1 Gregory J. Marshall (#019886) Amanda Z. Weaver (#034644) 2 SNELL & WILMER L.L.P. One Arizona Center 3 400 E. Van Buren, Suite 1900 Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2202 4 Telephone: 602.382.6000 gmarshall@swlaw.com 5 aweaver@swlaw.com Attorneys for Defendants U.S. Bank National 6 Association and Hilda H. Chavez 7 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA 8 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA 9 PETER S. DAVIS, as Receiver of No. CV2019-011499 DENSCO INVESTMENT 10 ANSWER TO THIRD AMENDED CORPORATION, an Arizona corporation, **COMPLAINT** 11 Plaintiff, (Assigned to the Hon. Daniel Martin) 12 v. 13 U.S. BANK, NA, a national banking organization; HILDA H. CHAVEZ and 14 JOHN DOE CHAVEZ, a married couple; JP MORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A., a 15 national banking organization; SAMANTHA NELSON f/k/a 16 SAMANTHA KUMBALECK and KRISTOFER NELSON, a married couple; 17 and VIKRAM DADLANI and JANE DOE DADLANI, a married couple. 18 Defendants. 19 20 Defendants U.S. Bank National Association and Hilda H. Chavez (collectively, the "U.S. Bank Defendants") for their Answer to the Third Amended Complaint of Peter S. 21 22 Davis as the Receiver of DenSco Investment Corporation ("DenSco"), admit, deny, and allege as follows: 23 24 PARTIES, JURISDICTION, AND VENUE 1. Answering Paragraph 1, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge 25 or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that 26 basis, deny the allegations. 27 28

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- 2. Answering Paragraph 2, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 3. Answering Paragraph 3, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 4. Answering Paragraph 4, the U.S. Bank Defendants deny that they, or any U.S. Bank's senior managers, substantially assisted, authorized, ratified, or recklessly tolerated any alleged unlawful conduct of Menaged. The U.S. Bank Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining allegations and, on that basis, deny them.
 - 5. Answering Paragraph 5, the U.S. Bank Defendants deny the allegations.
 - 6. Answering Paragraph 6, the U.S. Bank Defendants deny the allegations.
- 7. Answering Paragraph 7, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that certain U.S. Bank employees issued cashier's checks, that one or more U.S. Bank employees observed Veronica Castro taking photographs of one or more cashier's checks, that certain cashier's checks that were not used were deposited back into the account from which the funds were drawn, and the back of certain cashier's checks were stamped "Not Used for Intended Purposes." The U.S. Bank Defendants deny the remaining allegations.
 - 8. Answering Paragraph 8, the U.S. Bank Defendants deny the allegations.
- 9. Answering Paragraph 9, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that U.S. Bank received wire transfers for credit into the Easy Investments LLC account, which identified DENSCO INVESTMENT as the originator. The U.S. Bank Defendants deny the remaining allegations.
- 10. Answering Paragraph 10, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that DenSco purports to bring this action to recover alleged damages premised on allegations of aiding and abetting fraud, and civil racketeering as to Defendant Chavez, but deny the remaining allegations.

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11. A	Answering Paragraph 11, upon information an	d belief, the U.S. Bank
Defendants adı	mit that DenSco was an Arizona corporation.	The U.S. Bank Defendants
are without kno	owledge or information sufficient to form a be	elief as to the former location
of DenSco's of	fice and on that basis, deny those allegations.	The U.S. Bank Defendants
deny any rema	ining allegations.	

- 12. Answering Paragraph 12, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny them.
- 13. Answering Paragraph 13, upon information and belief, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that Plaintiff was appointed as DenSco's Receiver in Case No. CV2016-014142. Further answering, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations regarding the Receiver obtaining approval to pursue this action and on that basis, deny those allegations.
 - 14. Answering Paragraph 14, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit the allegations.
- 15. Answering Paragraph 15, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that Hilda Chavez has worked as an in store branch assistant, and later as a branch manager, of U.S. Bank National Association at certain times and that she is an Arizona resident. The U.S. Bank Defendants deny the remaining allegations.
- 16. Answering Paragraph 16, upon information and belief, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit the allegations.
- 17. Answering Paragraph 17, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 18. Answering Paragraph 18, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.

