

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA

**James K. Abcouwer,
Plaintiff**

vs.) Civil Action No. 13-C-56 (Kanawha County)

**Trans Energy, Inc.,
a foreign corporation,
William F. Woodburn, and
Loren E. Bagley,
Defendants**

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Appeals has been advised that Defendants Trans Energy, Inc., William F. Woodburn, and Loren E. Bagley, by counsel, Kevin L. Carr, Mitchell J. Rhein, and the law firm of Spilman Thomas & Battle PLLC, and Scott P. Drake and the law firm of Norton Rose Fulbright US L.L.P., have filed a motion to refer the above-referenced case to the Business Court Division pursuant to Rule 29 of the West Virginia Trial Court Rules. Plaintiff James K. Abcouwer, by counsel, Marvin W. Masters, Kimberly K. Dotson, and The Masters Law Firm lc, filed a response in opposition to the motion to refer.

Upon careful review and consideration of the motion and response thereto, the Chief Justice has determined that this dispute does not require specialized treatment to improve the expectation of a fair and reasonable resolution, and, therefore, this case does not meet the criteria for referral under Rule 29.04 of the West Virginia Trial Court Rules.

It is hereby ORDERED that the motion to refer this case to the Business Court Division is DENIED and that a copy of this order be transmitted to the Honorable Christopher C. Wilkes, Chair of the Business Court Division; to the Central Office of the Business Court Division; to the Honorable Carrie L. Webster, Judge of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; and to the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Kanawha County, who is to provide copies of the same to all parties of record or their counsel.

ENTERED: APRIL 30, 2018


MARGARET L. WORKMAN
Chief Justice