

No. 1-10-0135

IN THE
APPELLATE COURT OF ILLINOIS
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT

CACH, LLC,)	Appeal from the
)	Circuit Court of
Plaintiff-Appellee,)	Cook County.
)	
v.)	No. 09 M1 143461
)	
MOHAMMED ABBA,)	Honorable
)	Sheryl A. Pethers,
Defendant-Appellant.)	Judge Presiding.

JUSTICE CAHILL delivered the judgment of the court.
Presiding Justice Garcia and Justice McBride concurred in the judgment.

ORDER

Held: Trial court judgment confirming arbitration award was affirmed where a report of proceedings, appropriate substitute or a written trial court order was absent.

Defendant Mohammed Abba appeals *pro se* the trial court's judgment for plaintiff CACH, LLC, (hereinafter CACH) in the amount of \$2,214.79 to satisfy an arbitration award in favor of CACH. Although CACH has not filed a brief in this court, we may consider the merits of Abba's appeal on his brief alone. See *First Capitol Mortgage Corp. v. Talandis Construction Corp.*, 63 Ill. 2d 128, 133 (1976) (such review allowable if record is simple and errors can be considered without additional briefing). We affirm.

The very limited record on appeal reveals that CACH filed a complaint in the circuit court

of Cook County seeking an order to confirm an arbitration award entered in its favor. The arbitration order does not mention the matter in dispute but simply states: "[t]he evidence submitted supports the issuance of this Award" and "[t]he applicable substantive law supports the issuance of the Award." A half sheet entry states that on December 16, 2009, the trial court entered "JP [judgment for plaintiff] \$2214.79 + C."

Abba now contends that judgment was in error. Abba's filing in this court consists of a letter apparently explaining his version of the facts about a credit card payment.

Any challenge by Abba to the trial court's decision or the arbitration award is hampered by the absence of a report of proceedings, an appropriate substitute such as a bystander's report or an agreed statement of facts under Supreme Court Rule 323(c), (d) (eff. Dec. 13, 2005) or a written order explaining the basis of the court's ruling. As the appellant, Abba bears the burden of presenting a sufficiently complete record to support his claims of error, and doubts arising from the incompleteness of the record will be resolved against Abba. See *Foutch v. O'Bryant*, 99 Ill. 2d 389, 391-92 (1984).

Absent a record, the reviewing court must indulge in every reasonable presumption favorable to the judgment and will presume the trial court followed the law and had a sufficient basis for its ruling. *Foutch*, 99 Ill. 2d at 391-92; *Lewandowski v. Jelenski*, 401 Ill. App. 3d 893, 902 (2010). The attachments to Abba's brief are not contained in the certified record on appeal and cannot be used to supplement the record; those documents are not properly before this reviewing court. *Kensington's Wine Auctioneers and Brokers Inc. v. John Hart Fine Wine Ltd.*, 392 Ill. App. 3d 1, 14 (2009).

The judgment of the trial court is affirmed.

Affirmed.