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- 19. Answering Paragraph 20, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that jurisdiction is proper under the cited constitutional and statutory provisions. The U.S. Bank Defendants deny any remaining allegations.
- 20. Answering Paragraph 21, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that venue is proper under the cited statutory provision. The U.S. Bank Defendants deny any remaining allegations.

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

- 21. Answering Paragraph 21, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 22. Answering Paragraph 22, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- Answering Paragraph 23, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge 23. or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny them.
- 24. Answering Paragraph 24, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 25. Answering Paragraph 25, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 26. Answering Paragraph 26, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 27. Answering Paragraph 27, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.

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- 28. Answering Paragraph 28, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 29. Answering Paragraph 29, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 30. Answering Paragraph 30, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- Answering Paragraph 31, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit, upon 31. information and belief, that DenSco and Menaged entered into a Forbearance Agreement. The U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 32. Answering Paragraph 32, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 33. Answering Paragraph 33, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 34. Answering Paragraph 34, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 35. Answering Paragraph 35, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 36. Answering Paragraph 36, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.

basis, deny the allegations.

37.	Answering Paragraph 37, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge
or informa	tion sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that
basis, den	y the allegations.
38.	Answering Paragraph 38, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge
or informa	tion sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that

- 39. Answering Paragraph 39, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 40. Answering Paragraph 40, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 41. Answering Paragraph 41, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.

ALLEGATIONS AS TO U.S. BANK

- 42. Answering Paragraph 42, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that Menaged and Easy Investments LLC maintained deposit accounts with U.S. Bank during December 2012 through May 2016. The U.S. Bank Defendants deny any remaining allegations.
- 43. Answering Paragraph 43, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that, with respect to the Easy Investments LLC account, Menaged received banking services at the U.S. Bank branch located at 6611 W. Bell Road, Glendale, Arizona (the "U.S. Bank Branch"). The U.S. Bank Defendants deny any remaining allegations.
- 44. Answering Paragraph 44, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that Julie A. Wanta was a Private Banking Relationship Manager, but denies the remaining allegations.
- 45. Answering Paragraph 45, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that Hilda Chavez worked at U.S. Bank and is currently a manager at a U.S. Bank branch location. The U.S. Bank Defendants deny the remaining allegations.

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- 46. Answering Paragraph 46, the U.S. Bank Defendants deny the allegations.
- 47. Answering Paragraph 47, these allegations do not require a response from the U.S. Bank Defendants.
- 48. Answering Paragraph 48, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that Menaged represented to certain employees that he purchased homes from public auctions. The U.S. Bank Defendants deny the remaining allegations.
 - 49. Answering Paragraph 49, the U.S. Bank Defendants deny the allegations.
- 50. Answering Paragraph 50, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit the receipt of wire transfers for credit into the Easy Investments LLC account, which identified DENSCO INVESTMENT as the originator, during the referenced time period. The U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining allegations and on that basis, deny the remaining allegations.
- 51. Answering Paragraph 51, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that certain wires included the name of the originator, DenSco, but deny the remaining allegations.
- 52. Answering Paragraph 52, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 53. Paragraph 53, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that certain U.S. Bank employees provided ordinary banking services to Menaged and Castro at the U.S. Bank Branch. The U.S. Bank Defendants deny the remaining allegations.
- 54. Answering Paragraph 54, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that certain U.S. Bank employees caused U.S. Bank to issue, at various times, cashier's checks. The U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 55. Answering Paragraph 55, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that certain individual cashier's checks included the following information "DenSco Payment" and an address. The U.S. Bank Defendants deny the remaining allegations.

