## In the Matter of:

MCCORMICK 106

VS.

## RAJYSTMANURA ADJODA

## **HEARING**

August 21, 2014



1		IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND
2		FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA
3		CASE NO: 50-2009CA029367XXXXMB
4		Division: AW
5		
6	MCCORMICK 106	5, LLC.,
7	Pla	aintiff,
8	vs.	
9	RAJYSTMANURA	ADJODA, et. al.,
10	Def	Tendants.
11		/
12		
13		
14	PROCEEDINGS BEFORE:	The Honorable Timothy P. McCarthy
15		Thursday, August 21, 2014
16	DATE:	1:30 p.m 4:30 p.m.
17	TIME:	
18	PLACE:	Palm Beach County Courthouse 205 North Dixie Highway
19		West Palm Beach, FL 33401
20	REPORTED BY.	Rhonda L. Buxbaum, Notary Public State of Florida
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     ALSO PRESENT:
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1	PROCEEDINGS
2	* * *
3	THE COURT: Are you ready to proceed?
4	MR. WASYLIK: Yes, Your Honor.
5	THE COURT: All right. Let's go.
6	MR. PASCALE: Would you like us at the podium,
7	Your Honor?
8	THE COURT: I don't care where you go. Let's
9	go because we're running late because of the
10	well, it's not this deputy's fault, but we didn't
11	have any coverage so we're off schedule.
12	MR. PASCALE: I'm Andrew Pascale appearing on
13	behalf of the Plaintiff, McCormick 106, LLC.
14	THE WITNESS: I'm Brandi Eberly. I'm with
15	McCormick 106, LLC.
16	THE COURT: Okay, let's go. Raise your right
17	hand.
18	THE WITNESS: (Complies)
19	THE COURT: Do you swear the testimony you're
20	going to give in this cause be the truth, nothing
21	but the truth?
22	THE WITNESS: Yes.
23	THE COURT: Take the stand, please. Let's not
24	mess around anymore. Which bank case is this?
25	Which case is this?



MR. PASCALE: It's number two on the Court's 1 2 docket, Your Honor, styled -- it may be styled 3 BankUnited, but it's now been substituted. 4 THE COURT: I've got it. 5 DIRECT EXAMINATION 6 BY MR. PASCALE: 7 0 Would you please state your name? 8 Brandi Eberly. Α And your occupation? 9 Q 10 THE COURT: Spell your name, please. 11 THE WITNESS: B-R-A-N-D-I Last name is Eberly 12 -- E-B as in boy E-R-L-Y. 13 BY MR. PASCALE: 14 0 Can you tell the Court your job duties, 15 please? Assistant Vice-President with McCormick 106, 16 Α 17 LLC. 18 Okay. And does McCormick keep records in 0 connection with its business? 19 20 Α Yes. And are you familiar with McCormick's business 21 0 records for --22 23 THE COURT: What does McCormick do? Are they 24 a bank? 25 THE WITNESS: We're an investor.

1 THE COURT: I'm sorry? 2 THE WITNESS: An investor. 3 THE COURT: An investor? 4 THE WITNESS: We purchase mortgages. We don't 5 lend, so we're not a bank. 6 THE COURT: Okay, go ahead. 7 BY MR. PASCALE: Are you familiar the McCormick's business 8 0 records for the Defendant's mortgage loan that McCormick 9 10 is seeking to foreclose on in this case? 11 Α Yes. 12 Okay. Does that include the mortgage, 0 13 promissory note, payment history, demand letter, and all collateral documents associated with that loan? 14 15 Α Yes. 16 Q And is McCormick in possession of the original 17 promissory note? 18 Α Yes. 19 Does McCormick own the promissory note? Q 20 Α Yes. 2.1 MR. WASYLIK: Objection. Calls for a legal 22 conclusion. 23 THE COURT: Overruled. 24 BY MR. PASCALE: 25 When did McCormick acquire the promissory Q

1 note? 2 November of 2013. 3 Q Okay. In your hand is Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 1. Do you recognize the document? 4 5 Α Yes, it is the promissory note. Have you seen that promissory note before? 6 Q 7 Α Yes. And is the note in the same condition now as 8 0 when you first saw it? 9 10 Α Yes. 11 Okay. And when did you first see the 0 12 promissory note? 13 Α On or around the time of transfer. 14 0 Okay. Does the note appear to be signed? 15 Α Yes. 16 Q Can you read for us on the last page of the note whose name is printed? 17 I can read it the best I can; my apologies. 18 Α 19 Rajystmanura Adjoda. 20 Q Okay. Is there a printed name? 2.1 Yes. Α 22 Can you read that? 0 23 Α Rajystmanura Adjoda. 24 THE COURT: Madam Court Reporter, do you need 25 the spelling for that?



1	COURT REPORTER: I actually have it right here
2	in the style. Thanks, Judge.
3	THE COURT: Okay.
4	BY MR. PASCALE:
5	Q And is there a signature by that name?
6	A Yes.
7	Q And what does that signature read?
8	A It appears to match the printed name.
9	Q Okay. And is the note dated?
10	A Yes, it is.
11	Q Can you tell the Court the date of the note?
12	A August 22, 2006.
13	Q Who is the original lender identified in that
14	note?
<b>14</b> 15	note?  A BankUnited, FSB.
15	A BankUnited, FSB.
15 <b>16</b>	A BankUnited, FSB.  Q And what is the amount of money being
15 16 17	A BankUnited, FSB.  Q And what is the amount of money being borrowed?
15 16 17 18	A BankUnited, FSB.  Q And what is the amount of money being  borrowed?  A Principal balance \$470,250.00.
15 16 17 18 19	A BankUnited, FSB.  Q And what is the amount of money being borrowed?  A Principal balance \$470,250.00.  Q Okay. Does the note contain an allonge?
15 16 17 18 19 20	A BankUnited, FSB.  Q And what is the amount of money being borrowed?  A Principal balance \$470,250.00.  Q Okay. Does the note contain an allonge?  A Yes. There are two.
15 16 17 18 19 20 21	A BankUnited, FSB.  Q And what is the amount of money being borrowed?  A Principal balance \$470,250.00.  Q Okay. Does the note contain an allonge?  A Yes. There are two.  MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor, at this point I'm
15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	A BankUnited, FSB.  Q And what is the amount of money being borrowed?  A Principal balance \$470,250.00.  Q Okay. Does the note contain an allonge?  A Yes. There are two.  MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor, at this point I'm going to object. We're going way beyond



- 1 evidence.
- 2 THE COURT: Okay. What's your response to
- 3 that?
- 4 MR. PASCALE: Your Honor, I'm not asking for
- 5 --
- 6 THE COURT: Well --
- 7 MR. PASCALE: I'd like to introduce the note.
- 8 THE COURT: I'm going to let you do the
- 9 allonges because I want to know what -- it might
- 10 have something to do with admissibility.
- 11 MR. PASCALE: Okay.
- 12 THE WITNESS: There are two allonges. There
- is one that transfers the note from FDIC to
- 14 BankUnited, N.A., and then there's one that
- 15 transfers the note from BankUnited, N.A. to
- 16 McCormick 106, LLC.
- 17 MR. PASCALE: Thank you.
- 18 Your Honor, at this time I move to introduce
- 19 the promissory note into evidence as Plaintiff's
- 20 Exhibit Number 1.
- 21 MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor, I'd like to reserve
- 22 an objection on this one. Under 673.3081,
- 23 Authenticity, that's going to require me to put on
- 24 some evidence later on, and so I think it's
- 25 appropriate.



- 1 THE COURT: How can I do that? How can I
- 2 reserve? Your objection is either sustained or
- 3 it's not. What's your objection?
- 4 MR. WASYLIK: Well, my objection at this
- 5 point, Your Honor, is for the authenticity of the
- 6 note and signature. It's undisputed that Mr.
- 7 Adjoda is deceased, and pursuant to 673.3081 the
- 8 authenticity of the signature is presumed, unless
- 9 the maker is deceased.
- 10 THE COURT: Well, there's another factor
- 11 there, too. What is the other factor? It's
- 12 deceased and what else?
- MR. WASYLIK: Or incompetent, Your Honor.
- 14 That's an alternative condition.
- 15 THE COURT: What's your response to that,
- 16 counsel? First of all, you haven't even told me
- 17 your names.
- 18 MR. PASCALE: It's Andrew Pascale.
- 19 THE COURT: Andrew Pascale. And your name,
- 20 sir?
- 21 MR. WASYLIK: My name, sir, is Michael
- 22 Wasylik. It's M-I-C-H-A-E-L. W-A-S-Y-L-I-K.
- 23 THE COURT: Okay, all right. What's your
- 24 response to the objection, counsel?
- MR. PASCALE: Yeah, Your Honor, our response



- 1 is that the note is what it purports to be. It was
- 2 a negotiable instrument. The Defendant's objection
- 3 is a legal argument not contained within the
- 4 Defendant's Answer and Affirmative Defenses.
- 5 THE COURT: You don't need to put affirmative
- 6 defenses in to object to evidence.
- 7 MR. PASCALE: Well, I understand that, Your
- 8 Honor, but it's akin to a legal argument. It's not
- 9 raised in the Answer and Affirmative Defenses.
- 10 THE COURT: You don't raise objections to
- 11 evidence in answers and affirmative defenses. This
- 12 is an evidentiary issue; not a pleading issue. So
- 13 what is your position on why it should be admitted
- 14 at this point?
- MR. PASCALE: Because there isn't evidence to
- 16 the contrary to show that it is not --
- 17 THE COURT: Objection sustained. You have to
- 18 do better than that.
- 19 MR. PASCALE: Well, I'd like an opportunity to
- 20 have a brief recess, Your Honor.
- 21 THE COURT: To do what?
- MR. PASCALE: To be able to formulate a
- 23 response to the objection and set forth our legal
- 24 position to this Court.
- 25 THE COURT: Set it forth now. This is an



- 1 evidentiary objection. You know, I'm sure you've
- 2 done this before, and it's the standard objection
- 3 to the note when somebody is dead.
- 4 MR. WASYLIK: And, Your Honor, if I may point
- 5 out, this -- we did actually plead this in our
- 6 Affirmative Defenses as to 673.3081 so the
- 7 Plaintiffs have been on notice of this objection to
- 8 the authenticity of the note since January 31st,
- 9 2014. Our Answer and Affirmative Defenses for Lisa
- 10 Adjoda objects to -- I'm going to direct the
- 11 Court's attention to defense number four:
- 12 Plaintiff's claims are barred because the
- 13 signatures, aside from those of the homeowner,
- 14 which is Lisa Adjoda, on any assignments or
- 15 endorsements and provide strict proof thereof
- 16 pursuant to 673.3081, Sub 1, Florida Statutes. And
- 17 that's the --
- 18 THE COURT: What was the citation?
- 19 MR. WASYLIK: 673.3081, Subsection 1, judge,
- 20 and that's the one Your Honor refers to the
- 21 deceased or incompetent maker.
- MR. PASCALE: And our response to that, Your
- 23 Honor, is that there is nothing specific. It's
- 24 just a general denial that it wasn't signed. I
- 25 think there needs to be more. I think there needs



- 1 to be some sort of specific negative averment
- 2 pursuant to the case law that puts on notice and
- 3 establishes sufficient ultimate facts as to that
- 4 allegation. I don't think it's enough to just say
- 5 it wasn't signed.
- 6 THE COURT: Again, I'm saying that this is an
- 7 evidentiary procedure; not even a pleading
- 8 procedure, although you were on notice that the UCC
- 9 under 673.3081 came into play here. That takes it
- 10 out of the standard of exception under the evidence
- 11 rule. And so not only is this simply an
- 12 evidentiary matter, but you've also been put on
- 13 notice. I've never quite understood why additional
- 14 steps aren't taken to establish the identity of
- 15 these things before trial, under the Rules of Civil
- 16 Procedure, but that's up to you guys.
- 17 What other evidence are you going to have in
- 18 this case, counsel, that this promissory note was
- 19 executed by the borrower?
- MR. PASCALE: Well, we have the mortgage to
- 21 introduce which is also --
- 22 THE COURT: No, I'm talking about Exhibit
- 23 Number 1, the promissory note. That's what we're
- 24 arguing about now. What other evidence are you
- 25 going to produce in this trial today to show that



- 1 the signatory or the signature was made by the
- 2 original borrower who evidently is deceased -- and
- 3 I assume that's not contested.
- 4 MR. PASCALE: Well, my client -- is Your Honor
- 5 asking with regard to the specific --
- 6 THE COURT: I want you to proffer to the Court
- 7 now what other evidence you are going to have to
- 8 get this into evidence.
- 9 MR. PASCALE: Well, my client owns the
- 10 mortgage loan belonging to the Defendant, so if
- 11 payments -- and there are certain payments made
- 12 under that mortgage loan by Mr. Adjoda, the
- 13 deceased, then the Court can infer that Mr. Adjoda
- 14 signed a promissory note for that principal
- 15 balance.
- 16 THE COURT: Why would I infer that a specific
- 17 person made payments? What does that have to do
- 18 with trying to introduce Exhibit Number 1?
- 19 MR. PASCALE: Well, Your Honor, typically a
- 20 borrower would not sign a note -- or a non-borrower
- 21 would not sign a note and make payments towards
- 22 that loan.
- 23 THE COURT: Well, that's an inference that the
- 24 Court cannot make. So I'm going to sustain the
- 25 objection as to Exhibit Number 1.



- 1 MR. PASCALE: Well, Your Honor, our final
- 2 response is that it's a negotiable instrument, and
- 3 the authenticity and authority to make that
- 4 signature is admitted.
- 5 THE COURT: No. That's why he cites 673.3081.
- 6 Do you want to read that statute, because that
- 7 statute says that if someone is dead or
- 8 incompetent, then that presumption does not apply.
- 9 MR. PASCALE: Yeah, I'd like to take a moment
- 10 to review the statute.
- 11 THE COURT: Counsel, I'm going to give you the
- 12 statute, but I'm going to suggest that the next
- 13 time you come into court you need to be prepared.
- 14 Here, I'm going to let you -- I'm going to give you
- 15 about five minutes to do some research.
- MR. PASCALE: Okay, thank you.
- 17 THE BAILIFF: Remain seated. We're back in
- 18 recess.
- 19 (A brief recess was taken)
- 20 (Back on the Record)
- 21 THE BAILIFF: Remain seated. We're back in
- 22 session.
- 23 THE COURT: All right, counsel.
- 24 MR. PASCALE: Thank you for that, Your Honor,
- 25 and I'm going to try my best to answer Your Honor's



- 1 question directly.
- 2 THE COURT: Which question?
- 3 MR. PASCALE: I believe Your Honor asked what
- 4 evidence the Plaintiff intends to --
- 5 THE COURT: Oh, that question, okay. This had
- 6 to do with the admissibility of Exhibit Number 1.
- 7 So what other evidence do you have that's going
- 8 to -- I want you to proffer to me now as to the
- 9 admissibility of this document.
- 10 MR. PASCALE: Well, Mr. Adjoda was married.
- 11 There was an adjustable rate rider taken out after
- 12 this note. The adjustable rate rider was dated
- 13 August 22nd, 2006. Mr. Adjoda signed that
- 14 adjustable rate rider to the note.
- 15 THE COURT: Well, what evidence do you have
- 16 that he signed it?
- 17 MR. PASCALE: His signature as well as his
- 18 wife's signature.
- 19 THE COURT: Okay. But what evidence do you
- 20 have that that's his signature? That's the
- 21 underlying question. What evidence do you have
- 22 that this document, which purports to be signed by
- 23 an individual, is actually signed by that
- 24 individual?
- MR. PASCALE: Well, we have the mortgage loan



- 1 account belonging to Mr. Adjoda and payments being
- 2 made under that mortgage loan account by
- 3 Mr. Adjoda.
- 4 THE COURT: What evidence do you have that he
- 5 actually paid those or were paid by him, as opposed
- 6 to being made by somebody else?
- 7 MR. PASCALE: We have the contract itself
- 8 which states that it's Mr. Adjoda's obligation to
- 9 repay those monies; and, therefore, the payments --
- 10 there's no evidence to the contrary that the
- 11 payments were received under this mortgage loan by
- 12 anybody but Mr. Adjoda.
- 13 THE COURT: The burden, counsel, is on you --
- it's on the Plaintiff to prove. It's not on
- 15 somebody else to disprove it at this point. You're
- 16 offering a document into evidence, and the burden
- of proof is on the person or upon the party
- 18 offering it.
- 19 MR. PASCALE: Well, Your Honor, respectfully,
- 20 I did locate a case, and I believe it to be on
- 21 point. It's the -- styled Virgil M. Bennett and
- 22 Leslie -- oh, I'm sorry. Lissette C. Bennett --
- 23 B-E-N-N-E-T-T versus Deutsche Bank National Trust
- 24 Company, and that's out of the 4th District Court
- 25 of Appeal, 12-2471.



