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COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS
IN THE COURT OF APPEAL
SCCivApp & CAIS No. 189 of 2022

Ricardo F. Pratt
(In his capacity as Administrator of the Estate of Ruel Pratt)

Appellant

And

Henrique Baptista

1st Respondent

And

Lesley Baptista

2nd Respondent

(Substantive Appeal)
(Decision; Reasons Reserved)

Before: The Hon Madam Justice Crane-Scott, JA
The Hon Mr Justice Evans, JA
The Hon Mr Justice Smith, JA

Mr Ricardo F Pratt appeared Pro Se
Mr Christopher Gouthro, Counsel for Respondents

7 December 2023

1 The oral judgment of the court was delivered by

2 Crane-Scott, JA:

3 This appeal emanates from a summons filed in the
4 Supreme Court on 28th July, 2016, whereby the appellant sought
5 an order for judgment on admissions among other interlocutory
6 orders. The judge having heard the application, set out her
7 reasons in a ruling dated 29th December, 2022. This ruling
8 forms the basis of Mr. Pratt's appeal.

9 Having heard the arguments today on both sides and
10 having read the judge's ruling, in particular the specific
11 reasons set out at paragraphs 18, 19 and 20 of the ruling, we
12 have determined that the judge is not plainly wrong in the
13 exercise of her discretion under Order 27, rule 3 of the Rules
14 of the Supreme Court.

15 In the circumstances, we have determined that the
16 appeal must be dismissed. Written reasons will be
17 subsequently disseminated.

18 The appeal having failed, the usual rule is that
19 costs follow the event. Mr. Pratt, not having succeeded in
20 his appeal, must pay the respondents' costs of the appeal, to
21 be taxed if not agreed.

22 Dated this 7th day of December, 2023

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CRANE-SCOTT, JA

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