

United States District Court
for the
Southern District of Florida

Master Sgt. Anthony R. Edwards,)
and others, Plaintiffs)
v.) Civil Action No. 16-21221-Civ-Scola
Deloitte & Touche, LLP, Defendant.

Order on Joint Motion to Stay

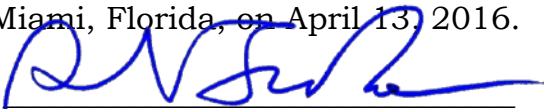
THIS MATTER is before the Court on Deloitte & Touche, LLP's Motion to Stay (ECF No. 7). The Plaintiffs have sued Deloitte for aiding and abetting allegedly improper actions taken by federal agencies and the Federal National Mortgage Association ("Fannie Mae") pursuant to the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008, Pub. L. No. 110-289, 122 Stat. 2654. Similar cases have been filed in other districts. Accordingly, the Federal Housing Finance Agency ("FHFA"), as Fannie Mae's conservator, has filed a motion before the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation to consolidate these actions. Deloitte requests that the Court stay this case until the Panel reaches a decision on FHFA's motion.

District courts are given "broad discretion over the management of pre-trial activities, including discovery and scheduling." *Johnson v. Bd. of Regents of Univ. of Ga.*, 263 F.3d 1234, 1269 (11th Cir. 2001). And district courts have "broad authority to grant a stay." *In re Application of Alves Braga*, 789 F. Supp. 2d 1294, 1307 (S.D. Fla. 2011) (Goodman, Mag. J.) Courts consider the relative prejudice and hardship "worked on each party if a stay is or is not granted," and general efficiency. *Fitzer v. Am. Institute of Baking, Inc.*, No. 209-cv-169, 2010 WL 1955974 (S.D. Ga. May 13, 2010). Moreover, so long as a stay is neither "immoderate" nor indefinite, a stay is appropriate in the interest of judicial convenience. *Ortega Trujillo v. Conover & Co. Communications, Inc.*, 221 F.3d 1262 (11th Cir. 2000) (provided that a stay will expire within reasonable limits, if it is not immoderate).

Deloitte has demonstrated that a limited stay is appropriate at this stage in the case pending the Panel's decision. Staying the case will prevent unnecessary continued expense to the parties and the Court, and will not unduly prejudice the parties. Accordingly, the Court **grants** the Motion to Stay (ECF No. 7.)

The case will remain stayed until the resolution of the FHGA's motion before the Panel. In the meantime, the Court will administratively **close** this case. All pending motions, if any, will be denied without prejudice to be refiled once the stay is lifted.

Done and ordered in chambers, at Miami, Florida, on April 13, 2016.



Robert N. Scola, Jr.
United States District Judge