in a lawsuit filed in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. If you cannot appear at the may be dismissed. If Defendant does not participate, default or judgment may be entered.

For case information, please contact the Small Claims and Conciliation Branch Clerk's Office by phone at 202-879-1120 or by live chat at https://www.dccourts.gov/services/civil-matters/requesting-10k-or-less

To access your case information online, please visit www.dccourts.gov/services/cases-online.

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visiting https://www.dccourts.gov/services/information-and-resources/interpreting-services#language-access. Language access is important to the D.C. Courts. You can provide feedback on language services by

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Γ

To: Posada Roofing & Exteriors Inc.

Case Number: 20

: 2024-SCB-000097

## NOTICE OF REMOTE MOTION HEARING

Your case is scheduled for a(n) Remote Motion Hearing on 04/29/2024 at 11:00 AM in Remote Courtroom B-

The remote hearing will be held via Webex. To join the hearing, follow the below instructions.

## To Join by Computer, Tablet, or Smartphone:

1) Copy and Paste or Type the link into a web browser and enter the Webex Meeting ID listed below.

Link: dccourts.webex.com/meet/ctbb119

Meeting ID: 129 230 4882

2) Click "Join Meeting". You may be placed in the lobby until the courtroom clerk gives you access to the hearing.

### OR To Join by Phone:

1) Call 202-860-2110 (local) or 844-992-4726 (toll-free) Enter the Webex Meeting ID shown above followed by "##"

## Resources and Contact Information:

- 1) For best practices on how to participate in Webex Meetings, click here www.webex.com/learn/best-practices.html
  - 2) For technical issues or questions, call the Information Technology Division at 202-879-1928 and select option 2.
    - 3) For case questions, call the Small Claims and Conciliation Branch at 202-879-1120.
- 4) To change your method of hearing participation, visit www.dccourts.gov/hearing-information for instructions and

### የቃልና የጽሑፍ ትርዓሜ አንልፃሎቶች፡

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