## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE COOKEVILLE DIVISION

| Terry Richardson, individually and d/b/a  | )                          |
|---|----------------------------|
| Terry Richardson Concrete, LLC            | )                          |
|   | ) Case No. 2:12-cv-0109    |
| Plaintiff,                                | )                          |
|   | ) Judge Sharp              |
| v.  | ) Magistrate Judge Griffin |
|   | )                          |
| Mack Mechanical, Inc. and American Safety | )                          |
| Casualty Insurance Company,               | )                          |
|   | )                          |
| Defendants                                | )                          |
|   |                            |

## **DENIAL OF DEFAULT**

Pending is Plaintiff's Application to Clerk for Entry of Default against Defendants Mack Mechanical, Inc. and American Safety Casualty Insurance Company (Docket Entry No. 37). The application is denied as those Defendants filed an Answer on April 22, 2013 (Docket Entry No. 39). Though the filing was outside of the time period required by law, the Clerk declines to enter default absent a showing of prejudice as a result of the late filing of Defendant's Answer, which was not pled by the Plaintiff and is not found by the Clerk. Default is not to be granted lightly. "Judgment by default is a drastic step which should be resorted to only in the most extreme cases." *United Coin Meter Co., Inc. v. Seaboard Coastline RR*. 705 F.2d 839 (6thCir.1983).

s/ Keith Throckmorton
Keith Throckmorton
Clerk of Court