This form is approved by the Illinois Supreme Court and is required to be accepted in all Illinois Appellate Courts.

	THIS APPEAL INVOLVES A MATTER SUBJECT TO EXPEDIT	ED DISPOSITION UNDER
Instructions -		
Check the box to the right if your case involves parental responsibility or parenting time (custody/visitation rights) or relocation of a child.	RULE 311(a). Appellate Case No.: 1 - 2 3 - 1 1 4 2	
Enter the appellate court case number.	ATT COURT OF	
Just below "In the Appellate Court of Illinois," enter the number of the	IN THE APPELLATE COURT OF ILLINOIS	
appellate district where the appeal was filed.	FIRST District	
If the case name in the trial court began with "In re" (for example, "In re Marriage of Jones"),	In re	Appeal from the Circuit Court of COOKCounty
enter that phrase. If the case name did not begin with "In re," enter the names of the parties as they	Plaintiffs/Petitioners in trial court (First, middle, last names):	Trial Court Case No: 2022 L 010905
appeared in the trial court documents. Below each party name check either	Appellants Appellees Paul R. Dulberg individually and The Paul R. Dulberg Revocable Trust	Michael F. Otto
Appellant if the party filed the appeal or Appellee if the party is responding to the appeal.	v.	Date of Notice of Appeal: 10/19/2023
At the far right, enter the trial court county, trial court case number, the trial	Defendants/Respondents in trial court (First, middle, last names): ☐ Appellants ☐ Appellees ☐ Resid Class Craig A Willotte Raphael F Yalden II	Date Judgment was entered: 09/21/2023
judge's name, date of the notice of appeal, date of the judgment, date of the ruling on any post-judgment motion, and the	Joseph David Olsen, Craig A. Willette, Raphael E. Yalden II Yalden, Olsen & Willette Law Offices DEFENDANTS: Kelly N. Baudin, William Randal Baudin II, Kelran Inc., Baudin & Baudin, Baudin & Baudin an Association of Attorneys, Law Offices of Baudin & Baudin, Baudin & Baudin Law Offices, The	Date Post-Judgment Motion was ruled on:
Supreme Court Rule that allows the appellate court to hear the appeal.	Baudin Law Group, Ltd., ADR Systems of America, LLC., Assumed Name ADR Commercial Services, Allstate Property and Casualty Company	Supreme Court Rule: 301
In 1, check "Yes" if	DOCKETING STATEMENT (CIVIL)	
this appeal is related to another appeal and write the docket (case number of any other appeal. Check "No" i	that is currently pending or that has been decided by this c	opeal, or related to another appea ourt?
this appeal is not related to another appeal.	If yes, list the docket numbers of the other appeals: 1 - 23	-1142

In 2, if any party, either Appellant or Appellee, is a corporation or business association, write the name of any company related to that corporation or business association.

In 3, enter your full name and other contact information. If there are other appellants besides you, include all their names and contact information on the Additional Appellant Information form and attach it to this Docketing Statement (Civil) and put a check in the box. If you have a lawyer, fill in their information below "Lawyer on Appeal for appellant filing this statement." If there is more than one lawyer for the appellants, check the box and fill out the Additional form. Insert it after this page.

In 4, you must enter the full name and contact information for all appellees you are filing your appeal against. If there is more than one appellee, include all their names and contact information on the Additional Appellee Information form and put a check in the box. You must also enter the full name and contact information for each lawyer. If you don't know the name of an appellee's lawyer, fill in the name and address of their trial lawyer. If there is more than one appellee or more than one lawyer for the appellee, check the box and fill out the Additional Lawyer on Appeal Information form. Insert it after this page.

2.	If any party is a corporation or association, identify any affiliate, subsidiary, or parent group:	
~ no	one UNKNOWN	

Full name and comp	lete address of appellant R.	t filing this statement: Dulberg
First	Middle	Last
4606 Hayder	n Ct.	847-497-4250
Street, Apt #		Telephone number
McHenry Illin		PAUL DUBERG & com ONT.
City	State ZIP	Email address
I have listed	l additional appellants on	the Additional Appellant Information form.
Lawyer on Appeal f	or appellant filing this sta	atement:
Alphonse	A.	Talarico
First	Middle	Last
707 Skokie B	oulevard # 600	312-808-1410
Street, Apt #		Telephone number perice of
Northbrook	Illinois 60062	ALPHINSE TALAMILO. COM
City	State ZIP	
. 70		
6 184 5 2 Lawyer Registrati		Fax number ne Additional Lawyer on Appeal Information
I have listed form. Full name and com Tos spr First 57 0 2		Fax number ne Additional Lawyer on Appeal Information e: OASEP Last
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I have listed additional lawyers on the Additional Lawyer on Appeal Information form.

