Jon A. Wilson Brett C. Jensen Michael P. Sarabia BROWN LAW FIRM, P.C. 315 North 24th Street P.O. Drawer 849 Billings, MT 59103-0849 Tel. (406) 248-2611 Fax (406) 248-3128

Joel M. Taylor, Esq. (appearing pro hac vice) MILLER MCNAMARA & TAYLOR LLP 100 South Bedford Road, Suite 340 Mount Kisco, New York 10549 Tel./E-Fax (845) 288-0844 Attorneys for Defendant Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of New York, Inc.

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA **BILLINGS DIVISION**

TRACY CAEKAERT, and CAMILLIA ) Cause No. CV 20-52-BLG-SPW MAPLEY,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

WATCHTOWER BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY OF NEW YORK. INC., WATCH TOWER BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA,

Defendants.

AMENDMENT TO ANSWER TO FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT, CROSS-CLAIM, AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL OF **DEFENDANT WATCHTOWER BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY OF NEW YORK, INC.** 

COMES NOW Defendant Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of New York, Inc. (hereinafter "WTNY"), by and through its attorneys, and submits this Amendment to its Answer to First Amended Complaint, Cross-Claim, and Demand for Jury Trial dated July 27, 2020 (Doc. 27) (hereinafter "WTNY's Answer"). This Amendment supplements and incorporates WTNY's Answer as if fully set forth herein. As such, while the entire contents of WTNY's Answer are not set forth below, WTNY maintains its Answer to the allegations in the First Amended Complaint as set forth in WTNY's Answer, its affirmative defenses as set forth in WTNY's Answer, its Cross-Claim against Bruce Mapley Sr. as set forth in WTNY's Answer. This Amendment adds the following affirmative defense to WTNY's Answer:

## TWENTY-FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

By Plaintiffs' Notice of Dismissal re: All Claims Against Defendant Bruce Mapley Sr. dated November 16, 2022 (Doc. 175), Plaintiffs gave notice of dismissing their claims against Bruce Mapley Sr. pursuant to Rule 41(a)(1)(A)(i), Fed.R.Civ.P. By Order Dismissing All Claims Against Defendant Bruce Mapley Sr. dated November 16, 2022 (Doc. 176), the Court dismissed all of Plaintiffs' claims against Bruce Mapley Sr. Plaintiffs' dismissal of their claims constitutes an abandonment thereof, and they have thus released Bruce Mapley Sr. from liability. (See Doc. 220, pp. 6-7).

Case 1:20-cv-00052-SPW Document 225 Filed 04/26/23 Page 3 of 4

Precisely because Plaintiffs have released Bruce Mapley Sr. from liability

pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. § 27-1-703(6)(a), WTNY asserts that Plaintiffs'

damages were caused in full or in part by Bruce Mapley, Sr. WTNY hereby provides

notice pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. § 27-1-703(6)(f) to all parties in this matter that

WTNY is asserting as an affirmative defense that Bruce Mapley Sr. is at fault and

that his negligence and wrongdoing caused, in whole or in part, Plaintiffs' alleged

injuries and damages.

A copy of this Amendment will be mailed to Bruce Mapley Sr. via certified

mail, return receipt requested, as follows:

Bruce Mapley, Sr.

3095 Caylan Cove

Birmingham, AL 35215

DATED this 26<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023.

By: /s/ Jon A. Wilson

Jon A. Wilson

BROWN LAW FIRM, P.C.

Attorneys for Defendant Watchtower Bible and Tract Society of New York,

Inc.

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that, on April 26, 2023, a copy of the foregoing was served on the following person(s):

- 1. U.S. District Court, Billings Division
- Robert L. Stepans/Ryan R. Shaffer/James C. Murnion MEYER, SHAFFER & STEPANS, PLLP 430 Ryman Street Missoula, MT 59802
- Matthew L. Merrill (appearing pro hac vice)
   MERRILL LAW, LLC
   1863 Wazee Street, Suite 3A
   Denver, CO 80202
- Gerry P. Fagan/Christopher T. Sweeney/Jordan W. FitzGerald MOULTON BELLINGHAM PC P.O. Box 2559 Billings, MT 59103-2559
- 5. Bruce G. Mapley Sr. 3905 Caylan Cove Birmingham, AL 35215

by the following means:

1-4	CM/ECF	Fax
	Hand Delivery	E-Mail
	U.S. Mail	Overnight Delivery Services
5	Certified Mail	•

By: /s/ Jon A. Wilson
Jon A. Wilson
BROWN LAW FIRM, P.C.
Attorneys for Defendant Watchtower
Bible and Tract Society of New York,
Inc.