# IN THE CHOCTAW SUPREME COURT OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

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SHOOTAV SUPREUSE COURT
CHURT CLERK

MJ'S COFFEE AND MORE, MARY J. BURNS, OWNER

**APPELLANT** 

V.

CAUSE NO. <u>SCZO12-03</u>

## MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

**APPELLEES** 

### NOTICE OF APPEAL

TO: Ms. Jane Charles

Clerk of the Choctaw Supreme Court

Choctaw Supreme Court 125 River Ridge Circle Choctaw, Mississippi 39350

MJ'S COFFEE AND MORE, MARY J. BURNS, OWNER

**APPELLANT** 

### MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

**APPELLEES** 

Honorable Donald L. Kilgore
Office of the Attorney General
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
Post Office Box 6258
Choctaw MS 39350
Facsimile 601-656-5861
Email: dlkilgore@choctaw.org

Honorable Tanya L. Phillips
Office of the Attorney General
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
Post Office Box 6258
Choctaw MS 39350
Facsimile 601-656-1357
Email: tanya.phillips@choctaw.org

Honorable Charles E. Ross Honorable Linda F. Cooper Wise, Carter, Child & Caraway, PA Heritage Building 401 East Capitol Street, Suite 600 (39201) Post Office Box 651 Jackson MS 39205-0651 Facsimile 601-968-5593

Email: cer@wisecarter.com

**YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE**, pursuant to the Choctaw Rules of Appellate Procedure, that Appellant Petitioner, Mary J. Burns, (hereinafter referred to as "Appellant Burns"), by and through counsel, being aggrieved at the decision rendered by the Choctaw Civil Tribal Court in Cause No. 2012-1151-cv, hereby appeals to the Choctaw Supreme Court this cause of action filed against her by Appellee and Defendant, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians (hereinafter referred to as "Appellee MBCI") in Choctaw Civil Tribal Court, Cause No. 2012-1151-cv. Appellant Burns cause of action that is being appealed relates to the adverse rulings by the Choctaw Civil Tribal Court in favor of Appellee MBCI and against Appellant Burns including the granting of the Motion to Dismiss as to the Counterclaim by Appellee MBCI and the dismissal of Appellant Burns' Counterclaim by the Choctaw Civil Tribal Court in Cause No. 2012-1151-cv.

APPELLANT BURNS hereby appeals to the Choctaw Supreme Court the *Order of Dismissal* of January 24, 2013 in which the Choctaw Tribal Civil Court of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians ruled against her and denied her claim for relief against the Appellee MBCI as set forth in her Counter-claim; and dismissed with prejudice her claims as set forth in her Counterclaim.

APPELLANT BURNS would show unto the Court that the *Order of Dismissal* entered on *January 24, 2013* is on file and of record in the Choctaw Civil Tribal Court in Cause No.

2012-1135-cv and that a copy of the *Order of Dismissal* entered on *January 24, 2013* from which an appeal is sought is attached as *Exhibit "A"* and incorporated herein by reference.

APPELLANT BURNS would further show that a copy of Final Judgment and Dismissal with Prejudice of January 24, 2013, is on file and of record in Choctaw Civil Tribal Court Cause No. 2012-1135-cv and a copy of the Final Judgment and Dismissal with Prejudice is attached as Exhibit "B" and is incorporated herein by reference.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, this the 22nd day of February, 2013.

MJ'S COFFEE AND MORE, MARY J. BURNS, OWNER, APPELLIANT

BY:

JOHN M. MOONEY, JR. ATTORNEY FOR APPELLANT

JOHN M. MOONEY, JR. LAW OFFICES OF JOHN M. MOONEY, JR., PLLC

208 Waterford Square, Suite 100 Madison, Mississippi 39110 Telephone: (601) 981-9555 Facsimile: (601) 981-7922

MBIN: 3431

ATTORNEY FOR APPELLANT

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, John M. Mooney, Jr., do hereby certify that I have this day mailed a true and correct copy of the *Notice of Appeal* by email and by U. S. Mail, postage prepaid, to the following:

Honorable Donald L. Kilgore
Office of the Attorney General
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
Post Office Box 6258
Choctaw MS 39350
Facsimile 601-656-5861
Email: dlkilgore@choctaw.org

Honorable Tanya L. Phillips
Office of the Attorney General
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
Post Office Box 6258
Choctaw MS 39350
Facsimile 601-656-1357
Email: tanya.phillips@choctaw.org

Honorable Charles E. Ross
Wise, Carter, Child & Caraway, PA
Heritage Building
401 East Capitol Street, Suite 600 (39201)
Post Office Box 651
Jackson MS 39205-0651
Facsimile 601-968-5593
Email: cer@wisecarter.com

Honorable Judge Jeff Webb Tribal Court Judge P.O. Box 6012 Philadelphia, MS 39350 Email: webblaw@bellsouth.net

**DATED**, this the 22nd day of February, 2013.

JOHN M MOONEY, JR.

# CHOCTAW TRIBAL COURT MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

MISSISSIPPI BAND OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

**PETITIONER** 

VS.

CASE NO. 2012-1151-CV

MJ'S COFFEE AND MORE, MARY J. BURNS, OWNER

**DEFENDANTS** 

#### ORDER OF DISMISSAL

THIS MATTER came before this Court on the Motion to Dismiss the Counterclaim of Burns filed by the Petitioner/Counter-Defendant, the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians ("MBCI" or the "Tribe") doing business as the Choctaw Shopping Center Enterprise ("Shopping Center"). The Motion was filed with this Court on September 20, 2012. Through this Motion, MBCI seeks dismissal of the Counterclaim of Mary J. Burns, owner of MJ's Coffee and More (Defendants/Counter Plaintiffs), against MBCI. Having considered the Motion to Dismiss the Counterclaim of Burns filed by the MBCI, Defendants/Counter Plaintiffs response, argument by all parties, and the applicable law, the Court finds as follows:

- A. Ms. Burns filed a Counterclaim against MBCI in this action alleging "fraud, deceit, and negligent misrepresentation;" emotional distress; and intentional interference with business relations. Ms. Burns seeks actual and compensatory damages in the amount of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00), costs and attorneys' fees, and other relief. Ms. Burns asserts through her Counterclaim that her eviction from the Shopping Center premises was wrongful, as opposed to pursuant to the Business Lease, disputes her default on the loan she had with Choctaw Entreprenurial Loan Program ("CBLP"), and claims that MBCI damaged or wrongfully retained some of her property from the leased premises.
- B. All of the issues in Ms. Bu

EXHIBIT A lly adjudicated by the Caur in A

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Coffee and More, Mary J Burns, Owner v. MBCI d/b/a Choctaw Shopping Center Enterprise, John Hendrix, General Manager, Choctaw Tribal Court, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians No. 2012-235 (hereinafter "Injunction Action") and a Final Judgment was entered in that matter on August 21, 2012. Because all of the claims Ms. Burns raises in this action were fully adjudicated and decided in the Injunction Action, Ms. Burns' Counterclaim in this action is barred by the doctrine of res judicata.

- C. Because the Court finds that Ms. Burns' Counterclaim in this action is barred by the doctrine of *res judicata*, the Court need not address MBCI's argument for dismissal based on the sovereign immunity of the MBCI or MBCI's argument that this Court lacks jurisdiction because Ms. Burns failed to comply with the mandatory pre-suit notice of claim requirement set forth in Choctaw Tribal Code section 1-5-10 and section 25-1-6 and failed to post the mandatory bond required by section 1-5-5.
- D. For all of these reasons, Ms. Burns' Counterclaim is without merit, and MBCI's Motion to Dismiss the Counterclaim in this action is well taken and should be granted.
- A. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that MBCl's Motion to Dismiss the Counterclaim of Ms. Burns is hereby granted and the Counterclaim of Ms. Burns in this action is hereby dismissed, with prejudice. The Court notes that Ms. Burns' Counterclaim does not assert claims associated with or related to action(s) or inaction(s) of the Choctaw Tax Commission, and as such, in this action, the Court has not adjudicated any rights or claims Ms. Burns may have related to any action(s) or inaction(s) of the Choctaw Tax Commission.

SO ORDERED, THIS THE 11TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2017.

JEFF WEER, TRIBAL COURT JUDGE

### SUBMITTED BY:

Donald L. Kilgore, Esq.
Tanya L. Phillips, Esq.
Office of the Attorney General
Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians
354 Industrial Road (P.O. Box 6258)
Choctaw, MS 39350
P: 601-656-4507

Charles B. Ross, Esq.
Brenda Jones, Esq.
Wise Carter Child & Caraway, P.A.
401 B. Capitol St., Ste. 600
P.O. Box 651
Jackson, MS 39205-0651

P: 601-968-5500 F: 601-968-5519

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**PETITIONER** 

MISSISSIBLI BYID OF CHOCTAW INDIANS

CASE NO. 2012-1151-CV

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DEFENDANTS

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prejudice, with Mary J. Burns to take nothing, and final judgment is hereby entered in favor of Choctaw Indians d/b/a Choctaw Shopping Center in this action are hereby dismissed, with Mary J. Burns, and all claims asserted by Mary J. Burns against the Mississippi Band of JUDGMENT is hereby entered in favor of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians against in accordance with this Court's Order of Dismissal dated December 11, 2012, FINAL

MBCI and against Mary J. Burns.

SO ORDERED THIS THE 24 DAY OF

WIBW COURT INDEE

EXHIBIT

PREPARED AND SUBMITTED BY:

P: 601-656-4507 Choctaw, MS 39350 354 Industrial Road (P.O. Box 6258) Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians Office of the Attorney General Tanya L. Phillips, Esq. Donald L. Kilgore, Beq. COMORET FOR DEFENDANTS

Charles E. Ross, Esq.
Brenda C. Jones, Esq.
Wise Carter Child & Caraway, P.A.
401 B. Capitol St., Ste. 600
P.O. Box 651
Jackson, MS 39205-0651
P: 601-968-5500