

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA**

NEW RIVER GORGE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LLC, **SCA EFiled: Jan 03 2023**
Plaintiff **11:27AM EST**
Transaction ID 68779880

vs.

Fayette County Circuit Court No. 22-C-104
Supreme Court Docket No. 22-872

VERANO WV, LLC, and
VERANO HOLDING CORPORATION,
Defendants

ORDER DENYING REFERRAL

On November 28, 2022, the defendants, Verano WV, LLC and Verano Holding Corporation, by counsel Russell D. Jessee and Christopher S. Etheredge, Steptoe & Johnson PLLC, 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"). The plaintiff, New River Gorge Development Company, LLC, by counsel S. Andrew Stonestreet and Charles R. Hughes, Bowles Rice LLP, filed a response in support of the motion to refer on December 1, 2022.

Upon careful review and consideration of the motion and the response, 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 Paul M. Blake, Judge of the Circuit Court of Fayette County, and to the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Fayette County.

ENTERED: DECEMBER 30, 2022





JOHN A. HUTCHISON
Chief Justice