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KAREN INFANTE ALLEN Clerk of Courts

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS - GENERAL DIVISION – TRUMBULL COUNTY, OUTO

TRUMBULL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL,

PLAINTIFF.

vs.

**DELORES KARNOFEL,** 

## DEFENDANT.

## JUDGMENT ENTRY

JUDGE PETER J KONTOS

CASE NUMBER:

MAY 14 2009

CLERK OF COURT

SUPREME COURT OF OHIO

This cause is before the Court on the competing motions of the parties for summary judgment. The Court reviewed the motions, affidavits, memoranda, pleadings, depositions, exhibits, replies, and the applicable law.

The Court finds there are no genuine issues as to any material facts and after construing the evidence most strongly in favor of the Defendant, Delores Karnofel, reasonable minds could come to but one conclusion and that conclusion is adverse to the Defendant, Delores Karnofel, as to all claims pending in this Court.

The Plaintiff has recited the facts in this case, and it is apparent from the Court's review of the record and of Defendant's counter-claim in this matter that the Defendant wishes to raise matters before this Court that are not proper for all of the reasons stated by the Plaintiff, and the same all fail as a matter of law. It is also clear that Defendant, Delores Karnofel's conduct is "vexatious," as contemplated under Ohio law.

"Vexatious conduct" is the conduct of a party in a civil action that "obviously serves merely to harass or maliciously injure another party to the civil action," "is not warranted under existing law and cannot be supported by a good faith argument for an extension, modification, or reversal of existing law," or "is imposed solely for delay." R.C. §2323.52 (A)(2)(a) through (c). A "vexatious litigator" is "any person who has habitually, persistently, and without reasonable

grounds engaged in vexatious conduct in a civil action or actions, whether in the court of claims or in a court of appeals, court of common pleas, municipal court, or county court, whether the person or another person instituted the civil action or actions, and whether the vexatious conduct was against the same party or against different parties in the civil action or actions." R.C. §2323.52 (A)(3).

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to R.C. §2323.52, the Court hereby declares the Defendant, Delores Karnofel, a vexatious litigator, and hereby enters an Order as follows:

Defendant, Delores Karnofel is hereby prohibited from the following unless having first obtained proper leave of this Court and upon proper service of any and all affected parties:

1. Instituting legal proceedings in the court of claims or in a court of common pleas, municipal court, or county court.

2. Making any application, other than an application for leave to proceed under division (F)(1) of R.C. §2323.52, in any legal proceedings instituted by the vexatious litigator or another person in any of the courts specified in division (D)(1)(a) of R.C. §2323.52.

It is therefore ORDERED that the Plaintiff, Trumbull Memorial Hospital be and is herein granted summary judgment, that all claims of Defendant, Delores Karnofel, be and the same are hereby DISMISSED, with prejudice, and the case is dismissed at Defendant, Delores Karnofel's costs. Case concluded.

SO ORDERED

ERK OF COURTS

ON ALL COUNSEL OF RECORD OR UPON THE PARTIES WHO ARE UNREPRESENTED FORTHWITH BY ORDINARY MAIL.

**JUDGE PETER J KONTOS** 

EYER J KONTOS

IMMON PLEAS

This is a final and appealable order and there is no just cause for delay.

Date: 10/6/28 YOU ARE ORDERED TO SERVE COPIES OF THIS JUDGMENT

## IN THE TRUMBULL COUNTY COMMON PLEAS COURT TRUMBULL COUNTY, OHIO

TRUMBULL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	) ) ) Case No. 08 CV 874
Plaintiff	) JUDGE PETER J. KONTOS
VS.	)
DELORES KARNOFEL	) <u>ENTRY</u> ) )
Defendant	)

On October 6, 2008, this Court declared plaintiff Delores Karnofel to be a vexatious litigator pursuant to R.C. 2323.52. The Eleventh District Court of Appeals affirmed this Court's decision in Appellate Case No. 2008-TR-00115.

Accordingly, pursuant to R.C. 2323.52(H), this Court hereby directs that Trumbull County Clerk of Courts Karen Infante Allen send a certified copy of the Court's October 6, 2008 order to the Ohio Supreme Court for publication and request that the Ohio Supreme Court add Delores Karnofel to the published list of individuals declared to be vexatious litigators.

FTER KONTOS

5-11-09 c: issued to supreme court