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IN THE MATTER OF NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING RE: HEMPSTEAD 209, LLC

350 Front Street Hempstead, New York
April 11, 2016 9:30 a.m.
B E F O R E:
FREDERICK E. PAROLA, Executive Director MICHAEL LODATO, Deputy Agency Administrator EDIE LONGO, Chief Financial Officer
Dolly Fevola,
Court Reporter

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            TOWN OF HEMPSTEAD
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            INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
                    350 Front Street
                        Hempstead, New York 11550
                    BY: FREDERICK E. PAROLA, CEO
                    ALSO PRESENT:
                    ADAM MANN
                    ALAN HEUSON
                    BRANDY WATSON
                    CHARLES RENFROE
                    STACEY HARGRAVES
                    DANIEL DEEGAN, ESQ.
    morning. My name is Fred Parola, Executive Director for the IDA for Town of Hempstead. I'm convening this meeting for Hempstead 209, L.L.C. corporation that is seeking benefits from the Town of Hempstead Industrial Development Agency pursuant to the General Municipal Law. I will read the Notice.

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing pursuant to Title 1 of Article 18-A of the New York State General Municipal Law will be held by the Town of Hempstead Industrial Development Agency ("the Agency") on the 11th day of April, 2016, at 9:30 a.m., local time, at 350 Front Street, Room 234, 2nd Floor, Village of Hempstead, New York in connection with the following matters:

Hempstead 209, LLC, a limited
liability company, organized and
existing under the laws of the state of New York, on behalf of itself and/or the principals of Hempstead 209, LLC and/or an entity formed or to be formed on behalf of any of the foregoing ("the Company"), has applied to the Town of Hempstead Industrial Development Agency (the "Agency") to enter into a transaction in which the Agency will assist in the acquisition of five parcels of land (described as Section 34, Block 300, Lots 147, 148, 149, 150 and 151) located at 209-229 Front Street, Village of Hempstead, New York (the "Land"), the demolition of existing structures located on four parcels to be developed into parking spaces and the expansion, renovation, construction, equipping and furnishing of an approximately 2,000 square foot addition to an existing approximately 9,250 square foot
building located thereon (the
"Equipment" and the "Improvements";
and together with the Land, the "Facility"), all to be leased by the Agency to the Company for further lease by the Company to various tenants including, but not limited to Family Dollar (collectively, the "Sublessees") for use as a commercial multi-tenant building. The Facility will initially be owned, operated and/or managed by the Company.

The Agency contemplates that it will provide financial assistance to the Company in the form of exemptions from mortgage recording taxes in connection with the financing or any subsequent refinancing of the Facility, exemptions from sales and use taxes and abatement of real property taxes, consistent with the policies of the Agency.

A representative of the Agency will, at the above-stated time and place, hear and accept written comments from all persons with views in favor of or opposed to either the proposed financial assistance to the Company or the location or nature of the Facility. At the hearing, all persons will have the opportunity to review the application for financial assistance filed by the Company with the Agency and an analysis of the costs and benefits of the proposed Facility.

Town of Hempstead Industrial Development Agency.

Would anyone like to be heard?
I have the pilot and the Economic Development Report that everyone is welcome to peruse.

MS. HARGRAVES: I have a
question as to why when first
introduced there was a certain
amount of jobs that were listed and

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then $I$ get an e-mail afterwards saying that the number of jobs that was supposed to be created has diminished.

I don't understand if the project is the same and you knew what you were getting into, why the decrease in the amount of jobs because IDA is supposed to create jobs so why now do we have projected that the amount of jobs that are going to be created is lower?

HEARING OFFICER PAROLA: This is the proponent, Mr. Mann. Would you like to respond to the question, please.

MR. MANN: It's a couple of things. The first thing is the number shown in the book included full-time and part-time. It also included the Family Dollar space as well as the adjacent space which has not been rented.

