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STATE OF MICHIGAN

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS

WILLIAM C. PERKINS, II,

Oakland County Circuit Case No: 96-535313-CL

Plaintiff/Appellant,

Court of Appeals Case No

VS.

KMART CORPORATION, A Michigan Corporation,

Defendant/Appellee.

DENISE R. KETCHMARK (P-42291) Attorney for Plaintiff/Appellant 611 W. Court Street, Suite 203 Flint, MI 48503 810-232-6096

APPELLANT'S CLAIM OF APPEAL AS OF RIGHT PURSUANT TO M.C.R. 7,200 et al

NOW COMES the Plaintiff/Appellant, William C. Perkins, II, by and through his attorney, Denise R. Ketchmark, and pursuant to M.C.R. 7.200 et al, claims an appeal as of right' from Judge Andrews' Opinion and Order from a hearing on Defendant/Appellee's Second Motion for Summary Disposition, held on December 8, 1999, Defendant/Appellee's Motion to File Reply Brief in Response to Plaintiff's Motion for Reconsideration dated January 14, 2000 with hearing date of January 12, 2000, and Opinion and Order dated February 16, 2000, wherein no hearing was held.

A transcript has been ordered of the proceedings from December 8, 1999 and January 12, 2000, in the above entitled case, and payment for these transcripts have been made or secured to Marguerite Anderson, and she will produce said transcripts as soon as possible.

NISE R. KUTTOHMARE ATTORNEY AT LAW 611 W. COURT ST. SUITE 202 FLINT, MI 48503 (810)232-6096 This case involves an employment situation, Count I Age Discrimination, was dismissed by Judge Andrews without a trial on the day before trial. Thus, no bond is required due to the fact that no money judgment was ordered and/or entered, and this is not a frivolous cause of action.

Dated: February 25, 2000

DENISE R. KETCHMARK,
Attorney for Plaintiff/Appellant
611 W. Court Street, Suite 203
Flint, MI 48503
810-232-6096

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Prepared By:
DENISE R. KETCHMARK (P-42291)
Attorney at Law
611 W. Court Street, Suite 203
Flint, MI 48503
810-232-6096

ATTORNEY AT LAW
611 W. COURT ST.
SUITE 203
FLINT, MI 48503



STATE OF MICHIGAN

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF OAKLAND

WILLIAM C. PERKINS, II

CASE- NO. 96-

-CL

Plaintiff,

vs.

JUDGE:

K-MART CORPORATION, A MICHIGAN CORPORATION, BY ITS REGISTERED AGENT: ANTHONY N. PALIZZI

Defendants.

DENISE R. KETCHMARK (P-42291)
Attorney for Plaintiff
611 W. Court Street
Suite 203
Flint, MI 48503
(313) 232-6096

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COMPLAINT AND JURY DEMAND

There is no other civil action between these parties arising out of the same transaction or occurrence as alleged in the complaint nor has any other civil action been previously filed and dismissed or transferred after having been assigned to a judge, nor do I know of any other civil action, not between these parties, arising out of the same transaction or occurrence as alleged in this Complaint that is either pending or was previously filed and dismissed, transferred, or otherwise disposed of after having been assigned to a judge in this court.

Dated: 12-10-96

DENISE R. KETCHMARK

ENISE R. KETCHMARK
ATTORNEY AT LAW
611 W. COURT ST.
SUITE 203
FLINT, MI 48503
(8101232-6096

PARTIES AND JURISDICTION

NOW COMES the Plaintiff, William C. Perkins, II, by and through his attorney, Denise R. Ketchmark, and sets forth for his Complaint as follows:

- 1. The Plaintiff William C. Perkins, II (hereinafter refereed to as "Perkins") is a resident of the County of Oakland, and State of Michigan and has been for 180 days prior to filing this complaint.
- 2. Defendant K-Mart Corporation (hereinafter referred to as "K-mart") is a corporation which transacts business in the County of Oakland, State of Michigan.
 - 3. The claims which Plaintiff asserts in this case include:
 - A. Age discrimination in violation of the Michigan Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act;
 - B. Elliott-Larsen Section 7 Retaliation claim;
 - C. Self-defamation claim against Defendant.
- 4. The claims in this case exceed Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000).
- 5. This court has subject matter jurisdiction over this case based on the courts general subject matter jurisdiction MCLA 600.605.
- 6. This court is a court of proper venue for this action under MCLA 600.1621 in that it is the court for the county in which Defendant corporation transacts business.
- 7. This court is a court of proper venue for this action in that it is the court for the county in which the facts supporting this cause of action arose.

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

- 8. Plaintiff incorporates herein by reference paragraphs one thru seven above.
 - 9. Plaintiff was born August 15, 1931.

