

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF
TEXAS, HOUSTON DIVISION

BB Fly Trucking LLC v. Regions Bank

Civil Action No. H-24-4512 (S.D. Tex. Mar. 5, 2026) · No. Civil Action No. H-24-4512 · Decided March 5,
2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas grants Regions Bank’s motion to strike BB Fly Trucking LLC’s jury demand. The court concludes that the parties entered into a valid deposit agreement containing a knowing and voluntary jury-trial waiver, based in part on the plaintiff’s deposit of funds and the agreement’s acceptance provisions. The court denies as moot the bank’s motion to file documents under seal.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas, Houston Division
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas
DECIDED	March 5, 2026
DOCKET	Civil Action No. H-24-4512
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Plaintiff filed a breach-of-contract and related claims in Texas state court. Defendant removed the action based on diversity jurisdiction and moved to strike Plaintiff’s jury demand based on an alleged contractual jury-trial waiver.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The court applied the Fifth Circuit’s framework for a motion to strike a jury demand based on contractual waiver: once the movant establishes a facially valid contract containing a jury waiver, the burden shifts to the nonmovant to show entitlement to a jury trial.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Nonprecedential district court order
PARTIES	BB Fly Trucking LLC v. Regions Bank

TOPICS

- waiver
- civil procedure
- contract interpretation
- breach of contract
- commercial litigation

PRACTICE AREAS

Civil procedure

Contracts

Commercial litigation

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the deposit agreement formed a valid contract between BB Fly Trucking and Regions Bank despite the absence of a signature card or other document expressly evidencing assent.
2. Whether the deposit agreement contained a knowing and voluntary waiver of BB Fly Trucking's right to a jury trial.
3. Whether BB Fly Trucking established that it was nevertheless entitled to a jury trial after Regions Bank demonstrated a facially valid contractual jury waiver.

HOLDINGS

1. A valid contract existed because the deposit agreement provided that acceptance could occur by depositing funds into an account, and BB Fly Trucking did not dispute that it deposited funds into the account.
2. The parties entered into a valid jury-trial waiver because the deposit agreement clearly stated that the parties knowingly and voluntarily waived any right to a jury trial to the fullest extent allowed by law.
3. Plaintiff was not entitled to a jury trial because, after Regions Bank established a valid contractual waiver, Plaintiff presented no argument or evidence showing entitlement to a jury trial.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Courts have long honored parties’ agreements to waive the jury right if the waiver is knowing and voluntary.” (at 2)

“Considering the clear guidance of the Fifth Circuit that the burden shifts to the Plaintiff to show that it is entitled to a trial by jury following a finding of a valid waiver, and absent any argument or evidence by the Plaintiff showing that it is entitled to a trial by jury in light of the valid jury waiver, the Court finds that Plaintiff’s jury demand should be struck.” (at 5)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

BB Fly Trucking deposited a \$30,000 check with Regions Bank on October 25, 2023. Regions released \$5,300 on October 26 but did not release the remaining \$24,475 until November 23, 2023. BB Fly Trucking sued Regions for breach of contract and related statutory and tort claims, and Regions moved to strike the jury demand based on a jury-waiver provision in the parties' deposit agreement.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

BB Fly Trucking filed suit in the 61st Judicial District Court of Harris County, Texas, on October 22, 2024. Regions Bank removed the case to the Southern District of Texas on November 15, 2024. The district court granted Regions Bank's motion to strike the jury demand and denied as moot the motion for leave to file redacted documents under seal.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Pizza Hut LLC v. Pandya, 79 F.4th 535, 538, 541 (5th Cir. 2023)

OPINION

Souther District of Texas ENTERED INTHE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT none concn cir FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION - BB FLY TRUCKING LCC, § Plaintiff,; v. Civil Action No. H-24-4512 REGIONS BANK, Defendant. ORDER Pending before the Court are Defendant's Motion to Strike Plaintiffs Jury Demand (Document No. 46), and Defendant's Motion for Leave to File Documents Redacted and Under Seal in Connection with Defendant's Reply in Support of Motion to Strike Jury Demand (Document No. 74).

Having reviewed the motions, submissions, and applicable law, the Court determines that the motion to strike. Plaintiff's jury demand should be granted and the motion to file under seal should be denied as moot.. I. BACKGROUND This is a breach of contract case. Plaintiff BB Fly Trucking LLC ("Plaintiff") is a small trucking company owned by a non-party to this case, Natasha Galloway ("Galloway").

On October 25, 2023, Galloway deposited a check on behalf of Plaintiff in the amount of \$30,000 with Defendant Regions Bank ("Defendant"). Shortly thereafter, Defendant issued a notice to Plaintiff stating that \$5,300 of the check would be held until October 26, 2023. Defendant then issued a second notice to Plaintiff stating that \$24,475 of the check would be held until November 2, 2023.

On October 26, 2023, the first \$5,300 hold was released. However, the second \$24,475 hold was not released until November 23, 2023, after Galloway porincred a local news station for assistance. Based on the foregoing, on October 22, 2024, Plaintiff filed this lawsuit in the 61st Judicial District Court of Harris County, Texas, asserting claims against Defendant for breach of contract, violation of Regulation CC, negligence, negligence per se, breach of warranty, and violation of the Texas Deceptive Trade Practices Act.!

