## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

ALEXANDER PANGBORN,

Plaintiff

v.

CARE ALTERNATIVES OF MASSACHUSETTS, LLC D/B/A ASCEND HOSPICE; and CARE ONE

MANAGEMENT, LLC,

Defendants

Civil Action No. 3:20-cv-30005-MGM

## <u>DEFENDANTS' MOTION TO STAY PENDING SUPREME COURT DECISION IN R.G. & G.R. HARRIS FUNERAL HOMES, INC. v. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION</u>

Defendants Care Alternatives of Massachusetts, LLC d/b/a Ascend Hospice ("Ascend Hospice") and Care One Management, LLC ("Care One Management") (collectively, "Defendants") respectively move this Court for an order staying this action in its entirety pending the Supreme Court decision in *R.G. & G.R. Harris v. Equal Emp't Opportunity Comm'n*, 139 S. Ct. 1599 (2019). This Motion to Stay is based on the reasons set forth below and in the accompanying Memorandum of Law.

In support of this Motion, Defendants state that the Supreme Court's decision in *Harris*, which is expected before the end of June, will have significant, perhaps dispositive, consequences for the majority of the claims asserted against the Defendants in this case. For the reasons set forth in the accompanying Memorandum of Law, efficient administration of justice and the balance of harms warrant a stay of this case pending the Supreme Court's decision in *Harris*.

Further, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, both Ascend Hospice and Care One

Management are operating under extreme conditions. Ascend Hospice is on the front lines

providing essential hospice care to at-risk individuals in private homes, skilled nursing facilities

and hospitals. Care One Management is also on the front lines providing essential assistance in

the protection of the health and safety of the patients of hospitals and the skilled nursing facilities

it serves. If Defendants are required to shift resources away from their COVID-19 response efforts

to defend this litigation and claims that may well be resolved by the Supreme Court's decision in

Harris in the next couple of months, Defendants, and the public welfare, will be harmed.

For the reasons set forth above and in the accompanying Memorandum of Law, Defendants

respectfully request that this Court enter an order staying this action until after the Supreme Court

issues a decision in the Harris case.

Respectfully submitted,

CARE ALTERNATIVES OF

MASSACHUSETTS, LLC D/B/A ASCEND HOSPICE

HOSPICE; AND CARE ONE

MANAGEMENT, LLC,

/s/ Cheryl B. Pinarchick

Cheryl B. Pinarchick (BBO# 636208)

Monica P. Snyder (BBO#681573)

Fisher & Phillips LLP

200 State Street, 7th Floor

Boston, MA 02109

617-722-0044

cpinarchick@fisherphillips.com

mpsnyder@fisherphillips.com

Date: April 30, 2020

2

Case 3:20-cv-30005-MGM Document 12 Filed 04/30/20 Page 3 of 3

**LOCAL RULE 7.1 CERTIFICATION** 

I, Cheryl B. Pinarchick, counsel for Defendant, hereby certify that I spoke with Plaintiff's

counsel, Bennett H. Klein, on March 10, 2020, in a good faith attempt to resolve or narrow the

issues presented by this motion. To date, the parties have been unable to reach a resolution.

Dated: April 30, 2020

/s/ Cheryl B. Pinarchick

Cheryl B. Pinarchick

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 

I, Cheryl B. Pinarchick, hereby certify that this document, filed through the ECF system,

will be sent electronically to the registered participants as identified on the Notice of Electronic

filing (NEF) on April 30, 2020

/s/ Cheryl B. Pinarchick

Cheryl B. Pinarchick

3