- 1 THE COURT: What's the West Law Citation?
- 2 Because I'm going to have to pull it up on the
- 3 computer, and I can't pull it up based on the
- 4 citation you gave me.
- 5 MR. PASCALE: I understand, Your Honor.
- 6 THE COURT: Well, do you have a citation for
- 7 that case?
- 8 MR. PASCALE: If the Court will allow me one
- 9 minute, I can bring it up on my computer.
- 10 THE COURT: Counsel, you are not prepared
- 11 today. You're not; not even close to being
- 12 prepared. I don't mean to individually chastise
- 13 you, but the fact is you're having difficulty
- 14 getting in the fundamental document in the case.
- 15 And now you're citing another case, so I'm going to
- 16 give you another minute or two to give me a
- 17 citation.
- 18 MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor, I have the citation
- 19 of the case. It is 124 So. 3d 320. It's a --
- THE COURT: 124 So. 3d what?
- 21 MR. WASYLIK: 124 So. 3d 320.
- 22 THE COURT: Okay. Let me see if I can make
- 23 this computer work. It only works for me about
- 24 half the time. I will try to find whatever case we
- 25 have that you're talking about.



- 1 MR. WASYLIK: And after Your Honor's had a
- 2 chance to read the case, I can explain --
- 3 THE COURT: Let me see if I can even make this
- 4 computer work.
- 5 MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor, I have an unmarked
- 6 electronic copy if the Court is interested in
- 7 reading that.
- 8 THE COURT: No. I'd rather have a printed
- 9 copy. I don't trust computers.
- 10 MR. WASYLIK: As the court wishes.
- 11 THE COURT: Well, this is not working. Let me
- 12 see your electronic copy, and hope it's the same
- 13 case that he's talking about because half the time
- 14 they're not.
- MR. WASYLIK: It is, Your Honor. It's the
- 16 2013 case from the 4th DCA that refers to 673.3081.
- 17 I'm familiar with the attorneys who actually
- 18 litigated that one.
- 19 THE COURT: Okay. How do you make the page
- 20 turn?
- 21 MR. WASYLIK: Just with a swipe of the finger,
- 22 judge. I can show you.
- 23 THE COURT: Okay.
- 24 MR. WASYLIK: Just like this. Swipe back and
- 25 forth.



- 1 THE COURT: All right. (Reviewing). That was
- 2 a summary judgment case on a trial. Okay, counsel.
- 3 Tell me why this case helps the admissibility of
- 4 Exhibit Number 1.
- 5 MR. PASCALE: Well, the Bennett case, Your
- 6 Honor -- my interpretation is that the Bennett case
- 7 says that, it defines the word, what the Court
- 8 means by presumption, and states that there must be
- 9 more pled in the denial. They must produce some
- 10 sort of evidence. According to Bennett, there must
- 11 be a showing of evidence or fraud, forgery, before
- 12 the burden would shift back to the Plaintiff.
- Once they submit such evidence or proffer the
- 14 Court, the burden would be on us to prove by
- 15 preponderance of the evidence, in the totality, to
- 16 show that the signature of Mr. Adjoda is authentic.
- 17 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Wasylik.
- 18 MR. WASYLIK: Yes, Your Honor. The Bennett
- 19 case actually involves -- and I'm doing this from
- 20 memory because I just pulled it up a few minutes
- 21 ago before I gave it to you. The Bennett case,
- 22 Your Honor, involves -- first of all me, neither
- 23 Bennetts were deceased. They were challenging the
- 24 authenticity of an endorsement based on alleged
- 25 conflicts with assignment of mortgage.



- 1 So in the Bennett case they were claiming that
- 2 the conflict there was the evidence of fraud or
- 3 forgery or something else. However, we don't even
- 4 get to that point because that is the burden to
- 5 rebut the presumption. We don't get the
- 6 presumption because per the statute the presumption
- 7 does not apply when the person whose signature is
- 8 seeking to be enforced is deceased. And that's the
- 9 distinction here.
- 10 Because Mr. Adjoda has passed -- and I don't
- 11 think there's any dispute for that -- the pleadings
- 12 are in agreement about that. There is no
- 13 presumption as to his signature. Therefore, the
- 14 Bennett case -- that doesn't apply because they got
- 15 past the presumption. Here, we don't get the
- 16 presumption at all because Mr. Adjoda is deceased.
- 17 So that has nothing at all to do with the issue
- 18 before this Court.
- 19 THE COURT: What's the part of the statute --
- 20 and you have my book over there, so I don't have it
- 21 anymore. What's the part of the statute -- I want
- 22 you to find that part of the statute that talks
- 23 about someone being deceased. Do you have that
- 24 here? You can have my book if you want it.
- 25 MR. WASYLIK: Yes, sir.



- 1 THE COURT: I just had this come up Monday, by
- 2 the way, but the person was not deceased.
- 3 MR. PASCALE: I think it's important the
- 4 timing of Mr. Adjoda's death. I don't think it's
- 5 an instance where they're alleging Mr. Adjoda --
- 6 that the evidence before Your Honor that he was
- 7 deceased before he signed the note; rather he was
- 8 deceased after he signed it.
- 9 THE COURT: How can he be deceased before he
- 10 signed the note?
- 11 MR. PASCALE: Well, if there was fraud or
- 12 forgery, then certainly that can be -- that's
- 13 certainly a likely scenario.
- 14 THE COURT: That's why I want counsel to read
- 15 that portion of the statute that talks about this
- 16 exception not applying. I think it's important.
- 17 MR. PASCALE: Further, Your Honor, Bennett
- 18 also states the rarity of fraud, forgery in the
- 19 notes, allonges, which is why the burden is on the
- 20 Defendant in this case to show sufficient evidence
- 21 of fraud or forgery; just saying he's deceased
- 22 doesn't rise to the level. That's not enough.
- 23 THE COURT: Okay. What does the statute say?
- 24 MR. WASYLIK: The statute, Your Honor, says
- 25 673.3081, Proof of signatures and status as holder



- 1 in due course. Subsection 1: "In an action with
- 2 respect to an instrument, the authenticity of, and
- 3 authority to make, each signature on the instrument
- 4 is admitted unless specifically denied in the
- 5 pleadings. If the validity of a signature is
- 6 denied in the pleadings, the burden of establishing
- 7 validity is on the person claiming validity, but
- 8 the signature is presumed to be authentic and
- 9 authorized unless the action is to enforce the
- 10 liability of the purported signer, and the signer
- 11 is dead or incompetent at the time of trial of the
- 12 issue of validity of the signature."
- 13 THE COURT: Does the statute say at the time
- 14 of trial?
- 15 MR. WASYLIK: It says at the time of trial.
- 16 I'm reading this verbatim, judge. I'm not adding
- 17 any editorial comment.
- 18 THE COURT: All right.
- 19 MR. WASYLIK: It goes on to say, Your Honor,
- 20 "If an action to enforce the instrument is brought
- 21 against a person as the undisclosed principal of a
- 22 person who signed the instrument as a party to the
- 23 instrument, the Plaintiff has the burden of
- 24 establishing that the Defendant is liable on the
- 25 instrument as a represented person under Section



- 1 673.4021 Subsection 1." And that is the complete
- 2 Subsection 1 of the statute, Your Honor.
- 3 THE COURT: Counsel, how do you get around the
- 4 statute?
- 5 MR. PASCALE: The case law gets around the
- 6 statute, Your Honor. Bennett interprets the
- 7 statute to define what the Court means by
- 8 presumption, and we have to look past that.
- 9 Moreover, the Defendant's Affirmative Defenses
- 10 admit the signature of the homeowner.
- 11 THE COURT: Case law never trumps the statute
- 12 unless it's found to be unconstitutional; it
- 13 clarifies the intent. There is no clarification
- 14 that I see in the Bennett case which, by the way,
- 15 also discusses within the parameters of a motion
- 16 for summary judgment, and this is not a motion for
- 17 summary judgment. This is trial. This is an
- 18 evidentiary proceeding and evidentiary problem.
- 19 And the statute clearly says that you can get
- 20 it in unless it's denied in the pleadings, which it
- 21 is, we see in the Affirmative Defenses. And the
- 22 presumption does not apply if the signer is
- 23 deceased at the time of trial, and that's the
- 24 situation we have here. My ruling stands. The
- 25 objection to Exhibit 1 is sustained.



1	MR. PASCALE: Your Honor, we'd like to reserve
2	the ability to reintroduce that exhibit throughout
3	the course of this trial.
4	THE COURT: That's why I asked you several
5	times to proffer what other evidence you're going
6	to have to introduce, and all you've given me so
7	far are a lot of presumptions which are not going
8	to qualify.
9	MR. PASCALE: Well, Your Honor, I do have a
10	response. If you look at the Affirmative Defenses
11	
12	THE COURT: In response to what?
13	MR. PASCALE: What we intend to introduce, and
14	it's contained within the pleadings. The
15	Affirmative Defenses raised by the Defendant don't
16	arguably deny the signature on the note. They are
17	denying the signatures on the allonges.
18	THE COURT: Okay. This is
19	MR. PASCALE: And I understand it's an
20	evidentiary matter, but I think I'm entitled to
21	hopefully address the issues.
22	THE COURT: I ruled, counsel. Let's move on.
23	BY MR. PASCALE:
24	Q Now, I'd like to ask the witness to look at
25	the Exhibit marked Number 2 and ask if she recognizes



1	the document.	
2	A Yes, that's the mortgage.	
3	Q Okay. And can you tell the Court the first	
4	time you saw the mortgage?	
5	A Around the time of the loan transfer.	
6	Q Does the mortgage appear to be recorded?	
7	A Yes. It is recorded in Record Book 20816,	
8	page 0651 in Palm Beach County.	
9	Q Does the mortgage appear to be notarized?	
10	A Yes. It was notarized August 22nd, 2006 in	
11	Palm Beach County.	
12	Q Okay. Does the mortgage appear to be an	
13	original mortgage?	
14	A Yes.	
15	MR. PASCALE: Your Honor, at this time I'd	
16	like to introduce the mortgage into evidence as	
17	Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 2.	
18	MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor, may I just examine	
19	that copy to be sure it's the copy that was	
20	provided to me?	
21	THE COURT: Yeah.	
22	MR. WASYLIK: Thank you. (Reviewing)	
23	Your Honor, may I briefly voir dire on this?	
24	THE COURT: Yes, you may.	
25	MR. WASYLIK: Thank you.	
1		



1	VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION
2	BY MR. WASYLIK:
3	Q I'm handing you back what's been designated as
4	the mortgage, Number 2.
5	Can you please turn to the I believe it's
6	the second page that contains the legal description of
7	the property?
8	A Okay.
9	Q Can you tell me, is the legal description
10	is that printed on original paper, or is it pasted
11	together or taped in somehow?
12	A It appears to be attached to a separate piece
13	of paper.
14	Q When you say attached, would it be fair to say
15	that there's a square cut out of some other piece of
16	paper and taped onto that mortgage?
17	A Yes, that would be fair to say that.
18	MR. WASYLIK: Okay. Your Honor, I have to
19	object on that basis. The mortgage has been
20	altered at some point. We don't know when.
21	THE COURT: Okay. What else you got?
22	MR. WASYLIK: That's
23	THE COURT: That's not going to fly with me.
24	Do you have any other objections?
25	MR. WASYLIK: Well, Your Honor, if you examine



the mortgage, you'll see that the legal description 1 2 has been lifted, and I don't see --3 THE COURT: I've already ruled against you on that one. I'm asking if you have any others. 4 5 MR. WASYLIK: That's my only objection, Your 6 Honor. THE COURT: All right. It will be received. 7 If that's your only objection it will be received. 8 (Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 2 admitted into 9 evidence) 10 11 MR. PASCALE: Thank you, Your Honor. 12 CONTINUED DIRECT EXAMINATION 13 BY MR. PASCALE: 14 Ms. Eberly, can you tell the Court -- can you read for us the date that appears on that mortgage? 15 16 Α It's August 22nd, 2006. 17 0 And whose name appears next to the word, 18 borrower? 19 Rajystmanura Adjoda and Lisa Adjoda. Α 20 Q Who is the lender? 2.1 Α BankUnited, FSB. 22 Okay. And the property address contained Q 23 within the mortgage? Hold on a second. 15554 62nd Place North, 24 Α Loxahatchee, Florida 33470. 25



1 And does that mortgage provide for a mechanism 0 2 or a default provision pursuant to paragraph twenty-two? 3 Α Yes. 4 0 Okay. Can you read for the Court that 5 provision? 6 Α Sure. Paragraph twenty-two: "Acceleration by 7 Owner shall give notice to borrower prior to acceleration. Following borrower's breach of any 8 covenant or agreement in this security instrument, but 9 10 not prior to acceleration under Section 18, unless applicable law provides otherwise. The note shall 11 specify (a) the default; (b) the action required to cure 12 13 the default; (c) the date not less than 30 days from the date the notice was given to borrower by which the 14 default must be cured; and (d) that failure to cure the 15 default on or before the date specified in the notice 16 may result in acceleration of this sum secured by the 17 security instrument, foreclosure by a judicial 18 19 proceeding and sale of the property. The notice shall further inform owner of the 20 right to reinstate after acceleration and the right to 2.1 22 assert in the foreclosure proceeding the non-existence 23 of the default or any other defense of borrower to acceleration and foreclosure." 24 Thank you. I'm finished with that exhibit. 25 Q



- 1 You're holding in your hand what's been marked as
- 2 Plaintiff's Composite Exhibit Number 4 for
- 3 identification purposes. Do you recognize those
- 4 documents?
- 5 A Yes. They are two separate -- it's the notice
- 6 of default and collection comment.
- 7 Q Okay. And are they a true and correct copy --
- 8 are those records stored in McCormick's business
- 9 records?
- 10 A Yes.
- 11 Q Are they a true and correct copy of what's
- 12 contained within those records?
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 Q And would the demand letter have been prepared
- in the regular course of business?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q I'm sorry. Would the demand letter have been
- 18 prepared in the regular course of business by an
- 19 employer, agent of BankUnited with the duty to do so at
- 20 the time --
- 21 MR. WASYLIK: Objection. Personal knowledge.
- 22 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 23 BY MR. PASCALE:
- 24 O -- at the time the Defendant's loan went into
- 25 default?



1	A Yes.
2	MR. PASCALE: Your Honor, we move to introduce
3	the Composite Exhibit number I actually skipped
4	an exhibit inadvertently. I'm asking the Court to
5	introduce, we'll make this Plaintiff's Exhibit
6	Number 3, which is a copy of
7	THE COURT: I don't care what progression you
8	use. You can call it whatever number you want to.
9	It doesn't matter.
10	MR. PASCALE: Thank you.
11	THE COURT: So do you want it to be 3 or 4?
12	MR. PASCALE: Three, Your Honor.
13	THE COURT: Okay. Is there an objection to
14	Plaintiff Exhibit Number 3?
15	MR. WASYLIK: Possibly, Your Honor. May I
16	voir dire?
17	THE COURT: You may.
18	MR. WASYLIK: Thank you.
19	VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION
20	BY MR. WASYLIK:
21	Q May I see the exhibit, please?
22	A (Complying)
23	Q All right. I'm going to ask you to first
24	of all, tell me, ma'am, you work for McCormick 106, LLC,
25	correct?



1	А	Correct.
2	Q	And you've worked for that company since
3	approxima	ately 2008, haven't you?
4	А	Yes.
5	Q	In fact, it's related to Development Capital
6	where you	u've worked since 2008, correct?
7	А	Yes.
8	Q	Okay. And you've never worked at BankUnited?
9	А	No. I have not.
10	Q	And you've never been part of the department
11	that gene	erates those letters, correct?
12	А	Correct.
13	Q	And you've never supervised anyone in the
14	departmen	nt that generates those letters?
15	А	For BankUnited?
16	Q	Correct.
17	А	Correct.
18	Q	And you are not trained in the policies and
19	procedure	es of the folks at BankUnited that generate
20	those let	tters, correct?
21	А	Not their specific policies and procedures of
22	BankUnite	ed, no.
23	Q	Okay. What's the date on that letter again?
24	А	June 4th, 2009.
25	Q	Okay. You didn't witness that letter being



- 1 created.
- 2 A No, I did not.
- 3 Q Okay. And that letter did not enter
- 4 McCormick's records until 2013, correct?
- 5 A Correct. When all the other BankUnited
- 6 records came over.
- 7 Q Now, I'm going to ask you to turn to the
- 8 second page. Tell me again how that's identified.
- 9 A Collection Comments?
- 10 Q Okay. Who created those collection comments?
- 11 A BankUnited created them.
- 12 Q Okay. And that page appears to have a single
- 13 line, doesn't it?
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q Is it your understanding that Bank of
- 16 America -- I'm sorry, BankUnited's -- I'll withdraw
- 17 that. Collection Comments are usually more than one
- 18 line, aren't they?
- 19 A It really depends on the comment being
- 20 entered.
- 21 Q Have you ever seen the original collection
- 22 comments for this loan?
- 23 A Yes.
- Q Okay. Is there more than one line in them?
- 25 A It's a spreadsheet. This comment itself is



1 one line. 2 Q So that comment is extracted from a 3 spreadsheet which is the actual collection comments, 4 right? 5 Α Yes. 6 Q So somebody's cherry picked that to present to 7 the court today. 8 MR. PASCALE: Objection. 9 THE COURT: Sustained. 10 MR. WASYLIK: Withdraw. 11 BY MR. WASYLIK: 12 0 Someone has --13 THE COURT: Too late. It's already been 14 sustained. 15 MR. WASYLIK: I'm sorry? THE COURT: You can't withdraw it after it's 16 been sustained. 17 18 MR. WASYLIK: I'm sorry, judge. Just a bad 19 habit. 20 BY MR. WASYLIK: 21 Someone selected that particular line out of Q 22 the collection comments to present today for the Court, 23 correct? 24 Α Correct. 25 And we don't know what the rest of the Q



- 1 collection comments say.
- 2 A I do not have it in front of me, no.
- 3 Q And you've never worked for the department
- 4 that creates the collection comments.
- 5 A For BankUnited, no.
- 6 Q And you don't have any training or knowledge
- 7 of the policies and procedures by which BankUnited
- 8 creates those comments?
- 9 A I would expect they follow the general
- 10 regulations, but I don't know their specific policies
- 11 and procedures.
- 12 O You've never seen them do it.
- 13 A Correct.
- 14 Q You don't have any personal knowledge of it.
- 15 A I've never seen them do it.
- 16 Q Okay. You don't have any personal knowledge
- 17 of whether BankUnited creates those entries at or near
- 18 the time of the event recorded, do you?
- 19 A It's my understanding that, based on the
- 20 regulations, they need to be -- records need to be
- 21 created at or about the time that things have occurred
- 22 so --
- 23 Q I'm not asking for a legal opinion about
- 24 regulations. I'm asking for your personal knowledge.
- 25 Did you see it? Did you witness it?