On November 15, 2024, Defendant removed the case to this Court pursuant to diversity jurisdiction. On January 28, 2026, Defendant moved to strike Plaintiff's jury demand." On February 18, 2026, Plaintiff responded in opposition.' On February 25, 2026, Defendant filed a reply in support of its motion.' Lastly, on 1 See Notice of Removal, Document No. 1, Exhibit A-2 at 10-13 (Plaintiff s Complaint).

2 See Defendant's Motion to Strike Plaintiff's Jury Demand, Document No. 46 at 1. 3 See Plaintiff's Response to Defendant's Motion to Strike Jury Demand, Document No. 57 at 1. 4 Defendant's Reply in Support of its Motion to Strike Jury Demand, Document No. 64 at 1. March 2, 2026, Defendant moved for leave to file documents connected to its reply under seal.^o Il.

LAW & ANALYSIS Defendant moves to strike Plaintiff's jury demand contending that "[p]ursuant to the applicable contract between Regions and BB Fly, Plaintiff contractually waived its right to a jury trial."^o In response, Plaintiff contends that Defendant's motion should be denied, arguing that the right to a jury trial was not waived. Generally, "[t]he right of trial by jury as declared by the Seventh Amendment of the Constitution—or as provided by a federal statute—is preserved to the parties inviolate." Fed.

R. Civ. P. R. 38(a). However, "[c]ourts have long honored parties' agreements to waive the jury right if the waiver is knowing and voluntary." *Pizza Hut LLC v. Pandya*, 79 F.4th 535, 538 (8th Cir. 2023). Once the party moving to strike a jury demand establishes a facially valid contract containing a jury waiver, the burden shifts to the nonmovant to show it is nonetheless entitled to a jury.

See *id.* at 541. 5 See Motion for Leave to File Documents Redacted and Under Seal in Connection with Defendant's Reply in Support of Motion to Strike Jury Demand, Document No. 74 at 6 Defendant's Motion to Strike Plaintiff's Jury Demand, Document No. 46 at 1.

Here, Defendant contends that "by executing the Deposit Agreement, the Plaintiff knowingly, voluntarily, and intelligently waived its right to a jury trial." In response, Plaintiff contends that Defendant has failed to meet its burden of establishing a valid contract because Defendant "has not produced evidence "establishing that Plaintiff ever assented to a deposit agreement containing a jury waiver."[®] Furthermore, Plaintiff contends that Defendant "did not produce a signature card or any document evidencing assent."[?]

In considering Defendant's motion, the Court has considered the clear language of the deposit agreement, which states, in relevant part, "Acceptance Of 'This Agreement. By signing a signature card when you open an account, by signing any signature maintenance card or other account document for an account, by opening or modifying an account electronically, by depositing funds into, or withdrawing funds from, any account, by being named as a beneficiary or joint owned by an existing owner of an account[.]'"!^o The Court notes that it is not disputed 1 Defendant's Motion to Strike Plaintiff's Jury Demand, Document No. 46 at 5.

8 See Plaintiff's Response to Defendant's Motion to Strike Jury Demand, Document No. 57 at 2. See Plaintiff's Response to Defendant's Motion to Strike Jury Demand, Document □ No. 57 at 4. 10 Defendant's Motion to Strike Plaintiff's Jury Demand, Document No. 46, Exhibit A at 7 (Deposit Agreement). that Plaintiff deposited funds into the account and further notes that the

existence of the contract being challenged by Plaintiff here is the very contract that Plaintiff is alleging Defendant breached.!

Based on the foregoing, and given the clear language of the deposit agreement with respect to acceptance, the Court finds that a valid contract exists between Plaintiff and Defendant. The Court has further considered the language of the contract, clearly stating that “[w]hether any controversy arbitrated or settled by a court, you and we voluntarily and knowingly waive any right to a jury trial with respect to such controversy to the fullest extent allowed by law.”!* Based on the foregoing, and the fact that Plaintiffs only rebuttal to Defendant’s present motion concerns the validity of the contract, the Court finds that a valid jury waiver was entered into by the parties in this matter.

Considering the clear guidance of the Fifth Circuit that the burden shifts to the Plaintiff to show that it is entitled to a trial by jury following a finding of a valid waiver, and absent any argument or evidence by the Plaintiff showing that it is entitled to a trial by jury in light of the valid jury waiver, the Court finds that Plaintiffs jury demand should:be struck.

III. CONCLUSION Based on the foregoing, the Court hereby " See Plaintiff's Complaint, Document No. 1 at 10. 12 Deposit Agreement, Document No. 46 at 11. ORDERS that Defendant’s Motion to Strike Plaintiff’s Jury Demand (Document No. 46) is GRANTED.

The Court further ORDERS that Plaintiff’s jury demand in this matter is STRUCK. The Court further ORDERS that Defendant’s Motion for Leave to File Documents Redacted and Under Seal in Connection with Defendant’s Reply in Support of Motion to Strike Jury Demand (Document No. 74) is DENIED AS MOOT. SIGNED at Houston, Texas, on this SF day of March, 2026.
United States District Judge