

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

MNE Trucking, Inc. v. OJ Commerce, LLC

MNE Trucking · No. 2:23-cv-05742-HDV-AJR · Decided May 2, 2025

SUMMARY

The court orders MNE Trucking, Inc. to show cause why it should not be sanctioned for failing to meet an April 28, 2025 deadline to produce responsive invoices. The court states that it intends to impose coercive sanctions of \$500 per day for each day after the deadline that production remains incomplete, payable to the court. Plaintiff may file a response by May 9, 2025.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Central District of California
WRITING FOR THE COURT	A. Joel Richlin
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Central District of California
DECIDED	May 2, 2025
DOCKET	2:23-cv-05742-HDV-AJR
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Order to show cause regarding sanctions for Plaintiff's failure to comply with a court-ordered discovery-production deadline.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Nonprecedential district court order

TOPICS

- sanctions
- discovery dispute
- commercial litigation
- civil procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- commercial litigation
- discovery
- sanctions

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- Whether MNE Trucking should be required to show cause why it should not be sanctioned for failing to comply with the court's April 28, 2025 discovery-production deadline.
- Whether coercive sanctions of \$500 per day, payable to the court, were an appropriate proposed sanction for each day MNE Trucking failed to complete production of responsive invoices.

HOLDINGS

1. Because MNE Trucking admitted that it failed to comply with the court's April 28, 2025 deadline for producing responsive invoices, the court ordered it to show cause why sanctions should not be imposed.
2. The court stated its intent to impose coercive sanctions of \$500 per day for each day after April 28, 2025 that MNE Trucking failed to complete production of responsive invoices with Bates stamps, with the sanctions payable to the court.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“These are coercive sanctions intended to induce compliance by Plaintiff and therefore shall be payable to the Court.”

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

MNE Trucking alleged that OJ Commerce failed to timely pay \$91,647.50 for trucking services. OJ Commerce counterclaimed that MNE Trucking misrepresented its rates and overcharged it. After discovery disputes concerning pricing information, MNE Trucking acknowledged that it possessed voluminous responsive invoices and related data, but it failed to complete production by the court's April 28, 2025 deadline and produced its first tranche only on April 29.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

MNE Trucking sued OJ Commerce over allegedly unpaid trucking-service charges, and OJ Commerce asserted counterclaims alleging misrepresentation of rates and overcharging. During discovery, the court directed MNE Trucking to produce responsive pricing invoices by April 28, 2025. MNE Trucking produced no invoices by that deadline and began production on April 29, prompting the court to issue an order to show cause why coercive sanctions should not be imposed.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- RG Abrams Ins. v. L. Offs. of C.R. Abrams, 2021 WL 5213103, at *9 (C.D. Cal. Nov. 9, 2021)