

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
JACKSONVILLE DIVISION**

FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION,

Plaintiff,

v.

MICHAEL RANDO, et al.,

Defendants.

Case 3:22-cv-487-TJC-MCR

**JOINT MOTION TO STAY
PROCEEDINGS AS TO ALL
DEFENDANTS**

Plaintiff, the Federal Trade Commission (“FTC” or “Commission”), and Defendants Michael Rando, Valerie Rando, Prosperity Training Tech., LLC, Digital Business Scaling, LLC, First Coast Matchmakers, Inc., First Coast Matchmakers, LLC, and Financial Consulting Management Group, LLC (“Rando Defendants”), and Defendants Elite Customer Services, LLC, and Resource Management Investments, LLC (“Corporate Defendants”) (collectively, “Defendants”), stipulate to and respectfully request that the Court enter an order staying any further proceedings in this case as to the Defendants for 90 days to allow the Commission to vote on proposed settlements. In support of this Motion, the FTC and the Defendants state as follows:

1. The FTC initiated these proceedings by filing its Complaint for Permanent Injunction and Other Equitable Relief (Doc. 1) on May 2, 2022 against the Defendants.

2. The Defendants and the FTC have devoted considerable resources to resolving this matter without the need for further litigation. Both the Rando and Corporate Defendants have signed proposed settlements in the form of stipulated orders that FTC counsel is prepared to recommend to the Commission for approval.

3. Certain FTC actions, including agreeing to settle litigated matters, may only be taken by the affirmative concurrence of a majority of participating Commissioners. 16 C.F.R. § 4.14(c). The Commissioners cannot delegate this authority. *Id.*

4. If the Commission approves the settlements with the Defendants, FTC counsel will promptly file the proposed stipulated orders with the Court. However, until the Commission reviews and approves the settlements, FTC counsel does not have authority to file the proposed stipulated orders. The Commission's review process typically takes 60 to 90 days.

5. Therefore, to allow time for the FTC and the Defendants to effectuate their proposed resolutions, the FTC requests a 90-day stay of these proceedings as to the Defendants.

6. The requested stay will ensure that the settling parties do not waste valuable resources for a matter this is expected to be resolved by the proposed settlements.

7. For purposes of clarity, the requested stay will not affect the Receiver's efforts to marshal and liquidate assets for the benefit of the Receivership Estate as authorized by the Stipulated Preliminary Injunction (Doc. 101).

8. For the foregoing reasons, the parties respectfully request that the Court issue a 90-day stay of further proceedings in this case as to the Defendants.

Local Rule 3.01(g) Certification

Prior to filing this Motion, undersigned FTC counsel conferred with the Receiver's Counsel Katherine Donlon from Johnson, Cassidy, Newlon & DeCort via email on October 11, 2022. The Receiver consents to this Motion.

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Dated: October 12, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on October 12, 2022 I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing via CM/ECF to those listed on the CM/ECF system.

/s/ Hong Park
Hong Park