FILED SUPREME COURT STATE OF WASHINGTON 8/27/2019 3:57 PM BY SUSAN L. CARLSON CLERK 3 4 5 6 SUPREME COURT, STATE OF WASHINGTON 7 REBEL CREEK TACKLE, INC., a SUPREME COURT CASE NO. 97539-6 8 Washington corporation, **COURT OF APPEALS CASE 355721** 9 Petitioner, ANSWER TO RESPONDENT'S OPPOSITION TO PETITIONER'S 10 MOTION FOR EXTENSION FOR FILING PETITION FOR REVIEW 11 VS. 12 SETH BURRILL PRODUCTIONS, INC., a) Washington corporation, 13 Respondent 14 INTRODUCTION: Petitioner filed its Petition for Review on August 12, 2019 with the 15 filing concluded at 5:29pm and hence shown as Filed at 8am on August 13, 2019. August 12, 16 2019 was within the 30-day period for appealing Court of Appeals Division III Judgment Case 17 355721. Petitioner has moved for an Extension of Time for filing to August 13, 2019. 18 Respondent objects to Petitioner's Motion and asks the Supreme Court to deny the Motion. 19 Respondent's Opposition to Petitioner's Motion is supported by the Respondent's Brief 20 and by the Declaration of Christopher Lynch in Support of Seth Burrill Productions Inc.'s 21 Answer to Respondent Opposition ¹ IVEY Law Offices, P.S. Corp 22 7233 W. Deschutes Ave., Ste C, Box #3 23 Kennewick, WA 99336 Telephone 509 735 6622 24 Cell: 509 948 0943

Opposition to Petitioner's Motion for Extension of Time.

Petition Answers Respondent's Opposition:

- 1. Respondent does not demonstrate how it would be prejudiced should the Supreme Court grant Petitioner's Motion for Extension of Time for filing its Petition for Review which was commenced on August 12, 2019 and was completed 29 minutes past the 5pm cutoff. Respondent would not state prejudice had the Petition for Review been successfully filed at 4:59pm on August 12, 2019.
- 2. Respondent contends at Respondent's paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 that a Motion for Extension will not be granted. Respondent offers conclusions but not authority.
- 3. Respondent asserts that Petitioner has failed to articulate any basis for the Petition for Review as seen at RAP 13.4¹. Petitioner specifically addressed RAP 13.4 at Petition 2, 4, 12 and at other pages.
- 4. Respondent's paragraphs 6 and 7 asserts that Petitioner licensed Respondent to make Petitioner's patented products and that subsequent litigation including 3 appeals have been of no benefit to Petitioner. Contrary to this assertion, the Arbitration Award January 22, 2018 Terminated the License Agreement thereby benefiting Petitioner by ostensibly eliminating Respondent from the License Agreement and Respondent's persistent failure to perform.
 - a. The commencement of Arbitration, shortly following the Trial Court's denial

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¹ Respondent's Brief Opposing paragraph B. Answer to Respondent Opposition

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of Petitioner's August 18, 2017 Motion, was necessitated by the Trial Court's misapprehension of who it is that determines arbitrability. While Appeal 3 was pending a deadline arrived, June 1, 2016, where Respondent was bound to have sold a specific number of devices. The License Agreement arbitration provision rendered the failure to make required sales non-curable. Petitioner filed and served a Declaratory Judgment on June 1, 2016 and, when Appeal 3 was completed, brought a Motion for Summary Judgment in Spokane County Superior Court Case 13-2-01982-0.

i. Said case had been commenced by Respondent² following Arbitration in 2012 pursuant to RCW 7.04A.220 with a Motion, as required by 7.04A.220, and not with a summons/complaint et al. Thereafter Respondent's Motion practice included a Motion for Order and Judgment, a Motion for Contempt and a Motion for Appointment of Receiver with these latter two motions being the basis for appeals 1 and 2. Petitioner's Motion in August 2017 was brought in the same Superior Court Case having the characteristics of the same parties (Petitioner v. Respondent herein), same case number, same Spokane County Superior Court, same issues regarding License provisions and requirements and heard by a third Superior Court Judge.

