case 2:13-cv-00409-JTM-PRC document 1 filed 11/14/13 page 1 of 7 Provided by: Overhauser Law Offices LLC www.iniplaw.org overhauser Law offices NOV 142013 www.overhauser.com United States District Court FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA HITERN DISTRICT HAMMOND DIVISION JOE HAND PROMOTIONS, INC., Case No. Plaintiff, COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES vs. MIGUEL SERRATO, INDIVIDUALLY 2 13CV 409 and d/b/a MIGUEL'S MEXICAN FUSION GRILL; and MIGUEL MEXICAN FUSION GRILL, LLC, an unknown

Defendants.

business entity d/b/a MIGUEL'S MEXICAN FUSION GRILL,

PLAINTIFF ALLEGES:

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JURISDICTION

- 1. Jurisdiction is founded on the existence of a question arising under particular statutes. This action is brought pursuant to several federal statutes, including the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, Title 47 U.S.C. 605, *et seq.*, and The Cable & Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992, as amended, Title 47 U.S. Section 553, *et seq.*
- 2. This Court has jurisdiction of the subject matter of this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Section 1331, which states that the district courts shall original jurisdiction of all civil actions arising under the Constitution, laws, or treaties, of the United States.
- 3. This Court has personal jurisdiction over the parties in this action as a result of the Defendants wrongful acts hereinafter complained of which violated the Plaintiff's rights as the exclusive commercial domestic distributor of the televised fight program hereinafter set forth at length. The

Defendants' wrongful acts consisted of the interception, publication, and tortious conversion of said property of Plaintiff within the control of the Plaintiff in the State of Indiana.

VENUE

4. Pursuant to Title 47 U.S.C. Section 605, venue is proper in the Northern District of Indiana because a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred in this District.

THE PARTIES

- 5. The Plaintiff, Joe Hand Promotions, Inc. is, and at all relevant times mentioned was, a Pennslyvania corporation with its principal place of business located at 407 E. Pennsylvania Blvd., Feasterville, Pennsylvania 19053.
- 6. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and alleges thereon that defendant, Miguel Serrato, is an owner, and/or operator, and/or licensee, and/or permitee, and/or person in charge, and/or an individual with dominion, control, oversight and management of the commercial establishment doing business as Miguel's Mexican Fusion Grill operating at 2330 Cline Avenue, Schererville, Indiana 46375.
- 8. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and alleges thereon that defendant, Miguel Mexican Gusion Grill, LLC, is an owner, and/or operator, and/or licensee, and/or permitee, and/or person in charge, and/or an individual with dominion, control, oversight and management of the commercial establishment doing business as Miguel's Mexican Fusion Grill operating at 2330 Cline Avenue, Schererville, Indiana 46375.

COUNT I

(Violation of Title 47 U.S.C. Section 605)

7. Plaintiff Joe Hand Promotions, Inc., hereby incorporates by reference all of the allegations contained in paragraphs 1-9, inclusive, as though set forth herein at length.

- 9. By contract, Plaintiff Joe Hand Promotions, Inc., paid for and was thereafter granted the exclusive nationwide television distribution rights to *Ultimate Fighting Championship 139: Mauricio "Shogun" Rua v. Dan Henderson, Championship Fight Program* telecast nationwide which took place on Saturday, November 19, 2101 (this included all under-card bouts and fight commentary encompassed in the television broadcast of the event, hereinafter referred to as the "Program").
- 10. Pursuant to contract, Plaintiff Joe Hand Promotions, Inc., entered into subsequent sublicensing agreements with various commercial entities throughout North America, including entities within the State of Indiana, by which it granted these entities limited sublicensing rights, specifically the rights to publicly exhibit the Program to the patrons within their respective establishments (i.e., hotels, racetracks, casinos, bars, taverns, restaurants, social clubs, etc.)
- 11. As a commercial distributor of sporting events, including the Program, Plaintiff Joe Hand Promotions, Inc., expended substantial monies marketing, advertising, promoting, administering, and transmitting the Program to its customers, the aforementioned commercial entities.
- 12. With full knowledge that the Program was not to be intercepted, received and exhibited by entities unauthorized to do so, each and every of the above named defendants and/or their agents, servants, workmen or employees did unlawfully publish, divulge and exhibit the Program at the time of its transmission at their Schererville, Indiana location (2330 Cline Avenue, Schererville, Indiana 46375). Said unauthorized interception, publication, exhibition and divulgence by each of the defendants was done willfully and for purposes of direct or indirect commercial advantage or private financial gain.
- 13. Title 47 U.S.C. Section 605, *et seq.*, prohibits the unauthorized publication or use of communications (such as the transmission for which Plaintiff Joe Hand Promotions, Inc., had the distribution rights thereto).
- 14. By reason of the aforesaid mentioned conduct, the aforementioned defendants, and each of them, violated Title 47 U.S.C. Section 605, *et seq*.

15. By reason of the defendants' violation of Title 47 U.S.C. Section 605, *et seq.*, Plaintiff Joe Hand Promotions, Inc., has the private right of action pursuant to Title 47 U.S.C. Section 605.

- 16. As the result of the aforementioned defendants' violation of Title 47 U.S.C. Section 605, and pursuant to said Section 605, Plaintiff Joe Hand Promotions, Inc., is entitled to the following from each defendant:
 - (a) Statutory damages for each willful violation in an amount to \$100,000.00 pursuant to Title 47 U.S.C. 605(e)(3)(C)(ii), and also
 - (b) the recovery of full costs, including reasonable attorneys fees, pursuant to Title 47 U.S.C. Section 605(e)(3)(B)(iii).

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment as set forth below.

COUNT II

(Violation of Title 47 U.S.C. Section 553)

- 17. Plaintiff's hereby incorporates by reference all of the allegations contained in paragraphs 1-16, inclusive, as though set forth herein at length.
- 18. The unauthorized interception, exhibition, publication, and divulgence of the Program by the above named defendants are prohibited by Title 47 U.S.C. Section 553 *et sea*.
- 19. By reason of the aforesaid mentioned conduct, the aforementioned defendants, and each of them, violated Title 47 U.S.C. Section 553, *et seq*.
- 20. By reason of the defendant's violation of Title 47 U.S.C. Section 553, *et seq.*, Plaintiff Joe Hand Promotions, Inc., has the private right of action pursuant to Title 47 U.S.C. Section 553.
- 21. As the result of the aforementioned defendant's violation of Title 47 U.S.C. Section 553, and pursuant to said Section 553, Plaintiff Joe Hand Promotions, Inc., is entitled to the following from each defendant:

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- (a) Statutory damages for each willful violation in an amount to \$50,000.00 pursuant to Title 47 U.S.C. 553 (b)(2) and also
- (b) the recovery of full costs pursuant to Title 47 U.S.C. Section 553 (c)(2)(C), and also
- (c) and in the discretion of this Honorable Court, reasonable attorneys fees, pursuant to Title 47 U.S.C. Section 553 (c)(2)(C).

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment as set forth below.

COUNT III

(Conversion)

- 22. Plaintiff's hereby incorporates by reference all of the allegations contained in paragraphs 1-21, inclusive, as though set forth herein at length.
- 23. By its acts as aforesaid in interception, exhibiting, publishing, and divulging the Program at the above-captioned address, the aforementioned defendants, tortuously obtained possession of the Program and wrongfully converted it to its own use and benefit.
- 24. The aforesaid acts of the defendants were willful, malicious, and intentionally designed to harm Plaintiff Joe Hand Promotions, Inc., and to subject said Plaintiff to economic distress.
- 25. Accordingly, Plaintiff Joe Hand Promotions, Inc., is entitled to both compensatory, as well as punitive damages, from aforementioned defendant as the result of the defendant's egregious conduct and conversion.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment as set forth below.

As to the First Count:

- 1. For statutory damages in the amount of \$100,000.00 against defendants, and each of them, and
- 2. For reasonable attorney fees pursuant to statute, and
- 3. For all costs of suit, including but not limited to filing fees, service of process fees, investigative costs, and
- 4. For such other and further relief as this Honorable Court may deem just and proper.

As to the Second Count:

- 1. For statutory damages in the amount of \$50,000.00 against defendants, and each of them, and;
- For reasonable attorney fees as may be awarded in the Court's discretion pursuant to statute, and;
- For all costs of suit, including but not limited to filing fees, service of process fees, investigative costs, and;
- 4. For such other and further relief as this Honorable Court may deem just and proper.

As to the Third Count:

- 1. For compensatory damages in an amount according to proof against defendants, and each of them and;
- 2. For reasonable attorney fees as may be awarded in the Court's discretion pursuant to statute, and;
- 3. For all costs of suit, including but not limited to filing fees, service of process fees, investigative costs, and;

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4. For such other and further relief as this Honorable Court may deem just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 8, 20134

GREENE & COOPER LLP
By: Charlie W. Gordon
Attorneys for Plaintiff

Joe Hand Promotions, Inc.