IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

MARK O'DELL BRYANT, Appellant,

No. 44434

vs. MATTHEW JOHNSON AND STEPHANIE KAYE CANNON, Respondents.

FILED

OCT 18 2006

JANETTE M. BLOOM

ORDER OF AFFIRMANCE

This is a proper person appeal from a district court order dismissing appellant's complaint. Eighth Judicial District Court, Clark County; David Wall, Judge.

Having reviewed the record, appellant's proper person appeal statement, and respondents' responses, we conclude that the district court did not err.¹ First, appellant admitted that his claims for malicious prosecution and obstruction of justice were invalid. Next, the complaint did not state a claim for abuse of process, fraud, or defamation.² Further,

¹See NRCP 12(b)(5); <u>Breliant v. Preferred Equities Corp.</u>, 109 Nev. 842, 845, 858 P.2d 1258, 1260 (1993) (noting that, in determining whether a claim has been stated, all inferences must be construed in favor of the non-moving party, and all factual allegations in the complaint must be accepted as true); <u>Edgar v. Wagner</u>, 101 Nev. 226, 699 P.2d 110 (1985) (stating that, in reviewing an order granting a motion to dismiss, this court's task is to determine whether the challenged pleading sets forth allegations sufficient to make out the elements of a right to relief).

²<u>See LaMantia v. Redisi</u>, 118 Nev. 27, 38 P.3d 877 (2002) (requiring that an ulterior motive, other than resolution of a legal dispute, be alleged *continued on next page*...

no cause of action for "denial of due process" exists, and the ethical rules for lawyers do not create a private right of action by an opposing party.³ Finally, the district court did not abuse its discretion in denying appellant leave to amend his complaint.⁴ Accordingly, we

ORDER the judgment of the district court AFFIRMED.⁵

Becker J. J. J. Hardesty Parraguirre

... continued

as an element of abuse of process); <u>Lubin v. Kunin</u>, 117 Nev. 107, 17 P.3d 422, (2001) (requiring that the allegedly defamatory communications be unprivileged); <u>Sahara Gaming v. Culinary Workers</u>, 115 Nev. 212, 984 P.2d 164 (1999) (recognizing an absolute privilege for communications published in the course of judicial proceedings); <u>Wohlers v. Bartgis</u>, 114 Nev. 1249, 969 P.2d 949 (1998) (requiring that reliance be alleged as an element of fraud).

³See <u>Mainor v. Nault</u>, 120 Nev. 750, 101 P.3d 308 (2004) (recognizing that professional conduct rules do not create a private right of action, although they are admissible as relevant to the standard of care in a legal malpractice action). Appellant's reliance on <u>In re Discipline of Schaefer</u>, 117 Nev. 496, 25 P.3d 191, <u>as modified by</u> 31 P.3d 365 (2001), is thus misplaced, because <u>Schaefer</u> involved disciplinary enforcement of the rules, not a private claim.

⁴See <u>Connell v. Carl's Air Conditioning</u>, 97 Nev. 436, 634 P.2d 673 (1981) (noting that whether to grant leave to amend a complaint is within the district court's discretion).

⁵We deny appellant's July 12, 2006 motion for injunctive relief.

SUPREME COURT OF NEVADA cc:

Hon. David Wall, District Judge Mark O'Dell Bryant Stephanie Kaye Cannon R. Clay Hendrix Hutchison & Steffen, Ltd. Clark County Clerk

Supreme Court of Nevada