

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Arch Specialty Insurance Company v. Ding Sheng Corporation

Arch Specialty Insurance · No. 24-cv-03583 (MKB) (JMW) · Decided December 22, 2025

SUMMARY

The United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York grants Plaintiff Arch Specialty Insurance Company’s motion to compel non-party Xiang Xing Chu to comply with a post-judgment deposition subpoena. The Court concludes that the subpoena topics are relevant and proportional to judgment-enforcement efforts under Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 45 and 69, and directs the deposition to occur by February 6, 2026.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York
WRITING FOR THE COURT	James M. Wicks
JURISDICTION	United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York
DECIDED	December 22, 2025
DOCKET	24-cv-03583 (MKB) (JMW)
DISPOSITION	other
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Plaintiff obtained a default judgment against Defendant on breach-of-contract and accounts-stated claims and moved to compel nonparty Xiang Xing Chu, Defendant's principal owner, to comply with a deposition subpoena in aid of post-judgment execution.
STANDARD OF REVIEW	The Court assessed whether the subpoena was valid and whether the requested post-judgment discovery was relevant and proportional to execution of the judgment under Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 26, 45, and 69.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	unpublished district-court order

TOPICS

- discovery dispute
- civil procedure
- default judgment
- insurance
- breach of contract

PRACTICE AREAS

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether Plaintiff's attorney-issued subpoena to nonparty Xiang Xing Chu was valid and enforceable under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 45.
2. Whether the subpoena's topics were relevant and proportional to post-judgment collection under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 69(a)(2).
3. Whether the absence of opposition or an adequate excuse warranted an order compelling Chu to comply with the subpoena.

HOLDINGS

1. An attorney-issued subpoena signed by Plaintiff's counsel under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 45(a)(3) was valid and enforceable against the nonparty.
2. The subpoena's requested discovery concerning the judgment debtor's insurance policies, assets, accounts, ownership, operations, and collection of the judgment was relevant and proportional to execution of the judgment under Rule 69(a)(2).
3. Because the subpoena was valid, the requested discovery was relevant and proportional to judgment execution, and Chu neither complied nor opposed the motion, Plaintiff was entitled to an order compelling compliance.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“In aid of the judgment or execution, the judgment creditor or a successor in interest whose interest appears of record may obtain discovery from any person--including the judgment debtor--as provided in these rules or by the procedure of the state where the court is located.” (opinion text, Legal Framework)

“Valid attorney-issued subpoenas under Rule 45(a)(3) operate as enforceable mandates of the court on whose behalf they are served.” (opinion text, Discussion)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Arch Specialty Insurance Company obtained a judgment against Ding Sheng Corporation after Ding Sheng failed to appear and defend the action. Plaintiff served Ding Sheng's principal owner, Xiang Xing Chu, with a subpoena requiring a deposition concerning the insurance policies, additional premiums, Defendant's assets and accounts, ownership and operations, and collection of the judgment. Chu did not appear for the scheduled deposition and did not oppose or move to quash the subpoena.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

Plaintiff filed claims for breach of contract, unjust enrichment, and accounts stated. Defendant failed to answer or appear, the Clerk entered default, and the Court adopted a Report and Recommendation granting Plaintiff's motion for default judgment in part and denying it in part. After judgment was entered, Plaintiff served Chu with a subpoena for a deposition concerning the insurance policies, Defendant's assets, ownership, operations, and

collection of the judgment. Chu did not comply, oppose, or move to quash, and the Court granted Plaintiff's motion to compel.

