Linda Housholder v. Hastings Mutual Insurance Comp

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NOT RECOMMENDED FOR FULL-TEXT PUBLICATION

File Name: 11a0816n.06

No. 10-1836

		OURT OF APPEALS
FOR TH	IE SIXT	TH CIRCUIT FILED
LINDA E. HOUSEHOLDER,)	Dec 07, 2011 LEONARD GREEN, Clerk
Plaintiff-Appellant,)	
v.)))	ON APPEAL FROM THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
HASTINGS MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY,)))	O P I N I O N
Defendant-Appellee.)	

BEFORE: NORRIS, SUTTON, and GRIFFIN, Circuit Judges.

PER CURIAM. Linda Householder filed this action against her former employer, Hastings Mutual Insurance Company. Her complaint alleges that she was terminated from her employment with the defendant in retaliation for taking leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act. 29 U.S.C. § 2601. The district court granted summary judgment to defendant on December 15, 2009. Thirty days later, on January 14, 2010, the plaintiff's attorney sought to electronically file Householder's notice of appeal. He was unable to do so because he was not admitted to the bar in the Western District of Michigan, a requirement for electronic filing in the district. Upon discovering that he was not eligible to electronically file, counsel contacted the district court, and was allegedly told by a clerk that the court would accept a paper filing, and that if the notice of Case: 10-2886 Document: 006111148225 Filed: 12/07/2011 Page: 2

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appeal and the fees arrived the next day, January 15, they would be considered timely. Counsel sent

the notice of appeal via Federal Express, and it arrived at the district court on January 15, thirty-one

days after the district court granted summary judgment against Householder. Federal Rule of

Appellate Procedure 4(a)(1) and 28 U.S.C. § 2107(a) establish that a notice of appeal must be filed

within 30 days after entry of the appealed judgment or order.

On appeal, this court issued an order directing the plaintiff to show cause why her appeal

should not be dismissed for lack of jurisdiction. However, we remanded the case to the district court

"for the limited purposes of considering the plaintiff's [response to the show cause order] as a

motion for an extension of time to appeal and ruling on the same." On remand, the district court

denied the motion for an extension of time and the plaintiff's motion for reconsideration.

The panel has had the opportunity to consider the arguments advanced by the parties and to

conduct our own independent review of the record on appeal. The district court entered Orders on

April 21, 2010, and May 26, 2010, which explain in detail why it denied plaintiff's motions for

extension of time to appeal and for reconsideration. We agree with the reasoning of the district court

and, finding no abuse of discretion, affirm on that basis. Nicholson v. City of Warren, 467 F.3d 525,

526 (6th Cir. 2006).

The judgment is **affirmed**.

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UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT

Leonard Green Clerk 100 EAST FIFTH STREET, ROOM 540 POTTER STEWART U.S. COURTHOUSE CINCINNATI, OHIO 45202-3988

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Filed: December 07, 2011

Mr. Curtis Lewis Jones Ryan Correctional Facility 17600 Ryan Road Detroit, MI 48212

Re: Case No. 11-2484, *Curtis Jones v. Raymond Booker* Originating Case No. : 11-12995

Dear Sir,

The Court issued the enclosed Opinion today in this case.

Sincerely yours,

s/Louise Schwarber Case Manager Direct Dial No. 513-564-7015

cc: Mr. David J. Weaver

Enclosure

Mandate to issue