IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO.: 50-2022-CA-006587

LARRY KLAYMAN,

Plaintiff,

v.

PGA TOUR, DP WORLD TOUR, JOSEPH WILLIAM MONAHAN IV, and KEITH PELLEY,

Defendants.

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

HELD VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

BEFORE THE HONORABLE LUIS DELGADO

(Pages 1 to 37)

DATE: Thursday, December 8, 2022 TIME: 12:01 p.m. to 12:41 p.m.

Held remotely via videoconference

Reported By: Gail Hmielewski Court Stenographer

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1 PROCEEDINGS 2 THE COURT: Good afternoon, everybody. 3 MR. RABINOWITZ: Good afternoon, Judge. We 4 have two court reporters. 5 THE COURT: Two court reporters. MR. RABINOWITZ: Yes, sir. 6 7 THE COURT: So who's staying, who's going? 8 MR. KLAYMAN: I would request, Your Honor, 9 that, since I'm the plaintiff, that Gail Hmielewski 10 remain, if that's possible. 11 THE COURT: All right. 12 MR. RABINOWITZ: I don't mind, sir. I'm here 13 for Mr. Silverman. 14 THE COURT: All right. So Mr. Rabinowitz, 15 I'll excuse you. 16 MR. RABINOWITZ: All right, Judge. Thank you, 17 sir. Thank you, Counsel. MR. KLAYMAN: Thank you, Your Honor. 18 19 THE COURT: All right, so I see a lot of 20 people, actually. I have got Mr. Klayman and Mr. Silverman. I think those are the only two I 21 22 really need, but everybody else is also present, 23 right? MS. LENT: Your Honor, it's Karen Lent. 24 I'm 25 going to be arguing on behalf of the Tour today.

1 THE COURT: Oh, okay. Have we met? 2 MS. LENT: I've been on the prior conferences, 3 but Mr. Silverman took the lead. I'll be doing 4 that today. THE COURT: Okay, so you're going to be, 5 you're going to be the attorney that is arguing for 6 7 the Tour. 8 You know, my question for Mr. Silverman the last time was whether he represented the Tour; 9 10 DP World Tour; Joseph William Monahan, IV; Keith 11 Pelley; TGC, LLC; and Official World Golf Ranking, 12 and the answer was yes, so you represent all those 13 people as well? 14 MS. LENT: No, no --THE COURT: No. 15 16 MS. LENT: -- the answer is not yes. We 17 represent the PGA Tour and we represent Mr. Monahan. Those other defendants have not, as 18 19 far as we know, have not been served. 20 THE COURT: They've not been served. I think I just signed the order extending time --21 22 MS. LENT: Right. 23 THE COURT: -- yesterday or the day before. 24 Okay, so you represent the PGA Tour. 25 MS. LENT: Correct, and Mr. Monahan.

1 THE COURT: Who is, I think, from our conversation the last time, an officer of that 2 3 organization? 4 MS. LENT: He is the commissioner of that 5 organization, correct. THE COURT: And you represent him in his 6 7 personal capacity, as an officer? What's your representation of him? 8 We represent him as an officer of 9 MS. LENT: 10 the PGA Tour, which is the capacity in which we 11 understand him to be sued. 12 THE COURT: Okav. 13 MR. KLAYMAN: Well, he's, Your Honor, if I may correct that, he's being sued personally as well 14 15 for his involvement in the alleged anticompetitive 16 acts. 17 THE COURT: All right, I'm asking, I'm not doing anything. The attorneys will figure whatever 18 they need to figure out, if anything at all. Right 19 20 now I'm here on defendants' motion to dismiss the second amended complaint filed by Mr. Klayman. 21 22 I've reviewed all your materials. It's 23 different from my cast iron pipe cases and my auto negligence cases and, gladfully, I'm thankful it's 24 25 much different than my condominium cases and so

it's interesting to me, but I have reviewed 1 2 everything and I'll hear your arguments in a 3 moment. Let me get my notes. 4 And I think, you know, if I sum up your motion 5 to dismiss, you're actually - it's based on five, five specific arguments: One, failure to 6 7 sufficiently plead the facts; no cause of action; an issue about I think it's a matter of law for 8 being either a direct or indirect purchaser; and 9 10 the civil conspiracy issue, right? Those are your 11 five points? 12 MS. LENT: I believe that's correct, 13 Your Honor. THE COURT: Okay, whenever you're ready. 14 Okay, thank you. 15 MS. LENT: 16 To survive the motion to dismiss, the 17 plaintiff is required to plead facts that, if true, would establish that defendants' conduct 18 19 unreasonably reduced competition in a relevant 20 market and caused the plaintiff to suffer antitrust injury, and that's just injury that results from 21 22 the reduction in competition. Plaintiff has done 23 neither of those things here. 24 When we strip out the legal conclusions, the 25 speculation and rhetoric in plaintiff's complaint,