1	MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor, this all goes to the
2	business records foundation.
3	THE WITNESS: I did not see anyone enter this
4	specific record.
5	BY MR. WASYLIK:
6	Q Okay. And do you know how the person who
7	created that record acquired the knowledge of the
8	information recorded?
9	A No, I do not.
10	Q And
11	THE COURT: Did you answer it?
12	THE WITNESS: I said, no, I did not.
13	THE COURT: I didn't hear. Thank you.
14	MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor, at this point I'm
15	done with my voir dire. I do have an objection
16	unless counsel wants to participate.
17	THE COURT: Tell me your objection.
18	MR. WASYLIK: I'm sorry?
19	THE COURT: Your objection is what?
20	MR. WASYLIK: My objection, Your Honor, is
21	that this witness is not a qualified witness to lay
22	the business records foundation for the admission
23	of that exhibit. Specifically, Your Honor, on voir
24	dire the witness admitted that she doesn't have any
25	training from BankUnited, which is purportedly the
1	



entity that created both the letter and the 1 2 collection comments. She doesn't have any direct 3 personal knowledge of the method in which it was created; the person who did it; how that person has 4 5 knowledge, if at all; and when it was created. So as to the business records foundation 6 itself, she's demonstrated, you know, her testimony 7 demonstrates that she cannot actually authenticate 8 or rather lay the business records foundation. 9 10 it's a hearsay document. Your Honor, I'll quote from just briefly, under Section 803.6 on page 961 11 of the 2014 Edition, Ehrhardt's Evidence it talks 12 13 about whether or not someone employed by one 14 company can authenticate the business records of another company. And specifically, the bottom of 15 16 the text of page 961 it starts, "Normally, a record 17 custodian of one business cannot lay a foundation for business records of the second business, even 18 19 in possession of the first business, because the 20 witness would not have personal knowledge of how the second business kept its records and could not 2.1 22 testify to the foundation requirements." It says 23 to footnote 31, which cites to two cases, Yang versus Sebastian Lakes, which I have here and I'll 24 25 give a copy to counsel. And there's another case,



- 1 a federal case, Builder versus Wilson. But I'm
- 2 going to stick with Yang for a minute.
- 3 THE COURT: Can you give the Court the case to
- 4 read it, or do you want me to just take it from
- 5 memory?
- 6 MR. WASYLIK: I do have a copy for the Court,
- 7 judge. May I approach?
- 8 THE COURT: You may.
- 9 MR. WASYLIK: And I've already provided a copy
- 10 to counsel.
- 11 THE COURT: Have you guys provided all the law
- 12 that you have that you're going to be exchanging in
- 13 this case thus far?
- 14 MR. PASCALE: With each other?
- 15 THE COURT: Yeah.
- MR. PASCALE: Well, I provided mine, Your
- 17 Honor. I know that counsel here has an entire
- 18 repertoire.
- 19 THE COURT: When did you get provided Yang?
- 20 MR. PASCALE: I don't think I've ever been
- 21 provided the Yang case.
- MR. WASYLIK: I gave him that at 1:00 o'clock
- 23 over the lunch break, Your Honor.
- 24 THE COURT: It must be a brand new case, then.
- MR. WASYLIK: No, Your Honor, I was reviewing



- 1 -- I was preparing this before trial.
- THE COURT: Here's what we're going to do.
- 3 I'm going to take another five-minute break, and
- 4 you guys better exchange all of the law that you're
- 5 going to be using throughout this trial; all the
- 6 law that you're going to be introducing at the
- 7 trial. If it takes more than five minutes to read,
- 8 I'm striking this case because we don't do stealth
- 9 warfare here.
- 10 MR. WASYLIK: I did give him, Your Honor, the
- 11 Yang case law, along with several other cases that
- 12 I may rely on.
- 13 MR. PASCALE: I received a total of four cases
- 14 from counsel. It appears that he has several more
- 15 than four cases to exchange.
- 16 THE COURT: See you in five minutes, guys,
- 17 after you've done what I told you to do.
- 18 THE BAILIFF: Court is in recess.
- 19 (A brief recess was taken)
- 20 (Back on the record)
- 21 THE BAILIFF: Remain seated. We're back in
- 22 session.
- 23 THE COURT: Let's try this again. Okay. Have
- 24 you guys exchanged all of your cases that you
- 25 intend on citing here?



- 1 MR. WASYLIK: Yes, Your Honor. We have, Your
- 2 Honor.
- 3 THE COURT: And while I was gone, did
- 4 something happen?
- 5 MR. WASYLIK: While you were gone nothing
- 6 happened, other than the fact that we confirmed
- 7 that I had given counsel at 1:00 o'clock what I
- 8 just argued so --
- 9 MR. PASCALE: I'm not sure but --
- 10 THE COURT: Let's go ahead, and let me hear
- 11 the Plaintiff's response to the objection, and the
- 12 objection I believe has already been argued. So go
- 13 ahead, counsel.
- 14 MR. PASCALE: Your Honor, number one, this
- isn't coming in to show the truth of the matter
- 16 asserted that the loan is in default. In that
- 17 regard, it's just coming in to show that the loan
- 18 was -- we know that the loan is in default.
- 19 THE COURT: What's the purpose of the -- I
- 20 mean, the purpose is it's not for the truth of the
- 21 matter.
- MR. PASCALE: It's just to simply show routine
- 23 habit of the mortgage industry practice of mailing
- 24 correspondence to the borrower.
- 25 THE COURT: What issue before the Court does



- 1 that go to?
- 2 MR. PASCALE: Well, conditions precedent
- 3 pursuant to paragraph twenty-two of the mortgage
- 4 that's required to be done, and it goes to that
- 5 issue, to put the borrower on notice as to those.
- 6 THE COURT: So it's to the truth of the
- 7 matter. The truth of the matter in what you're
- 8 trying to show is that the demand letter and the
- 9 notice of default were sent.

10

- MR. PASCALE: Yes. Yes.
- 12 THE COURT: And can I see what evidence you
- 13 guys are arguing about -- the document, please?
- 14 MR. PASCALE: Yes. It's a composite exhibit.
- 15 THE COURT: I'm going to ask one of the
- 16 lawyers to get it.
- 17 MR. WASYLIK: (Handing).
- 18 THE COURT: This is a letter from BankUnited
- 19 addressed to the lender, right?
- 20 MR. PASCALE: To the borrower.
- 21 THE COURT: To the borrower, I'm sorry.
- 22 You're right. And it's dated June 4th of '09.
- 23 And, ma'am, you do not work for BankUnited; is that
- 24 correct?
- 25 THE WITNESS: That is correct.



- 1 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Go ahead.
- 2 MR. PASCALE: May I redirect the witness here?
- 3 THE COURT: No. I want you to complete your
- 4 response. Then I'm going to ask for the moving
- 5 party to respond to you.
- 6 MR. PASCALE: Well, the witness doesn't have
- 7 to be the person -- under the business records
- 8 exception and with the case law that counsel has
- 9 presented to the Court, the witness doesn't have to
- 10 be a person that's actually drafted the letter.
- 11 The witness just has to be familiar with general
- 12 banking and acceptable servicing practices in
- 13 making sure that the letter goes out at or near the
- 14 time of the event in question.
- 15 And for that proposition, I would like to
- 16 introduce the WAMCO case to the Court. It's WAMCO
- 17 v. Integrated Electronics, which actually deals
- 18 with the servicing records. It says it's okay to
- 19 --
- 20 THE COURT: Let me see that case. You guys
- 21 are pulling these off one card at a time from the
- 22 deck. It makes it very difficult for me to try
- 23 this case in the time period you folks have
- 24 allotted.
- Okay. Have you given opposing counsel copies



- 1 of the WAMCO?
- 2 MR. PASCALE: Yes, I have.
- 3 THE COURT: All right. Let me see the WAMCO
- 4 case. What part of WAMCO case do you want?
- 5 MR. PASCALE: Well, I'd like you to generally
- 6 be familiar with the servicing procedures of your
- 7 predecessor.
- 8 THE COURT: Show me where -- this is kind of a
- 9 long case, so show me the part of the case that
- 10 you'd like me to read, please.
- 11 MR. PASCALE: Headnote one referring to
- 12 Section 90.803, Subsection 6 in the middle of page
- three provides that records may be excluded from
- 14 evidence or sources of information indicating a
- 15 lack of trustworthy -- or a lack of
- 16 trustworthiness. I don't think that's been shown.
- 17 There's no objection to any -- or argument that the
- 18 documents aren't trustworthy. It's a collection
- 19 log in front of the Court and a demand letter,
- 20 collection log.
- 21 Moreover, Ms. Eberly would testify to this.
- 22 And I haven't gotten there, but those collection
- 23 logs -- well, actually it's been stipulated the
- 24 collection logs and demand letter were incorporated
- 25 into McCormick's business records, and that's part



- 1 of the proposition that the WAMCO case stands for,
- 2 is that the incorporation of a prior servicer's
- 3 business records is okay, so long as they don't
- 4 show any lack of trustworthiness. And there were
- 5 certain, you know, an audit of the loan was
- 6 performed and that's true in this case.
- 7 THE COURT: What's true?
- 8 MR. PASCALE: There was an audit of the loan
- 9 performed of those business records.
- 10 THE COURT: By who?
- 11 MR. PASCALE: That my client would testify by
- 12 the servicer. BSI Financial Services is the
- 13 servicing agent for the loan.
- 14 THE COURT: Is that BSI?
- 15 MR. PASCALE: BSI Financial Services is the
- 16 servicing agent of McCormick. BSI Financial
- 17 Services.
- 18 THE COURT: What does BSI have to do with
- 19 BankUnited, the author of this letter you're trying
- 20 to get into evidence?
- 21 MR. PASCALE: BSI is the subsequent servicer.
- 22 BankUnited serviced the loan. It was serviced,
- 23 transferred to BSI. Those records are now BSI's
- 24 records which are now McCormick's records.
- 25 McCormick's putting them into evidence as such.



- 1 THE COURT: Well, it's my understanding that
- 2 this document that you're trying to get into
- 3 evidence was created by BankUnited; is that
- 4 correct?
- 5 MR. PASCALE: Yes, it certainly was created by
- 6 BankUnited, Your Honor.
- 7 THE COURT: And what does BankUnited have to
- 8 do with BSI or McCormick?
- 9 MR. PASCALE: The records of BankUnited were
- 10 incorporated and made part of McCormick's business
- 11 records, as is common in mortgage foreclosure
- 12 cases. Servicers change; loans are transferred.
- 13 Those records then become incorporated into the new
- 14 servicer's business records.
- 15 THE COURT: Okay.
- 16 MR. PASCALE: There's no reason to doubt the
- 17 veracity of the information contained within those
- 18 records.
- 19 THE COURT: Okay. Response?
- 20 MR. WASYLIK: Yes, judge. Before the Court
- 21 took its last recess, I was also going to be
- 22 talking of a Hunter case. I have provided a copy
- 23 of that to counsel, and I have a copy for the
- 24 Court.
- 25 THE COURT: Stop. Everybody give me copies of



- 1 the cases.
- 2 MR. WASYLIK: This is the last one I'm going
- 3 to cite, judge, and I'm going to tie that into
- 4 discussing WAMCO.
- 5 THE COURT: Then let me have an opportunity to
- 6 read it. You guys -- I'm getting ready to grant a
- 7 mistrial because you guys are -- this is stealth
- 8 warfare. You guys didn't even give me your cases
- 9 until this afternoon, and this case is how old?
- 10 This case was filed in what year?
- 11 MR. PASCALE: '09, Your Honor.
- 12 THE COURT: Right. Five years ago? And you
- 13 guys are exchanging case law two hours ago?
- MR. PASCALE: Respectfully, Your Honor, I have
- 15 correspondence, numerous from my office; it went
- 16 unresponsive.
- 17 THE COURT: And when did you send in your case
- 18 law?
- 19 MR. PASCALE: We sent them several in
- 20 correspondence and attempted to have a dialogue.
- 21 THE COURT: Case law. Case law.
- 22 MR. PASCALE: We didn't just furnish the case
- 23 law. We attempted to have a dialogue first.
- 24 THE COURT: When did you send them the case
- 25 law? Please listen to my question.



- 1 MR. PASCALE: The case law was provided this
- 2 morning at approximately 9:30 to opposing counsel.
- 3 THE COURT: This is what I call stealth
- 4 warfare. You guys are sandbagging each other, and
- 5 I don't care if you want to do that to each other.
- 6 But I do care if you do that to the Court.
- 7 MR. PASCALE: It's not my intention; I
- 8 apologize, Your Honor. I appeared this morning. I
- 9 handed the case law when Your Honor made the
- 10 announcement, and I would have done so regardless.
- 11 THE COURT: In a five-year old case you
- 12 exchange case law on the day of the trial. That,
- 13 to me, is stealth warfare. Now, what part of the
- 14 Hunter case do you like?
- MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor, the Hunter case --
- in particular, I'm going to refer to headnote four.
- 17 The background of this, Your Honor, is that -- and
- 18 actually, I'm going to refer to printed page two,
- 19 the second to the last paragraph on the bottom,
- 20 right here. It talks about at the time of trial in
- 21 2012 the records of the Plaintiff, in this case, in
- 22 Hunter, we're seeking to admit, were possessed by
- 23 Rushmore Loan. They had been incorporated from a
- 24 prior servicer, asserting the records originally
- 25 came from a company called Mortgage IT, and then



- 1 Aurora.
- 2 And at that point, Your Honor, the Plaintiffs
- 3 relied on the testimony of Rushmore employee, Roger
- 4 Martin, to attempt to lay a foundation for the
- 5 business records evidence, and then it talks about
- 6 headnote five.
- 7 THE COURT: Five or four?
- 8 MR. WASYLIK: I'm sorry, four, judge.
- 9 Headnote four, that Mr. Martin's testimony failed
- 10 to establish the necessary foundation for admitting
- 11 those records. He was not a current or former
- 12 employee of Mortgage IT. In those records he
- 13 asserted otherwise. He otherwise lacked particular
- 14 knowledge of Mortgage IT's record keeping
- 15 procedures. Absent such personal knowledge he was
- 16 unable to substantiate when the records were made;
- 17 whether the information they contained derived from
- 18 a personal knowledge; whether Mortgage IT regularly
- 19 made such records; or indeed whether the records
- 20 belonged to Mortgage IT in the first place. And it
- 21 basically goes on to say that he failed to lay the
- 22 business records foundation that was required.
- Now the reason why Hunter and Yang control
- 24 over WAMCO -- first of all, the distinction between
- 25 those cases and WAMCO, is that in WAMCO the witness



- 1 testified Mr. Grauer was personally involved with
- 2 servicing those loans. He was the one who actually
- 3 personally handled that loan, and he personally
- 4 oversaw the verification procedures and so on and
- 5 so forth. What we have by contrast here is that
- 6 this witness has never worked for the prior
- 7 servicers; cannot testify as to when they were
- 8 created; who created them; whether the person who
- 9 created them had knowledge; whether they were
- 10 created at or near the time it got recorded. And
- 11 you'll remember when I asked these questions on
- 12 voir dire she said that she wasn't able to give
- 13 that specific answer.
- 14 So in this case, Your Honor, the testimony
- 15 that she's given -- the foundational testimony
- 16 she's given is itself hearsay. So she's unable to
- 17 lay a foundation under the Hunter and the Yang
- 18 cases. Hunter, for the record, is 137 So. 3d 570
- 19 and Yang is 123 So. 3d 617.
- 20 THE COURT: Before we move on, do either one
- 21 of you have any other cases that you are going to
- 22 cite in your argument as to this issue?
- MR. WASYLIK: No, Your Honor.
- 24 THE COURT: All right.
- 25 MR. PASCALE: Not as to this issue.



