Strous v. McPheely	et al		Doc.	35
1 2 3	MARTIN A. MUCKLEROY, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 009634 MUCKLEROY LUNT, LLC 6077 S. Fort Apache, Ste 140F Las Vegas, NV 89148			
4	Phone: (702) 907-0097 Direct: (702) 534-6272			
5	Fax: (702) 938-4065 martin@muckleroylunt.com			
6	Attorney for Plaintiff Theodurus Strous			
7	(Additional Counsel on Signature Page)			
8	UNITED STATES	DISTRICT COURT		
9	DISTRICT	OF NEVADA		
10				
11 12	THEODURUS STROUS, DERIVATIVELY ON BEHALF OF SCIO DIAMOND TECHNOLOGY CORP.,	Case No. 22-cv-00256-JCM-EJY		
13	Plaintiff,			
14	V.			
15				
16 17	BERNARD MCPHEELY, KARL LEAVERTON, GERALD MCGUIRE, LEWIS SMOAK, ADAMAS ONE CORP. and JOHN G. GRDINA,	STIPULATION TO PARTIALLY EXTEND BRIEFING SCHEDULE RE		
18	Defendants,	DEFENDANTS' MOTIONS TO DISMISS PLAINTIFF'S SECOND		
19	and	AMENDED DERIVATIVE ACTION AND CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT		
20 21	SCIO DIAMOND TECHNOLOGY CORP.,	(Second Request)		
22	Nominal Defendant.			
23				
24				
25		(°) and Defendants Bernard McPheely, Ka		
26	Leaverton, Gerald McGuire, Lewis Smoak (•		
27	One Corp., and John Grdina (collectively,	-		
28	Defendants", and along with the Scio Defend	ants, the "Defendants")), by and through the		
	MOTIONS TO DISMISS PLAINTIFF'S SECO	N COMPLAINT		
		Dockets.Ju	stia.c	om

undersigned counsel, stipulate to extend the remaining briefing schedule on the Defendants' motions to dismiss the Plaintiff's Second Amended Derivative Action and Class Action Complaint (the "SAC"). This is the second request to extend the briefing schedule on the Defendants' Motions to Dismiss and seeks a partial extension. Following are the events to date:

On February 10, 2022, Plaintiff filed the Complaint against Defendants Bernard McPheely, Karl Leaverton, Gerald McGuire, and Lewis Smoak.

On September 30, 2022, Plaintiff Theodurus Strous filed the Amended Complaint against Defendants Bernard McPheely, Karl Leaverton, Gerald McGuire, and Lewis Smoak, and added two additional Defendants: Adamas One Corporation and John G. Grdina.

On November 15, 2022, the Court granted Defendants' Stipulation to Extend Defendants' time to Respond to Plaintiff's Amended Complaint.

The briefing schedule per the Court's Order has been partially satisfied as follows:

On January 20, 2023, Plaintiff filed the SAC.

On February 17, 2023, the Scio Defendants and Adamas Defendants filed separate motions to dismiss the SAC with the Adamas Defendants also joining in the motion to dismiss of the Scio Defendants.

Presently pending is Plaintiff's opposition brief to Defendants' Motions to Dismiss that is due to be filed on April 6, 2023, and Defendants' reply briefs that are due on May 11, 2023.

The parties propose the following amended schedule:

- a. On May 15, 2023, Plaintiff shall file an opposition to Defendants' motions to dismiss and/or inform the Court of how it wishes to proceed based on the facts set forth below; and
- b. On June 21, 2023, Defendants shall file their reply briefs to Plaintiff's opposition to the motions to dismiss and/or file a response to Plaintiff's proposed course of how to proceed.

Good cause exists for the proposed extension, as set forth below:

1. Plaintiff's SAC alleges a derivative claim under Federal Rule of Civ
Procedure 23.1 against all Defendants and alleges demand is futile as to Scio's Board of
Directors. In determining the demand futility issue, the pertinent inquiry is directed at the
Board of Directors who were Scio board members at the time of the filing of the original
action on February 22, 2022.

- 2. It has very recently come to the attention of the parties that the SCIO Defendants resigned as Scio Board members in March 2020 and that no new Board was appointed or in place on February 22, 2023, or thereafter, as Scio's Nevada corporate charter was revoked.
- 3. As a result, there is an issue of how to proceed (and whether Plaintiff has standing to proceed) under these circumstances where there appears to be no Board in place at a company whose charter has been revoked at the time the original action was filed. Thus, no demand could have been made, nor can the demand futility issue be properly addressed.
- 4. The parties seek an opportunity to determine the effect of the combination of a corporation whose charter was revoked and entire Board resigning prior to suit being brought and no new Board appointed because of the demand/demand futility issue and accordingly, how to proceed.
- 5. The Parties believe that this extension, if granted, will not unreasonably delay this case and that the extension will serve to preserve the Court's and the parties' resources and advance judicial economy under the circumstances present in this litigation.
 - 6. Neither Plaintiff nor Defendants will be prejudiced by the stipulation.