Lawyer Registration Number

In 5, enter the name and address of the
court reporter who
recorded the hearing in the trial court. If the
hearing was electronically
recorded, contact the trial court clerk's
office to order the
transcript. If there was no court reporter or
recording, then leave 5 blank.
In 6, check "Yes" if

In 6, check "Yes" if your case involves parental responsibility or parenting time (custody/visitation rights) or relocation of a child. There are special rules that apply to speed up these appeals.

In 7, briefly write down your reasons for filing this appeal. If you don't list a reason here, you will still be able to bring it up later.

In 8a, enter the date you filed your Request for Preparation of Record on Appeal with the trial court.

In 8b, enter the date you delivered your Request for Report of Proceedings (Transcripts) to the court reporter you listed above in 5. If there was no court reporter or recording, leave 8b blank.

If you are completing this form on a computer, sign your name by typing it. If you are completing it by hand, sign and print your name. Fill in your address, telephone number, and email address, if you have one.

5.	Court reporter information:			Tanks	
	Consist First	Middle		Last	
	Filst	#	3000	CHICAGO ILLI NOIC	60606
	Street Address		City	State	Zip
	800-248-329	0			_
	Telephone	E	mail addı	ress	
		n one court reporte	er, check	Additional Court Reporter Info the box above and fill out the Ad iis page.)	
6.	Is this appeal from a final orderesponsibilities, or relocation which requires Mandatory A Yes No If yes, this <i>Docketing Stateme</i> filed by any party shall include	of a minor child ccelerated Disp ent (Civil), and a	under III position III other n	inois Supreme Court Rule 31 representations, and provides, and provides, briefs, motions, and provides.	oleadings
	page:		IEO	EVDEDITED DISPOSIT	TION
	THIS APPEAL INVOLVE UNDER RULE 311(a).	S A MATTER S	SUBJEC	T TO EXPEDITED DISPOSIT	ION
7.	State the general issues you	want to raise in	your app	peal:	
8.	a. on this date Novem	BESTELL	PCH T ACH T NC - DINS	CO & DEFENDAN	FDIATION FDIATION HE CON
	Date			LONY	INVING TO
	prepare the appeal rec			THE	TRIAL CO
	Date			nade a written request to the	Court
	reporting personnel to	prepare the trai	nscripts,	a copy of which is attached to) this
	Docketing Statement.				
<u>/s</u> Y	our Signature		707 Street	Sheffin RLVD #609	0
AF	PHONSE A. TALK Print Your Name NTACT @ LAW OFFILE O	ARICO	City, Si	ATHBROOK, /LL.	0067
	collarse Talarcica. Co	2M ((3/2) { Telepho	208 - 1410 61 Attor	8753 o ney # (if any)
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GETTING COURT DOCUMENTS BY EMAIL: You should use an email account that you do not share with anyone else and that you check every day. If you do not check your email every day, you may miss important information, notice of court dates, or documents from other parties.

	PROOF	DE SEKVIC	E (You must s	erve the other	party and comp.		,	
In 1a, enter the name, mailing address, and email address of the	1. I se	nt this docu	ıment:					
party or lawyer to	a.	To:						
whom you sent the	۵.	Name:	JASON		W.		50 c	HUM
document.		Name.	First		Middle ,		Last	
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In 1b, check the box to show how you sent the document, and fill in any other information required on the blank lines.	b.	Email add	Street, Apt # dress: SASOP		City D. LEWIC	State		ZIP
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In 3, if you sent the document to more than 1 party or lawyer, fill in a, b, and c. Otherwise leave 2 blank.

In 3b, check the box to show how you are sending the document.

CAUTION: If you and the person you are sending the document to have an email address, you must use one of the first two options. Otherwise, you may use one of the other options.

Under the Code of Civil Procedure, 735 ILCS 5/1-109, making a statement on this form that you know to be false is perjury, a Class 3 Felony.

If you are completing this form on a computer, sign your name by typing it. If you are completing it by hand, sign by hand and print your name.

I sent this document:

a.	To:
	Name: ZACHARY //C GOURNTY Middle Last
	Filst 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
	Address: 550 W. Hoams Street, Apt # City State ZIP
	Email address: ZACH ARY. M. GONA DATY @ 26015 bais bois Con
	Enter address Dels, Con
b.	By:
	An approved electronic filing service provider (EFSP)
/	Fmail (not through an EFSP)
	Only use one of the methods below if you do not have an email address, or the person you are
	sending the document to does not have an email address.
	Personal hand delivery to:
	☐ The party
	☐ The party's family member who is 13 or older, at the party's residence
	☐ The party's lawyer
	☐ The party's lawyer's office
	☐ Mail or third-party carrier
	1/10 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
C.	On: NOVEMBER 2, 2023
	Date Plan
/	At: <u>44:59</u> □ a.m. ★ p.m.
/	Time
M I	have completed an Additional Proof of Service form.

I certify that everything in the Proof of Service is true and correct. I understand that a false statement on this form is perjury and has penalties provided by law under 735 ILCS 5/1-109.

Your Signature

ALBHONSE A. TALBRICO

Print Your Name

On: 11/02/2023

Date

4.59

Time

At:

In 1a, enter the name, mailing address, and email address of the party or lawyer to whom you sent the document. I sent this document: a. To: Name: Address: 1905. LaSa LeST. # Email address: RCHAPMANC CHAPMANSP IN GOLA. COM b. By: An approved electronic filing service provider (EFSP) ☐ Email (not through an EFSP) Only use one of the methods below if you do not have an email address, or the person you are sending the document to does not have an email address. Personal hand delivery to: ☐ The party ☐ The party's family member who is 13 or older, at the party's residence ☐ The party's lawyer The party's lawyer's office

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In 1b, check the box to show how you are sending the document.

CAUTION: If you and the person you are sending the document to have an email address, you must use one of the first two options. Otherwise, you may use one of the other options.

In c, fill in the date and time that you sent the document.

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In 1a, enter the name, mailing address, and email address of the party or lawyer to whom you sent the document.	1. I sent this document: a. To: Name: First N, Foeder Middle Last Address: 225 W. Washington St. #2539 c.#60.1LL. 60606 Street, Apt # City State ZIP Email address: JNBOEDERCTRIBLER. Com
In 1b, check the box to show how you are sending the document. CAUTION: If you and the person you are sending the document to have an email address, you must use one of the first two options. Otherwise, you may use one of the other options.	 b. By: ✓ An approved electronic filing service provider (EFSP) ☐ Email (not through an EFSP) Only use one of the methods below if you do not have an email address, or the person you are sending the document to does not have an email address. ☐ Personal hand delivery to: ☐ The party ☐ The party's family member who is 13 or older, at the party's residence ☐ The party's lawyer ☐ The party's lawyer's office ☐ Mail or third-party carrier
In c, fill in the date and	c. On: 11/02/2023

□ a.m. p.m.

In c, fill in the date and time that you sent the document.

Time

I sent this document:

a. To:

1.

In 1a, enter the name, mailing address, and email address of the party or lawyer to whom you sent the

document.	Name: Michelle INAJERO First Middle Last
	Address: 150 N. MicHican Aug. #3300 CHGO. 11. 60601 Street, Apt # City State ZIP
	Email address: MTINAJERO DAMOND SENDAVISLAW. COM
In 1b, check the box to show how you are sending the document. CAUTION: If you and the person you are sending the document to have an email address, you must use one of the first two options. Otherwise, you may use one of the other options.	b. By: An approved electronic filing service provider (EFSP) Email (not through an EFSP) Only use one of the methods below if you do not have an email address, or the person you are sending the document to does not have an email address. Personal hand delivery to: The party The party's family member who is 13 or older, at the party's residence The party's lawyer The party's lawyer's office Mail or third-party carrier
In c, fill in the date and time that you sent the document.	c. On: 11/02/2023 Date At: 4.59

Enter the Case Number given by the Appellate Court Clerk: 1-23-1142

ADDITIONAL APPELLANT INFORMATION

Enter the name, address, telephone number, and email address of any other appellants.

Thomas W. Kost Co-Trustee, The Paul R. Dulberg Revocable Trust Name: Last Middle Mt. Prospect Illinois 60056 423 Dempster Street Address: ZIP State City Street, Apt # tkost999@gmail.com (847) 439-2198 Email address Telephone Name: Middle Last First Address: ZIP State City Street Address Email address Telephone Name: Last Middle First Address: ZIP City State Street Address Email address Telephone Name: Last Middle First Address: ZIP State City Street Address Email address Telephone Name: Last Middle First Address: State ZIP City Street Address Email address

Telephone

ADDITIONAL APPELLEE INFORMATION

Enter the name, address, telephone number, and email address of any other appellees.

	First	Middle	Last	1000	
	First	Wilduro	Luot		
Address:	1837 National Avenue Ro				7/0
015	Street, Apt #	City		State	ZIP
1	- 965-8635	CRAIGNILLES	760	comen	IT. NET
Telephone	70 0 W	Email address			
Name	Yalden, Olsen and Will;ett	'Α			
Name:	First	Middle	Last		
Address:	838 North Main Street Ro				
	Street Address	City		State	ZIP
(815) 965-	9635				
Telephone		Email address		-	
relepitorio					
Name:	Ralph E. Yalden II		1 4		
	First	Middle	Last		
Address:	1505 National Avenue Ro	ockford Illinois 61103			
Addiess.	Street Address	City		State	ZIP
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Enter the Case Number given by the Appellate Court Clerk: 1-23-1142

ADDITIONAL APPELLEE INFORMATION

Enter the name, address, telephone number, and email address of any other appellees.

Name:	Kelly N Baudin				
	First	Middle	Last		
Address:	820 E Terra Co	otta Ave #138 Crystal Lake Illinois			
ridarooo.	Street, Apt #	City		State	ZIP
(045) 500 (2000				
(815) 526-3 Telephone	3202	Email address		-	
relepriorie		Email address			
	Marie B. J. D.				
Name:	William Randal Ba	Middle	Last		
Address:		Ave #138 Crystal Lake Illinois		01.1	710
	Street Address	City		State	ZIP
(740) 888-	1858				
Telephone		Email address			
Name:	Kelran Inc				
rvaino.	First	Middle	Last		
	000 F Tama Catte	Ave #129 Crystal Lake Illinois			
Address:	Street Address	a Ave #138 Crystal Lake Illinois City		State	ZIP
	Oli Coli Madroco				
(815) 526-	3202			_	
Telephone		Email address			
Name:			1 1		
	First	Middle	Last		
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, idai ooo.	Street Address	City		State	ZIP
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Name:	First	Middle	Last		
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Address:		0.4.		State	ZIP
	Street Address	City		State	LIF
Telephone		Email address			

	ADDITIONAL LAWY	R ON APPEAL IN	FORMATION		
Check the appropriate	Lawyer for:	Appellant	Appellee		
box.				Manos	
Enter the name, address, telephone	Name: Georgi Flist		Middle	Last	
number, email address, lawyer registration number, and fax number of any other		0 W. A.	CAMS ST	City MANNS PLEA	State 6 r. 15 P ris les ais . Cam
lawyers.	Telephone	5-1718	Email addi	ess 345-177 er	2
	41 73 7 Lawyer Registration	n Number	Fax numb	gr	
	Lawyer for:	Appellant	Appellee		
	Name: ZAC	HARY	Middle	Me Go	URTY.
	First			entra int	60616
	Address: Street	0 W. # 0 et, Apt #	AMS ST 300	City City	State ZIP
		5-1718	ZACHAI	y Me Gourt	Y O LEWISEL
	Telephone #173		312 -	345 - 177	6
	Lawyer Registra Lawyer for:	☐ Appellant	☑ Appellee	CHA	PMAN
	Name: K	OBERT	Middle		PMAN
	Address: _/_	90 5. 1	a SALLE	STREET ON 11	5850 State ZIP 4 6 6 6 0 3
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	3/2 - 6 Telephone		(3/2)	630 2	33
	Lawyer Registi	ation Number	Fax nu	mber	
		☐ Appellant	Appellee	1	
	Name: (HRISTIN	€ V Middle	ANTO Las	
	Address: $\frac{I_{\rm c}}{s}$	50 N. M treet, Apt #	71CHIGAR	AUE 3300 City	CH 60 111 6060 State ZIP
	312 -89. Telephane	4-3200	<u>C</u> A Email	NTO QAM. address	IN D SENDAVISIAW
		stration Number	Fax n	iumber	

Lawyer Registration Number

Enter the Case Number given by the Appellate Court Clerk: 1-23-1142

ADDITIONAL LAWYER ON APPEAL INFORMATION

Check the appropriate box.

Enter the name, address, telephone number, email address, lawyer registration number, and fax number of any other lawyers.

Lawyer fo	or:	Appellant	V	Appellee				
Name:	Jeremy First	y N. Boeder		Middle		Last		
Address:	Street,	. Washington Str Apt # - 3200	eet S	jnboe	City der@tribler.com		State	ZIP
Telephone	-			Email	address			
Lawyer Re	egistration	n Number		Fax n	umber			
Lawyer fo	or:	Appellant	P	Appellee				
Name:	M;	CHELLE		Tiw .	AJERO	Last		
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1	THE COURT: Good morning. Would everyone please
2	identify themselves for the record?
3	MR. TALARICO: Good morning, Your Honor.
4	Alphonse Talarico. I represent the Plaintiffs.
5	MS. TINAJERO: Good morning, Judge Otto. My name
6	is Michelle Tinajero. I represent Allstate Property
7	and Casualty Insurance Company.
8	THE COURT: Thank you.
9	Mr. is it Mr. Jochum?
10	MR. JOCHUM: Jochum, Your Honor. Sorry.
11	THE COURT: All right. Good morning.
12	MR. JOCHUM: Jason Jochum representing what we
13	refer to as the Olsen Defendants, Joseph Olsen, Craig
14	Willette and Raphael Yalden. They were dismissed
15	earlier, but I'm just observing because we're still on
16	appeal.
17	THE COURT: Thank you. I see we are also joined
18	by Mr. Dulberg, individually, as well as Thomas Kost,
19	K O S T, who is identified in his Zoom window as, the
20	quote, full trustee of Paul R. Dulberg Revocable Trust,
21	unquote.
22	We're up today for hearing on Allstate's
23	Motion For Summary Judgment, which has been fully

briefed. Anything to discuss before we move forward

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Mr. Talarico for the Plaintiff?

MR. TALARICO: Judge, no, nothing.

THE COURT: Ms. Tinajero, ready?

MS. TINAJERO: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay. You'll have the first and last word.

I will say for the record I have read the briefs, I have, of course, reviewed the exhibits as well as the authority that the parties have cited. So no within should feel that they need to read their brief to me, but I will, of course, give both sides an opportunity to be heard.

Ms. Tinajero, it's your motion, you'll have the first and last word.

MS. TINAJERO: Thank you, Your Honor. I will keep it brief this morning since you have gone through the briefs.

19 ARGUMENT BY

20 MS. TINAJERO:

The arguments set forth in our Motion For Summary Judgment are very straight forward. You know, as to the unsigned agreement, the position Plaintiffs have taken that a party is bound by and, therefore, can

breach an unsigned, undated agreement is a legally flawed position. Simply put, Allstate cannot be bound by an unsigned agreement.

As to the binding mediation agreement, which is the only executed valid agreement between the parties, which is undisputed, to the extent terms were modified and/or admitted between the unsigned agreement and the executed binding mediation agreement, it is not alleged Allstate does not maintain that it played any role in drafting anything about the mediation agreement. And, importantly, such amendments were made before the binding mediation was executed.

Additionally, the monetary parameters set forth in the agreement remains the same in both the unsigned agreement and the executed binding mediation agreement.

The damage that Dulberg identifies in the complaint, you know, in an amount in excess of \$261,000 do not flow from any breach complained of as against Allstate. And it's our position that there are no set of facts under which Dulberg can prove a breach of an unsigned agreement or the executed binding mediation agreement.

Further, Dulberg executed a release, which is
attached to our Motion For Summary Judgment. The terms
of the release are clear, certain, free from doubt and
Dulberg admits to signing the release in his reply to
Allstate's affirmative defenses. That's all I have,
Your Honor.

THE COURT: Thank you, Tinajero.

Mr. Talarico?

ARGUMENT BY

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MR. TALARICO:

I think I would like to start in reverse order. I would like to address, Judge, the release.

Mr. Dulberg -- I filed on behalf of
Mr. Dulberg, he signed a counter-affidavit, which was
sent to the Court and I believe it's actually been
delivered personally to your courtroom today. It was
filed yesterday. Mr. Dulberg had been sick for a few
days and he couldn't cooperate or give me any of his
time, but I filed it yesterday and it's in opposite to
the release, the reasons why the release is not
effective. His reasoning is that he was forced to do
this against his will.

In his counter-affidavit he indicated, and I think copied transcripts of e-mails that he received

from his own attorney forcing -- telling him that if he didn't sign the release, the Judge would hold him in contempt and he would be jailed, different than the general terms of contract by signing a release, which is a contract, under those terms cannot be enforced against the person that's being threatened with jail, and/or being held in contempt. Plus, that particular release makes no sense, Judge.

If you really think about all of the things they talk about in their motion and affidavit, especially the affidavit.

I would like to bring up the fact that the statement, the affiant says the money was paid and then the releases were sent out to be signed. Judge, I would ask you to take judicial notice that insurance companies do not pay first and then send out releases.

Furthermore, since this matter was already adjudicated and an order was entered by the arbitration judge, there was no need for a release; that Allstate had paid, according to their own affidavit, and now they're trying to enforce and ask for and force Mr. Dulberg to sign a release. I think that brings up a considerable amount of questionable contrary facts just on its own, Judge.

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what I'm saying and see that summary judgment is so inappropriate, that's just one of hundreds of things that we are at different ends of the spectrum on. And I think that's all been supplied to Your Honor, but, most importantly, this release issue, it is contrary to the logic that the money was paid first and released. In my practice, Judge, but I've never settled with an insurance company that would pay first and then ask for a release. That's all I have to say today, Judge. Thank you.

THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Talarico, the only argument you want to make today is a brand new argument based on, I believe, duress that did not appear anywhere in your response brief. It is based exclusively on an affidavit that was filed yesterday and hand delivered to the Court minutes before this proceeding began.

That's the only argument you want to make?
You don't want to address anything that Ms. Tinajero
spelled out in the motion or the reply regarding the
enforceability of an unsigned agreement, which is the
entire basis of Count 5? I just want to make sure that
you have a full opportunity to make whatever arguments

1 you wish.

- 2 FURTHER ARGUMENT
- 3 BY MR. TALARICO:

release. The release was filed yesterday, Your Honor. It was filed and it was accepted. I sent it out to Your Honor this morning at about 6:00 a.m. with the attached exhibits and all the other counsel of record. What response I got was please send a hard copy from your support staff. So I had a hard copy delivered to the courtroom today, but this was filed yesterday.

Judge, this was filed pursuant to, and I think it's clear there, Subsection C of the Motion For Summary Judgment. I'm allowed to do that, Your Honor. And I just complied with the statute, 735 5 -- Well, you know, Judge, better than I know. But 105 Subsection C says I can file counter-affidavits up to the time of hearing and I did that.

so I don't think I violated anyone and I tried -- I sent a message to everybody that if anybody objects, they want more time to review, they want more time to respond, we have no objection. And I also -- counsel suggested the reason why Mr. Dulberg is here because if the Court wants to examine him as to the

affidavit, he's more than willing to answer questions of the Court.

THE COURT: This is not an evidentiary hearing.

MR. TALARICO: You're right, Your Honor. I just made that option.

THE COURT: The other question I asked you, and, again, you focused exclusively on this 11th hour affidavit, which only addresses the effectiveness of the release, I want to make sure that you've had the opportunity to address today, if you choose, because I didn't see anything really in your brief that addresses why the draft agreement attached as Exhibit 6B to the complaint would be enforceable?

MR. TALARICO: Why it wouldn't be enforceable? Is that what you said? I'm sorry.

THE COURT: Why it would be enforceable because that's your claim. Count 5 is for breach of contract.

MR. TALARICO: Yes, Judge.

THE COURT: The breach that you claim in Paragraph 106 is that Defendant breached the contract by not following the terms regarding amending the contract, but the only amendments that you cite are the changes between Exhibit 6B and Exhibit 11. So for there to possibly be a breach of contract, Exhibit 6B

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must have been enforceable, otherwise you can't possibly have a claim for its breach. And Ms. Tinajero on behalf of Allstate has argued in the motion and the reply that because Exhibit B was unsigned it was not enforceable.

THE COURT: Judge, Exhibit B was the only exhibit permitted by the bankruptcy court. It was presented to the bankruptcy judge as unsigned and the bankruptcy judge, Judge Lynch, said to the trustee "sign the contract and you can go forward." Trustee never signed it. They refused to sign -- They didn't actually refuse to sign it, but he didn't. Then another contract appeared.

One of the things we said, Judge, is that this matter -- this binding mediation agreement had been already presented to the trial court judge maybe 6 months before. So there's all of these issues of what's the valid contract, names are changing from the Defendant being liable, the contract now says a relative of the Dulbergs is liable to Paul, but there's a person, David Dulberg, he exists.

Again, the bankruptcy judge saw an unsigned contract and told and instructed his trustee to sign it.

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We have an enforceable contract, I believe. And I think that the fact that all of these things were done -- and forgive me, Judge, because I don't practice bankruptcy -- but in violation of the stay that had been in effect that whole time. I think that with all of those issues I should be allowed as representative of the Plaintiff to do some discovery upon to see really what the truth of the matter is, we've had allegations back and forth.

THE COURT: You said that the bankruptcy court directed the trustee to sign the agreement. So what possible relevance can any prior alleged violations of the stay have to do with Allstate's liability under any contract?

MR. TALARICO: Judge, the terms of the contract, we say that the signed contract is a contract. The terms of the contract as accepted and signed by all the parties were -- when I say parties I mean Dulberg denies he signed it, but, anyway, the terms of the contract are sufficient, they say that the breach is that they changed the terms of the contract from the contract they presented to the Court; that the plain language of the contract says if you do this you have to do it, you have to submit hard copies, you have to

do it in advance, I think it's 2 weeks, you have to get permission by the ADR. None of that was done. And both Baudin and the attorney for Allstate were participants in that. So I believe that's a breach of contract.

THE COURT: Mr. Talarico, that assumes that the unsigned contract was enforceable. What factual or legal support do you have for that proposition because I saw not a single case cited in your brief at all? And the extensive factual recitation appears completely irrelevant. So what did you point me to that I overlooked in your brief that provides factual or legal support for the proposition that the unsigned contract is enforceable?

MR. TALARICO: Judge, I will rest now. I said what I have to say. What I pointed you to was the fact that the only contract empowered was the unsigned one. So I'm going to stay on that and I'm finished talking. Thank you, Judge.

THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Talarico.

Ms. Tinajero, if you wish?

FURTHER ARGUMENT

23 BY MS. TINAJERO:

Judge, just briefly. I will say as to the

counter-affidavit that was filed this morning, or at least a courtesy copy of which we only received this morning, it's Allstate's position it should be stricken.

A briefing schedule was entered in this case. Dulberg, Plaintiff's counsel received an extension of time to file his response. But, more importantly, procedural matters aside, all the information contained in the counter-affidavit it doesn't create a genuine issue of material fact as to Allstate's breach of an unsigned agreement:

Any representations that the Baudin

Defendants made or the Olsen Defendants made to Dulberg in the course of the binding mediation proceedings, any execution of the binding mediation agreement or in Dulberg's execution of the release have no bearing on the specific claim against Allstate here, which is breach of an unsigned contract. That's all, Your Honor.

MR. TALARICO: Your Honor, may I respond?

THE COURT: You had a full opportunity to argue,

Mr. Talarico, but in the interest of making a complete

record, what did you wish to say, bearing in mind that

Ms. Tinajero will have the last word?

1 FURTHER ARGUMENT

BY MR. TALARICO:

Yes. I'm repeating myself but --

THE COURT: Then why are you taking everybody's time if all you're going to do is repeat yourself?

MR. TALARICO: One sentence, Judge, will be all I want.

I'm allowed to do that pursuant to 735 ILCS 5/2-1005(c). Thank you, Judge.

THE COURT: All right. You did, indeed, repeat yourself, but I suppose if you wanted to say that a second time for the record, fine.

COURT'S RULING

ON THE MOTION:

Plaintiff's counsel is correct, Section 2

1005 of the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure, 735 ILCS

5/2-1005, Subparagraph (c), does permit an opposing

party to, quote, prior to or at the time of the hearing

on the motion file counter-affidavits, unquote.

I remain unconvinced of the wisdom of that provision of the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure, but there's nothing unconstitutional about it and judges don't ignore or overlook a statute simply because they can't understand why in the world that would be the

law. So, yes, there is nothing procedurally improper about launching an affidavit at the opposing parties and the Court hours before a hearing on a fully briefed Motion For Summary Judgment. So I have received the affidavit.

The affidavit, as I said, essentially seeks to lay ground work for a claim of duress in executing the release. I don't see anything about duress by Allstate and I don't see anything in the affidavit, nor have I heard anything in counsel's argument today, that would suggest that Allstate was not entitled to rely on the release, but the release issue is only one of the arguments that Allstate makes in support of its Motion For Summary Judgment.

Even if I were to find that there were an issue of material fact as to the enforceability of the release, Allstate is entitled to summary judgment on Count 5 of the complaint as pled because the only breach of contract that the Plaintiff alleges is failure to follow, quote, the terms regarding amending the contract. But the only amendments of the contract that the Plaintiff identifies are changes from an unsigned version of the contract to the final signed version of the contract.

The Plaintiff provides no authority to support the proposition that the unsigned contract was binding on Allstate or anyone else. And if the contract, itself, was not binding, definitionally the terms regarding amending the contract, quote, unquote, cannot have been bind. There is no other breach pled. So Allstate ask entitled to summary judgment.

In addition, even if hypothetically, because I understand Mr. Talarico's point, that the unsigned version of the contract was the version presented to the bankruptcy judge in advance, even if theoretically there might be some potential claim for hoodwinking the bankruptcy judge, or something like that, I don't know what it would be, even if hoodwinking the bankruptcy judge, quote, unquote, were a basis for finding a contract enforceable, even so the breaches that the plaintiff claims did not cause any injury.

Mr. Talarico notes that there were a few changes and one does appear to have introduced a typographical error in terms of the individual who would be responsible to the Plaintiff, but both contracts, the unsigned and the signed, were identical as far as Allstate's obligation and there is no suggestion, there is not even any suggestion, let alone

an issue of material fact that Allstate paid the full amount that it was obligated to pay under either version of the contract.

So Allstate is entitled to summary judgment not only on the grounds that there was no breach, but, even if there were a breach, there was no injury.

The motion for summary judgment is granted in its entirety.

And the parties will have to remind me, I don't believe there are any other parties remaining, but, perhaps, I'm overlooking someone.

Mr. Talarico, to your knowledge are there any other party defendants remaining in the case?

MR. TALARICO: Not at this moment, Your Honor. There are no more, you've already released everyone.

THE COURT: Okay. So then today's order will be final and appealable.

Ms. Tinajero, I'll ask you to draft a short written order. It doesn't need to say anything more than that the parties appearing on Allstate's Motion For Summary Judgment, Court having heard argument of both sides, having considered all briefs and all exhibits, including the recent affidavit by Plaintiff Paul Dulberg grants summary judgment for the reasons

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1	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
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3	I, CONNIE L. JAMES, CSR No. 084.002510,
4	Certified Shorthand Reporter, certify:
5	
6	That the foregoing proceedings were taken before
7	me at the time and place therein set forth;
8	That all statements made at the time of the
9	hearing were recorded stenographically by me and were
10	thereafter transcribed;
11	That the foregoing is a true and correct
12	transcript of my shorthand notes so taken;
13	I further certify that I am not a relative
14	or employee of any attorney of the parties, nor
15	financially interested in the action.
16	I declare under penalty of perjury under the Laws
17	of Illinois that the foregoing is true and correct.
18	Dated this 2! Colombo
19	40/1/
20	CONNIE L. JAMES, CSR No. 084.002510
21	
22	
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