- 1 THE COURT: All right. Let me hear from the
- 2 Plaintiff.
- 3 MR. PASCALE: Well, we disagree. The
- 4 distinction is simple. There was an audit
- 5 performed. Under the WAMCO case that seems to be
- 6 one of the primary elements that an audit was
- 7 performed on this loan and that the records were
- 8 reviewed; and that there was no reason to doubt the
- 9 veracity or the accuracy of those records. And
- 10 Ms. Eberly can testify to that.
- 11 Moreover, there's -- and I don't have the case
- 12 with me -- but I know as a matter of policy that if
- there is any doubt, if the Court's deciding which
- 14 way to go as to whether it should admit a document
- 15 under the business records exception, it should be
- 16 admitted. The goal of the business records
- 17 exception is to allow these documents to come in
- 18 and not make it so onerous for a failed bank to
- 19 come forward six years -- five or six years later
- 20 now and produce a witness to testify that this was
- 21 done in BankUnited in 2009 seems completely
- 22 unreasonable. And I think that that's the policy
- 23 argument behind allowing a document to come under
- 24 the business records exception.
- 25 THE COURT: Okay. Under the Yang case, which



is from the 4th DCA less than a year ago, I don't 1 2 think I have a choice but to sustain the objection. 3 MR. PASCALE: Well, Your Honor, my other -- I would like to redirect the witness after voir dire. 4 5 I feel as though I have not been given an 6 opportunity to do that. THE COURT: Go ahead. I'm not prohibiting you 7 from doing anything. I'm ruling on what's before 8 me as it comes before me. 9 10 CONTINUED DIRECT EXAMINATION 11 BY MR. PASCALE: 12 Okay. So Ms. Eberly, with respect to the Q 13 second part of that composite exhibit, the collection log, that's what you call it, right? 14 15 Α Correct. You said that that line of collection notes 16 0 17 was taken from a bigger spreadsheet, correct? 18 Α Correct. 19 And did that bigger spreadsheet have other Q 20 loans with it, other than the subject loan here today? 2.1 Α No. 22 Oh, it didn't? Q 23 Α No. 24 0 That spreadsheet was just as to the Defendant's loan today? 25



1 Α Correct. 2 And have you personally seen that collection 0 3 log? 4 Α Yes. And do you recall if it referenced any 5 0 additional information about the thirty-day letter being 6 7 sent? MR. WASYLIK: Objection. Contents of the 8 business records not introduced. 9 10 THE COURT: I have no idea what you just said. 11 I'm sorry, Your Honor. MR. WASYLIK: It's a 12 hearsay objection. Counsel is asking this witness 13 to testify as to the rest of the spreadsheet which 14 was excluded. 15 THE COURT: Overruled. I'm going to allow him 16 to lay a foundation if he can. 17 BY MR. PASCALE: 18 Yeah, do you recall if the information 19 contained within the spreadsheet touched on or 20 referenced any additional information regarding this thirty-day letter being sent, or was this the only line 21 22 taken out of that spreadsheet that referenced the 23 thirty-day letter? I don't recall offhand. 24 Α 25 Q Okay. You mentioned, Ms. Eberly, that you



1	weren't personally familiar with the generation of the
2	demand letter from BankUnited, correct?
3	A Correct.
4	Q Okay. Are you generally familiar with how
5	banks and loan servicers generate demand letters?
6	A Yes.
7	Q And what is the basis for your testimony to
8	the Court? How are you generally familiar?
9	A Okay, thank you. I work with our servicer to
10	draft the demand letters that are sent out on our
11	behalf.
12	Q Okay. Is there an industry standard or
13	procedure that is followed by McCormick?
14	MR. WASYLIK: Objection, form. Personal
15	knowledge, hearsay.
16	THE COURT: Form is a deposition objection.
17	And I don't know what were the others?
18	MR. WASYLIK: Personal knowledge and hearsay,
19	Your Honor.
20	THE COURT: Okay.
21	MR. WASYLIK: I'll rephrase my form objection,
22	Your Honor. The question is ambiguous as to
23	industry standards.
24	THE COURT: Overruled.
25	



- 1 BY MR. PASCALE:
- 3 that are followed when producing and generating
- 4 thirty-day demand letters?
- 5 A There are consumer protection regulations that
- 6 are in place that are followed for all the various
- 7 procedures with form servicing.
- 8 Q Okay. Does McCormick follow those procedures?
- 9 A McCormick's servicer, BSI, yes, follows those
- 10 procedures.
- 11 Q Okay. In your experience, and if you know,
- 12 would BankUnited have followed those procedures?
- 13 MR. WASYLIK: Objection. Speculation.
- 14 Personal knowledge. Hearsay.
- THE COURT: Overruled, overruled, and
- overruled.
- 17 THE WITNESS: I would expect that they would
- 18 follow those same procedures and regulations, yes.
- 19 BY MR. PASCALE:
- 20 Okay. And was an audit conducted of this loan
- 21 at the time that McCormick acquired it from BankUnited?
- 22 A Yes.
- 23 Q And was the demand letter part of the business
- 24 records that were acquired by McCormick?
- 25 A Yes.



Did the audit that was performed by McCormick 1 0 2 and/or its servicing agent, BSI, find any discrepancy in 3 any of those business records? MR. WASYLIK: Objection. Personal knowledge. 4 Hearsay. The witness hasn't testified that she 5 6 performed the audit. THE COURT: Overruled, overruled, overruled. 7 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. Could you please 8 9 repeat that? 10 MR. PASCALE: Sure. 11 BY MR. PASCALE: 12 Did the audit performed by BSI reveal any 0 13 discrepancies with any of the business records that were acquired from BankUnited? 14 15 Α No. Does that include the demand letter? 16 0 17 Α Yes. Do you have any information at all or any 18 0 reason to doubt the veracity or accuracy of the contents 19 20 of that demand letter, as well as the date upon which it 21 was sent? 22 MR. WASYLIK: Objection. Speculation. Argumentative. Calls for information beyond the 23 24 witness's personal knowledge. 25 THE COURT: All of those are overruled.

1 THE WITNESS: Can you please --2 MR. PASCALE: Sure. I'll ask the court 3 reporter to read that back if that's a possibility. COURT REPORTER: 4 Sure. 5 (The referred to question was read back by the 6 court reporter) 7 THE WITNESS: I have no reason to doubt the 8 accuracy of that. BY MR. PASCALE: 9 10 Q Now, you stated that the business records of 11 BankUnited, including the collection log and the demand 12 letter, became those of McCormick. 13 Α Correct. Do those business records indicate that that 14 demand letter was mailed on or about the date indicated? 15 I believe it to be June 4th, 2009. 16 17 Α Yes. Is it one of the industry standards and 18 0 Okav. procedures to mail a demand letter at or near the time 19 20 that the loan goes into default? 2.1 Α Yes. 22 Okay. Is the information contained within 23 that demand letter derived from the servicing department of that loan? 24 25 Α Yes.



1	Q Okay. And does the servicing department keep
2	a record of payment?
3	A Yes.
4	Q And is it a servicing agent's duty to prepare
5	a demand letter for the note holder when the loan goes
6	into default or at or near the time?
7	A Yes.
8	MR. PASCALE: Your Honor, I'm just going to
9	move again to put this demand letter into evidence
10	with the collection log as a business record.
11	THE COURT: You still haven't cured the Yang
12	problem, so the ruling is the same.
13	MR. PASCALE: And to be clear, Your Honor, I
14	have been listening to Your Honor the entire time,
15	but if the Court would just rephrase the problem,
16	if Your Honor will.
17	THE COURT: You want me to what?
18	MR. PASCALE: Rephrase the problem.
19	THE COURT: You're the lawyer. I'm the judge.
20	So you rephrase whatever problems you see, and you
21	make whatever motions you want. I am not going to
22	start paraphrasing your positions for you. I don't
23	think that's proper for a judge to do, sir.
24	MR. PASCALE: No, I'm not asking the Court to
25	do that. I was just asking the Court to define the



1	problem.
2	THE COURT: Well, the problem is you haven't
3	cured the objection in the Yang case as well as the
4	Hunter case goes against you, and based on those
5	two cases, I'm sustaining the objection. I did
6	sustain the objection because I haven't seen any
7	reason to deviate from that.
8	MR. PASCALE: Well, Your Honor we gave you a
9	good reason, and that's the WAMCO case.
10	THE COURT: Counsel, I'm not going to argue
11	with you. Move on.
12	MR. PASCALE: Your Honor and can I go back
13	to the Court asked me earlier what evidence.
14	The proffer
15	THE COURT: You have a witness on the stand,
16	counsel. Please ask the witness another question.
17	We're not going to continue this argument. You can
18	present whatever evidence you want. I'm not
19	precluding you from presenting any further
20	evidence. What I'm doing is trying to move this
21	case along, so move it along. Ask the witness a
22	question, please.
23	MR. PASCALE: Okay.
24	BY MR. PASCALE:
25	Q Ms. Eberly, I'm showing you what's in your



- hand is -- let's refer to it as Plaintiff's Exhibit
  Number 4. Are you familiar with that document?
  A Yes.
  O Okay. What is it?
- 5 A It is the pay history for this loan.
- 6 Q Okay. And does McCormick keep track of
- 7 payments made under the Defendant's loan?
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q And does McCormick service the loan?
- 10 A BSI Financial services the loan for McCormick.
- 11 Q Okay. Well, tell the Court what BSI's
- 12 relationship to McCormick is.
- 13 A They are our servicing agent.
- 14 THE COURT: Are you saying "B" as in boy or
- 15 "V" as in Victor?
- 16 THE WITNESS: "B" as in boy. Boy Sam Igloo.
- 17 THE COURT: Okay. Igloo begins with an "I"?
- 18 THE WITNESS: Yes. I had to think about that
- 19 one.
- 20 BY MR. PASCALE:
- 21 Q Can you tell us what the document consists of?
- 22 A Yes. It shows the current principal balance,
- 23 escrow balance, all payments that are applied to the
- 24 loan; all items that are disbursed -- escrow
- 25 disbursements, fees paid on the account.



Okay. And is receiving mortgage payments 1 0 2 under the furnished loan a regular activity of BSI -- a 3 regular business activity? 4 Α Yes. And was the record in your hand created and 5 0 updated either near or at the time of the payments 6 towards the defense were either received or not 7 received? 8 9 Α Yes. 10 Q And were the entries made into that record 11 from a person with first-hand knowledge of the payments 12 made, from information transmitted by a person with 13 knowledge of receipt of those mortgage payments? 14 Α Yes. Okay. And is that record kept in BSI's 15 0 regularly conducted business activity of McCormick? 16 17 Α Yes. 18 Is it the regular practice of BSI to make such 0 19 a record? 20 Α Yes. 21 Q Is that record also part of McCormick's 22 records? 23 Α Yes. 24 MR. PASCALE: Judge, I move to introduce the payment history into evidence. I'm sure we'll have 25

1 an objection. 2 THE COURT: That's number 4? 3 MR. PASCALE: Yes. THE COURT: It's your Exhibit 4. 4 5 What is your objection? MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor, it's going to be a 6 Yang objection. The records themselves show that 7 8 they were not made by BSI; made by BankUnited, FSB, 9 judge. 10 THE COURT: Counsel, will you get the records 11 of those? 12 MR. PASCALE: (Complying) 13 THE COURT: Thank you. Who made these 14 records? What company? THE WITNESS: Some of them were made, entered 15 16 by BankUnited. The top sheet is BSI Financial. 17 THE COURT: Okay. Which ones were made by --I'm going to hand this back to counsel. 18 I want you 19 to divide these, please, for the record, into 4A 20 and 4B. I don't care which one is which, but if there are two different entities that created these 2.1 22 records, then we need to be able to figure out 23 which ones did what. 24 THE WITNESS: Should I just write BankUnited 25 or BST?



- 1 THE COURT: Do you want a yellow sticky to
- 2 divide them?
- 3 MR. PASCALE: Yes, please.
- 4 THE COURT: All right, ma'am. I want you to
- 5 tell me -- counsel, I'm going to ask you to hand
- 6 these back to her. I want you to divide for me, if
- 7 you would please, the records made by BSI and tell
- 8 me what they have been marked; and the records made
- 9 by BankUnited and tell me what they have been
- 10 marked.
- 11 THE WITNESS: BSI records have been marked 4A.
- 12 THE COURT: All right.
- 13 THE WITNESS: BankUnited, 4B.
- 14 THE COURT: All right. Now, you're holding in
- 15 your hand -- your left hand, one page. Is that BSI
- 16 records?
- 17 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 18 THE COURT: And your right hand you have a
- 19 large packet. Was that BankUnited's records?
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 21 THE COURT: And where did you get BankUnited
- 22 records from?
- 23 THE WITNESS: From BankUnited when we
- 24 purchased the loan.
- 25 THE COURT: All right. And do you know -- do



2 MR. WASYLIK: If the Court prefers. 3 THE COURT: Yes, I would because I do not 4 to be accused of being biased and taking sides 5 asking questions that are more properly asked	
4 to be accused of being biased and taking sides	
	and
5 asking questions that are more properly asked	and
	by
6 the lawyers for each side.	
7 MR. WASYLIK: Very well, Your Honor.	
8 VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION	
9 BY MR. WASYLIK:	
10 Q As to Exhibit 4B and first of all, for	
11 identification, can you tell us the date range thos	e
12 records cover?	
13 THE COURT: You have to divide them into	4A
14 and 4B, please. Which ones	
15 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I'm just this is a	big
stack, so I'm just going back to the beginning	to
17 get the date.	
18 THE COURT: All right.	
19 THE WITNESS: And this is the annual summ	ary
for 2006, so it looks like the beginning of the	.e
loan through December 30, 2013.	
22 BY MR. WASYLIK:	
23 Q And December 30th, 2013 that's when BS	I
24 took over servicing?	



1 believe. 2 Q Fair enough. The 2006 -- the records from 3 2006 through May 21st, 2009, those were actually made by BankUnited, FSB; not BankUnited, N.A., correct? 4 5 I'm not sure if there is a way to see which ones are which on here. They all came over as the pay 6 history from the prior servicer, so they were all in the 7 8 same format at that point in time. Okay, the 2008 9 year-end says BankUnited, FSB at the very top. The 2009 10 year-end just says BankUnited. 11 Okay. And just to clarify, BankUnited, FSB is Q 12 the entity that was shut down by the FDIC on May 21st, 13 2009, correct? 14 Α I don't know. 15 Q That's fine. 16 MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor, just by way of --17 that's a fact not disputed. It's in both side's 18 pleadings so --19 THE COURT: What is? 20 MR. WASYLIK: That BankUnited, FSB is the failed bank shut down by the FDIC. On the same day 2.1 22 the FDIC transferred all of the assets of the 23 former bank to BankUnited, N.A. So there's 24 actually two separate entities that are labeled 25 BankUnited, but they're two distinct entities.



