

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

RICHARD M. RASHID,
Plaintiff

vs.

Kanawha Civil Action No. **19-C-779**
Supreme Court Docket No. **21-BCD-08**

**GEORGETTE R. GEORGE, an individual;
RIDGE LINE, INC., a West Virginia corporation;
AFFILIATE SERVICES, INC., a West Virginia limited liability company;
LMR LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, a West Virginia limited partnership;
LMR MANAGEMENT SERVICES, LLC, a West Virginia limited liability company,
MONARCH MANAGEMENT SERVICES, LLC,
a West Virginia limited liability company;
KENT GEORGE, an individual;
R. CHARLES RASHID, an individual;
MICHELE RASHID-STANLEY, an individual;
THOMAS D. DAVIDOW, an individual; and
MONARCH HOLDINGS, LLC, a West Virginia limited liability company,**
Defendants

ORDER DENYING REFERRAL

On March 24, 2021, the defendant, Monarch Holdings, LLC, by counsel, Michael J. Farrell, Farrell, White & Legg PLLC; the defendants, LMR Limited Partnership and Kent George, by counsel, J. Zak Ritchie, Isaac Forman, and Max C. Gottlieb, Hissam Forman Donovan Ritchie PLLC; the defendant, Thomas D. Davidow, by counsel, David J. Mincer, Bailey & Wyant, PLLC; the defendants, Georgette George, R. Charles Rashid II, Michele Rashid-Stanley, and LMR Management, LLC, by counsel, Alexander Macia and James S. Crockett, Jr., Spilman Thomas and Battle, PLLC; and the defendants, Monarch Management Services, LLC, Affiliate Services, LLC, and Ridge Line, Inc., by counsel, Thomas E. Scarr and Michael A. Frye, Jenkins Fenstermaker, PLLC; filed a renewed joint motion to refer this case to the Business Court Division in accordance with Rule 29 of the West Virginia Trial Court Rules (“TCR”).

The defendants previously filed a motion to refer in this case on September 20, 2019. The motion was denied by administrative order entered on October 18, 2019. After the plaintiff’s amended complaint was filed on March 5, 2021, the defendants filed this renewed motion to refer.

The plaintiff, Richard M. Rashid, by counsel, Phillip Estep and Kurt E. Entsminger, Estep Entsminger Law Group PLLC; and Jeffrey G. Wilhelm and Mariah H. McGrogan, Reed Smith LLP, filed a response opposing the renewed motion to refer.

Upon careful review and consideration of the motion and the response¹, 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 Carrie L. Webster, Judge of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, and to the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Kanawha County.

ENTERED: MAY 25, 2021




EVAN H. JENKINS
Chief Justice

¹ A reply to the response was received from the Defendants on April 15, 2021, but not filed. Trial Court Rule 29 does not provide for the filing of a reply to the response, and a motion for leave to file the reply was not received. The plaintiff filed a motion to strike the reply on April 19, 2021. The motion to strike the reply is refused as unnecessary.