

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF  
MISSOURI, CENTRAL DIVISION

Paul Mackey v. Allstate Indemnity Company

Mackey · No. 2:26-cv-04085-MDH · Decided June 9, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri grants Allstate Indemnity Company’s motion to transfer an insurance-coverage dispute to the Eastern District of Missouri under 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a). The court concludes that convenience of the parties and witnesses and judicial economy favor transfer, while the plaintiff’s choice of forum weighs against it and other factors are neutral.

CASE DETAILS

|                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| COURT                 | United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri, Central Division                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| WRITING FOR THE COURT | Douglas Harpool                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| JURISDICTION          | United States District Court for the Western District of Missouri                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| DECIDED               | June 9, 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| DOCKET                | 2:26-cv-04085-MDH                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| DISPOSITION           | other                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| PROCEDURAL POSTURE    | Defendant removed Plaintiff's Missouri state-court action to federal court and moved under 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a) to transfer the case from the Western District of Missouri to the Eastern District of Missouri.                                                                                                                          |
| STANDARD OF REVIEW    | The court applied the discretionary case-specific balancing inquiry under 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a), considering convenience, the interests of justice, and judicial economy. The party seeking transfer bears the burden of showing that transfer is warranted, and a plaintiff's choice of forum generally receives considerable deference. |
| PRECEDENTIAL VALUE    | Unknown; federal district court order                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| PARTIES               | Paul Mackey v. Allstate Indemnity Company                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

TOPICS

- venue
- civil procedure
- insurance
- breach of contract

## PRACTICE AREAS

civil procedure

insurance

contracts

## QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the action should be transferred from the Western District of Missouri to the Eastern District of Missouri under 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a).
2. Whether the convenience of the parties and witnesses, accessibility of records and documents, location of the operative events, judicial economy, and other interests-of-justice factors favored transfer despite Plaintiff's choice of forum.

## HOLDINGS

1. Transfer to the Eastern District of Missouri was warranted because the convenience of the parties and witnesses and several related factors favored the Eastern District, while the remaining factors were neutral or did not outweigh those considerations.

## KEY QUOTATIONS

*“For the convenience of the parties and witnesses, in the interest of justice, a district court may transfer any civil action to any other district or division where it might have been brought or to any district or division to which all parties have consented.”* (Standard)

*“For the reasons stated herein, Defendant’s Motion to Transfer Venue is GRANTED. This case is hereby transferred to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri.”* (Conclusion)

## FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The case concerns an insurance dispute over hail and wind damage to Plaintiff's property in St. Louis, Missouri. Allstate initially estimated covered damages at \$317.20, later increased its estimate to \$6,928.79, while Plaintiff's consultant estimated restoration costs at \$163,667.94. Plaintiff alleged that Allstate failed to pay sufficient funds under the policy and asserted breach-of-contract and vexatious-refusal claims.

## PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Mackey filed a two-count petition in the Circuit Court of Cole County, Missouri, alleging breach of contract and vexatious refusal to pay arising from an insurance claim. Allstate removed the action to the Western District of Missouri and moved to transfer it to the Eastern District of Missouri. The district court granted the motion and ordered the case transferred.

## DISPOSITION

other

## CASES CITED

- Terra Int'l, Inc. v. Mississippi Chem. Corp., 119 F.3d 688, 691, 695-96 (8th Cir. 1997)

- In re Apple, Inc., 602 F.3d 909, 912-16 (8th Cir. 2010)
- In re Eyewear Antitrust Litig., No. 23-cv-3065 (KMM/JFD), 2024 WL 2956631, at \*5, \*7 (D. Minn. June 12, 2024)
- Oien v. Thompson, 824 F. Supp. 2d 898, 904 (D. Minn. 2011)
- Graff v. Qwest Commc'ns Corp., 33 F. Supp. 2d 1117, 1121 (D. Minn. 1999)
- Bae Sys., 124 F. Supp. 3d 878, 885
- Klatte v. Buckman, Buckman & Reid, Inc., 995 F. Supp. 2d 951, 955 (D. Minn. 2014)
- Cosmetic Warriors Ltd. v. Abrahamson, 723 F. Supp. 2d 1102, 1108 (D. Minn. 2010)
- GMAC/Residential Funding Corp. v. Platinum Co. of Real Estate & Fin. Servs., Inc., No. 02-cv-1224 (RHK/AJB), 2003 WL 1572007, at \*2 (D. Minn. Mar. 13, 2003)
- Piper Aircraft Co. v. Reyno, 454 U.S. 235, 255-56 (1981)