ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST

SCA EFiled: Jan 03 2023 11:23AM EST Transaction ID 68779685

JAY-BEE OIL & GAS, INC., JAY-BEE PRODUCTION CO., JB EXPLORATION I, LLC, Plaintiffs

vs.

Tyler County Circuit Court No. 20-C-5 Supreme Court Docket No. 22-865

PANTHER DRILLING SYSTEMS, LLC, and JAMES RIVER INSURANCE COMPANY, Defendants

vs.

PROTOTYPE WELL PLANNING, LLC, Defendant / Third-Party Plaintiff

vs.

LEXINGTON INSURANCE COMPANY, Third-Party Defendant

ORDER DENYING REFERRAL

On November 23, 2022, the defendant, James River Insurance Company, by counsel Thomas G. Ferguson, Jr., Walker, Ferguson & Ferguson, filed a motion to refer this case to the Business Court Division in accordance with Rule 29 of the West Virginia Trial Court Rules ("TCR"). On December 13, 2022, the defendant, Panther Drilling Systems, LLC, by counsel Christopher A. Brumley, Michael A. Secret, and Evan S. Aldridge, filed a response in support of the motion; and the plaintiffs, Jay-Bee Oil & Gas, Inc., et al., by counsel, Charles R. Bailey and Jason S. Hammond, Bailey & Wyant, PLLC, filed a response opposing the motion.

Upon careful review and consideration of the motion and the responses, the Chief Justice has determined that this dispute does not require specialized treatment to improve the expectation of a fair and reasonable resolution, and this case does not meet the criteria for referral under T.C.R. 29.04(a)(2).

It is ORDERED that the motion to refer this action to the Business Court Division is DENIED.

The Clerk of Court shall provide a copy of this order to the Honorable Michael D. Lorensen, Chair of the Business Court Division, the Central Office of the Business Court Division, the Honorable Jeffrey Cramer, Judge of the Tyler County Circuit Court, and to the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Tyler County.

ENTERED: DECEMBER 30, 2022

JOHN'A. HUTCHISON

Chief Justice