

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MADISON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

HOLIDAY SHORES SANITARY DISTRICT; CITY OF)
CARLINVILLE, ILLINOIS; CITY OF FLORA, ILLINOIS;)
CITY OF FAIRFIELD, ILLINOIS; CITY OF HILLSBORO,)
ILLINOIS; CITY OF MATTOON, ILLINOIS; CITY OF)
MOUNT OLIVE, ILLINOIS; AND CITY OF LITCHFIELD,)
ILLINOIS; individually and on behalf of all others)
similarly situated,)

Plaintiff,)

v.)

SYNGENTA CROP PROTECTION, INC., AND)
GROWMARK, INC.,)

Defendants.)

Cause No. 2004-L-000710

PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR CLARIFICATION OF STAY ORDER

COMES NOW Plaintiffs and move this Court for an order clarifying its Order of October 29, 2010, regarding the scope of the stay entered. In support of this motion, Plaintiffs state as follows:

1. In its order of October 29, 2010, the Court made, in part, the following conclusion:

“Additionally, this court further orders that discovery on the issues dealing with the lobbying organizations (Chemical Industry Council of Illinois and Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association), trade associations (Illinois Farm Bureau) and non-profit educational organizations (Heartland Institute) that are the subject of the order

entered on September 22, 2010 and of this order shall be stayed pending the resolution of any appeal." See order of this dated October 29, 2010, See Exhibit 1 attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

2. It is unclear to the Plaintiffs whether this Order stays all discovery from subpoenas served on those entities listed in the order or whether it stays discovery for only those documents encompassed within the scope of the asserted associational privilege.

3. It would serve no useful purpose and be counter to judicial economy to stay ongoing discovery from these parties concerning documents and information unrelated to the asserted associational privilege, particularly when the Plaintiffs and subpoenaed third parties are actively engaged in working out compliance.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray that this Court enter an order clarifying the precise scope of discovery stayed by its October 29, 2010, order.

Respectfully submitted,


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Attorneys for the Plaintiffs

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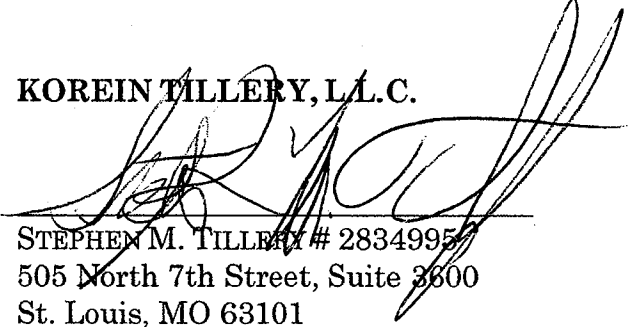
SYNGENTA CROP PROTECTION, INC., AND)
GROWMARK, INC.,)

Defendants.)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that a true copy of Plaintiff's Motion for Clarification of Stay Order was served upon the attorneys of record for the defendants in this cause by enclosing said copy in an envelope addressed to said attorney at his/her address as disclosed by the pleadings on file in this cause and by depositing said envelope in a U.S. Post Office mailbox on this 1st day of November, 2010.

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FILED
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CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT #11
THIRD JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
MADISON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

HOLIDAY SHORES SANITARY DISTRICT, et. al.,

Vs.

04-L-710

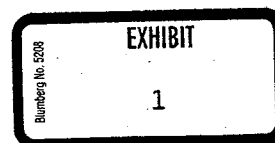
SYNGENTA CROP PROTECTION, INC. and
GROWMARK, INC.

ORDER

This cause came before the Court on Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc.'s (Syngenta) Motion to Allow Interlocutory Appeal, the Heartland Institute's Motion to Allow its 308 Interlocutory Appeal, Motions for Clarification of the September 22, 2010 order, and requests to stay discovery on the subpoenas issued to non-parties while the appeal is being sought.

This court entered an order on September 22, 2010, sustaining the objections of nonparties to production of some of the information sought by plaintiffs based on First Amendment arguments raised by the non parties. The court ruled, and continues to hold, that the non-parties could assert First Amendment rights with respect to their other members' identities and information without providing a privilege log. This court overruled any objection with respect to records the non-parties may have regarding Syngenta (an actual party to this litigation) and allowed those records in the possession of the non-parties that are covered by the subpoenas to be submitted pursuant to a protective order. The court certainly did not rule on any other claimed exemptions or privileges other than the First Amendment associational rights being asserted with respect to any other documents in the possession of the non-parties. Statutory and common law privileges cannot be asserted without a privilege log and were not raised to this court. If there are other claimed privileges, a privilege log will have to be submitted to plaintiffs and then to the judge who will next be presiding over this long running dispute. The court made this clarification along with clarifying that any items described in the subpoenas that are in the possession of the nonparties are discoverable regarding Syngenta notwithstanding the First Amendment claims. This court reviewed the cases cited carefully and made its findings and rulings accordingly.

The court has been asked to certify questions pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 308.



The first issue is whether non-party Heartland has standing to seek certified question under Rule 308. The court finds Heartland has standing for its request so both the request from Syngenta and from Heartland are appropriately before the court. Nothing in Supreme Court Rule 308 prohibits a non-party that has been subjected to orders entered by the court from seeking certified questions to attempt to appeal an interlocutory order. (See, *Thomas v. Page*, 361 Ill.App.3d 484, 837 N.E.2d 483, 297 Ill.Dec. 400 (2d dist. 2005).

Supreme Court Rule 308 allows a court to certify questions when an interlocutory order involves a question of law about which there is substantial ground for difference of opinion and when an immediate appeal from the order may materially advance the ultimate termination of the litigation.

There is a substantial ground for difference of opinion regarding whether the First Amendment privilege serves to bar any discovery from lobbying groups, trade associations, or non-profit educational organizations regarding instructions, communications, and donations or other financial payments or in-kind support regarding one of their members when the court has determined the information is relevant to a lawsuit in which the member is a party. The court's order limited discovery to records regarding only the defendant and directed their production pursuant to a protective order. Illinois and Federal law recognize First Amendment privileges but there is a substantial ground for difference of opinion as to the scope of discovery that may be allowed.

Whether the determination of the scope of the First Amendment privilege as to the non-parties that received subpoenas will materially advance the termination of the litigation is less certain. The underlying lawsuit will and should continue. However, there is no question that if the First Amendment privilege bars any discovery from these non-parties then their participation in the litigation will be terminated. This court believes that the possibility that the non-parties could be relieved of any requirement to respond to the subpoenas warrants the granting of the motions for certified questions. The court therefore grants the Motions to Allow Interlocutory Appeal.

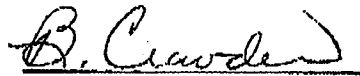
The court therefore certifies the following questions for interlocutory appeal to the Illinois Fifth District Appellate Court:

1. Does the First Amendment privilege bar discovery of a defendant's instructions, communications, and donations or other financial payments or in-kind support between and to a trade association of which it is a member?
2. Does the First Amendment privilege bar discovery of a defendant's instructions, communication, and donations or other financial payments or in-kind support between and to a lobbyist or lobbying organization?
3. Does the First Amendment privilege bar discovery of a defendant's instructions, communications, and donations or other financial payments or in-kind support between and to a non-profit educational organization?

Additionally, this court further orders that discovery on the issues dealing with the lobbying organizations (Chemical Industry Council of Illinois and Illinois Fertilizer and Chemical Association), trade associations (Illinois Farm Bureau) and non-profit educational organizations (Heartland Institute) that are the subject of the order entered on September 22, 2010 and of this order shall be stayed pending the resolution of any appeal.

The Clerk is to send a copy of this order to counsel of record.

Entered October 29, 2010.



Judge