



TAMPA BAY BANKRUPTCY CENTER, P.A.

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Longoria's Beso Restaurant files for Bankruptcy

Beso Restaurant in CityCenter, Las Vegas, partly owned by Eva Longoria, has filed for Chapter 11 reorganization bankruptcy. In bankruptcy papers filed in bankruptcy court in Las Vegas, the restaurant listed debts of almost \$5.7 million. It has assets of about \$2.5 million.

Beso LLC is 32% owned by Longoria and together with its nightclub called Eve have projected monthly losses of \$76,000. With such ongoing losses, it is anticipated that Beso would face problems meeting its obligations towards its lease. It already owes \$1.8 million to its landlord, Crystals at CityCenter. CityCenter is a resort complex which was opened by MGM Resorts International in December 2009.

In terms of income, Beso brought in nearly \$14.6 million over the last year. Longoria is listed in court papers as one of Beso's creditors as she had forwarded money out of her own pocket to keep the business afloat.

Beso owes Longoria \$375,000 for legal fees paid on its behalf and \$1 million for a cash loan. Other creditors include several contractors who

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worked on the construction of the club and former partners of the business. In June last year, a lawsuit was filed in Clark County District Court by Ronen and Mali Nachum who were investors and purported managers at Beso who claim they loaned \$280,000 to help pay for its construction but were subsequently dismissed from the company without compensation.

Longoria and co-defendants applied to strike out the suit but their application was denied by Judge Mark Denton October 27. Attorneys for Longoria, Beso and the co-defendants then filed a counterclaim against the Nachums, saying the validity of their ownership interest “is in question because of the existence of irregularities and certain improprieties which may have been committed” in connection with the initial grants of their interests.

According to the counterclaim, Ronen Nachum was authorized to oversee the construction of Beso in 2009 on the basis of his claim to be a licensed contractor. However, Beso contends that he was never licensed as such in Nevada. As a result of Nachum’s mismanagement of the construction process, Beso had to borrow \$1 million from Longoria. The counterclaim further says Ronen Nachum’s “serial mismanagement” of the construction led to the filing of \$1.2 million in construction liens, along with lawsuits and multiple breaches of Beso’s lease with Crystals.

The counterclaim also alleges that Ronen Nachum had intimidated and threatened people in order to gain control of the everyday operations of

Beso being encouraged by Mali Nachum. It also claims that the Nachums mishandled company funds.

Attorneys for the Nachums counter argued and denied the allegations.

They also made a filing December 30 for \$280,000 that Ronen Nachum had deposited into a Beso construction trust account be garnished.

If you or your business is struggling with debt, bankruptcy can give you a fresh start. Call us at (813) 200-4133 for a free consultation.