Renee S. Beach, et al. v. Gregory M. Parker, et al.

Case No. 2021-CP-25-00392

THE PARKER'S DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO DISQUALIFY ATTORNEY MARK TINSLEY

## **EXHIBIT J**

**MAY 9, 2022 HEARING TRANSCRIPT** 

1	STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS	
2	COUNTY OF HAMPTON	
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4	Renee S. Beach, Phillip Beach, Robin Beach, Savannah Tuten, and Seth Tuten,	
5	Plaintiffs,	
6		
7	vs. Transcript of Record 2021-CP-25-00392	
8 9	Gregory M. Parker, Gregory M. Parker, Inc. d/b/a Parker's Corporation, Blake Greco,	
10	Jason D'Cruz, Vicky Ward, Max Fratoddi, Henry Rosado, and Private Investigation	
11	Services Group, LLC.,	
12	Defendants.	
13		
14	May 9, 2022	
15	Hampton, South Carolina	
16	BEFORE:	
17	The HONORABLE BENTLEY PRICE	
18		
19		
20	A P P E A R A N C E S:  Mark Tinsley, Representing the Plaintiffs	
21	Tabor Vaux, Representing the Plaintiffs Deborah B. Barbier, Representing the Defendants	
22	Ralph E. Tupper, Representing the Defendants	
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24		
25	SHARON G. HARDOON, CSR	

THE COURT: All right. Miss Barbier, it's my 1 understanding this is your motion? 2 MS. BARBIER: It is, Your Honor. 3 4 THE COURT: Yes, ma'am. Happy to hear from you. 5 MS. BARBIER: Good afternoon. Your 6 Honor, as you know, the court issued an order on 7 April 6th that provided for the review of the 8 documents at issue, and the -- that were the 9 subject of a motion to quash and a Rule to Show 10 The order specified that once the court 11 12 has determined that all the issues related to relevance and privilege, Parker's defendants shall 13 have 10 business days to respond with objections 14 on the record, and that Parker's defendants shall 15 16 have 10 business days to file an appeal in accordance with the South Carolina rules of civil 17 procedure. 18 With respect to that, Your Honor, on 19 April 29, as you know, the court had a hearing. 20 The court didn't make, during the hearing, any 21 findings related to privilege. The court didn't 22 give us a deadline for the production of a 2.3 privilege log, and we had no actual dialogue with 24

specific assertions of privilege with respect to

those documents. The court didn't give us any 1 indication of how the ruling would go, but 2 indicated that your law clerk would send an email 3 4 later that day. We did receive an email from your law 5 clerk, Your Honor, in the late afternoon of 6 April 29th, and she related the court's position. 7 We also determined on that next -- that 8 was a Friday. We determined on that Monday 9 morning that a Form 4 order would be forthcoming. 10 And, Your Honor, as you know, the April 11 12 6th order governed this process and it indicated we would have 10 days to appeal, and we would have 13 the ability to make objections. 14 Prior to that occurring, Mr. Tinsley 15 16 apparently contacted Miss Sandy Senn on Friday, late afternoon, and then on that weekend asked her 17 to produce those documents prior to us having the 18 ability to move for any kind of stay or asserting 19 20 our right to appeal. So, on May 4th, we filed an emergency 21 motion for a protective order and relaying our 22 position, which, of course, I think is well-known 2.3

to the court and to plaintiff's counsel, that an

So Mr.

email is not an order of the court.

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- Tinsley obtained those documents prior to any order of the court being issued.
- We filed an emergency motion for
- 4 protective order asking this court to seek the
- 5 return of these documents, stop the review of
- 6 these documents, and prevent any dissemination of
- 7 these documents, because it's still our position
- 8 that the vast majority of these documents are
- 9 privileged.
- 10 Thereafter, Your Honor, last evening, we
- filed a motion to stay this matter. We also have
- 12 sought in that motion an order by the court for
- the return of these documents, for an order
- 14 preventing Mr. Tinsley from reviewing these
- documents any further, from giving us information
- 16 related to what he's already reviewed, and to stop
- 17 any further review.
- 18 We do intend, Your Honor, to file a
- 19 notice of appeal. It's drafted. We intend to
- 20 file it this afternoon. But before we file the
- 21 notice of appeal we would like this court to
- 22 preclude and order Mr. Tinsley to return those
- 23 documents, to stop any review of these documents,
- 24 to set forth which documents he's reviewed, and to
- 25 stop any dissemination of these documents before a

