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## CONFIDENTIAL—SUBJECT TO FRE 408 FOR SETTLEMENT PURPOSES ONLY

December 16, 2022

James Francis McDonough, III Rozier Hardt McDonough PLLC 3621 Vinings Slope, Suite 4300 Atlanta, GA 30339 jim@rhmtrial.com

**VIA EMAIL (Confirmation by FedEx)** 

Re: Liberty Access Technologies Licensing LLC Patent Portfolio

Dear Mr. McDonough:

We write to follow up on our December 1, 2022 letter concerning potential icensing of the Liberty Access Technologies LLC's (Liberty) patent portfolio and to raise issues regarding additional prior art known to ASSA ABLOY and its affiliates (AAAB).

Specifically, in addition to the confidential prior art discussed in our December 1, 2022 letter, we have now also identified AAAB patents that invalidate the patents in the Liberty Access Control Portfolio (see Attachment A).

For example, U.S. Patent Nos. 9,373,205 is exemplary of Liberty's Access Control Portfolio, which all share a common specification and inventors and are generally directed to "systems and methods . . . to allow a smartphone or any terminal to activate a door lock." '205 patent, Abstract. The common specification describes making a reservation using an "[i]nternet enabled cellular phone" and sending a "digital token or certificate" to a phone that communicates and shares the certificate with the "lock device." See, e.g., '205 patent, 5:55-67, 6:1-5. These core limitations—using a "reservation certificate" comprising ordinary information about the reservation to activate a door lock—appear throughout the the claims of Liberty's Access Control Portfolio, along with obvious variations.

An AAAB patent—U.S. Patent No. 8,730,004 (Elfstrom)—discloses these core limitations. For example, *Elfstrom* is directed to "[me]thods, systems, and devices for controlling access within a multi-room facility . . . by remotely confirm[ing] reservations to the facility." See Elfstrom, Abstract. Elfstrom achieves these methods using an "access control module with the ability to make a determination to either permit or deny user access to an asset controlled by the access control module," where "[t]he access

James Francis McDonough, III Page 2

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control logic [within the access control module] provides the access control module with the ability to read access data from [access] credentials and make a determination as to whether or not the holder of the [access] credential is allowed to access any assets controlled by the access control module." *Id.*, 6:55-66. *Elfstrom*'s access control module makes this determination when "the access credential compris[ing] . . . a mobile phone, PDA, . . . or the like" communicates with [the] access control module. *Id.*, 10:18-22. *Elfstrom*'s "communication module may facilitate communications between the [access] credential and access control module . . . [and] refers to the access data to ensure that the appropriate communication protocol is used by [access] credential in communicating with the access control module." *Id.*, 9:59-64. The access data also includes "stay duration (identifying either a departure or an expiration date for the access data)" *Id.*, 12:35-36. And "based on the received access data . . . the access control module will make a determination as to whether or not the holder of the [access] credential is permitted to access any assets controlled by the access control module." *Id.*, 12:10-14.

Additionally, the chart below identifies disclosures from *Elfstrom* that anticipate independent claim 1 of the exemplary '205 patent. *Elfstrom* also teaches or renders obvious the additional limitations in the dependent claims.

Exemplary '205 Patent, Claim 1	Elfstrom
An access device for use in an access control system, the	See e.g., Elfstrom
access device comprising	at 5:37-49, 6:6-9
a processor having control of a door lock and a communication	See e.g., Elfstrom
module connected to the processor	at 6:9-49
the processor is configured to receive a reservation certificate	See e.g, <i>Elfstrom</i>
presented by a portable terminal through a communication	at 10:16-26
module	
when a current reservation that comprises an interval of a	See e.g., Elfstrom
reservation is presented by the portable terminal	at 6:60-67, 7:1-3,
	100. 9:41-58.
the processor is configured to compare the interval of the	See e.g., Elfstrom
reservation of the current reservation certificate to a current	at 1:26-31, 3:51-62,
time accessible to the processor	7:43-56, 11:64-12:3
determine the current time is within the interval of the	See e.g., Elfstrom
reservation	at 12:22-26
activate the door lock to allow the portable terminal to unlock	See e.g., Elfstrom
the door lock during the interval of the reservation	at 12:29-36

In addition to *Elfstrom*, AAAB is aware of other patents and art—including additional patents in AAAB's portfolio—that anticipate or render obvious the claims of the '205 patent and Liberty's Access Control Portfolio. At this time, this art is only known to AAAB, and AAAB looks forward to a response to its proposal to enter into licensing

James Francis McDonough, III Page 3

discussions with Liberty before AAAB files post-grant proceedings with AAAB's art, challenging the claims of or pursuing declaratory judgment actions related to Liberty's Access Control Portfolio.

We appreciate your attention to this matter, and we look forward to a response.

Very truly yours,

Lionel M. Lavenue

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Enclosures: Attachment A: Listing of Known Patents in Liberty's Access Control Portfolio