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56. Answering Paragraph 56, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit	that certain
cashier's checks were not negotiated to the payee and were deposited to t	the credit of Easy
Investments LLC's deposit account. The U.S. Bank Defendants are with	out knowledge or
information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining alle	egations and on
that basis, deny the allegations.	
57. Answering Paragraph 57, upon information and belief, the	U.S. Bank
Defendants admit that one or more U.S. Bank employees observed Veror	nica Castro taking
photographs of one or more cashier's checks, and that certain cashier's cl	hecks that were
not negotiated to the payee were credited to the Easy Investment LLC's a	account. The
U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to	o form a belief as
to the truth of the remaining allegations and on that basis, deny them.	
58. Answering Paragraph 58, the U.S. Bank Defendants deny the	he allegations.
50 Angyzaning Danagraph 50, the U.S. Dank Defendants are yes	thout knowladge

- Answering Paragraph 59, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
 - 60. Answering Paragraph 60, the U.S. Bank Defendants deny the allegations.
 - 61. Answering Paragraph 61, the U.S. Bank Defendants deny the allegations.
 - 62. Answering Paragraph 62, the U.S. Bank Defendants deny the allegations.
 - 63. Answering Paragraph 63, the U.S. Bank Defendants deny the allegations.
- 64. Answering Paragraph 64, as the U.S. Bank Defendants were not aware of Menaged's alleged fraud, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that it did not "inform" DenSco of it. The U.S. Bank Defendants deny the remaining allegations.
 - Answering Paragraph 65, the U.S. Bank Defendants deny the allegations. 65.

ALLEGATIONS AS TO CHASE BANK

66. Answering Paragraph 66, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.

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- 67. Answering Paragraph 67, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 68. Answering Paragraph 68, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- Answering Paragraph 69, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge 69. or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- Answering Paragraph 70, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 71. Answering Paragraph 71, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 72. Answering Paragraph 72, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 73. Answering Paragraph 73, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 74. Answering Paragraph 74, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 75. Answering Paragraph 75, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.

- 76. Answering Paragraph 76, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 77. Answering Paragraph 77, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 78. Answering Paragraph 78, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 79. Answering Paragraph 79, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 80. Answering Paragraph 80, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 81. Answering Paragraph 81, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 82. Answering Paragraph 82, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 83. Answering Paragraph 83, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 84. Answering Paragraph 84, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.

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85. Answering Paragraph 85, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.

- 86. Answering Paragraph 86, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 87. Answering Paragraph 87, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- Answering Paragraph 88, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 89. Answering Paragraph 89, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 90. Answering Paragraph 90, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 91. Answering Paragraph 91, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 92. Answering Paragraph 92, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 93. Answering Paragraph 93, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.

- 94. Answering Paragraph 94, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.

 95. Answering Paragraph 95, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 96. Answering Paragraph 96, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 97. Answering Paragraph 97, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.

DISCOVERY OF THE SECOND FRAUD

- 98. Answering Paragraph 98, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 99. Answering Paragraph 99, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 100. Answering Paragraph 100, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 101. Answering Paragraph 101, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 102. Answering Paragraph 102, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.

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1 Answering Paragraph 103, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without 2 knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and 3 on that basis, deny the allegations. 4 104. Answering Paragraph 104, upon information and belief, the U.S. Bank 5 Defendants admit the allegations. 6 105. Answering Paragraph 105, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without 7 knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and 8 on that basis, deny the allegations. 9 Answering Paragraph 106, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that the 10 Receivership Order was entered on August 18, 2016. The U.S. Bank Defendants deny 11 and remaining allegations. 12 107. Answering Paragraph 107, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without 13 14 on that basis, deny the allegations.

knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and

Answering Paragraph 108, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.

109. Answering Paragraph 109, upon information and belief, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that the Receiver deposed Menaged on October 20, 2016 in another lawsuit.

Answering Paragraph 110, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that the Receiver issued a subpoena to U.S. Bank in another lawsuit to which U.S. Bank responded. Upon information and belief, the U.S. Bank Defendants admit that the Receiver issued a subpoena to Chase. The U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the remaining allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.

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- Answering Paragraph 111, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 112. Answering Paragraph 112, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 113. Answering Paragraph 113, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.

COUNT ONE AS TO THE U.S. BANK DEFENDANTS

- Answering Paragraph 114, the U.S. Bank Defendants incorporate by reference their responses to the prior paragraphs as though fully set forth in the responses that follow.
- 115. Answering Paragraph 115, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
 - 116. Answering Paragraph 116, the U.S. Bank Defendants deny the allegations.
 - Answering Paragraph 117, the U.S. Bank Defendants deny the allegations. 117.