Therefore, the parties propose the following amended briefing schedule for Defendants' Motions to Dismiss:

- 1. Defendants moved to dismiss the Second Amended Complaint on Friday, February 17, 2023.
- On or before Monday, May 15, 2023, Plaintiff shall file an opposition to Defendants' motions to dismiss and/or inform the Court of how it wishes to proceed based on the facts set

Case No. 2:22-cv-00256-JCM-EJY

IDLIL ATION TO DADTIALLY EVTEND DDIEFING SCHEDLILE DE DEE

- 1	
1	forth above concerning the requirements of Federal Rule of
2	Procedure 23.1; and
3	3. On or before Wednesday, June 21, 2023, Defendants shall
4	file their reply briefs to Plaintiff's oppositions to the motions
5	to dismiss and/or file a response to Plaintiff's proposed
6	course of how to proceed based on the facts set forth above
7	concerning the requirements of Federal Rule of Civil
8	Procedure 23.1.
9	4. All rights are reserved with regards to any further requests
10	for extensions of deadlines. This schedule can be modified
11	by further written agreement of the parties or order of the
12	court.
13	5. This Court shall retain jurisdiction with respect to all matters
14	arising from or related to the implementation of this Order.
15	Dated this 5 th day of April, 2023.
16	SPENCER FANE LLP MUCKLEROY LUNT, LLC
17 18	Mary E. Bacon (NV Bar No. 12686) 300 S. Fourth Street, Suite 950 Las Vegas, NV 89101 /s/ Martin A. Muckleroy Martin A. Muckleroy (NV Bar No. 9634) 6077 S. Fort Apache Rd., Ste. 140
19	and Las Vegas, NV 89148 Telephone: 702-907-0097
20	BEST & FLANAGAN LLP Facsimile: 702-938-4065
21 22	Amy S. Conners EVANGELISTA WORLEY, LLC
23	John A. Sullivan Brian Linnerooth James Evangelista
24	60 South Sixth Street, Suite 2700 Stuart J. Guber Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402 Stuart J. Guber 500 Sugar Mill Rd., Bldg. A, Ste. 245
25	Telephone: (612) 339-7121 Atlanta, GA 30350 Facsimile: (612) 339-5897 Telephone: 404-205-8400
26	Facsimile: 404-205-8395 Attorneys for Defendants Bernard
27	McPheely, Karl Leaverton, Gerald Attorneys for Plaintiff McGuire and Lewis Smoak
28	

Case No. 2:22-cv-00256-JCM-EJY

1	
2	CLARK HILL PLLC
3	/s/ Ryan J. Lorenz
4	Ryan J. Lorenz (NV Bar No. 8165)
5	Nicholas M. Wieczorek (NV Bar No. 6170) 3800 Howard Hughes Pkwy. Ste. 500
6	Las Vegas, NV 89169
7	Telephone: (702) 862-8300 Facsimile: (702) 862-8400
8	Attorneys for Defendants Adamas One
9	Corp., and John Grdina
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	

28

Case No. 2:22-cv-00256-JCM-EJY

ORDER

Per the parties' stipulation, IT IS SO ORDERED.

- 1. On or before Monday, May 15, 2023, Plaintiff shall file an opposition to Defendants' motions to dismiss and/or inform the Court of how it wishes to proceed based on the facts set forth above concerning the requirements of Federal Rule of Procedure 23.1; and
- 2. On or before **Wednesday**, **June 21**, **2023**, Defendants shall file their reply briefs to Plaintiff's oppositions to the motions to dismiss and/or file a response to Plaintiff's proposed course of how to proceed based on the facts set forth above concerning the requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23.1.
- 3. All rights are reserved with regards to any further requests for extensions of deadlines. This schedule can be modified by further written agreement of the parties or order of the court.
- 4. This Court shall retain jurisdiction with respect to all matters arising from or related to the implementation of this Order.

allus C. Mahan UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

Date: April 7, 2023

24

25

26

27

1	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
2	
3	I hereby certify that on April 5, 2023, a copy of the foregoing was
4	served through the court's ECF/CM system to all counsel of record.
5	
6	
7	Dated: April 5, 2023 /s/ Martin A. Muckleroy
8	Martin A. Muckleroy
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21 22	
23	
23 24	
2 4 25	
26	
20 27	
28	
	1