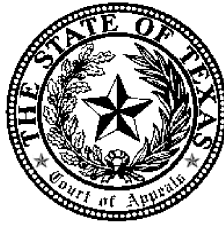


Dismissed and Opinion filed November 15, 2001.



In The
Fourteenth Court of Appeals

NO. 14-01-0315-CV

HENRY P. MASSEY AND ANN A. MASSEY, Appellants

V.

GAYLE S. BARNETT, Appellee

**On Appeal from the 113th District Court
Harris County, Texas
Trial Court Cause No. 99-57278**

OPINION

Henry and Ann Massey appeal from the denial of their Plea to the Jurisdiction in a lawsuit filed by Gayle Barnett. Barnett filed suit in the 113th District Court to collect on a judgment issued by the 310th Family District Court in her divorce action against Henry Massey. Because we find that the denial of the Plea to the Jurisdiction was a non-appealable interlocutory order, we will dismiss this appeal for want of jurisdiction.

Generally, appellate jurisdiction exists only in cases in which a final judgment has been rendered that disposes of all issues and parties in the case. *Jani-King of Memphis, Inc. v. Yates*, 965 S.W.2d 665, 666 (Tex. App.—Houston [14th Dist.] 1998, no pet.) (citing *Jack*

B. Anglin Co., Inc. v. Tipps, 842 S.W.2d 266, 268 (Tex.1992)). It is clear from the record in the present case that no final judgment has been issued by the trial court.

The trial court did, however, issue an interlocutory order denying the Masseys' Plea to the Jurisdiction. It is expressly from this order that the Masseys appeal. Appellate courts have jurisdiction to consider immediate appeals of interlocutory orders but only if a statute explicitly provides for such appellate jurisdiction. *Qwest Communications Corp. v. AT&T Corp.*, 24 S.W.3d 335, 336 (Tex. 2000). We are to strictly construe any statutes authorizing interlocutory appeals. *University of Houston v. Elthon*, 9 S.W.3d 351, 354 (Tex. App.—Houston [14th Dist.] 1999, pet. dismissed w.o.j.).

Although the Texas Civil Practice & Remedies Code authorizes an interlocutory appeal by a governmental entity from the denial of a plea to the jurisdiction, the appellants do not allege themselves to be a governmental entity. See TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE ANN. § 51.014(a)(8) (Vernon Supp. 2001). The appellants have cited no other statutory provision granting this court jurisdiction over this interlocutory appeal, and we have found none. Accordingly, this appeal is dismissed for want of jurisdiction.

/s/ Don Wittig
Senior Justice

Judgment rendered and Opinion filed November 15, 2001.

Panel consists of Justices Yates, Edelman, and Wittig.¹

Do Not Publish — TEX. R. APP. P. 47.3(b).

¹ Senior Justice Don Wittig sitting by assignment.