



NUMBER 13-19-00635-CV

COURT OF APPEALS

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT OF TEXAS

CORPUS CHRISTI-EDINBURG

IN RE FRAUDULENT HOSPITAL LIEN LITIGATION

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

MEMORANDUM OPINION

**Before Justices Benavides, Perkes, and Tijerina
Memorandum Opinion by Justice Perkes**

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.¹ MedData alleged that the judge of the MDL

¹ This case originated in trial court cause number C-2591-19-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, Esteban Alcazar, et al.,² 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.

² The appellees include: Esteban Alcazar, Aurora Vasquez, as next friend for L.A., minor, Ruby Alvarez, Herlinda Garcia, as next friend for F.C., minor, Romauldo Cavazos, as next friend for V.C., minor, Nora Delacruz, Aaron Flores, Veronica Flores, Maria Martinez, as next friend for L.F., minor, Teresa Fuentes, Aaron Gonzalez, Mayra Castillo, as next friend for A.G., minor, Emmanuel Gonzalez, as next friend for E.G., minor, Emmanuel Gonzalez, as next friend for J.G., minor, Mayra Castillo, as next friend for S.G., minor, Jaime Granados, Paula Pedraza, as next friend for F.H., minor, Maria Hernandez, Raul Juarez, San Juanita Lara, as next friend for A.L., minor, San Juanita Lara, as next friend for C.L., minor, Christian R. Lopez, Nestor Lopez, Lorena Lozano, as next friend for A.L., minor, Felipe Maldonado, Edgar Marroquin, Antonia Recio, as next friend for A.M., minor, Maria Martinez, Jaime Mireles, Rosalinda Moreno, Evenecer Morin, Jesse Nino, Maria Olivares, Dolores Parra, as next friend for C.P., minor, Daniel Pena, Matias Xavier Pena, Kenneth Pugmire, George Ray, Erika Resendez, Jacquelyn Rocha, Dario Segura, as next friend for N.S., minor, Eloisa Solis, Rosa Trevino, Eusebio Yanez, Beatrice Zamudio, as next friend for A.Z., minor, and Sandra Zuniga.

op.), *available at* <http://www.search.txcourts.gov/case.aspx?cn=13-19-00627-CV>.

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.

GREGORY T. PERKES
Justice

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