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FAYETTE LEGAL JOURNAL

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ESTATE NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that letters testamentary or of administration have been granted to the following estates. All persons indebted to said estates are required to make payment, and those having claims or demands to present the same without delay to the administrators or executors named.

Third Publication

DONALD F. BRUENING, a/k/a DONALD FREDERIC BRUENING, late of Connellsville,

Fayette County, PA (3)

Executor: Lee D. Cornell c/o Casini & Geibig, LLC 815B Memorial Boulevard Connellsville, PA 15425 Attorney: Jennifer M. Casini

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c/o 9 Court Street

Uniontown, PA 15401

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Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Attorney: Melanie E. Cuddyre

LEGAL NOTICES

CIVIL ACTION
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
FAYETTE COUNTY, PA
CIVIL ACTION-LAW
NO. 2022-00847
NOTICE OF ACTION IN MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE

LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, Plaintiff

v.

JACQUELINE PERRYMAN, IN HER
CAPACITY AS ADMINISTRATRIX AND
HEIR OF THE ESTATE OF TRAVIS R.
PERRYMAN A/K/A TRAVIS RAY
PERRYMAN; HARRY R. PERRYMAN, IN
HIS CAPACITY HEIR OF TRAVIS R.
PERRYMAN A/K/A TRAVIS RAY
PERRYMAN; UNKNOWN HEIRS,
SUCCESSORS, ASSIGNS, AND ALL
PERSONS, FIRMS, OR ASSOCIATIONS
CLAIMING RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST
FROM OR UNDER TRAVIS R. PERRYMAN
A/K/A TRAVIS RAY PERRYMAN,
Defendants

To: UNKNOWN HEIRS, SUCCESSORS, ASSIGNS, AND ALL PERSONS, FIRMS, OR ASSOCIATIONS CLAIMING RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST FROM OR UNDER TRAVIS R. PERRYMAN A/K/A TRAVIS RAY PERRYMAN Defendant(s), 815 HIGH RD DUNBAR, PA 15431

COMPLAINT IN MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE

You are hereby notified that Plaintiff, LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, has filed a Mortgage Foreclosure Complaint endorsed with a Notice to Defend, against you in the Court of Common Pleas of FAYETTE County, PA docketed to No. 2022-00847, seeking to foreclose the mortgage secured on your property located, 815 HIGH RD DUNBAR, PA 15431.

NOTICE

YOU HAVE BEEN SUED IN COURT. If you wish to defend against the claims set forth in this notice you must take action within twenty (20) days after the Complaint and Notice are served, by entering a written appearance personally or by attorney and filing in writing with the Court your defenses or objections to the claims set forth against you. You are warned that if you fail

to do so, the case may proceed without you, and a judgment may be entered against you by the Court without further notice for any money claimed in the Complaint or for any other claim or relief requested by the plaintiff. You may lose money or property or other rights important to you.

YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS PAPER TO YOUR LAWYER AT ONCE. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LAWYER, GO TO OR TELEPHONE THE OFFICE SET FORTH BELOW. THIS OFFICE CAN PROVIDE YOU WITH INFORMATION ABOUT HIRING A LAWYER.

IF YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO HIRE A LAWYER, THIS OFFICE MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH THE INFORMATION ABOUT AGENCIES THAT MAY OFFER LEGAL SERVICES TO ELIGIBLE PERSONS AT A REDUCED FEE OR NO FEE.

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Jenine Davey, Esq. ID No. 87077
133 Gaither Drive, Suite F
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855-225-6906

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JOHN F. WARMAN
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johnfranciswarman@gmail.com

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A DECADE OF EXPERIENCE <u>E&O INSURED</u> <u>WILL TRAVEL</u> <u>ACCEPTING NEW CLIENTS</u>

JUDICIAL OPINION

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA CIVIL DIVSION

CAROL L. HALFHILL,

Plaintiff, :

RON ROMEO d/b/a

ULTIMATE STRUCTURES. : No. 186 of 2022 G.D.

Defendant. : Honorable Linda R. Cordaro

OPINION

Linda R. Cordaro, J. July 7, 2022

SUMMARY

Plaintiff, Carol Halfhill, filed an Amended Complaint on March 14, 2022 alleging breach of contract by Defendant, Ron Romeo d/b/a Ultimate Structures. Defendant filed Second Preliminary Objections on March 30, 2022, which are now before this Court for consideration. Defendant's Preliminary Objection 1 (demurrer) as under Pa.R.Civ.P. 1028(a)(4) argues that Plaintiff has failed to plead sufficient facts to support a breach of contract claim, and Defendant's Preliminary Objection 2 argues that Plaintiff has failed to join necessary parties as set forth in Pa.R.Civ.P. 1028(a)(5).

BACKGROUND

This case arises as an appeal from a January 12, 2022 magisterial district judgment in Plaintiffs favor against two defendants, Ron Romeo and Ultimate Structures, in the amount of \$1,784.75. {1} Plaintiff filed an initial Complaint pro se on February 18, 2022 in response to the appeal, and Defendant filed initial Preliminary Objections on March 4, 2022. No oral argument or briefing schedule was requested.

Plaintiff thereafter filed a timely Amended Complaint on March 14, 2022 and attached two documents that were not filed with the initial Complaint: a photocopy of an order form and a printed email message with the image of a credit card charge slip. Defendant filed Second Preliminary Objections on March 30, 2022. Plaintiff did not file a response or second amended complaint, and on May 18, 2022, Defendant moved to schedule oral argument and establish a briefing schedule, which this Court did via order on May 26, 2022. Plaintiff did not serve or file a brief by the established due date. On June 29, 2022, Defendant's counsel moved to cancel (waive) oral argument and allow a decision on the Second Preliminary Objections based on the record. {2} That motion was granted on June 30, 2022.