failed bank, but I'm not quit agree that all okay, I don know that there was a failed THE COURT: There's no e that there is a failed bank a MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor they pled in their reply by a ledgers.  THE COURT: If you guys then there's no evidence.  MR. WASYLIK: Agreed, You Hen there's no evidence.  MR. WASYLIK: Agreed, You MR. WASYLIK:  Q Now, as to the records of after May 21st, 2009, again, do you knowledge as to the policies and p knowledge as to the policies and p late creation of those records?  A I don't know BankUnited' would expect they would follow to that are prevalent throughout the  Q Is your I'm sorry. G A Prevalent wasn't the right	
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5 know that there was a failed 6 THE COURT: There's no e 7 that there is a failed bank a 8 MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor 9 they pled in their reply by a 10 ledgers. 11 THE COURT: If you guys 12 then there's no evidence. 13 MR. WASYLIK: Agreed, You 14 BY MR. WASYLIK: 15 Q Now, as to the records of 16 after May 21st, 2009, again, do you 17 knowledge as to the policies and p 18 the creation of those records? 19 A I don't know BankUnited' 20 I would expect they would follow to 21 that are prevalent throughout the 22 Q Is your I'm sorry. G 23 A Prevalent wasn't the right	ce sure we necessarily
that there is a failed bank a  MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor  they pled in their reply by a  ledgers.  THE COURT: If you guys  then there's no evidence.  MR. WASYLIK: Agreed, You  MR. WASYLIK: Agreed, You  MR. WASYLIK: Agreed, You  MR. WASYLIK:  Q Now, as to the records of  after May 21st, 2009, again, do you  knowledge as to the policies and p  knowledge as to the policies and p  the creation of those records?  A I don't know BankUnited'  under the policies and p  and the creation of those records?  I would expect they would follow the  that are prevalent throughout the  Q Is your I'm sorry. G  A Prevalent wasn't the right	n't know about that. I
7 that there is a failed bank a  8 MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor  9 they pled in their reply by a  10 ledgers.  11 THE COURT: If you guys  12 then there's no evidence.  13 MR. WASYLIK: Agreed, You  14 BY MR. WASYLIK:  15 Q Now, as to the records of  16 after May 21st, 2009, again, do you  17 knowledge as to the policies and p  18 the creation of those records?  19 A I don't know BankUnited'  20 I would expect they would follow to  21 that are prevalent throughout the  22 Q Is your I'm sorry. G  23 A Prevalent wasn't the right	bank.
MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor they pled in their reply by a ledgers.  THE COURT: If you guys then there's no evidence.  MR. WASYLIK: Agreed, You Have the many and the records of After May 21st, 2009, again, do you knowledge as to the policies and p the creation of those records?  A I don't know BankUnited' that are prevalent throughout the  Q Is your I'm sorry. G A Prevalent wasn't the right	evidence in this case
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10 ledgers.  11 THE COURT: If you guys  12 then there's no evidence.  13 MR. WASYLIK: Agreed, You  14 BY MR. WASYLIK:  15 Q Now, as to the records of  16 after May 21st, 2009, again, do you  17 knowledge as to the policies and put the creation of those records?  18 I don't know BankUnited'  20 I would expect they would follow to the the prevalent throughout the creation of the policies and put that are prevalent throughout the country.  20 Is your I'm sorry.  21 A Prevalent wasn't the right	c, it's a matter that
then there's no evidence.  MR. WASYLIK: Agreed, You Have the many and the records of the folicies and process of the creation of those records?  MR. Wasylik:  A fon't know again, do you  the creation of the policies and process of the policies and proces	attaching the FDIC
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MR. WASYLIK: Agreed, You have the seconds of the second of the sec	don't agree to it,
BY MR. WASYLIK:  15 Q Now, as to the records of after May 21st, 2009, again, do you knowledge as to the policies and put the creation of those records?  18 the creation of those records?  19 A I don't know BankUnited' 20 I would expect they would follow to that are prevalent throughout the Q Is your I'm sorry. Generally approached the policies and put that are prevalent throughout the Q Is your I'm sorry. Generally approached the policies and put that are prevalent throughout the Q Is your I'm sorry. Generally approached the policies and put that are prevalent throughout the Q Is your I'm sorry. Generally approached the policies and put that are prevalent wasn't the right policies.	
15 Q Now, as to the records of after May 21st, 2009, again, do you 17 knowledge as to the policies and put 18 the creation of those records?  19 A I don't know BankUnited' 20 I would expect they would follow to 21 that are prevalent throughout the 22 Q Is your I'm sorry. Generally 23 A Prevalent wasn't the right.	our Honor.
16 after May 21st, 2009, again, do you 17 knowledge as to the policies and put 18 the creation of those records? 19 A I don't know BankUnited' 20 I would expect they would follow to 21 that are prevalent throughout the 22 Q Is your I'm sorry. G 23 A Prevalent wasn't the right	
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18 the creation of those records?  19 A I don't know BankUnited'  20 I would expect they would follow to  21 that are prevalent throughout the  22 Q Is your I'm sorry.  23 A Prevalent wasn't the right	ou have any personal
19 A I don't know BankUnited' 20 I would expect they would follow to 21 that are prevalent throughout the 22 Q Is your I'm sorry. G 23 A Prevalent wasn't the right	procedures regarding
20 I would expect they would follow to 21 that are prevalent throughout the 22 Q Is your I'm sorry. G 23 A Prevalent wasn't the right	
21 that are prevalent throughout the  22 Q Is your I'm sorry. G  23 A Prevalent wasn't the rig	's specific procedures.
22 Q Is your I'm sorry. G 23 A Prevalent wasn't the rig	the general regulations
23 A Prevalent wasn't the rig	industry.
	So ahead and finish.
24 the industry.	ght word. They govern
25 Q Okay. And as to BankUni	ited FSB, is your



- 1 answer the same for that?
- 2 A Yes.
- 3 Q Okay. Do you have any personal knowledge as
- 4 to the policies and procedures of BankUnited, either
- 5 one, as to the keeping of those records?
- 6 A No.
- 7 Q And do you have any personal knowledge as to
- 8 how persons at BankUnited would have acquired knowledge
- 9 of the matters recorded?
- 10 A I'm sorry. Could you please repeat?
- 11 Q I'll rephrase it.
- 12 A Thank you.
- 13 Q The people at BankUnited who created those
- 14 records -- do you have any personal knowledge of how
- 15 they acquired the information that they inserted?
- 16 A The regulations have certain requirements that
- 17 need to be met, so they need to have personal knowledge
- 18 of something. But I don't specifically know what those
- 19 people knew; if they followed the regulations the way
- 20 they were supposed to.
- 21 Q Right, and you don't know if they did.
- 22 A I don't have any reason to doubt that they
- 23 did.
- 24 Q But you didn't see them doing it.
- 25 A I did not see them.



1	Q All right. And as to the time the records
2	were created, do you have any personal knowledge of the
3	policies and practices of BankUnited, either one, as to
4	the date of entry being made at or near the time of the
5	event?
6	A Outside the regulations, no.
7	MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor, I'm done with my
8	voir dire. My objection is the same under Yang.
9	THE COURT: Well, tell me a little bit more
10	about your objection as to Yang.
11	MR. WASYLIK: Specifically, Your Honor, the
12	witness has testified as to each of the four prongs
13	of the business records foundation as to the
14	manner in which the records are created, where she
15	says she has no personal knowledge. She avers
16	generally that she has this awareness of the
17	regulations, but she can't tell whether the people
18	at BankUnited actually followed them. Secondly,
19	the same answer as to the manner in which their
20	kept, goes to the ordinary business kept in the
21	ordinary course of business prong.
22	Thirdly, as to the prong regarding made by a
23	person with knowledge, she testified that she
24	didn't know that. She is assuming that they follow
25	the regulations, but she doesn't have any personal



- 1 knowledge of that. Fourth, as to whether or not
- 2 they were made at or near the time the event
- 3 recorded, the fourth prong, she's also testified
- 4 she has no personal knowledge of that. And, again,
- 5 she simply assumes that they were following
- 6 regulations. That's not enough, judge. That's not
- 7 enough to lay a foundation of this witness. Under
- 8 Hunter and Yang, she doesn't have personal
- 9 knowledge under the manner in which BankUnited
- 10 created these records or kept the records; the time
- 11 they were made; and the knowledge of the people who
- 12 entered them.
- 13 THE COURT: Okay. Response?
- MR. PASCALE: Your Honor, our response is
- 15 going to be the same. We're relying on WAMCO vs.
- 16 Integrated Electronics. At the time that McCormick
- 17 acquired the loan those records were taken from
- 18 BankUnited. The witness testified an audit was
- 19 performed. The witness testified that the audit
- 20 did not reveal any discrepancy at all in any of the
- 21 business records.
- 22 And, moreover, the witness testified that
- 23 she's familiar with and believes that as a result
- 24 of her position and title in the industry, that
- 25 bank and servicing acceptable practices were



- 1 utilized in the servicing and generating of
- 2 documents throughout the course of the Defendant's
- 3 loan. And, again, the policy behind the business
- 4 records exception is important because it's to
- 5 eliminate the onerous, the arduous task on calling
- 6 a witness from BankUnited to testify that Suzy Q
- 7 put in these records personally; but rather those
- 8 records were acquired in the ordinary course of
- 9 business.
- 10 THE COURT: You know, what I'm looking for is
- 11 the business records exception to the evidence
- 12 code. Do you guys remember what rule that was?
- 13 MR. WASYLIK: It's 90.803 Subsection 6, Your
- 14 Honor, the statutes.
- 15 THE COURT: 803?
- 16 MR. WASYLIK: 803. There's a copy. It's
- 17 reproduced in Ehrhardt's, Your Honor. I can pass
- 18 it up -- oh, you have a statute book.
- 19 THE COURT: I have a statute book. I'd rather
- 20 use the statute book. What was the --
- 21 MR. WASYLIK: Subsection 6, Your Honor, of the
- 22 business records exception.
- 23 THE COURT: Let's see 90.803.6, Records of
- 24 Regularly Conducted Business Activity -- a) a
- 25 memorandum, report, record, or data compilation in



- 1 any form, of acts, events, conditions, opinion, or
- 2 diagnosis, made at or near the time, by or from
- 3 information transmitted by a person with knowledge,
- 4 if kept in the course of regularly conducted
- 5 business activity; and if it was the regular
- 6 practice of that business activity to make such
- 7 memorandum, report, record, or data compilation all
- 8 as shown by the testimony of the custodian or other
- 9 qualified witness, or as shown by a certification
- 10 unless the sources of information shows lack of
- 11 trustworthiness.
- I don't know, counsel. I understand your
- 13 position, and I understand your WAMCO case but two
- 14 more recent cases than WAMCO -- one, the Hunter
- 15 case which says that testimony in a case about
- 16 standard mortgage industry practice arguably
- 17 established that such records were generated and
- 18 kept in the ordinary course of mortgage loan
- 19 servicing. And more importantly, the folks I have
- 20 to report to -- the 4th DCA -- less than a year ago
- 21 entered, you know, the Yang opinion that I am bound
- 22 by. And there they had a substantial problem
- 23 because the witness testified about records from
- 24 another company. And in that case the Court did
- 25 exactly what you're asking me to do, and that Court



1	was reversed, and that's Cynthia Cox, and she's a
2	pretty smart judge.
3	I'm going to sustain this objection again
4	based primarily on the Yang case because we don't
5	have somebody here who can testify as to even the
6	policies, let alone the people who entered the data
7	or any verification as to whether or not they were
8	correct at the time they were made because she
9	never worked for that company. I'm going to
10	sustain the objection to 4B, the BankUnited
11	records. However, 4A, the BSI records, I think are
12	admissible. So I'm going to sustain the objection
13	as to 4B, under the Yang case. I'm overruling the
14	objection as to 4A. Okay.
15	MR. PASCALE: Yes, sir, Your Honor.
16	THE COURT: Let's move on, then.
17	(Plaintiff's Exhibit 4A was admitted into
18	evidence)
19	CONTINUED DIRECT EXAMINATION
20	BY MR. PASCALE:
21	Q Ms. Eberly, do the business records of 4A
22	belonging to BSI show or reflect that the loan has not
23	been paid?
24	A Yes.
25	Q When is the last date of payment received



1	pursuant to BSI records?
2	A It shows the last payment date and this
3	isn't necessarily a loan payment. This is any incoming
4	money so it could be a tax refund or anything. It has a
5	payment date of 6/12/2009.
6	Q Okay. Well, when was the last loan payment
7	date?
8	A I'm allowed to look at the
9	THE COURT: No, you can't read from that.
10	BY MR. PASCALE:
11	Q Generally, do you recall when the last loan
12	payment date was approximately?
13	THE COURT: If you're asking her to refer to
14	
15	THE WITNESS: We have
16	THE COURT: Excuse me. If you're asking her
17	to refer to an inadmissible document
18	MR. PASCALE: I'm not. To be clear, I'm not
19	asking her to refer to 4B. I'm just asking for
20	personal knowledge. You've reviewed the records
21	prior to today's trial. I'm just asking
22	THE COURT: Based on the BSI pay history, no
23	money of any kind has come in since June 12, 2009.
24	MR. PASCALE: Thank you. No further
25	questions.



THE COURT: Okay. Are you done with this 1 2 witness, counsel? If so, I'm going to ask you to 3 return the exhibits to the clerk. 4 MR. PASCALE: I just have one more question. I apologize if I asked this. 5 BY MR. PASCALE: 6 Can you tell us the loan balance as of today, 7 according to BSI's records? And I apologize if I asked 8 that. 9 10 Α This pay history is dated 7/31/14, and it's 11 showing the current principal balance of \$470,363.53. 12 0 I'm just going to ask you if you've reviewed the proposed final judgment today. 13 Yes, I reviewed it earlier. 14 Okay. And are the figures within that final 15 0 16 judgment consistent with the business records of 17 McCormick? 18 Α Yes. 19 MR. PASCALE: No further questions at this 20 time, Your Honor. And Your Honor asked me to return the exhibits? 2.1 22 THE COURT: Yes, please. Cross examination. 23 MR. WASYLIK: Thank you, Your Honor. I want 24 to waive cross subject to my right to call the 25 witness on my case in chief, if we need to get



- 1 there.
- 2 THE COURT: Well --
- MR. WASYLIK: I want to streamline the case,
- 4 judge.
- 5 THE COURT: All right. Let me ask counsel --
- 6 do you have any other witnesses?
- 7 MR. PASCALE: Just any witness that the
- 8 Defendant would introduce. I do not.
- 9 THE COURT: Well now is the time for you to
- 10 call any other witnesses that you may have.
- 11 MR. PASCALE: I do not.
- 12 THE COURT: All right. And you probably have
- 13 some motions.
- 14 MR. PASCALE: Yes, Your Honor. I have a
- 15 motion --
- 16 THE COURT: Wait. Plaintiffs rest?
- 17 MR. PASCALE: No. We'd like to proffer to the
- 18 Court -- I want to go back to Your Honor's earlier
- 19 question as to what additional evidence we'd like
- 20 to introduce, and --
- 21 THE COURT: Now is the time to introduce it,
- 22 counsel.
- 23 MR. PASCALE: Okay. Then I'd like to proffer.
- 24 THE COURT: Proffer what?
- 25 MR. PASCALE: Your Honor asked me earlier what



- 1 evidence I need to proffer to show the validity of
- 2 the Defendant's signature on this note. And I
- 3 apologize, Your Honor. I just discovered this.
- 4 THE COURT: All right. Do you have any other
- 5 evidence to present? Do you have any other witness
- 6 for whom you are going to present to testify, or
- 7 are you going to testify yourself?
- 8 MR. PASCALE: I was going to offer legal
- 9 argument as to the pleadings and the admissions
- 10 contained therein. I don't have any further
- 11 questions for the witness.
- 12 THE COURT: Okay. You may step down. Go
- 13 ahead. I don't know what you're doing but go ahead
- 14 and do it.
- 15 MR. PASCALE: I'm sorry. It's not my
- 16 intention, Your Honor. I'm just going back to Your
- 17 Honor's question in trying to preserve and protect
- 18 my client's rights. That's all I'm doing. I just
- 19 wanted to proffer to the Court. Your Honor asked
- 20 me earlier what evidence I intend to put on to show
- 21 that the Defendant signed this note, and I have a
- 22 copy of the Complaint which raises an allegation in
- 23 paragraph -- I believe it's the Amended Complaint,
- 24 paragraph four. This alleges that the note was
- 25 taken out.



- 1 THE COURT: Is there any objection to his
- 2 offering a verified document to the court?
- 3 MR. WASYLIK: I'm sorry, Your Honor. Verified
- 4 in what way?
- 5 THE COURT: I don't know. Here, look at it.
- 6 This is what he's offering as evidence.
- 7 MR. WASYLIK: Well, Your Honor, pleadings are
- 8 not evidence. However, if there's a statement in
- 9 the pleading, anything that he alleges in the
- 10 Complaint that we have admitted, I think, is not a
- 11 matter of evidence. It's a matter of, it's been
- 12 removed from dispute. So to be clear, I'm
- 13 objecting to the introducing as evidence, but if he
- 14 wants to make legal argument --
- 15 THE COURT: What's your basis for objecting to
- 16 introducing this document into evidence?
- 17 MR. WASYLIK: Because the pleadings, Your
- 18 Honor, are not evidence. It's not authenticated.
- 19 Specifically, pleadings are not evidence.
- 20 THE COURT: It's verified. Does that make a
- 21 difference?
- MR. WASYLIK: In this case, Your Honor, no,
- 23 because it's verified under information and belief.
- 24 And, Your Honor, under -- there's case law that
- 25 talks about pleadings as evidence. There's case



- 1 law that talks about verified pleadings as
- 2 evidence. I have two cases that I didn't expect to
- 3 need to introduce today, but I have them with me.
- 4 And there's also the K. Boundry case out of the 2nd
- 5 DCA that talks about verified --
- 6 THE COURT: Just for clarification, let me
- 7 read the verification question. Under penalty of
- 8 perjury, I do declare that I have read the
- 9 foregoing Complaint and the facts alleged therein
- 10 are true and correct to the best of my belief and
- 11 knowledge, dated 22 of September 2011, signed by
- 12 somebody. I can't read the handwriting. Printed
- 13 Dana Melville, Foreclosure Specialist. Is Dana
- 14 Melville here?
- MR. PASCALE: No, she's not.
- MR. WASYLIK: So it's also a hearsay
- 17 objection, judge.
- 18 THE COURT: All right. That is hearsay. Go
- 19 ahead.
- 20 MR. PASCALE: Well, to continue with the
- 21 proffer, the Defendant admits in its pleadings and
- 22 its Answer that the note and the mortgage were
- 23 signed by the homeowner.
- 24 THE COURT: Okay. Show me where, please.
- 25 MR. PASCALE: Paragraph two is circled for



1 Your Honor. 2 THE COURT: Okay. 3 MR. PASCALE: And it states --4 THE COURT: In paragraph two. 5 MR. PASCALE: And that's the Answer, for the 6 record. Counsel, what he is saying is 7 THE COURT: paragraph two of Count One -- it says admitted that 8 9 a note and mortgage were executed; denying as to 10 other allegations. And let me try and -- and which 11 corresponding paragraph in your Verified Complaint? 12 MR. PASCALE: Well, You Honor, let me point 13 out that this is a Verified Amended Complaint, and that is an Answer that doesn't reference it. I 14 think that Answer came earlier; however, no 15 additional Answer that I'm aware of on the record 16 17 has been filed that disputes that, and that's an 18 admission. Moreover, the Answer that's been filed 19 is on behalf of Lisa Adjoda. Counsel today 20 represents -- I suppose deceased and Ms. Adjoda. I don't have anything of record, and I'm just 2.1 22 asking, judge, just so we cross our T's and dot our 23 Is there something of record to this Court 24 that indicates that counsel represents Mr. Adjoda 25 because this entire proceeding --



- 1 THE COURT: (To Clerk) Can I see Number 1,
- 2 please?
- 3 MR. PASCALE: Obviously, argument has been
- 4 made, objections on behalf of the deceased, and the
- 5 deceased is not represented here today. I feel as
- 6 though the Court shouldn't give any weight to those
- 7 arguments.
- 8 THE COURT: You raised about six issues. I'm
- 9 looking at your propounded Exhibit Number 1 which
- 10 shows, I believe, you've already told me -- let me
- 11 make sure. It shows two signatures, one by Lisa
- 12 and one by Mr. Adjoda, whose first name I cannot
- 13 pronounce. Okay, you've also shown me an Answer
- 14 from Lisa that says admitted that a note and
- 15 mortgage were executed; denied as to other
- 16 allegations.
- 17 And you've then shown me a verified -- a
- 18 Verified Amended Complaint.
- 19 MR. PASCALE: I believe that Answer refers
- 20 to -- counsel can back me up or stipulate to this.
- 21 That Answer refers to the Amended Complaint
- 22 pursuant to a footnote on one of these pleadings
- 23 that it shall refer to the Amended Complaint.
- 24 THE COURT: He's also raised another issue --
- 25 who do you represent in this proceeding?