DISPOSITION

other

CASES CITED

- *Stati v. Republic of Kazakhstan*, No. 19-MISC-382 (PAE), 2024 WL 3442663, at *4 (S.D.N.Y. July 17, 2024), appeal withdrawn, No. 24-2198, 2025 WL 513037 (2d Cir. Jan. 27, 2025)
- *EM Ltd. v. Republic of Argentina*, 695 F.3d 201, 207 (2d Cir. 2012)
- *Republic of Argentina v. NML Cap., Ltd.*, 573 U.S. 134, 134 S. Ct. 2250, 189 L. Ed. 2d 234 (2014)
- *GMA Accessories, Inc. v. Elec. Wonderland, Inc.*, No. 07-CV-3219 (PKC) (DF), 2012 WL 1933558, at *4 (S.D.N.Y. May 22, 2012)
- *McCabe v. Conair LLC*, No. 24-CV-5594 (RER) (VMS), 2025 WL 2677095, at *2 (E.D.N.Y. Sept. 18, 2025)
- *United States ex rel. Ortiz v. Mount Sinai Hosp.*, 169 F. Supp. 3d 538, 543 (S.D.N.Y. 2016)
- *Gov't Emps. Ins. Co. v. Dinesh Verma Med., P.C.*, No. 22-CV-2893 (GRB) (JMW), 2023 WL 1967575, at *5 (E.D.N.Y. Feb. 10, 2023)
- *Mizrahi v. Equifax Info. Servs., LLC*, 345 F.R.D. 392, 395 (E.D.N.Y. 2024)
- *Freund v. Weinstein*, No. 08-CV-1469 (FB) (MDG), 2009 WL 4065585, at *1 (E.D.N.Y. Nov. 23, 2009)
- *Gujarat State Petroleum Corp. Ltd. v. Republic of Yemen*, No. 19-MC-0547 (RA), 2022 WL 1567464, at *8 (S.D.N.Y. May 18, 2022)
- *Owens v. Republic of Sudan*, No. CV 01-2244 (JDB), 2020 WL 4039302, at *5 (D.D.C. July 17, 2020)
- *Rodriguez v. New Generation Hardware Store Corp.*, No. 22-CV-4422 (LJL), 2024 WL 232103, at *1 (S.D.N.Y. Jan. 22, 2024)

OPINION

Arch Specialty Insurance Company v. Ding Sheng Corporation

PER CURIAM.

FILED

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CLERK

EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK 12/22/ 2025

X

ARCH SPECIALTY INSURANCE COMPANY, U.S. DISTRICT COURT

EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Plaintiff, LONG ISLAND OFFICE

ORDER

-against- 24-cv-03583 (MKB) (JMW)

DING SHENG CORPORATION,

Defendant. X A P P E A R A N C E S: Vitaly Vilenchik, Esq. DAC Beachcroft LLP 155 Broadway, Suite 1602 New York, NY 10006 Attorneys for Plaintiff No other Appearances WICKS, Magistrate Judge: Plaintiff Arch Specialty Insurance Company (“Plaintiff”) brought claims against Defendant Ding Sheng Corporation (“Defendant”) for breach of contract (Count I), unjust enrichment (Count II), and accounts stated (Count III). (See generally, ECF No. 1.) After the case was designated to arbitration, Plaintiff subsequently informed the Court that Defendant failed to answer the Complaint or otherwise appear in this action, and requested the Clerk of the Court issue a Certificate of Default against Defendant. (ECF No. 9.) The Clerk of the Court entered default on June 18, 2024. (ECF No. 10.) Plaintiff subsequently filed its Motion for Default Judgment on Count I and Count III of the Complaint (ECF No. 11), which was referred 1 Counsel appears to have changed firms as the instant application includes an address for the Firm of DAC Beachcroft and the docket reflects the Firm of Hinshaw & Culbertson. Counsel is directed to update the contact information on ECF. to the undersigned by the Chief Judge Margo K. Brodie (see Electronic Order dated July 22, 2024). The undersigned issued a Report & Recommendation, recommending that the Motion be granted in part and denied in part, which Chief Judge Brodie adopted. (ECF Nos. 13, 15-16.) Now that Plaintiff has judgment, he seeks assistance in post-judgment execution. Before the Court is Plaintiff’s Motion to Compel non-party Xiang Xing Chu (“Chu”) to comply with a subpoena issued by Plaintiff (ECF No. 19). Chu is the principal owner of Defendant/Judgment Debtor and the primary applicant of the insurance policies that are the crux of the issues in this case. The application is unopposed.² For the reasons stated herein, the Motion to Compel (ECF No. 19) is GRANTED.

THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Fed. R. Civ. P. 69 provides that “[i]n aid of the judgment or execution, the judgment creditor or a successor in interest whose interest appears of record may obtain discovery from any person—including the judgment debtor—as provided in these rules or by the procedure of the state where the court is located.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 69(a)(2); see also *Stati v. Republic of Kazakhstan*, No. 19-MISC-382 (PAE), 2024 WL 3442663, at *4 (S.D.N.Y. July 17, 2024), appeal withdrawn, No. 24-2198, 2025 WL 513037 (2d Cir. Jan. 27, 2025) (citing Fed. R. Civ. P. 69(a)(2) (“Under Rule 69, a judgment creditor ‘may obtain discovery from any person’ in aid of judgment or execution ‘as provided in these rules or by the procedure of the state where the court is located.’”)). Discovery under Rule 69 “is constrained principally in that it must be calculated to assist in collecting on a judgment.” *Id.* (quoting *EM Ltd. v. Republic of Argentina*, 695 F.3d 201, 207 2 Opposition was to be filed on or before December 17, 2025, and no such filings were made. (See Electronic Order dated 12/9/2025.) Indeed, Plaintiff filed a certificate of service demonstrating that non-party Chu was served with the Order affording opportunity to oppose. (ECF No. 20.) (2d Cir. 2012), *aff’d sub nom. Republic of Argentina v. NML Cap., Ltd.*, 573 U.S. 134, 134 S. Ct. 2250, 189 L. Ed. 2d 234 (2014)). “‘New York state’s post-judgment discovery procedures, made applicable to proceedings in aid of execution by Federal Rule 69(a)(1), have a similarly broad sweep,’ providing that a

‘judgment creditor may compel disclosure of all matter relevant to the satisfaction of the judgment.’” Id. (quoting N.Y. C.P.L.R. § 5223) (under N.Y. C.P.L.R. § 5223 a “judgment creditor may compel disclosure of all matter relevant to the satisfaction of the judgment.”) The Second Circuit observed that post-judgment discovery to assist in post-judgment collection is broad in both federal and New York courts. See *EM Ltd.*, 695 F.3d at 207. This means that creditors have “wide latitude in using the discovery devices provided by the Federal Rules in post-judgment proceedings.” *GMA Accessories, Inc. v. Elec. Wonderland, Inc.*, No. 07- CV-3219 (PKC)(DF), 2012 WL 1933558, at *4 (S.D.N.Y. May 22, 2012) (internal citations omitted). Put another way, judgment enforcement discovery is broader than discovery that could be obtained in the underlying suit that led to the judgment. It is against this backdrop that the undersigned analyzes the instant application.

DISCUSSION

On August 9, 2025, Plaintiff served Chu with a subpoena to appear for a deposition. (See ECF Nos. 19-1, 19-2.) Upon non-compliance of the subpoena that required Chu to appear for a deposition on September 16, 2025, Plaintiff filed the instant application to compel Chu to comply with the subpoena. See *McCabe v. Conair LLC*, No. 24-CV-5594 (RER) (VMS), 2025 WL 2677095, at *2 (E.D.N.Y. Sept. 18, 2025) (citing and quoting *United States ex rel. Ortiz v. Mount Sinai Hosp.*, 169 F. Supp. 3d 538, 543 (S.D.N.Y. 2016)) (“where the subpoenaed non-party neither objected to nor responded to the subpoena, the subpoenaing parties’ remedy was to file a motion to compel ‘in the district where compliance was required’”)); see also *Gov’t Emps. Ins. Co. v. Dinesh Verma Med., P.C.*, No. 22-CV-2893 (GRB)(JMW), 2023 WL 1967575, at *5 (E.D.N.Y. Feb. 10, 2023) (granting motion to compel where subpoenas were validly issued and served and noting that the non-party’s failure to appear with no opposition to the motion warranted “enforcement of the subpoenas”). Indeed, the subpoena here is valid. Rule 45 allows an attorney to issue and sign a subpoena. See Fed R. Civ. P. 45(a)(3). Attorney Vitaly Vilenchik, counsel for Plaintiff signed the subpoena. (See ECF No. 19-1 at 2.) “Valid attorney-issued subpoenas under Rule 45(a)(3) operate as enforceable mandates of the court on whose behalf they are served.” *Mizrahi v. Equifax Info. Servs., LLC*, 345 F.R.D. 392, 395 (E.D.N.Y. 2024) (quoting *Freund v. Weinstein*, No. 08-CV-1469 (FB) (MDG), 2009 WL 4065585, at *1 (E.D.N.Y. Nov. 23, 2009)). “Absent an improperly issued subpoena or an ‘adequate excuse’ by the non-party, failure to comply with a subpoena made under Rule 45 may be deemed a contempt of the court from which the subpoena issued.” Id. The subpoena included the subject matter of what topics were to be discussed. Specifically, the eleven topics were: SUBJECT NO. 1: The 2019 Policy, and any related Documents and Communications between You and Arch. SUBJECT NO. 2: The 2020 Policy, and any related Documents and Communications between You and Arch. SUBJECT NO. 3: Documents and Communications between Arch and You, as well as Arch and Your insurance broker, concerning the 2019 Additional Premium. SUBJECT NO. 4: Documents and Communications between Arch and You, as well as Arch and Your insurance broker, concerning the 2020 Additional Premium. SUBJECT NO. 5:

