ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA

Meral, Inc., a West Virginia corporation, Plaintiff

vs.) Civil Action No. 17-C-303 (Mercer County)

Brewster, Morhous, Cameron, Caruth, Moore, Kersey & Stafford, PLLC, a West Virginia professional limited liability company; Lawrence E. Morhous; and Jerry J. Cameron, Defendants

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Appeals has been advised that Plaintiff Meral, Inc., by counsel, William J. Leon and the law firm of William J. Leon, LC and Harley E. Stollings, has 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. Defendants Brewster, Morhous, Cameron, Caruth, Moore, Kersey & Stafford, PLLC, Lawrence E. Morhous, and Jerry J. Cameron, by counsel, Peter T. DeMasters, John T. McCartney, and the law firm of Flaherty Sensabaugh Bonasso, PLLC, filed a response in opposition to the motion to refer.

Upon careful review and consideration of the motion and the 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. The Chief Justice also notes that a motion to refer the case to the Business Court Division was previously filed.

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 Michael D. Lorensen, Chair of the Business Court Division; to the Central Office of the Business Court Division; the Honorable William J. Sadler, Judge of the Ninth Judicial Circuit; and to the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Mercer County, who is to provide copies of the same to all parties of record or their counsel.

ENTERED: APRIL 10, 2019

ELIZABETH D. WALKER

Meller

Chief Justice