The IDA calculation treats a

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part-time job as a half job. So that's one of the reasons. The second reason is as we were proceeding with the staff at the IDA I'm required to guarantee a certain amount of jobs and if $I$ don't meet it, they can come back to me one year, two years, five years, 10 years down the road and say, you committed to "X" and you have less than "X." We have to talk.

So what I did there is the first part one is what $I$ just said about part-time, full-time are treated not one for one.

MS. HARGRAVES: Right, half.
MR. MANN: The second issue was
in light of the fact that the adjacent space has not been rented yet. I did not want to commit to a number of jobs. I did not want to guarantee a number of jobs.

MS. HARGRAVES: But you knew that initially.

HEARING OFFICER PAROLA:
Through me.

MR. MANN: It is an expectation of what we expect to create. When I sign a document, $I$ have to commit and guarantee, so in explaining what we project to create has not changed, but what I'm willing to
guarantee is a lower number.
Because I rent the space next door, it could be four jobs, fifteen jobs. What $I$ know is what Family Dollar will be hiring, that's why the number that $I$ will commit to -- I can't commit to somebody until I
know exactly what $I$ rent next door.
And when $I$ do rent that space, I'm coming back before this Board and saying, okay, guys, I've rented the space, who it is, and that is subject to, as I'm aware as I understand that, that at least will be subject to IDA approval.

HEARING OFFICER PAROLA: We
always urge our applicants to be prudent and conservative in the number of jobs they propose, and he's explaining it in how it happened to him. And the reason we do that is because we really have stringent reporting requirements from the State of New York so that we always tell them, if you believe you're going to have 15 jobs reasonably, tell us you're going to have 13 because if you happen -- if something goes wrong and you happen to fall below, we have to, then as our procedure, and we do it now, we require a letter of explanation as to why they've fallen short because the state is really on us, as they should be.

We're committing a certain
number of jobs to the folks that propose, that come forward, so if they fall short, you know, they've embellished, we want to know why.

Sometimes it's a reasonable excuse. Like, if -- I'll give you an example. Rose Fence was a cyclical-type job, obviously more in the summer than in February for projects, so they would fall short at times so that explained it.

We had another case where after
the tragedy of $9 / 11$ we had an
applicant who supplied food to the airlines. They took a terrible hit so they had to explain that.

There are other situations where if they do not supply the jobs, we will actually reduce their benefits if they overpromised. And we've done that. We have cut benefits in certain cases where they did not keep to their commitment.

So he's being very prudent in
terms of his application and,
obviously, when the other building is housed with a tenant there will be additional jobs but right now he
does not have it.
What happens if he can't get a
tenant for a year then the next
reporting period, if he's at 15 ,
just as an example, and he's only
got 11 , he's going to fall subject to the Board wanting to know, what are you doing here?

So that's why. And as he gets that job in hopefully -- as he fills that space and he gets to the level then he'll say, okay, I said originally "X." I'm now at "Y" because I've been able to add two more folks.

MS. HARGRAVES: I have another
question. I'm also looking at the salary. The full-time salary is going to be average 27,000 a year?

MR. MANN: That is the average salary for Family Dollar employees.

MS. HARGRAVES: Is that
full-time or is that for part-time because you're saying you're going

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to give three full-time and seven part-time. What's going to be the average salary for full-time, average for part-time?

MR. MANN: That is the average salary paid per employee. So that would include full-time and part-time.

MS. HARGRAVES: So what's the breakdown? What's the average for full-time and what's the average for part-time?

MR. MANN: That was not provided to me by Family Dollar. That was what was predicted.

HEARING OFFICER PAROLA: You don't have to break it down further.

Let me just reflect for the record that Michael Lodato, the Agency Deputy Administrator and --

MR. DEEGAN: Dan Deegan from
Forchelli Curto Deegan. I'm the attorney for the Applicant.

MR. HEUSON: So the full and
the part-timer salary is basically the same? Is that what you're saying?

