SUPERIOR COURT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS DIVISION OF ST. CROIX

ELEANOR ABRAHAM, et al.,) Plaintiffs,) v.) ST. CROIX RENAISSANCE GROUP, LLLP,) Defendant.)

CASE NO. SX-11-CV-550 COMPLEX LITIGATION DIVISION

<u>ORDER</u>

AND NOW, for the reasons stated in the accompanying Memorandum Opinion dated February 3, 2020, it is hereby

ORDERED that all Plaintiffs except Eleanor Abraham are **DROPPED** from this case and their claims are **SEVERED**. **On or before Tuesday, April 15, 2020**, Plaintiff Eleanor Abraham may file an amended complaint that drops all other Plaintiffs and removes all allegations and claims pertaining to them. All other Plaintiffs must, on or before the same deadline, refile the claims asserted in this case and any asserted in *Laurie L.A. Abednego, et al. v. St. Croix Alumina, LLC, et al.*, case number SX-09-CV-571, as severed and refiled by orders issued in that case, in one complaint, and pay the appropriate filing fee or seek leave to file *in forma pauperis*. It is further

ORDERED that the claims of minor children, whether asserted in this case or in *Laurie L.A. Abednego, et al. v. St. Croix Alumina, LLC, et al.*, case number SX-09-CV-571, as severed and refiled by orders issued in that case, may be joined with the claims of a parent or legal guardian if such parent or legal guardian also asserted claims on an individual basis, provided, however that the minor is still under the age of twenty-one. *See* 5 V.I.C. § 36(a)(1). It is further

ORDERED that the claims of any deceased persons, if the claims survived, may be joined with the individual claims of the personal representative of the estate, if the personal representative also asserted claims on an individual basis. It is further

ORDERED that leave to join together on a family or household basis is **DENIED** except as provided above for personal representatives pursuing individual claims and survival claims, and parents suing individually and as next friend or guardian of one or more minor children. It is further Abraham, et al. v. St. Croix Renaissance Group, LLLP Case No. SX-11-CV-550 ORDER Page 2 of 2

ORDERED that the Clerk's Office shall **OPEN** a miscellaneous civil case under the caption *In re: Red Mud Litigation*, to be maintained as a master case and docket, and then provide notice to counsel of record in this case of the case number. Counsel shall file notices of appearance in the master case **within fourteen (14) days** from the date the master case is opened. It is further

ORDERED that summons shall not issue for the individual cases nor shall proof of service be filed. Instead, to reduce costs, counsel for the Plaintiffs shall **SERVE** copies of the forthcoming complaints on counsel for Defendant St. Croix Renaissance Group, LLLP **ELECTRONICALLY** and file proof of service in the master case. It is further

ORDERED that Defendant St. Croix Renaissance Group, LLLP shall file Answers to the forthcoming amended and individual complaints **no later than Friday, May 15, 2020** or **twenty-eight (28) days** after a complaint has been served, and **SERVE** copies of its answers on Plaintiffs **ELECTRONICALLY**. It is further

ORDERED that neither Plaintiffs nor Defendant have leave to make substantive changes to their pleadings, *except that* (1) leave is granted to make stylistic changes; (2) to plead claims and defenses in separate paragraphs, *see* V.I. R. Civ. P. 9(b); (3) to streamline the pleadings; and (4) to drop or abandon any claims or defenses. It is further

ORDERED that all Pleadings shall **STATE** "Red Mud" and "Complex Litigation Division" in the caption. It is further

ORDERED that if any Plaintiff fails to proceed as directed, Defendant St. Croix Renaissance Group, LLLP may move to dismiss pursuant to Rule 41(b) of the Virgin Islands Rules of Civil Procedure. *See* V.I. R. Civ. P. 41(b)(2) ("If the plaintiff fails to ... comply with ... a court order, a defendant may move to dismiss ... any claim against it.").

DONE AND SO ORDERED.

ROBERT A, MOLLOY Judge of the Superior Court

ATTEST: TAMARA CHARLES Clerk of the Court

Date: February 3, 2020

Court Clerk By: Dated: