

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**

**SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA**

**Mike Koontz, in his official capacity as Sheriff  
and *ex officio* Treasurer of the County of Wetzel,  
Plaintiff**

**vs. Civil Action No. 19-C-22 (Wetzel County)  
Supreme Court Docket No. 20-BCD-05**

**Invitation Energy, Incorporated, a West Virginia  
corporation, and Standard Oil Company, Inc., a West  
Virginia corporation, and Jane Does and John Does (1-5),  
Defendants**

**and**

**Standard Oil Company, Inc., a West Virginia corporation,  
Counter-Plaintiff**

**vs.**

**Mike Koontz, in his official capacity as Sheriff  
and Treasurer of Wetzel County, West Virginia,  
Counter-Defendant**

**and**

**Standard Oil Company, Inc., a West Virginia corporation,  
Third-Party Plaintiff**

**vs.**

**Scott Lemley, Assessor of Wetzel County, West Virginia,  
Third-Party Defendant**

**and**

**Standard Oil Company, Inc., a West Virginia corporation,  
Third-Party Plaintiff**

**vs.**

**Dale W. Steager, West Virginia State Tax Commissioner,  
Third-Party Defendant**

**and**

**Standard Oil Company, Inc., a West Virginia corporation,  
Third-Party Plaintiff**

**vs.**

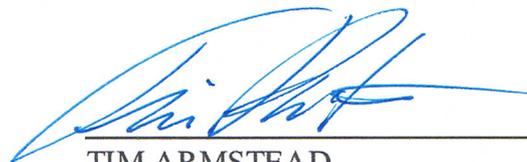
**Joseph O’Ferrell, individually,  
Third-Party Defendant**

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Appeals has been advised that Defendant Standard Oil Company, Inc., a West Virginia corporation, by counsel, Shannon R. Thomas and Cheryl E. LaNasa, 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. Plaintiff Mike Koontz, in his official capacity as Sheriff and *ex officio* Treasurer of the County of Wetzel, by counsel, Daniel J. Guida and Guida Law Offices and Christopher M. Turak, Christian E. Turak, and the law firm of Gold, Khourey & Turak, 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 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 Michael D. Lorensen, Chair of the Business Court Division; to the Central Office of the Business Court Division; to the Honorable Jeffrey D. Cramer, Judge of the Second Judicial Circuit; and to the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Wetzel County, who is to provide copies of the same to all parties of record or their counsel.

ENTERED: SEPTEMBER 1, 2020



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TIM ARMSTEAD  
Chief Justice