COUNT TWO AS TO THE CHASE BANK DEFENDANTS

- 118. Answering Paragraph 118, the U.S. Bank Defendants incorporate by reference their responses to the prior paragraphs as though fully set forth in the responses that follow.
- Answering Paragraph 119, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.
- 120. Answering Paragraph 120, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.

121. Answering Paragraph 121, the U.S. Bank Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, deny the allegations.

COUNT THREE AS TO THE U.S. BANK DEFENDANTS

- 122. Answering Paragraph 122, the U.S. Bank Defendants incorporate by reference their responses to the prior paragraphs as though fully set forth in the responses that follow.
- 123. Answering Paragraphs 123, the U.S. Bank Defendants affirmatively allege that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 grants Defendants' Motion to Dismiss aiding and abetting conversion against Defendants, so no further response is required.
- 124. Answering Paragraph 124, the U.S. Bank Defendants affirmatively allege that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 grants Defendants' Motion to Dismiss aiding and abetting conversion against Defendants, so no further response is required.
- 125. Answering Paragraph 125, the U.S. Bank Defendants affirmatively allege that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 grants Defendants' Motion to Dismiss aiding and abetting conversion against Defendants, so no further response is required.
- 126. Answering Paragraph 126, the U.S. Bank Defendants affirmatively allege that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 grants Defendants' Motion to Dismiss aiding and abetting conversion against Defendants, so no further response is required.

COUNT FOUR AS TO THE CHASE DEFENDANTS

127. Answering Paragraph 127, the U.S. Bank Defendants incorporate by reference their responses to the prior paragraphs as though fully set forth in the responses that follow.

- 128. Answering Paragraph 128, the U.S. Bank Defendants affirmatively allege that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 grants Defendants' Motion to Dismiss aiding and abetting conversion against Defendants, so no further response is required.
- 129. Answering Paragraph 129, the U.S. Bank Defendants affirmatively allege that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 grants Defendants' Motion to Dismiss aiding and abetting conversion against Defendants, so no further response is required.
- 130. Answering Paragraph 130, the U.S. Bank Defendants affirmatively allege that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 grants Defendants' Motion to Dismiss aiding and abetting conversion against Defendants, so no further response is required.
- 131. Answering Paragraph 131, the U.S. Bank Defendants affirmatively allege that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 grants Defendants' Motion to Dismiss aiding and abetting conversion against Defendants, so no further response is required.
- 132. Answering Paragraph 132, the U.S. Bank Defendants affirmatively allege that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 grants Defendants' Motion to Dismiss aiding and abetting conversion against Defendants, so no further response is required.

COUNT FIVE AS TO THE U.S. BANK DEFENDANTS

- 133. Answering Paragraph 133, the U.S. Bank Defendants incorporate by reference their responses to the prior paragraphs as though fully set forth in the responses that follow.
- 134. Answering Paragraph 134, the U.S. Bank Defendants affirmatively allege that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss aiding and abetting breach of fiduciary duty against Defendants, so no further response is required.

135. Answering Paragraph 135, the U.S. Bank Defendants affirmatively allege that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss aiding and abetting breach of fiduciary duty against Defendants, so no further response is required.

136. Answering Paragraph 136, the U.S. Bank Defendants affirmatively allege

- 136. Answering Paragraph 136, the U.S. Bank Defendants affirmatively allege that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss aiding and abetting breach of fiduciary duty against Defendants, so no further response is required.
- 137. Answering Paragraph 137, the U.S. Bank Defendants affirmatively allege that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss aiding and abetting breach of fiduciary duty against Defendants, so no further response is required.

COUNT SIX AS TO THE CHASE DEFENDANTS

- 138. Answering Paragraph 138, the U.S. Bank Defendants incorporate by reference their responses to the prior paragraphs as though fully set forth in the responses that follow.
- 139. Answering Paragraph 139, the U.S. Bank Defendants affirmatively allege that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss aiding and abetting breach of fiduciary duty against Defendants, so no further response is required.
- 140. Answering Paragraph 140, the U.S. Bank Defendants affirmatively allege that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss aiding and abetting breach of fiduciary duty against Defendants, so no further response is required.
- 141. Answering Paragraph 141, the U.S. Bank Defendants affirmatively allege that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss aiding and abetting breach of fiduciary duty against Defendants, so no further response is required.

