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## ROGER L. SIMON ET AL. v. HAROLD E. COLE (AC 30354)

Beach, Alvord and Borden, Js.

Argued October 29—officially released December 29, 2009

(Appeal from Superior Court, judicial district of Litchfield, Pickard, J.)

Andrew W. Skolnick, with whom, on the brief, was Catherine A. Cuggino, for the appellant (defendant).

Stuart A. Margolis, with whom, on the brief, were Pasquale Young and Daniel C. Burns, for the appellees (plaintiffs).

PER CURIAM. This appeal is a companion case to *Lovetere* v. *Cole*, 118 Conn. App. 680, A.2d (2009), decided today. The plaintiffs Roger L. Simon and Mary Ellen Simon brought this action against the defendant, Harold E. Cole, an adjoining land owner, to quiet title to certain property. After a trial to the court, the court found that the plaintiffs held record title to the land in question. Accordingly, the court rendered judgment quieting title in the plaintiffs. The defendant has appealed. We affirm the judgment of the trial court.

The defendant does not challenge any of the findings or conclusions of the court on the merits of the case. His sole claim on appeal is that the court abused its discretion in granting the plaintiffs' pretrial motion to preclude the expert testimony of an attorney whom the defendant had engaged to search the titles of the parties' properties.

The defendant claims that the court abused its discretion because (1) he had made adequate disclosure of the expert, (2) the expert was retained and disclosed within a reasonable time prior to trial, (3) the disclosure did not cause undue prejudice to the plaintiffs, (4) the disclosure did not cause undue interference with the orderly progress of the trial, (5) there was no bad faith delay on the part of the defendant in disclosing the expert and (6) the court's sanction was disproportionate to the claimed violation of the discovery rules. The plaintiffs respond that (1) the absence of an articulation by the trial court of its decision to preclude the defendant's expert witness from testifying prevents appellate review of that claim, (2) the expert witness was not properly disclosed and (3) the court did not abuse its discretion in precluding the expert from testifying.

We have fully considered the entire record, the claims of the defendant and the responses of the plaintiffs. We conclude that the court's ruling was well within its discretion and, furthermore, that there is nothing in the record to indicate what, if anything, the expert's opinion would have been had the court ruled otherwise. Ordinarily, an appellant must show, not only that the trial court made an improper ruling, but also that the impropriety was serious enough to require reversal of the judgment and a new trial. "[E]ven if a court has acted improperly in connection with the introduction of evidence, reversal of a judgment is not necessarily mandated because there must not only be an evidentiary [impropriety], there also must be harm. . . . In the absence of a showing that the [excluded] evidence would have affected the final result, its exclusion is harmless." (Citations omitted; internal quotation marks omitted.) Sullivan v. Metro-North Commuter Railroad Co., 292 Conn. 150, 161, 971 A.2d 676 (2009). Therefore, we have absolutely no basis for reversing the judgment and ordering a new trial.

The judgment is affirmed.  $\,$