- 1 MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor, to be abundantly
- 2 clear, I represent Lisa Adjoda only; however that
- 3 doesn't affect the analysis because the decedent is
- 4 dead. And it's redundant, right, 673.3081 simply
- 5 says that if the maker of the note is deceased, the
- 6 presumption vanishes. Now we have a right to raise
- 7 that because they're seeking to enforce -- well,
- 8 they're seeking to be introduced as evidence.
- 9 They're seeking to introduce as evidence against my
- 10 client, Lisa Adjoda. And that's what I'm talking
- 11 about, Your Honor.
- 12 MR. PASCALE: We are not asking the Court to
- determine liability under the promissory note as to
- 14 Ms. Adjoda. This is not a deficiency hearing.
- 15 This is not a money judgment. This is a
- 16 foreclosure of the lien, the mortgage lien. We're
- 17 asking the Court to foreclose on the mortgage lien,
- 18 so we're not going through that liability under the
- 19 note.
- 20 THE COURT: Because I think I've lost
- 21 jurisdiction over the dead guy. Can we all agree
- 22 to that? There's no estate here. And without an
- 23 estate, I don't really have jurisdiction over
- 24 Rajystmanura, I don't believe. He's gone to a much
- 25 higher court somewhere.



- 1 MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor, I believe the record
- 2 shows he's never been served so --
- THE COURT: Well, okay. He hasn't been
- 4 served?
- 5 MR. WASYLIK: I don't believe so. I think he
- 6 passed before the Complaint was filed. I'm not 100
- 7 percent certain.
- 8 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you for that
- 9 clarification. I have now learned something about
- 10 the case that I didn't know. So you may go ahead
- 11 with your argument.
- MR. PASCALE: Well, to continue to proffer the
- 13 --
- 14 THE COURT: Your proffer.
- MR. PASCALE: Yes. To continue the proffer,
- 16 Your Honor, the evidence shows that at least one of
- 17 the parties has admitted to the taking of a note
- 18 and mortgage. But more so I'd just like to go back
- 19 to that Bennett case that Your Honor has, and I'd
- 20 like to point out that there was no -- and
- 21 additionally in that Answer, Your Honor --
- 22 THE COURT: Which case?
- MR. PASCALE: The Bennett case.
- 24 THE COURT: I've got Hunter. I've got Yang,
- and I've got WAMCO.



- 1 MR. WASYLIK: Bennett was the one that Your
- 2 Honor referred to on my device.
- 3 THE COURT: Oh.
- 4 MR. WASYLIK: Well, he brought it up. I
- 5 actually have a copy of it. He didn't bring a
- б сору.
- 7 THE COURT: The one I read that we have no
- 8 record of, and I read it on somebody's computer.
- 9 Okay, go ahead. I understand.
- 10 MR. PASCALE: Under that Bennett case -- and
- 11 Your Honor read it -- the Defendants have failed to
- 12 deny that they have made that note in their
- 13 pleadings. They're referring to -- and first of
- 14 all, they don't represent the deceased, and they
- 15 shouldn't be allowed to make argument on the
- 16 deceased's behalf. But their pleadings go to a
- 17 denial of authenticity as to the allonges and the
- 18 assignments in this case. They don't reference the
- 19 note, and that's contained within their affirmative
- 20 defenses.
- 21 So not only have they not even raised it, but
- 22 then they haven't actually provided this Court with
- 23 any evidence of fraud or forgery, and the Bennett
- 24 case is controlling. It says you need something
- 25 more than just a mere denial or a mere, someone has



- 1 been deceased. You need to present evidence that
- 2 there's been fraud or forgery in this case.
- 3 There's been no evidence presented of that.
- 4 And in addition to that, Your Honor -- and I
- 5 don't normally do this, but I have to ask. Under
- 6 these conditions today -- and I'm not making
- 7 excuses for myself or my client -- but there are
- 8 additional documents that we'd like to put into
- 9 evidence, which I don't have because there was a
- 10 TILA disclosure hearing; there was a HUD statement
- 11 with this mortgage loan; there was a loan
- 12 application. Then they had limited power of
- 13 attorney. There was a W-9. All of these documents
- 14 show that Mr. Adjoda took out this mortgage loan
- 15 and signed this mortgage note.
- 16 And so because of that, I would like to ask
- 17 for a continuance to get those documents and to
- 18 show the Court and put them into evidence so that
- 19 we can present our entire case.
- 20 THE COURT: I'm not going to continue this
- 21 case. This case has been set too long to continue
- 22 it at this point.
- 23 MR. PASCALE: Respectfully, I hear the Court's
- 24 ruling, and I'm just merely -- I hope the Court can
- 25 understand where I'm coming from.



- 1 THE COURT: Well, I can, but I'm not going to
- 2 continue this case at this late date. This is a
- 3 2009 case, and now we're in the second half of
- 4 2014. It's a five-year old case. Motion for
- 5 continuance mid-trial is denied.
- 6 So let's move on for whatever else you want to
- 7 proffer.
- 8 MR. PASCALE: I don't have anything else to
- 9 proffer.
- 10 THE COURT: All right. Now you have some
- 11 motions, I'm sure.
- 12 MR. WASYLIK: That's correct, Your Honor. The
- 13 Court has sustained objections as to the note, as
- 14 to the notice of default letter, and the collateral
- 15 comments and also sustained objections as to the
- 16 pay history from 2006 through 2013; more or less
- 17 the end of 2013.
- 18 And in that regard, Your Honor, the Plaintiff
- 19 has its burden to prove the agreement between the
- 20 parties; i.e. the note. It has to prove the breach
- 21 of that agreement. It has to prove the amount due
- 22 and owing. It has to prove conditions precedent.
- 23 Because the note has not come in; because the
- 24 default letter has not come in; and because the
- 25 vast majority of the history of this loan has not



- 1 come in through the end of 2013, the evidence
- 2 before the Court is insufficient to sustain a
- 3 judgment for Plaintiff. And, therefore, under
- 4 1.420(b) Rules of Civil Procedure, the Court can
- 5 and should grant a motion to dismiss for
- 6 insufficiency of the evidence.
- 7 THE COURT: I'm going to deny, but let me also
- 8 bring out a problem that I didn't even know existed
- 9 until the proffer. In the Verified Amended
- 10 Complaint, which was filed September 22nd, 2011,
- 11 paragraph number two specifically identifies on
- 12 August 22nd, 2006, promissory note and mortgage
- 13 that were signed by both of these -- by Lisa
- 14 Adjoda, and it specified the book and page number,
- 15 and it specified the date, of course, as we've
- 16 already said. It said a copy of the note and
- 17 mortgage are attached hereto and made a part
- 18 hereof. Let me have Number 1, please.
- 19 In comparing -- and the answer to that, or the
- 20 answer was, admitted that a note and mortgage were
- 21 executed. In comparing the attached note and
- 22 mortgage -- and let me see if these are the same.
- 23 The originals do not have a book and page number on
- 24 them that I can find. And counsel for Plaintiff,
- 25 if you can look at these and tell me -- I'm trying



- 1 to match up the book and page, and that's not
- 2 possible to do because there is no book and page.
- 3 Number two is in evidence so we don't have to
- 4 worry about that. But let me just, for the record
- 5 while I've got it, the book and page of Exhibit
- 6 Number 2 is the mortgage which is in evidence is
- 7 identical to the copy on the Verified Amended
- 8 Complaint. Let me see if the note is attached
- 9 here. The note was not recorded. There is one
- 10 note signed only by Mr. Adjoda, and there is an
- 11 adjustable rate rider which does appear to have
- 12 been attached to the Complaint -- the Verified
- 13 Amended Complaint I should say. It wasn't.
- So part of this Exhibit Number 1, counsel, the
- 15 adjustable rate rider, was not attached to the
- 16 Complaint.
- 17 MR. PASCALE: Your Honor, is it possible that
- 18 it's attached to the mortgage, which is in
- 19 evidence?
- 20 THE COURT: Hang on, hang on. And I will
- 21 allow you to reply once I've gotten through all of
- 22 this. There is an addendum to the note signed by
- 23 Rajystmanura that is attached to the Complaint, and
- 24 it appears to be the same, identical, to this
- 25 Verified Amended Complaint. All right. So what we



- 1 seem to have, then -- let me see if the mortgage is
- 2 correct. No, there's nothing attached to the
- 3 mortgage. I will let you verify that.
- 4 So you have the adjustable rate note signed by
- 5 Rajystmanura but not by the wife, which is attached
- 6 to the Complaint. The adjustable rate rider, which
- 7 is part of the -- not in evidence, Exhibit Number
- 8 1, was signed by the wife but it's not in evidence.
- 9 It is not attached to the Verified Complaint and,
- 10 therefore, it would not have been part of the
- 11 admission.
- 12 So what I'm going to do is I'm going to
- 13 reverse myself partially but not totally. I'm
- 14 going to admit that part of Exhibit 1 where
- 15 Rajystmanura signed it, but I'm not going to admit
- 16 the part where the wife signed it. And my
- 17 rationale for doing this to my friends at the 4th
- 18 DCA -- again, there is that Verified Amended
- 19 Complaint recited to in paragraph two that
- 20 Rajystmanura executed and delivered a promissory
- 21 note that was attached to the Verified Amended
- 22 Complaint, and that note signed by Rajystmanura
- 23 that was admitted by Lisa as having been
- 24 admitted -- she admitted that note and mortgage
- 25 were executed. She didn't admit who executed it,



- 1 and the only allegation is that Rajystmanura, Mr.
- 2 Adjoda, executed it.
- And so I'm going to admit that portion of it
- 4 where Mr. Adjoda executed it. I'm not going to
- 5 admit that portion of the addendum where Lisa
- 6 signed it. I find that that still has not been
- 7 sufficient to be proven. But having said that, I
- 8 don't know that it really makes a difference
- 9 because Mr. Rajystmanura is deceased anyhow.
- 10 MR. WASYLIK: Well, Your Honor, if I
- 11 understood the Court's ruling correctly, I move to
- 12 dismiss for lack of evidence as to -- not only lack
- of evidence as to the note, but also because the
- 14 Court kept out the letter which was the notice of
- 15 default. That's a failure of conditions precedent,
- 16 which is the burden of the Plaintiff to prove. And
- 17 if I understood the Court's ruling correctly, the
- 18 Court denied that motion or is that --
- 19 THE COURT: I haven't ruled on it yet because
- 20 I'm taking the evidence. I have now reversed
- 21 myself, and I'm admitting part of Exhibit 1. So
- 22 here's what I'm going to do. I'm going to ask the
- 23 Clerk to modify the enumeration of Number 1 and
- 24 make Number 1A the promissory note signed by the
- 25 husband, and 1B the rest of it, so that the Court



- of Appeals does not get confused as to what I'm
- 2 doing here.
- 3 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 1A admitted into
- 4 evidence)
- 5 THE COURT: Now, I haven't ruled on your
- 6 motion yet, and I'm going to give opposing counsel
- 7 an opportunity to respond to your outstanding
- 8 motion.
- 9 MR. WASYLIK: Very well, Your Honor. At the
- 10 end of that, if it's necessary, I didn't get a
- 11 chance to argue about the --
- 12 THE COURT: Well, make all your motions, then.
- MR. WASYLIK: I didn't get a chance to argue
- 14 about the issue of what was actually admitted by
- 15 the pleadings.
- 16 THE COURT: All right.
- 17 MR. WASYLIK: And I think that's important.
- 18 Your Honor, as the Court read correctly that the
- 19 admission number two is admitted that a note and a
- 20 mortgage were executed, but it's denied as to all
- 21 other allegations. In other words, we're not
- 22 admitting that note, that mortgage. So I want to
- 23 make that clear. If that changes the Court's
- 24 ruling, then so be it. And if it doesn't change
- 25 the Court's ruling, then --



- 1 THE COURT: It's still clear on the Verified
- 2 Amended Complaint what note was being discussed in
- 3 the Complaint. So I find that there is no
- 4 confusion as to which note was being discussed in
- 5 both the Complaint and the Answer.
- 6 MR. WASYLIK: And I'll just proffer to the
- 7 Court, I unfortunately drafted that Answer, and it
- 8 was my intention to specifically not admit that
- 9 note and that mortgage. And I'll just leave that
- 10 for what it's worth.
- 11 THE COURT: Okay.
- 12 MR. WASYLIK: Now I stated -- and the Court
- 13 can stop me if it already heard this -- I move to
- 14 dismiss as insufficient the evidence based on
- initially the note but also, too, conditions
- 16 precedent, properly denied which has been in our
- 17 pleadings. We have denied that they provided a
- 18 letter required by paragraph twenty-two of the
- 19 mortgage. So the letter was proffered by counsel.
- 20 The Court sustained the objection to it. The
- 21 letter never came in, and the collection notes
- 22 never came in showing whether or not it was sent.
- 23 The Plaintiff has failed to meet his burden as to
- 24 conditions precedent.
- 25 Thirdly, Your Honor, the Plaintiff has the



- 1 burden to prove both the default and also the
- 2 amounts due and owing under the note. And the
- 3 reason for that, Your Honor, why it matters to
- 4 Lisa, is because she, as the owner of the property,
- 5 has a statutory right of redemption. And the
- 6 amount of her statutory right of redemption is
- 7 affected by the exact dollar amount that the Court
- 8 enters in judgment, if it does enter judgment.
- 9 And, therefore, it is Plaintiff's burden to prove a
- 10 precise dollar amount. Because the Court excluded
- 11 the pay history from 2006 until the end of 2013,
- 12 the evidence as to the amounts due and owing and
- 13 even, Your Honor, the evidence as to whether a
- 14 default happened, there's no documentation of that
- 15 whatsoever. So there's insufficient evidence as to
- 16 that point.
- 17 So as to conditions precedent and as to the
- 18 things that would be proven by the pay history --
- 19 namely, the default and the amounts due and owing,
- 20 those things are not in evidence, and the Court
- 21 cannot enter judgment without them.
- 22 THE COURT: Okay. Plaintiff?
- MR. PASCALE: Respectfully, Your Honor, we
- 24 disagree. Even if that letter hasn't come into
- 25 evidence, despite Ms. Eberly's testimony and



- 1 despite the WAMCO case, that letter was only
- 2 required to be sent to the borrower. Defendant,
- 3 Ms. Adjoda, is not the borrower. Ms. Adjoda is the
- 4 spouse of the borrower. She has no entitlement to
- 5 that notice. She is precluded from arguing. She
- 6 does not have standing to argue that today as to
- 7 the borrower, Mr. Adjoda.
- 8 THE COURT: May I see Number 1? I'm sorry,
- 9 Number 2.
- 10 MR. PASCALE: And that's clear under the terms
- 11 of the mortgage contract as to what the Plaintiff
- 12 is required to do.
- 13 THE COURT: Okay. Which?
- MR. PASCALE: Paragraph twenty-two of the
- 15 mortgage contract, Your Honor, requires --
- 16 THE COURT: That's what I thought it was --
- 17 mortgage, twenty-two.
- 18 MR. PASCALE: And it specifically uses the
- 19 word, borrower. Ms. Adjoda is not a borrower. Her
- 20 rights are not going to be prejudiced by entry of a
- 21 judgment here today.
- 22 THE COURT: But the mortgage begins by saying,
- 23 the borrower is Rajystmanura and Lisa, husband and
- 24 wife. Does that make a difference?
- MR. PASCALE: Black's Law Dictionary, Your



- 1 Honor -- if you'll allow me the opportunity to
- 2 refer to it, I think that a borrower is someone who
- 3 has an obligation to pay a debt. Ms. Adjoda has no
- 4 such obligation.
- 5 THE COURT: Here. Also both parties signed
- 6 this mortgage, and the borrower is defined as both
- 7 of them. It doesn't say or -- it says
- 8 Rajystmanura --
- 9 MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor, if you want to call
- 10 him Ray Adjoda if that helps.
- 11 THE COURT: Thank you. Ray Adjoda and Lisa
- 12 Adjoda, husband and wife, is the definition of
- 13 borrower in the mortgage itself. And I'll show it
- 14 to you if you want to see it.
- 15 MR. PASCALE: I concur with Your Honor. I
- 16 certainly would just like to point out that there
- 17 is a mortgage contract and, again, the definition
- 18 of a borrower, according to the Black's Law
- 19 Dictionary, is a person or entity to who money or
- 20 something else is lent.
- 21 THE COURT: It also says at the end of the
- 22 mortgage, by signing below, the borrower accepts
- 23 and agrees to the terms and covenants contained in
- 24 pages one through eleven of this security
- 25 instrument and in any rider executed by borrower



- 1 and recorded with it. And it appears that both of
- 2 these folks signed as borrower, and that was before
- 3 a Notary Public.
- 4 MR. PASCALE: Again, Your Honor, I understand
- 5 the Court has made its ruling as to the
- 6 admissibility of the letter, but I'd just like to
- 7 reemphasize that the business records exceptions
- 8 isn't our only means of having the letter
- 9 introduced or admitted into evidence. And it's not
- 10 necessarily going -- it's not going to show the
- 11 truth of the matter asserted in that necessarily,
- 12 that information contained within it as to the
- 13 amount and date of the default is correct. It's
- 14 just going to show that the letter was mailed and
- 15 notified the Defendant of such -- the borrower of
- 16 such.
- And, moreover, in response to prong number two
- of Defense counsel's motion to dismiss, Ms. Eberly
- 19 was able to testify to a default today. I asked
- 20 her, Do any of McCormick's business records reflect
- 21 that a payment forthcoming was necessary to cure
- 22 the default? She has the payment history from BSI.
- 23 That payment history includes and incorporates the
- 24 outstanding principal balance of the loan and
- 25 carries through.



