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IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU
APPELLATE DIVISION

FILED *l.*

2025 JUN 23 A 11: 54

<p>TED T. JOSHUA, <i>Appellant,</i></p> <p>v.</p> <p>CARTER YAMANGUCHI, <i>Appellee.</i></p>	<p>SUPREME COURT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU</p>
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Cite as: 2025 Palau 8
Civil Appeal No. 24-013
Appeal from Civil Action No. 23-166

Decided: June 23, 2025

Counsel for Appellant *pro se*
Counsel for Appellee Vameline Singeo

BEFORE: OLDIAIS NGIRAIKELAU, Chief Justice, presiding
FRED M. ISAACS, Associate Justice
DANIEL R. FOLEY, Associate Justice

Appeal from the Trial Division, the Honorable Kathleen M. Salii, Presiding Justice, presiding.

SUMMARY DISPOSITION¹

PER CURIAM:

[¶ 1] Appellant Ted T. Joshua appeals the Trial Division’s April 30, 2024 Decision and Order, awarding to Appellee Carter Yamanguchi a 1/4 interest in the land known as *Sollang*, Cadastral Lot No. 007 C 13, located in Melekeok. Carter Yamanguchi filed a petition on September 20, 2023 to settle the estate of his deceased sister, Stacy Yamanguchi. Mr. Yamanguchi presented to the trial court a Certificate of Title for *Sollang*, dated May 9, 2003, which indicates that *Sollang* is owned in fee simple by “Kalista Yamanguchi and Stacey [sic]


¹ The parties did not request oral argument in this appeal. No party having requested oral argument, the appeal is submitted on the briefs. *See* ROP R. App. P. 34(a).

Yamanguchi—owning interests of Jacob and Samuel Butelbai, Sebalt Elechuus, Tebtark Joshua, and Matlitei and their Heirs.” Mr. Joshua claims a 1/4 interest in *Sollang* as the sole surviving heir of Tebtark Joshua.


[¶ 2] Mr. Joshua seemingly misunderstands the trial court’s decision and the 2003 Certificate of Title. Admittedly, the phrasing of the Certificate of Title is confusing. The 2003 Certificate of Title gave to Kalista and Stacy the 1/4 interest of Jacob and Samuel Butelbai. It did *not* give to Kalista and Stacy the interests of Sebalt Elechuus, Tebtark Joshua, and Matlitei and their heirs. Therefore, the decision below solely pertains to Stacy Yamanguchi’s 1/4 interest in *Sollang*. This did not take away Tebtark Joshua’s interest, which is still intact. Mr. Joshua can claim his mother’s interest by probating her estate.

[¶ 3] Because Mr. Joshua’s brief fails to identify any error in the Trial Division’s factual findings or legal conclusions, the appeal is meritless if not outright frivolous, and warrants summary disposition. *Kammen Chin v. Ngerebrak Clan et.al.*, 2024 Palau 5; *Ngarameketii/Rubekul Kldeu v. Koror State Pub. Lands Auth.*, 2016 Palau 19 ¶ 22; *Ueki v. Telungalek Ra Idong*, 16 ROP 140 (2009). Accordingly, the Trial Division’s decision and order is **AFFIRMED**.

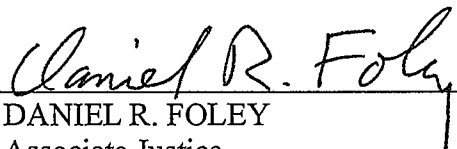
SO ORDERED, this 23rd day of June 2025.



OLDRAIS NGIRAIKELAU
Chief Justice, presiding



FRED M. ISAACS
Associate Justice



DANIEL R. FOLEY
Associate Justice