

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF
WEST VIRGINIA

Integrity Coal Sales, Inc. v. Avani Resources PTE, LTD

Integrity Coal Sales · No. 2:24-cv-00345 · Decided March 18, 2026

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia denied the parties’ cross-motions for summary judgment in a dispute concerning coal purchased from Ben’s Creek Operations WV LLC. The court found genuine disputes of material fact regarding the purchase agreements, the nature of the coal stockpile, and the role of an Avani shareholder and director in directing coal shipments. Claims for conversion and tortious interference remained pending, while an unjust-enrichment claim had previously been dismissed.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia
DECIDED	March 18, 2026
DOCKET	2:24-cv-00345
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The parties filed cross-motions for summary judgment on the plaintiff's remaining conversion and tortious-interference claims.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	Under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 56, summary judgment is proper when there is no genuine dispute as to any material fact and the movant is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. On cross-motions, each motion is considered separately, with facts and reasonable inferences viewed in the light most favorable to the nonmoving party; the court may not weigh evidence or make credibility determinations.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Unknown

TOPICS

- summary judgment
- conversion
- intentional interference with contract
- commercial litigation
- minerals

PRACTICE AREAS

- civil procedure
- commercial litigation
- torts
- contracts
- minerals

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether either party was entitled to summary judgment on Integrity’s conversion claim.
2. Whether either party was entitled to summary judgment on Integrity’s tortious-interference claim.
3. Whether the disputed facts concerning the purchase agreements, the coal stockpile, and Rajesh Johar’s role were genuine and material under Rule 56.

HOLDINGS

1. Neither party was entitled to summary judgment because genuine disputes of material fact affected essential elements of the conversion and tortious-interference claims.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“Facts are ‘material’ when they might affect the outcome of the case, and a ‘genuine issue’ exists when the evidence would allow a reasonable jury to return a verdict for the nonmoving party.” (at 2)

“These disputes are also “material,” as they affect at least one essential element of each cause of action.” (at 5)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Integrity and Avani each issued purchase orders to Ben’s Creek Operations WV LLC for coal. In January 2024, Ben’s Creek allegedly lacked sufficient coal to fulfill both orders and loaded Avani’s trains instead of preserving coal for Integrity; the parties disputed the contractual terms, ownership or possession of the coal stockpile, and the role of Avani shareholder and Ben’s Creek director Rajesh Johar. Integrity and Ben’s Creek later reached an alleged agreement concerning damages and additional coal, but Ben’s Creek filed bankruptcy before satisfying it. Integrity then sued Avani for conversion and tortious interference.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Integrity filed this diversity action against Avani on July 11, 2024, and later filed an amended complaint asserting conversion, tortious interference, and unjust enrichment. The court dismissed the unjust-enrichment claim under Rule 12(b)(6), leaving conversion and tortious interference. After discovery and briefing, both parties moved for summary judgment; the court denied both motions because genuine disputes of material fact remained.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- News & Observer Publ. Co. v. Raleigh-Durham Airport Auth., 597 F.3d 570, 576
- Anderson v. Liberty Lobby, Inc., 477 U.S. 242, 248, 250
- Variety Stores, Inc. v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., Variety Stores, Inc. v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., 888 F.3d 651, 659
- Guessous v. Fairview Prop. Invs., LLC, 828 F.3d 208, 216

- Mitchell v. Data Gen. Corp., 12 F.3d 1310, 1316
- Rossignol v. Voorhaar, 316 F.3d 516, 523
- Aleman v. City of Charlotte, 80 F.4th 264, 283-84
- Jacobs v. N.C. Admin. Office of the Courts, 780 F.3d 562, 569
- Lee v. Town of Seaboard, 863 F.3d 323, 327
- Hensley ex rel. North Carolina v. Price, 876 F.3d 573, 579
- Gaddy Eng'g Co. v. Bowles Rice McDavid Graff & Love, LLP, 746 S.E.2d 568, 578
- Torbett v. Wheeling Dollar Sav. & Trust Co., 314 S.E.2d 166, 167

Retrieved from lawtools.ai · <https://lawtools.ai/cases/federal/united-states-district-court-for-the-southern-district-of-we/2026/integrity-coal-sales-inc-v-avani-resources-pte-ltd-jc4n2hpl>