Documents and Communications exchanged with any other person concerning the 2019 Additional Premium. SUBJECT NO. 6: Documents and Communications exchanged with any other person concerning the 2020 Additional Premium. SUBJECT NO. 7: Documents, Communications, and information concerning any and all of the Assets of DSC, its parent entities, and subsidiaries. SUBJECT NO. 8: Documents, Communications, and information concerning any and all bank accounts, or other deposit or checking or money market accounts held at any financial institution by DSC, its parent entities, and subsidiaries. SUBJECT NO. 9: Documents, Communications, and information relating to or concerning the ownership of DSC, its parent entities, and subsidiaries. SUBJECT NO. 10: Documents, Communications, and information relating to or concerning the operation of DSC, its parent entities, and subsidiaries. SUBJECT NO. 11: Documents, Communications, and information to aid in the collection of the Judgment. (ECF No. 19-1 at 9-10.) The above topics are clearly relevant and in furtherance of Plaintiff's post-judgment collection efforts. "Courts have regularly concluded that 'the presumption should be in favor of full discovery of any matters arguably related to the creditor's efforts to trace the debtor's assets.'" *Gujarat State Petroleum Corp. Ltd. v. Republic of Yemen*, No. 19-MC-0547 (RA), 2022 WL 1567464, at *8 (S.D.N.Y. May 18, 2022) (quoting *Owens v. Republic of Sudan*, No. CV 01-2244 (JDB), 2020 WL 4039302, at *5 (D.D.C. July 17, 2020)). Of course, it is the Court's role to determine that what is sought is relevant under Rule 26. The same applies to Rule 69(a)(2), where discovery "is constrained principally in that it must be calculated to assist in collecting on a judgment." *Rodriguez v. New Generation Hardware Store Corp.*, No. 22-CV-4422 (LJL), 2024 WL 232103, at *1 (S.D.N.Y. Jan. 22, 2024). Having found that the topics to be discussed at the subpoena are relevant and proportional to execution of the judgment coupled with Chu's role as Defendant's owner and the primary application to the insurance policies at issue, there are no grounds to deny the instant motion. Moreover, no opposition or motion to quash is before the Court. Therefore, Chu is directed to comply with the subpoena. Accordingly, Plaintiff's Motion to Compel is granted, and the deposition of Chu is to be taken on or before February 6, 2026. Plaintiff shall serve a copy of this Order by December 30, 2025, upon Chu and file proof of service within two business days of service. Plaintiff shall file a letter regarding the status of compliance by February 13, 2026. Should Chu fail to obey the subpoena or this court Order, such noncompliance could be deemed a contempt of the court order under Rule 45(g).

CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated above, the Motion to Compel (ECF No. 19) is GRANTED. Plaintiff is directed to serve a copy of this Order on non-party Chu by December 30, 2025, and file proof of service within two business days. The deposition shall take place no later than February 6, 2026. Plaintiff shall file a letter regarding the status of compliance by February 13, 2026. Dated: Central Islip, New York December 22, 2025 S O O R D E R E D: James M. Wicks /S/

JAMES M. WICKS

United States Magistrate Judge

Retrieved from lawtools.ai · <https://lawtools.ai/cases/state/united-states-district-court-for-the-eastern-district-of-new-york-united-states-district-court-for-t/2025/arch-specialty-insurance-company-v-ding-sheng-corporation-kyv17bss>