² Decl Lynch paragraph 8.
Answer to Respondent Opposition

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- b. Was Spokane County Superior Court case 13-2-01982-0 a Superior Court Case bearing the same authority³ to hear Motions as in 2013 regarding Order and Judgment, regarding Contempt and in 2016 regarding Receivership? Or was it "patently clear that [Petitioner's claim] ...had absolutely no chance of success." Skimming v. Boxer, 119 Wn. App. 748, 755, 82 P.3d 707 (2004) as ruled by the trial court in August 2017 and Division III on July 11, 2019.
- c. Was Spokane County Superior Court case 13-2-01982-0 a Superior Court case with all authority granted by R.C.W 2.28.150 11⁵, or, as asserted by Respondent at Respondent's Brief paragraph 11, "...merely a ...[R.C.W. 7.04A.220]...vehicle for confirmation of [Respondent's] ... Arbitration Award and had no Complaint or Counterclaim.."
 - i. Is Respondent correct in asserting that a Superior Court Case opened per R.C.W. 7.04A.220 is a case not having the foundation of R.C.W. 2.28.150:
 - ii. "When jurisdiction is, by the Constitution of this state, or by statute, conferred on a court or judicial officer all the means to carry it into effect are also given; and in the exercise of the jurisdiction, if the course of proceeding is not specifically pointed out by statute, any suitable process or mode of proceeding may be adopted which may appear most conformable to the spirit of the laws.

³ Petition for Review 8, 10-12, 15, 16.

⁴ Petition for Review 3, 18.

⁵ Petition for Review 11, 14 Answer to Respondent Opposition

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- iii. What is Respondent's basis for this contention or is the assertion a denigration of honorable R.C.W. 7.04A.220.
- iv. Respondent's assertion that Case 13-2-01982-0 was, and "...merely a vehicle for confirmation for Respondent's Arbitration Award.."belies Respondent's pursuit of other Motions, i.e., Contempt, Receivership in that very same Case 13-2-01982-0.
- v. Respondent's contention that Case 13-2-01982-0 was exhausted and unavailable for Petitioner's Motion in August 18, 2017, is made without citation and with no scholarly analysis which might enlighten all practitioners and courts.
- vi. Petitioner refutes Respondent's lack of authority assertion and contends that this issue, alone, warrants the grant of Petitioner's
 Motion for Extension and for the Supreme Court's taking up of the Petition for Review.
- d. In August 2017, was Petitioner's Motion regarding the License Agreement and its Arbitration Provision, to be determined by the trial court or was the Motion to be decided in arbitration and if in arbitration was the trial court to stay the Superior Court Case 13-2-01982-0 pending completion of the arbitration as required by *Davis v. General Dynamic Land Systems* 152 Wn.App 715, 217 P.3d 1191 (Div 2, 2009) 10, 14; *Everett Shipyard, Inc. v. Puget Sound*

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i. Respondent attorney, on August 18, 2017, argued and the Trial Court agreed that a new Superior Court Case was required with Summons/Complaint/Discovery et al in order for Petitioner to have its Motion heard. There is a marked contrast in Respondent's Opposition argument where Respondent most certainly remembered and Respondent's past Motion practice in 13-2-01982-0 and where now, in August 2019, Respondent finds this Superior Court case to merely be a vehicle for Respondent's 2012 need for an Order and Judgment. Respondent hasn't forgotten the matters brought before the 2 Superior Court Judges in 2012 and 2015 and the fact that those Judges did not consider and did not invite and no one suggested Respondent's present day "merely a vehicle" doctrine.

ii. Respondent attorney and Trial Court in argument on August 18, 2017, both having previously received Petitioner's Proposed Order⁷ with the step by step process of Fact, Conclusion and Finding setting out the Trial Court's role regarding arbitrability; neither Respondent nor the Trial Court demonstrated awareness of *Davis* and *Everette*, supra, as seen in the report of proceedings. Within 10 days of the trial court

⁶ Petition for Review 10, 14, 15.

⁷ Petition for Review 12 and at footnote 18 Answer to Respondent Opposition

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denial of the Petitioner's Motion and the grant and imposition of sanctions against Petitioner's counsel, Petitioner had commenced Arbitration with the Arbitrator's January 22, ,2018 Award terminating the License Agreement. Respondent's authority for making and selling of Petitioner's patented device was terminated. But only through the extra burden of commencing and expensing the process of Arbitration.