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FLINT, MI 48503
(810)232-6096

- 10. Plaintiff, William C. Perkins, II, was employed by Defendant K-Mart Corporation as a Pharmacist. He began his employment with Defendant K-mart on October 5, 1978.
- 11. On March 9, 1995, Plaintiff Perkins was terminated from Defendant K-mart. He was 63 years old and had worked for K-Mart for over 17 years.
- 12. Defendant K-mart treated Plaintiff Perkins more harshly than it did its younger employees.
- 13. Defendants discharged Plaintiff Perkins, in substantial part, because of Plaintiff's age.
- 14. Beginning in the late 1980's, Defendant K-Mart Corporation initiated what it referred to as a renewal program for its retail stores.
- 15. This renewal program contains strategies that K-Mart management perceived to be the marketing and merchandising needs for the 1990's.
- 16. Part of Defendant K-Mart's renewal program was to develop a younger management team to fill the positions as pharmacist, store managers, and other positions for K-Mart's various retail stores.
- 17. At some time after this renewal program was conceived, Defendant K-Mart began a program to eliminate its older, more senior Pharmacists, as well as other managers.
- 18. These categories of employees were first discredited by unfounded and unfavorable performance ratings. Once discredited, these Pharmacists were terminated from their position.
- 19. This renewal program of Defendant K-Mart accomplished two (2) things. First it allowed K-Mart to allow its perceived image through the installation of younger employees. Second, it permitted K-Mart to enjoy substantial savings through reduced compensation for employees, a long term savings through reduce obligations for retirement benefits.

ENISE R. KETCHMARK ATTORNEY AT LAW 611 W. COURT ST. SUITE 203 FLINT, MI 48503 (8101232-6096

- 20. The unfavorable rating assigned to Plaintiff was preplanned, and was the product of the intentional policy and plan of age discrimination by K-Mart to rid itself of older, long term employees, namely Plaintiff.
- 21. As a result of his termination from his position with Defendant, Plaintiff experienced a reduction in his annual salary, and he lost, and will continue to lose, other compensation in the form of bonuses or incentive compensation, retirement and other fringe benefits that he would have been entitled to receive in his respective position as a pharmacist with Defendant K-Mart Corporation.
- 22. Plaintiff's termination from Defendant K-Mart was motivated by K-Marts policy of willful age discrimination as outlined in this complaint. Plaintiff was replaced by a significantly younger, and less experienced employee.
- 23. Up until the time that K-Mart began its procedural policy of discrediting long term elderly employees in order to build a record to adversely effect his employment, Plaintiff had been evaluated as diligent and above satisfactory employee.
- 24. Plaintiff Perkins was terminated on account of his age, and in violation of MCLA Section 37.2201 et seq Age Discrimination Claim against Defendant K-Mart. The effect of Defendant K-Mart's discriminatory practices had been to deprive Plaintiff of Equal Employment Opportunities, wages, retirement and other benefits and equal treatment in the terms and conditions of his employment, this damaging Plaintiff.
- 25. From the beginning of Plaintiff's employment with Defendant and throughout Plaintiff's employment, Plaintiff performed his job well.
- 26. Plaintiff was a loyal and diligent employee of Defendant $K\text{-}\mathsf{Mart}$.
 - 27. Plaintiff was discharged without good cause.
- 28. Based upon Defendants' wrongful discharge, Plaintiff has suffered humiliation of being discharged, economic damages, as

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well as emotional distress damages and mental anguish. Plaintiff also seeks a reasonable attorney fee award.

COUNT I - AGE DISCRIMINATION CLAIM AGAINST DEFENDANT

- 29. Plaintiff incorporates herein by reference paragraphs one through twenty-eight.
- 30. Defendant discharged Plaintiff, Perkins, in substantial part, because of Plaintiff's age.
- 31. Subsequent to Plaintiff's discharge, Plaintiff's job duties were taken over by a younger employee.
- 32. Accordingly, Plaintiff, Perkins asserts an MCLA Section 37.2201 et seq Age Discrimination Claim Against Defendant.

COUNT II - ELLIOTT-LARSEN SECTION 7 RETALIATION CLAIM

- 33. Plaintiff incorporates herein by reference paragraphs one through thirty-two.
- 34. Plaintiff complained that he was a victim of age discrimination.
- 35. Defendants' retaliated against Plaintiff Perkins because of his complaints by discharging Plaintiff.
- 36. Accordingly, Defendants have violated the Michigan Elliot-Larsen Civil Rights Act MCLA Section 37.2701 et. seq.

COUNT III - SELF-DEFAMATION CLAIM AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS

- 37. Plaintiff incorporates herein by reference paragraphs one through thirty-six.
- 38. Defendants terminated Plaintiff ostensibly because Plaintiff Perkins engaged in an act of insubordination by violating corporate policy, and that four prior corrective interviews had been conducted with Plaintiff Perkins.

