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) JOSIACE EUGENE APPLICANT ENDEAVOR DEVELOPMENT INTERNATIONAL LTD. RESPONDENT ORDER ON DIRECTIONS

APPEARANCES

For the Applicant Pro se

Freeport, Grand Bahama

The Bahamas

For the Respondent Wallace R. Allen, Esquire

Cambridge Law Chambers

Holding brief for Ernie E. Wallace, Esquire

Wallace Law Chambers Freeport, Grand Bahama

The Bahamas

WHEREAS:

- 1) On the 2nd May, 2023, **Josiace Eugene** ("the Applicant") filed a **Report of a Trade Dispute** against **Endeavor Development International Ltd.** ("the Respondent") with The Department of Labour in Grand Bahama, The Bahamas, which stated, inter alia, that the <u>issues relevant to the dispute</u> were *Wages owed, Vacation pay, Breach of contract, In lieu of Notice* and *Severance pay*;
- 2) By a **Certificate of Referral** dated the 17th May, 2023 (received on the 5th July, 2023), the Honourable Minister of Labour & Immigration referred the said trade dispute to the Industrial Tribunal, Northern Region, ("the Tribunal");
- 3) The Tribunal served the **Applicant** with notice of the referral on the 5th July, 2023;
- 4) On the 11th July, 2023, the **Applicant** filed a **Form A** (Originating Application) which stated, inter alia, that the Grounds for his application were:

There was an unexpected stopping of work; and Throughout a period of almost 10 weeks, he and his Co-workers were working and not being paid for the work they did;

- 5) On the 19th July, 2023, the Tribunal served a copy of the **Form A** (Originating Application) together with a **Form C** (Notice of Originating Application) and a **Form D** (Notice of Appearance) on the **Respondent**;
- 6) On the 17th July, 2023, the **Respondent** filed a **Form D** (Notice of Appearance), which:-
 - did not indicate whether or not it intended to resist the application; and
 - stated that the name of the Respondent was *Wallace Law Chambers, Ernie E. Wallace*;
- 7) On the 25th July, 2023, the **Respondent** filed a **Form E** (Defence) which stated, inter alia, that:-
 - the name of the Respondent was *Endeavor Dev. Int. Ltd.*;
 - the Applicant was not dismissed;
 - the dates the Applicant gave as to his period of employment were not correct;
 - the details of remuneration stated by the Applicant were not correct; and
 - the Respondent intends to resist the application on the grounds that the Respondent never hired the Applicant, who was hired in Abaco by persons who were not agents of the Respondent;

- 8) The **Respondent's President** gave written authorization for *Wallace R. Allen, Esquire* and the Respondent's Communications Director, *Peter Adderley*, to represent the Respondent, in the absence of its Counsel, *Ernie E. Wallace, Esquire*;
- 9) The **parties** agreed that 2 conciliation meetings were held at The Department of Labour (virtually) and none of the issues relevant to the dispute were resolved;
- 10) The **Applicant** advised that:-
 - he had continued working for the Respondent after it lost its access to Baker's Bay Cay around the 22nd October, 2022;
 - he used New Generation Company's id to access the Cay; and
 - he brought material for the Respondent;
- 11) The **Respondent's Counsel** advised that the Respondent was only the agent for a U.S. Company called "*Btree*", which was the Applicant's employer;
- 12) The **Applicant** to decide whether or not to file a **Form M** (Notice of Joinder of Parties) applying to join *Btree* as a party to the proceedings;
- 13) The Tribunal directed that within 2 weeks, the **Respondent's Counsel** provide the Tribunal with *Btree's* corporate name, e-mail address and the name & address of its registered office;
- 14) The **Respondent's Communications Director**, *Peter Adderley*, advised that the Respondent may settle the matter before the trial date;
- 15) Pursuant to **Section 58(1)(a)** of **The Industrial Relations Act**, **Cap. 321**, the Tribunal remitted the issues to the parties for further consideration, with a view to settling or reducing it;
- 16) The **Applicant** advised that he alone will testify on his behalf;
- 17) The **Respondent's Counsel** advised that the Respondent will call about 2 witnesses in its defence;
- 18) The **Tribunal** decided to have the witnesses to give *viva voce* testimony;
- 19) The **Tribunal** directed that the parties to file their **List of Documents** and **Bundle of Documents** by the end of October 2023;
- 20) The **Tribunal** estimated that the trial may last 1 day; and

21) The **Tribunal** advised the parties that **The Industrial Relations (Tribunal Procedure) Rules, 2010**, require that they file any **Brief/Skeleton Arguments** [pursuant to **Rule 3(5)**] or **Written Representations** [pursuant to **Rule 3(6)**] at least 7 days before the trial date;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:-

- The Respondent's Counsel provide the Tribunal and the Applicant's Counsel with Btree's corporate name, e-mail address and the name & address of its registered office by Monday, 18th September, 2023;
- The trial be done at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, 20th November, 2023;
- The parties file their List of Documents and Bundle of Documents with the Tribunal by 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 31st October, 2023, and at the same time serve a copy thereof on the other party; and
- 4. The parties file their Brief/Skeleton Arguments (if any) with the Tribunal by 3:00 p.m. on Monday, 13th November, 2023, and at the same time serve a copy thereof on the other party.

DATED: This 4th day of September, A.D., 2023.

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