Gronik et al v. Balthasar et al Doc. 440

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

DAVID S. GRONIK, JR., et al., Plaintiffs.

v. Case No. 10-CV-00954

NORMAN BALTHASAR, et al.,

Defendants and
Third-Party Plaintiffs,

٧.

SHOREWEST REALTORS, INC., et al., Third-Party Defendants.

and

OPIO BOAT MOON, LLC, et al., Plaintiffs,

v. Case No. 11-CV-697

CHUBB INDEMNITY INSURANCE COMPANY, Defendant.

DECISION AND ORDER

Plaintiffs' move to quash the deposition subpoena issued to third-party witness Tom Branigan. Branigan is the Chief Executive Officer of Branigan Communications, a Milwaukee-based communications firm that plaintiff David Gronik has worked with in the past and hired to handle the media relations related to this case. Defendants Susan Balthasar and the estate of Norman Balthasar wish to depose Branigan so they can ask about his work with plaintiffs and follow-up on documents produced by Branigan that include admissions by plaintiffs relevant to this case. Because Branigan has not objected

to the deposition and plaintiffs do not claim to have a privacy interest in the information

Branigan will disclose, I will deny the motion to quash the subpoena. See 9A Charles Alan

Wright & Arthur R. Miller, Federal Practice and Procedure § 2459 (3d Ed. 2008) ("Ordinarily

a party has no standing to seek to guash a subpoena issued to someone who is not a party

to the action, unless the objecting party claims some personal right or privilege with regard

to the documents sought."). Plaintiffs' only objection to the subpoena is that it constitutes

improper harassment of Branigan because he has no firsthand knowledge of the events

at issue in this case. This claim should be made by Branigan himself.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that plaintiff's expedited non-dispositive motion to

quash the deposition subpoena of Tom Branigan (Docket #421) is **DENIED**.

Dated at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, this 9th day of April 2013.

s/ Lynn Adelman

LYNN ADELMAN District Judge

2