- 1 THE COURT: Okay. I'm going to deny the
- 2 motion to dismiss. Let's start proceeding to a
- 3 final argument. You guys want to take a break
- 4 before we do that?
- 5 MR. WASYLIK: Sure, Your Honor.
- 6 THE COURT: I think you basically made your
- 7 final arguments, but I'm going to let you do it
- 8 formally.
- 9 MR. WASYLIK: Yeah, I don't think I need to
- 10 add anything else, Your Honor, other than the fact
- 11 as far as the default letter goes, they're now
- 12 claiming that they didn't have to send a letter to
- 13 Ms. Adjoda. Well, we pled that as an affirmative
- 14 defense and instead of raising that as part of
- 15 their reply, they just said, oh, we sent a letter.
- 16 So they didn't raise that as --
- 17 THE COURT: Here's what we're going to do.
- 18 Let's take a five-minute break. I'm going to allow
- 19 both of you to present your final arguments, okay.
- 20 MR. WASYLIK: Okay, Judge.
- 21 (Recess was taken)
- 22 (Back on the record)
- 23 THE BAILIFF: Court's back in session.
- 24 THE COURT: Okay. Plaintiff goes first. I
- 25 think I basically heard all the arguments, but I'll



- 1 give you the opportunity.
- 2 PLAINTIFF'S CLOSING ARGUMENT
- 3 MR. PASCALE: You have, Your Honor, I just --
- 4 the only argument I'd like to make is that the
- 5 burden of proving an affirmative defense rests with
- 6 the Defendant. The alleged failure to send a
- 7 letter, that Ms. Eberly was on the stand, had in
- 8 her hands, that Your Honor had along with the
- 9 collection log -- the burden to show that that
- 10 letter was not mailed is on the Defendant. The
- 11 Defendant has not put on any evidence here today to
- 12 meet its burden.
- So by preponderance of the evidence Plaintiff
- 14 should prevail. And that's the only point I'd like
- 15 to make.
- 16 THE COURT: Well, section twenty-two of the
- 17 mortgage says, Lender shall give notice to borrower
- 18 prior to acceleration. So what evidence is there,
- 19 other than in the letter, that is not in evidence?
- 20 What evidence is there in this record that notice
- 21 was given by the lender to the borrower?
- 22 MR. PASCALE: Clearly, only in the letter
- 23 itself, which the Court did not allow in evidence.
- 24 But clearly we're raising it in paragraph
- 25 twenty-two, as the Defendant did as an affirmative



- 1 defense, and contained within their Answer, the
- 2 burden again to prove an affirmative defense, and
- 3 the acceleration is on the Defendant. They haven't
- 4 met their burden. There's been no evidence
- 5 presented that it hasn't been received.
- 6 Ms. Adjoda is not here. No other witness has
- 7 testified for the Defendant that this letter was
- 8 received -- or sent. Conversely, Ms. Eberly
- 9 testified that the letter was sent and that
- 10 pursuant to her collection log notes and the letter
- 11 itself, it put the Defendant on notice.
- 12 THE COURT: Let me see the collection log
- 13 note. I want to see what you're talking about.
- 14 MR. PASCALE: Part two of the Composite
- 15 Exhibit, Your Honor.
- 16 THE COURT: Well, the only one that's in
- 17 evidence is A. So let me hand this to you again
- 18 and ask you where it shows that it was sent.
- 19 MR. PASCALE: That's the payment history, Your
- 20 Honor. I'm referring to the demand letter as not
- 21 -- the Court did not allow it into evidence.
- 22 Nonetheless, she testified to that in my closing
- 23 argument. And, again, the affirmative defense
- 24 burden rests with the Defendant. We acknowledge
- 25 that the mortgage contract says the language,



- 1 shall, but if you're going to assert that, if
- 2 that's been asserted as an affirmative defense,
- 3 that is going to have to rest with the Defendant.
- 4 There is no evidence here today to controvert that.
- 5 THE COURT: Okay. Is that it?
- 6 MR. PASCALE: Yes.
- 7 THE COURT: Okay.
- 8 DEFENDANT'S CLOSING ARGUMENT
- 9 MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor, counsel's argument
- 10 is very eloquent; unfortunately it is founded on a
- 11 fundamentally incorrect principal of law and a
- 12 fundamentally incorrect understanding of what
- 13 exactly we pled. Rule 1.260 required the Plaintiff
- 14 to plead generally performance of conditions
- 15 precedent. The mortgage contract itself tells us
- 16 what those conditions are. Then it becomes my
- 17 burden to say what exactly I think they didn't do.
- 18 And in paragraph ten of our Answer, we
- 19 specifically deny conditions precedent, and let me
- 20 read the paragraph to the Court. And this is our
- 21 Answer and Affirmative Defenses to the Verified
- 22 Amended Complaint filed on -- let me get the date
- 23 for you, judge -- on or about January 31st of this
- 24 year. Paragraph ten of those Answer and
- 25 Affirmative Defenses say, Denied. Specifically,



- 1 Plaintiff has failed to provide the notice required
- 2 by paragraph twenty-two in the mortgage in a matter
- 3 that strictly complies with the requirements of
- 4 that provision prior to commencing this foreclosure
- 5 action. Also, Plaintiffs fail to provide a notice
- 6 of assignment required by 559.715 of Florida
- 7 Statutes as a condition precedent to enforcement.
- Now, the effect of that denial, Your Honor,
- 9 under the law is to shift the burden back to the
- 10 Plaintiff to prove affirmatively that it performed
- 11 those conditions. Now, there's two components to
- 12 proving the condition as to the notice letter,
- 13 judge. The two components are a) we mailed a
- 14 letter; and (b) here's what the letter says.
- 15 Because paragraph twenty-two of the mortgage,
- 16 judge, says that that notice in question shall
- 17 specify four things: It shall specify the default;
- 18 the action required to cure the default; a date not
- 19 less than thirty days from the date the notice was
- 20 given by which the default must be cured; and (d)
- 21 that failure to cure the default will result in
- 22 foreclosure proceedings, acceleration of the loan,
- 23 and sale of the property. Then it goes on to say
- 24 that the notice shall further inform the borrower
- of the right to reinstate and the right to raise



- 1 defenses in the foreclosure proceedings.
- Now, in order to tell, judge, whether or not
- 3 the Plaintiff has sent a notice that contains all
- 4 of that information we need in evidence the letter,
- 5 and it's not. As to the second part of our denial,
- 6 there's been no evidence whatsoever as to the
- 7 notice of assignment required by 559.15. No
- 8 argument by Plaintiff that they provided nothing.
- 9 So that's as to the conditions precedent. That
- 10 alone, judge, is grounds to deny the Plaintiff's
- 11 Request for Foreclosure and to enter judgment on
- 12 behalf of -- in favor rather of the Defendant.
- 13 THE COURT: Well, does that mean she gets a
- 14 free house?
- MR. WASYLIK: No, Your Honor, it does not.
- 16 They can re-file. They can re-file. They might
- 17 have certain payments that are beyond the statute,
- 18 but under the current case law as it is in the 4th
- 19 and the 5th, there's no statute of limitations that
- 20 would bar them from re-filing.
- 21 MR. PASCALE: Can I briefly respond --
- 22 THE COURT: When he's done. Let me make sure
- 23 he's done. Anything further?
- 24 MR. WASYLIK: Now, Your Honor, I do also want
- 25 to address the issue of standing because that we



- 1 specifically denied as well. Standing -- they have
- 2 stated that McCormick 106, LLC bought the note
- 3 from -- in their pleadings they claim they have
- 4 some kind of connection with BankUnited and so on
- 5 and so forth. Now the problem with that is that
- 6 they haven't produced any actual evidence of that.
- 7 And here's why this is important.
- 8 First of all, Your Honor, as to their actual
- 9 Count One for foreclosure, they've alleged in
- 10 paragraph two that the note was negotiated and/or
- 11 transferred to the Plaintiff. They don't say
- 12 which. Now what they can't do, though -- the
- 13 problem here is that they didn't prove that that
- 14 was done for BankUnited at the time the Complaint
- 15 was filed. And here's why this is important,
- 16 judge, because at the time this Complaint was
- 17 filed, the Plaintiff was BankUnited, FSB. And in
- 18 their Amended Complaint they admit that BankUnited,
- 19 FSB was shut down by the FDIC -- this is paragraph
- 20 three. Plaintiff's predecessor in interest was
- 21 closed on May 21st, 2009 by the Office of Thrift
- 22 Supervision and the Federal Deposit Insurance
- 23 Corporation was appointed receiver. Now, Your
- 24 Honor, there on paragraph four they say subsequent
- 25 to the closure of BankUnited, FSB. Plaintiff,



- 1 BankUnited, a newly charted federal savings bank
- 2 acquired the assets and most of the liabilities of
- 3 BankUnited, FSB. So FSB is the failed savings
- 4 bank. BankUnited, N.A. is the new association.
- 5 So those are the admissions in the pleadings.
- 6 Those allegations are binding on that, and they
- 7 can't prove anything different, but here is where
- 8 this becomes problematic. The original Complaint
- 9 was filed by BankUnited, FSB in September of 2009,
- 10 four months after BankUnited was shut down and all
- 11 of its assets transferred to some other entity. So
- 12 here where Plaintiff, McCormick 106, LLC, claims to
- 13 have acquired the loan from BankUnited, N.A. --
- 14 well, they have to prove it all the way back to the
- 15 original Plaintiff because BankUnited, FSB is the
- 16 original Plaintiff. Now they did amend their
- 17 complaint but that amendment, because it brings a
- 18 new party in, doesn't relate back. They have to
- 19 prove it all the way to BankUnited, FSB. The
- 20 original Complaint says BankUnited, FSB, and that's
- 21 the entity which no longer existed and by its own
- 22 pleadings had already assigned away the right, Your
- 23 Honor, to this loan four months before the
- 24 Complaint was filed.
- 25 So they're claiming a change of title from



- 1 BankUnited, FSB, the original Plaintiff in this
- 2 case. The undisputed facts show that at the
- 3 inception of this foreclosure suit BankUnited FSB
- 4 didn't have standing because it had already signed
- 5 those things away based on their own admitted
- 6 pleadings. Now that was the standing issue. I
- 7 will also note, Your Honor, that they did not
- 8 prove -- there's no evidence whatsoever as to the
- 9 date of the alleged endorsements; the date on which
- 10 McCormick 106 acquired possession of the note; the
- 11 date in which BankUnited acquired possession; none
- 12 of that -- date of possession and date of
- 13 inception. The 4th DCA under the McClain and the
- 14 Venture case; the Bedell case -- all those cases
- 15 that we didn't have a chance to bring up, but I'm
- 16 sure the Court's heard before, they all require the
- 17 Plaintiff to prove standing at inception when
- 18 standing is denied.
- 19 Finally, Your Honor, as to the evidence of the
- 20 default and amounts due and owing, Your Honor, the
- 21 Plaintiff has the burden to show by evidence, all
- 22 those things were denied by the Defendant's Answer.
- 23 And in order to do that, it must bring evidence of
- 24 those three things: It must be admissible; it must
- 25 be legally sufficient to overcome a denial, a



- 1 directed verdict, or dismissal for insufficient
- 2 evidence; and thirdly, it must be sufficiently
- 3 credible in weight.
- 4 Now what we have here, Your Honor, is the
- 5 problem that the testimony of the witness, to the
- 6 extent that that overcomes any sufficiency -- which
- 7 I don't think it does -- but to the extent it might
- 8 overcome any insufficiency, the problem is that it
- 9 is admittedly based on documents that have not been
- 10 produced and documents that were active and
- 11 excluded by this Court because the Plaintiff
- 12 couldn't prove up that they were non-hearsay. So
- 13 the entire house of cards is founded on this shift
- in the sand of hearsay.
- Now if they had brought in admissible records
- 16 or if they brought in a witness who actually had
- 17 personal knowledge of the loan throughout the
- 18 entire time period, they would be able to prove
- 19 those things. But to the extent that there's any
- 20 evidence in the record at all about date of
- 21 default, the existence of a default, any of that,
- 22 and then the amounts due and owing -- to the extent
- 23 there's any evidence at all is based solely on
- 24 hearsay documents that this Court excluded or that
- 25 the Plaintiff chose not to present.



- 1 So at this point, judge, the Plaintiff's
- 2 burden to prove the things it needs to prove -- the
- 3 Plaintiff has not met that burden, and I'd ask that
- 4 the Court enter judgment in favor of the Defendant.
- 5 THE COURT: Okay.
- 6 MR. PASCALE: Your Honor, it's simple. With
- 7 respect to the default issued by -- the default
- 8 letter, conditions precedent, if the Court looks at
- 9 the affirmative defenses as pled, the affirmative
- 10 defense is not that I didn't receive the letter;
- 11 it's not that Ms. Adjoda didn't receive it or it
- 12 wasn't sent, because being sent is all that's
- 13 required under paragraph fifteen of the mortgage.
- 14 It was mailed. That's not the affirmative defense
- 15 raised by the defense, though. The affirmative
- 16 defense is rather, I received the letter -- Ms.
- 17 Adjoda -- and I'm drawing, I think I'm drawing a
- 18 fair inference as to what that affirmative defense
- 19 says. It says I received the letter, but I'm
- 20 disputing. I don't think the Plaintiff put in the
- 21 required information in that letter.
- 22 THE COURT: Does anybody have a copy of that
- 23 affirmative defense because I don't have it here?
- 24 It may be in the file but -- I'm not exactly sure
- 25 which affirmative defense you guys are talking



- 1 about, but the affirmative defense I just looked at
- 2 bears no resemblance to what you were reading.
- 3 MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor, it's paragraph ten
- 4 which is the denial -- admissions and denial
- 5 section.
- 6 THE COURT: That's not the affirmative defense
- 7 I have in front of me. The affirmative defense I
- 8 have has a different paragraph ten than what you
- 9 read.
- 10 MR. WASYLIK: Let me be very clear, Your
- 11 Honor. The paragraph ten I read for you --
- 12 THE COURT: Here's paragraph ten: The
- 13 Plaintiff's claims are barred by the doctrine --
- 14 MR. WASYLIK: That's from the affirmative
- 15 defenses, judge; not from the admissions and denial
- 16 in the proceeding. In the general denial answers,
- 17 see Count One?
- 18 THE COURT: Okay. Show me what you're
- 19 referring to, because I'm not sure I got that right
- 20 one. I also notice on the letter that's not in
- 21 evidence, it's not addressed to Lisa. It's
- 22 addressed to her husband. Does that matter?
- MR. WASYLIK: It doesn't matter, judge. It's
- 24 not in evidence.
- 25 THE COURT: Well, all I mean is if it were in



- 1 evidence, would that matter?
- 2 MR. WASYLIK: It would not. Paragraph fifteen
- 3 of the mortgage provides a notice to either
- 4 borrower or notice to both borrowers.
- 5 THE COURT: Okay.
- 6 MR. WASYLIK: The confusion, judge, is that we
- 7 pled both as a denial and also as an affirmative
- 8 defense -- doing belt and suspenders. Does that
- 9 make sense?
- 10 THE COURT: I'm just trying to figure out what
- 11 you guys are talking about, which paragraph,
- 12 because the paragraph you read is not the paragraph
- 13 that I found.
- MR. WASYLIK: The paragraph I read -- judge,
- 15 1.2 --
- 16 THE COURT: Stop, stop, stop.
- 17 MR. WASYLIK: I'm sorry.
- 18 THE COURT: He's got it now. He's going to
- 19 show me the affirmative defense, and then I'm going
- 20 to ask you to tell me what your -- you can show me
- 21 what you read from. And I'm not deciding this case
- 22 today either. I'm going to take this under
- 23 advisement, and I'm going to ask you both for
- 24 proposed judgments.
- 25 MR. WASYLIK: Very well.