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SUITE 203
FLINT, MI 48503
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- 39. The above statement is false.
- Based on Defendants' false accusation, Plaintiff has been forced to recite the basis for his termination indicating that he was in fact terminated for violating corporate policy.
- As a result of being forced to recite the versions Defendants have offered for Plaintiff's termination, the Plaintiff was forced to recite false statements of fact concerning himself which were directly caused by the actions of the Defendants.
- It was reasonably foreseeable that Plaintiff would be forced to recite the versions given for his termination to others.
- 43. As a direct and proximate result of the actions of Defendants, Plaintiff has suffered past and future economic lost wages and benefits, and Plaintiff has also suffered past and future emotional injuries.

CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendant in damages in such sum in excess of Ten Thousand and no/100 Dollars (\$10,000) as the jury deems just, together with costs, interest and attorney fees pursuant to statute.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff hereby demands a jury trial in the captioned case as guaranteed by M.C.R. 2.508(B).

I SWEAR THAT THE ABOVE STATEMENTS ARE TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF

Dated: /2-6-96

WILLIAM C. PERKINS, II

Plaingiff

Dated: 12-6-96

DENISE R. KETCHMARK (P-42291)

Attorney for Plaintiff

DENISE R. KETCHMARK ATTORNEY AT LAW 61LW COURT ST SUITE 203 FLINT, MI 48503 (810) 232-6096

On this day of <u>December</u>, 1996, before me, a Notary Public in and for the said County, personally appeared the Plaintiff, William C. Perkins, II and made oath that he has read the foregoing Complaint of K-Mart Corporation, and knows the foregoing thereof, and that the same is true to his own knowledge and belief, except as to those matters which he states to be on information and belief, and, as to those matters, he believes it to be true, and further, there is no collusion, agreement, or understanding whatever between himself and the Defendant herein in relation to his Complaint.

DENISE R. KETCHMARK Notary Public

Genesee County, Michigan

My Commission Expires: 01/10/99

PREPARED BY:

DENISE R. KETCHMARK (P-42291)

Attorney at Law
611 W. Court Street, Suite 203
Flint, MI 48503
(810) 232-6096

ENISE R. KETCHMARK

ATTORNEY AT LAW

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SUITE 203

FLINT, MI 48503

(810)232-6096

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STATE OF MICHIGAN

JUDICIAL DISTRICT

JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

1st copy - Di

96-535313-cl

SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT

Court address

1200 N. TELEGRAPH ROAD, DEPT. 404, PONTIAC, MI 48341-0404

Court Telephone no.

(810) 858-0582

Later in the first

Plaintiff attorney, bar no., address, and telephone no. DENISE R. KETCHMARK (P-42291) ATTORNEY AT LAW 611 W. COURT STREET, SUITE 203 FLINT, MI 48503	Plaintiff name(s), address(es), and telephone no(s). WILLIAM C. PERKINS, II 132 N. GENESEE PONTIAC, MI 48341	
ATTORNEY AT LAW 611 W. COURT STREET, SUITE 203 FLINT, MI 48503	Plaintiff attorney, bar no., address, and telephone no.	
(810) 232-6096	ATTORNEY AT LAW 611 W. COURT STREET, SUITE 203	

Defendant name(s), address(es), and telephone no(s). K-MART CORPORATION, A MICHIGAN CORPORATION BY ITS REGISTERED AGENT, ANTHONY N. PALIZZI 3100 W. BIG BEAVER ROAD TROY, MI 48084-3163

NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT: in the name of the people of the State of Michigan you are notified:

- 1. You are being sued.
- 2. YOU HAVE 21 DAYS after receiving this summons to file an answer with the court and serve a copy on the other party or to take other lawful action (28 days if you were served by mail or you were served outside this state).
- 3. If you do not answer or take other action within the time allowed, judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

DEC 12 1996	This summons expires MAR 1	3 1997	LYNN D. ALLEN
*This summons is invalid unless served o	on or before its expiration de	te.	
$oxed{\boxtimes}$ There is no other pending	or resolved civil a	ction arising out	of the same transaction or occurrence as alleged in the complaint
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	Name of court		- · ·
Docket no.		Judge	Bar no.
The action remains	☐ is no longer	pending.	
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Plaintiff(s) residence			Defendant(s) residence
PONTIAC, MICHIGAN, OAKLAI	ND COUNTY		TROY, MICHIGAN, OAKLAND COUNTY
51		W Plane	
Place where action arose or busin TROY, MICHIGAN, OAKLAND			
declare that the complaint in	nformation above a	nd attached is t	rue to the best of my information, knowledge and belief
12-6-96			Sense R. Letchmark
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COMPLAINT IS STATED ON ATTACHED PAGES. EXHIBITS ARE ATTACHED IF REQUIRED BY COURT RULE.

Signature of attorney/plaintiff