as we need to on a motion to dismiss, we're left 1 2 with a set of factual allegations that show that LIV was not excluded from competing in the 3 4 United States after January 9th, that the Tour did 5 not prevent LIV from competing in the United States after January 9th, and that the Tour's alleged 6 attempt to exclude LIV did not cause spectator 7 ticket prices to increase. 8

9 The factual allegations in the complaint 10 otherwise reflect either unilateral conduct by the 11 Tour or benign commercial relationships between the Tour and other businesses that do not plausibly 12 13 plead a conspiracy. These pleaded facts do not support plaintiff's claims or suggest that the Tour 14 violated the Florida Antitrust Act or the Florida 15 16 Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act.

I'd like to start by considering the factual allegations in the complaint regarding LIV. The plaintiff alleges that LIV has competed vigorously and successfully in the U.S. since January - since June 9th, excuse me.

Paragraph 29 of the complaint alleges that LIV
has recruited numerous well-known, highly-ranked
professional golfers to participate in its events.
The complaint alleges that since June 9th many more

prominent golf professionals have joined LIV and that an ever-growing list of world-class players has joined LIV, with still more expected to join in the future.

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The complaint also alleges that LIV conducted eight tournaments in 2022, including five in the U.S., since June 9th, and that LIV has increased its schedule for 2023 to fourteen events, many of which will take place in the United States.

10 These facts, again right from the complaint, 11 show that LIV was not excluded from competing in 12 the United States after June 9th. They also 13 establish two other things - the first is that the Tour's alleged conduct did not cause LIV to be 14 excluded from competition, because LIV was not 15 16 excluded; and that LIV's purported exclusion from competition did not cause any increases in 17 spectator ticket prices for the Tour events in 18 19 2023, again because LIV has not been excluded. 20 These things break the causal chain between the Tour's alleged conduct and any alleged injury that 21 22 the plaintiff claims to have suffered, and that 23 requires dismissal of each and every claim in the plaintiff's complaint. 24

Plaintiff has one retort found only in its

opposition, so not pled in the complaint, that LIV might have offered, quote, larger and more frequent tournaments in the first season - that's in the opposition at Page 7 - but that's made up, created without any supporting facts whatsoever, and that should not be credited when considering this motion to dismiss.

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Next I want to look at the facts that the 8 plaintiff pleads about what the Tour allegedly did. 9 10 The complaint alleges that on June 9th, 2022, the 11 Tour suspended 17 of its members after they 12 voluntarily joined the LIV tour and played in its 13 inaugural tournament. This is unilateral conduct by the Tour without any facts pled as to why that 14 is anticompetitive. To the contrary, all of those 15 16 players accepted huge sums of money to play golf 17 for LIV and are thus competing against the Tour.

The plaintiff doesn't plead any facts 18 19 suggesting that the Tour had an agreement with 20 anyone to suspend these players. Instead, with respect to the alleged conspiracy, the plaintiff 21 22 pleads four things. The first is that in 2020, the 23 Tour and the DP World Tour entered into a strategic alliance to co-sanction three events - the Scottish 24 25 Open in Scotland, the Barbasol and Barracuda

1 Championships in the United States. There is nothing unlawful about that. 2 The second thing that the complaint alleges 3 4 regarding a so-called conspiracy is that in 2020 and 2022, the Tour purportedly purchased certain 5 media and equity rights from the DP World Tour. 6 7 Again, there's nothing illegal about that. 8 Third, the complaint pleads that the commissioners of the Tour and the DP World Tour sit 9 10 with others on the board of the Official World Golf 11 Rankings, which has not yet decided LIV's recent 12 application for ranking points. This doesn't even 13 plead an agreement, let alone anything unlawful. And then, fourth, the complaint pleads that 14 the Tour's commissioner allegedly referred to the 15 16 Golf Channel, which purportedly has run 17 unflattering stories about LIV's connection to the Saudi regime and its abysmal human rights record, 18 as the Tour's, quote, partner. This is not 19 20 unlawful, nor a conspiracy. None of these facts, even if they are true, 21 22 suggest a conspiracy to suspend 17 Tour members on 23 June 9th or to deprive LIV golfers of OWGR ranking points, let alone what's required under the 24 25 pleading standard announced by the Supreme Court in

Twombly, which is the who, what, when, and where of that conspiracy.

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Now let's look at the facts that plaintiff 3 4 pleads about spectator admission prices since 5 June 9th. Here again the plaintiff pleads very few facts about admission prices to Tour-sanctioned 6 events, and those few facts do not support his 7 theory that the Tour's alleged conduct caused 8 ticket prices to increase above competitive levels. 9 10 The complaint doesn't allege what ticket prices 11 were for any Tour-sanctioned event, either before or after June 9th. 12

13 The complaint alleges that ticket prices for THE PLAYERS Championship, which is scheduled for 14 2023, increased by 34 percent since 2022, but that 15 16 assertion can't be based on any facts because when the complaint was filed and plaintiff made that 17 assertion, ticket prices for that event had not yet 18 19 even been announced. The complaint also alleges that some ticket prices for the 2023 Arnold Palmer 20 Invitational have increased by ten percent since 21 22 2022.

23 And then plaintiff in the complaint vaguely 24 alleges that the ticket prices for other events, as 25 well as prices for alcohol and other beverages and

food, have increased since 2021, but again no specific prices or percentages before or after June 9th.

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4 And then, finally, the plaintiff doesn't plead 5 that he actually purchased any tickets himself or that the tickets he apparently holds were purchased 6 7 directly from the Tour. Instead the complaint says, quote, tickets have been purchased concerning 8 Plaintiff Klayman from the PGA Tour and/or its 9 10 agents, assigns, and/or licensees. Why use such 11 convoluted language if you actually directly 12 purchased tickets from the Tour? I don't know.

None of these allegations are sufficient to ascribe a cause for any alleged price increase in 2023, and it's totally implausible to infer that the Tour's alleged anticompetitive efforts to exclude LIV are the cause of price increases.

I mean, just think about this argument. Prices before LIV entered the market, when the Tour was allegedly a monopolist, were lower than prices after LIV began competing with the Tour, and this is because the Tour was trying to drive LIV out of the market? It doesn't make any sense. In any event, it's important that I note that

the Tour made these same arguments in its motion to

dismiss the original complaint and plaintiff adds no facts to address them. In fact, if you look at Paragraph 31 of the complaint, there's some bracketed language which says, quote, insert examples of higher prices in 2023 over 2021 and 2022. I don't see any evidence that there were examples of higher prices inserted. That language was just left in the complaint unaddressed.

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9 But, look, most importantly for this motion to 10 dismiss, the pleaded facts show that LIV's 11 successful vigorous competition in the 12 United States since June 9th establishes that LIV's 13 alleged exclusion did not cause the Tour to 14 increase its ticket prices, if in fact those ticket 15 prices even did increase.

16 I want to address a couple of other legal arguments that we've made in our motion to dismiss. 17 The first is that the plaintiff has no cognizable 18 19 claim for his inability to see LIV golfers 20 participating in Tour events. We've cited a number of cases that demonstrate the law is clear that 21 22 plaintiffs have no right to see any particular 23 golfer participate in any Tour-sanctioned event. Now, the plaintiff attempts to distinguish 24 25 those cases by claiming that they don't involve,

quote, athletes having been excluded from 1 2 competition due to anticompetitive conduct. That distinction is irrelevant. In the cases the Tour 3 4 cites, the plaintiffs were ticket holders. They 5 were complaining that they were unable to see certain players participate at the events to which 6 7 they held tickets, and the courts held that the 8 ticket holders had no right to see any particular 9 players at an event. Plaintiff here has no right, 10 either, and therefore cannot claim that he's 11 injured by not seeing LIV players at Tour events.

12 This case is exactly like the Strauss v. 13 Long Island Sports case where the plaintiffs, who were Nets season ticket holders, complained that 14 they couldn't see Dr. J play for the Nets after he 15 16 was traded to the 76ers. Dr. J had no right to play for the Nets after he had been traded to the 17 76ers, and the same is true here. LIV golfers have 18 19 no right to play in Tour events after they voluntarily joined the competing LIV Tour. 20

This is exactly what the district court in California held in the Phil Mickelson case when she denied an injunction that would have required the Tour to allow LIV golfers to play in Tour events. She said they don't have to do that.

Also in the Dr. J case, the court held that Nets fans held no legal right to watch Dr. J play for the Nets after his trade to the 76ers. The plaintiff here has no legal right to watch LIV golfers participate in Tour events after they voluntarily joined LIV.

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7 And plaintiff recognizes that Nets fans were 8 still able to watch Dr. J play for the 76ers, just 9 as he can watch LIV golfers compete by purchasing a 10 ticket to a LIV event. Like Dr. J, they were 11 merely playing for a different organization. They 12 have not been, quote, completely excluded from 13 competition.

And in fact, plaintiff's argument here is even 14 more ripe for dismissal than in the cases that the 15 Tour cites, because in those other cases the ticket 16 holders had already purchased their tickets before 17 they learned that particular players would not be 18 playing in the event, but here plaintiff defines 19 20 his class as Florida residents who purchased tickets after June 9th, when the Tour suspended its 21 22 members who joined the competing LIV Tour. So he 23 and all of the potential class members knew when they purchased their tickets that golfers who 24 25 voluntarily joined the competing LIV tour would not

be playing in Tour events for which he had 1 purchased tickets, thus plaintiff is getting 2 3 exactly what he bargained for. 4 THE COURT: That's specifically Count I, 5 correct? MS. LENT: Let me see Count I. 6 I mean, look, 7 that is all of the counts. That is the alleged injury in all of the counts. 8 9 MR. KLAYMAN: That's incorrect, Your Honor, 10 and I'll get to that. 11 MS. LENT: Okay, well --12 THE COURT: All right, let's not interrupt. 13 Let me hear from Ms. Lent and I will give you the appropriate equal time. 14 Yeah. My, again, my understanding 15 MS. LENT: 16 is that plaintiff is claiming injury from not being 17 able to see LIV players with respect to all of his claims. 18 19 Okay, in discussing the factual allegations, I 20 had mentioned that plaintiffs didn't plead that he directly purchased tickets to Tour events from the 21 22 Tour, and this is why we argue that plaintiffs lack 23 antitrust standing to bring a treble damages claim under the Florida Antitrust Act. Florida applies 24 25 the direct purchaser rule that was announced by the

Supreme Court decades ago in Illinois Brick. That was affirmed in 1996 in the Mack v. Bristol-Myers Squibb case that both we, the Tour, and the plaintiff cites.

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And as I said earlier, the plaintiff has not 5 pled any facts to establish that he purchased 6 7 admission to a Tour-sanctioned golf tournament directly from the Tour. He doesn't allege when and 8 9 from whom he purportedly purchased his tickets, and 10 his vague pleading, again, as I said, that tickets 11 have been purchased concerning Plaintiff Klayman 12 from the Tour and/or its agents, licensees, and/or 13 assigns is insufficient to plead that he purchased tickets directly from the Tour. 14

15 The attempt to cure the pleading defect by 16 attaching an exhibit to the opposition is not 17 allowed and shouldn't be considered on a motion to 18 dismiss.

And then a brief note on the civil conspiracy claim - I don't believe the plaintiff is disputing that Florida law does not recognize civil conspiracy as a freestanding tort. That comes from the Banco de Los Trabaja - I can't even say that -Trabajadores case from a few years ago, but because of this plaintiff's civil conspiracy claim fails

for the same reasons that his antitrust and 1 2 Deceptive and Unfair Trade Practices Act claims fail.

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Finally, the plaintiff's complaint should be 4 dismissed with prejudice. 5 This is the third complaint that plaintiff has filed and the second 6 one since the Tour filed its motion to dismiss. 7 8 Plaintiff had every opportunity to amend in order 9 to address the numerous grounds for dismissal that the Tour identified, but he has not and he cannot 10 and thus there's no basis to provide another 11 12 opportunity to amend, so we would request that the 13 second amended complaint be dismissed with 14 prejudice. Thank you.

15 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Lent. All right, 16 Mr. Klayman?

17 MR. KLAYMAN: Thank you, Your Honor.

I want to say at the outset, and I'm sure 18 19 Your Honor's had the opportunity to review it, our 20 complaint is exceedingly detailed and specific.

21 Number two, I did purchase the tickets and 22 they were from the PGA Tour. It's alleged in 23 Paragraph 4, tickets had been purchased concerning 24 Plaintiff Klayman directly from the PGA Tour. But 25 even if that is not the case, which it is, under

the Florida Unfair Trade Practices statute, known as the Florida DUTPA, indirect purchasers are also included with regard to anticompetitive conduct complaints. So that moots that completely out, and that's why in fact we filed an amended complaint and moot that issue out, but we do contend that I did purchase directly from the PGA Tour, its agents and assigns. So that's not an issue, that's a red herring.

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10 With regard to what happened in the Northern 11 District of California, that was misrepresented by the defendants, couched to make their case. 12 The 13 judge in that case, and a very similar case brought by LIV players and LIV itself, said this is very 14 factually intensive, I'm not going to entertain a 15 motion to dismiss at this time or a motion for 16 summary judgment, proceed to discovery, we'll try 17 this case in a year. That's what happened there. 18

19 This case is similar. It's very fact 20 intensive, Your Honor, and we have pled everything 21 that we needed to plead to survive a motion to 22 dismiss and to go to discovery. They'll have an 23 opportunity later to move for summary judgment; 24 they will not be successful in my opinion, but they 25 will have that opportunity after discovery is able

to go forward.

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Now, what have we pled in this complaint? We pled a concerted refusal to deal, market division, attempted monopolization and monopoly, as well as unfair competition under the Florida unfair competition statute, which does include indirect purchasers as well.

8 The Florida antitrust statutes, which can be 9 found at Florida Statute 542.18, 542.19, state 10 specifically that they're to be read broadly, much 11 more broadly than the federal statutes.

Here's what the statute says at 542.16, "The Legislature" - the Florida Legislature - "declares it to be the purpose of this act to complement the body of federal law prohibiting restraints -- "

16 THE COURT: I read your motion, I know you
17 cited all that, you know.

Let me ask you very specific questions. I want you to address what was brought up by defense counsel and how that applies to your counts, and that is specifically the issue of seeing specific golfers at specific events.

23 MR. KLAYMAN: That's just an ancillary damage, 24 Your Honor. The primary damage, as I've pointed 25 out in the opposition, in the sur-reply, is the

increase in prices, the super competitive prices, 1 and it also was not a true statement that I did not 2 publish - or I did not purchase the ticket prior to 3 4 the time that the second amended complaint was 5 filed. We simply submitted a second amended complaint with leave to file if Your Honor granted 6 7 We then agreed that it could be filed. that. Bv the time the second amended complaint was filed, I 8 had purchased that ticket, as correctly stated in 9 10 the complaint, with regard to the players - 34 11 percent increase. That's a super competitive --

12 THE COURT: I'm not talking about the prices, 13 you know. I don't know who jumped ship, but let's pretend they did jump ship voluntarily, or however 14 you want to phrase it, but let's pretend, you know, 15 16 Lou Delgado is a great golfer and you can't see I think that's one of the things that they're 17 him. addressing, is that you don't have a right to that. 18 19

MR. KLAYMAN: That's --

20 THE COURT: You know -- I'm sorry, go ahead? That is not the primary basis 21 MR. KLAYMAN: 22 that we're claiming antitrust injury. That was put 23 in for good measure, okay? The case will proceed 24 forward based upon the super competitive impact of 25 reduction of competition, however, those cases are

not on point because that's where you had players voluntarily leave teams to play. Here you have anticompetitive conduct forcing people off of teams.

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5 In other words, these players were members of the PGA Tour. They're independent contractors, 6 7 Your Honor; they weren't employees - independent 8 contractors. It is well established in the golf industry, as we pled, that players play in a number 9 of tours and they have a right to play both on the 10 11 PGA Tour and on the LIV tour, and in fact PGA players are playing on other tours as well, such as 12 13 the Asian Tour, such as the DP World Tour, such as, you know, other tours that are out there. 14

So the exclusion of them from LIV, excuse me, 15 16 from the PGA Tour is anticompetitive, and that is the issue that's involved in the Northern District 17 of California as well. They're independent 18 19 contractors, so to have suspended them and to fine 20 them and to collude with the DP World Tour, which 21 is now the joint venture partner - it used to be 22 the European Tour - and to collude with Golf 23 Channel, all of these things are intended to kill LIV in its infancy. 24

The fact that with a few tournaments - it

entered into in the U.S. with 5 tournaments, PGA 1 2 Tour has 33 tournaments in the U.S. - it retarded 3 their growth, it retarded their ability and it 4 lessened competition, thereby increasing the price 5 the PGA Tour could charge to its events, because if LIV was able to compete freely and openly without 6 7 restriction, it would have to lower the prices to compete with LIV. That's a simple economic 8 9 concept.

10 You know, this case was brought by me as the 11 head of Freedom Watch, which used to be the 12 International Center for Economic Justice. We 13 believe in free competition and free trade and 14 that's the basis for this, and it's very important 15 to remember it.

But let me go through some just basic points here, because the pleadings that were presented by the defendant were misleading and they were intended to confuse.

20 Number one, we pled causes of action with 21 specificity under the Florida antitrust statute and 22 the FDUTPA, and, again, indirect purchasers are 23 included and we set forth language to that effect. 24 We pled that I was a direct purchaser. We pled 25 that there was an antitrust injury, super

competitive prices. Just as an ancillary result of 1 2 the anticompetitive conduct, we just said we were excluded from seeing the players, but that's not 3 4 the primary basis of the antitrust injury here. We 5 pled price increases at THE PLAYERS Tournament, and I have purchased that ticket, 34 percent, and 6 7 Arnold Palmer, 10 percent, above inflation, and information and belief, prices rising in the other 8 9 events as well. We pled specifics of a conspiracy. 10 This was a complete misrepresentation, Your Honor, 11 and we set that forth.

12 THE COURT: Well, here, let me stop you and 13 let me do this, because I am familiar with -- I 14 mean, I did go over everything. I mean, I'm 15 prepared to rule.

16 I'm going to deny the motion to dismiss. I do think it was pled specifically. I do think that 17 there's enough in there, enough material there to 18 19 where it's going to survive this stage. You know, you kind of I think might have been reading my mind 20 a little bit. When it comes to a motion to 21 22 dismiss, I think you put everything in there to 23 survive a motion to dismiss.

I'm curious about summary judgment, but, youknow, Florida has amended its summary judgment

standard recently to follow the federal standard, 1 but that's neither here nor there. 2 3 I thought some of the arguments made by 4 defense counsel were summary judgment arguments, 5 and I think some of the arguments being made by plaintiff right now are outside of the four corners 6 7 of the pleading. 8 You know, Mr. Klayman, I will tell you I thought your pleading was specific enough, detailed 9 10 enough. I was disappointed that there was, you 11 know, and I think it happens when people are practicing, but if we're going to leave a note to 12 13 ourself to fill information in, then let's fill it in and let's not turn that in to the court. 14 15 As far as the arguments made regarding, you 16 know, and I think the case you cited was Strauss, but those cases were about rescission of ticket 17 This is, you know, a different chapter of 18 prices. I think those cases are 19 Florida Statute. 20 distinguishable. Here we're talking about trade 21 practices and so I think they're apples and 22 oranges. 23 Anyway, so, again, I don't - I don't know how 24 strong or weak the case might be, but I know that 25 for today's purpose, to address the motion to

dismiss, I have enough to deny the motion to 1 2 dismiss. 3 How much time do you need to respond? 4 MR. SILVERMAN: Twenty days, Your Honor? 5 I mean, we're going into the THE COURT: holidays. We're going to go, you know, into --6 Ι 7 celebrate Christmas, and 21 days takes, you're 8 going to lose -- I don't know if you have anybody who works for you that is going to be working in 9 10 Christmas, but you're going to lose several days. 11 I'd be prepared to give you 30 days so you can go 12 to January. 13 MR. SILVERMAN: Thank you, Your Honor. THE COURT: Let's see, that would take you 14 through the first week of January, so we took a 15 couple days for the New Year. All right, I'll give 16 17 you 30 days to respond. And one of the things that I do in my cases is 18 19 I really, I really get involved in case management. 20 I'm not the kind of judge that likes to let things sit and I'm not the kind of judge that will 21 22 tolerate petty disputes over scheduling. 23 As kind of a warning to everybody - and I say warning, it's so ominous, but it's not, you know -24 25 I will never raise my voice at anybody, I will

treat everybody with dignity and respect, but I --You know, you permit what you permit. I don't tolerate that stuff. I expect courtesy and civility from everybody.

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5 You know, I've been known in the past where, you know, people try to set hearings way, way out 6 7 and I bring it in early if I have the time. You know, I don't like to let things sit and I expect 8 things to move, you know. I'm sure everybody has a 9 10 lot of cases. I have 1300 of them and if I can 11 find time to hear somebody, then I'm sure you can find time for me with, you know, maybe your couple 12 13 hundred cases that you guys each have, and so, you know, I expect things to move. 14

15 I'm a stickler for deadlines. I like 16 deadlines and I believe that, you know, the court 17 issues orders, they are orders, they're not 18 suggestions, and, you know, they lose their effect 19 if we treat them as suggestions, so I'm a stickler 20 for deadlines.

