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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION

FOTOHAUS, LLC,

Plaintiff,

Civil Action No.: 1:18-cv-1989

V.

COMPLAINT AND JURY

Defendant.

Defendant.

COMPLAINT FOR COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT

Plaintiff, FOTOHAUS, LLC ("Fotohaus" or "Plaintiff"), brings this complaint in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana against OFS BRANDS, INC. ("OFS" or "Defendant"), alleging as follows:

PARTIES

- 1. Plaintiff is a limited liability company existing under the laws of the State of Florida, with an office located in Tallahassee, Florida.
- 2. On information and belief, Defendant was established in 1937 and provides socially responsible furniture and logistics solutions in office, healthcare, education, government, and home office markets across the world. Defendant maintains permanent showrooms in numerous states, including the District of Columbia.²

www.ofsbrands.com/content/washington-dc-showroom

¹ www.ofsbrands.com/our-story

3. On information and belief, Defendant is a Domestic For-Profit Corporation existing under the laws of the state of Indiana, with headquarters in Huntingburg, Indiana. Defendant owns, operates, and is solely responsible for the content displayed on their commercial website, www.ofsbrands.com. Defendant's website and social media platforms reach individuals throughout the World.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 4. This is a civil action seeking damages for copyright infringement under the copyright laws of the United States (17 U.S.C. § 101 et seq.).
- 5. This Court has jurisdiction under 17 U.S.C. § 101 et seq.; 28 U.S.C. § 1331 (federal question); and 28 U.S.C. § 1338(a) (copyright).
- 6. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant, and venue in this District is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b), in that Defendant regularly does and solicits business, engages in other persistent course of conduct, and derives substantial revenue from goods used or consumed, or services rendered, in the District of Columbia.
- 7. Defendant is subject to personal jurisdiction in the District of Columbia.
- 8. Venue is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and (c) and 1400(a) because Defendant is subject to personal jurisdiction in this district.
- 9. This Court also has personal jurisdiction over Defendant, and venue in this District is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1400(a).

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL CLAIMS

- 1. Daniel Foster ("Foster"), Manager of Fotohaus, captured the photograph, "Light Collector" ("Copyrighted Photograph") on July 1, 2010 in Shanghai, China. [Exhibit 1].
- 2. Foster posted Copyrighted Photograph to www.flickr.com/photos/danielfoster/4791809387 on or about July 13, 2010. [Exhibit 2].
- 3. Foster registered Copyrighted Photograph with the United States Copyright Office on July 17, 2012 (Registration No.: VA 1-832-736). [Exhibit 3].
- 4. Foster assigned the copyright to Copyrighted Photograph to Fotohaus on March 8, 2017.
- 5. Beginning on or about June 2, 2016, Defendant copied and posted Copyrighted Photograph to the OFS' commercial website, www.ofsbrands.com. Defendant used Copyrighted Photograph accompanying the post titled "Buildings, Origami and Packaging Inspire Genus Elastomer Design," advertising the design of a product offered by OFS. [Exhibit 4].
- 6. Defendant posted Copyrighted Photograph to the following URLs:
 - www.ofsbrands.com/blog/post/buildings-origami-and-packaging-inspire-genus-elastomer-design [Exhibit 4].
 - www.ofsbrands.com/blog/all?page=1 (together "OFS Posts") [Exhibit 4].
- 7. Beginning on or about June 6, 2016, Defendant posted Copyrighted Photograph to OFS' Twitter page, www.twitter.com/ofsbrands. ("Twitter Post") [Exhibit 5].
- 8. On September 5, 2017, Fotohaus, mailed a letter to OFS identifying the above-described infringement and demanding, among other actions, OFS remove the infringing material.
- 9. Between October 17, 2017 and February 19, 2018, Fotohaus, engaged in at least nine (9) email communications and at least one (1) telephone conversation with OFS, through counsel, concerning the alleged infringement detailed in this complaint.

10. OFS did not remove the Twitter Post until February 19, 2018.

COUNT I: INFRINGEMENT OF COPYRIGHT PURSUANT TO 17 U.S.C. § 101 ET SEQ.

- 11. Plaintiff incorporates herein by this reference each and every allegation contained in each paragraph above.
- 12. Plaintiff is, and at all relevant times has been, the copyright owner or licensee of exclusive rights under United States copyright with respect to Copyrighted Photograph, which is the subject of a valid Certificate of Copyright Registration by the Register of Copyrights.
- 13. Among the exclusive rights granted to each Plaintiff under the Copyright Act are the exclusive rights to reproduce and distribute the Copyrighted Photograph to the public.
- 14. Plaintiff is informed and believes Defendant, without the permission or consent of Plaintiff, copied and used Copyrighted Photograph on Defendant's commercial website, www.ofsbrands.com, and Defendant's Twitter page, www.twitter.com/ofsbrands. In doing so, Defendant violated Plaintiff's exclusive rights of reproduction and distribution.

 Defendant's actions constitute infringement of Plaintiff's copyright and exclusive rights under copyright.
- 15. Plaintiff is informed and believes that the foregoing act of infringement was willful and intentional, in disregard of and with indifference to the rights of Plaintiff.
- 16. As a result of Defendant's infringement of Plaintiff's copyright and exclusive rights under copyright, Plaintiff is entitled to actual damages and/or statutory damages, pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 504 for Defendant's infringement of Copyrighted Photograph.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendant as follows:

A. Declaring that Defendant's unauthorized conduct violates Plaintiff's rights under the Federal

Copyright Act;

B. Immediately and permanently enjoining Defendant, its officers, directors, agents, servants,

employees, representatives, attorneys, related companies, successors, assigns, and all others

in active concert or participation with them from copying and republishing Plaintiff's

Copyrighted Photograph without consent or otherwise infringing Plaintiff's copyright or

other rights in any manner;

C. Awarding Plaintiff the maximum allowable statutory damages for Defendant's intentional

and willful copyright infringement, or maximum actual damages in an amount, to be

determined at trial;

D. Awarding Plaintiff his costs, reasonable attorneys' fees, and disbursements in this action,

pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 505; and

E. Awarding Plaintiff such other and further relief as is just and proper.

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury on all claims for which there is a right to jury

trial.

Dated: June 28, 2018

/s/ <u>Kenan L. Farrell</u>

Kenan L. Farrell

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Counsel for Plaintiff

EXHIBIT INDEX

- Exhibit 1: Photograph titled "Light Collector."
- Exhibit 2: Screen capture depicting the URL,

www.flickr.com/photos/danielfoster/4791809387, which depicts "Light

Collector."

Exhibit 3: United States of America Register of Copyrights, Copyright Registration Number

VA 1-832-736.

Exhibit 4: Screen captures depicting the URLs, www.ofsbrands.com/blog/post/buildings-

origami-and-packaging-inspire-genus-elastomer-design, and

www.ofsbrands.com/blog/all?page=1.

Exhibit 5: Screen capture depicting the URL, www.twitter.com/ofsbrands.

















