UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BEFORE THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: D. MICHAEL CHAPPELL

IN THE MATTER OF: NATALIA LYNCH, APPELLANT

DOCKET No. D09423

JOINT MOTION TO ADJOURN THE DECEMBER 28, 2023 ORDER DEADLINE
BY 30 DAYS UNTIL FEBRUARY 12, 2024

Pursuant to 16 C.F.R. § 4.3(b), Appellant Natalia Lynch ("Ms. Lynch") and the Horseracing Integrity and Safety Authority ("HISA") (collectively, the "Parties") respectfully bring this Motion to adjourn the December 28, 2023 order directing Ms. Lynch to file a brief in support of her request for an evidentiary hearing by January 12, 2024 (the "December 28 Order") for 30 days until February 12, 2024 in order to allow the Parties to engage in settlement discussions.

ARGUMENT

On December 13, 2023, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 3058(b)(1)-(3) and 16 C.F.R. § 1.146(a), Ms. Lynch filed a Notice of Appeal and Application for Review of civil sanctions imposed by HISA, which included a request for the supplementation of the record, an assertion of contested facts and a request for an evidentiary hearing. On December 28, 2023, the Administrative Law Judge granted Ms. Lynch's request for an evidentiary hearing and directed Ms. Lynch to submit a statement identifying the additional evidence and the facts that she seeks to contest in the evidentiary hearing, together with a demonstration as to how such evidence and facts are material to the decision being appealed, by January 12, 2024. HISA was directed to file a response to Ms. Lynch's brief within 14 days of service of Ms. Lynch's brief, after which the date of the evidentiary hearing will be set.

Rule 4.3(b)(1) permits the Administrative Law Judge to "[e]xtend any time limit prescribed or allowed by order of the Administrative Law Judge " for "good cause shown " 16 C.F.R. § 4.3(b)(1). The December 28 Order is an order of the Administrative Law Judge and therefore falls within the scope of this rule. For the following reasons, the Parties submit there is good cause for adjourning the December 28 Order for a period of 30 days until February 12, 2024 to allow for settlement discussions. *First*, the Parties agree to the adjournment and therefore, no party will be prejudiced by the delay. *Second*, the adjournment will allow the Parties an opportunity to efficiently resolve the matter without involving the Administrative Law Judge, thereby conserving the resources of the Commission. *Third*, the Parties resources will also be conserved by avoiding further litigation of the dispute. *Fourth*, the opportunity to engage in settlement discussions may allow for a mutually agreeable resolution which addresses the specific needs and objectives of the Parties.

CONCLUSION

The requested extension of 30 days until February 12, 2024 should be granted to enable the Parties to engage in settlement discussions in an effort to reach a mutually agreeable resolution, thereby conserving the resources of the Commission and the Parties. The right of the Parties to request further adjournments is expressly reserved.

Dated: January 11, 2024 Respectfully submitted,

/s/ H. Christopher Boehning

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on January 11, 2024, pursuant to Federal Trade Commission Rules of Practice 4.2(c) and 4.4(b), I caused the foregoing to be filed and served as follows:

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Washington, DC 20580

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