

THE AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE INC.

IN-HOUSE COUNSEL LITIGATION REPORT

PETER MARCUS, et al v. ACBL

On June 23, 2017, Peter Marcus, a former ACBL Tournament Director, filed suit on behalf of himself and similarly situated plaintiffs against the ACBL seeking overtime pay for full-time Tournament Directors, damages and attorneys' fees, later joined by two ACBL Tournament Directors. Sixteen additional Tournament Directors opted-into the lawsuit during 2019. Additionally, Marcus for himself alleges that the ACBL constructively discharged him in retaliation for his past complaints relating to Tournament Director pay, seeking reinstatement, promotion, payment of lost wages, damages and costs. The ACBL denies all these allegations and intends to vigorously defend itself against them, covering the litigation defense expense starting in October 2019. The parties engaged in a mediation of this matter in May 2018, but no agreement was able to be reached. Depositions were taken by both parties during 2018 and 2019 in addition to extensive document discovery by plaintiffs.

Procedural Posture. The parties filed cross motions for summary judgment in May 2020, and ACBL filed a motion to decertify the class. During July and August 2020, the parties will respond to the other's motions (including replies to the responses). Oral arguments on the motions are currently scheduled for the second week of September in the Massachusetts District Court.

**SCHREIBER v. M.A. LIGHTMAN
BRIDGE CLUB, ACBL UNIT 144, et. al.**

On October 13, 2015, ACBL member Michael Schreiber filed a complaint in the Chancery Court of Tennessee, 13th Judicial District, against ACBL Unit 144, the M.A. Lightman Bridge Club and several other named individuals and Does, alleging slander, breach of contract and fraud for the actions occurring following execution of a settlement agreement between Mr. Schreiber, the ACBL and various other parties to a previous lawsuit. In August 2016, Defendants' counsel filed a Motion to Dismiss the complaint. In October 2016, the court dismissed the claim for slander but denied dismissal of the counts related to breach of contract and fraud. Defendants filed an Answer on October 20, 2016. The case proceeded to discovery (interrogatories and document request/production) in the interim and settled for an undisclosed amount in May 2020 (ACBL was not a party so is not entitled to information regarding the amount of the confidential settlement).

Respectfully submitted,



Linda J. Dunn, Esq.

Dated: June 30, 2020