MR. MANN: No, that is the average per employee. So it didn't allocate --

HEARING OFFICER PAROLA: SO it's probably someone getting 50,000; somebody getting, you know, $11,000--$

MS. HARGRAVES: No, I was asking because if you getting a decent salary then the turnover drops. That's the reason why I asked what would be the average salary because you find companies that have high turnovers because they're not paying their employees enough money to retain them. That was my question.

MR. MANN: Well, what I was
told, not specifically in answer to your question, but what $I$ have been told, because I've had a lot of

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conversation with Family Dollar, is high turnover is not something they see. They really build with their staff. They offer benefits, whether you're part-time, whether you're full-time. They're very much about promoting within.

They really do have a commitment to local hiring. There is no requirement for an automobile to work at Family Dollar, encouraging people to walk to work, take the bus to work, take the train to work. Here they will hire 10 to 12 people for this store including full and part-time. Of those 10 , three people are full-time, one to two of those people will likely be promoted from another store within
the area leaving eight other employees. Those will most likely all be filled from local hires. What they do for hiring is when they're ready to hire, they

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advertise in a local newspaper and they post a sign at the building and they do their hiring day at the building, not at the coliseum, not in North Carolina where their headquarters are. Hiring is done at the building.

They hire actually more than what they need to staff the store. Twenty to 25 employees will be hired. They make it very clear that not all of you will be here for the full-time, but you are all hired for the two weeks that we take the staff to store. And they make it clear that the best and brightest of you will get jobs at the store for full-time. It's not necessarily full-time employment but for permanent employment, correct, better word.

One of those positions likely will be one of the three full-time people and then the rest will be the

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part-time people.

MR. HEUSON: Is that a national average salary you have here that's for this area?

MR. MANN: That is a local, correct. That was a local average of their six local stores.

MR. HEUSON: Okay.

MR. PAROLA: Just identify.
MR. HEUSON: Oh, Alan Heuson, sorry about that.

MR. PAROLA: No, I think she got it because she knew you, Charlie.

MR. HEUSON: You said there's going to be rental stores, rental property, right, on the outside?

MR. MANN: One other, correct.
MR. HEUSON: So only one?
MR. MANN: Correct. 2000
square feet, one other store.

MR. HEUSON: And do you know
who will be renting it as of yet?
MR. MANN: I have not marketed
it yet.

MR. HEUSON: You have not marketed it.

MR. DEEGAN: It's hard to market it when it doesn't exist yet.

MR. HEUSON: Oh, yeah, yeah.
MR. MANN: You may recall I mentioned at the presentation most retailers don't have vision. They would drive that block right now and say --

MR. HEUSON: And it depends on how much you're willing to charge for the rental.

MR. MANN: But even in the condition the property is in now retailers just don't have the vision. Fortunately Family Dollar did and so my strategy on that space is, let me get Family Dollar open, they'll see how beautiful the development is going to be, they'll see the landscaping, they'll see the beauty of the building, they'll see

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how well lit the parking lot is and on and on and on. They'll see the traffic improvements we're making and then I'm confident we'll find someone who will embrace the development and welcome being next to Family Dollar.

HEARING OFFICER PAROLA: Family Dollar is a mini-anchor in the sense that it generates a lot of people coming in and out.

MR. MANN: Absolutely.
MR. HEUSON: Did they do the traffic study? Remember, I had a concern about the traffic coming out on Front Street?

MR. MANN: At the meeting we discussed the Village of Hempstead Traffic and Safety Board approved the changes we proposed to improve traffic flow at the intersection and subsequent to the meeting the Nassau County Department of Public Works approved our site plan and all the
proposed changes, so the project is 100 percent permitted.

MR. RENFROE: Charles Renfroe. Is that a yes that you did do a traffic study?

MR. MANN: Correct, yes.
MR. RENFROE: Also, I think you mentioned in the meeting that there will be no left turn out of High Street onto Front Street. There will be no left turn.

MR. MANN: High Street onto Front Street, correct.

