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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA

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BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON,

Plaintiff(s),

v.

ROYAL HIGHLANDS STREET AND
LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE
CORPORATION, et al.,

Defendant(s).

Case No. 2:16-CV-1993 JCM (VCF)

ORDER

Presently before the court is plaintiff Bank of New York Mellon's ("BNYM") motion for leave to file an amended complaint. (ECF No. 53). Defendant SFR Investments Pool 1, LLC, ("SFR") filed a response (ECF No. 54), to which plaintiff replied (ECF No. 56).

Also before the court is plaintiff's motion for leave to file a supplemental brief regarding plaintiff's motion for summary judgment. (ECF No. 60).

I. Background

The parties are familiar with the facts of the case, as the court has already issued an order on defendant Royal Highlands Street and Landscape Maintenance Corporation's ("RHS") motion to dismiss. See (ECF No. 52). In the court's order granting defendant RHS's motion to dismiss, the court stated "if BNYM wishes to request leave to file an amended complaint, it must do so within fourteen (14) days of the date of this order." Id.

1 On August 16, 2017, fourteen days after the court’s order granting defendant’s motion to
2 dismiss, plaintiff filed a motion for leave to amend its complaint. (ECF No. 53). On November
3 20, 2017, plaintiff filed a motion for summary judgment.¹ (ECF No. 57).

4 **II. Legal standard**

5 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 15(a) provides that “[t]he court should freely give leave
6 [to amend] when justice so requires.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 15(a)(2). The United States Supreme Court
7 has interpreted Rule 15(a) and confirmed the liberal standard district courts must apply when
8 granting such leave. In *Foman v. Davis*, the Supreme Court explained:

9 In the absence of any apparent or declared reason—such as undue delay, bad faith
10 or dilatory motive on the part of the movant, repeated failure to cure deficiencies
11 by amendments previously allowed, undue prejudice to the opposing party by virtue
12 of allowance of the amendment, futility of the amendment, etc.—the leave sought
13 should, as the rules require, be “freely given.”

14 371 U.S. 178, 182 (1962).

15 Further, Rule 15(a)(2) provides that “a party may amend its pleading only with the
16 opposing party’s written consent or the court’s leave.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 15(a)(2). Local Rule 15-
17 1(a) states that “the moving party shall attach the proposed amended pleading to any motion
18 seeking leave of the court to file an amended pleading.” LR 15-1(a).

19 However, “a request for leave to amend made after the entry of a Rule 16 Scheduling Order
20 is governed primarily by Rule 16(b),” rather than Rule 15. See *Johnson v. Mammoth Recreations,*
21 *Inc.*, 975 F.2d 604, 608–09 (9th Cir. 1992). Rule 16(b) and Local Rules 6-1 and 26-4 require a
22 showing of “good cause” before modifying a scheduling order. See *id.*; Fed. R. Civ. P. 16(b); LR
23 6-1; LR 26-4. Only when the movant establishes good cause to modify a scheduling order under
24 Rule 16 does the court consider whether amendment is proper under Rule 15. See *Johnson*, 975
25 F.2d at 609.

26 The good cause inquiry focuses primarily on the movant’s diligence. See *Coleman v.*
27 *Quaker Oats Co.*, 232 F.3d 1271, 1294–95 (9th Cir. 2000). Good cause to extend a discovery
28 deadline exists “if it cannot reasonably be met despite the diligence of the party seeking the

¹ Also on November 20, 2017, defendant SFR filed a motion for summary judgment. (ECF No. 58).

1 extension.” Johnson, 975 F.2d at 609. “Although the existence or degree of prejudice to the party
2 opposing the modification might supply additional reasons to deny a motion, the focus of the
3 inquiry is upon the moving party's reasons for seeking modification. If that party was not diligent,
4 the inquiry should end.” Id. (internal citation omitted).

5 **III. Discussion**

6 a. Motion to amend

7 Here, the court did not grant defendant’s motion to dismiss plaintiff’s complaint until
8 August 2, 2017. (ECF No. 52). The court gave plaintiff fourteen (14) days from the date of the
9 order to file an amended complaint. Id. Plaintiff complied with this deadline. (ECF No. 53).
10 However, plaintiff’s motion as written does not meet the requirements of Rule 16(b) for modifying
11 a scheduling order.

12 Plaintiff’s motion does not demonstrate diligence in seeking to supplement its complaint.
13 As defendant notes, plaintiff does not state when it obtained information regarding allegedly
14 sufficient tender from the prior servicer of the note. Plaintiff asserts that it did not know prior to
15 the date of this court’s order that its complaint was deficient. (ECF No. 53). This may be true as
16 to the issue of standing, but it does nothing to explain why plaintiff did not attempt to amend its
17 complaint or amend the pretrial schedule upon receipt of the tender information it now offers to
18 revise the complaint.² As plaintiff has not demonstrated diligence, the court will deny plaintiff’s
19 motion without considering the arguments regarding prejudice. See Johnson, 975 F.2d at 609.

20 The court will deny plaintiff’s motion without prejudice. As plaintiff’s motion notes,
21 amendment is not futile. (ECF No. 53). Although plaintiff’s motion includes statements regarding
22 tender for which plaintiff did not demonstrate diligence in seeking to revise its complaint,
23 plaintiff’s motion and proposed amended complaint also specifically address the problems
24 identified in the court’s order on defendant’s motion to dismiss. Denial without prejudice is
25 appropriate here.

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² The court’s order on defendant RHS’ motion dismissed plaintiff’s complaint without
prejudice, as plaintiff failed to adequately demonstrate that it acquired an interest in the property
sufficient to assert standing to sue. (ECF No. 52).

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b. Motion for leave to file supplemental brief

The court will deny plaintiff's motion for leave to file supplemental brief. The cases upon which plaintiff relies were decided prior to the filing of plaintiff's motion for leave to file. Further, as dispositive briefing has not concluded in the case, plaintiff and defendants may briefly analyze the impact of the referenced cases in their respective filings.

IV. Conclusion

Accordingly,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that plaintiff's motion for leave to file an amended complaint (ECF No. 53) be, and the same hereby is, DENIED without prejudice.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that plaintiff's motion for leave to file supplemental brief (ECF No. 60) be, and the same hereby is, DENIED.

DATED December 13, 2017.


UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE