IT/NR/NES/2023-083

INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNAL

COURT #2 FREEPORT INSURANCE CENTER, 21B WEST MALL & POINCIANA DRIVE, FREEPORT, GRAND BAHAMA, COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

Before

MRS. HELEN J. ALMORALES-JONES (VICE-PRESIDENT)

(SITTING ALONE)

SHANE CAREY JR.

ARAWAK SERVICE INDUSTRIES CO. LTD.

ORDER ON DIRECTIONS

APPLICANT

RESPONDENT

APPEARANCES

For the Applicant

Pro se (in person) Freeport, Grand Bahama The Bahamas

For the Respondent

Jacy Whittaker, Esquire ParrisWhittaker virtually (via ZOOM) Freeport, Grand Bahama The Bahamas

WHEREAS:

- On the 30th May, 2023, Shane Carey Jr. ("the Applicant") filed a Report of a Trade Dispute against Arawak Service Industries Co. Ltd. ("the Respondent") with The Department of Labour in Grand Bahama, The Bahamas, which stated, inter alia, that the issues relevant to the dispute were Wrongful, Unfair and Constructive Dismissal, Wages owed and Vacation pay;
- By a Certificate of Referral dated the 15th June, 2023 (received on the 6th September, 2023), the Honourable Minister of Labour & Immigration referred the trade dispute between the Applicant and Arawak Services Industries Co. Ltd. to the Industrial Tribunal, Northern Region, ("the Tribunal");
- In accordance with Rule 3(1) of The Industrial Relations (Tribunal Procedure) Rules, 2010 ("The Rules"), on the 6th September, 2023, the Tribunal served the Applicant with notice of the referral;
- 4) The Applicant filed a **Form A** (Originating Application) on the 11th September, 2023;
- On the 12th September, 2023, the Tribunal served a copy of the Form A (Originating Application), a Form C (Notice of Originating Application) and a Form D (Notice of Appearance) on the Respondent (received by *Monique Mackey*);
- 6) On the 14th September, 2023, the **Respondent** filed a **Form D** (Notice of Appearance) which stated, inter alia, that *it intended to resist the application* and *its name was Arawak Service Industries Co. Ltd.*;
- 7) On the 27th September, 2023, the **Respondent** filed a **Form F** (Notice for Further and Better Particulars) requesting:-
 - a detailed account of any specific events, incidents or actions the Applicant believes led to the alleged wrongful and unfair dismissal, including pertinent dates, locations and individuals involved;
 - clarification of any company policies, employment contracts or procedures the Applicant perceives to have been violated in relation to his claim;
 - an elucidation on the specific conditions and changes in the working environment or contract that the Applicant found intolerable, leading to the claim of Constructive Dismissal;

- any steps the Applicant took in an attempt to resolve the perceived issues, including internal complaints, discussions with management or HR and any other actions taken prior to the claim;
- a clear outline of the compensation being sought, including the types and amounts of damages and how they are categorized (e.g. lost wages, emotional distress, legal fees);
- a List and Brief description of any witnesses or documents the Applicant believes will support the claim; and
- any other pertinent details or insights that would provide clarity on the grounds and context of the claim would be greatly beneficial;

in order to fully grasp the basis of the Applicant's claim and prepare an informed and appropriate Defence;

- 8) The **Respondent** failed to file a **Form E** (Defence) within the time limited for so doing by **Rule 6** of **The Rules**;
- 9) On the 10th and 20th October, 2023, the **Applicant** filed a response to the Respondent's **Form F** (Notice for Further and Better Particulars) enclosing several documents and stating that:-
 - the Respondent's President (*Edward Gibby*) refused to allow him to work because he was not vaccinated when work was available;
 - he has been consistently employed by Mr. Gibby for over 8 years; and
 - he enjoyed an employee/employer relationship for the same period;
- 10)On the 20th October, 2023, the **Respondent** filed a **Form L** (Notice of Application for Extension of Time) seeking an extension of time to file a **Form E** (Defence);
- 11)Pursuant to **Rule 15** of **The Rules**, the Tribunal conducted a **Case Management** hearing in this matter at 10:00 a.m. on the 9th November, 2023;
- 12)Pursuant to Section 59(1)(b)(ii) of The Industrial Relations Act ("The I.R.A."), Cap. 321 and Rule 16(1) and (2) of The Rules, and with the consent of both parties, the Tribunal, of its own motion, joined Arawak Service Industries Co. Ltd. as a party (the Respondent) and dismissed Arawak Services Industries Co. Ltd. from the proceedings;

- 13)Pursuant to Section 58(1)(a) of The I.R.A., the Tribunal remitted the trade dispute to the parties for further consideration, with a view to settling/reducing the issues in dispute and adjourned the matter to 1:00 p.m. on Friday, 10th November, 2023, for mention;
- 14)At the further hearing of this matter on Friday, 10th November, 2023, the parties advised that were unable to settle the dispute;
- 15)The **Tribunal** acceded to the Respondent's **Form L** (Notice of Application for Extension of Time) and granted the Respondent an extension of time to file a **Form E** (Defence) within 14 days from today;
- 16)The **Applicant** advised that he will testify and may call 2 witnesses on his own behalf;
- 17) The **Respondent's Counsel** advised that the Respondent will call 2 witnesses in its defence;

18) The Tribunal estimated that the trial may last 2 days and:-

- elected to have the witnesses testify *viva voce* and produce any documents during their testimonies, as the Applicant is a lay person;
- gave liberty to the Respondent's Counsel to file before the first trial date:-
 - Witness Statements for the Respondent's witnesses to stand as their evidence-in-chief (cross-examination & re-examination viva voce); and
 - any List of Documents and Bundle for Documents;
- 19)Rule 3(5) of The Rules provides that a Counsel/Representative appearing for a party pursuant to Section 57(3) of The I.R.A. may submit a Brief/Skeleton Arguments to the Tribunal at least 7 days prior to the commencement of the hearing; and
- 20)**Rule 3(6)** of **The Rules** provides that an unrepresented party may submit **Written Representations** to the Tribunal at least 7 days prior to the commencement of the hearing;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:-

1. This matter is adjourned **10:00 a.m.** on **Monday**, **29**th and **Tuesday**, **30**th **January**, **2024**, for trial;

- 2. The **Respondent** file a **Form E** (Defence) within 14 days from today (by Friday, 24th November, 2023);
- 3. **Both parties** produce at trial, the original (if available) and 3 copies of all documents upon which they will be relying;
- The parties file any Brief/Skeleton Arguments or Written Representations with the Tribunal by no later than 3:00 p.m. on Monday, 22nd January, 2024, and at the same time serve a copy thereof on opposing party; and
- 5. The **Tribunal** serve this **Order On Directions** and a **Form J** (Notice of Hearing) for trial on both parties.

DATED: This 10th day of November, A.D., 2023.

Her Honor, Helen J. Almorales-Jones, Vice-President