

IN THE TRADITIONAL RIGHTS COURT
OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

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ASSISTANT CLERK OF COURTS
REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

JIEN LEKKA,	)	CIVIL ACTION NO. 2017-00149
	)	
plaintiff,	)	
	)	
v.	)	UAAK NON KAKOBABA KAJITOK KO
	)	
TOBIN KAIKO and KEY KAIKO,	)	
	)	
defendants.	)	
	)	
	)	
	)	

RO UAAN PANEL EO:	Grace L. Leban Presiding Judge, TRC
	Nixon David Associate Judge, TRC
	Glorina Harris Associate Pro Tem Judge, TRC

KOMELELE KO:

Ej kein karuo in an Traditional Rights Court (TRC) roltok non case in non kolaplok melele ko enwot an roltok kakobaba in kajitok ko jen High Court eo. Ilo 6 raan in February eo ilo 2020 eo, TRC panel eo ear file e jemlok eo an alkin an kar ronjake case in, im ro uwaan TRC Panel eo ilo tore eo ej late Presiding Judge Walter Elbon, Associate Judge Nixon David, im Associate Judge Grace Leban. Ilo eja iio in wot, 2020, ilo October 1 raan eo, ear bar roltok case in kin jet kakobaba in kajitok ko non an Court in bar uaki. Ilo tore eo alkin jako eo an late Presiding Judge Walter Elbon, ear wor oktak ko non ro uwaan TRC Panel eo. Ro im rar ber non aer uake

kakobaba in kajitok kein litok non TRC Panel eo ilo tore eo rej, Presiding Judge Grace Leban, Associate Judge Nixon David, im Associate Pro Tem Judge Milton Zackios. Ilo September 7, 2021 eo, Panel in ear bar komane juon an jemlok non an uake kakobaba in kajitok kein.

Ilo November 29, 2021, High Court eo ear bar koroltok case in kin eja kajitok kein wot im rar itok ilo Referral Order eo ilo October 1, 2020 eo. Im eja ilo tore in wot, Associate Pro Tem Judge Zackios ear jijotlok jen case in ilo an wor jet idrabortok ko im rejelet an maron wonmanlok wot ilo case in. Kin menin ear bok jet ien ko non bukot juon eo enaj bok jikin Associate Pro Tem Judge Zackios. Alkin jet ien ear alikar bwe TRC Associate Judge Claire T. Loeak ej e eo im ear bok jikin Judge Zackios. Ijo wot ke ejab to jen an dedelok kelet Judge Loeak non an bok jikin Judge Zackios, Judge Loeak ear bar aikuj jijotlak jen case in kin bar idrabortok ko rar koman bwe en bar jijotlok jen an maron uwaan TRC Panel eo ilo case in. Alkin jet tore ko ilo 2025, ear bar maron un kibdren TRC Panel eo non an jerbale case in ilo kobatok eo an Associate Pro Tem Judge Glorina Harris.

Im enin jej maron bar wonmanlok wot im uaki kakobaba in kajitok kein enwot kemlet ilo High Court Order eo non an TRC Panel eo bar etale uak ko an non kar kakobaba in kajitok ko kar itok jen High Court eo ilo October 1, 2020 eo

KAKOBABA IN KAJITOK KO NON TRC:

1. Elane leo im lieo rej jebel, manit ta eo ejelote ikijen won iaerro ej wor an maron ion imon jokwe eo kar aero ilo tore eo erro ear ebalele, ilo an imon jokwe in ber ion juon weto eo ejelok aero jimor maron ion?
2. Inem elane ewor juon manit ej kemlet wawen in, rej maron ke jerbale enwot berber in melele ko remol ilo case in?

