NOT FINAL UNTIL TIME EXPIRES TO FILE REHEARING MOTION AND, IF FILED, DISPOSED OF.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL

OF FLORIDA

THIRD DISTRICT

JANUARY TERM, A.D. 2003

* * FELIX JUAN,

CASE NO. 3D02-2769 Appellant,

vs.

* *

* * LOWER TRIBUNAL CASE NO. 00-2411

FAME INTERNATIONAL BAY, INC.,

Appellee. * *

Opinion filed May 21, 2003.

An appeal of a non-final order from the Circuit Court of Miami-Dade County, Amy N. Dean, Judge.

Mandelbaum & Fitzsimmons and Scott Hewitt (Tampa), for appellant.

Leon A. Williamson, Jr. (Tampa), for appellee.

Before COPE, LEVY, and FLETCHER, JJ.

PER CURTAM.

Our review of the record leads us to the conclusion that the trial court erred when it defaulted the defendant. See Rule 1.500(b), Fla. R. Civ. P. As the final judgment was based upon the invalid default, the trial court erred when it denied Felix Juan's motion to set aside default and default final judgment. See Green Solutions Int'l., Inc. v. Gilligan, 807 So. 2d 693 (Fla. 5th DCA 2002). Accordingly, the order appealed is reversed and the cause remanded for further proceedings consistent herewith.

Reversed and remanded.