- 1 THE COURT: I have far too many new cases for
- 2 me to --
- 3 MR. PASCALE: I'm not surprised, Your Honor.
- 4 THE COURT: And you came up with new cases,
- 5 too.
- 6 MR. PASCALE: Just four.
- 7 THE COURT: Just four? Just four? That's an
- 8 oxymoron.
- 9 MR. PASCALE: Your Honor, I'm referring you to
- 10 Defendant's --
- 11 THE COURT: All I want to know is what
- 12 affirmative defense it is.
- 13 MR. PASCALE: It's paragraph seven.
- 14 THE COURT: Paragraph seven.
- MR. PASCALE: It states what it states.
- 16 Again, I'm going to rely on the WAMCO case.
- 17 THE COURT: Plaintiff has failed to comply
- 18 with the pre-suit and notice of assignment required
- 19 for which the courts require strict compliance, and
- 20 in addition, Plaintiff has failed to provide the
- 21 notice required by paragraph twenty-two of the
- 22 mortgage -- let me finish -- prior to commencing
- 23 the foreclosure action, right?
- MR. PASCALE: Yes, Your Honor. And what the
- 25 Defendant has just argued is at their closing --



- 1 and the court reporter can read it back -- is not
- 2 that they didn't receive the notice or that it
- 3 wasn't sent; they're saying they got it according
- 4 to the argument. We got it. We're just not
- 5 convinced that it's legally sufficient. So that's
- 6 the difference. And that's what I'm saying. The
- 7 answer says what it says. I'm responding to the
- 8 argument that was just heard before the Court.
- 9 That was the argument. I'm responding.
- 10 In addition to that, we're going to rely on --
- and, again, I don't have the case with me but,
- 12 generally, in this case to assert a affirmative
- defense that burden rests with the Defendant. They
- 14 did not put on any evidence, have one single
- 15 witness here today; has not even bothered to cross
- 16 examine the Plaintiff's witness as to -- well, I
- 17 take that back. There was cross examination -- has
- 18 no witness as to whether this, in regards to
- 19 failure of the demand letter. Moreover, section
- 20 559 is a consumer protection statute. It goes to
- 21 consumer debt. I think it's completely irrelevant
- 22 to today's case and is not an affirmative defense
- 23 to a mortgage foreclosure. That's section 559 that
- 24 was asserted in closing argument.
- 25 Moreover, with respect to standing, judge,



- 1 that's been no stipulation; there's been no facts
- 2 here today that the assets, all of the assets were
- 3 sent on a particular date to BankUnited and,
- 4 therefore, BankUnited, FSB didn't have standing to
- 5 foreclose on this case. Rather, what we have is a
- 6 bank -- BankUnited, FSB who issued the loan and who
- 7 also filed the lawsuit.
- 8 And just a final case that we're all aware of
- 9 is the Saber v. J.P. Morgan Chase Bank case that's
- 10 cited at 114 So. 3d, 352, it just reads that a
- 11 foreclosure can have standing so long as it was a
- 12 holder of the mortgage at the time.
- 13 THE COURT: Is it So. 2nd or So. 3d?
- MR. PASCALE: So. 3d.
- 15 THE COURT: Okay.
- MR. PASCALE: Out of the 4th district, and it
- 17 states if the Plaintiff's name is not on the
- 18 mortgage, it can establish standing by proving that
- 19 the mortgage was either assigned or equitably
- 20 transferred by the filing of the Complaint. So to
- 21 draw an inference it reads, If the Plaintiff's name
- 22 is not on the mortgage -- BankUnited, FSB issued a
- 23 loan. BankUnited, FSB filed this lawsuit. There
- 24 is no issue as to standing.
- 25 If there's additional facts they should have



- 1 come in at trial as to contest or otherwise show
- 2 that this loan was out of BankUnited, FSB's hands
- 3 and it hasn't been. Moreover, there was a date of
- 4 acquisition that Ms. Eberly testified to. The
- 5 Court heard testimony of Ms. Eberly that McCormick
- 6 acquired the loan in November of 2013. That's when
- 7 they acquired the loan. There's allonges to the
- 8 note to that fact. I don't think there's any
- 9 dispute to that or any question as to the issue as
- 10 to that.
- 11 Finally, the pay history that Ms. Eberly
- 12 relied on carries forward. Yes, it's true, BSI has
- 13 the pay history, and that pay history carries
- 14 forward. That's reflected in the new pay history.
- 15 There was a principal balance given and a default
- 16 shown. So, Your Honor, all the Court needs to do
- 17 is look at the preponderance of the evidence and
- 18 see that note was signed; taken out; McCormick owns
- 19 that note; there's a pay history alleging a
- 20 default, showing a default; and the Defendant
- 21 hasn't met its burden with respect to the contents
- 22 of the demand letter, or the accepting of the
- 23 demand letter.
- 24 And for those reasons, I think the Court
- 25 should find today -- enter a final foreclosure



- 1 judgment in favor of the Defendant. Thank you.
- 2 THE COURT: Response?
- 3 MR. WASYLIK: Judge, first of all, to clarify
- 4 the issue of what exactly we pled, a copy of our
- 5 Answer and Affirmative Defenses -- this is the same
- 6 one the Court had a moment ago. Page two of our
- 7 Answer, under Count One where we admit and deny the
- 8 various allegations in the Complaint, they
- 9 correspond, Your Honor, to the Amended Verified
- 10 Complaint. Paragraph ten of the Verified Amended
- 11 Complaint says all conditions precedent to the
- 12 filing of this action have been performed or
- 13 occurred. It becomes our burden to admit or deny
- 14 that after they plead it.
- So what we did in our Answer, judge, is in
- 16 paragraph ten of our Answer, in response to their
- 17 allegation in paragraph ten on page two of our
- 18 Answer we say, Denied. But we have to go beyond
- 19 that. We have to deny specifically what happened,
- 20 and so we said -- and that's the paragraph I read
- 21 you earlier. Specifically, Plaintiffs failed to
- 22 provide a notice. Okay -- so that's the first
- 23 thing.
- Now, counsel has correctly stated that we also
- 25 pled an affirmative defense number seven addressed



- 1 to that same issue. We have pled both the denial
- 2 and the affirmative defense because the case law
- 3 sometimes get a little muddled, but the reality is
- 4 that 1.260 says that Plaintiff generally avers;
- 5 Defendant specifically denies. We did that. And
- 6 that's what the Rule requires. The case law says
- 7 -- and this is in the 4th DCA; it's in the 5th DCA.
- 8 It's in the 2nd as well, and I'm sure it's good law
- 9 throughout the state as well.
- 10 But upon a specific denial of their general
- 11 averment of conditions precedent, the burden shifts
- 12 to the Plaintiff. They don't just have to prove
- 13 that the letter was mailed. They also have to
- 14 prove in this case the contents of the letter,
- 15 because the contents of the letter are the
- 16 condition, and they failed to do that. Your Honor,
- 17 I know you don't want me dropping new case law --
- 18 THE COURT: No, I don't because I told you
- 19 guys before, earlier, to give it to me earlier.
- 20 MR. WASYLIK: And I understand. But this is
- 21 an argument I didn't anticipate from counsel,
- 22 however --
- THE COURT: When he drops a new case on me,
- 24 I'll allow you --
- MR. WASYLIK: Well, Your Honor, I'm just going



- 1 to rely on the 4th DCA; and in all candor, judge, I
- 2 haven't yet delivered this to counsel because I
- 3 didn't expect he was going to argue that we had the
- 4 burden to prove this. But it's Berg vs. Bridal
- 5 Path. I have a copy for counsel. I have a copy
- 6 for the Court.
- 7 THE COURT: Don't give it to me until he's had
- 8 a chance to read it.
- 9 MR. WASYLIK: Very well, judge. The citation
- 10 is 809 So. 2d 32. It's Berg vs. Bridal Path
- 11 Homeowner's Association. It's a 4th DCA case from
- 12 2002, and when the Court is ready, I have a copy.
- 13 THE COURT: Why didn't you give this to me
- 14 before when I asked you for all of the case law?
- 15 Why didn't you give this to opposing counsel before
- 16 we started this?
- 17 MR. WASYLIK: Judge, I bring --
- 18 THE COURT: I haven't seen anything in this
- 19 case that is not -- wasn't noticed by the pleadings
- 20 yet. Is this something that just come up; and if
- 21 so, tell me how it's just come up and tell me why
- 22 it related to this case.
- 23 MR. WASYLIK: His assertion that it was my
- 24 burden to prove the denial of the initial
- 25 proceeding was something that I wasn't



- 1 anticipating. It was not pled by them. And I
- 2 bring this case with me to every trial.
- THE COURT: He gave me a case that I'm aware
- 4 of and I've seen before, and I'm going to let you
- 5 do the same.
- 6 MR. WASYLIK: Very well, judge. After he's
- 7 had a chance to read those --
- 8 THE COURT: Stealth warfare is when you can't
- 9 see it; it's not on the radar screen; you can't
- 10 smell it; you don't know it's coming. It's just a
- 11 weapon. So go ahead with your case.
- MR. WASYLIK: Judge, the issue in Berg vs.
- 13 Bridal Bath is that -- and this is a homeowner's
- 14 association case. They're seeking to foreclose on
- 15 a homeowner's lien. The Plaintiff in that case,
- 16 the homeowner's association, was required to plead
- 17 a condition precedent. They complied with all
- 18 the -- well, they pled generally they complied.
- 19 The homeowner then denied that they complied with
- 20 the HOA covenants. And at trial -- I believe it
- 21 was at trial -- yeah, it was the greater weight of
- 22 the evidence decision. So at trial the Court found
- 23 that the Defendant hadn't proved that they
- 24 violated. And on reversal -- and I'm referring to
- 25 the second printed page here -- does the Court want



- 1 a copy now?
- 2 THE COURT: Sure. I'll put it in the stack of
- 3 cases that I've never seen before this afternoon.
- 4 MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor, what that case says,
- 5 although framed as an affirmative defense, Berg
- 6 essentially denied that the Association had
- 7 properly levied the assessment pursuant to the
- 8 declaration of covenants, conditions, and
- 9 restrictions of Bridal Path. This denial squarely
- 10 placed the burden on the Association to prove in
- 11 its case against Berg by preponderance of the
- 12 evidence.
- 13 This is well-settled in Florida law that the
- 14 Plaintiff is required to prove every material
- 15 allegation of its Complaint which is denied by the
- 16 party defending against the claim. And that is
- 17 exactly, Your Honor, what we have expected them to
- 18 do by denying it. We raised it as an affirmative
- 19 defense in addition to -- and Your Honor's probably
- 20 well aware of the Rules of Civil Procedure that say
- 21 a pleading shall be construed as to their substance
- 22 and the matter pled as a defense rather than any
- 23 denial, and its vice versa, are to be construed as
- 24 whatever they should be.
- 25 So the fact that we pled them both in an



- 1 abundance of caution shouldn't prejudice us. The
- 2 fact that we denied it with specificity puts the
- 3 burden on them to prove not only delivery of the
- 4 letter but the contents of the letter. The
- 5 contents of the letter are not in, and the delivery
- 6 of the letter is proven up. So it's our position
- 7 that they failed to prove conditions precedent.
- 8 THE COURT: Okay. You get the last shot.
- 9 MR. PASCALE: I'm not going to touch the
- 10 Bridal Path case, Your Honor, because,
- 11 respectfully, I don't think it has any bearing on
- 12 the issues here today. The homeowner's
- 13 association were facts that are not present here
- 14 today. The only thing I will point out to the
- 15 Court -- and I really kind of just became aware of
- 16 this; I'm not passing the buck -- but I would like
- 17 to make it clear there was a Complaint filed in
- 18 this case. My understanding is that there was an
- 19 Answer filed to that Complaint, okay, and that's
- 20 the Answer before Your Honor. There was also a
- 21 Verified Amended Complaint filed in this case. I
- 22 haven't seen an amended answer or Answer to that
- 23 Amended Verified Complaint.
- 24 THE COURT: Then why are we in trial if the
- 25 pleadings are not there? Who noticed it for trial?



- 1 MR. PASCALE: The Court noticed it for trial
- in a CMC conference, Your Honor.
- 3 THE COURT: Did anyone object to it, though,
- 4 because it wasn't at issue?
- 5 MR. PASCALE: We did. We asked for a summary
- 6 judgment -- and I'm not stating this as gospel.
- 7 I'm just --
- 8 THE COURT: Let me ask the question again.
- 9 You're answering a different question. Did anyone
- 10 object this going to trial because it was not at
- 11 issue?
- 12 MR. PASCALE: Not that I'm aware of. I'm just
- 13 letting the Court know. I feel as though the Court
- 14 can make a determination, and we respectfully, as
- 15 quirky as it may be, move for a default against the
- 16 Defendant here because there is no responsive
- 17 Answer to the Amended Complaint that I'm aware of.
- 18 THE COURT: It's denied.
- 19 MR. PASCALE: Respectfully, nothing further,
- 20 Your Honor. Thank you for the Court's time.
- 21 THE COURT: I want both of you to submit to me
- 22 proposed orders with findings of fact and
- 23 conclusions of law. And I want you to submit that
- 24 to me not only in paper form, but I also want you
- 25 to contact my JA and send it to her electronically.



- 1 That way I can alter and modify it as I determine
- 2 is necessary. Having said that, how long do you
- 3 gentlemen want to submit proposed orders to me?
- 4 MR. PASCALE: I would prefer at least ten
- 5 days, Your Honor.
- 6 THE COURT: I'm going to give you ten days max
- 7 because I got another twenty of these tomorrow.
- 8 MR. PASCALE: Okay. I would also ask the
- 9 opportunity to present a bench brief or memorandum
- 10 of law --
- 11 THE COURT: You can send me whatever you want
- 12 as far as your bench brief. What I'm really
- 13 looking for is memorandum of law that has findings
- 14 of fact and conclusions of law, okay? Ten days.
- MR. WASYLIK: Your Honor, we're going to need
- 16 to order the transcript in order to get that done
- 17 because we want to make sure that --
- 18 THE COURT: Ten days. Ten days is all I can
- 19 give you. I have too many other cases between now
- 20 and then to give you any more than that. Like I
- 21 said, I got nineteen more of these cases tomorrow.
- 22 Ten days is what I'm going to give you. I don't
- 23 know that you need the transcript to do your
- 24 proposals. I don't think you do. I'll give you
- 25 ten days.



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I understand. The tenth day
 1
          MR. WASYLIK:
     would fall on a Sunday, a weekend, so it would be
 3
 4
          THE COURT: A week from Monday.
 5
          MR. WASYLIK: It's Labor Day.
          THE COURT: Oh God.
 6
 7
          MR. WASYLIK:
                        Sorry.
          THE COURT: A week from Tuesday. And I hope I
 8
     still remember this case a week from Tuesday.
 9
10
          MR. WASYLIK: We'll just order rush I guess.
11
          THE COURT: Why do you need the transcript?
12
     You made the same argument six times. So did you.
13
     But you're certainly free to hire this lady to do
14
     whatever you want.
15
          Okay, a week from Tuesday you guys.
16
          MR. WASYLIK:
                        Thank you, Judge.
                        Thank you, Your Honor.
17
          MR. PASCALE:
18
19
          (Proceedings concluded at 4:30 p.m.)
20
2.1
22
23
24
2.5
```



```
1
 2
 3
                      CERTIFICATE
 4
 5
     STATE OF FLORIDA
     COUNTY OF PALM BEACH )
 6
 7
               I, RHONDA L. BUXBAUM, Court Reporter, do
 8
 9
     hereby certify that I was authorized to and did
     stenographically report the foregoing proceedings at the
10
11
     time and place herein stated, and that the foregoing is
12
     a true and correct transcription of my stenotype notes
13
     taken during said proceedings.
14
               IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my
15
     hand this 28th day of August, 2014.
16
17
                             RHONDA L. BUXBAUM
18
                             Court Reporter
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
```



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