

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
 COUNTY OF BARNWELL)
)
 LORENDA ROBINSON, ELAINE NIX,)
 ARCHIE PATTERSON AND TAMI)
 BOLLERMAN,)
)
 PLAINTIFFS,)
)
 v.)
)
 SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT)
 OF EMPLOYMENT & WORKFORCE,)
)
 DEFENDANT.)

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
 SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
 CIVIL ACTION NO.: 2013-CP-06-059

ORDER
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 SC Court of Appeals

This matter comes before me on Defendant's Rule 59(e) motion to this Courts May 5, 2016, class certification order an Defendant's Rule 59(e) motion regarding this Court's April 12 2017, Order finding the named plaintiffs' have standing to pursue this matter a class action. Both of these motions are denied.

Procedurally, this court on January 11, 2016, heard cross- motions for summary judgment as well as plaintiffs motion for class certification. The Court denied both parties motions for summary judgment on May 5, 2016, but granted plaintiff's motion to certify the class.

Defendant timely filed a Rule 59(e) motion to alter or amend the class certification order, and a hearing on this motion was held on June 7, 2016. At the hearing, counsel for Defendant argued that the Court did not address his assertion that the named plaintiffs lacked standing and could not adequately represent the class. This hearing concluded with the Defendant reserving all other issues raised in his Rule 59(e) motion and the parties agreeing to confer on a way to address this issue.

As a result, on June 15, 2016, defendant filed a motion for an evidentiary hearing to on the issue of standing. Plaintiffs consented to the motion. Hearings were held on November 2, 2016 and January 11, 2017. As result this court issued its order dated April 27, 2017, finding the remaining named plaintiffs had standing to maintain this action as a class action. No other finding was reached by the court. Defendant timely filed a 59(e) motion to the Standing Order, and on October 2 this court held a hearing on this motion as well as any matter previously raised by the defendant in its 59(e) motion regarding class certification.

After, careful review of both orders and consideration of the arguments of both parties, I respectfully deny both motions. The Class certification order sufficiently sets forth my reasoning for granting class certification and the May 5, 2016, Order regarding the named plaintiffs standing sets fort sufficient findings to conclude the named plaintiffs have standing to maintain this action as a class action. Nothing in either order should be construed as a decision on the merits and all issues raised in the pleadings are preserved.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

Barnwell, South Carolina
_____, 2016

Honorable Doyet A. Early, III
Judge of the Second Circuit



Barnwell Common Pleas

Case Caption: Lorinda A Robinson, et al , plaintiff, et al VS SC Department of
Employment & Work Force
Case Number: 2013CP0600059
Type: Order/Other

So Ordered

s/D.A. Early III 2136