IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA WESTERN DIVISION

Case No. 4:10-cv-142-D

)	
MARK DANIEL LYTTLE,)	
)	MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME
Plaintiff,)	TO ANSWER OR OTHERWISE
)	RESPOND TO COMPLAINT FOR
v.)	DEFENDANT DEAN CAPUTO
)	
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	, et al.,)	
)	Fed. R. Civ. P. 6(b)
Defendants.)	Local Civil Rule 6.1
)	

DEFENDANT CAPUTO'S UNOPPOSED MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO ANSWER OR OTHERWISE RESPOND TO COMPLAINT

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 6(b)(1)(A) and Local Civil Rule 6.1, defendant Dean Caputo respectfully requests that the Court extend the time for him to answer or otherwise respond to plaintiff's complaint by thirty-five days, up to and including February 22, 2011. This is the first such extension of time requested by Caputo in this action. Counsel for Caputo has conferred with counsel for plaintiff, Mark Daniel Lyttle, and is authorized to represent that plaintiff does not oppose the requested extension of time.

Lyttle filed this action on October 13, 2010, and then filed a "Corrected" complaint on October 15, 2010. *See* Doc. Nos. 1, 8. Because plaintiff effected personal service as to Caputo on November 18, 2010, Caputo is currently required to answer or otherwise respond to the complaint on or before January 18, 2011. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(a)(3). Lyttle's complaint is forty pages in length and contains 187 paragraphs of allegations. *See* Doc. No. 8.

In addition to the instant action, Lyttle has filed a related action in the Northern District of Georgia. *See Lyttle v. United States*, No. 10-3302 (N.D. Ga.), Doc. No. 1. That complaint is

sixty-three pages, contains 221 paragraphs, and names an additional eight individual Federal defendants. *See id.* Given the factual and legal similarities between the two cases, all Federal defendants named in both actions filed a motion with the United States Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation (the "MDL Panel") on December 23, 2010, seeking centralization of both cases in this Court. *See In Re Mark Daniel Lyttle Litig.*, MDL No. 2227, Doc. No. 1.¹

All Federal defendants named in the instant action then filed a motion on January 11, 2011, requesting that this Court grant a temporary stay of pretrial proceedings pending the MDL Panel's decision. *See* Doc. No. 27.² Based on communications with plaintiff's counsel, it was our understanding that plaintiff would oppose the Federal defendants' request for a temporary stay, and so indicated in that motion. *See id.* at 1 n.1. On today's date, however, plaintiff filed a "Notice of Consent to Stay," indicating that plaintiff consents to the Federal defendants' motion for a temporary stay. *See* Doc. No. 29. But because that motion remains pending (as it was filed only a few days ago), Caputo's response to the complaint remains due on or before January 18, 2011.

The extension of time requested in this motion is therefore consistent with the motion that the Federal defendants have filed with the MDL Panel and the motion seeking a stay that they have filed with this Court. Independently, the requested extension of time is necessary to provide the undersigned with additional time to prepare a response to plaintiff's lengthy complaint and to coordinate the defense of multiple defendants across two different law suits.

¹ Federal defendants also filed a copy of the MDL motion with this Court on December 23, 2010. *See* Doc. No. 26.

² Also on January 11, 2011, the Federal defendants in the Georgia action filed a similar motion seeking a temporary stay of pretrial proceedings in that case as well. *See Lyttle v. United States*, No. 10-3302 (N.D. Ga.), Doc. No. 34.

Aside from the stay motion (which, if granted, would eliminate the need for the relief requested in this motion), this is the first extension of time requested by Caputo.

For the reasons stated above, and for good cause shown, Caputo respectfully requests that the Court extend the deadline for him to answer or otherwise respond to plaintiff's complaint

until and including February 22, 2011.³

Respectfully submitted this 13th day of January 2011,

TONY WEST Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division

TIMOTHY P. GARREN Director, Torts Branch

C. SALVATORE D'ALESSIO Senior Trial Counsel, Torts Branch

/s/ James R. Whitman JAMES R. WHITMAN D.C. Bar No. 987694 Trial Attorney United States Department of Justice Torts Branch, Civil Division P.O. Box 7146, Ben Franklin Station Washington, D.C. 20044-7146 Tel: (202) 616-4169 Fax: (202) 616-4314 E-mail: james.whitman@usdoj.gov

DAVID G. CUTLER Trial Attorney, Civil Division, Torts Branch

³ This is the same day by which defendant Robert Kendall is currently required to answer or otherwise respond to plaintiff's complaint.

GEORGE E.B. HOLDING United States Attorney

W. ELLIS BOYLE
Assistant United States Attorney
Civil Division
310 New Bern Avenue
Suite 800 Federal Building
Raleigh, NC 27601-1461
Tel: (919) 856-4530
Fax: (919) 856-4821
E-mail: ellis.boyle@usdoj.gov
N.C. Bar No. 33826

Attorneys for Dean Caputo

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify under penalty of perjury that on January 13, 2011, I electronically filed "Defendant Caputo's Unopposed Motion for Extension of Time to Answer or Otherwise Respond to Complaint" using the Court's CM/ECF system, which will send notification of such filing to the following counsel of record:

COUNSEL FOR PLAINTIFF:

Jeremy L. McKinney jeremy@mckinneyandjustice.com

Michael E. Johnson michael.johnson@troutmansanders.com Ann Marie Dooley annmarie@mckinneyandjustice.com

Brian P. Watt brian.watt@troutmansanders.com

Katherine L. Parker acluncklp@nc.rr.com

Alexandria J. Reyes alex.reyes@troutmansanders.com

Judy Rabinovitz jrabinovitz@aclu.org

COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANT NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION:

Joseph Finarelli jfinarelli@ncdoj.gov

> /s/ James R. Whitman JAMES R. WHITMAN Trial Attorney United States Department of Justice Torts Branch, Civil Division P.O. Box 7146, Ben Franklin Station Washington, D.C. 20044-7146 Tel: (202) 616-4169 Fax: (202) 616-4314 E-mail: james.whitman@usdoj.gov D.C. Bar No. 987694