

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF
CALIFORNIA

DelRosario v. PNC Financial Services Group, Inc.

DelRosario · No. 1:25-cv-00376-KES-HBK · Decided June 25, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of California granted the plaintiff's motion to stay the action pending arbitration. The court deemed the defendant's motion to compel arbitration moot, vacated the initial scheduling conference and related deadlines, and required the parties to file a joint status report after arbitration concludes.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Helena M. Barch-Kuchta
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
DECIDED	June 25, 2025
DOCKET	1:25-cv-00376-KES-HBK
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Plaintiff moved to stay the federal action pending arbitration, and defendant had moved to compel arbitration. The court granted the stay, deemed the motion to compel moot, and vacated the initial scheduling conference and related deadlines.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Abuse-of-discretion framework for a motion to stay; the party requesting a stay bears the burden of showing that the circumstances justify the stay.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unknown; the opinion is a district court order and the source metadata identifies its precedential status as unknown.

TOPICS

- arbitration
- civil procedure
- commercial litigation
- contracts

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- arbitration
- commercial litigation
- contracts

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the action should be stayed pending completion of the parties' arbitration.
2. Whether defendant's motion to compel arbitration remained justiciable after the parties agreed to participate in arbitration.
3. Whether the initial scheduling conference and related deadlines should be vacated during the stay.

HOLDINGS

1. The action, including all discovery, must be stayed pending arbitration because the parties agreed to arbitrate and plaintiff satisfied the burden justifying a stay.
2. Defendant's motion to compel arbitration was moot because the parties had agreed to participate in arbitration and arbitration was already underway.
3. The court vacated all hearing dates and related deadlines, including the July 3, 2025 initial scheduling conference, while the action remained stayed.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Section 3 of the Federal Arbitration Act expressly provides that the Court “shall . . . stay the trial of the action until such arbitration has been had in accordance with the terms of the agreement.”” (1)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The parties had an arbitration agreement, and plaintiff initiated arbitration with JAMS. The parties agreed to participate in arbitration, and defendant represented that discovery would be handled by the arbitrator rather than exchanged in the federal action. Plaintiff therefore sought a stay pending completion of arbitration.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff filed this action and later initiated arbitration with JAMS pursuant to the parties' arbitration agreement. Plaintiff moved to stay the action pending completion of arbitration, while defendant's motion to compel arbitration remained pending. The district court granted the stay, mooted the motion to compel, and directed the parties to report the conclusion of arbitration.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- Clinton v. Jones, 520 U.S. 681, 705 (1997)
- Landis v. North American Co., 299 U.S. 248, 254 (1936)
- Nken v. Holder, 556 U.S. 418, 433-34 (2009)
- Dependable Highway Exp., Inc. v. Navigators Ins. Co., 498 F.3d 1059, 1066-67 (9th Cir. 2007)
- Yong v. I.N.S., 208 F.3d 1116, 1119 (9th Cir. 2000)

OPINION

DelRosario v. PNC Financial Services Group, Inc.

PER CURIAM.

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8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

9 FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

10 11 RONALDO E. DELROSARIO, Case No. 1:25-cv-00376-KES-HBK 12 Plaintiff, ORDER
GRANTING STAY OF ACTION,

MOOTING MOTION TO COMPEL

13 v. ARBITRATION AND VACATING INITIAL

SCHEDULING CONFERENCE

14 PNC FINANCIAL SERVICES GROUP,

INC., (Doc. Nos. 11, 13) 15 Defendant. 16 17 On June 17, 2025, Plaintiff Ronaldo E. DelRosario
filed a motion seeking a stay of this 18 action pending completion of arbitration. (Doc. No. 13).
Plaintiff advises that, pursuant to the 19 arbitration agreement between the parties, a copy of which
is attached to counsel's declaration 20 (Doc. No. 13-1, Exhibit A), the parties have agreed to
participate in arbitration. As a result, 21 Plaintiff contends that Defendant PNC Financial Services
Group, Inc.'s motion to compel 22 arbitration is moot. Indeed, in the Parties' Joint Case
Scheduling Report, Defendant notes "no 23 initial disclosures should be exchanged or required
because Plaintiff has initiated arbitration with 24 JAMS, and discovery will be handled by the
arbitrator." (Doc. No. 14 at 4-5). 25 A court is vested with broad discretion to stay a case. *Clinton*
v. Jones, 520 U.S. 681, 705 26 (1997) (citing *Landis v. North American Co.*, 299 U.S. 248, 254
(1936)). The "party requesting a 27 stay bears the burden of showing that the circumstances justify
an exercise of that discretion." 28 *Nken v. Holder*, 556 U.S. 418, 433-34 (2009). Generally, "stays
should not be indefinite in 1 | nature." *Dependable Highway Exp., Inc. v. Navigators Ins. Co.*, 498
F.3d 1059, 1066-67 (9th Cir. 2 | 2007). If a stay is especially long or indefinite, a greater showing
is required to justify it and the 3 | court must "balance the length of any stay against the strength of
the justification given for it." 4 | *Yong v. I.N.S.*, 208 F.3d 1116, 1119 (9th Cir. 2000). Section 3 of
the Federal Arbitration Act 5 || expressly provides that the Court "shall . . . stay the trial of the
action until such arbitration has 6 | been had in accordance with the terms of the agreement." 9
U.S.C. § 3. Thus, Plaintiff has met 7 | his burden to justify a stay of this action. 8 Accordingly, it is
ORDERED: 9 1. Plaintiff's motion to stay (Doc. No. 11) is GRANTED and this action, including
all 10 discovery, is STAYED pending arbitration. 11 2. Defendant's motion to compel (Doc. No.
10) is MOOT. 12 3. Within fourteen (14) days of the issuance of the arbitrator's decision, the
Parties shall 13 notify the Court that arbitration proceedings have concluded and file a joint status
14 report. 15 4. The Court vacates all hearing dates and related deadlines, including the July 3,
2025 16 Initial Scheduling Conference. 17 Dated: __June 25,2025 Wiha. Mh. Bareh Zaskth
19 HELENA M. BARCH-KUCHTA

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

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