

Ice Cube Tells Former BIG3 Commissioner to Check Yo Self with Petition to Enjoin Arbitration

Just one month after the former president and commissioner of his BIG3 basketball league named him as a respondent in an arbitration proceeding, Ice Cube hit back in a New York federal court to enjoin the arbitration under Section 4 of the Federal Arbitration Act (FAA).

In his petition, which BIG3 co-founder Jeffrey Kwatinetz joined, Ice Cube argues that the former commissioner's claims for wrongful termination arise under an employment agreement with the BIG3 – not him. See *Kwatinetz et al. v. Mason*, 18-cv-6659 (S.D.N.Y.). As he is not a party or signatory to the agreement, Ice Cube claims that he did not consent to its mandatory arbitration clause and never agreed to waive his right to a trial by a judge or jury. Quoting *In re Am. Express Fin. Advisors Sec. Litig.*, 672 F.3d 113 (2d Cir. 2011), he argues that arbitration is a “matter of consent, not coercion,” and the ex-commissioner's proceeding should be permanently enjoined under 9 U.S.C. § 4.

If the district court winds up stopping the arbitration, we can expect Ice Cube to boast that he's pushin the FAA like weight.