Case No.: 1:15-cv-1773



2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

///

Provided by: Overhauser Law Offices LLC www.iniplaw.org www.overhauser.com

United States District Court Southern District of Indiana Indianapolis Division

JOE HAND PROMOTIONS, INC.,

Plaintiff,

VS.

ANGELINA S. ALFORD, INDIVIDUALLY and d/b/a TAG'S PUB AND EATERY; and TAG'S PUB AND EATERY LLC, an unknown business entity d/b/a TAG'S PUB AND EATERY,

Defendants.

#### PLAINTIFF ALLEGES:

#### **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. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over the state law claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367 (supplemental jurisdiction).
- 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, reception, publication,

1 2

3

4

5 6

7

8

9 10

11

12

13

14 15

16

17

18 19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

divulgence, display, exhibition, and tortious conversion of said property of Plaintiff within the control of the Plaintiff in the State of Indiana.

## **VENUE**

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

## INTRADISTRICT ASSIGNMENT

Assignment to the Indianapolis Division of the Southern District is proper because a 5. substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claim occurred in Clinton County and/or the United States District Court for the Southern District has decided that suits of this nature, and each of them, are to be heard by the Courts in this particular Division.

# THE PARTIES

- Plaintiff, Joe Hand Promotions, Inc. is, and at all relevant times mentioned was, a Pennsylvania corporation with its principal place of business located at 407 East Pennsylvania Boulevard, Feasterville PA 19053.
- Defendant Angelina S. Alford is an officer of Tag's Pub and Eatery LLC., which owns and operates the commercial establishment doing business as Tag's Pub and Eatery. Tag's Pub and Eatery operates at 12 McKinley Avenue, Frankfort IN 46041.
- Plaintiff is informed and believes, and alleges thereon that on November 16, 2013 (the night of the *Program* at issue herein, as more specifically defined in paragraph 14), Defendant Angelina S. Alford had the right and ability to supervise the activities of Tag's Pub and Eatery, which included the unlawful interception of Plaintiff's Program.
- 9. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and alleges thereon that on November 16, 2013 (the night of the *Program* at issue herein, as more specifically defined in paragraph 14), Defendant Angelina S. Alford specifically directed the employees of Tag's Pub and Eatery to unlawfully intercept and broadcast Plaintiff's Program at Tag's Pub and Eatery or that the actions of the

employees of Tag's Pub and Eatery are directly imputable to Defendant, Angelia S. Alford by virtue of their acknowledged responsibility for the actions of Tag's Pub and Eatery.

- 10. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and alleges thereon that on November 16, 2013, Defendant, Angelina S. Alford as managing member of Tag's Pub and Eatery, had an obvious and direct financial interest in the activities of Tag's Pub and Eatery, which included the unlawful interception of Plaintiff's *Program*.
- 11. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and alleges thereon that the unlawful broadcast of Plaintiff's *Program*, as supervised and/or authorized by Defendant Angelina S. Alford resulted in increased profits for Tag's Pub and Eatery.
- 12. Plaintiff is informed and believed, and alleges thereon that Defendant, Tag's Pub and Eatery 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 Tag's Pub and Eatery LLC operating at 12 McKinley Avenue, Frankfort IN 46041.

#### **COUNT I**

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

- 13. Plaintiff Joe Hand Promotions, Inc. hereby incorporates by reference all of the allegations contained in paragraphs 1-14, inclusive, as though set forth herein at length.
- 14. Pursuant to contract, Plaintiff, Joe Hand Promotions, Inc., was granted the exclusive nationwide commercial distribution (closed-circuit) rights to "Ultimate Fighting Championship 167: Georges St. Pierre v. Johny Hendricks", telecast nationwide on Saturday, November 16, 2013 (this included all under-card bouts and fight commentary encompassed in the television broadcast of the event, hereinafter referred to as the "Program").
- 15. 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* within their respective commercial

- 2
- 3 4
- 5
- 6
- 7 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20 21
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25 26
- 27
- 28

- establishments in the hospitality industry (i.e., hotels, racetracks, casinos, bars, taverns, restaurants, social clubs, etc.).
- 16. As a commercial distributor and licensor 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.
- 17. With full knowledge that the *Program* was not to be intercepted, received, published, divulged, displayed, and/or exhibited by commercial entities unauthorized to do so, each and every one of the above named Defendants, either through direct action or through actions of employees or agents directly imputable to Defendants (as outlined in paragraphs 7-14 above), did unlawfully intercept, receive, publish, divulge, display, and/or exhibit the *Program* at the time of its transmission at their commercial establishment in Clinton County at 12 McKinley Avenue, Frankfort IN 46041.
- 18. Said unauthorized interception, reception, publication, exhibition, divulgence, display, and/or exhibition by each of the Defendants was done willfully and for purposes of direct and/or indirect commercial advantage and/or private financial gain.
- 19. Title 47 U.S.C. Section 605, et seq., prohibits the unauthorized publication or use of communications (such as the transmission of the Program for which Plaintiff, Joe Hand Promotions, Inc., had the distribution rights thereto).
- 20. By reason of the aforesaid mentioned conduct, the aforementioned Defendants, and each of them, violated Title 47 U.S.C. Section 605, et seq.
- 21. 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.
- As the result of the aforementioned Defendants' violation of Title 47 U.S.C. Section 605, 22. and pursuant to said Section 605, Plaintiff, Joe Hand Promotions, Inc., is entitled to the following from each Defendant:

