Estevez v. Clay, 2026 NCBC Order 76.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA UNION COUNTY	IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION 26CV003602-890
JULIAN ESTEVEZ and OSCAR ESTEVEZ, Plaintiffs, v. CAMERON CHAD CLAY; C&S COMMERCE, LLC; JACK ARTHUR HAMILTON, JR. a/k/a ART HAMILTON; ANGELLE HAMILTON; WARP DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LLC; HAMILTON NTERNATIONAL, LLC f/k/a HAMILTON INTERNATIONAL TEXTILES, LLC; and HAMILTON ACQUSITION Co., LLC, Defendants.	**ORDER ON PLAINTIFFS' OPPOSITION TO DESIGNATION**

1. This matter is before the Court on Plaintiffs Julian Estevez and Oscar Estevez's Opposition to Designation (the "Opposition"). (ECF No. 17.)

2. On 20 August 2026, Defendants filed a Notice of Designation, asserting that this action should be designated to the North Carolina Business Court as a mandatory complex business case under N.C.G.S. § 7A-45.4(a)(1). (ECF No. 10.) On 21 August 2026, the Honorable Paul Newby, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina, designated this action as "complex business" under Rule 2.1 of the General Rules of Practice for the Superior and District Courts (the "General Rules"), and assigned it to the Honorable Matthew T. Houston, Special Superior Court Judge for Complex Business Cases, under Rule 2.2 of the General Rules. (ECF No. 1.)

3. It follows that Plaintiffs' Opposition is moot. Plaintiffs oppose designation of this action as a mandatory complex business case under section 7A-45.4, but it was not so designated. Rather, it was designated as "complex business" under Rules 2.1 and 2.2 of the General Rules.

4. In the exercise of its discretion, the Court **OVERRULES** the Opposition. *See State ex rel. Stein v. Bowen*, 2022 NCBC LEXIS 2, at *2–3 (N.C. Super. Ct. Jan. 20, 2022) (overruling opposition to designation under section 7A-45.4(a) because case had been designated under Rule 2.1 of the General Rules); *see also Jamison v. First Bank*, 2020 NCBC LEXIS 102, at *2–3 (N.C. Super. Ct. Sep. 8, 2020) (same). The Court **ORDERS** that this action shall proceed before the Honorable Matthew T. Houston.

SO ORDERED, this the 21st day of September, 2026.

/s/ Adam M. Conrad
Adam M. Conrad
Chief Business Court Judge