

BOISE, MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2020 AT 8:50 A.M.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

TECH LANDING, LLC, an Idaho limited)	
liability company,)	
)	
Plaintiff-Appellant,)	
)	
v.)	
)	Docket No. 46949
JLH VENTURES, LLC. an Idaho limited)	
liability company, dba TRUE PAINTBALL,)	
LLC,)	
)	
Defendant-Respondent.)	
_____)	

Appeal from the District Court of the Fourth Judicial District of the State of Idaho, Ada County. Jonathan Medema, District Judge.

Sasser & Jacobson, PLLC, Boise, for Appellant.

Anderson, Julian & Hull, LLP, Boise, for Respondent.

This appeal addresses the district court's decision to exclude expert testimony concerning the cause of a fire. In 2013, Tech Landing leased a building to JLH Ventures to operate a paintball business. A few years later, a fire caused significant damage to the building. Tech Landing sued JLH, alleging, among other things, that the tenant was negligent. JLH moved for summary judgment, and as part of that motion, moved to strike certain expert testimony submitted by Tech Landing. The district court ruled that Tech Landing's experts' opinions on the cause of the fire were inadmissible, and granted JLH's motion for summary judgment on most of Tech Landing's claims, including its negligence claim. The parties stipulated to dismissal of the breach of contract and implied covenant claims. The district court entered an order in accordance with that stipulation and a judgment dismissing Tech Landing's negligence claim. Tech Landing filed a timely notice of appeal from the district court's judgment dismissing its negligence claim. It argues that the district court abused its discretion by excluding its experts' opinion testimony regarding the cause of the fire and by granting summary judgment to JLH on its negligence claim.