- iii. The trial court should have recognized its role regarding arbitrability, could and should have retained the matter in the trial court and, on Finding that the Respondent's failure to make required sales was a non-curable event, should have Terminated the License Agreement. The lack of recognition of who it is that decides arbitrability led to expense and loss of time for the Petitioner. That failure and lack of awareness of the Law was there for Division III to see and to correct.
- e. Respondent had argued to the trial court, on August 18, 2017, that it was entitled to have discovery even though Respondent's counsel in 2016 had admitted that Respondent had failed to meet the non-curable License sales requirements as is seen in the Clerk's Papers. Two months later, when in Arbitration, Respondent pursued no discovery, did not refute that Respondent had not made the required sales and argued that Petitioner's Motions and

Appeals constituted harassment, was the cause of Respondent's failure to Answer to Respondent Opposition 7 IVEY Law Offices, P.S. Corp

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make the sales. The Arbitrator stated that acts by Petitioner were not the cause of Respondent's failure and Terminated the License Agreement⁸ on January 22, 2018 as seen in the Clerk's Papers.

f. Thereafter Respondent, without regard to the Arbitrator's Termination of the License Agreement, continued selling⁹ the device and continues selling in August 2019; sales continue with Respondent asserting that patent laws are not being violated. The continued selling resulted in Petitioner's May 2019 Motion for Judgment and Injunction in the same Petitioner v. Respondent 13-2-01982-0 Spokane County Superior Court Case with the trial court reasoning that a new RCW 7.04A.220 Motion was required and that the existing case involving the same parties, same License Agreement, same contractual obligations and limitations and that the Superior Court no longer had authority per R.C.W 2.28.150 and Washington State Supreme Court cases. The 3rd Appeal to Division III pertains to the Order in May 2019 asserting the requirement of a new case and denying that Superior Court Case 13-2-01982-0 continued with authority to consider Petitioner's Motion. Does a Superior Court Case implicitly confer authority to the trial court to engage all means

⁸ Petition for Review 4, 8

⁹ Petition for Review 16

R.C.W. 2.28.150; re Marriage of Langham and Kolde, 153 Wn.2d 553, 560, 106 P.3d 212 (2005); Abad v. Cozza, 128 Wn.2d 575, 588, 911 P.2d 376 (1996) Primark, Inc. v. Burien Gardens Associates, 63 Wn.App. 900, 906, 823 P.2d 1116 (Div. 1 1992); In re Marriage of Langham and Kolde, 153 Wn.2d 553, 560, 106 P.3d 212 (2005):

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necessary to carry that authority into effect? Does R.C.W 2.28.150 confer procedural authority on courts to adopt any suitable mode of proceeding to carry out a statutory directive where none is specifically pointed out and jurisdiction is otherwise conferred upon the court? Was Petitioner's conclusion that Case 13-2-01982-0 continued to bear such RCW 2.28.150 authority reasonable such that it was not "patently clear that [Petitioner's claim] ...had absolutely no chance of success." Were CR 11 sanctions properly imposed?

- 5. Respondent at paragraphs 11 and 14 of Dec of Lynch asset that a Superior Court case commenced after arbitration with an RCW 7.04A.220 Motion is solely for the use of the party filing the RCW 7.04A.220 Motion. Respondent suggests that such a Superior Court Case is a lesser case or is not a true and real Superior Court case than that stated by RCW 2.28.150 and as addressed by Supreme Court Cases in footnote 1. If so, was Petitioner's Motion in that same Superior Court Case, still reasonable and, subject to argument and motion, and still not "patently clear that [Petitioner's claim] ...had absolutely no chance of success?" And still not providing the base for CR 11 sanctions?
- 6. Respondent at paragraph 12 glosses over the stark contrast between Respondent's arguments to the Trial Court in August 18, 2017 of the required Complaint/Summons/Discovery and robust defense with Respondent's simple acquiescence to the Arbitrator's holding that the failure to make sales was conclusive with Termination of the License Agreement.
 - a. Respondent at paragraph 13 blatantly states that Respondent immediately and