I'm one of these people that, you know, I don't do things that I don't think I can do, so if you're asking me to give you something, I need you to cite an authority, I need you to cite a statute, I need you to cite a rule, I need you to bring a

case, you know, highlight it for me. 1 You know, I'm not -- As a human being, I 2 3 think I have empathy and sympathy for lots of 4 people, but in this capacity I just do what the black letter says, so that's the kind of person I 5 6 am. 7 That's my quidance to all of you because I 8 think you should know who you're in front of. I make a lot of decisions I don't like and so, you 9 10 know, whatever I might think or feel as a person is 11 inconsequential to what my actions as a jurist are, 12 so, you know, that's why I need the authority from 13 you. I was very happy with the authorities that you guys provided me for this hearing. That's the 14 kind of thing that I do appreciate very much. 15 16 So now that I've kind of told you a little bit about me and how I practice, you know, I do 17 think -- You know, I'm going to treat you well, I 18 19 hope you guys treat each other well. 20 Is there anything for me to discuss with you at this point? 21 22 MR. KLAYMAN: One other thing, Your Honor. 23 You had a temporary stay on discovery. I take it it's now lifted? 24 25 THE COURT: Yeah, it can be taken at this

I denied the motion to dismiss. You know, 1 point. 2 even if, as I talked about, I heard arguments that 3 I think were best suited for summary judgment, I 4 think our new summary judgment amendment 5 contemplates that discovery is going to be at least well under way before a motion for summary judgment 6 7 is heard, and I think that's in the actual rule, the text of that new rule. 8 9 All right, is there anything else I need to 10 address? 11 MR. KLAYMAN: One other thing in that regard is that, you know, there were discovery requests 12 that were served. 13 There were notices of intent to 14 take depositions, there was a notice of deposition for Mr. Monahan and a notice of intent to take 15 16 depositions of certain golfers who participated in 17 meetings that are alleged to have discussed anticompetitive conduct. 18 19 THE COURT: Oh, I remember this conversation, 20 okay. 21 MR. KLAYMAN: Yes, so --22 THE COURT: So we had this conversation. 23 MR. KLAYMAN: Do we need another hearing date 24 to go through? Because they didn't respond to one 25 request.

THE COURT: Well, everything was stayed.
 Everything was stayed. So, no, we don't need to
 have another hearing. The attorneys will discuss
 this like ladies and gentlemen.

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As far as the stay on discovery that's lifted, that doesn't mean -- You know, obviously if there's an objection to that discovery, then that's what my UMC is for and, again, you know, come in early and try to get heard on these things before it becomes an issue if there are disagreements.

11 I can anticipate I think, based on the arguments I heard from everybody at the last couple 12 13 hearings, potential objections or requests for protective orders regarding - apex doctrine I think 14 was brought up, corporate representatives, 15 et cetera, et cetera. If you can't figure this out 16 amongst yourselves, bring it to my attention. 17 At that point I'll do what I do, right. 18 That's my 19 job, is to rule on those motions.

20 MR. SILVERMAN: In that regard, Your Honor, 21 you had indicated to us previously two items. 22 Number one, that in terms of getting expedited 23 hearings beyond the UMC, you would give preference 24 to folks who were complying with their case 25 management order.

1 THE COURT: We don't have one yet. MR. SILVERMAN: We don't have a case 2 3 management order yet, so if you could issue that or 4 just issue the order to - for the parties to sit and do that. 5 THE COURT: Well, I'm going to instruct you 6 7 now to do that. 8 MR. SILVERMAN: Okay, so that's --9 THE COURT: The parties sit down, general 10 track, which means to come to a conclusion in the 11 next 18 months and use that as your guideline. 12 In your case management order, what I would 13 like from you is to include at least two case management conferences, at six months and one year. 14 You know, that way -- I don't like to let anything 15 16 sit. 17 MR. SILVERMAN: Sure. THE COURT: And, you know, working back 18 18 19 months from right now takes us to - I want to say 20 June of '24? So that's roughly when you'll be set for trial. 21 22 I'm not going to issue a trial order because I 23 do that during - I set you for trial during calendar calls but, you know, anticipated trial, 24 25 June of '24. That's 18 months from today.

