STATE OF MICHIGAN

COURT OF CLAIMS

AUGUSTINE IKEJI,

Plaintiff,

v Case No. 25-000091-MK

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY, Hon. Randy J. Wallace

Defendant.
_____ /

ORDER DENYING PLAINTIFF'S 5/5/26 MOTION TO COMPEL DEPOSITION OF RHONDA LONGWORTH

On March 25, 2026, defendant moved for a protective order quashing plaintiff's notice of deposition of defendant Eastern Michigan University's former Provost, Rhonda Longworth. On March 26, 2026, the Court entered an order postponing the deposition of Ms. Longworth, finding that defendant made a well-supported claim to invoke the apex-deposition rule with regard to Ms. Longworth and that plaintiff must make the showing described in *Alberto v Toyota Motor Corp*, 289 Mich App 328, 339; 796 NW2d 490 (2010), in order to take the deposition.

Now before the Court is plaintiff's motion to compel the deposition of Ms. Longworth. Plaintiff's motion does not make the showing described in *Alberto*, 289 Mich at 339. Ms. Longworth's affidavit shows that she had no personal involvement in the University's employment-related decisions on which the claims of breach of contract/promissory estoppel and age discrimination are based. Further, plaintiff has not shown that, even if Ms. Longworth had

relevant knowledge, that the information could not be obtained by less intrusive means. *Id*. The Court therefore DENIES plaintiff's motion.

IT IS SO ORDERED. This is not a final order and does not close the case.

Date: May 28, 2026

Hon. Randy J. Wallace
Judge, Court of Claims