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fully complied with the Termination of the License Agreement while continuing to sell the devices. Respondent has sold, following the Termination of the License Agreement, since the spring of 2018 and presently continues sales in the United States and in Europe. The refusal, in May 2019, of the Superior Court in 13-2-01982-0 to address and rule on Petitioner's Motion for Judgment and Injunction and to assert the authority of RCW 2.28.150, urges Petitioner toward the Federal District Court for practice with patent law, infringement, and whether or not Respondent has a bona fide right to continue sales or has tricked the Patent Office and the Court. The appeal of the May 2019 Motion has been appealed and bears similar issues as does this Petition for Review. Entanglement with patent law practice and the Federal Court means greater expense and delay for Petitioner and for confusion on the part of the device purchasing public as they see sales by Petitioner and by Respondent obviously causing questions on the part of purchasers of the device – Who has the authority to sell? Should the trial court have heard and ruled on Petitioner's Motion in May 2019? Did Case 13-2-01982-0 have the case status of R.C.W. 2.28.150? Was the trial court in error in refusing to hear Petitioner's Motion?

- i. Petitioner will move to combine the Petition for Review with the appeal of the trial court's May 2019 ruling.
- 7. Paragraph 15 is Respondent's direct attack on Petitioner's counsel. Is the examination of confusion by Respondent and the Trial Court as to who it is that

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decides if a dispute is sent to arbitration or is decided in the trial court worthy of an appeal and consideration by the Supreme Court? Is considering the issue pursuing justice? Is a motion brought by Petitioner "patently clear [to fail...having]... absolutely no chance of success" or is such a motion not with absolutely no chance of success? Are CR 11 sanctions corrective or chilling. Is there guidance for other counsel from the facts and results and consideration of statute and case law of this case? Is this Petition for Review the pursuit of justice? Petitioner will be selling the devices and will be in business far into the future and yet has to encounter Respondent's contemporaneous selling of products differing, for this time, only by Trademark. Is Respondent's business a violation of patent laws requiring additional litigation in Federal Court or should the matter be decided in the trial court by Motion?

- 8. Respondent's paragraphs 16 and 17 continue the theme that Petitioner's Motion practice is strategic harassment. This conclusion is not supported by the Arbitrator's refusal to grant the "harassment" theme weight in Respondent's seeking relief from the License Agreement specific performance. Respondent's criticisms suggest that a Motion for Extension where someone's mother was ill should be viewed as a failure of practice and brought solely for the purpose of harassment. These paragraphs fall outside the boundary of argument within the Profession and Practice of Law. The tenor is disappointing and weak.
- 9. How did Division III conclude (wrongly) that a new Case has supplanted Superior Court

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Case13-2-01982-0?¹¹ Paragraph 18 through 20 Decl of Lynch, continue thoughts that the RCW 7.04A.220 Motion commencing a Superior Court Case is the foundation of a case with lesser authority and which is a case which is so obviously limited as to make counsel's filing of a motion subject to CR 11 sanctions. Respondent is certain yet has no legal reference to present to the Supreme Court. The Trial Court in May 2019 asserted that a new case was required. However, the trial court did not offer authority but only the courts own reading and conclusion. If the conclusion is so clear then a case must have addressed the issue and provided Washington attorneys and courts with guidance.

Without a reference to a statute or case, wasn't Petitioner's counsel a rational actor in bringing a Motion in 13-2-01982-0? And if so then there is no basis for CR 11 sanctions? And that Case 13-2-01982-0 remains today in Spokane County.

a. Yet while Division III's July 11, 2019 Decision was made without oral argument, someone in the Court or a Friend of the Court has communed with someone in Division III with a communication that a new case has been filed. How did Division III assert that indeed a new case has been filed In Spokane County Superior court. Case 13-2-01982-0 remains. There is no new case to the knowledge of Petitioner. Who or what is the source of this "fake news"? Was the understanding of a "new case" accompanied with discussion of this case and wasn't it done prior to the dictation of the July 11, 2019 Division III decision?

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¹¹ Petition for Review p3 para c, "where in fact Case 13-2-01982-0 remained active and no new case has been opened, has the parenthetical "(which has since been done)" indicate that Division III engaged in ex parte contacts and or a supplementation of the record..

