	Attorney or Party Name, Address, Telephone & FAX Nos., State Bar No. & Email Address Aaron M. Minc, Esq. Ohio State Bar No. 0086718 200 Park Ave., Suite 200 Orange Village, Ohio 44122	FILED NOV 0 9 2020 CLERK U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA BY: Deputy Clerk		
	Attorney for:			
	UNITED STATES B. CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA	ANKRUPTCY COURT A - LOS ANGELES DIVISION		
	In re:	CASE NO.: 2:20-bk-17525-NB		
	Nicole R. Prause	CHAPTER: 7		
		NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM THE AUTOMATIC STAY UNDER 11 U.S.C. § 362 (with supporting declarations) (ACTION IN NONBANKRUPTCY FORUM)		
	Debtor(s).	DATE: TIME: COURTROOM:		
-	Movant: Creditor Aaron Minc			
	MOTALL, STORIGHT AND THE STORIGHT			
	 Hearing Location: 21041 Burbank Boulevard, Woodland Hills, CA 9136 3420 Twelfth Street, Riverside, CA 92501 Notice is given to the Debtor and trustee (if any)(Response) 	411 West Fourth Street, Santa Ana, CA 92701 1415 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101 anding Parties), their attorneys (<i>if any</i>), and other interested		
	parties that on the date and time and in the courtroom st	tated above, Movant will request that this court enter an order Debtor's bankruptcy estate on the grounds set forth in the		
,	3. To file a response to the motion, you may obtain an app	royed court form at www.cach.uscourts.gov/forms.for.use.in		

This form is mandatory. It has been approved for use in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California.

preparing your response (optional LBR form F 4001-1.RFS.RESPONSE), or you may prepare your response using

the format required by LBR 9004-1 and the Court Manual.

4.		serving a response to the motion, serve a copy of it upled by an unrepresented individual) at the address set	oon the Movant's attorney (or upon Movant, if the motion forth above.
5.		fail to timely file and serve a written response to the mailure as consent to granting of the motion.	otion, or fail to appear at the hearing, the court may deem
6.	yo		uant to LBR 9013-1(d). If you wish to oppose this motion, in no later than 14 days before the hearing and appear at
7.	m	nis motion is being heard on SHORTENED NOTICE protion, you must file and serve a response no later than ay appear at the hearing.	ursuant to LBR 9075-1(b). If you wish to oppose this and (time); and, you
	a. [An application for order setting hearing on shortened procedures of the assigned judge).	d notice was not required (according to the calendaring
	b. [An application for order setting hearing on shortened motion and order have been or are being served upon	d notice was filed and was granted by the court and such on the Debtor and upon the trustee (if any).
	с. [rules on that application, you will be served with and	d notice was filed and remains pending. After the court ther notice or an order that specifies the date, time and deadline for filing and serving a written opposition to the
	Date:	11/6/20	Minc LLC Printed name of law firm (if applicable)
			Aaron M. Minc Printed name of individual Movant or attorney for Movant
			Signature of individual Movant or attorney for Movant

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM THE AUTOMATIC STAY AS TO NONBANKRUPTCY ACTION

١.	In t	he t	Nonbankruptcy Action, Movant is:
	a.	=	Plaintiff
	b.		Defendant Ottor (or a sifety
	C.		Other (specify):
2.			nbankruptcy Action: There is a pending lawsuit or administrative proceeding (Nonbankruptcy Action) g the Debtor or the Debtor's bankruptcy estate:
	a.	Nai	me of Nonbankruptcy Action: Aaron Minc v. Melissa Farmer
			cket number: CV-20-937026
	C.		nbankruptcy forum where Nonbankruptcy Action is pending:
	d.		urt of Common Pleas, Cuyahoga County, Ohio uses of action or claims for relief (Claims):
	u.		el, Libel Per Se, False Light
	_		
5.	Bai	nkru	ptcy Case History:
	a.	\boxtimes	A voluntary
	b.		An order to convert this case to chapter
	c.		A plan was confirmed on (date)
١.			ds for Relief from Stay: Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(1), cause exists to grant Movant relief from stay to d with the Nonbankruptcy Action to final judgment in the nonbankruptcy forum for the following reasons:
	a.		Movant seeks recovery only from applicable insurance, if any, and waives any deficiency or other claim against the Debtor or property of the Debtor's bankruptcy estate.
	b.		Movant seeks recovery primarily from third parties and agrees that the stay will remain in effect as to enforcement of any resulting judgment against the Debtor or bankruptcy estate, except that Movant will retai the right to file a proof of claim under 11 U.S.C. § 501 and/or an adversary complaint under 11 U.S.C. § 523 or § 727 in this bankruptcy case.
	c.		Mandatory abstention applies under 28 U.S.C. § 1334(c)(2), and Movant agrees that the stay will remain in effect as to enforcement of any resulting judgment against the Debtor or bankruptcy estate, except that Movant will retain the right to file a proof of claim under 11 U.S.C. § 501 and/or an adversary complaint under 11 U.S.C. § 523 or § 727 in this bankruptcy case.
	d.	×	The Claims are nondischargeable in nature and can be most expeditiously resolved in the nonbankruptcy forum.
	e.	×	The Claims arise under nonbankruptcy law and can be most expeditiously resolved in the nonbankruptcy forum.

	f.		The bankruptcy case was filed in bad faith.
			(1) Movant is the only creditor, or one of very few creditors, listed or scheduled in the Debtor's case commencement documents.
			(2) The timing of the filing of the bankruptcy petition indicates that it was intended to delay or interfere with the Nonbankruptcy Action.
			(3) Multiple bankruptcy cases affect the Nonbankruptcy Action.
			(4) The Debtor filed only a few case commencement documents. No schedules or statement of financial affairs (or chapter 13 plan, if appropriate) has been filed.
	g.		Other (specify):
5.	Gre	oune	ds for Annulment of Stay. Movant took postpetition actions against the Debtor.
	a.		The actions were taken before Movant knew that the bankruptcy case had been filed, and Movant would have been entitled to relief from stay to proceed with these actions.
	b.		Although Movant knew the bankruptcy case was filed, Movant previously obtained relief from stay to proceed in the Nonbankruptcy Action in prior bankruptcy cases affecting the Nonbankruptcy Action as set forth in Exhibit.
	c.		Other (specify):
6.			ce in Support of Motion: (Important Note: declaration(s) in support of the Motion MUST be signed benalty of perjury and attached to this motion.)
	a.	\boxtimes	The DECLARATION RE ACTION IN NONBANKRUPTCY FORUM on page 6.
	b.		Supplemental declaration(s).
	C.		The statements made by Debtor under penalty of perjury concerning Movant's claims as set forth in Debtor's case commencement documents. Authenticated copies of the relevant portions of the Debtor's case commencement documents are attached as Exhibit
	d.	\boxtimes	Other evidence (specify):
			Complaint and Exhibits filed in the Nonbankruptcy Action.
7.	×	An	optional Memorandum of Points and Authorities is attached to this Motion.
Мо	van	t rec	quests the following relief:
1.	Re	lief f	rom the stay pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(1).
2.	×	the	vant may proceed under applicable nonbankruptcy law to enforce its remedies to proceed to final judgment in nonbankruptcy forum, provided that the stay remains in effect with respect to enforcement of any judgment ainst the Debtor or property of the Debtor's bankruptcy estate.
3.			e stay is annulled retroactively to the bankruptcy petition date. Any postpetition acts taken by Movant in the nbankruptcy Action shall not constitute a violation of the stay.

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4.		The co-debtor stay of 11 U.S.C. § 1201(a) or § on the same terms and condition as to the Debt	1301(a) is terminated, modified, or annulled as to the co-debtor, or.
5.		The 14-day stay prescribed by FRBP 4001(a)(3) is waived.
3.		The order is binding and effective in any bankru days, so that no further automatic stay shall aris	ptcy case commenced by or against the Debtor for a period of 180se in that case as to the Nonbankruptcy Action.
7.		The order is binding and effective in any future benefice	bankruptcy case, no matter who the debtor may be, without further
В.	×	Other relief requested.	
Dat	e: _	11/6/20	Minc Law Printed name of law firm (if applicable)
			Aaron M. Minc Printed name of individual Movant or attorney for Movant
			Signature of individual Movant or attorney for Movant

DECLARATION RE ACTION IN NONBANKRUPTCY FORUM

l, (nam	e of Declarant) Aaron M. Minc , declare as follows:	
1.		ve personal knowledge of the matters set forth in this declaration and, if called upon to testify, I could and would spetently testify thereto. I am over 18 years of age. I have knowledge regarding (Nonbankruptcy Action) because):
	X	I am the Movant.	
		I am Movant's attorney of record in the Nonbankruptcy Action.	
		I am employed by Movant as (title and capacity):	
		Other (specify):	
2.	to to to I know in the I know in to I know in to I know in to I know in the I k	n one of the custodians of the books, records and files of Movant as to those books, records and files that pertain the Nonbankruptcy Action. I have personally worked on books, records and files, and as to the following facts, ow them to be true of my own knowledge or I have gained knowledge of them from the business records of want on behalf of Movant, which were made at or about the time of the events recorded, and which are maintained the ordinary course of Movant's business at or near the time of the acts, conditions or events to which they relate. It is such document was prepared in the ordinary course of business of Movant by a person who had personal wledge of the event being recorded and had or has a business duty to record accurately such event. The iness records are available for inspection and copies can be submitted to the court if required.	
3.	In t	ne Nonbankruptcy Action, Movant is:	
	×	Plaintiff	
		Defendant	
		Other (specify):	
4.	The	Nonbankruptcy Action is pending as:	
	a.	Name of Nonbankruptcy Action: Aaron Minc v. Melissa Farmer	
	b.	Docket number: CV-20-937026	
	C.	Nonbankruptcy court or agency where Nonbankruptcy Action is pending: Court of Common Pleas, Cuyahoga County, Ohio	
5.	Pro	cedural Status of Nonbankruptcy Action:	
	a.	The Claims are:	
		Libel, Libel Per Se, False Light	
	b.	True and correct copies of the documents filed in the Nonbankruptcy Action are attached as Exhibit A	
	c.	The Nonbankruptcy Action was filed on (date) <u>09/09/2020</u> .	
	d.	Trial or hearing began/is scheduled to begin on (date) N/A.	
	e.	The trial or hearing is estimated to require N/A days (specify).	
	f.	Other plaintiffs in the Nonbankruptcy Action are (specify): N/A	

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	g. Other defendants in the Nonbankruptcy Action are (specify):		dants in the Nonbankruptcy Action are (specify):		
		Me	Melissa A. Farmer		
6.	6. Grounds for relief from stay:			lief from stay:	
	a.		enforce Movant	seeks recovery primarily from third parties and agrees that the stay will remain in effect as to ment of any resulting judgment against the Debtor or the Debtor's bankruptcy estate, except that will retain the right to file a proof of claim under 11 U.S.C. § 501 and/or an adversary complaint unde C. § 523 or § 727 in this bankruptcy case.	
	b.		effect as	ory abstention applies under 28 U.S.C. § 1334(c)(2), and Movant agrees that the stay will remain in s to enforcement of any resulting judgment against the Debtor or the Debtor's bankruptcy estate, that Movant will retain the right to file a proof of claim under 11 U.S.C. § 501 and/or an adversary nt under 11 U.S.C. § 523 or § 727 in this bankruptcy case.	
	c.			seeks recovery only from applicable insurance, if any, and waives any deficiency or other claim the Debtor or property of the Debtor's bankruptcy estate. The insurance carrier and policy number ecify):	
	d.	\boxtimes	The Nor	nbankruptcy Action can be tried more expeditiously in the nonbankruptcy forum.	
			(1)	It is currently set for trial on (date)	
			(2)	It is in advanced stages of discovery and Movant believes that it will be set for trial by (date) The basis for this belief is (specify):	
			(3) 🔀	The Nonbankruptcy Action involves non-debtor parties and a single trial in the nonbankruptcy forum is the most efficient use of judicial resources.	
	e.			nkruptcy case was filed in bad faith specifically to delay or interfere with the prosecution of the kruptcy Action.	
			(1)	Movant is the only creditor, or one of very few creditors, listed or scheduled in the Debtor's case commencement documents.	
			(2)	The timing of the filing of the bankruptcy petition indicates it was intended to delay or interfere with the Nonbankruptcy Action based upon the following facts (<i>specify</i>):	
			(3)	Multiple bankruptcy cases affecting the Property include:	
			(A)	Case name: Case number: Case number: Chapter: Date filed: Date discharged: Date dismissed: Relief from stay regarding this Nonbankruptcy Action was was not granted.	

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			(B)	Case name:		
				Case number:	Chapter:	
				Date filed:	Date discharged:	Date dismissed:
				Relief from stay regarding	this Nonbankruptcy Action	☐ was ☐ was not granted.
			(C)	Case name:		
				Case number:	Chapter:	
				Date filed:	Date discharged:	Date dismissed:
				Relief from stay regarding	this Nonbankruptcy Action	
				See attached continuation Nonbankruptcy Action.	n page for information about	other bankruptcy cases affecting the
				• •	n page for additional facts es	stablishing that this case was filed in bad faith.
	f.	Ø	San att		or other facts justifying relief	•
	١.	KZ	Jee all	acrica continuation page re	or other facts justifying relief	nom stay.
7.				en in the Nonbankruptcy Adtal declaration(s).	ction after the bankruptcy pe	etition was filed are specified in the attached
	a.				Movant knew the bankruptog tay to proceed with these ac	petition had been filed, and Movant would tions.
	b.		with the			previously obtained relief from stay to proceed ankruptcy cases affecting the Property as set
	C.		For oth	er facts justifying annulmer	nt, see attached continuation	n page.
de	eclar	e un	der pen	alty of perjury under the law	ws of the United States that	the foregoing is true and correct.
11	161	/20		Aaron M. Minc		In Mi
$\frac{1}{D}$	ate	<u> </u>		Printed name		Signature

PROOF OF SERVICE OF DOCUMENT

I am over the age of 18 and not a party to this bankruptcy case or adversary proceeding. My business address is:

A true and correct copy of the foregoing document entitled: NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM THE AUTOMATIC STAY UNDER 11 U.S.C. § 362 (with supporting declarations) (ACTION IN NONBANKRUPTCY FORUM) will be served or was served (a) on the judge in chambers in the form and manner required by LBR 5005-2(d); and (b) in the manner stated below: 1. TO BE SERVED BY THE COURT VIA NOTICE OF ELECTRONIC FILING (NEF): Pursuant to controlling General Orders and LBR, the foregoing document will be served by the court via NEF and hyperlink to the document. On (date) , I checked the CM/ECF docket for this bankruptcy case or adversary proceeding and determined that the following persons are on the Electronic Mail Notice List to receive NEF transmission at the email addresses stated below: Service information continued on attached page 2. SERVED BY UNITED STATES MAIL: , I served the following persons and/or entities at the last known addresses in this bankruptcy case or adversary proceeding by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope in the United States mail, first class, postage prepaid, and addressed as follows. Listing the judge here constitutes a declaration that mailing to the judge will be completed no later than 24 hours after the document is filed. Service information continued on attached page 3. SERVED BY PERSONAL DELIVERY, OVERNIGHT MAIL, FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION OR EMAIL (state method for each person or entity served): Pursuant to F.R.Civ.P. 5 and/or controlling LBR, on (date) _ following persons and/or entities by personal delivery, overnight mail service, or (for those who consented in writing to such service method), by facsimile transmission and/or email as follows. Listing the judge here constitutes a declaration that personal delivery on, or overnight mail to, the judge will be completed no later than 24 hours after the document is filed. Debtor: Nicole Prause, Attorney for Debtor: Michael Jay Berger Trustee: Elissa Miller, Service information continued on attached page I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct. Date Printed Name Signature

1	Aaron M. Minc (Ohio State Bar No. 00)	86718)	
2	Minc LLC 200 Park Ave., Suite 200		
3	Orange Village, Ohio 44122		
4	-		
5			
6)		RUPTCY COURT OF CALIFORNIA
7	In re: Nicole Prause,)	Case No. 2-20-bk-17525-NB
8	Debtor.)	Chapter 7
9)	Judge Neil W. Bason
10)	MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF
11)	AARON MINC'S MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM STAY
12		,	
13	Creditor, Aaron Minc ("Minc") h	nereby su	bmits the following memorandum of
14	points and authorities in support of his I	Motion fo	or Relief from Stay in the bankruptcy of
15	Nicole Prause ("Prause"), Case No. 2:20	0-bk-175	25-NB.
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I. INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(1), Minc seeks this Court's permission to join Prause as a defendant in litigation currently pending in an Ohio state court, *Aaron Minc v. Melissa Farmer*, Case No. CV-20-937026 (Ct. Comm. Pl. Cuyahoga Cty, Sept. 9, 2020)(the "Libel Action"). A copy of the complaint filed in the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas is attached as Exhibit 1. As detailed herein, the Libel Action is based on defamatory posts published by Prause and another defendant named Melissa Farmer ("Farmer"). Minc filed the Libel Action against Farmer on September 9, 2020. He intended to name Prause in the lawsuit. However, because the Libel Action was filed two weeks after Prause filed for Bankruptcy, Minc is currently precluded from joining Prause as a defendant in the Libel Action.

Minc, therefore, respectfully requests this Court to grant him relief from stay under 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(1) for cause because Minc's claims against Farmer and Prause involve the same facts and legal issues, and judicial economy dictates that they should be tried together. Allowing the Ohio state court to decide Minc's claims is appropriate because the Libel Action only involves state law personal injury claims (including injunctive relief) that are non-dischargeable in nature, and a ruling by the Ohio court will resolve all issues related to Prause's bankruptcy. Minc will suffer significant prejudice if this request is denied. A copy of the proposed amended complaint, joining Prause as a defendant in the Libel Action, is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.

I. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Minc is an attorney licensed to practice in the state of Ohio. *See* Continuation of Decl. of Aaron M. Minc Re Action in Nonbankruptcy Forum, Ex. 3, ¶ 1. He owns and operates a law firm, Minc LLC, which primarily handles cases involving online defamation. Minc's firm was retained by a client, Alexander Rhodes, to sue Prause for repeatedly defaming him online (the "Rhodes

-2-

Lawsuit"). *Id.* at ¶ 4. Prause's legal defense in the Rhodes Lawsuit is being paid for under a policy of insurance. *Id.* During the Rhodes Lawsuit, Prause utilized her Twitter account to attack Rhodes and others who support him, including Mine's firm. *Id.* at ¶ 5.

On July 28, 2020, Prause published a series of public posts on Twitter claiming that she feared for her safety because Minc had directly sent Prause's home and work addresses to a hate group who had threatened to kill her. *Id.* at ¶ 6. Tagging Minc's personal Twitter account, Prause stated: "You can ask [Minc] why he just sent my physical location to this group that offered to kill me multiple times." She included an image of a message from one of the hate group members that said, "[I'll] kill that bitch any time if you'd like me to. Fuck those people." (hereinafter the "Twitter Post"). *Id.* Minc replied to the Twitter Post denying the allegations as patently false. Minc did not know Prause's location, much less sent it to a hate group. *Id.* at ¶ 7. Minc has had very little personal involvement with the Rhodes Lawsuit.

Notwithstanding Minc's explicit denial, Prause directed Minc to "Talk to the LAPD" and encouraged her Twitter followers to repeat the allegations in her Twitter Post and harass Minc. *Id.* at ¶ 8. One of those Twitter followers, Melissa Farmer, republished the allegations and shared it with the Ohio State Bar Association, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, and the Ohio Supreme Court, claiming Minc was "engaging in ethical violations that endangered [a] third party (Ohio Rules of Prof. Conduct 4.4)." *Id.* at ¶ 11-12; *See also* Ex. 1, ¶ 12-13. She included a screenshot of the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct 4.4 taken from the Ohio Supreme Court website. Ex. 3, ¶ 12.

On September 9, 2020, Minc filed the Libel Action in the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas alleging libel, libel per se, and false light claims based on the statements made by Prause and Melissa Farmer. *Id.* at ¶ 14. Minc's libel and false light claims allege that Prause

engaged in intentional and malicious conduct. Minc is seeking damages amounting to at least \$25,000 and a permanent injunction to prohibit Prause or Farmer from publishing the same or similar statements in the future. Ex. 1, ¶ 26. Because Prause filed for bankruptcy with this Court on August 18, 2020, only two weeks before Minc filed his lawsuit against Farmer, Minc has so far been unable to join Prause as a defendant in the Libel Action. Ex. 3, ¶ 13.

II. LAW AND ARGUMENT

Minc hereby requests relief from the automatic stay to join Prause as a defendant in the Libel Action. This Court should grant Minc relief from stay to pursue his defamation claims against Prause because: the interests of judicial economy favor granting relief; Minc's claims are non-dischargeable in nature and do not involve the bankruptcy; granting leave will resolve all issues related to the bankruptcy; and Minc will suffer significant prejudice if he is not able to proceed with his claims in state court. Once the state court has entered final judgements on Minc's claims, Minc will file a subsequent motion with this Court regarding the enforcement of that judgment.

A. Standard of Review

A creditor may obtain relief from the automatic stay "for cause, including the lack of adequate protection of an interest in property of such party in interest." 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(1). Because the Bankruptcy Code does not define what constitutes "cause," courts determine cause on a case by case basis. *In re Kronemyer*, 405 B.R. 915, 921 (9th Cir. BAP 2009); *In re Tucson Estates, Inc.*, 912 F.2d 1162, 1166 (9th Cir. 1990). The creditor seeking relief must first establish a prima facie case that cause for relief exists and then the burden shifts to the debtor to establish that relief is unwarranted. *In re Am. Spectrum Realty, Inc.*, 540 B.R. 730, 737 (Bankr. C.D. Cal. 2015). Bankruptcy courts have broad authority to determine the appropriate forum for dispute resolution,

considering the many interests to be weighed and protected. *In re Merriman*, 616 B.R. 381, 394 (9th Cir. BAP 2020).