MR. RENFROE: Okay.

MR. MANN: There will be --

From the site out of the Front Street driveway, there will be no left turn. And also, if you're heading north on High Street, there will be no left turns into the site from High Street.

MR. RENFROE: Okay. I thought perhaps I misunderstood. I thought there was something that was

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mentioned about not being able to make a left turn from Front street -- I mean High Street heading north -- south? I'm sorry, onto Front Street heading east.

MR. MANN: Say that again.
MR. RENFROE: There will be no left turn out of High street onto Front Street where that light is there.

MR. MANN: No, that could not be restricted because there is a traffic signal there.

Well, to answer your question, no, that is not a restriction that was imposed by the county.

MR. RENFROE: Okay. I live a
couple of blocks from there. My
reason for that is normally when
we're trying to get out of our
block -- I live on Sunset Drive
where the golf course is. When
you're coming out of there during
rush hour, $I$ can't even make a right
to go down Front Street because the traffic is so backed up. I have to go into Garden City and come back to Hempstead.

MR. MANN: That's a signal
timing issue.
MS. HARGRAVES: Right. They
said they were going to fix that.

MR. MANN: The County is not
going to penalize my development because of an issue where their system. That's something when I met with the Village of Hempstead Traffic and Safety Board it was discussed at every meeting, two or three meetings that we had, and everyone was well aware of the issue. It would have been wildly
inappropriate for the county to say
to me, Adam, hey, you're doing something great over there, you have to fix that. That's not my problem.

They look at what I'm doing and say, okay, you're allowed to make

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lefts here. No, we're not letting you have lefts out of your site onto Front Street, but fortunately they did not say to me, well, you gotta fix the signal issue because that's their equipment.

I'm not touching the signals. I'm making some striping changes. We're making improvements. We're adding a turning lane but that is something that will be up to the County to fix. All $I$ can say is we can write letters. We can send e-mails. We can make phone calls.

MR. RENFROE: How about -- You did mention that you were removing the parking lot out front on Front Street. Is that yours or the County? I just want to be clear.

MR. MANN: That's the Village jurisdiction and they have approved that.

MR. RENFROE: They have approved.

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MR. MANN: Correct, that was approved.

MR. RENFROE: Okay.

MR. MANN: And the
justification for that is currently that parking was serving the north side stores, the furniture store, and being that that portion of the property will be demolished to make a parking lot, on-street parking is always less safe than on-site parking. You get someone opening their door into 35, 40, 45-mile-an-hour traffic and practically speaking if someone is coming to the center, the Family Dollar, whatever gets rented next door, you're not parking on the street to walk 150 feet. You're parking in the parking lot. It's safer, it's lit, more convenient. So the Village embraced that change with ease.

And then one other change that
the Village also embraced was on
High Street on the north side of our site so approximately 100 feet from the corner. So on the west side of High Street, north of Front Street, approximately 100 feet north, the Village will be installing a "no standing here to corner" sign which will clean up, free up, that part of High Street so that cars are not parking there so that traffic in and out of the driveway is not conflicting with someone that decided to park there.

HEARING OFFICER PAROLA: That's good. Please identify.

MS. WATSON: Brandy Watson. I
just have one question.
MR. MANN: Sure.

MS. WATSON: What is the term of the lease that you are proposing to Family Dollar?

MR. MANN: Family Dollar committed to a 10-year term and they
have three five-year options to extend the term.

MS. HARGRAVES: I have a
question. What is the projected taxes, the value and the taxes? I know the Village is 25 percent.

HEARING OFFICER PAROLA: Well, no, you know that varies each year, as you well know, as a systematic relationship between the various taxing jurisdictions. It will change.

MS. HARGRAVES: What is it?

HEARING OFFICER PAROLA: Well,
it's there. It's submitted. That's
the pilot. That's the total amount. I'll provide you with that so you can add that.

