IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA PANAMA CITY DIVISION

| RORY | D. MOORE | and | LAYMO | N |
|-------------|----------|-----|--------------|---|
| KARL | SOREY, | | | |

Plaintiffs,

vs. CASE NO. 5:09cv329/RS-MD

FAMILY DOLLAR TRUCKING, INC.,

|] | Defenda | ınt. | | |
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<u>ORDER</u>

Before me are Defendant's motions in limine (Doc. 91).

IT IS ORDERED:

- 1. Defendant's motion in limine to exclude evidence of findings on Plaintiffs' unemployment claims is **granted.** The Florida unemployment statute's definition of misconduct is irrelevant to the issues in this case.
- Defendant's motion in limine to exclude testimony from Amanda Klein is granted.
- 3. Defendant's motion in limine to exclude Plaintiffs from introducing "voluminous files containing thousands of irrelevant documents" is

- **denied.** Admission of documents into evidence will be determined on an exhibit by exhibit basis.
- 4. Defendant's motion in limine to exclude testimony from Plaintiffs' counsel's paralegals Jennifer Jackson and Karen Allen is **granted.**Ms. Jackson's testimony is moot in light of my ruling on the unemployment claims. Ms. Allen's testimony is not permissible under the Rules Regulating the Florida Bar. Rule 4-3.7 states in pertinent part:

A lawyer shall not act as advocate at a trial in which the lawyer is likely to be a necessary witness on behalf of the client except where: (1) the testimony relates to an uncontested issue; (2) the testimony will relate solely to matter of formality and there is no reason to believe that substantial evidence will be offered in opposition to the testimony; (3) the testimony relates to the nature and value of legal services rendered in the case; or (4) disqualification of the lawyer would work substantial hardship on the client.

Here, Ms. Allen's testimony regarding calculation of damages is likely to be contested and is not a mere formality. Rule 20-7.1(d)(4) states that paralegals shall not do "things that attorneys themselves may not do." Since it would be improper under Rule 4-3.7 for Plaintiffs' attorneys to testify, pursuant to 20-7.1(d)(4) it is also improper for Ms. Allen to testify. Furthermore, Plaintiffs do not

dispute that they failed to properly disclose Ms. Allen as a witness as required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26.

- 5. Defendant's motion in limine to exclude testimony of Dr. Stephen Chastain is **denied.** Plaintiff has represented that Dr. Chastain will only be testifying as to his diagnosis and treatment, not causation.
- 6. Defendant's motion in limine to exclude evidence of the EEOC

 Notice of Right to Sue is **granted.** Exhaustion of administrative remedies is not an issue before the jury.
- 7. Defendant's motion in limine to exclude reference to Paul Whiddon is granted in part and denied in part. It is **granted** as evidence regarding Whiddon's use of chewing tobacco. It is **denied** as to evidence of Whiddon's use of cigarettes.
- 8. Defendant's motion in limine to exclude reference to other litigation against Family Dollar is **granted.**
- 9. Defendant's motion in limine to exclude reference to the marital status of Angel Lance or the identity of her husband is **granted**. Evidence of Ms. Lance's marital status is irrelevant to this case.

ORDERED on July 21, 2010.

/s/ Richard Smoak
RICHARD SMOAK
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE