Honorable Robert S. Lasnik

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

QOTD FILM INVESTMENT LTD.) Case No.: 2:16-cv-00371-RSL
Plaintiff,) BRIAN WILSON'S COUNTERCLAIM
vs. BRIAN WILSON	Count 1 – Declaratory Judgment under the Single Satisfaction Rule
Defendants	Count 2 – Violation of Washington Consumer Protection Act
BRIAN WILSON Counterclaimant)))
VS.))
QOTD FILM INVESTMENT LTD. Cross Defendant))))))
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COMES NOW, the Defendant, BRIAN WILSON ("Defendant", "Counterclainant" or "Wilson"), by and through its counsel of record, hereby counterclaims against Plaintiff QOTD FILM INVESTMENT LTD. ("QOTD" or Plaintiff") on the Second Amended Complaint ("SAC"):

WILSON'S COUNTERCLAIM

<u>Causes of Action – Count 1 – Declaratory Relief</u> Failure to State a Claim Due to Prior Full Satisfaction by Prior Judgment

1. QOTD has sought to litigate numerous copyright actions regarding its film "Queen of the Desert". It is estimated that over 1,000 Defendants have been sued regarding this film regarding the alleged sharing of a single file using a Bittorent HASH with an identifier:

896B438F8D8F7C433F4B88A24322B8763A3E9885

On good faith and belief, these cases are as follows:

	Party	Dist	Case #		Open Close	# Def
1	QOTD Film Investment Limited (pla)	azdce	2:2016-cv-00407	820	2/12/2016 7/8/2016	30
2	QOTD Film Investment Limited (pla)	azdce	2:2016-cv-01021	820	4/12/2016 7/15/2016	26
3	QOTD Film Investment Ltd (pla)	nvdce	2:2016-cv-00928	820	4/24/2016	30
4	QOTD Film Investment Ltd (pla)	nvdce	2:2016-cv-00929	820	4/24/2016 6/29/2016	37
5	QOTD Film Investment LTD. (pla)	casdce	3:2016-cv-00749	820	3/30/2016 10/4/2016	399
6	QOTD Film Investment LTD. (pla)	casdce	3:2016-cv-00756	820	3/31/2016	69
7	QOTD Film Investment LTD. (pla)	casdce	3:2016-cv-00759	820	3/31/2016	121
8	QOTD Film Investment LTD. (pla)	casdce	3:2016-cv-00773	820	4/1/2016 9/27/2016	82
9	QOTD Film Investment LTD. (pla)	casdce	3:2016-cv-00926	820	4/18/2016	6
10	QOTD Film Investment Ltd. (pla)	codce	1:2016-cv-01260	820	5/25/2016 9/12/2016	12
11	QOTD Film Investment Ltd. (pla)	codce	1:2016-cv-01300	820	5/27/2016 9/22/2016	12
12	QOTD Film Investment Ltd. (pla)	codce	1:2016-cv-01366	820	6/7/2016 9/12/2016	25
13	QOTD Film Investment LTD. (pla)	flmdce	8:2016-cv-00628	820	3/16/2016 8/12/2016	1
14	QOTD Film Investment LTD. (pla)	flmdce	8:2016-cv-00627	820	3/16/2016 8/1/2016	1
15	QOTD Film Investment LTD. (pla)	flmdce	8:2016-cv-00629	820	3/16/2016 8/30/2016	1
16	QOTD Film Investment LTD. (pla)	flmdce	8:2016-cv-00631	820	3/16/2016 11/1/2016	1
17	QOTD Film Investment LTD. (pla)	flmdce	8:2016-cv-00630	820	3/16/2016 7/5/2016	1
18	QOTD Film Investment LTD. (pla)	flmdce	6:2016-cv-00453	820	3/17/2016 6/22/2016	1
19	QOTD Film Investment LTD. (pla)	ilndce	1:2016-cv-02457	820	2/22/2016 10/25/2016	33
20	QOTD Film Investment LTD. (pla)	ilndce	1:2016-cv-02458	820	2/22/2016 11/3/2016	24
21	QOTD Film Investment Ltd. (pla)	ilndce	1:2016-cv-02461	820	2/22/2016 8/2/2016	14
22	QOTD Film Investment Ltd. (pla)	ilndce	1:2016-cv-02462	820	2/22/2016 12/2/2016	28
23	QOTD Film Investment Ltd. (pla)	ilndce	1:2016-cv-02464	820	2/22/2016 6/22/2016	15
24	QOTD Film Investment LTD. (pla)	ilndce	1:2016-cv-02466	820	2/22/2016 10/20/2016	17
25	QOTD Film Investment Ltd. (pla)	nyedce	1:2016-cv-00925	820	2/24/2016 9/9/2016	10
26	QOTD Film Investment Ltd. (pla)	nysdce	1:2016-cv-01902	820	3/14/2016 9/7/2016	7
27	QOTD Film Investment Ltd. (pla)	ordce	3:2016-cv-00246	820	2/10/2016 6/21/2016	7
28	QOTD Film Investment Ltd. (pla)	ordce	3:2016-cv-00523	820	3/27/2016 7/13/2016	1
29	QOTD Film Investment Ltd. (pla)	ordce	3:2016-cv-00524	820	3/27/2016 8/29/2016	1

3:2016-cv-00525

3:2016-cv-00715

3:2016-cv-00927

3:2016-cv-00930

3:2016-cv-01081

3:2016-cv-01408

3:2016-cv-01628

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QOTD Film Investment Ltd. (pla)

QOTD Film Investment Ltd. (cd)

QOTD Film Investment, Ltd (pla)

QOTD Film Investment, Ltd. (pla)

2. According to PACER, defendants have fully satisfied the judgment for this particular BITTORRENT HASH. These are:

a. In the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana, in the matter of QOTD FILM INVESTMENT, LTD vs. DOE 71.81.49.137, No. 16-2588 (E.D. LA) in which the Defendant paid QOTD \$ 10,000.00 and the case was dismissed with prejudice.

b. In the United States District Court for the District of Oregon, in the matter of CRIMINAL PRODUCTIONS, INC., et. al vs. MARK T FERGUSON, No. 16-01628 (D. OR) in which the Defendant paid QOTD \$ 2,000.00 and the case was dismissed with prejudice.

- 3. It is unknown at this time what other sums were paid by the 1053 defendants in this Bittorrent hash with the understanding that the claim was fully satisfied and the litigation could not be relitigated.
- 4. Plaintiff was well aware, a long time ago, that the actual and statutory damages for this particular bittorrent hash were satisfied under the "single satisfaction rule". 17 U.S.C 504; *Arista Records LLC v. Lime Group LLC*, 784 F. Supp. 2d 313 (S.D.N.Y. 2011).
- 5. Plaintiff also failed to join all downstream bittorrent infringers for a single bittorent hash is required in this Circuit under *Friedman v. Live Nation Merch.*, *Inc.* 14-55302 (9th Cir., 2016).

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6. Plaintiffs failure to join and complete satisfaction of all actual and statutory damages is a complete bar to a claim for copyright infringement in this action.

<u>Causes of Action – Count 2 – Violation of Washington Consumer Protection Act</u> <u>Suit for Damages after Full Satisfaction of Judgment</u>

- 7. Paragraphs are incorporated and realleged by reference.
- 8. As noted above, Plaintiff's claim for infringement on this Bittorrent Hash has been completely satisfied a long time ago.
- 9. Despite this, Plaintiff continued to pursue additional damages awards for the same bittorrent hash.
- 10. Also, Plaintiff knew via the allegedly accurate "bittorrent monitoring system", the IP addresses for all individuals associated with this "bittorrent swarm". Plaintiff was required to join all parties in one matter. If a court did not have personal jurisdiction, then Plaintiff could have sought coordination with Multi District Litigation.
- 11. Instead, Plaintiff piecemealed this litigation across multiple districts with local attorneys in those districts with the intent of recovering multiple times.
- 12. This "double" or "triple" dipping on the same bittorrent hash, is not allowable under the Copyright Act, and is therefore a clear violation of statute under the Washington's Consumer Protection Act, RCW 19.86. Plaintiff has knowingly violated the five "Hangman" factors, see *Hangman Ridge Training Stables, Inc. v. Safeco Title Ins. Co.*, 105 Wn.2d 778, 719 P.2d 531 (Wash., 1986):
- (a) Plaintiff's engaged in an unfair practice by bringing multiple suits on the same bittorent hash even after fall satisfaction of the claim;

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- (b) This occurred via the distribution of Plaintiff's movie in trade and commerce over the internet
- (c) This practice clearly affects the public interest insofar that over 1,000 putative defendants (minus the one that paid up) were improperly sued;
- (d) This practice has resulted in inequitable disgorgement of settlement monies beyond those of the first settlement;
 - (e) Plaintiff, itself and/or through its agent, has caused this damage.
 - 13. This claim under RCW 19.86 is also suitable for class certification under FRCP 23:
 - (a) The class members exceed 1,000 individuals;
 - (b) The issue of the single satisfaction rule is common to all class members;
 - (c) It is likely that the Plaintiff will assert a common claim and/or defense;
- (d) Wilson is the most suitable class representative as he has an active matter with this Court.

DEFENDANT'S PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Wilson respectfully prays that judgment entered as follows on counter-claim for declaratory judgment (Count 1):

- A. Plaintiff's claims for infringement be denied in their entirety and take nothing in view of the prior satisfaction of the judgment;
- B. Wilson is the prevailing party under the Copyright Act due to the clear material alteration in the relationship of the parties
- C. Wilson be entitled to statutory attorney fees under the Copyright Act;
- D. Wilson be entitled to costs of suit; and
- E. Wilson be entitled to any other relief that this Court may allow.

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Wilson also respectfully prays that judgment entered as follows on the cross claims under R.C.W 19.86:

- F. QOTD has engaged in an unfair or deceptive act under RCW 19.86 by collecting multiple recoveries on the same bittorrent hash;
- G. QOTD improper suit against Wilson has caused harm, *inter alia*, hiring an attorney to analyze this claim and to analyze all claims related to this Bittorrent hash;
- H. That Wilson be named class representative under FRCP 23;
- I. Wilson is entitled to all relief as entitled under RCW 19.86.030, including, but not limited to actual damages, treble damages, and attorney fees.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 1, 2017 /s/ J. Curtis Edmondson

J. Curtis Edmondson, P.E. (WA SBN 43795) Law Offices of J. Curtis Edmondson, PLLC Heritage Bldg, 601 Main Street, Suite 210 Vancouver, WA 98660 ph: (360)539-5090 jcedmondson@edmolaw.com www.edmolaw.com

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I served the attached BRIAN WILSON'S COUNTERCLAIM on the following person(s) on the date indicated below:

David Allen Lowe Lowe Graham jones 701 5th Ave., Suite 4800 Seattle, WA 98104-7009

by notice of electronic filing using the CM/ECF system

/s/ J. Curtis Edmondson DATED: January 1, 2017