\$10,000.00 pursuant to Title 47 U.S.C. § 553(c)(3)(A)(ii); and also

28

1	(b) Statutory damages for each willful violation in an amount to								
2	\$50,000.00 pursuant to Title 47 U.S.C. § 553(c)(3)(B); and also								
3	\$50,000.00 pursuant to Title 47 0.S.C. § 555(c)(5)(D), and also								
4	(c) the recovery of full costs pursuant to Title 47 U.S.C. Section 553								
5	(c)(2)(C); and also								
6									
7	(d) and in the discretion of this Honorable Court, reasonable attorneys' fees,								
8	pursuant to Title 47 U.S.C. Section 553 (c)(2)(C).								
9									
10	WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment as set forth below.								
	COLINITAL								
11	COUNT III (Conversion)								
12	(Conversion)								
13	28. Plaintiff's hereby incorporates by reference all of the allegations contained in paragraphs 1-27, inclusive, as though set forth herein at length.								
14									
15									
16	29. By their aforesaid acts of interception, reception, publication, divulgence, display, and/or								
17	exhibition of the <i>Program</i> at their commercial establishment at the above-captioned address, the								
18	aforementioned Defendants, and each of them, tortuously obtained possession of the <i>Program</i> and								
19	wrongfully converted same for their own use and benefit.								
20									
21	The aforesaid acts of the Defendants were willful, malicious, egregious, and intentionally								
22	designed to harm Plaintiff, Joe Hand Promotions, Inc., by depriving Plaintiff of the commercial								
23	license fee to which Plaintiff was rightfully entitled to receive from them, and in doing so, the Defendants subjected the Plaintiff to severe economic distress and great financial loss.								
24	Defendants subjected the Flamuif to severe economic distress and great financial loss.								
25	31. Accordingly, Plaintiff, Joe Hand Promotions, Inc., is entitled to both compensatory, as well								
	as punitive and exemplary damages, from aforementioned Defendants as the result of the Defendants' egregious conduct, theft, and conversion of the <i>Program</i> and deliberate injury to the								
26									
27	Plaintiff.								
28									

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment as set forth below. 1 2 **As to the First Count:** 3 4 1. For statutory damages in the amount of \$110,000.00 against the Defendants, and each of them, and 5 6 For reasonable attorneys' fees as mandated by statute, and 2. 7 8 3. For all costs of suit, including but not limited to filing fees, service of 9 process fees, investigative costs, and 10 11 4. For such other and further relief as this Honorable Court may deem just and proper; 12 13 **As to the Second Count:** 14 15 1. For statutory damages in the amount of \$60,000.00 against the Defendants, 16 and each of them, and; 17 2. For reasonable attorneys' fees as may be awarded in the Court's 18 discretion pursuant to statute, and; 19 20 3. For all costs of suit, including but not limited to filing fees, service 21 of process fees, investigative costs, and; 22 4. 23 4. For such other and further relief as this Honorable Court may deem just and proper. 24 25 26 As to the Third Count: 27 1. For compensatory damages in an amount according to proof against the Defendants, and each of them, and; 28

Case	1:15-c	v-0177	73-TWP-DKL	Docum	ent 1	Filed 11/1	2/15	Page 8 of 8 I	PageID #:	8
1 2 3 4 5 6		<ol> <li>2.</li> <li>3.</li> <li>4.</li> <li>5.</li> <li>6.</li> </ol>	For punitive da For reasonable to statute, and; For all costs of investigative c	amages a e attorney f suit, independent	against ys' fees cluding l;	the Defendar as may be a but not limit	nts, an warded	and each of the d each of them, d in the Court's filing fees, serving the Court may de	and; discretion	ess fee,
7					D	.C.11 1	• 1			
8					Respec	etfully subm	itted,			
9	Date:	Nover	mber 12, 2015		/s/ Charlie W. Gordon					
10					GREENE & COOPER, LLP By: Charlie W. Gordon					
12						eys for Plair and Promotic		c.		
13										
14										
15										
16										
17										
18										
19										
20										
21										
22										
23										
24										
25										
26										
27										
28										