When considering whether to allow state court proceedings to continue in that forum, courts should consider the interests of judicial economy, the expertise of the state court, prejudice to the parties, and whether exclusively bankruptcy issues are involved. *Id.* at 387 (citing *In re Kronemyer*, 405 B.R. at 921). Courts in this district consider twelve (12) non-dispositive factors when permitting pending litigation to continue in another forum. *In re Curtis*, 40 B.R. 795 (Bankr. D. Utah 1984); *In re Plumberex Specialty Prods.*, *Inc.*, 311 B.R. 551, 559-560 (Bankr. C.D. Cal. 2004) (adopting the *Curtis* factors analysis). The factors relevant to this case are¹: (1) the lack of any connection with or interference with the bankruptcy case; (2) whether relief will result in a partial or complete resolution of the issues; (3) the interests of judicial economy and the expeditious and economical determination of litigation for the parties; and (4) the impact of the stay on the parties. *Id.* at 559. While these factors are beneficial to a court's analysis, courts are not required to make findings as to each factor when granting or denying relief from stay. *In re Merriman*, 616 B.R. at 389. Notably, courts have held that the moving party need not show that their claims are likely to prevail in state court litigation. *Id.* at 390.

The other *Curtis* factors include: (1) whether the foreign proceeding involves the debtor as a fiduciary; (2) whether a specialized tribunal has been established to hear the particular cause of action and whether that tribunal has the expertise to hear such cases; (3) whether the debtor's insurance carrier has assumed full financial responsibility for defending the litigation; (4) whether the action involves third parties and the debtor functions only as a bailee or conduit for the goods or proceedings in question; (5) whether litigation in another forum would prejudice the interests of other creditors, the creditors' committee and other interested parties; (6) whether the judgment claim arising from the foreign action is subject to equitable subordination under Section 510(c); (7) whether the movant's success in the foreign proceeding would result in a judicial lien avoidable by the debtor under Section 522(f); and (8) whether the foreign proceedings have progressed to the point where the parties are prepared for trial. These factors are not at issue and, therefore, weigh in favor of granting relief.

Each of the relevant *Curtis* factors weighs in favor of granting Minc relief from stay to pursue his claims against Prause in the Ohio court.

B. The Interests of Judicial Economy Favor Granting Relief.

1. Minc's Claims Pending in his Libel Action Against Farmer are Inextricably
Intertwined and Involve the Same Facts and Legal Issues as his Claims Against
Prause, Judicial Economy Dictates They be Tried Together.

Minc's clams in the Libel Action against Melissa Farmer are based on his claims against Prause and arise from the same operative facts. *See* Complaint ¶¶ 7, 12-13. In fact, whether Prause's statements about Minc are defamatory will directly determine whether Farmer's statements about Minc are defamatory since they are directly based off of and rely on Prause's statements.

When a case involves claims against multiple defendants based on the same facts and issues that will be litigated with or without a debtor's involvement, judicial economy dictates that the matter be tried in one forum. See In re Merriman, 616 B.R. at 388 ("Mr. Merriman is one of six defendants in the State Court Action, so the case would have to be tried in state court, without Mr. Merriman; judicial economy dictates that the matter be tried in one forum."). Like in Merriman, Prause is one of two defendants, and the case against Farmer is already currently underway. For reasons of judicial efficiency, it does not make sense to try these claims separately by two different Courts in different jurisdictions, especially given how connected they are.

If this Court does not grant relief from stay, it is possible that the state court case against Farmer and the court adjudicating the claims against Prause could reach inconsistent judgments, which does not serve the interests of justice. *See Hydro Sys. v. Aqu-Care United States*, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 190465, at *7-8 ("the interests of justice may be served, for instance, by ensuring

speedy trials, trying related litigation together, and having a judge who is familiar with the

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applicable law try the case"). Accordingly, because the claims against Farmer and Prause are entwined, judicial economy dictates that they be overseen and tried together.

2. Minc's Claims Against Prause Involve State Law Personal Injury Claims that are Non-Dischargeable in Nature and Should be Decided by an Ohio Court.

Minc's claims against Prause involve Ohio state law issues only. The interests of judicial economy favor that state law personal injury claims, arising from conduct targeted to an Ohio audience, and which involve novel issues of Ohio defamation law, should be tried in an Ohio court. See In re Merriman, 616 B.R. at 387 (upholding a grant of relief from stay where the nonbankruptcy action exclusively involved state law claims).

Additionally, Minc's claims allege malicious and intentional misconduct by Prause, making them non-dischargeable under 11 U.S.C. § 523(a)(6). Thomas Maloney & Sons, Inc. v. E.W. Scripps Co., 43 Ohio App. 2d 105, 107 (8th Dist. App. 1974) ("In Ohio, libel is defined as a false and malicious publication made with the intent to injure a person's reputation or expose him to public hatred..."); Welling v. Weinfeld, 113 Ohio St. 464 (2007) ("one who gives publicity to a matter... in a false light is subject to liability if... the actor had knowledge or acted in reckless disregard as to the falsity of the publicized matter..."). If Prause is found liable for Minc's defamation or false light claims, they will likely qualify for non-dischargability in the bankruptcy proceedings after damages have been liquidated by the state court.² In re Berlin, 513 B.R. 430, 463 (Bank. E.D.N.Y. 2014); In re Tiscareno, 551 B.R. 1, 20 (Bankr. N.D. Cal. 2016). Likewise, if Prause is found not liable in the state court action, there will be no need for the bankruptcy court

² This Court can provide in any order to lift its stay that Minc must litigate the dischargability issue in this Court after the state court issues its ruling.

to hear the dischargability complaints or cross-complaints stemming from the matter, which is judicially efficient. See In re Ozai, 34 B.R. 764, 766 (1983).

Many courts that have addressed this issue under these circumstances have decided this is the most appropriate course of action. See e.g., In re Chacon, 438 B.R. 725, 737-738 (Bankr. N.M. 2010); In re Martinez, 2010 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 76793 at *3; In re Nifong, 2008 Bankr. LEXIS 1608 (Bankr. M.D.N.C.) at *4; In re Smith, 379 B.R. 315, 330-31 (Bankr. N.D. III. 2007); In re Passialis, 292 B.R. 346, 348 (Bankr. N.D. III. 2003); In re Goidel, 150 B.R. 885, 888 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1993); Merriman, supra, at 388. See also, Acevedo v. Van Dorn Plastic Mach. Co., 68 B.R. 495, 498 (Bankr. E.D.N.Y. 1986) ("The court presumes that non-dischargability constitutes 'cause' to lift the automatic stay against litigation of a claim").

This Court should follow the bankruptcy court's approach in *Merriman* and others and allow Minc to litigate the issue of dischargability once the state court has made determinations of law and liquidated damages.

C. Minc's Claim for Non-Monetary Injunctive Relief Against Prause is Not a "Claim" that is Subject to Discharge and has Nothing to do with Prause's Bankruptcy.

In addition to claims for monetary relief, Minc also seeks to assert claims for non-monetary injunctive relief against Prause, which is also a non-dischargeable claim. The right to equitable relief constitutes a dischargeable claim in bankruptcy if it is an alternative to a right to payment or if compliance with the equitable order will itself require the payment of money. *Kennedy v. Medicap Pharms., Inc.,* 267 F.3d 493 (6th Cir., 2001); *In re Hillenbrand*, Case No. 09-75574-R (Bankr. E.D. Mich. Feb. 4, 2010). Minc's claims for injunctive relief do not require any sort of monetary payment and have nothing to do with Prause's Bankruptcy proceeding. Accordingly, Minc should be given leave to join them to his lawsuit against Farmer along with his claims for

monetary relief for the same reasons as articulated above.

D. Minc will Suffer Significant Prejudice as an Impact of the Stay, Whereas Prause will Suffer Little to No Prejudice if the Stay is Lifted.

If Minc is not granted relief from stay, he will be significantly prejudiced because he will have to litigate the same case simultaneously in two different courts on opposite sides of the country. "In analyzing [the impact of the stay on the parties], courts balance the hardships between the movant and the debtor." *In re Am. Spectrum Realty, Inc.*, 540 B.R. 730, 742 (Bankr. C.D. Cal. Nov. 9, 2015). This outcome is contrary to judicial economy and unduly burdensome to Minc. Prause will have to incur the same litigation costs to defend against Minc's claims regardless of whether they are tried in Ohio or in this Court. Minc's costs and time expenditure will be more than doubled. The balance of hardships, thus, weighs in favor of granting Minc relief.

E. Granting Minc Relief will Resolve All Issues Regarding the Libel Action.

As mentioned previously, if relief is granted on claims for intentional conduct or the Ohio court finds Prause not liable, then there will be no further connection to these bankruptcy proceedings. However, even if the Ohio court grants relief for Minc on grounds of negligence, this result may also still resolve all issues pertaining to the bankruptcy. Prause has insurance coverage for claims asserted in the Rhodes Lawsuit. Upon information and belief, Prause's insurance coverage will apply to claims in the Libel Action as well. If insurance will cover Minc's claims in the event Prause is found liable, the Libel Action will resolve all issues related to Prause's Bankruptcy. This factor also weighs in favor of granting relief.

III. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Minc's motion for relief from stay should be granted. If this Court does not grant Minc either relief from stay Minc will likely never be able to obtain injunctive

-9-

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or monetary relief against Prause. Prause will be free to continue to attack Minc's reputation with impunity and Minc will have no avenue left to stop her. Respectfully Submitted, /s/ Aaron M. Minc Aaron M. Minc -10-

EXHIBIT 1: LIBEL ACTION COMPLAINT

EXHIBIT 1

Common Pleas Court of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

DESIGNATION FORM TO BE USED TO INDICATE THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE CAUSE

Aaron M. Minc, Esq.	Case Number:
Plaintiff	Date: 09/09/2020
Vs.	
Melissa A. Farmer	
Defendant	
Has this case been previously filed an	
Case #:	Judge:
Is this case related to any new cases i	now pending or previously filed? Yes 🔲 No 🔳
Case #:	Judge:
CIVIL CLASSIFICATIONS: Place an (X) In	ONE Classification Only.
Professional Torts:	Foreclosures:
1311 Medical Malpractice	☐ Utilize Separate Foreclosure Designation Form
1315 Dental Malpractice	Commercial Docket:
☐ 1316 Optometric Malpractice ☐ 1317 Chiropractic Malpractice	1386 Commercial Docket
1317 Chiropractic Malpractice	☐ 1387 Commercial Docket with Foreclosure
☐ 1313 Other Malpractice	
— 2525 Other Majorottice	Administrative Appeals:
Product Liability:	1540 Employment Services
☐ 1330 Product Liability	☐ 1551 Other
Other Torter	Other Civil:
Other Torts: 1310 Motor Vehicle Accident	☐ 1500 Replevin/Attachment
☐ 1314 Consumer Action	☐ 1382 Business Contract
1350 Misc. Tort	☐ 1384 Real Estate Contract
— 1550 Wilder Fore	☐ 1388 Consumer Debt
Workers Compensation:	☐ 1390 Cognovit
1550 Workers Compensation	☐ 1391 Other Contracts
☐ 1531 Workers Comp. Asbestos	☐ 1490 Foreign Judgment
	☐ 1491 Stalking Civil Protection Order
	☐ 1501 Misc. Other
	1502 Petition to Contest Adam Walsh Act
	☐ 1503 Certificate of Qualification for Employment
Amount of Controversy:	Parties have previously attempted one of the
None Stated	following prior to filing:
☐ Less than \$25,000	☐ Arbitration
Prayer Amount \$25000	☐ Early Neutral Evaluation
	☐ Mediation
	None
2 -	
I certify that to the best of my knowledge the within Minc LLC	in case is not related to any now pending or previously filed, expect as noted above.
Firm Name (Print or type)	Attorney of Record (Print or Type)
200 Park Ave, Suite 200	0085718
Address	Supreme Court #
Orange Village, Ohio 44122	aminc@minclaw.com
Address (216) 373-7705	Email Address
	- Jan - De C
Phone	Si gnature

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

AARON M. MINC, ESQ.)	CASE NO.
200 Park Avenue, Suite 200)	
Orange Village, Ohio 44122)	
)	JUDGE:
Plaintiff,)	
)	
v.)	COMPLAINT FOR
)	DEFAMATION AND FALSE
MELISSA A. FARMER)	<u>LIGHT</u>
426 West Belmont Ave, Apt 1206)	
Chicago, IL 60657-4705)	JURY TRIAL REQUESTED

Defendant.

For his Complaint against Defendant Melissa Farmer ("Defendant"), Plaintiff Aaron M. Minc ("Plaintiff") alleges as follows:

PARTIES, JURISDICTION, & VENUE

- 1. Plaintiff is an attorney licensed to practice law in Ohio and owns and operates a law firm, Minc LLC. Plaintiff is located at the above captioned address. Plaintiff operates an account on the social media platform Twitter with the username @RepLawyer.
- 2. Defendant is a sex and pain researcher with a PhD in Clinical Psychology and resides in Chicago, IL. Defendant operates a Twitter account with the username @Farmer MindBody.
- 3. Nicole R. Prause is a California resident. Prause operates an account on Twitter with the username "Liberos" and/or "@NicoleRPrause." Prause filed for bankruptcy on August 18, 2020 under Chapter 7 of the United States Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California, Case No. 2:20-bk-17828-NB. Plaintiff is in the process of obtaining leave from the Bankruptcy Court to include her as a defendant in this lawsuit. When

Plaintiff obtains such permission, Plaintiff intends to request leave to amend his Complaint pursuant to Ohio Civ. R. 15 to add Prause as a co-defendant.

- 4. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to O.R.C. § 2305.01.
- 5. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant pursuant to O.R.C. § 2307.382(A)(6) and venue is proper under Ohio R. Civ. P. 3(C)(3) and (6).

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 6. Plaintiff's law firm currently represents a third party in a lawsuit against Prause. Throughout the course of this lawsuit, Prause has continuously used her Twitter account to attack the reputation of people involved in the lawsuit. Prause has thousands of followers on Twitter. Plaintiff has had little to no personal involvement in the litigation.
- 7. On or about July 28, 2020, Prause published a series of public tweets on her Twitter account claiming she feared for her safety because Plaintiff had directly sent Prause's home and work addresses, which are presumably private and confidential, to a group of people that have been threatening to kill her for years. Prause's Tweet included an image message from one of the hate group members that said, "[I'll] kill that bitch any time if you'd like me to. Fuck those people." A true and accurate copy of Prause's twitter posts are attached hereto as Exhibit A 1-4 ("Prause's Tweets).
- 8. Plaintiff replied to Prause's Tweets denying the allegations because they are patently false. Prior to July 28, 2020, Plaintiff barely even knew who Prause was. Plaintiff has no knowledge of Prause's addresses. Plaintiff has never sent Prause's home or work addresses to anyone. Plaintiff has no knowledge about any death threats by anyone against Prause. Plaintiff also has no knowledge of anyone else disseminating Prause's addresses. Plaintiff has no knowledge regarding any of Prause's allegations.

- 9. Prause additionally claimed that she had contacted the LAPD, who were investigating the matter. When Plaintiff continuously denied her allegations, Prause directed Plaintiff to "Talk to LAPD."
- 10. Prause encouraged her twitter followers to repeat her claims, harass Plaintiff by commenting and liking all of the responses she received in support of her claims. One of Prause's twitter followers with the username "Chanell @nellyy" responded to Plaintiff's denial by saying, "What a piece of shit!"
- 11. Two of Prause's other twitter followers shared the Prause Tweet with the twitter accounts @womenofsextech and @CAgoldberglaw. @CAgoldberglaw is the twitter account of Carrie Goldberg, a sexual assault victims' advocate and attorney based in New York, from whom Plaintiff receives client referrals. The Prause Tweet has negatively impacted this business relationship.
- 12. Notwithstanding Plaintiffs explicit denial, on or about July 30, 2020, Defendant publicly republished Prause's Tweets and directly messaged and/or shared them with the Ohio State Bar Association, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, and the Ohio Supreme Court's twitter accounts. The Defendant's twitter post ("Defendant's Tweet") is attached as Exhibit B.
- 13. Defendant's Tweet claimed that Plaintiff was "engaging in ethics violations that endanger [a] third party (Ohio Rules of Prof. Conduct Rule 4.4." Defendant's Tweet attached a screenshot image of the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct 4.4 taken from the Ohio Supreme Court website. Defendant's claims and allegations are false and defamatory per se.

COUNT I: LIBEL AND LIBEL PER SE

14. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs as if rewritten here.

- 15. The Defendant published tweets containing false statements of fact of and concerning Plaintiff claiming that Plaintiff had violated attorney ethical rules by directly disseminating Prause's confidential home and work address to people that want to kill her.
 - 16. Defendant published the false statements without any privilege to do so.
- 17. Defendant published her false statements with malice, reckless disregard, and/or at least a negligent level of intent.
 - 18. The false statements in Defendant's Tweets are defamatory per se.
- 19. Plaintiff has suffered special harm, actual damage, loss to reputation, emotional distress, mental anguish, suffering, and other harm because of Defendant's Tweets, the full amount of which will be proven at trial.
- 20. Plaintiff additionally requests a permanent injunction against Defendant declaring that these allegations are false, defamatory, and that Defendant is prohibited from creating or publishing the same or similar defamatory statements about Plaintiff or his business in the future.

COUNT 2: FALSE LIGHT

- 21. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs as if rewritten here.
- 22. Defendant's Tweets publicly cast Plaintiff in a false light to the Ohio State Bar Association, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, the Ohio Supreme Court, as well as a vast audience of Twitter users.
- 23. The false light Defendant placed Plaintiff in is highly offensive to a reasonable person.
- 24. Defendant published her Tweet with at least reckless disregard as to the falsity of the facts contained in the Tweet and the false light in which Plaintiff would be placed.

25. Plaintiff has suffered special harm, actual damage, loss to reputation, emotional

distress, mental anguish, suffering, and other harm because of Defendant's Tweets, the full amount

of which will be proven at trial.

26. Plaintiff additionally requests a permanent injunction against Defendant declaring

that these allegations are false, defamatory, and that Defendant is prohibited from creating or

publishing the same or similar defamatory statements about Plaintiff or his business in the future.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendant in conformity with the

allegations set forth above and asks this Court to award compensatory, special, actual, and punitive

damages amounting to at least \$25,000 with the exact amount to be proven at trial, attorneys fee's

and court costs, a permanent injunction against Defendant declaring that these allegations are false,

defamatory, and that Defendant is prohibited from creating or publishing the same or similar

defamatory statements about Plaintiff or his business in the future, and for any and all other relief

at law or in equity as the Court deems equitable, just, and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Aaron M. Minc

Aaron M. Minc (0086718)

Minc LLC

200 Park Ave., Suite 200

Orange Village, Ohio 44122

Phone: (216) 373-7706

Fax: (440) 792-5327

Email: aminc@minclaw.com

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury pursuant to Ohio Civ. R. 38.

/s/ Aaron M. Minc

Aaron M. Minc (0086718)

5

EXHIBIT A-1

Document title:

(2) Liberos on Twitter: "You can ask @RepLawyer why he just sent my physical

location to this group that offered to kill me multiple times. https://

t.co/2W2EBUdiP7" / Twitter

Capture URL:

https://twitter.com/NicoleRPrause/status/1288149561383333888

Captured site IP:

104.244.42.129

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Tue, 28 Jul 2020 18:26:33 GMT

Capture timestamp (UTC):

Tue, 28 Jul 2020 18:26:53 GMT

Capture tool:

v7.0.9

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Operating system:

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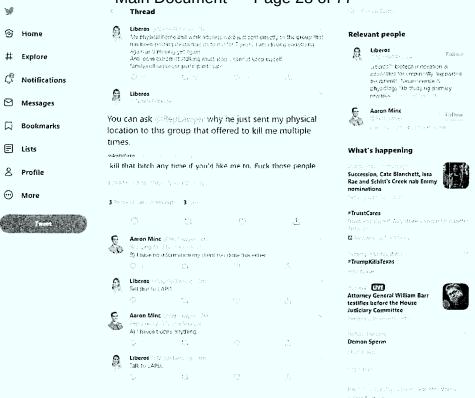
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User:

drl-dbuxton

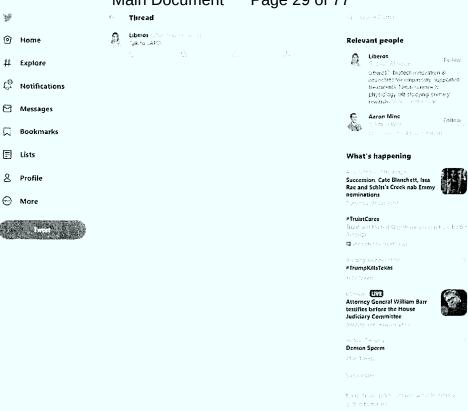
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Messages

Case 2:20-bk-17525-NB Doc 20 Filed 11/09/20 Entered 11/10/20 15:43:46 Desc Main Document Page 29 of 77



Messages

Document title:

(4) Liberos on Twitter: "My physical home and work address were just sent directly to the group that has been posting death threats to me for 7 years. I am closing everything again and moving yet again. Anti-porn extremist stalking must stop. I

cannot keep myself, family,colleagues,or participants safe." / Twitter

Capture URL:

https://twitter.com/NicoleRPrause/status/1288140697703333888

Captured site IP:

104.244.42.193

Page loaded at (UTC):

Thu, 30 Jul 2020 15:33:43 GMT

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Thu, 30 Jul 2020 15:36:02 GMT

Capture tool:

v7.0.9

Collection server IP:

54.174.78.137

Browser engine:

Chrome/77.0.3865.120

Operating system:

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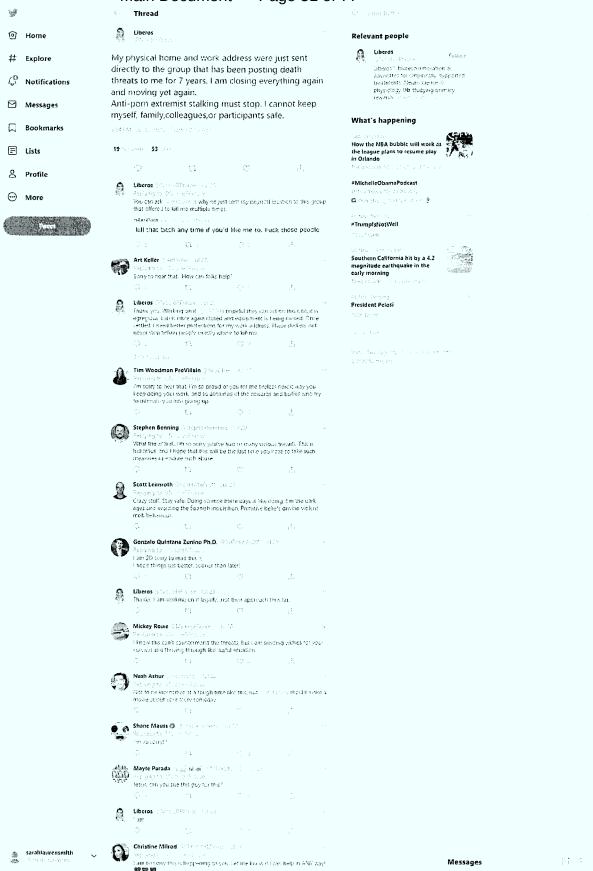
User:

drl-dbuxton

PDF REFERENCE #:

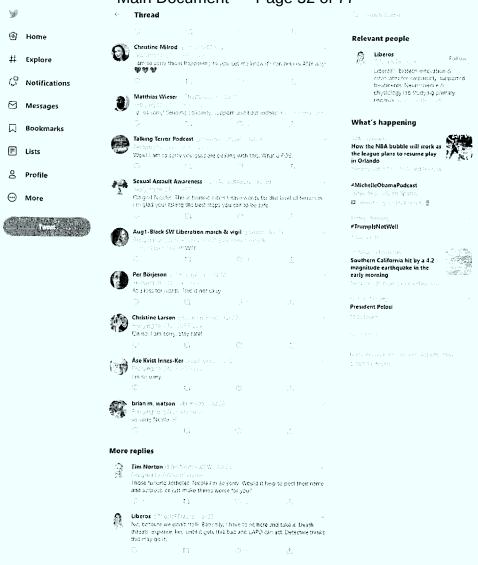
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Case 2:20-bk-17525-NB Doc 20 Filed 11/09/20 Entered 11/10/20 15:43:46 Desc Main Document Page 31 of 77



Case 2:20-bk-17525-NB

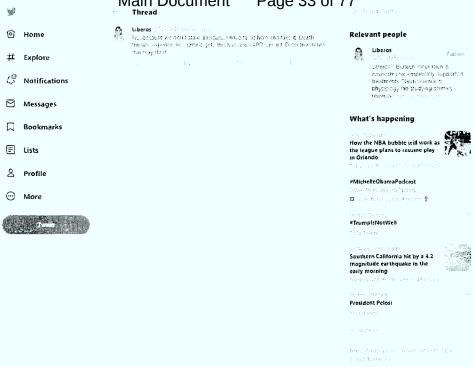
Doc 20 Filed 11/09/20 Entered 11/10/20 15:43:46 Desc Main Document Page 32 of 77



arablaurensmith

Messages

Doc 20 Filed 11/09/20 Entered 11/10/20 15:43:46 Case 2:20-bk-17525-NB Main Document Page 33 of 77



Messages

Document title: (2) Aaron Minc on Twitter: "@NicoleRPrause Stop Tweeting at me and go talk to

> your lawyer about it. You are a Defendant in a lawsuit my firm is handling. It's completely inappropriate to lob ridiculous accusations publicly at the other sides

legal counsel over twitter in the middle of a lawsuit." / Twitter

https://twitter.com/RepLawyer/status/1288183603126579200 Capture URL:

Captured site IP: 104.244.42.193

Tue, 28 Jul 2020 18:51:19 GMT Page loaded at (UTC):

Capture timestamp (UTC): Tue, 28 Jul 2020 18:51:46 GMT

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Chrome/77.0.3865.120 Browser engine:

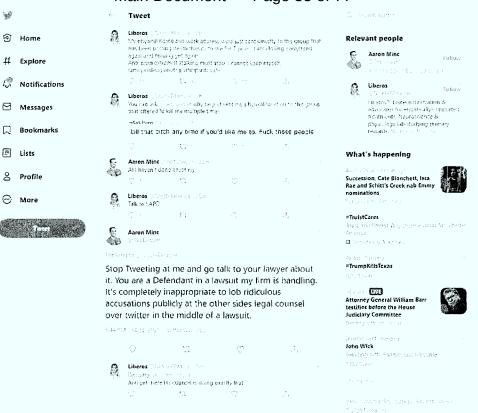
Operating system: Microsoft Windows NT 10.0.14393.0 (10.0.14393.0)

3 PDF length:

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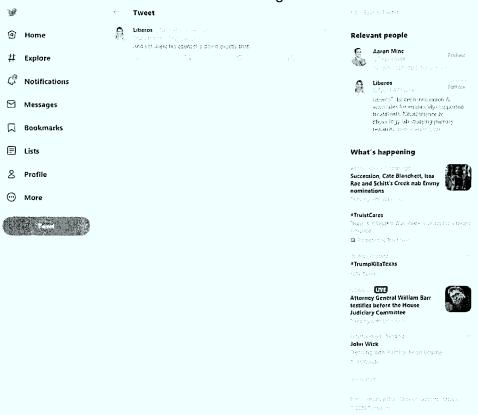
User: drl-dbuxton

Doc 20 Filed 11/09/20 Entered 11/10/20 15:43:46 Case 2:20-bk-17525-NB Main Document Page 35 of 77



Messages

Doc 20 Filed 11/09/20 Entered 11/10/20 15:43:46 Desc Case 2:20-bk-17525-NB Page 36 of 77 Main Document



Messages

Document title:

(4) Liberos on Twitter: "You can ask @RepLawyer why he just sent my physical

location to this group that offered to kill me multiple times. https://

t.co/2W2EBUdiP7" / Twitter

Capture URL:

https://twitter.com/NicoleRPrause/status/1288149561383333888

Captured site IP:

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Thu, 30 Jul 2020 14:15:58 GMT

Capture timestamp (UTC):

Thu, 30 Jul 2020 14:17:35 GMT

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v7.0.9

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Operating system:

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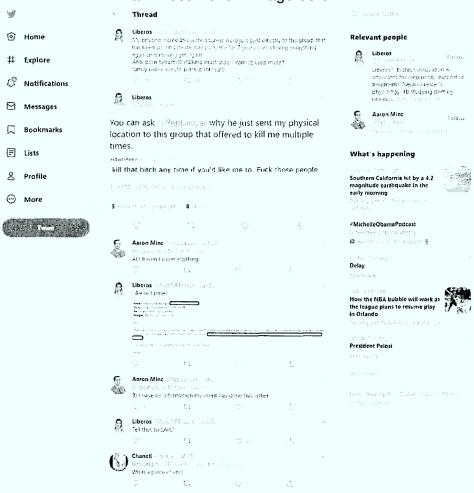
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User:

drl-dbuxton

PDF REFERENCE #:

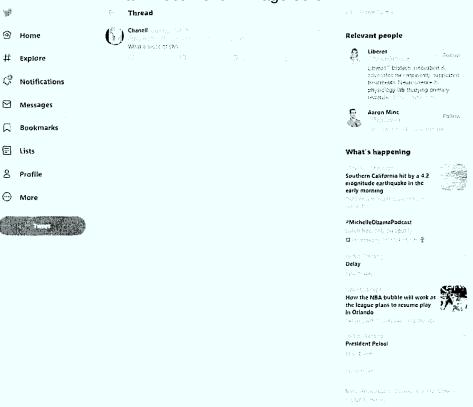
Case 2:20-bk-17525-NB Doc 20 Filed 11/09/20 Entered 11/10/20 15:43:46 Des Main Document Page 38 of 77



Messages

14

Case 2:20-bk-17525-NB Doc 20 Filed 11/09/20 Entered 11/10/20 15:43:46 Desc Main Document Page 39 of 77



sarahlaurensmith

Document title:

(4) Dr. Melissa A. Farmer on Twitter: "Attention @OSBA @CleMetroBar

@OHSupremeCourt - Ohio lawyer @RepLawyer engaging in ethics violations that

endanger third party (Ohio Rules of Prof Conduct Rule 4.4). https://t.co/

WDPkG2ETcH" / Twitter

Capture URL:

https://twitter.com/Farmer_MindBody/status/1288464606160138241

Captured site IP:

104.244.42.193

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Thu, 30 Jul 2020 14:15:58 GMT

Capture timestamp (UTC):

Thu, 30 Jul 2020 14:16:36 GMT

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Collection server IP:

54.174.78.137

Browser engine:

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Operating system:

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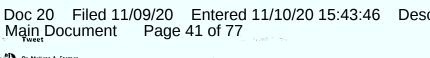
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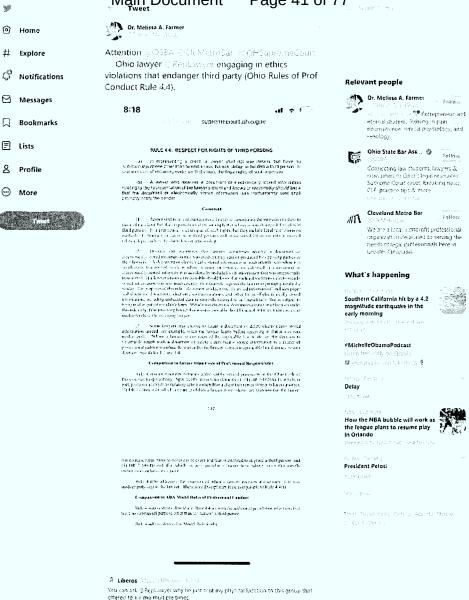
User:

drl-dbuxton

PDF REFERENCE #:

8jNbR8vzcV2XD2oJFbNUvZ





AmAntiPorn I n kill that b





EXHIBIT 2: AMENDED LIBEL ACTION COMPLAINT

EXHIBIT 2

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

AARON M. MINC, ESQ. 200 Park Avenue, Suite 200) CASE NO. CV-20-937026
Orange Village, Ohio 44122)
Plaintiff,) JUDGE: EMILY HAGAN)
v.)
MELISSA A. FARMER)
)
and) FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR DEFAMATION AND FALSE
NICOLE R. PRAUSE) <u>LIGHT</u>
) <u>JURY TRIAL REQUESTED</u>
Defendants.)

For his Complaint against Defendants Melissa Farmer ("Farmer") and Nicole Prause ("Prause") (collectively "Defendants"), Plaintiff Aaron M. Minc ("Plaintiff") alleges as follows:

PARTIES, JURISDICTION, & VENUE

- Plaintiff is an attorney licensed to practice law in Ohio and owns and operates a law firm, Minc LLC. Plaintiff is located at the above captioned address. Plaintiff operates an account on the social media platform Twitter with the username @RepLawyer.
- Farmer is a sex and pain researcher with a PhD in Clinical Psychology and resides in Chicago, IL. Farmer operates a Twitter account with the username @Farmer_MindBody.
- 3. Prause is a California resident. Prause operates an account on Twitter with the username "Liberos" and/or "@NicoleRPrause." Prause filed for bankruptcy on August 18, 2020 under Chapter 7 of the United States Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California, Case No. 2:20-bk-17828-NB. Plaintiff has obtained relief from

the automatic stay from the Bankruptcy Court to add Prause as a defendant in this action pursuant to Ohio Civ. R. 15.

- 4. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to O.R.C. § 2305.01.
- 5. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendants pursuant to O.R.C. § 2307.382(A)(6) and venue is proper under Ohio R. Civ. P. 3(C)(3) and (6).

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 6. Plaintiff's law firm currently represents a third party in a lawsuit against Prause. Throughout the course of this lawsuit, Prause has used her Twitter account to attack the reputation of people involved in the lawsuit. Prause has thousands of followers on Twitter. Plaintiff has had little to no personal involvement in the litigation.
- 7. On or about July 28, 2020, Prause published a series of public tweets on her Twitter account claiming she feared for her safety because Plaintiff sent Prause's home and work addresses, which are presumably private and confidential, to a group of people that have been threatening to kill her for years. Prause's Tweet included an image of a message from one of the hate group members that said, "[I'll] kill that bitch any time if you'd like me to. Fuck those people." A true and accurate copy of Prause's twitter posts are attached hereto as Exhibit A 1-4 ("Prause's Tweets). Prause's claims and allegations are false and defamatory per se.
- 8. Plaintiff replied to Prause's Tweets denying the allegations because they are patently false. Prior to July 28, 2020, Plaintiff barely even knew who Prause was. Plaintiff has no knowledge of Prause's addresses. Plaintiff has never sent Prause's home or work addresses to anyone. Plaintiff has no knowledge about any death threats made by anyone against Prause. Plaintiff also has no knowledge of anyone else disseminating Prause's addresses. Plaintiff has no knowledge regarding any of Prause's allegations.

- 9. Prause additionally claimed that she had contacted the LAPD, who were investigating the matter. When Plaintiff continuously denied her allegations, Prause directed Plaintiff to "Talk to LAPD."
- 10. Prause encouraged her twitter followers to repeat her claims and harass Plaintiff by commenting and liking all the responses she received in support of her claims. One of Prause's twitter followers with the username "Chanell @nellyy" responded to Plaintiff's denial by saying, "What a piece of shit!"
- 11. Two of Prause's other twitter followers shared the Prause Tweet with the twitter accounts @womenofsextech and @CAgoldberglaw. @CAgoldberglaw is the twitter account of Carrie Goldberg, a sexual assault victims' advocate and attorney based in New York, from whom Plaintiff receives client referrals. The Prause Tweet has negatively impacted this business relationship.
- 12. Notwithstanding Plaintiff's explicit denials, on or about July 30, 2020, Farmer publicly republished Prause's Tweets and directly messaged and/or shared them with the Ohio State Bar Association, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, and the Ohio Supreme Court's twitter accounts. Farmer's twitter post ("Farmer's Tweet") is attached as Exhibit B.
- 13. Farmer's Tweet claimed that Plaintiff was "engaging in ethics violations that endanger [a] third party (Ohio Rules of Prof. Conduct Rule 4.4." Farmer's Tweet attached a screenshot image of the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct 4.4 taken from the Ohio Supreme Court website. Farmer's claims and allegations are false and defamatory per se.

COUNT I: LIBEL AND LIBEL PER SE

14. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs as if rewritten here.

- 15. Defendants published tweets containing false statements of fact, of and concerning Plaintiff, claiming that Plaintiff had violated attorney ethical rules by directly disseminating Prause's confidential home and work address to people that wanted to kill Prause.
 - 16. Defendants published the false statements without any privilege to do so.
- 17. Defendants published the false statements with malice, reckless disregard, and/or at least a negligent level of intent.
- 18. The false statements in Prause's Tweets and Farmer's Tweet (collectively "Defendants' Tweets") are defamatory per se.
- 19. Plaintiff has suffered special harm, actual damage, loss to reputation, emotional distress, mental anguish, suffering, and other harm because of Defendants' Tweets, the full amount of which will be proven at trial.
- 20. Plaintiff additionally requests a permanent injunction against Defendant declaring that these allegations are false, defamatory, and that Defendant is prohibited from creating or publishing the same or similar defamatory statements about Plaintiff or his business in the future.

COUNT 2: FALSE LIGHT

- 21. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs as if rewritten here.
- 22. Defendants' Tweets publicly cast Plaintiff in a false light to the Ohio State Bar Association, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, the Ohio Supreme Court, as well as a vast audience of Twitter users.
- 23. The false light Defendants placed Plaintiff in is highly offensive to a reasonable person.

24. Defendants published the Tweets with at least reckless disregard as to the falsity of the facts contained in the Tweets and the false light in which Plaintiff would be placed.

25. Plaintiff has suffered special harm, actual damage, loss to reputation, emotional distress, mental anguish, suffering, and other harm because of Defendants' Tweets, the full amount

of which will be proven at trial.

Plaintiff additionally requests a permanent injunction against Defendants declaring 26.

that these allegations are false, defamatory, and that Defendants are prohibited from creating or

publishing the same or similar defamatory statements about Plaintiff or his business in the future.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendants in conformity with the

allegations set forth above and asks this Court to award compensatory, special, actual, and punitive

damages amounting to at least \$25,000 with the exact amount to be proven at trial, attorneys fee's

and court costs, a permanent injunction against Defendants declaring that these allegations are

false, defamatory, and that Defendants are prohibited from creating or publishing the same or

similar defamatory statements about Plaintiff or his business in the future, and for any and all other

relief at law or in equity as the Court deems equitable, just, and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Aaron M. Minc

Aaron M. Minc (0086718)

Minc LLC

200 Park Ave., Suite 200

Orange Village, Ohio 44122

Phone: (216) 373-7706

Fax: (440) 792-5327

Email: aminc@minclaw.com

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury pursuant to Ohio Civ. R. 38.

5

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<u>/s/ Aaron M. Minc</u> Aaron M. Minc (0086718)

EXHIBIT 3: CONTINUATION OF THE DECLARATION OF AARON MINC

1 2 3 4 5	Aaron M. Minc (Ohio State Bar No. 00867 Minc LLC 200 Park Ave., Suite 200 Orange Village, Ohio 44122 Phone: (216) 373-7706 Fax: (440) 792-5327 Email: aminc@minclaw.com	18) EXHIBIT 3
6 7		BANKRUPTCY COURT ICT OF CALIFORNIA) Case No. 2-20-bk-17525-NB
8 9 10 11 12 13	Debtor.	Chapter 7 Dudge Neil W. Bason CONTINUATION OF DECLARATION OF AARON M. MINC RE ACTION IN NONBANKRUPTCY FORUM
14		y Declaration Re Action in Nonbankruptcy Forum,
15 16	affirm and declare as follows: 1. My name is Aaron M. Minc. I	am a duly licensed attorney in the State of Ohio,
17	where I have been in good standing since my a	dmission to practice law in November 2010.
18	2. I have personal knowledge of al	l the facts asserted in this Declaration. Where I rely
19	on information from others, I state the source of	of that information and verily believe it to be true.
20	3. I am an internet defamation atto	rney. I have extensive experience in this niche area
21	of law and frequently handle cases involving	the removal of defamatory content on the Internet
22	and the identification of Internet users who def	fame others online. I own and operate the law firm
23	Minc LLC in Cleveland, Ohio that primarily ha	andles internet defamation cases.
24 25		
26		-1-

- 4. On or about October 1, 2019, Minc LLC was retained to represent Alexander Rhodes ("Rhodes") in litigation against Nicole Prause ("Prause") for defamatory content she published online concerning Rhodes (the "Rhodes Litigation"). I have had little to no personal involvement with the case but am generally familiar with the status of the litigation through discussions with the primary attorney handling the case, Andrew Stebbins. I am aware that
- 5. During the Rhodes Litigation, Prause has utilized her Twitter account to harass and retaliate against Rhodes, Mr. Stebbins, Minc LLC, and I.

Prause's legal defense in the case is being covered by a policy of insurance.

- 6. On or about July 28, 2020, Prause published a tweet stating that her home and work addresses were sent to a hate group who had threatened to kill her multiple times. She then published a reply, naming my Twitter account "@RepLawyer," stating that "you can ask @RepLawyer why he just sent my physical location to this group that offered to kill me multiple times." Defendant's tweet included an image of a message presumably set to her by one of the hate group members that said, "[I'll] kill that bitch any time if you'd like me to. Fuck those people." A true and accurate copy of Prause's Tweets and my responses thereto are attached to this Declaration as Exhibit 3-1. See Ex. 3-1, 2.
- 7. I replied to her tweet and vehemently denied her allegations. I have no personal knowledge of any of Prause's personal information, including her confidential addresses or business location, and have never released such information to anyone. I did not have knowledge of any death threats that were made against Prause. I also do not know of anyone else disseminating Prause's personal information. See Ex. 3-1, 2; 9.

- 8. Prause claimed in subsequent tweets that she had contacted the LAPD, who were investigating the matter. When I continued to deny her allegations, Prause directed me to "Talk to LAPD." Ex. 3-1, 3.
- 9. Prause encouraged her Twitter followers to repeat her claims and harass me by commenting and liking all the responses she received in support of her claims. One of Prause's Twitter followers with the username "Chanell @nellyy" responded to my denial by saying, "What a piece of shit!". Ex. 3-1, 12.
- 10. Two of Prause's Twitter followers shared her tweets with the Twitter accounts @womenofsextech and @CAgoldberglaw. @CAgoldberglaw is the Twitter account of Carrie Goldberg, a sexual assault victims' advocate and attorney based in New York, from whom I receive client referrals. I believe her tweet negatively impacted this business relationship.
- 11. Another one of Prause's Twitter followers, Melissa Farmer ("Farmer"), publicly messaged and shared Prause's tweets with the Ohio State Bar Association, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, and the Ohio Supreme Court's Twitter accounts. Farmer's tweet specifically accused me of gross ethical violations. A true and accurate copy of Farmer's tweet is attached to this Declaration as Exhibit 3-2.
- 12. Farmer's tweet claimed that I was "engaging in ethics violations that endanger [a] third party (Ohio Rules of Prof. Conduct Rule 4.4." Farmer's Tweet attached a screenshot image of the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct 4.4 taken from the Ohio Supreme Court website. Farmer's claims and allegations are false and defamatory per se. Ex. 3-2, 2.
- 13. After the tweets were published, I decided to file a defamation action against Prause and Farmer in the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas. While I was preparing to file that

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lawsuit, Prause filed a voluntary petition to declare bankruptcy with this Court, Case No. 2-20-bk-17525-NB, on August 18, 2020.

14. I filed my lawsuit on September 9, 2020. In compliance with the automatic stay, I refrained from filing suit against Prause and have thus far only filed against Farmer, *Minc LLC v. Melissa Farmer*, Case No. CV-20-937026 (Ct. Comm. Pl. Cuyahoga Cty, Sept. 9, 2020) (the "Nonbankruptcy Action"). The complaint specifically requests leave to amend if I am given leave from Prause's bankruptcy stay to add her to the lawsuit. The complaint filed against Farmer is attached as Exhibit 3-3.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Signed on the 6 day of November, 2020.

Aaron M. Minc

DARCY BUXTON tary Public, State of Ohio

Hy Commission Expires
June 21, 2023

June 21, 2023 My Commission Expires

EXHIBIT 3-1: PRAUSE TWITTER EXCHANGE

Document title:

(2) Liberos on Twitter: "You can ask @RepLawyer why he just sent my physical

location to this group that offered to kill me multiple times. https://

t.co/2W2EBUdiP7" / Twitter

Capture URL:

https://twitter.com/NicoleRPrause/status/1288149561383333888

Captured site IP:

104.244.42.129

Page loaded at (UTC):

Tue, 28 Jul 2020 18:26:33 GMT

Capture timestamp (UTC):

Tue, 28 Jul 2020 18:26:53 GMT

Capture tool:

v7.0.9

Collection server IP:

52.7.109.102

Browser engine:

Chrome/77.0.3865.120

Operating system:

Microsoft Windows NT 10.0.14393.0 (10.0.14393.0)

PDF length:

3

Capture ID:

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User:

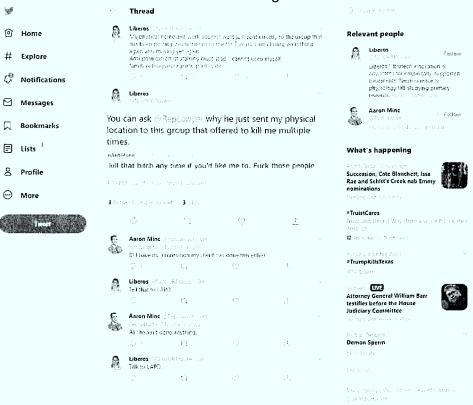
drl-dbuxton

PDF REFERENCE #:

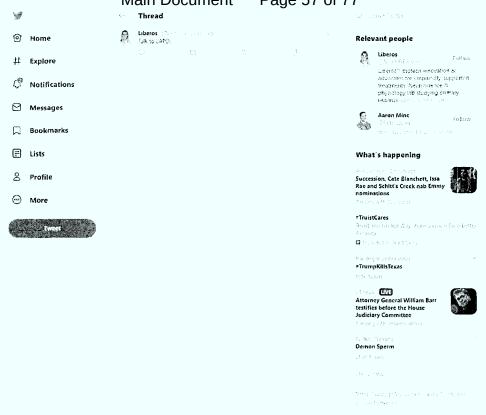
sVpMoC8vm1CQb7DwNCUHYo

Case 2:20-bk-17525-NB

Doc 20 Filed 11/09/20 Entered 11/10/20 15:43:46 Desc Main Document Page 56 of 77



Doc 20 Filed 11/09/20 Entered 11/10/20 15:43:46 Desc Case 2:20-bk-17525-NB Main Document Page 57 of 77



Document title:

(4) Liberos on Twitter: "My physical home and work address were just sent directly to the group that has been posting death threats to me for 7 years. I am closing everything again and moving yet again. Anti-porn extremist stalking must stop. I cannot keep myself, family,colleagues,or participants safe." / Twitter

Capture URL:

https://twitter.com/NicoleRPrause/status/1288140697703333888

Captured site IP:

104.244.42.193

Page loaded at (UTC):

Thu, 30 Jul 2020 15:33:43 GMT

Capture timestamp (UTC):

Thu, 30 Jul 2020 15:36:02 GMT

Capture tool:

v7.0.9

Collection server IP:

54.174.78.137

Browser engine:

Chrome/77.0.3865.120

Operating system:

Microsoft Windows NT 10.0.14393.0 (10.0.14393.0)

PDF length:

4

Capture ID:

97dd77a2-bc16-4410-a50a-35de7efcd419

User:

drl-dbuxton

PDF REFERENCE #:

eXN1fWBmdZ4mQuy6BuNwh1 _

@ Home

Explore

← Notifications

Messages

□ Bookmarks

E Lists

2 Profile

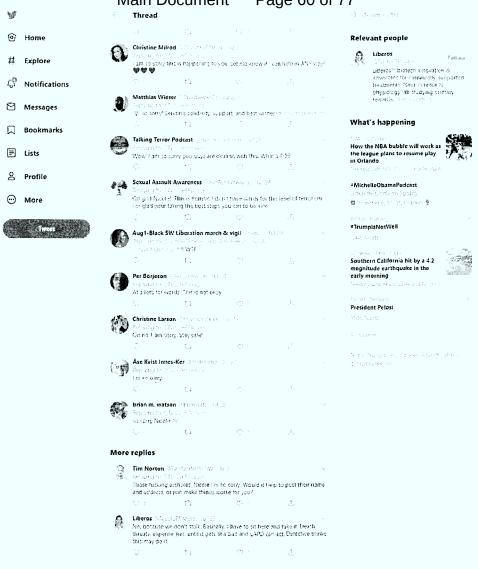
Familie sony that is happeaing to you fet me know if Fam help in ANY wast. 動體體

sarahlaurensmith

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Case 2:20-bk-17525-NB

Doc 20 Filed 11/09/20 Entered 11/10/20 15:43:46 Desc Main Document Page 60 of 77



sarahlaurensmith

Case 2:20-bk-17525-NB Doc 20 Filed 11/09/20 Entered 11/10/20 15:43:46 Desc Main Document Page 61 of 77



Document title: (2) Aaron Minc on Twitter: "@NicoleRPrause Stop Tweeting at me and go talk to

your lawyer about it. You are a Defendant in a lawsuit my firm is handling. It's completely inappropriate to lob ridiculous accusations publicly at the other sides

legal counsel over twitter in the middle of a lawsuit." / Twitter

https://twitter.com/RepLawyer/status/1288183603126579200 Capture URL:

Captured site IP: 104.244.42.193

Page loaded at (UTC): Tue, 28 Jul 2020 18:51:19 GMT

Capture timestamp (UTC): Tue, 28 Jul 2020 18:51:46 GMT

Capture tool: v7.0.9

54.175.14.236 Collection server IP:

Operating system: Microsoft Windows NT 10.0.14393.0 (10.0.14393.0)

Chrome/77.0.3865.120

3 PDF length:

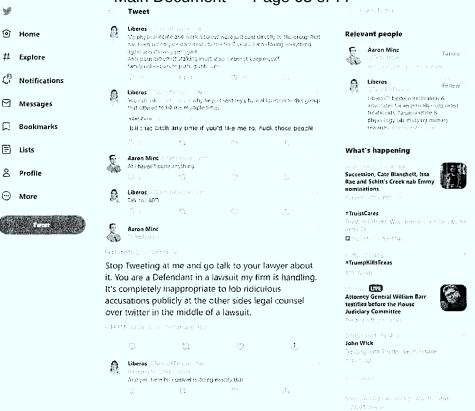
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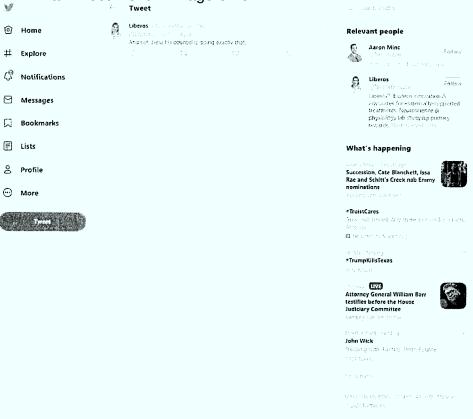
drl-dbuxton User:

Case 2:20-bk-17525-NB

Doc 20 Filed 11/09/20 Entered 11/10/20 15:43:46 Main Document Page 63 of 77



Case 2:20-bk-17525-NB Doc 20 Filed 11/09/20 Entered 11/10/20 15:43:46 Des Main Document Page 64 of 77



Document title:

(4) Liberos on Twitter: "You can ask @RepLawyer why he just sent my physical

location to this group that offered to kill me multiple times. https://

t.co/2W2EBUdiP7" / Twitter

Capture URL:

https://twitter.com/NicoleRPrause/status/1288149561383333888

Captured site IP:

104.244.42.193

Page loaded at (UTC):

Thu, 30 Jul 2020 14:15:58 GMT

Capture timestamp (UTC):

Thu, 30 Jul 2020 14:17:35 GMT

Capture tool:

v7.0.9

Collection server IP:

54.174.78.137

Browser engine:

Chrome/77.0.3865.120

Operating system:

Microsoft Windows NT 10.0.14393.0 (10.0.14393.0)

PDF length:

3

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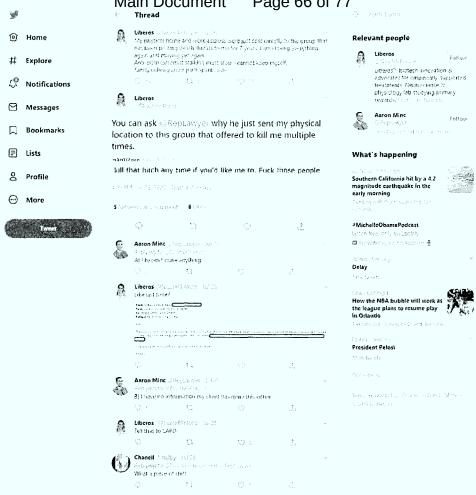
drl-dbuxton

PDF REFERENCE #:

vwnNEZV41UqphVyhv5Uut9

Case 2:20-bk-17525-NB

Doc 20 Filed 11/09/20 Entered 11/10/20 15:43:46 Desc Main Document Page 66 of 77

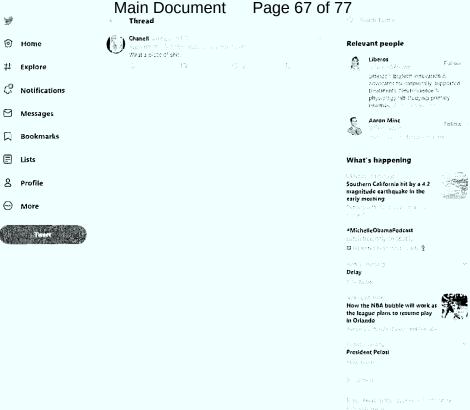


sarahlaurensmith

Messages

71.5

Doc 20 Filed 11/09/20 Entered 11/10/20 15:43:46 Desc Case 2:20-bk-17525-NB



sarahlaurensmith

Case 2:20-bk-17525-NB Doc 20 Filed 11/09/20 Entered 11/10/20 15:43:46 Desc Main Document Page 68 of 77

EXHIBIT 3-2: MELISSA FARMER TWEET

Document title:

(4) Dr. Melissa A. Farmer on Twitter: "Attention @OSBA @CleMetroBar

@OHSupremeCourt - Ohio lawyer @RepLawyer engaging in ethics violations that

endanger third party (Ohio Rules of Prof Conduct Rule 4.4). https://t.co/

WDPkG2ETcH" / Twitter

Capture URL:

https://twitter.com/Farmer_MindBody/status/1288464606160138241

Captured site IP:

104.244.42.193

Page loaded at (UTC):

Thu, 30 Jul 2020 14:15:58 GMT

Capture timestamp (UTC):

Thu, 30 Jul 2020 14:16:36 GMT

Capture tool:

v7.0.9

Collection server IP:

54.174.78.137

Browser engine:

Chrome/77.0.3865,120

Operating system:

Microsoft Windows NT 10.0.14393.0 (10.0.14393.0)

PDF length:

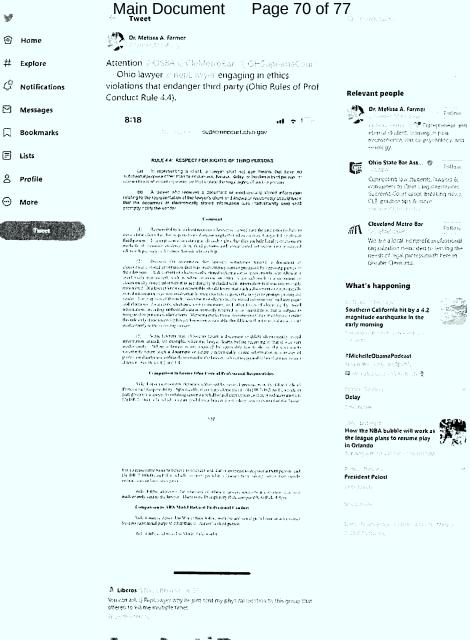
2

Capture ID:

144f1668-039d-47c0-8e29-3bce626c1e5e

User:

dri-dbuxton



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Case 2:20-bk-17525-NB Doc 20 Filed 11/09/20 Entered 11/10/20 15:43:46 Desc Main Document Page 71 of 77

EXHIBIT 3-3: LIBEL ACTION COMPLAINT

EXHIBIT 3-3



Common Pleas Court of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

DESIGNATION FORM TO BE USED TO INDICATE THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE CAUSE

Aaron M. Minc, Esq.	Case Number:
Plaintiff	Date: 09/09/2020
Vs.	
Melissa A. Farmer	
Defendant	
Lieuten en beste en	d diamin-12 V - \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \
Has this case been previously filed and	
	Judge:
Is this case related to any new cases n	ow pending or previously filed? Yes 🔲 No 🔳
Case #:	
Land and the state of the state	
CIVIL CLASSIFICATIONS: Place an (X) In	ONE Classification Only.
Professional Torts:	Foreclosures:
1311 Medical Malpractice	Utilize Separate Foreclosure Designation Form
☐ 1315 Dental Malpractice	Commercial Docket:
☐ 1316 Optometric Malpractice ☐ 1317 Chiropractic Malpractice	1386 Commercial Docket
1317 Chiropractic Maipractice	1387 Commercial Docket with Foreclosure
☐ 1313 Other Malpractice	
,	Administrative Appeals; 1540 Employment Services
Product Liability:	
☐ 1330 Product Liability	□ 1551 Other
Other Torts:	Other Civil:
1310 Motor Vehicle Accident	1500 Replevin/Attachment
☐ 1314 Consumer Action	☐ 1382 Business Contract
■ 1350 Misc. Tort	☐ 1384 Real Estate Contract
	☐ 1388 Consumer Debt
Workers Compensation:	☐ 1390 Cognovit
1550 Workers Compensation	1391 Other Contracts
1531 Workers Comp. Asbestos	1490 Foreign Judgment
	1491 Stalking Civil Protection Order
	1501 Misc. Other
	☐ 1502 Petition to Contest Adam Walsh Act
	☐ 1503 Certificate of Qualification for Employment
Amount of Controversy:	Parties have previously attempted one of the
☐ None Stated	following prior to filing:
Less than \$25,000	☐ Arbitration
Prayer Amount \$25000	Early Neutral Evaluation
	Mediation
	■ Nane
Leartify that to the host of my knowledge the within	n case is not related to any now pending or previously filed, expect as noted above.
Mina LLC	Aeron M. Minc
firm Name (Print or type)	Attorney of Record (Print or Type)
200 Park Ave, Suite 200	C086718
Address Orange Village, Ohio 44122	Supreme Court #
Address	Emoil Address
VOOLESS	Cind Address Control
Phone	Signature
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COURT OF COMMON PLEAS CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

AARON M. MINC, ESQ.) CASE NO.
)
)
) JUDGE:
Plaintiff,)
)
v.) <u>COMPLAINT FOR</u>
) <u>DEFAMATION AND FALSE</u>
MELISSA A. FARMER) <u>LIGHT</u>
)
	JURY TRIAL REQUESTED

Defendant.

For his Complaint against Defendant Melissa Farmer ("Defendant"), Plaintiff Aaron M. Minc ("Plaintiff") alleges as follows:

PARTIES, JURISDICTION, & VENUE

- Plaintiff is an attorney licensed to practice law in Ohio and owns and operates a law firm, Minc LLC. Plaintiff is located at the above captioned address. Plaintiff operates an account on the social media platform Twitter with the username @RepLawyer.
- Defendant is a sex and pain researcher with a PhD in Clinical Psychology and resides in Chicago, IL. Defendant operates a Twitter account with the username @Farmer_MindBody.
- 3. Nicole R. Prause is a California resident. Prause operates an account on Twitter with the username "Liberos" and/or "@NicoleRPrause." Prause filed for bankruptcy on August 18, 2020 under Chapter 7 of the United States Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California, Case No. 2:20-bk-17828-NB. Plaintiff is in the process of obtaining leave from the Bankruptcy Court to include her as a defendant in this lawsuit. When

Plaintiff obtains such permission, Plaintiff intends to request leave to amend his Complaint pursuant to Ohio Civ. R. 15 to add Prause as a co-defendant.

- 4. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to O.R.C. § 2305.01.
- 5. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant pursuant to O.R.C. § 2307.382(A)(6) and venue is proper under Ohio R. Civ. P. 3(C)(3) and (6).

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 6. Plaintiff's law firm currently represents a third party in a lawsuit against Prause. Throughout the course of this lawsuit, Prause has continuously used her Twitter account to attack the reputation of people involved in the lawsuit. Prause has thousands of followers on Twitter. Plaintiff has had little to no personal involvement in the litigation.
- 7. On or about July 28, 2020, Prause published a series of public tweets on her Twitter account claiming she feared for her safety because Plaintiff had directly sent Prause's home and work addresses, which are presumably private and confidential, to a group of people that have been threatening to kill her for years. Prause's Tweet included an image message from one of the hate group members that said, "[I'll] kill that bitch any time if you'd like me to. Fuck those people." A true and accurate copy of Prause's twitter posts are attached hereto as Exhibit A 1-4 ("Prause's Tweets).
- 8. Plaintiff replied to Prause's Tweets denying the allegations because they are patently false. Prior to July 28, 2020, Plaintiff barely even knew who Prause was. Plaintiff has no knowledge of Prause's addresses. Plaintiff has never sent Prause's home or work addresses to anyone. Plaintiff has no knowledge about any death threats by anyone against Prause. Plaintiff also has no knowledge of anyone else disseminating Prause's addresses. Plaintiff has no knowledge regarding any of Prause's allegations.

- 9. Prause additionally claimed that she had contacted the LAPD, who were investigating the matter. When Plaintiff continuously denied her allegations, Prause directed Plaintiff to "Talk to LAPD."
- 10. Prause encouraged her twitter followers to repeat her claims, harass Plaintiff by commenting and liking all of the responses she received in support of her claims. One of Prause's twitter followers with the username "Chanell @nellyy" responded to Plaintiff's denial by saying, "What a piece of shit!"
- Two of Prause's other twitter followers shared the Prause Tweet with the twitter accounts @womenofsextech and @CAgoldberglaw. @CAgoldberglaw is the twitter account of Carrie Goldberg, a sexual assault victims' advocate and attorney based in New York, from whom Plaintiff receives client referrals. The Prause Tweet has negatively impacted this business relationship.
- 12. Notwithstanding Plaintiffs explicit denial, on or about July 30, 2020, Defendant publicly republished Prause's Tweets and directly messaged and/or shared them with the Ohio State Bar Association, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, and the Ohio Supreme Court's twitter accounts. The Defendant's twitter post ("Defendant's Tweet") is attached as Exhibit B.
- 13. Defendant's Tweet claimed that Plaintiff was "engaging in ethics violations that endanger [a] third party (Ohio Rules of Prof. Conduct Rule 4.4." Defendant's Tweet attached a screenshot image of the Ohio Rules of Professional Conduct 4.4 taken from the Ohio Supreme Court website. Defendant's claims and allegations are false and defamatory per se.

COUNT I: LIBEL AND LIBEL PER SE

14. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs as if rewritten here.

- 15. The Defendant published tweets containing false statements of fact of and concerning Plaintiff claiming that Plaintiff had violated attorney ethical rules by directly disseminating Prause's confidential home and work address to people that want to kill her.
 - 16. Defendant published the false statements without any privilege to do so.
- 17. Defendant published her false statements with malice, reckless disregard, and/or at least a negligent level of intent.
 - 18. The false statements in Defendant's Tweets are defamatory per se.
- 19. Plaintiff has suffered special harm, actual damage, loss to reputation, emotional distress, mental anguish, suffering, and other harm because of Defendant's Tweets, the full amount of which will be proven at trial.
- 20. Plaintiff additionally requests a permanent injunction against Defendant declaring that these allegations are false, defamatory, and that Defendant is prohibited from creating or publishing the same or similar defamatory statements about Plaintiff or his business in the future.

COUNT 2: FALSE LIGHT

- 21. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations in the foregoing paragraphs as if rewritten here.
- 22. Defendant's Tweets publicly cast Plaintiff in a false light to the Ohio State Bar Association, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, the Ohio Supreme Court, as well as a vast audience of Twitter users.
- 23. The false light Defendant placed Plaintiff in is highly offensive to a reasonable person.
- 24. Defendant published her Tweet with at least reckless disregard as to the falsity of the facts contained in the Tweet and the false light in which Plaintiff would be placed.

25. Plaintiff has suffered special harm, actual damage, loss to reputation, emotional distress, mental anguish, suffering, and other harm because of Defendant's Tweets, the full amount of which will be proven at trial.

26. Plaintiff additionally requests a permanent injunction against Defendant declaring that these allegations are false, defamatory, and that Defendant is prohibited from creating or publishing the same or similar defamatory statements about Plaintiff or his business in the future.

WHEREFORE Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendant in conformity with the allegations set forth above and asks this Court to award compensatory, special, actual, and punitive damages amounting to at least \$25,000 with the exact amount to be proven at trial, attorneys fee's and court costs, a permanent injunction against Defendant declaring that these allegations are false, defamatory, and that Defendant is prohibited from creating or publishing the same or similar defamatory statements about Plaintiff or his business in the future, and for any and all other relief at law or in equity as the Court deems equitable, just, and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Aaron M. Minc

Aaron M. Minc (0086718)

Minc LLC

200 Park Ave., Suite 200

Orange Village, Ohio 44122

Phone:

Fax:

Email:

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury pursuant to Ohio Civ. R. 38.

/s/ Aaron M. Minc

Aaron M. Minc (0086718)