

Miscellaneous Docket No. 23-135

IN THE
United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit

IN RE APPLE INC.,

Petitioner.

On Petition for Writ of Mandamus to the
United States District Court for the
Western District of Texas
No. 6:22-cv-351-ADA, Hon. Alan D Albright

**APPLE INC.'S REPLY IN SUPPORT OF
PETITION FOR WRIT OF MANDAMUS**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
TABLE OF AUTHORITIES.....	ii
INTRODUCTION.....	1
ARGUMENT	2
I. The District Court’s Clear Abuse Of Discretion Warrants Mandamus Relief.....	2
A. The district court’s procedural and substantive errors constituted a clear abuse of discretion.	2
1. The district court agreed that Lionra violated its discovery obligations.....	3
2. The district court clearly abused its discretion in finding no prejudice to Apple.....	6
3. The district court arbitrarily departed from its prior decisions.	8
B. Absent the procedural error, the district court would necessarily have granted transfer.	10
C. Even accepting Lionra’s improper evidence, the district court should have granted transfer.	13
II. Apple Has No Adequate Alternative Means To Obtain The Relief Sought In Its Petition.....	16
III. Mandamus Is Appropriate Under The Circumstances.	19
CONCLUSION.....	21
CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE	

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

	Page(s)
Cases	
<i>Agee v. City of McKinney</i> , 593 F. App'x 311 (5th Cir. 2014).....	7
<i>In re Apple Inc.</i> , 52 F.4th 1360 (Fed. Cir. 2022).....	17
<i>In re Apple Inc.</i> , 979 F.3d 1332 (Fed. Cir. 2020)	18
<i>In re Apple Inc.</i> , No. 2022-128, 2022 WL 1196768 (Fed. Cir. Apr. 22, 2022)	18
<i>In re Apple Inc.</i> , No. 2022-137, 2022 WL 1676400 (Fed. Cir. May 26, 2022)	18
<i>In re Apple Inc.</i> , No. 2022-163, 2022 WL 16754376 (Fed. Cir. Nov. 8, 2022).....	17
<i>CQ, Inc. v. TXU Min. Co.</i> , 565 F.3d 268 (5th Cir. 2009).....	7
<i>In re Google LLC</i> , 58 F.4th 1379 (Fed. Cir. 2023).....	20
<i>In re Google LLC</i> , No. 2021-170, 2021 WL 4427899 (Fed. Cir. Sept. 27, 2021)	8, 9
<i>Hovanec v. Miller</i> , 331 F.R.D. 624 (W.D. Tex. 2019)	7
<i>LoganTree LP v. Apple Inc.</i> , No. 6:21-cv-00397-ADA, 2022 WL 1491097 (W.D. Tex. May 11, 2022).....	8, 9
<i>In re Microsoft Corp.</i> , No. 2023-128, 2023 WL 3861078 (Fed. Cir. June 7, 2023)	18

In re Volkswagen of Am., Inc.,
545 F.3d 304 (5th Cir. 2008)..... 16

Statutes

28 U.S.C. § 1404(a)..... 10, 12, 16

Rules and Regulations

Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(c)(1)..... 2

Other Authorities

Petition for Writ of Mandamus, *In re Apple Inc.*, No. 2022-
162, Dkt. 2-1 (Fed. Cir. Sept. 2, 2022)..... 20

Petition for Writ of Mandamus, *In re Apple Inc.*, No. 2022-
164, Dkt. 2-1 (Fed. Cir. Sept. 8, 2022)..... 6

INTRODUCTION

To be clear: the district court found that Lionra (not Apple) engaged in venue discovery misconduct. Most of Lionra's opposition is premised on the notion that it did nothing wrong and that, if anyone acted improperly, it was Apple. But the district court agreed that Lionra made an "untimely disclosure" when it refused to tell Apple during discovery which employees it was going to argue were relevant, then sprang those names on Apple only after discovery had closed. Appx6. This was no mere "technical violation," as Lionra would have it. Opp. 8. On the contrary, the very evidence Lionra improperly withheld was decisive in the district court's decision to deny transfer.

The district court reached that decision only by deeming Lionra's error harmless. Lionra barely attempts to defend that ruling, and it fails to rebut Apple's demonstration that this was a clear abuse of discretion. Lionra instead tries to paint this case as raising an ordinary discovery dispute within the district court's discretion. But as Apple's petition showed, the district court's reasoning here was outside the bounds of that discretion. It was procedurally and substantively flawed. And, if left intact, it will incentivize future plaintiffs to engage

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