## **BUSINESS AND CONSUMER COURT**

STATE OF MAINE

Cumberland, ss.

DAVID L. SAVELL,

**Plaintiff** 

v.

Docket No. BCD-CV-14-34 V

THOMAS D. HAYWARD, KENNETH G. SIMONE, MICHAEL B. BRUEHL, MICHAEL A. DUDDY and KELLY, REMMEL & ZIMMERMAN,

## **Defendants**

## AMENDED ORDER ON MOTION TO DISMISS

This Amended Order replaces and supersedes the Order on Motion to Dismiss dated June 16, 2014.

Defendants Duddy and Kelly, Remmel & Zimmerman ["the attorney Defendants"] have filed a Motion to Dismiss pursuant to M.R. Civ. P. 12(b)(6). Plaintiff opposes the motion.

The motion relies on several documents outside the pleadings, which the motion asks the court to consider without converting the motion into one for summary judgment. See Moody v. State Liquor and Lottery Commission, 2004 ME 20, ¶10, 843 A.2d 43, 48 ("official public documents, documents that are central to the plaintiff's claim, and documents referred to in the complaint [can be considered] without converting a motion to dismiss into a motion for a summary judgment when the authenticity of such documents is not challenged").

The Plaintiff's opposition correctly points out that, because this is a Rule 12(b)(6) motion, all material factual allegations in the complaint must be taken as true, including the allegation that Plaintiff was represented by the attorney Defendants. Plaintiff also points out that whom the attorney Defendants represented in connection with the transactions at issue is

a question of fact at least in part, and note that the attorney Defendants' filing does not include any documentation of whom the attorney Defendants represented in connection with the underlying transactions.

At a conference of counsel today, the motion was discussed, and the following additional points emerged:

- Plaintiff has a pending document request for the fee agreement(s) under which the
  attorney defendants provided legal services in connection with the entities and
  transactions mentioned in the complaint.
- Plaintiff intends to amend his complaint further in any event. Case law under Rule 12(b)(6) indicates that, even if the pending Motion to Dismiss were granted, the Plaintiff should be given leave to amend his complaint.

These additional points lead the court to conclude that, either the pending Motion to Dismiss should be converted into a summary judgment motion to enable the underlying facts to be developed further in the filings, or the motion should be denied, without prejudice to the renewal of the attorney Defendants' arguments in a different context. The court adopts the latter course.

## IT IS ORDERED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. The Motion To Dismiss of Defendants Duddy and Kelly Remmel and Zimmerman is hereby denied, without prejudice to the renewal of the same argument in a further motion.
- 2. The deadline for Defendants Duddy and Kelly Remmel and Zimmerman to answer or otherwise plead is enlarged to 10 days after service on their counsel of the Plaintiff's amended complaint.

Pursuant to M.R. Civ. P. 79(a), the clerk is hereby directed to incorporate this order

by reference in the docket.

Dated June 18, 2014

A. M. Horton

Justice, Business and Consumer Court

Entered on the Docket: 618-19
Copies sent via Mail \_\_ Electronically \_\_\_\_