IN THE HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA BRISBANE REGISTRY

NO B 61 OF 2017

HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA FILED 2 4 NOV 2017 THE REGISTRY SYDNEY

THE COMMISSIONER OF TAXATION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA Appellant

MARTIN ANDREW PTY LTD ACN 063 993 055 Respondent

APPELLANT'S SUBMISSIONS

(MAPL PRIMARY TAX)

Part I: Certification

1. The submissions are in a form suitable for publication on the Internet.

Part II: Issues arising

The same primary issue arises in this, and each of the four appeals, namely as set out at [2], of B60 of 2017 (Thomas Primary Tax).

3. That is because of the way in which the Full Federal Court addressed the four

proceedings. Again for convenience, the four related appeals concern:

- (a) Martin Andrew Thomas v Commissioner of Taxation (QUD 72/2016), in which Mr Thomas appealed from the orders of Greenwood J in respect to his liability for primary tax for the 2006 to 2009 tax years. The Commissioner cross-appealed in respect of Mr Thomas' net income in 2006, 2007 and 2008 (now B60/2017);
- (b) Martin Andrew Pty Ltd v Commissioner of Taxation (QUD 78/2016), in which MAPL appealed from the orders of Greenwood J in respect of the 2008 tax year. The Commissioner cross-appealed in respect of net income in 2008 (now B61/2017) (MAPL Primary Tax);
- (c) *Commissioner of Taxation v Thomas Nominees Pty Ltd* (QUD 79/2016), in which the Commissioner appealed in respect of Greenwood J's construction of s 101 of

Filed on behalf of the Appellant: The Commissioner of Taxation of the Commonwealth of Australia

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the 1936 Act, or in his application of it contrary to evidence in respect of Mr Thomas' entitlement to a share of the income of the trust estate in 2009. Thomas Nominees filed a Notice of Contention in support of the trial judge's conclusions (now B62/2017) (**2009 Year**);

- (d) Commissioner of Taxation v Martin Andrew Thomas (QUD 80/2016), in which the Commissioner appealed against Greenwood J's determination that Mr Thomas was not liable to an administrative penalty in respect of each of the income years 2006 to 2009 (now B63/2017) (Thomas Penalty).
- 4. In this appeal, the resolution of MAPL's tax liability in the 2008 income year is the corollary of that of Mr Thomas in the Thomas Primary Tax matter. That is because Mr Thomas and MAPL were the only two beneficiaries to receive distributions of the distributable income of the Trust.

Part III: Certification regarding s 78B Judiciary Act 1903

- On 17 November 2017, notices were served by the Respondents in B60 of 2017 (Thomas Primary Tax), and B61 of 2017 (MAPL Primary Tax).
- 6. The appellant has considered whether any notice should be given in compliance with section 78B of the *Judiciary Act 1903* (Cth) and has determined that notice is not required.

Part IV: Reports and authorized reports citations

- 7. Thomas v The Commissioner of Taxation [2015] FCA 968.
- 8. Thomas v The Commissioner of Taxation [2017] FCAFC 57.
- 9. In the particular circumstances, *Thomas Nominees Pty Ltd v Thomas* (2010) [2010] QSC 417; 80 ATR 828.
- Part V: Narrative of relevant facts found or admitted
 - 10. The Appellant repeats the narrative at [9] to [30] of the appeal B60/2017 (Thomas Primary Tax).

Part VI: Argument

50 11. Pagone J treated the several proceedings, and the reasons for the final orders, as turning on the one issue. He was of the view (FCAFC [7]) that "the principal issue in these appeals is whether the taxpayers are entitled to franking credits in the relevant income

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tax years. Other issues concerning penalty assessments also arise if the taxpayers are unsuccessful on the principal issue." In that regard, Pagone J's reasons at FCAFC [7]-[22] dealt with the statutory context and facts, in particular franking credits under Division 207; paragraph [23] commenced with the 'necessity' of considering whether the operation of Division 207 was affected by the orders of Applegarth J, with such consideration following at [23]-[27]; provided further consideration in respect of the 2009 Year proceeding at [28]-[29]; and concluded that because of his conclusions on the Declaration and *Executor Trustee*, it was unnecessary to consider the question of penalties at [30].

12. The principal issue has been described in the Thomas Primary Tax submissions at [2]. The tax issues raised in this appeal are identical to those raised by appeal B 60/2017 and considered in the Appellant's submissions. Those submissions, relating to the tax liability of Martin Thomas in the 2006 to 2008 income years, apply equally to the question of the tax liability of MAPL for the 2008 income year: see [33] to [52] of the submissions. Those matters are sufficient to dispose of this appeal.

Part VII: Statutes

 The relevant statutes are set out in the annexure to the Thomas Primary Tax submissions (B60/2017).

Part VIII: Orders

- 14. The appeal be allowed, with costs.
- The proceeding be remitted to the Full Federal Court for determination according to law.

40 Part IX: Estimate

16. The estimated time required for oral argument of the appellant in this matter is included in the estimate of time in the appellant's submissions in Thomas Primary Tax (B60/2017).

Dated: 24 November 2017

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