MS. HARGRAVES: This is the total for all three --

MR. PAROLA: That's the total of all three. We can't, obviously, determine what the piece of the pie is going to be because the Town, the

Hempstead 209 , LLC
school and the Village will change a little each year, as you well know.

MS. HARGRAVES: Approximately?
HEARING OFFICER PAROLA: That's
not approximate. That's the total amount. You can from that extrapolate what your percentage is now and give a ballpark ongoing in terms of what you see through the pilot.

I'll make a copy for you if you'd like.

MS. HARGRAVES: Yeah. My question is even if this is the actual amount --

MR. PAROLA: Excuse me.
MS. HARGRAVES: That's the
actual amount. Historically, what percentage would the Village be receiving, approximately?

HEARING OFFICER PAROLA: You'll
know better than $I$ do.

MS. HARGRAVES:
Twenty-five percent, 20 percent?

What percentage --

MR. DEEGAN: The Village is
about 30 percent of the overall tax because you have a police department and other services. So historically it's approximately 30 percent of the overall tax bill goes to the Village and the Village of Hempstead.

MS. HARGRAVES: All right. So we're looking at about $17,458,000$ a year?

HEARING OFFICER PAROLA: Would you like one, Mr. Heuson?

MR. HEUSON: I have one. Thank you.

MR. DEEGAN: Just one of the things $I$ know you guys heard at the original presentation but the thing to keep in mind about this property is that it's had a history of failure and it was paying zero taxes for a long time because the owner just kind of abandoned the property. There was a squatter for a while.

The reason why Mr. Mann even got involved in this is because the tax liens of the Village, the County built up to such a point that the property was under water where it actually had more taxes than the property was worth.

So this is a plan to try and --
and a big cause of that was because of the taxes that were on the property at the time were really outsized for what was there, what was being done.

So this plan is to renovate that piece of property, make an investment in the property, get the taxes to get to a level that's sustainable and makes sense, and then obviously beautify it, create economic development in terms of the jobs that are going to be there and this is like a rescue project of a piece of property that left to its own devices would just continue to

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sit there because the taxes were
more than the property could handle.
MS. WATSON: Was the property
acquired through the tax liens?
MR. MANN: Correct.

MR. DEEGAN: Yes.
MR. RENFROE: I have no more questions.

HEARING OFFICER PAROLA: We're going to hold it open for a little bit yet. We usually hold it open 25 minutes or so.

Please let the record reflect
that my chief financial officer,
Edie Longo, is here present.

MS. HARGRAVES: I have a
question. I see we have the 52,000 for the first three years, which I understand how that goes, but I still -- Was this property compared to other IDAs that were like that, just like Family Dollar? Are there any in Nassau that's in the general area that we can find out what
they're paying in the pilot? Are there any pilots similar to this Family Dollar?

HEARING OFFICER PAROLA: It would not help because each jurisdiction is different. MS. HARGRAVES: Are any similar to Family Dollar?

HEARING OFFICER PAROLA: We don't know. Our analysis kept to this particular site and the abutting sites and the history. We worked it out with counsel.

MS. HARGRAVES: How do we
determine a dollar amount? How do we come to that dollar amount, the taxes? What information was used to
come to the 52,000 for the first
three years, that's my question.
MR. DEEGAN: We took basically
the property that was there, as you
know. I think you know.
MS. HARGRAVES: Libby
Goldstein. I know the property.

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\begin{array}{r}
\text { MR. DEEGAN: The taxes were } \\
\text { really one of the causes of problem }
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$$ there. The question is what is an appropriate level of taxation given the fact that part of the building is going to be knocked down, the other part is going to have a small extension and there's going to be a renovation. So the analysis was done based upon incoming expense models that the Nassau County Assessor uses to figure out what an appropriate taxation would be.

MS. HARGRAVES: And what is
that value without a pilot? What would the value of that property after the renovations be without a pilot?

MR. DEEGAN: The taxes?
MS. HARGRAVES: Before the
taxes, you get a value and then your
taxes are applied to that value.

What would be the market value of that property without a pilot based

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on the information from Nassau County income and expenses, what would be that value?

MR. DEEGAN: I just know the final result of that value. We probably have it someplace. We can find out.

MS. HARGRAVES: I just want to know.

HEARING OFFICER PAROLA: It's probably in this ballpark because we use this sort of as a basis.

MS. HARGRAVES: Tax amount is not value.

HEARING OFFICER PAROLA: But what the tax would have been without it is what I'm saying.

MS. HARGRAVES: That's my question. What is the market value without the pilot? This is the pilot amount. The pilot amount is substantially lower than what the actual value is.

HEARING OFFICER PAROLA: Not
really. No, it's not. What we do is we look at the existing taxes and if they're $\$ 52,000$, for example, we'll start at 52,000 .

MS. HARGRAVES: Right, cause according to this current taxes, actually, just for the Village alone is 32,000. The school is almost 60, 59,000 and the general is 9,000 so that's about 60, 80. We're talking about a little over 90,000.

HEARING OFFICER PAROLA: But what we reflected here is that this was zero because this is an unproductive piece of property so in negotiations after talking to the assessor's office and in
negotiations with the Applicant and his attorney, we determined this will be a fair balance to both, get some productive dollars for various jurisdictions, as well as not be so negative in terms of the amount as to not give Mr. Mann an incentive to

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develop the property.

MS. HARGRAVES: Of course we know he needs an incentive. I'm just trying to find out what would be the value without --

HEARING OFFICER PAROLA: We'd have to talk to the assessor's office. They could tell you what the taxes would be without it.

MR. DEEGAN: And Stacey is the Village assessor.

MS. HARGRAVES: That's why I wanted to know what value are you talking about because you always have to have an idea.

MR. DEEGAN: I know you referenced the 90,000 before. The other thing you have to realize is that there are structures here that are being removed in order to make a parking lot.

MS. HARGRAVES: Which actually
helps because if you don't have parking people just drive by, so you
have to have the parking.
HEARING OFFICER PAROLA: That
lowers the taxes, obviously.
MS. HARGRAVES: I understand
that but it also helps the project.
MR. MANN: Not to chime in on that part but what he said about parking, you look at the corridor on Front Street and one of the reasons it looks like what it does is because there is no off-street parking and without off-street parking in Nassau County the retail development is just not sustainable. Period. Period.

MS. HARGRAVES: You're right.
MR. MANN: We strongly believe we have a very sustainable development for a lot of reasons and one of the main reasons is because we have a 34-space off-Street parking lot which will make this development sustainable. I just wanted to add that.

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MS. HARGRAVES: I agree with
that. I definitely agree with that.

That was not what $I$ was coming at.
MR. MANN: I just wanted to
build on that.
MS. HARGRAVES: I agree with
the parking. If you have parking in Nassau County chances are you succeed so much better than if you don't because people will just drive by. Everyone drives a car out here. You need parking.

MR. MANN: The building that I'm renovating at 209 Front Street or 215 per the Village, but the building that I'll be renovating has a 17-foot wide driveway currently. At one point or another, and I'm sure you all remember, there was retail in the front there. It was never sustainable because a 17-foot driveway is illegal to Nassau County standards for a one-way driveway. This was being used as a two-way

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driveway and there's no on-street
parking over there. So you had
stores come in and go out
immediately because it's just not
sustainable.
    HEARING OFFICER PAROLA:
Observing that it is 9:58, we're
going to declare this hearing closed
sine die.
    (Time noted: 9:58 p.m.)
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CERTIFICATION

I, DOLLY FEVOLA, a Notary Public in and for the state of New York, do hereby certify:

THAT the witness whose testimony is herein before set forth, was duly sworn by me; and

THAT the within transcript is a true record of the testimony given by said witness.

I further certify that $I$ am not related, either by blood or marriage, to any of the parties to this action; and

THAT I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 20th day of April, 2016.

DOLLY FEVOLA