^{1} This total includes civil judgment amount of \$1,669.50 plus costs of \$115.25.

² According to the motion, counsel for the Defendant contacted the Plaintiff, whose husband informed him that she would not appear at oral argument.

Defendant's Preliminary Objection 1 (demurrer) argues that Plaintiff has failed to plead sufficient facts to support a breach of contract claim. When considering a demurrer, the court must analyze the sufficiency of the facts as they are pied, and "[a] grant of demurrer is proper when the pleading is legally insufficient." Joyce v. Erie Ins. Exchange, 74 A3d 157, 166 (Pa. Super. Ct. 2013). In order to adequately plead breach of contract, the plaintiff must allege (1) the existence of a contract between the plaintiff and defendant, including essential terms of the contract; (2) a breach of a duty imposed by the contract, and (3) damages resulting from a breach such duty. Id. at 168; Reeves v. Middletown Athletic Ass'n, 866 A.2d 1115, 1125 (Pa. Super. Ct. 2004). When evaluating preliminary objections, a court may accept the Plaintiffs averments of facts as true but legal conclusions are not admissible, and so the conclusion that a legal duty exists must be supported by factual averments. Joyce, 74 A.3d at 168.

Here, Plaintiffs averment that there is a contract between Plaintiff and Defendant is a legal conclusion that requires pleading of sufficient facts, including agreed-upon essential terms. The Amended Complaint does not plead such facts. The order form attached to the Amended Complaint includes some details, including the handwritten dimensions for a structure; a handwritten total cost (including tax) of \$1,966.30; and the Defendant's name and address handwritten at the top of the form. It also bears handwritten notes indicating that the order was canceled, one of which is dated July 3, 2021. However, the form itself also bears the name and logo of Northern Steel Buildings and Structures (NSBS), and it was signed by the Plaintiff and an individual with the first name "Michele," who is not the Defendant named in this action. The order form cannot be considered factual support that there was an agreement between Plaintiff and Defendant when Defendant did not even sign it, and the Amended Complaint does not otherwise plead sufficient facts to support the claim. Therefore, the Amended Complaint is insufficient as under Pa.R.Civ.P. 1028(a)(4), and Preliminary Objection 1 is sustained.

Defendant's Preliminary Objection 2 argues that Plaintiff has failed to join necessary parties as set forth in Pa.R.Civ.P. 1028(a)(5). While a preliminary objection of legal insufficiency may be based only on the facts of record, an objection raised under Rule 1028(a)(5) goes outside the "four corners" of the pleading and so requires more than factual averments. Murray v. American Lafrance, LLC, 234 A.3d 782, 788 (Pa. Super. Ct. 2020), quoting Note to Pa.R.Civ.P. 1028(c)(2).

Here, Plaintiff attached documents the Amended Complaint, and so the record does include some evidence, but this is not enough to determine the issue. A party is considered to be indispensable to litigation "when his or her rights are so connected with the claims of the litigants that no decree can be made without impairing those rights." Belliveau v. Phillips, 207 A.3d 391, 397 (Pa. Super. Ct. 2019). The order form attached to the Amended Complaint shows "Ultimate Structures" handwritten next to the designation "Dealer." The printed email message attached to the Amended Complaint shows an image of a March 24, 2021 credit card charge slip for \$1,966.30 with "Ultimate Structures LLC" both at the top of the slip and as the name associated with the email address that sent the message to Plaintiff. Yet Defendant argues that NSBS "received and misappropriated" Plaintiffs payment and has the "singular interest" related to Plaintiffs claim. Defendant's Brief at 5, 6. Defendant also argues that the sole Defendant, "Ron Romeo d/b/a Ultimate Structures," does not even exist as a business. Id. at 5. There is simply not enough evidence to establish if, how, and to what extent Ultimate Structures

LLC and NSBS were involved in the matter, nor what their relationship is to each other and to the named Defendant. This Court cannot determine what the respective interests are, and so it also cannot determine to what extent those interests may be implicated in this action. Therefore, Preliminary Objection 2 as under Pa.R.Civ.P. 1028(a)(5) is dismissed.

ORDER

AND NOW, this 7th day of July, 2022, upon consideration of Defendant's Second Preliminary Objections, the current record, and Defendant's brief, it is ORDERED and DIRECTED that Preliminary Objection 1 is SUSTAINED. Preliminary Objection 2 is DISMISSED as there is insufficient evidence from which to determine the issue.

In accordance with Pa.R.Civ.P. No. 1028(d), the Plaintiff may plead over within thirty (30) days after Notice of this Order and file a second Amended Complaint.

BY THE COURT: LINDA R. CORDARO, JUDGE

ATTEST: Prothonotary

LUNCH & LEARN SERIES

The Fayette County Bar Association's next presentation in its Lunch & Learn Series will be:

- Date: Wednesday, August 24th from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Location: Courtroom No. 3 of the Fayette County Courthouse
- Discussion topics: Impact of Imposter Syndrome, Stress, and Burnout
- Presenter: Brian S. Quinn, Esquire -Lawyers Concerned for Lawyers of Pennsylvania

CLE Credit

1.5 hours of Ethics CLE credit for the program. The fees are as follows:

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** All fees to be paid at the door **
A light lunch will be provided.

RSVP

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