



**NUMBER 13-19-00631-CV**

**COURT OF APPEALS**

**THIRTEENTH DISTRICT OF TEXAS**

**CORPUS CHRISTI-EDINBURG**

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**IN RE FRAUDULENT HOSPITAL LIEN LITIGATION**

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**On appeal from MDL No. 15-0360-H in the 444th District Court  
of Cameron County, Texas.**

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**MEMORANDUM OPINION**

**Before Chief Justice Contreras and Justices Longoria and Hinojosa  
Memorandum Opinion by Chief Justice Contreras**

MedData d/b/a Aegis Revenue Group, L.L.C. (MedData) filed this notice of appeal from MDL No. 15-0360-H, *In re Fraudulent Hospital Lien Litigation*, pending in the 444th District Court of Cameron County, Texas.<sup>1</sup> MedData alleged that the judge of the MDL

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<sup>1</sup> This case originated in trial court cause number C-2398-19-I in the 398th District Court of Hidalgo County, Texas, which was transferred to MDL No. 15-0360-H in the 444th District Court of Cameron County, Texas, for consolidated pretrial proceedings.

pretrial court had not ruled on MedData's motion to dismiss filed pursuant to the Texas Citizens Participation Act (TCPA) within the statutory deadline, and accordingly, its motion to dismiss was "considered to have been denied by operation of law." See TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE ANN. §§ 27.005(a), 27.008(a). This appeal ensued.

On January 9, 2020, MedData filed a "Motion to Dismiss Appeal as Premature." Without "abandoning its position that each case in an MDL proceeding is distinct," MedData asserted that its attempted interlocutory appeal should be dismissed on grounds that the underlying MDL proceedings are stayed, and thus its notice of appeal was premature. MedData's motion to dismiss is opposed by appellees, Rodrigo Almaguer, et al.,<sup>2</sup> however, more than ten days have passed since the motion to dismiss was filed and appellees have not filed a response or other pleading in opposition to MedData's motion. See TEX. R. APP. P. 10.1(a)(5), 10.1(b), 10.3(a).

The Court, having examined and fully considered the motion to dismiss and the applicable law, is of the opinion that the appeal should be dismissed for the reasons expressed in our opinion in *In re Fraudulent Hospital Lien Litigation*, No. 13-19-00627-CV, 2020 WL \_\_\_\_ (Tex. App.—Corpus Christi—Edinburg Mar. 5, 2020, no pet. h.) (mem. op.), available at <http://www.search.txcourts.gov/case.aspx?cn=13-19-00627-CV>.

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<sup>2</sup> The appellees include: Rodrigo Almaguer, Jennifer Alvarado, Michael Bass, Flavio Chavez, Criselda Cisneros, Maria Coronado, Maria Cruz, Velia Maya Cruz, Dora Deleon, Martha Deleon, Victoria Estudillo, Eliza Garcia, Jorge Garcia, Jose V. Gonzalez, Jose Gonzalez Jr., Keemberly Gonzalez, Mariela Gonzalez, Maria Gutierrez, Michelle Jacobo, David Luevano, Elsa Marroquin, Hermila Martinez, Leticia Parra Martinez, Maria Martinez, Maria Isabel Martinez, Jesus Mora, Celia Morales, Horacio Morales, Juan Nava, Bernard Nwaokeleme, Pedro Pagan, Jose Peralez, Gerardo Pruneda, Gerardo Pruneda, Juanita Salas, Joanne Lynn Sanchez, Irma Solis, Elma Stanley, Ruben Tobar, Joe Michael Torres, Veronica Torres, Norma Trevino, Bianca Vargas, Ruben Vargas, Jorge Vasquez, Guadalupe Veloz, Juan Veloz, Luz Vilches, Ruben Villanueva, and Ludivina Villegas.

Accordingly, we grant MedData's motion to dismiss and we dismiss this appeal for lack of jurisdiction. Pending motions, if any, are dismissed as moot.

DORI CONTRERAS  
Chief Justice

Delivered and filed the  
5th day of March, 2020.