

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK - NEW YORK COUNTY

**PRESENT: Hon. Deborah A. Kaplan, Administrative Judge
 Administrative Order**

DANIEL SMALL,

Plaintiff,

- v -

INDEX NO. 654522/2018

DMRJ GROUP INC.,

Defendant.

Administrative Order:

By letter dated September 18, 2018, counsel for defendant requests that this action be re-assigned from the Hon. Jennifer Schecter (I.A.S. Part 54) to the Hon. Eileen Bransten (I.A.S Part 3). Defendant submits that there are two related actions currently pending before Judge Bransten and that counsel for plaintiff inappropriately failed to indicate these related actions on the RJL.

Counsel for plaintiff opposes the request. He claims that the current case merely seeks to confirm an arbitration award, a topic which is narrow by nature. He asserts that, due to the limited scope of inquiry on such matters, there is no reason to assign this case to Judge Bransten.

The question of whether two cases are related should be addressed, in the first instance, to the assigned justice in accordance with the court's case assignment procedures for related cases (see RJLs and Assignments, available at <https://www.nycourts.gov/courts/1jd/supctmanh/RJL's-Assignments.shtml>). Judge Schecter has reviewed the application and has conferred with Judge Bransten, and they jointly reached the conclusion that the cases are related and that this case should therefore be referred to Judge Bransten.

Accordingly, the General Clerk's Office is directed to reassign this proceeding to Commercial Division Part 3 (Bransten, J.) as related to Index Nos. 656047/2016 and 653019/2017.

Dated: October 2, 2018

ENTER: Deborah Kaplan, A.J.

Check one: ☐ FINAL DISPOSITION

☒ NON-FINAL DISPOSITION

Hon. Deborah A. Kaplan
Administrative Judge
Supreme Court, New York County
Civil Branch