

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
**MIDDLE DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA**

**SOUTHERNTIDE MARINE, INC.**

**CIVIL ACTION**

**VERSUS**

**NO. 16-718-JJB-RLB**

**SMITH MARITIME, INC.**

**ORDER**

The court sua sponte notes the potential insufficiency of the plaintiff's allegation of the citizenship of the parties as follows:

1.     \_\_\_     A party invoking diversity jurisdiction must allege the citizenship of an individual. An individual's citizenship is determined by his or her domicile, rather than residence. See *Preston v. Tenet Healthsystem Memorial Medical Center, Inc.*, 485 F.3d 793, 799 (5th Cir. 2007). In addition, see 28 U.S.C. §1332(c)(2), for infants, the deceased and the incompetent. The citizenship of \_\_\_\_\_ is not provided.
  
2.     X     A party invoking diversity jurisdiction must allege both the state of incorporation and principal place of business<sup>1</sup> of each corporate party. See, e.g., [Illinois Central Gulf Railroad Co. v. Pargas, Inc.](#), 706 F.2d 633 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1983). The principal place of business of **Southerntide Marine, Inc.** is not provided. The complaint states that it has a registered office address in Gulf Shores, Alabama but does not indicate whether that is its principal place of business. In addition, the principal place of business of **Smith Maritime, Inc.** is not provided. The complaint states that Smith Maritime, Inc. has a principal business address in Green Cove Springs, FL but does not indicate whether that is its principal place of business.
  
3.     \_\_\_     A party invoking diversity jurisdiction must allege both the state of incorporation and principal place of business of each corporate party. See, e.g., [Illinois Central](#)

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<sup>1</sup> The phrase "principal place of business" in §1332(c)(1) refers to the place where a corporation's high level officers direct, control, and coordinate the corporation's activities, i.e., its "nerve center," which will typically be found at its corporate headquarters. [Hertz Corp. v. Friend](#), 130 S.Ct. 1181, 175 L.Ed.2d 1029 (2010)

[Gulf Railroad Co. v. Pargas, Inc., 706 F.2d 633 \(5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1983\)](#). Even when a liability insurer takes on its insured's citizenship under [28 U.S.C. § 1332\(c\)\(1\)](#), its own citizenship still is considered in determining whether complete diversity exists. The state of incorporation and principal place of business of \_\_\_\_\_ is not provided.<sup>2</sup>

4. \_\_\_\_\_ A party invoking diversity jurisdiction must properly allege the citizenship of a limited liability company. The citizenship of a limited liability company for diversity purposes is determined by the citizenship of **its members**. The citizenship of **all of the members** of a limited liability company must be properly alleged. In the event a member of a limited liability company is another limited liability company, the members of that limited liability company must be properly alleged as well. See [Harvey v. Grey Wolf Drilling Co., 542 F.3d 1077, 1080 \(5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2008\)](#). The complete citizenship of \_\_\_\_\_ is not provided.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ A party invoking diversity jurisdiction must properly allege the citizenship of a general partnership, a limited liability partnership, and a limited partnership. A general partnership, a limited liability partnership, and a limited partnership has the citizenship of each one of its partners. Both the general partner and limited partner must be alleged to establish citizenship of a limited partnership. See [International Paper Co. v. Denkmann Assoc., 116 F.3d 134, 137 \(5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1997\)](#); [Carden v. Arkoma Associates, 494 U.S. 185 \(1990\)](#). The citizenship of \_\_\_\_\_ is not provided.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ A party invoking diversity jurisdiction must properly allege the citizenship of Underwriters at Lloyd's, London. The citizenship of Underwriters at Lloyd's, London has not been provided. See [Corfield v. Dallas Glen Hills LP, 355 F.3d 853 \(5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2003\)](#).
7. \_\_\_\_\_ A party invoking diversity jurisdiction must properly allege the citizenship of a sole proprietorship. A business entity cannot be both a corporation and sole proprietorship; therefore the court seeks to clarify the identity of plaintiff/defendant. Case law suggests that the citizenship of a sole proprietorship for diversity purposes is determined by the citizenship of its members and/or owners. See [Linder Enterprises v. Martinringle, No. 07-1733, 2007 WL 3095382 \(N.D. Tex., Oct. 22, 2007\)](#). The citizenship of \_\_\_\_\_ is not provided.

Accordingly,

**IT IS ORDERED**, pursuant to [28 U.S.C. §1653](#), that, on or before **November 30, 2016**, the plaintiff shall file an amended complaint providing the citizenship of plaintiff **Southerntide**

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<sup>2</sup>See footnote 1.

**Marine, Inc.** and defendant **Smith Maritime, Inc.**, by setting forth all citizenship particulars required to sustain federal diversity jurisdiction.

Signed in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on November 14, 2016.



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**RICHARD L. BOURGEOIS, JR.**  
**UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE**