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11	UNITED STAT	ES DISTRICT COURT
12	CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CA	LIFORNIA, SOUTHERN DIVISION
13		
		Case No. 8:21-cv-01061-JVS-ADS
14		Related Cases:
15	AK FUTURES LLC,	8:21-cv-01027-JVS- ADS
16	Judgment Creditor	8:21-cv-01028-JVS-ADS
17		8:21-cv-01154-JVS-ADS
	V.	8:21-cv-02121-JVS-ADS
18	SMOKE TOKES, LLC, RAHEEL	8:23-cv-00307-JVS-ADS
19	LAKHANY, JUMANI LAKHANY,	JUDGMENT CREDITOR'S
20	Judgment Debtors.	APPLICATION FOR ORDER TO
21		SHOW CAUSE RE CONTEMPT
22		
23		
24		Date: Monday, May 1, 2023
		Time: 1:30 PM
25		Courtroom: 10C The Hon. James V. Selna
26		THE HOII. James V. Sema
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28		

1 **TABLE OF CONTENTS** 2 3 4 1. INTRODUCTION: APPLICATION FOR OSC RE CONTEMPT AND AN 5 OCTOBER SHOW CAUSE HEARING DATE.....8 6 THANKS TO THIS COURT AND LAW ENFORCEMENT, CAKE 2. 7 COUNTERFEIT NETWORK IS BEING COMPROMISED.9 8 9 Six Related Cases Against The Cake Counterfeiting Network......9 Α. 10 B. February 5 Impoundment of \$51 Million In Inventory And 17 11 Computers' Worth Of Business Records......10 12 C. Successful Court Actions Have Resulted In Significantly 13 14 D. Ninth Circuit Opinion And Copyright Judgment Registrations. 12 15 16 3. SMOKE TOKES AND GREEN BUDDHA INJUNCTIONS ARE "SPECIFIC 17 AND DEFINITE ORDERS"......12 18 A. 19 "Specific And Definite Orders" In Paragraphs 5F and 5G......14 B. 20 C. 21 22 4. PARTIES AND NON-PARTIES REACHED BY JUDGMENTS AND 23 24 "Defendants Related Parties" include Contemnors Raheel A. 25 26 Contemnor ST & Co, LLC Is "Legally Identified" With Smoke B. 27 28

1		C.	Contemnors Are Serial Counterfeiters Downtown LA Fire And
2			Criminal Indictment Of Raheel And Jumani Lakhany17
3	5.	ACT	UAL NOTICE TO EACH CONTEMNOR
4		A.	Actual Notice to Smoke Tokes
5			
6		В.	Actual Notice to Raheel and Jumani Lakhany19
7		C.	Actual Notice to ST & Co, LLC
8	6.	FAC	TS OF CONTUMACIOUS CONDUCT AND ROLE OF EACH
9		CON	TEMNOR
10		A.	Actual Violation #1: No Reports or Accountings Rendered By
11			Smoke Tokes, Raheel or Jumani
12 13		В.	Actual Violation #2: New Smoke Tokes Superstore Sold
14			Counterfeit and Unauthorized Cake TM Branded Products21
15		C.	Actual Violation #3: New Sales In Eight Smoke Tokes Stores In
16			San Antonio, TX
17		D.	Actual Violation #4: Internet Domain Names
18			
19		E.	Actual Violation #5: Bank Account Payments23
20		F.	Attorneys Fees And Third Party Costs
21		G.	Deposition and Other Discovery Prior To The Show Cause
22			Hearing In October 2023
23	7.	CIVI	L CONTEMPT LEGAL STANDARDS CONSIDERED IN DEPTH24
24		A.	Civil Contempt Legal Standard24
25			
26		В.	Actual Notice Requirement In Rule 65(d) And Certain Non-
27			Parties Bound
28			

1		C.	To Enforce Judgments, This Court's Jurisdiction Reaches	
2			Beyond The Central District of California.	.26
3		D.	Civil Contempt Remedies May Be Chosen To "Compel or	
4			Coerce," Or To "Compensate," Or Both.	.27
5		Ε.	Specific Remedies May Be Fashioned To Sanction Specific	
6			Violations	.28
7			 Sale Or Distribution Of Counterfeit Goods. 	28
8				
9			2. Remedies For Intangible Injuries.	28
10			3. Takedown Of Internet Domains.	29
11 12	8.	CON	ICLUSION	.30
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
21				
22				
23				
24				
25				
26				
27				
28				

1			
1	TABLE OF AUTHORITIES		
2 3	CASES		
4	AK Futures LLC v Boyd Street Distro, LLC,		
5	35 F.4 th 682 (9 th Cir. 2022)		
6	Ariz. Dream Act Coal. v. Brewer,		
7	757 F.3d 1053 (9th Cir. 2014)28		
8	AT&T Intellectual Prop. II, L.P. v. Toll Free Yellow Pages Corp.,		
9	No. CV095707-PSG, 2010 WL 11508795 (C.D. Cal. Feb. 8, 2010)29		
10	Blackberry Ltd. v. Typo Prods. LLC,		
11	2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 13540 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 4, 2015)		
12	BMG Music v. Perez,		
13	952 F.2d 318 (9th Cir. 1991)28		
14	CBS Broad. Inc. v. FilmOn.com, Inc.,		
15	814 F.3d 91 (2d Cir. 2016)27		
16	Consumer Fin. Prot. Bureau v. Howard Law, P.C.,		
17	671 F. Appx 954 (9 th Cir. 2016)25		
18	FDIC v. Garner,		
19	125 F.3d 1272 (9 th Cir. 1997)26		
20	FTC v. Affordable Media, LLC,		
21	179 F.3d 1228 (9th Cir. 1999)12		
22	Golden State Bottling Co., Inc. v. NLRB,		
23	414 U.S. 168 (1973)25		
24	Haisten v. Grass Valley Medical Reimbursement Fund, Ltd.,		
25	784 F.2d 1392 (9 th Cir. 1985)26		
26	In re Crystal Palace Gambling Hall, Inc.,		
27	817 F.2d 1361 (9th Cir. 1987)24, 27		
28			

1	Inst. of Cetacean Research v. Sea Shepherd Conservation Soc'y,
2	774 F.3d 935 (9th Cir. 2014)
3	Institute Of Cetacean Research v. Sea Shepherd Conservation Society,
4	774 F.3d 935 (9th Cir.2014)24
5	Jerry's Famous Deli, Inc. v. Papanicolaou,
6	383 F.3d 998 (9th Cir. 2004)27
7	Jones v. All Am. Auto Prot., Inc.,
8	No. 3:14-cv-00199-LRH, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 69409 (C.D. Cal. May 24,
9	2016)27
10	Optronic Techs., Inc. v. Ningbo Sunny Elec.,
11	2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 116931 (N.D. Cal. July 2, 2020)
12	Regal Knitwear Co. v. NLRB,
13	324 U.S. 9 (1945)25
14	Regents of Univ. of Cal. v. Am. Broad. Cos., Inc.,
15	747 F.2d 511 (9th Cir. 1984)28
16	Republic of Philippines v. Marcos,
17	862 F.2d 1355 (9 th Cir. 1988)26
18	Sacco v. Burke,
19	764 F.Supp. 918 (S.D.N.Y.1991)
20	SEC v. Lybran,
21	2000 WL 913894 (S.D.N.Y. 2000)
22	SEC v. The Better Life Club of America, Inc.,
23	995 F.Supp. 167 (D.D.C. 1998)25
24	Spy Optic Inc. v. Individuals, Partnerships & Unincorporated Ass'ns,
25	2017 WL 10592133 (C.D. Cal. Nov. 27, 2017)29
26	United States v. Baker,
27	641 F.2d 1311 (9 th Cir. 1981)
28	

1	United States v. Hoover,
2	240 F.3d 593 (7th Cir. 2011)
3	United States v. United Mine Workers of America,
4	330 U.S. 258 (1947)
5	Whittaker Corp. v. Execuair Corp.,
6	953 F.2d 510 (9th Cir. 1992)27
7	Williams-Sonoma, Inc. v. Friendfinder, Inc.,
8	No. C06-6572JSW (MEJ), 2007 WL 4973848 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 6, 2007)28
9	Williams-Sonoma, Inc. v. Online Mktg. Servs., Ltd.,
10	No. C 06-06572 JSW, 2008 WL 596251 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 4, 2008)28
11	STATUTES
12	
13	15 U.S.C.§ 1114
14	15 U.S.C.§ 1125
15	Fed. Rule Civ. Proc. 65(d)(2)
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	

Plaintiff AK Futures, LLC, by and through its attorneys of record, herby submits this Application for and Order to show cause why Defendant Smoke Tokes, LLC, and "Defendant's Related Persons" Raheel Lakhany, Jumani Lakhany a/k/a Shafaq Sattar, and non-party ST & Company, LLC (each an "alleged contemnor"), should not be held in contempt for violating the Court's December 8, 2021, Judgment and Permanent Injunction. [Dkt. 26.] As well as for violations for Final Judgments in AK Futures LLC v. Green Buddha, LLC, Case No. 8:21-cv-01028-JVS-ALD [Dkt 39] and AK Futures LLC v. Green Buddha, LLC, Case No. 8:21-cv-01028-JVS-ALD [Dkt 27].

As discussed below, Defendant and Defendant's Related Persons" have violated this Court's Final Judgment by continuing to display, offer for sale, and sell counterfeit Cake products.

FRCP 70(e) and the Court's ancillary power to enforce its jurisdiction warrant reopening this case for the purpose of sanctioning Defendant and Defendant's Related Persons for their failure to comply with the Final Judgment.

AK Futures, respectively requests the Court exercise its power to reopen this matter for the purpose of holding Defendant and Defendant's Related Persons in contempt of this Court's Final Judgment.

1. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>: APPLICATION FOR OSC RE CONTEMPT AND AN OCTOBER SHOW CAUSE HEARING DATE.

This "Application" requests the Court to issue the Proposed Order To Show Cause ("Proposed OSC") against parties and non-parties who are in civil contempt of one or more judgments and injunctions in two related cases: AK Futures LLC v Smoke Tokes, LLC, Case No. 8:21-cv-01061-JVS-ALD [Dkt 26] (the "Smoke Tokes Judgment and Injunction"); AK Futures LLC v. Green Buddha, LLC, Case No. 8:21-cv-01028-JVS-ALD [Dkt 39] (the "Green Buddha Judgment and Injunction"), and its preliminary injunction in Green Buddha, AK Futures LLC v.

Green Buddha, LLC, Case No. 8:21-cv-01028-JVS-ALD [Dkt 27] (the "Green Buddha Preliminary Injunction").

This "Application" seeks civil remedies only, to be awarded after a Show Cause Hearing (the "Show Cause Hearing"), where the Contemnors may receive due process and be held to account. Once the Proposed OSC is issued, if it is, then "clear and convincing evidence" will be presented at the Show Cause Hearing based upon documents, declarations when allowed, and live testimony.

The Proposed OSC requests the Show Cause Hearing to be held in October 2023. Pre-hearing discovery will fill in any "holes" in the evidentiary showing before the Show Cause Hearing date.

This *Application* is made following the conference of counsel pursuant to L.R. 7-3. *Frost Decla at* \P 3.

The Proposed OSC requires that four alleged contemnors be present for the Show Cause Hearing. Contemnors Smoke Tokes, LLC, Raheel Lakhany and his brother Jumani Lakhany (a/k/a Shafaq Sattar), are named in the *Smoke Tokes Judgment and Permanent Injunction [Dkt 26]*. Contemnor ST & Co, LLC is "legally identified with Smoke Tokes, based upon the facts below.

The Proposed OSC seeks civil remedies only, and lists for decision at the Show Cause Hearing compensatory remedies, coercive remedies and conduct-specific remedies.

2. THANKS TO THIS COURT AND LAW ENFORCEMENT, CAKE COUNTERFEIT NETWORK IS BEING COMPROMISED.

A. Six Related Cases Against The Cake Counterfeiting Network.

This case is one of six related cases in the Central District (see caption) against various defendants, all of whom belong to a well-funded, national network of counterfeiters and unauthorized manufacturers, distributors and sellers of inauthentic CakeTM branded delta-8 cannabinoid products (the "Cake Counterfeiting Network"

and inauthentic "CakeTM branded products").

The national Cake Counterfeiting Network includes over 250 "distros," or retail and resale outlets which sell counterfeit and unauthorized CakeTM branded products to the consumer. The 250-plus distros are located in more than 20 states. They are named and located in "Spreadsheet 2" submitted in connection with the *February 5 Impoundment*. *Plaintiff's Supp Response On February 5 Impoundment*, *Spreadsheet 2 [Dkt 43-5]*; *Clelland Second Decla at* ¶2 [Dkt 43-1].

Agents from United States Homeland Security Investigations (USHSI) unit and other federal and local law enforcement agencies have sought out Judgment Creditor's information on members of the national Cake Counterfeiting Network, and the eventual use of the members' profits, as well as the importation from China of manufactured counterfeits and components. *Plaintiff's Response To OSC [Dkt 34] at 13:32-15:16.*

Significant accomplishments to date include the following.

B. February 5 Impoundment of \$51 Million In Inventory And 17 Computers' Worth Of Business Records.

On February 5, 2022, 11 US Marshalls supported by Plaintiff's 15 professionals seized \$51.6 million in contraband from an Ontario, CA warehouse and shipment fulfillment facility (the "Ontario Facility"), which appears to be the West Coast "hub" of the Cake Counterfeiting Network. 1 Over ten containers of inventory, work-in-progress, and pallets ready to ship, were seized and remain in custodial storage answerable to this Court. Business records from 17 computers were "mirror imaged" and documents are now being extracted. See, January 18 Seizure Order, AK

¹ Meanwhile, Homeland Security seized similar contraband from the suspected "East Coast" hub of the Cake Counterfeiting Network in Tampa, Florida. Plaintiff have worked in coordination with USHSI when possible. *Plaintiff's Response To OSC*, *Frost Decla [Dkt 34-2], at* ¶¶22 and 25.

Futures v. LCF Labs Inc., Case 8:21-cv-02121 [Dkt 14]; Plaintiff's Response To OSC, etc.[Dkt 34] at 1:7-15 and citations therein.

The discovery of the Ontario Facility was one of the accomplishments of a national investigative effort that Judgment Creditor has funded. As described below, this same effort uncovered the contumacious conduct by Smoke Tokes, Raheel, Jumani and ST & Company in Los Angeles, San Antonio and nationally through internet and social media sites. *Frost Decla at* ¶¶ 32-59.

Many of the 250 Cake Counterfeiting Network "distros" are owned by the same players, who appear to share familial ties. The two Contemnors here -- Raheel Lakhany and his brother Jumani Lakhany (a/k/a Shafaq Sattar) -- own dozens of these distros, either individually or through special purpose LLCs such as Contemnor ST & Co, LLC. See *Frost Decla at* ¶¶ 13-15.

Part and parcel of their serial counterfeiting, the Contemnors have also opened new website domains and social media pages to generate and fill orders for counterfeit CakeTM branded products. These include internet domain names, Facebook pages, Instagram accounts, and YouTube channels. *Frost Decla at* ¶¶ 41-42, 45, 56-57.

C. Successful Court Actions Have Resulted In Significantly Increased Sale of Authentic CakeTM Delta-8 Products

Since the February 5 Impoundment, Plaintiff's sales of authentic Cake-TM Delta-8 products have increased by over 50% and held steady at the increased level for over one year. CEO Clelland attributed the increased sales to prosecution efforts and especially the February 5 Impoundment. Plaintiff CEO James Clelland recognizes as brand-new customers many distros who were previously buying counterfeits, who have for the first time begun ordering authentic CakeTM branded products. *Frost Decla at* ¶ *61*.

D. Ninth Circuit Opinion and Copyright Judgment Registrations.

The six related cases have yielded two further accomplishments to date. An unanimous Ninth Circuit panel upheld the preliminary injunction issued by this Court. *AK Futures LLC v Boyd Street Distro, LLC,* 35 F.4th 682 (9th Cir. 2022). The Ninth Circuit opinion is the first nationally prominent opinion to uphold the legal standing of delta-8 cannabinoid consumer products, and in particular, Plaintiff's CakeTM branded products. *Id.*

And second, two contested matters have now reached judgment and so act as res judicata:

- (i) Judgment and Injunction in AK Futures, LLC v. Boyd Street Distro, LLC, Case 8:21-cv-01027-JVS-ALD [Dkt 58]; and in connection therewith, the Report On The Filing Or Determination Of An Action Or Appeal Regarding A Copyright was filed and sent to the US Copyright Office Register of Copyrights [Dkt 59]. And,
- (ii) Judgment and Injunction in AK Futures, LLC v. Limitless Trading Co, LLC, Case 8:21-cv-01154-JVS-ALD [Dkt 59]; and in connection therewith, a second Report On The Filing Or Determination Of An Action Or Appeal Regarding A Copyright was filed and sent to the US Copyright Office Register of Copyrights [Dkt 60].

3. SMOKE TOKES AND GREEN BUDDHA INJUNCTIONS ARE "SPECIFIC AND DEFINITE ORDERS".

The Court may hold a party in civil contempt, based on clear and convincing evidence that the contemnor "violated a specific and definite order of the court." *FTC v. Affordable Media, LLC*, 179 F.3d 1228, 1239 (9th Cir. 1999). A party also may be held in contempt for aiding and abetting a violation of a court order by a non-party. *Inst. of Cetacean Research v. Sea Shepherd Conservation Soc'y*, 774 F.3d 935, 948-50 (9th Cir. 2014).

A. "Specific and Definite Orders" in Paragraph 5E.

The Smoke Tokes Judgment and Permanent Injunction [Case 8:21-cv-1061, Dkt 26], the Green Buddha Judgment and Permanent Injunction [Case 8:21-cv-0128, Dkt 39] and the Green Buddha Preliminary Injunction [Case 8:21-cv-0128, Dkt 27] are "specific and definite orders". The language in all three is similar and requires the following compliance.

First, as quoted above from the *Smoke Tokes Judgment and Permanent Injunction, at* ¶5E, Smoke Tokes, Raheel Lakhany and Jumani Lakhany (a/k/a Shafaq Sattar) "are hereby **PERMANENTLY RESTRAINED AND ENJOINED FROM**" various types of infringement set forth in ¶5E(i) - (v).

Beginning in $\P 5E(i)$, the specific conduct permanently enjoined includes the "manufacture, distribution, sale, offering for sale, advertisement and/or promotion" of infringing products. *Id at* 2:25-3:4 (both Judgments and Permanent Injunction and similar language in the Green Buddha Preliminary Injunction at 1:10-17).

Reached in $\P 5E(ii)$ are "reproducing, distributing copies of, and/or displaying to the public" infringing trade dress, packaging or marketing materials. *Id. at 3:5-7* (both Judgments and Permanent Injunction and the Preliminary Injunction at 1:18-20).

Reached in $\P 5E(iii)$ are "creating, using, distributing copies of, and/or displaying to the public any derivative work of the cake [copyrighted] design." *Id. at* 3:8-10 (both Judgments and Permanent Injunction, but not the Preliminary Injunction).

Reached in $\P 5E(iv)$ are "representing directly or indirectly in any form or manner whatsoever, that Smoke Tokes' [Green Buddha's] business, products or services are in any manner associated with, sponsored by, or approved by" Judgment Creditor or its CakeTM brand. *Id. at 3:11-17 (both Judgments and Permanent Injunction and the Preliminary Injunction at 1:21-26)*.

Finally, $\P 5E(v)$ reaches any actions "assisting, aiding, or abetting any person or business entity in engaging in or performing any of the actions referred to" above. *Id. at 3:18-20 (both Judgments and Permanent Injunction and the Preliminary Injunction at 2:1-3).*

These subparagraphs are "specific," reciting the many specific ways infringement might occur. And they are "definite" orders" – in other words, there is no question but that the Court is ordering that such conduct be prohibited. *See, Sacco v. Burke,* 764 F.Supp. 918, 921 (S.D.N.Y.1991) ("The only defenses to civil contempt are (1) that the order claimed to be violated is vague and indefinite as to whether particular action is required *** [other defenses listed next]".)

B. "Specific And Definite Orders" In Paragraphs 5F and 5G.

In ¶5F, Smoke Tokes and "Defendant's Related Persons" including Raheel and Jumani, are required to "destroy all products, labels, signs, prints, packages, wrappers," and any other item that "depicts uses, or copies" the Cake copyrights, trademarks or trade dress. *Id. at* ¶5F at 3:21-26 (both Judgments and Permanent Injunction but not the Preliminary Injunction).

In ¶5G, Smoke Tokes and "Defendant's Related Persons" including Raheel and Jumani, are required to "file with this Court... within 30 days after entry of the injunction a report in writing under oath setting forth in detail the manner and form in which Smoke Tokes has complied with the injunction and ceased all offering or promoting of unauthorized and inauthentic Cake-branded goods." *Id. at* ¶5G at 3:27 – 4:4 (both Judgments and Permanent Injunction but not the Preliminary Injunction).

No such actions were taken and no such reports were filed by Smoke Tokes, Raheel or Jumani. Frost Decla at \P 9.

C. Chronology For Adoption Of Injunctions.

Green Buddha Preliminary Injunction [Case 8:21-cv-01028, Dkt 27] is dated August 16, 2021. Then, some four months later, on December 8, 2021, both the

Smoke Tokes Judgment and Injunction [Dkt 26] and the Green Buddha Judgment and Injunction [Case 8:21-cv-01028, Dkt 39] were filed.

The parties reached by the *Green Buddha Preliminary Injunction* are "Defendant Green Buddha, LLC ("Green Buddha"), its officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys, and any other persons who are in active concert or participation with Green Buddha." As is made clear in the *Green Buddha Judgment and Injunction*, these include "Defendant's Related Persons", named as Raheel Lakhany and Shafaq Sattar (a/k/a Jumani Lakhany). [Case 8:21-cv-01028, Dkt 39 at ¶5E, 2:18-24]. The *Green Buddha Preliminary Injunction* prohibits much of the same infringing conduct as the *Green Buddha Judgment and Injunction*, but does not require any destruction of inventory or compliance report to the Court [Case 8:21-cv-01028, Dkt 27, at 1:6 - 2:3]. These are required by the *Green Buddha Judgment and Injunction*, as stated above.

4. PARTIES AND NON-PARTIES REACHED BY JUDGMENTS AND INJUNCTIONS.

A. "Defendant's Related Parties" include Contemnors Raheel Lakhany and Jumani Lakhany (a/k/a Shafaq Sattar).

The Smoke Tokes and Green Buddha Judgments and Injunctions are nearly identical. The parties reached are set forth in $\P 5E$:

Smoke Tokes and its partners, officers, directors, employees, agents, owners, and representatives and all persons, firms, and corporations in active concert or participation with any of them as described in Federal Rules of Civil Procedure Rule 65(d)(2), including without limitation individuals Raheel Lakhany, Shafaq Sattar and Amin Habibullah (collectively, "Defendant's Related Persons") are hereby PERMANENTLY RESTRAINED AND ENJOINED FROM"

various types of infringing conduct (emphasis added). Smoke Tokes Judgment and Permanent Injunction [Dkt 26 at 2:18-24]. The same language is in ¶5E of the Green

Buddha Judgment and Permanent Injunction. However, in that case, the "Defendant's Related Persons" are only Raheel Lakhany and Shafaq Sattar (a/k/a Jumani Lakhany) [Case 8:21-cv-01028, Dkt 39 at 2:18-24].

B. Contemnor ST & Co, LLC Is "Legally Identified" With Smoke Tokes for Five Reasons.

First, Smoke Tokes LLC was cancelled on August 08, 2021, and does not appear to have reopened in any other states. Frost Decl at ¶ 12 and Exhibit 3. Investigation has found that ST & Company LLC, a business registered to Raheel Lakhany, is now doing business as Smokes Tokes, LLC. Frost Decl at ¶¶ 13-15, and Exhibit 6.

Second, ST & Company LLC lists as its Managing Members Raheel Lakhany and Jumani Lakhany a/k/a Shafaq Sattar. ST & Company LLC is a registered business in California. *Frost Decl at* ¶ *13 and Exhibit 4*.

Third, ST & Company LLC attempted to become the new owner of various trademarks owned by Smoke Tokes, LLC. The Trademark Office Electronic Search System ("TEAS") display for the Smoke Tokes "Hoodie" Logo trademark registration establishes that Smoke Tokes LLC remains the Registrant and owner of record of the Smoke Tokes Logo mark, despite its purported "dissolution" on August 4, 2021. Frost Decl at ¶ 14 and Exhibit 5. A second TEAS printout establishes that "ST & Company LLC dba Smoke Tokes LLC" applied to register a "color" version of the Smoke Tokes "Hoodie" logo trademark in ST & Company's name. Frost Decl at ¶ 15 and Exhibit 6. To accomplish this objective, ST & Company represented to the USPTO Examiners that "Smoke Tokes LLC" - the registrant and record owner of the black & white "Hoodie" logo mark - was merely its fictitious business name. Id.

Fourth, ST & Company LLC provided the cashier's check for \$658,738 to fulfill the agreement of counsel made during the *December 9 Enforcement Action* at

the Smoke Tokes Superstore in downtown Los Angeles. The agreement of counsel provided that four moving vans of Smoke Tokes' non-exempt business inventory in possession of the Marshals would be returned to the Smoke Tokes Superstore, in return for a cashier's check made payable to the Marshals. The cashier's check indicates that it was drawn from ST & Company's bank account. *Frost Decl at* ¶ 17 and Exhibit 7.

And fifth, during negotiations leading to the agreement of counsel, attorney William Kroger for Smoke Tokes admitted that ST & Company was Smoke Tokes' successor in interest. He inserted into the agreement of counsel the requirement for ST & Company be able to argue to the Court that the \$658,738 cashier's check should be returned because *all of the inventory* at the Smoke Tokes Superstore was actually owned by ST & Company, not by Smoke Tokes. *Frost Decl at* ¶¶ 16-18.

C. Contemnors Are Serial Counterfeiters -- Downtown LA Fire and Criminal Indictment Of Raheel And Jumani Lakhany.

On May 17, 2020, a fire broke out in a warehouse jointly operated by Judgment Debtors Smoke Tokes and Green Buddha. When firefighters entered the building and climbed onto the roof, a series of explosions went off, forcing firefighters to run through a 30-foot-wide fireball to get out of the building. Due to the explosions, 12 firefighters were injured -- several were hospitalized in critical condition with severe burns. According to the Los Angeles City Attorney's investigation, the explosions and fireballs were due to butane canisters stored in an unsafe, illegal manner. The Los Angeles City Attorney filed over 300 criminal charges against Contemnors Smoke Tokes, Raheel Lakhany, Jumani Lakhany (a/k/a Shafaq Sattar) and others. In November 2020, the Los Angeles City Attorney's office reached a plea agreement. Smoke Tokes and Green Buddha ceased operations, pleaded no contest to four municipal code violations, and paid \$127,000 to the City. In return, all criminal

charges against Raheel and Jumani Lakhany aka Shafaq Sattar were dropped. *Frost Decla* ¶ *50 and Exhibit 25, LA Times Article.* ²

5. ACTUAL NOTICE TO EACH CONTEMNOR.

To bind a party or non-party requires "actual notice" of the *Judgment and Injunction*. FRCP Rule 65(d)(2) addresses "Persons Bound" and states in part, "The order binds only the following who received actual notice of it by personal service or otherwise: (A) the parties; (B) the parties' officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys; and (C) other persons who are in active concert or participation with anyone described in *** (A) or (B)."

A. Actual Notice to Smoke Tokes.

AKF filed its complaint June 16, 2021. On June 21, 2021, AKF served the complaint, summons and related documents on Defendant Smoke Tokes, LLC through substituted service of its registered agent, Raheel Lakhany, by leaving a copy of the documents with a person in charge and mailing a copy of the documents to the registered agent that same day. The proof of service was filed with the Court [Dkt. 12],

Business records were "mirror imaged" by the Marshals and the Substitute Custodian during the *December 9 Enforcement Action* from computers, servers and Raheel Lakhany's cellphone. The "mirror images" on Raheel's cellphone established that Raheel actually received and saved a copy of the *Smoke Tokes Complaint [Dkt 1]* on his cellphone. *Frost Decla* ¶¶ 21-22 and Exhibit 10.

² There was an earlier major fire at a different Smoke Tokes facility in 2016. The 2016 fire took 160 firefighters to put out, due to the fact that butane gas canisters were exploding during the fire. No firefighters were injured during the 2016 Smoke Tokes fire. *Frost Decla* ¶ 52.

AKF also timely served all other filings and docket items on Raheel as Smoke Tokes' registered agent for service of process. For example, AKF served Smoke Tokes through its agent Raheel with copies of AKF's *Request For Entry Of Default* against it on August 6, 2021 [Dkt 17]. AKF likewise served Raheel on behalf of Smoke Tokes with AKF's *Motion for Entry of Default Judgment and Permanent Injunction* [Dkt 22].

Smoke Tokes again received actual notice of the *Smoke Tokes Judgment and Permanent Injunction*, on December 9, 2022, as part of the *December 9 Enforcement Action*. *Marshals Return Showing Service Of Process on December 9. 2023 [Dkt 45 at page 1] and Frost Decla at* ¶ 24.

B. Actual Notice to Raheel and Jumani Lakhany.

As stated above, Raheel is agent for service of process for Smoke Tokes, LLC. Raheel and Jumani are its managing members. Actual notice of the *Smoke Tokes Judgment and Permanent Injunction* was received by Raheel as agent for service of process for Smoke Tokes. [*Dkt. 22.]* Further discovery is needed to see that Jumani also had actual notice. *Frost Decla at* ¶ 25.

Raheel and Jumani also are the managing members of Green Buddha LLC. In addition, Raheel also serves as Green Buddha's registered agent for service of process. *Frost Decla at* ¶ *26 and Exhibit 11*. On June 10, 2021, AKF filed its lawsuit against Green Buddha and the proof of service was filed with the Court *[Case No. 8:21-cv-01028-JVS-ADS, Dkt 12]. Frost Decla at* ¶ *27*.

On July 2, 2021, AKF moved for preliminary injunction against Green Buddha [Case No. 8:21-cv-01028-JVS-ADS, Dkt. 15]. On August 4, 2021, the Court granted the Green Buddha Preliminary Injunction [Case No. 8:21-cv-01028-JVS-ADS, Dkt. 27]. Both documents were served on Raheel as agent for service of process for Green Buddha. Further discovery is needed to see that Jumani also had actual notice.

As stated above, Raheel Lakhany was personally present at the *December 9 Enforcement Action* and received actual notice of the *Smoke Tokes Judgment and Permanent Injunction* at that time. Further discovery is needed to see that Jumani also had actual notice. *Marshals Return Showing Service Of Process on December 9. 2023 [Dkt 45 at page 1] and Frost Decla at* ¶ 29.

C. Actual Notice to ST & Co, LLC.

The co-managing members of ST & Company are Raheel and Jumani. *Frost Decla Exhibit 4*. In addition, Raheel is the agent for service of process. Actual notice to Raheel and Jumani, as agents, also reached ST & Company, LLC. In addition, Raheel Lakhany was personally present at the *December 9 Enforcement Action* and received actual notice of the *Smoke Tokes Judgment and Permanent Injunction* at that time. *Marshals Return Showing Service Of Process on December 9. 2023 [Dkt 45 at page 1] and Frost Decla at* ¶ 31.

6. FACTS OF CONTUMACIOUS CONDUCT AND ROLE OF EACH CONTEMNOR.

A. Actual Violation #1: No Reports or Accountings Rendered By Smoke Tokes, Raheel or Jumani.

Both the Smoke Tokes Judgments and Injunction and the Green Buddha Judgment and Injunction, at ¶5F, require that counterfeit goods be retrieved and presented for destruction. At ¶5G, both require a compliance report to the Court on or before January 7, 2022 (30 days after the December 8 filing dates). Smoke Tokes Judgment and Permanent Injunction [Case 8:21-cv-1061, Dkt 26], at 3:21 – 4:4; and Green Buddha Judgment and Permanent Injunction [Case 8:21-cv-0128, Dkt 39], at 3:21 – 4:4.

No such reports or accountings were ever filed or served. Frost Decla at \P 9. The failure to do so is a violation of the "specific and definite order" by this Court.

Contemnors Smoke Tokes, Raheel Lakhany and Jumani Lakhany (a/k/a Shaiq

Sattar), are subject to $\P 5F$ and $\P 5G$ and are named parties in the *Smoke Tokes Judgment and Injunction*. Similarly, Raheel and Jumani are also reached as "Defendant's Related Parties" named in the *Green Buddha Judgment and Injunction*.

The Proposed OSC requests that the Show Cause Hearing determine a penalty of \$5,000 per day for the failure to destroy inventory, and \$5,000 per day for the failure to render the compliance report. The Contemnors would be jointly and severally liable for each such violation. The dates the penalty amounts begin to accrue may be alternatively: (i) January 7, 2022 (30 days after entry of the Judgments and Injunctions on December 8, 2021); or (ii) a later date chosen by the Court.

B. Actual Violation #2: New Smoke Tokes Superstore Sold Counterfeit and Unauthorized CakeTM Branded Products.

This Court issued its "Enforcement Order" authorizing the *December 9 Enforcement Action* at the Smoke Toke Superstore in downtown Los Angeles [Dkt 36]. This Court then upheld the *Enforcement Order* after an Order To Show Cause Hearing on January 23, 2023, with the exception of the amount of the \$658,738 cashier's check paid to the Marshals pursuant to the agreement of counsel [Dkt 65].

Recent buys of counterfeit or unauthorized CakeTM branded products at the Smoke Tokes Superstore were conducted in May and July 2022. *Frost Decla at* ¶¶ 53-58, and Exhibits 26 and 27. Similarly, at the December 9 Enforcement Action, the Marshals took possession of more counterfeit items that were reported to the Court. *Marshals Return Showing Service Of Process dated December 9, 2023 [Dkt 45 at pp.2-10].*

Contemnor Smoke Tokes is reached as the party whose business inventory included the counterfeit items. Contemnors Raheel and Jumani are reached as controlling owners and managers of Smoke Tokes (they are "Defendant's Related Parties" named in the *Smoke Tokes Judgment and Injunction*), or as aiders and

abettors. Contemnor S.T. & Company, LLC is reached as being "legally identified" with defendant Smoke Tokes, or its aider and abettor.

The Proposed OSC requests a penalty of the larger of (i) disgorgement of the gross proceeds of any such sales; or (ii) the maximum statutory penalty for

trademark infringement and a second maximum penalty of \$150,000 for

copyright infringement. Each Contemnor would be jointly and severally liable for

7 these amounts.

C. Actual Violation #3: New Sales In Eight Smoke Tokes Stores In San Antonio, TX.

Eight "distros" in San Antonio, Texas use the Smoke Tokes name and have sold counterfeit CakeTM branded products. On August 17, 2021, the day after Raheel received service of the *Green Buddha Preliminary Injunction*, AKF's investigators in Texas purchased counterfeit CakeTM branded delta-8 products at each one of the eight different Smoke Tokes distros in San Antonio. *Frost Decl at* ¶ *39 and Exhibit 15*.

The sale of counterfeits was not limited to Smoke Tokes, Raheel and Jumani, but also included ST & Company. *Frost Decl at* ¶¶ 40 and Exhibits 16.

Contemnors Raheel and Jumani are reached as "Defendant's Related Parties" named in the *Smoke Tokes Judgment and Injunction*. Contemnor S.T. & Company, LLC is reached as being "legally identified" with defendant Smoke Tokes, or its aider and abettor.

The Proposed OSC requests a penalty of the larger of (i) disgorgement of the gross proceeds of any such sales; and (ii) the maximum statutory penalty of for trademark infringement plus a second maximum penalty of \$150,000 for copyright infringement. Each Contemnor would be jointly and severally liable.

D. Actual Violation #4: Internet Domain Names

The Smoke Tokes Superstore reaches the national Cake Counterfeiting

Network, and a national consumer audience, through the internet domain name, www.smoketokes.com. In addition, other domains are present in Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. More discovery will be taken to establish "clear and convincing evidence" of counterfeit through social media prior to the October Show Cause Hearing date and then submitted at trial. *Frost Decla at* ¶¶ 41-42, 45, 57, Exhibits 17, 18, 21, 27.

The Proposed OSC provides that a new website would provide disclosures to consumers that the past website owner is not affiliated with Judgment Creditor or CakeTM branded products. It would provide "links" to filings in this action as well as authorized dealers of CakeTM branded products. *See*, *Chanel*, *Inc. v. eukuk.com*, 2011 WL 6955734, at *5-6 (directing registrar to redirect domain names to webpage with copy of documents from the action); *Asmodus*, *Inc.* v. *Junbiao Ou*, No. EDCV162511JGBDTBX, 2017 WL 2954360, at *5-6, 19 (C.D. Cal. May 12, 2017) (granting preliminary injunction ordering defendant to post notice of the order on its websites, including that they had no affiliation with plaintiff trademark holder and could not sell products with plaintiff's marks.)

Contemnors Smoke Tokes, Raheel and Jumani are reached as named parties in the *Smoke Tokes Judgment and Injunction*. Contemnor S.T. & Company, LLC is reached as being "legally identified" with defendant Smoke Tokes, or its aider and abettor.

The Proposed OSC requests a "takedown order" aimed at these domain names and social media pages. The "takedown" order directs the website host to disable such websites and pages, and re-route internet traffic to the new site controlled by Judgment Creditor.

E. Actual Violation #5: Bank Account Payments

Contemnors have used a variety of bank accounts and credit cards in connection with counterfeiting activities. These include Bank of the West accounts

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and Amex credit cards used in connecting with the violations above. Frost Decla at ¶ 62. The Proposed OSC requests seizure of all of the funds in the bank accounts; directs the banking institutions to shut down the bank accounts and credit cards; and to turn over all bank records to Judgment Creditor.

F. Attorneys Fees And Third Party Costs.

The Proposed OSC seeks as a remedy at the Show Cause Hearing that all Contemnors be jointly and severally liable for Plaintiff's attorneys fees and third party costs not previously awarded. Plaintiff will submit new declarations, exhibits and live testimony at the Show Cause Hearing. The Court will note that attorneys fees and third party costs through January 31, 2023 are requested in *Judgment* Creditor AK Futures LLC's Motion For Post Judgment Attorneys' Fees And Third Party Costs Through Jan 31, 2023 [Dkt 74], to be heard on April 3, 2023.

Deposition and Other Discovery Prior To The Show Cause Hearing In October 2023.

More discovery will be taken to establish "clear and convincing evidence" as may be needed prior to the Show Cause Hearing date. Live testimony and new exhibits then will be submitted at the Show Cause Hearing.

The *Proposed OSC* provides for the Court to choose the number of trial days to set aside (perhaps two days?). Prior to the Show Cause Hearing, each party is permitted discovery, including third party discovery, in accordance with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and Local Rules pertaining to pretrial discovery.

7. CIVIL CONTEMPT LEGAL STANDARDS CONSIDERED IN DEPTH.

A. Civil Contempt Legal Standard

"A person fails to act as ordered by the court when he fails to take all the reasonable steps within his power to insure compliance with the court's order." In re Crystal Palace Gambling Hall, Inc., 817 F.2d 1361, 1365 (9th Cir. 1987) (internal

quotation and alterations omitted). The complaining party is not required to show that the contemnor's violation of the court order was "willful." *Crystal Palace*, 817 F.2d at 1365 (citing *Perry v. O'Donnell*, 759 F.2d 702, 704-706 (9th Cir. 1985)).

Neither advice of counsel nor "exceptional circumstances" constitute a defense. *Institute Of Cetacean Research v. Sea Shepherd Conservation Society* (9th Cir.2014) 774 F.3d 935, 955 ("A party's good faith reliance on the advice of counsel does not excuse the violation of a court's order"); *Crystal Palace*, 817 F.2d at 1365 (The "exceptional circumstances" offered by the appellants are irrelevant. If a person disobeys a specific and definite court order, he may properly be adjudged in contempt.")

B. Actual Notice Requirement In Rule 65(d) And Certain Non-Parties Bound.

Rule 65(d)(2) states in part, "The order binds only the following who received actual notice of it by personal service or otherwise: (A) the parties; (B) the parties' officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys; and (C) other persons who are in active concert or participation with anyone described in *** (A) or (B)." Courts have held the "or otherwise" language in Rule 65(d) means that personal service is not required to bind non-parties, so long as the non-parties receive "actual notice." *Optronic Techs., Inc.* v. *Ningbo Sunny Elec.*, 2020 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 116931, at *15-16 (N.D. Cal. July 2, 2020) (personal service of an Injunction on non-parties is unnecessary because the Court has jurisdiction to enforce an Injunction so long as the non-parties had actual notice of the Court's Order).

Rule 65(d)(2) binds any non-party with actual notice who either "abet[s] the [enjoined party] in violating the injunction or is 'legally identified' with the enjoined party." *United States v. Baker*, 641 F.2d 1311, 1313 (9th Cir. 1981). A finding of "legal identity" may be based on either the non-party's close affiliation with the enjoined party prior to the injunction, *see id. at 633-34*, or its status as a successor to

the enjoined party. *Golden State Bottling Co., Inc. v. NLRB*, 414 U.S. 168, 179-80 (1973); *Regal Knitwear Co. v. NLRB*, 324 U.S. 9, 14 (1945), (expressly holding Rule 65(d)(2) reflects these principles). See also *Consumer Fin. Prot. Bureau v. Howard Law, P.C.*, 671 F. Appx 954, 955 (9th Cir. 2016).

"The purpose of Rule 65(d) is in essence to ensure that defendants may not nullify a decree by carrying out prohibited acts through aiders and abettors, although they were not parties to the proceeding." SEC v. The Better Life Club of America, Inc., 995 F.Supp. 167, 180 (D.D.C. 1998) (imposing a disgorgement order against innocent transferees of primary violators subject to an asset freeze injunction because gratuitous donees are not bona fide purchasers). Also see SEC v. Lybran, 2000 WL 913894, at* 12 (S.D.N.Y. 2000) ("Federal courts may order equitable relief against a person regardless of their alleged wrongdoing where the person: (i) has received ill- gotten funds; and (2) does not have a legitimate claim to those funds.")

C. To Enforce Judgments, This Court's Jurisdiction Reaches Beyond The Central District of California.

"Because the injunction operates *in personam*, not *in rem*, there is no reason to be concerned about its territorial reach." *FTC v. Affordable Media, LLC, supra*, 179 F.3d at 1238-44 (affirming contempt decree against defendants for failing to comply with preliminary injunction directing defendants to repatriate the assets in their Cook Islands trust). *See also, Haisten v. Grass Valley Medical Reimbursement Fund, Ltd.*, 784 F.2d 1392, 1396 (9th Cir. 1985) (district court had *in personam* jurisdiction of Cayman Islands entity because it intentionally caused effects in California). If the court has *in personam* jurisdiction of a party, then an injunction against that party can prevent it from dissipating its assets, no matter where those assets are located. *Republic of Philippines* v. *Marcos*, 862 F.2d 1355, 1364 (9th Cir. 1988); *FDIC v. Garner*, 125 F.3d 1272, 1280 (9th Cir. 1997) ("A court is authorized

to impose a preliminary injunction on assets which were controlled by a party, even if that party did not expressly own or possess those assets.").

D. Civil Contempt Remedies May Be Chosen To "Compel or Coerce," Or To "Compensate," Or Both.

Civil contempt is remedial and so the penalty must serve "either or both of two distinct purposes; to coerce obedience to a court order and to compensate the complainant for losses sustained." *United States v. United Mine Workers of America*, 330 U.S. 258, 303-04 (1947). Further, the Court has broad powers to issue different types of sanctions to remedy different types of contumacious conduct. These include "fine[s], imprisonment, receivership, and a broader category of creative, nontraditional sanctions." *Jones v. All Am. Auto Prot., Inc.*, No. 3:14-cv-00199-LRH, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 69409, at *2 (C.D. Cal. May 24, 2016) (citations omitted).

<u>Compensatory Remedies</u>. The Court may award various forms of damages including attorney's fees and costs incurred by the complaining party in addressing the contempt, as well as resources expended or wasted as a result of defendant's misconduct. *Sea Shepherd*, 774 F.3d at 949-50 (allowing recovery of attorney's fees and costs expended in contempt proceedings as well as resources wasted); *Crystal Palace*, 817 F.2d at 1363 (allowing recovery of funds expended because of contempt).

Additionally, the Court may order disgorgement of ill-gotten gains stemming from a violation of a court order. *Jerry's Famous Deli, Inc. v. Papanicolaou*, 383 F.3d 998, 1004 (9th Cir. 2004) (approving of disgorgement of profits as measure of contempt sanction).

<u>Coercive Remedies</u>. The Court may also impose sanctions intended to coerce current or future compliance. *CBS Broad. Inc. v. FilmOn.com, Inc.*, 814 F.3d 91, 103 (2d Cir. 2016) ("The district court's 'civil contempt powers are particularly adapted

to curb recidivist offenders' where future noncompliance is a well-founded concern."). In imposing such a sanction, the Court should consider "the character and magnitude of the harm threatened by continued contumacy, and the probable effectiveness of any suggested sanction in bringing about the result desired." *United Mine Workers of America*, 330 U.S. at 303; *see also Whittaker Corp. v. Execuair Corp.*, 953 F.2d 510, 516 (9th Cir. 1992).

E. Specific Remedies May Be Fashioned To Sanction Specific Violations.

Specific remedies should address three types of injuries suffered by Plaintiff because of infringements and violations of the *Judgments and Injunctions*.

1. SALE OR DISTRIBUTION OF COUNTERFEIT GOODS.

In *Blackberry Ltd.* v. *Typo Prods. LLC*, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 13540, at *15 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 4, 2015), the defendant violated an injunction prohibiting sales of certain enjoined inventory, and the court determined, "...an appropriate sanction should be the amount of total sales made in violation of the Injunction." It ordered the defendant to disgorge and pay to the plaintiff the total gross proceeds generated by all enjoined sales, plus attorney's fees and costs incurred in connection with defendant's contempt. *Id.* Regarding copyright cases specifically, the Ninth Circuit held in *BMG Music v. Perez*, 952 F.2d 318, 320 (9th Cir. 1991) that a sanction of \$15,000 for each violation of the preliminary injunction, or an amount no greater than maximum statutory damages for the resulting copyright infringement, did not constitute an abuse of the lower court's discretion.

2. REMEDIES FOR INTANGIBLE INJURIES.

The Court is allowed to reach and remedy misconduct that is ongoing and causes irreparable injury. *Ariz. Dream Act Coal. v. Brewer*, 757 F.3d 1053, 1068 (9th Cir. 2014) ("intangible injuries" constitute irreparable harm); *Regents of Univ. of Cal. v. Am. Broad. Cos., Inc.*, 747 F.2d 511, 520 (9th Cir. 1984) (harm to reputation is

irreparable injury). See, e.g., United States v. Hoover, 240 F.3d 593, 596 (7th Cir. 2011) ("The essential elements of criminal contempt are a lawful and reasonably specific order of the court, and a willful violation of that order.").

3. TAKEDOWN OF INTERNET DOMAINS.

Additionally, courts in the Ninth Circuit have deemed it appropriate to seize control of domain names and seller identifications used on e-commerce websites. *Williams-Sonoma, Inc. v. Friendfinder, Inc.*, No. C06-6572JSW (MEJ), 2007 WL 4973848, at *10 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 6, 2007) and *Williams-Sonoma, Inc.* v. *Online Mktg. Servs., Ltd.*, No. C 06-06572 JSW, 2008 WL 596251, at *3 (N.D. Cal. Mar. 4, 2008) (both involving order preliminarily barring sale or transfer of defendants' domain names); *Spy Optic Inc. v. Individuals, Partnerships & Unincorporated Ass'ns*, 2017 WL 10592133, at *2-3 (C.D. Cal. Nov. 27, 2017) (enforcing preliminary injunction barring transfer of defendants' "Internet based e-commerce store businesses under their seller IDs.").

Appropriate relief often include orders compelling domain name registrars, which control the transfer of domain names, to deposit domain name certificates with the court. See 15 U.S.C.§ 1114(2)(D); 15 U.S.C.§ 1125(d)(2); *Cisco Sys. v. Shenzhen Usource Tech. Co.*, 2020 WL 4196273, at *11 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 10, 2020) ("an order barring Defendants from transferring their seller identifications and Domain Names, requiring transfer of control of such domain names to a U.S. based registrar of [Petitioners'] choice (while legal ownership remains with Defendants), and requiring deposit of domain name certificates with the Court, would impose no real burden on Defendants.")

A "takedown order" ensures that ownership of the domain names cannot be changed, thereby maintaining the potential for Judgment Holders to obtain full relief. For example, in *AT&T Intellectual Prop. II, L.P. v. Toll Free Yellow Pages Corp.*, No. CV095707-PSG, 2010 WL 11508795, at *5 (C.D. Cal. Feb. 8, 2010), the owners

of the Yellowpages.travel website were held in contempt for violating a preliminary injunction and ordered to pay plaintiff's attorneys fees and more than \$100,000 in penalties for their improper postings on third-party websites including Facebook, LinkedIn and YouTube. Id. at *2-3, 5. 8. CONCLUSION Judgment Creditor respectfully request that this Court sign the Proposed OSC submitted herewith and set an October 2023 as the date for the Show Cause Hearing Respectfully Submitted by, THE FROST FIRM DATED: March 28, 2023 THOMAS C. FROST /s/ Thomas Frost THOMAS C. FROST Attorneys for Judgment Creditor AK Futures LLC