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SHORT FORM ORDER

SUPREME COURT - STATE OF NEW YORK

Present:

HON. F. DANA WINSLOW,

Justice

		TRIAL/IAS, PART 17
CAROL BOVE,		NASSAU COUNTY
	Plaintiff,	MOTION DATE: 4/3/02
-against-		MOTION SEQ. NO.: 001
		INDEX NO.: 013966-00
WORLD LIFE ENT	ERTAINMENT, INC.	,
	Defendant.	
The following	papers were read on tl	his motion (numbered 1-4):
Notice of Moti	on	1
	Support of Motion	· ·

Defendant's motion pursuant to CPLR § 4102(e) for leave to file a Jury Demand is determined as follows:

Affirmation in Opposition......3

Reply Affirmation......4

Defendant's petition to file a Jury Demand and Plaintiff's opposition to the request arise out of the following circumstances. Plaintiff's Note of Issue, filed on September 24, 2001, did not include a request for a Trial by Jury. Allegedly, due to office failure at her firm, Defendant's counsel was not presented with Plaintiff's Note of Issue in a timely fashion and only found it in the case file during preparations for a Conference scheduled on March 12, 2002. During this Conference, Defendant argued that the resulting waiver of the right to a jury trial was unintentional and due solely to a lack of communication between Defendant's legal representatives. Plaintiff claims that she will be unduly prejudiced should relief sought by Defendant be granted at this stage of the proceedings.

Under the liberal standards of CPLR § 4102(e), a court may excuse the late filing of a jury demand if no undue prejudice to the rights of the other parties will result.

In the absence of undue prejudice, it is well settled under New York law that a request to file a late demand for a trial by jury should be granted if failure to file within the statutory time frame was inadvertent, without any intention to waive the right to a jury trial. Leone v. Greek Peak, Inc., 81 A.D.2d 751; see also Ossory Trading, S.A. v. Geldermann, Inc., 200 A.D.2d 423, 424.

Under CPLR § 4101, Defendant is entitled to a jury trial. Defendant has demonstrated that failure to timely file a jury demand was inadvertent and therefore not an intentional waiver of the right to a jury trial. Plaintiff failed to establish undue prejudice.

Accordingly, the Defendant's motion for leave to file a Jury Demand pursuant to CPLR § 4102(e) is granted.

This constitutes the order of the court. Plaintiff shall serve a copy of this Order upon Defendant within fifteen (15) days of entry.

Dated: April 17, 2002

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NASSAU COUNTY COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE allins a