142. Answering Paragraph 142, the U.S. Bank Defendants affirmatively allege that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss aiding and abetting breach of fiduciary duty against Defendants, so no further response is required.

143. Answering Paragraph 143, the U.S. Bank Defendants affirmatively allege.

143. Answering Paragraph 143, the U.S. Bank Defendants affirmatively allege that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss aiding and abetting breach of fiduciary duty against Defendants, so no further response is required.

COUNT SEVEN AS TO THE U.S. BANK DEFENDANTS

- 144. Answering Paragraph 144, the U.S. Bank Defendants incorporate by reference their responses to the prior paragraphs as though fully set forth in the responses that follow.
- 145. Answering Paragraph 145, Chavez is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, denies the allegations. U.S. Bank affirmatively alleges that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss civil racketeering against Defendants U.S. Bank and Chase, so no further response is required.
- 146. Answering Paragraph 146, Chavez is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, denies the allegations. U.S. Bank affirmatively alleges that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss civil racketeering against Defendants U.S. Bank and Chase, so no further response is required.
- 147. Answering Paragraph 147, Chavez is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, denies the allegations. U.S. Bank affirmatively alleges that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss civil racketeering against Defendants U.S. Bank and Chase, so no further response is required.

148. Answering Paragraph 148, Chavez is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, denies the allegations. U.S. Bank affirmatively alleges that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss civil racketeering against Defendants U.S. Bank and Chase, so no further response is required.

149. Answering Paragraph 149, Chavez is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, denies the allegations. U.S. Bank affirmatively alleges that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss civil racketeering against Defendants U.S. Bank and Chase, so no further response is required.

150. Answering Paragraph 150, Chavez is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, denies the allegations. U.S. Bank affirmatively alleges that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss civil racketeering against Defendants U.S. Bank and Chase, so no further response is required.

151. Answering Paragraph 151, Chavez is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, denies the allegations. U.S. Bank affirmatively alleges that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss civil racketeering against Defendants U.S. Bank and Chase, so no further response is required.

152. Answering Paragraph 152, Chavez is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations and on that basis, denies the allegations. U.S. Bank affirmatively alleges that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss civil racketeering against Defendants U.S. Bank and Chase, so no further response is required.

153. Answering Paragraph 153, Chavez denies the allegations. U.S. Bank affirmatively alleges that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021

granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss civil racketeering against Defendants U.S. Bank and Chase, so no further response is required.

COUNT EIGHT AS TO THE CHASE DEFENDANTS

- 154. Answering Paragraph 154, the U.S. Bank Defendants incorporate by reference their responses to the prior paragraphs as though fully set forth in the responses that follow.
- 155. Answering Paragraph 155, Chavez is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations to the extent that they are directed at Chase and on that basis, denies the allegations. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Chavez, she denies them. U.S. Bank affirmatively alleges that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss civil racketeering against Defendants U.S. Bank and Chase, so no further response is required.
- 156. Answering Paragraph 156, Chavez is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations to the extent that they are directed at Chase and on that basis, denies the allegations. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Chavez, she denies them. U.S. Bank affirmatively alleges that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss civil racketeering against Defendants U.S. Bank and Chase, so no further response is required.
- 157. Answering Paragraph 157, Chavez is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations to the extent that they are directed at Chase and on that basis, denies the allegations. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Chavez, she denies them. U.S. Bank affirmatively alleges that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss civil racketeering against Defendants U.S. Bank and Chase, so no further response is required.

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LLP.

LAW OFFICES

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158. Answering Paragraph 158, Chavez is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations to the extent that they are directed at Chase and on that basis, denies the allegations. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Chavez, she denies them. U.S. Bank affirmatively alleges that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss civil racketeering against Defendants U.S. Bank and Chase, so no further response is required.