Uaak non kajitok juon:

Panel in ej tomak wot ilo uak eo ilo jemlok eo an TRC Panel eo ilo September 7, 2021. Einwot ke, Court in ej kile bwe ejelok an Riabnono Jien Lekka (Jien) im Rijumae Abnono Key Kaiko (Key) maron ion weto in im erro ear kalok imon jokwe in aero ilo tore eo erro ear ebalele. Court in ejbar kile kein kamol eo an Riabnono eo, Plaintiff's Exhibit P-1, eo im ej walok an kar Jien komane juon kwon ak lease non ekkal ion Ronbar iben ro im rej kabjor maron ion Ronbar weto im rein ilo tore eo rej, Alap Kelet Jorlikiep (Kelet) im Senior Dri Jerbal Johnny Mack (Johnny). Court in ej watok kein kamol P-1, bwe ej juon kwon eo ear komelim im komaron Riabnono Jien bwe en maron kalek imon jokwe in kar aero Rijumae Abnono Key ion Ronbar weto, Rairok Village, Majuro Atoll. Ijo wot ke, ilo an walok etan Jien wot ilo kwon ak lease in im jab etan Key, Court in ej maron ba bwe lease in ear ikotaan wot ro aer Ronbar weto im Jien, im jab Key. Kin men in ejimwe im jejjot non an Court in kile bwe imon jokwe in ej imon jolet non Jien, eo im ro aer Ronbar rar kejolet ilo wawen lease im ilo wawen aer kile bwe ej imon.

Court in ej bareinwot kile naan in kamol ko an Senior Dri Jerbal Johnny, eo im ilo naan in kamol ko an, ear ba bwe ilo aero kar Alap Kelet likit eltan peierro ilo lease eo ej non kalikar aero kemelim im komaron an Jien kalek imon jokwe eo an ion Ronbar weto. Ear bar wonmanlok wot im ba bwe rej kile Jien bwe e eo ej imon mwin. Ekkar non manit, elane ro aer bwdrej ak weto eo rej kile im ba ke e eo imon mweo, elablok im ekajur lak an maron jolet maron eo non an amnak imweo emoj an kaloke ion jikin eo an rein aer bwidrej ak weto eo. *Wena v. Maddison*, 4 TTR 194. Kin menin, Court in ej maron ba bwe imon jokwe in ej imon Jien ekkar non an walok etan ilo lease eo, im ekkar non kile eo jen ro rej kabjor maron ion Ronbar weto.

Uak non kajitok ruo:

Court in ej bok tomak in an enwot ilo uak ko imanlok ikijen mantin jolet, ak ilo wawen an kar rikamol Tijen Dick (Tijen) kamol, ear kojerbal naan in “Imon Jolet”. Court in ej kile melele in an rikamol Tijen, ijo wot ke ej bareinwot kile bwe elon wawen ko juon emaron kojerbal naan in jolet. Ijelokin ad maron jolet ion bwidrej, enwot ilo wawen in ilo case in an rein maron jolet juon imon jokwe eo ion Ronbar weto, jej bar maron jolet men ko bwinid einwot uno ko, kapel ko ikijen jokjok wa, katu, amimono, im wawen ko jet. Ilo case in, ej alikar wawen an kar Riabnono Jien jolete maron eo bwe bamle eo kar aero Key ren kar maron jukjuk im amnak ion Ronbar weto ilo tore eo erro ear jet ribalele. Rein aer weto in rar jab lelok wot maron ilo aer likit eltan peior ilo lease eo an Jien, ak rar bar kajolet Jien kin maron eo non an amnak imweo imon ilo Ronbar weto. Enwot an alikar ilo book eo an Tobin, melelein naan in ‘kaamnak’, ej ba, “ilo am likit juon ion weto ak bwidrej eo am”. (Tobin, 1956) Wawen in ear walok ilo an kar Alap Kelet im Senior Dri Jerbal Johnny kabin lease eo an Jien, im bareinwot ilo naan in kamol ko an Johnny ilo an ba rej kile Jien bwe ej imon mon jokwe in kenono kake ilo case in.

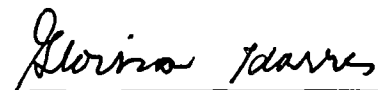
Raan: November 4, 2025



Grace L. Leban
Presiding Judge, TRC



Nixon David
Associate Judge, TRC



Glorina Harris
Associate Pro Tem Judge, TRC