There must be a simple and innocent explanation. If not then what is the assumption? The assumption is, without the simple explanation, that there was ex parte interaction which, without involvement by Petitioner, would be presumed to have influenced the ultimate Division III decision. That statement by Division III was made without reference to the source of the idea and where there is no truth in it – Case 13-2-01982-0 continues today. There has been no new case? What source extra to the Parties to this case has Division III found available for communication and enlightenment? How has ex parte discussion occurred? Who? Has someone had a friendly lunch? Does Respondent know the source?

10. Paragraph 20 states that "...counsel's filing mishaps were not caused by forces outside his control...." It was consternating to find, in the early afternoon of August 12, that pushing the filing buttons for eFile yielded no transmissions. It was relieving to find those persons at the Clerk's Office available to assist. It was very irritating to realize that filing one file at a time might work with the time then 5:01pm. At other times, before Lawyering, Petitioner's Counsel pushed a lot of electronic buttons at the Nevada Test Site. Counsel has an electronics and computer background and is am aware, that in the professional engineering world of computer programs, that sometimes the format is a little difficult to follow and that sometimes things don't work as they do on other occasions. Respondent's statement that on August 12, 2019 the filing procedure was ordinary is not the usual filing activity that Petitioner counsel expected. Respondent's

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categorization of those circumstances as ordinary seems to state that the code for eFile is always difficult to follow or is not well formed and always takes extra time. But this is not the experience encountered by Petitioner in the usual event of filing. The encounter on August 12 was not ordinary. It was unexpected. At each entry of the 5 files I was surprised to receive a No Filing prompt. After communication with the clerk's office I was relieved. But still had difficulty. I persisted but without success. The obstacle was not ordinary but was extraordinary. And filing was accomplished within minutes of 5pm.

11. CR 11 is centrally involved in the Petition for Review. If there was not a chance of success in having the Motion heard on August 18, 2019 then the \$4500.00 sanction would be allowed. And Respondent will ask the Court of Appeals to approve its request for approximately \$29,000.00¹² in fees for defending the appeal. And Respondent expects to request at least \$25,000¹³ for Respondent's efforts re: the Petition for Review and Motion for Extension. Assuming Division III was correct in its July 11, 2019 decision, the unpublished decision gives no guidance to attorneys or courts. But if Division III erred in not recognizing the authority of the Superior Court to hear Petitioner's Motion and was not aware of the trial court's role regarding arbitrability and if Division III conducted an ex parte communication, then the Supreme Court would be right in accepting review of this Petition for Review.

Respectfully submitted August 27, 2019.

¹² Petition for Review page 12

¹³ Respondent's Brief or Declaration of Lynch Answer to Respondent Opposition

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7		Floyd E. Ivey, WSBA #6888	
8		Attorneys for Petitioner REBEL CREEK TACKLE, INC.	
9	AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE	AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE I hereby declare, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, tha	
10	on August 27, 2019 I made service of the foregoing pleading or notice on the party/ies listed below in the manner indicated:		
11	Chris@leehayes.com;	LIC Mail	
12	sarah.elsden@leehayes.com LEE & HAYES, PLLC COL W. Birrarii I. Arra Strite 1400	_ US Mail _Facsimile 	
13	601 W. Riverside Ave., Suite 1400 Spokane, WA 99201	_Hand Delivery _Overnight Courier	
14	509 324 9256 fax: 509 323 8979	K_Email	
15	Spokane County Superior Court	US MAIL	
16	1116 W. Broadway Ave. Spokane WA 99260	EMAIL	
17	Court of Appeals Div III	eFile/ Portal	
18	500 N. Cedar st Spokane WA 99201-1905	Fax: 509 456 4288	
19	Washington State Supreme Court	x_eFile	
20		DATED: August 27, 2019	
21	Answer to Respondent Opposition	15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 1	
22	Answer to Respondent Opposition	¹⁵ IVEY Law Offices, P.S. Corp 7233 W. Deschutes Ave.,	
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Floyd E. Ivey, WSBA #6888 Attorneys for Petitioner

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August 27, 2019 - 3:57 PM

Transmittal Information

Filed with Court: Supreme Court

Appellate Court Case Number: 97539-6

Appellate Court Case Title: Seth Burrill Productions, Inc. v. Rebel Creek Tackle, Inc.

Superior Court Case Number: 13-2-01982-0

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