159. Answering Paragraph 159, Chavez is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations to the extent that they are directed at Chase and on that basis, denies the allegations. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Chavez, she denies them. U.S. Bank affirmatively alleges that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss civil racketeering against Defendants U.S. Bank and Chase, so no further response is required.

160. Answering Paragraph 160, Chavez is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations to the extent that they are directed at Chase and on that basis, denies the allegations. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Chavez, she denies them. U.S. Bank affirmatively alleges that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss civil racketeering against Defendants U.S. Bank and Chase, so no further response is required.

161. Answering Paragraph 161, Chavez is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations to the extent that they are directed at Chase and on that basis, denies the allegations. To the extent that the allegations are directed at Chavez, she denies them. U.S. Bank affirmatively alleges that the Court's Under Advisement Ruling of September 13, 2021 granted Defendants' Motion to Dismiss civil racketeering against Defendants U.S. Bank and Chase, so no further response is required.

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and Chase, so no further response is required.

The U.S. Bank Defendants deny any allegations not expressly admitted or otherwise responded to herein.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

- 1. DenSco's claims are barred, in whole or in part, by the statutes of limitations, as DenSco's claim accrued no later than December 2014.
- 2. DenSco's claims are barred by the doctrine of laches, as DenSco unreasonably delayed filing this action.
- 3. DenSco's claims are barred, in whole or in part, on grounds that DenSco lacks standing to bring them.
- 4. DenSco's claims are barred by the doctrine of fraud, as its sole director and shareholder, Chittick, acted in concert with Menaged.
- 5. DenSco's claims are barred by the doctrines of estoppel and waiver, as DenSco assented to the conduct alleged herein.
- 6. DenSco's claims are barred by the doctrines of unclean hands and *in pari* delicto, as the Receiver acknowledged in his December 23, 2016 Status Report that "DenSco became a Ponzi scheme as it relied on payoffs and interest from third party borrowers and investor deposits . . . to pay principal and interest to investors . . . from the

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date of insolvency [December 31, 2012] through June 30, 2016." Accordingly, any injury alleged herein was due to DenSco's own misconduct and wrongdoing and is at least equally the fault of DenSco.

- 7. DenSco's claims are barred by comparative fault, including the fault of DenSco, Chittick, their attorneys, and Menaged.
- 8. DenSco's claims are barred by the doctrine of assumption of risk, as DenSco continued doing business with Menaged after discovering his alleged misuse of loan proceeds and fraud.
- 9. DenSco's claims are barred based on the admissions made or adopted by the Receiver in this action and others, including those admissions concerning DenSco's knowledge of Menaged's conduct, affirmatively establishing that DenSco could never have reasonably relied on any purported representations by Menaged concerning his alleged use of the loan proceeds.
- 10. DenSco's claims may be barred, in whole or in part, by the doctrines of res *judicata*, estoppel, and preclusion, to the extent any issues have been previously decided in any related court proceedings.
- 11. DenSco's claim may be barred, in whole or in part, by DenSco's failure to mitigate damages.

WHEREFORE, the U.S. Bank Defendants pray for the following relief:

- A. Dismissal of the U.S. Bank Defendants, with prejudice;
- B. The U.S. Bank Defendants' costs (A.R.S. § 12-341);
- C. Hilda Chavez's costs and attorneys' fees pursuant to A.R.S. § 13-2314.04(A); and
- D. Such other relief that the Court deems just and proper.

	1	DATED this 27 th day of September, 2021.
	2	SNELL & WILMER L.L.P.
	3	
	4	By: /s/ Amanda Z. Weaver
	5	Gregory J. Marshall Amanda Z. Weaver
	6	One Arizona Center 400 E. Van Buren, Suite 1900
	7	Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2202
	8	Attorneys for Defendants U.S. Bank National Association and Hilda H. Chavez
	9	
	10	The foregoing was electronically filed and e-served via azturbocourt
	11	on the following parties this day 27 th of September, 2021.
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lmer	13	Geoffrey M. T. Sturr, Esq. Timothy J. Eckstein, Esq.
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	23	Bank, Śamantha Nelson & Vikram Dadlani
	24	
	25	<u>/s/ Pati Zabosky</u> 4825-8187-2124
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