ADMINISTRATIVĖ ORDER

SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF WEST VIRGINIA

Ronald Lane, Inc., a West Virginia Corporation, Christopher Lane, and Norman Lane, Plaintiffs

vs. Civil Action No. 21-C-12-2 (Harrison County)
Supreme Court Docket No. 21-BCD-09

Ronald Lane, Defendant

and

Ronald Lane, Plaintiff

vs. Civil Action No. 21-C-60 (Kanawha County)
Supreme Court Docket No. 21-BCD-09

Christopher Lane, Norman Lane, and Ronald Lane, Inc., a West Virginia Corporation, Defendants

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Appeals has been advised that Ronald Lane, by counsel R. Booth Goodwin, II, Richard D. Owen, and Tammy Owen, Goodwin & Goodwin, LLP, and L. Dante diTrapano, Calwell Luce diTrapano, PLLC; Ronald Lane, Inc., by counsel Stephen G. Higgins, John R. Hoblitzell, and Matthew D. Elshiaty, Kay Casto & Chaney PLLC; Christopher Lane, by counsel Daniel M. Taylor, Jr. and Kyle T. McGee, Margolis Edelstein; and Norman Lane, by counsel James "Rocky" Gianola and John Gianola, Gianola Barnum Bechtel & Jecklin, L.C., have filed a joint motion to refer the above-styled action to the Business Court Division pursuant to Rule 29 of the West Virginia Trial Court Rules ("TCR").

Upon careful review and consideration of the motion, the Chief Justice has determined that the principal claims in the action involve matters of significance to the transactions, operations, or governance between business entities as required by TCR 29.04(a)(1). The mere fact that the action involves individuals does not, of itself, exclude the case from eligibility. The Chief Justice has further determined that specialized treatment is likely to improve the expectation of a fair and reasonable resolution of the controversy as required by TCR 29.04(a)(2), and the motion to refer should be granted.

It is ORDERED that the motion to refer this action to the Business Court Division is granted, and this order shall be transmitted to the Honorable Michael D. Lorensen, Chair of the Business Court Division, for assignment of a presiding judge and such other actions as are necessary to effectuate the provisions of TCR 29.

It is further ORDERED that a copy of this ORDER be transmitted to the Central Office of the Business Court Division; to the Honorable Thomas A. Bedell, Judge of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit; to the Honorable Tera L. Salango, Judge of the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit; and to the Clerks of the Circuit Courts of Harrison and Kanawha Counties, who are to provide copies of the same to all parties of record or their counsel.

ENTERED: MAY 13, 2021

EVAN H. JENKINS Chief Justice