

MAINE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

v.

BLUE WAGON, LLC

Submitted on Briefs May 21, 2025  
Decided May 29, 2025

Panel: MEAD, HORTON, CONNORS, LAWRENCE, and DOUGLAS JJ.

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

Blue Wagon, LLC appeals from the order of the Superior Court (Kennebec County, *Stokes, J.*) denying its motion for sanctions against the Maine Human Rights Commission under M.R. Civ. P. 11. Blue Wagon argues that the Superior Court's decision amounted to an abuse of discretion because the Commission signed a complaint containing factual allegations in direct conflict with the Commission's factual findings during its investigation and, in doing so, intended to defeat the purpose of Rule 11. *See Dubois v. Town of Arundel*, 2019 ME 21, ¶ 12, 202 A.3d 524. Contrary to Blue Wagon's argument, there is no indication that the Commission intended to mislead the court in violation of Rule 11. Instead, as the Superior Court noted in its order, "while the complaint could have been more carefully crafted to avoid any potential misperception that the Commission was making allegations contrary to its official findings, the imposition of sanctions is neither appropriate nor warranted." *Cf. Estate of Dineen*, 1998 ME 268, ¶ 11, 721 A.2d 185 (imposing sanction when a party's filings were solely to defeat the purpose of Rule 11).

The entry is:

Judgment affirmed.

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Andre J. Hungerford, Esq., Hungerford Legal P.C., Portland, for appellant Blue Wagon, LLC

Barbara Archer Hirsch, Esq., and Colin R. Hurd, Esq., Maine Human Rights Commission, Augusta, for appellee Maine Human Rights Commission

Kennebec County Superior Court docket number CV-2020-85  
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