1 Thank you, Your Honor. MR. KLAYMAN: 2 MR. SILVERMAN: And the other complicating 3 factor, Your Honor, is, as you'd noted because you 4 recently signed the order, is most of the defendants have not been served yet and so I 5 anticipate that we're going to end up with an 6 7 early - seek an early hearing on the motion for protective order on the depositions until the other 8 defendants are here. And so I would like to get 9 10 that, you know, to the extent that whether that's a 11 lunch time issue or a UMC --12 THE COURT: I signed that order to extend time 13 for deposition and I think there's 120 days on it. I can tell you I wasn't crazy about that date, you 14 know, but I figured some of these were 15 16 international and I don't know how they work, you know, service over there. I don't know, but let's 17 get that done sooner than later. I don't want 18 19 things to sit, you know. 20 As far as motions, yeah, you know, I apologize. Today, I don't know if you guys see any 21 22 cameras or not, but I'm actually in the middle of a 23 trial. We broke at noon from trial and I'm picking it back up at 1:00 and I've taken you from noon 24 25 until about - right now it's 12:40, and so I was

eating a sandwich, you know, and so I do work during lunch. You know, this is why we get the big bucks, right, is to get work done. So if you need to get heard, you're not going to get heard for lack of effort on my part, you know.

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Sometimes you're going to get heard too much 6 7 by me because I'll compel your attendance for stuff because I'm curious about why things aren't moving, 8 9 because I do micromanage my cases. But if you need 10 to get heard and you can't, you know, find time, 11 you know, bring it to my assistant's attention and, you know, if I think it's appropriate I'll bring 12 13 you in during lunch or I'll set you for, you know, 8:30 or, you know, instead of my 8:45s, I'll take 14 you before or after or I'll squeeze you in 15 16 somewhere, you know, especially if things are well-briefed and people are working with each other 17 and in compliance with deadlines. 18

19 If you're not in compliance with deadlines, 20 forget it. You know, the example that I give 21 everybody is the tandem bicycle. If you're 22 working, then, you know, I'm working. If you're on 23 that tandem bicycle and you're pedaling, then I'll, 24 you know, yeah, I would ride that with you, but if 25 you're going to get on the bicycle and I'm the only

one pedaling, then forget it, you know? 1 It's not worth it. I like to reward effort, so if you're in 2 3 compliance with whatever order you submit, I will 4 make time to hear you. 5 MR. SILVERMAN: Thank you. MR. KLAYMAN: Thank you, Your Honor. 6 7 Anything else? THE COURT: Okay. 8 MR. KLAYMAN: No, thank you. THE COURT: Gentlemen, madam, anything else? 9 MR. SILVERMAN: Now, are you going to issue 10 11 the -- Do we just submit a proposed on the 12 dismissal? 13 THE COURT: Yes, submit a proposed and I'll take a look at it. 14 15 MR. SILVERMAN: Okay. 16 THE COURT: Generally 95 percent of those that I look at I accept. Occasionally I'll see 17 something crazy or, you know, they don't give me 18 19 the opportunity to kind of peak behind the curtain 20 enough and so I'll amend it a little bit. Like I 21 said, you know -- The world is changing, 22 especially the way we practice law in Florida. Ι 23 anticipate there's going to be new rules that are going to be more along with how I run the division. 24 25 I think everybody's going to be doing this, but,

you know, nothing sits and, you know, every wheel gets a little greasy, even the ones that are not squeaky, so, you know, work on it and I'll take a look at it, okay? MR. SILVERMAN: Thank you, Judge. MR. KLAYMAN: Thank you, Your Honor. THE COURT: All right, please have a wonderful day. MR. KLAYMAN: Thank you. THE COURT: Merry Christmas, everyone. MR. KLAYMAN: God bless. Thank you. Bye-bye. (The proceedings concluded at 12:41 p.m.)

1	CERTIFICATE
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4	STATE OF FLORIDA
5	COUNTY OF PALM BEACH
б	
7	I, Gail Hmielewski, Court Stenographer,
8	certify that I was authorized to and did
9	stenographically report the foregoing remote
10	proceedings, and that the transcript is a true and
11	complete record of my stenographic notes.
12	
13	
14	Dated this 8th day of December, 2022.
15	
16	
17	
18	NDTC
19	
20	Hail Hmielewskie
21	
22	Gail Hmielewski, Court Stenographer
23	
24	
25	

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