

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF IDAHO

Alliant, LLC v. John “Esty” McCoy, Fluid Charge, LLC, Leesburg Pike Partners, LLC (Maryland), Zach Lapole, Gage Evans, Christy Milton, and Tracer Payments, LLC

Alliant · No. 1:25-cv-00143-BLW · Decided January 2, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the District of Idaho considers defendants’ motions to dismiss Alliant, LLC’s claims for lack of personal jurisdiction. The court concludes that Alliant failed to establish purposeful direction or purposeful availment, or that the claims arose from defendants’ Idaho-related activities. The court grants the motions and dismisses the claims without prejudice.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the District of Idaho
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the District of Idaho
DECIDED	January 2, 2026
DOCKET	1:25-cv-00143-BLW
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Defendants moved under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(2) to dismiss all claims for lack of personal jurisdiction. The court granted the motions and dismissed the action without prejudice.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	On a Rule 12(b)(2) motion based on written materials without an evidentiary hearing, the plaintiff must make a prima facie showing of jurisdictional facts. Uncontroverted allegations are taken as true and factual disputes in affidavits are resolved in the plaintiff's favor, but once defendants submit contrary evidence, the plaintiff must respond with facts by affidavit or otherwise. The plaintiff bears the burden of establishing the first two prongs of the Ninth Circuit's specific-jurisdiction test.
PARTIES	Alliant, LLC v. John “Esty” McCoy, Fluid Charge, LLC, Leesburg Pike Partners, LLC (Maryland), Zach Lapole, Gage Evans, Christy Milton, Tracer Payments, LLC

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the District of Idaho had specific personal jurisdiction over McCoy, Fluid Charge, LLC, and Leesburg Pike Partners, LLC for the asserted tort claims.
2. Whether the District of Idaho had specific personal jurisdiction over McCoy for the implied-contract, fraudulent-inducement, and unjust-enrichment claims arising from the \$103,000 loan transaction.
3. Whether the District of Idaho had specific personal jurisdiction over Evans and Lapole for the asserted tort and trade-secret claims.
4. Whether the District of Idaho had specific personal jurisdiction over Milton and Tracer Payments, LLC for claims arising from Lapole's alleged disclosure and use of Alliant's proprietary information.
5. Whether the action should be transferred under 28 U.S.C. § 1631 rather than dismissed for lack of jurisdiction.

HOLDINGS

1. The court lacked specific personal jurisdiction over McCoy, Fluid Charge, LLC, and Leesburg Pike Partners, LLC because Alliant failed to show that their alleged tortious conduct was expressly aimed at Idaho or that the claims arose out of or related to Idaho-directed activity.
2. The court lacked specific personal jurisdiction over McCoy for the implied-contract, fraudulent-inducement, and unjust-enrichment claims arising from the \$103,000 loan.
3. The court lacked specific personal jurisdiction over Evans and Lapole because Alliant failed to show that either defendant expressly aimed the alleged tortious conduct at Idaho or that the claims arose out of Idaho-directed activity.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Alliant is headquartered in Idaho, while the defendants reside or are organized primarily in Maryland, West Virginia, Texas, and other states. McCoy, Evans, and Lapole worked in or managed Alliant's Virginia operations, and the alleged embezzlement, diversion of customers and funds, trade-secret misconduct, and related conduct centered on Virginia-based operations, non-Idaho accounts, and non-Idaho business relationships. Alliant also alleged that McCoy failed to repay a \$103,000 loan and that Lapole later disclosed proprietary information to Tracer and Milton. The defendants' relevant Idaho contacts consisted principally of employment by an Idaho-headquartered company, occasional Idaho work retreats, communications with Alliant's Idaho-based owner, compensation drawn from an Idaho bank, and, as to Tracer, an earlier agreement containing Idaho choice-of-law and forum-selection provisions.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Alliant filed a twelve-count action in the District of Idaho against seven defendants asserting tort, contract-related, trade-secret, and conspiracy claims. Each defendant moved to dismiss for lack of personal jurisdiction. The court determined that it lacked specific personal jurisdiction over every defendant, declined to transfer the case under 28 U.S.C. § 1631 because transfer had not been requested or briefed and multiple potential forums existed, dismissed all claims without prejudice, and deemed Alliant's pending preliminary-injunction motion moot.

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