IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

CHIROPRACTIC PHYSICIANS BOARD OF NEVADA, AN AGENCY OF THE STATE OF NEVADA; JO BRIGGS; CINDY WADE; BILL BAILEY; AND JEFF ANDREWS, Petitioners,

vs.
THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA,
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF
CLARK, AND THE HONORABLE LEE
A. GATES, DISTRICT JUDGE,
Respondents,

and RODDY S. WONG, D.C., Real Party in Interest. No. 41217

FILED

APR 2 1 2003



ORDER DENYING PETITION FOR WRIT OF MANDAMUS OR PROHIBITION

This original petition for a writ of mandamus or prohibition challenges a district court order denying petitioners' motion for summary judgment and dismissal of the complaint in the underlying action. We decline to intervene for several reasons. First, we generally decline to exercise our discretion to consider writ petitions challenging district court orders denying motions for summary judgment or to dismiss, and petitioner has not established that this case fits firmly within an exception to this policy. Second, laches precludes our consideration of this writ

¹Smith v. District Court, 113 Nev. 1343, 950 P.2d 280 (1997) (reaffirming this court's general policy, but acknowledging rare exceptions when no factual disputes exist and the district court is obligated to dismiss an action under clear authority).

petition.² Petitioners filed this petition more than five months after the district court entered its order denying their motion to dismiss, and three months after the district court rescheduled the trial to accommodate their filing of the petition. With less than two weeks remaining before trial, petitioners' delay has prejudiced the real party in interest. Third, under these circumstances, petitioners' right to appeal any adverse final decision constitutes a plain, speedy and adequate remedy that precludes extraordinary relief.³ We therefore

ORDER the petition DENIED.4

Agosti

C.J.

J.

Shearing

Leavitt J.

²See <u>Buckholt v. District Court</u>, 94 Nev. 631, 584 P.2d 672 (1978); <u>Bailey v. Baker</u>, 696 S.W.2d 255, 256 (Tex. App. 1985) (denying a mandamus petition because of an unjustified delay in seeking relief).

³See NRS 34.170 (mandamus); NRS 34.330 (prohibition); <u>Karow v. Mitchell</u>, 110 Nev. 958, 878 P.2d 978 (1994) (noting that an appeal is generally an adequate remedy).

⁴See NRAP 21(b). We deny as moot petitioners' request that we consolidate this petition with Wong v. State Board Of Chiropractic Examiners, Docket No. 35939.

cc: Hon. Lee A. Gates, District Judge
Attorney General Brian Sandoval/Carson City
Law Office of Benson Lee, Esq.
Mirch & Mirch
Clark County Clerk

SUPREME COURT OF NEVADA