- 1 higher court has an opportunity to rule on this
- 2 issue.
- 3 THE COURT: All right.
- 4 MS. BARBIER: That is the basis for our
- 5 motion, Your Honor. I have a copy of the motion
- to stay pending appeal, if Your Honor doesn't have
- 7 a copy of it yet.
- 8 THE COURT: I'm okay.
- 9 MS. BARBIER: I'm happy to hand that up,
- 10 if the court --
- 11 THE COURT: I'm okay.
- MS. BARBIER: Okay.
- 13 THE COURT: All right. So let me give
- 14 you my procedural history: April 6th, we had the
- 15 additional hearing to discuss the discovery,
- obviously, that you-all were seeking to quash, and
- 17 Mr. Tinsley had filed a Rule to Show Cause on, and
- 18 so I said that I would take all the documents
- 19 under review and I would take a look at them and I
- 20 would make a determination as to what would be
- 21 relevant and what would be discoverable. And so I
- 22 did that in pretty quick order. In about four to
- 23 five days, we got it taken care of. And I took a
- 24 look at -- I think -- I can't remember what I told
- 25 you-all. A little over five to 6000 documents.

But I was confused and I wanted to have some clarification. So I asked everyone to come on the 29th to ensure I was making the appropriate decision in this, and so met again on the 29th at my direction, and I asked a bunch of questions of yourself and of Mr. Tinsley so I could get better clarification as to what I needed to do as to these documents themselves.

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So later on, on that day, during that hearing, the plaintiff -- I mean the defendants took the position that nothing in those documents were going to help Mr. Tinsley anyway. And so I took that to mean that it doesn't matter really what's in them. If Mr. Tinsley is not going to be able to move his case forward with those documents, why shouldn't he have them all.

What I was trying to prevent is what we're doing today, which is the back and forth. Because what you just indicated Miss Barbier is one hundred percent correct. You are going to claim that 98 percent of that is all privileged, and I'm going to have to go line by line by line and an order of yours, or on behalf of a motion of yours to go and say this is why it's not privileged, and

- 1 we're going to take up 14 hours of the courts time
- 2 to do exactly what I've already done, which is to
- 3 give Mr. Tinsley everything.
- If it moves his case forward, great. If
- 5 it doesn't, as you indicated in your last
- 6 argument, which was nothing in those documents are
- 7 going to help him out anyway, then what's the
- 8 point in not giving it to him, so I gave it to
- 9 him.
- MS. BARBIER: Well, Your Honor, I never
- said there's no point in not giving it to him.
- 12 THE COURT: No. Your exact quote was,
- "Nothing in those documents is going to assist
- 14 Mr. Tinsley's case."
- MS. BARBIER: That is correct. That does
- speak to whether the documents are privileged.
- 17 THE COURT: I understand that. But my
- 18 point is that, I determined that the information
- 19 wasn't privileged. And so if you want to appeal
- 20 that -- I don't know how you're going to because
- it's a discovery issue -- but if you want to
- 22 appeal that, you can appeal that.
- Now, let's get to the point to where we
- can talk to Mr. Tinsley about what he wants to do
- about the documents that he's already received

- from -- I believe you got them from Senator Senn,
- correct, Mr. Tinsley?
- MR. TINSLEY: From her client, actually,
- 4 Your Honor.
- 5 THE COURT: Go it.
- 6 MR. TINSLEY: Miss Donahue emailed me the
- 7 documents.
- 8 THE COURT: So you have the documents
- 9 pertaining to what Miss Donahue produced to
- 10 Mr. Parker; is that correct?
- 11 MR. TINSLEY: I believe so, Your Honor.
- 12 THE COURT: And have you taken a look at
- any of those? Have you just reviewed any of them?
- MR. TINSLEY: No, sir, I reviewed them.
- 15 THE COURT: Okay. And how many pages
- were in that production?
- 17 MR. TINSLEY: It's hard to tell. About
- 18 6,000.
- 19 THE COURT: That's what I think.
- 20 MR. TINSLEY: Because I think there's one
- 21 big file, and then they also produced it in parts,
- so there's overlap. But about 6,000.
- 23 THE COURT: That's what we -- between
- that hearing, that's what I indicated, I thought
- 25 it was 6,000 pages, because there was two files

- 1 that we had to review.
- 2 MR. TINSLEY: Yes, sir.
- 3 THE COURT: And then the only other
- 4 remaining was the videos and the pictures,
- 5 correct? Did you receive that?
- 6 MR. TINSLEY: I have not.
- 7 THE COURT: Do we have that?
- 8 LAW CLERK: We have that.
- 9 THE COURT: All right. We still have
- 10 that.
- 11 MR. TINSLEY: Let me clarify. I have not
- 12 received anything from Sara Capelli or the inquiry
- agency, the other third party that was subject to
- 14 my Rule to Show Cause, Capelli. There is one
- 15 Dropbox link where there are two videos of Paul
- 16 Murdaugh. But I don't think --
- 17 THE COURT: That's all.
- MR. TINSLEY: That's it.
- 19 (Conversation between law clerk and Judge
- 20 Price.)
- 21 THE COURT: I'm trying to figure out what
- 22 you had.
- 23 Okay. All right. So what is your
- position as to their motion, Mr. Tinsley?
- MR. TINSLEY: Well, Judge, I think it's

frivolous, and I think it's too late. I didn't 1 realize that Sandy Senn was not copied on the 2 email on that Friday afternoon. I forwarded it 3 4 and I filed this email correspondence for the I forwarded it to Miss Senn saying I'm 5 record. happy to come get it. I didn't necessarily know 6 7 that I was going to get an email link Sunday morning. On Sunday morning, I went and looked at 8 I looked at it on Sunday. I looked at it on 9 They don't send a letter to Miss Senn Monday. 10 until 10:00 p.m. almost on Monday night. 11 12 So it wasn't an emergency on Friday. 13 wasn't an emergency on Saturday or Sunday, or even all day on Monday, and so I looked at it. 14 clear. You raised this on the 29th, that you had 15 16 a suspicion that they had done this, copied lawyers on these documents to raise this issue, to 17 try to keep secret what it is that they've done. 18 I don't think there's any question about that, 19 20 Your Honor. And I think that also should weigh into this interlocutory appeal, which I think 2.1 they're clearly going to take. But it is just 22 that, it's interlocutory. 2.3 THE COURT: I understand. All right. 24

Well, as to those documents, obviously,

- the cat's out of the bag. I mean, I can't stuff
- 2 that mash potato bag into the bag. I mean, it's
- 3 already out.
- 4 So as to any other production of
- documents, I'll withhold at this point in time and
- 6 give you your opportunity to appeal.
- 7 Unfortunately, at this point in time,
- 8 it's really just a moot processes to have you-all
- 9 begin a privilege as to the documents that he's
- 10 already received.
- But, at this point in time, I will
- 12 withhold whatever remaining portions of the
- discovery he has not seen and has not been privy
- 14 to at this point in time until pending the appeal.
- 15 All right?
- MS. BARBIER: Thank you, Your Honor. I'd
- 17 also like you to order him not to disseminate the
- 18 documents.
- 19 THE COURT: I don't think he has any
- 20 intention of disseminating them. I trust
- 21 Mr. Tinsley.
- 22 MS. BARBIER: Okay. And I'd like you to
- order him to not further review them or to provide
- 24 copies to anybody else.
- 25 THE COURT: Just don't disseminate them.

Τ	rair enough:
2	MR. TINSLEY: That's fine.
3	THE COURT: All right. Well, thank
4	you-all very much. If you-all need something
5	else, just let us know.
6	MR. TINSLEY: Thank you, Your Honor.
7	(The hearing was concluded.)
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1	CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER
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4	Court Reporter, III for the State of South Carolina at Large, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true,
5	of the captioned case, relative to appeal, in General Sessions for Hampton County, South Carolina.
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8	counsel, nor interest to any party hereto.
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11	May 16 2022
12	May 16, 2022
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15	Sharm Hardoon
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17	Sharon G. Hardoon, CSR Official Circuit Court Reporter, III
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