

STATE OF MICHIGAN

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF OAKLAND

CIENA HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT, INC.,

Plaintiff,

v

Case No. 20-182914-CB

Hon. Martha D. Anderson

SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL  
UNION (“SEIU”) AND ITS LOCAL SEIU  
HEALTHCARE MICHIGAN,

Defendants.

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**OPINION AND ORDER REMOVING CASE FROM BUSINESS COURT**

On August 14, 2020, Plaintiff filed the present Complaint, seeking injunctive relief against Defendants to prevent a strike of employees, who are members of the union, in certain nursing homes operated by Plaintiff. The matter was originally assigned to the Honorable Nanci J. Grant. On August 17, 2020, Judge Grant entered an Order of Assignment to the Business Court, which subsequently transferred the case to this Court.

The Court has an obligation to question sua sponte its jurisdiction over the subject matter of an action. *Yee v Shiawassee Co Bd of Comm'rs*, 251 Mich App 379, 399; 651 NW2d 756 (2002). Subject matter jurisdiction is determined by the allegations in the pleadings. *Trost v Buckstop Lure Co, Inc*, 249 Mich App 580, 587-588; 644 NW2d 54 (2002).

Business court jurisdiction is limited to actions involving a “business or commercial dispute.” MCL 600.8035(3). The statute defines a business or commercial dispute as:

- (i) An action in which all of the parties are business enterprises.
- (ii) An action in which one or more of the parties is a business enterprise and the other parties are its or their present or former owners, managers, shareholders, members of a limited liability company or a similar business organization,

- directors, officers, agents, employees, suppliers, guarantors of a commercial loan, or competitors, and the claims arise out of those relationships.
- (iii) An action in which 1 of the parties is a nonprofit organization, and the claims arise out of that party's organizational structure, governance, or finances.  
MCL 600.8031(1)(c).

MCL 600.8031(1)(b) defines a business enterprise as “a sole proprietorship, partnership, limited partnership, joint venture, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, for-profit or not-for-profit corporation or professional corporation, business trust, real estate investment trust, or any other entity in which a business may lawfully be conducted in the jurisdiction in which the business is being conducted.”

In the present action, no factual allegations have been presented to support the contention that Defendants can be classified as any type of business entity set forth within the definition of a business enterprise under MCL 600.8031(1)(b) to qualify this matter for business court jurisdiction pursuant to MCL 600.8031(1)(c)(i). Moreover, there are no allegations in the Complaint from which the Court could conclude that jurisdiction is proper under either MCL 600.8031(1)(c)(ii) or (iii). As a result, the Court finds that this action does not qualify as a business or commercial dispute as defined by MCL 600.8035(1).

For these reasons, this action is excluded from business court jurisdiction and the Court respectfully orders that the case be reassigned back to the general civil docket of the Honorable Nanci J. Grant. The case shall be re-coded CL.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

9/3/2020  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

/s/ Martha Anderson  
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Hon. Martha D. Anderson  
Business Court Judge