

JS 44 (Rev. 09/11)

**CIVIL COVER SHEET**

The JS 44 civil coversheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

**I. (a) PLAINTIFFS**  
 Third Degree Films, Inc.

**(b)** County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Los Angeles County, CA  
 (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

**(c)** Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)  
 Fiore & Barber, LLC, 425 Main Street, Suite 200, Harleysville, PA, 19438  
 (215) 256-0205

**DEFENDANTS**  
 John Does 1-7

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Montgomery County  
 (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

**II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION** (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

1 U.S. Government Plaintiff

3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)

2 U.S. Government Defendant

4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

**III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES** (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)

	PTF	DEF		PTF	DEF
Citizen of This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 4
Citizen of Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	Foreign Nation	<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6

**IV. NATURE OF SUIT** (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
<input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	<b>PERSONAL INJURY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Med. Malpractice	<input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability <b>PERSONAL PROPERTY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability	<input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 <b>PROPERTY RIGHTS</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark	<input type="checkbox"/> 375 False Claims Act <input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act <input type="checkbox"/> 896 Arbitration <input type="checkbox"/> 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes
<b>REAL PROPERTY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 210 Land Condemnation <input type="checkbox"/> 220 Foreclosure <input type="checkbox"/> 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment <input type="checkbox"/> 240 Torts to Land <input type="checkbox"/> 245 Tort Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 290 All Other Real Property	<b>CIVIL RIGHTS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 440 Other Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 441 Voting <input type="checkbox"/> 442 Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 443 Housing/ Accommodations <input type="checkbox"/> 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment <input type="checkbox"/> 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other <input type="checkbox"/> 448 Education	<b>PRISONER PETITIONS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence <b>Habeas Corpus:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 530 General <input type="checkbox"/> 535 Death Penalty <input type="checkbox"/> 540 Mandamus & Other <input type="checkbox"/> 550 Civil Rights <input type="checkbox"/> 555 Prison Condition <input type="checkbox"/> 560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of Confinement	<b>LABOR</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 751 Family and Medical Leave Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act	<b>SOCIAL SECURITY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g))
			<b>FEDERAL TAX SUITS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	
		<b>IMMIGRATION</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application <input type="checkbox"/> 463 Habeas Corpus - Alien Detainee (Prisoner Petition) <input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions		

**V. ORIGIN** (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

1 Original Proceeding

2 Removed from State Court

3 Remanded from Appellate Court

4 Reinstated or Reopened

5 Transferred from another district (specify)

6 Multidistrict Litigation

**VI. CAUSE OF ACTION**

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):  
17 U.S.C. §101

Brief description of cause:  
Copyright Infringement

**VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:**

CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER F.R.C.P. 23

**DEMAND \$** 150,000.00

**JURY DEMAND:**  Yes  No

**VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY** (See instructions):

JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_ DOCKET NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

DATE 7/10/12 SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIPT # \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_ APPLYING IFP \_\_\_\_\_ JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_ MAG. JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA — DESIGNATION FORM to be used by counsel to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to appropriate calendar.

Address of Plaintiff: 9035 Independence Avenue, Canoga Park, CA 91304

Address of Defendant: John Doe #1 - Norristown, PA

Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction: All infringements occurred within this jurisdictional district. (Use Reverse Side For Additional Space)

Does this civil action involve a nongovernmental corporate party with any parent corporation and any publicly held corporation owning 10% or more of its stock? (Attach two copies of the Disclosure Statement Form in accordance with Fed.R.Civ.P. 7.1(a)) Yes [ ] No [X]

Does this case involve multidistrict litigation possibilities? Yes [ ] No [X]

RELATED CASE, IF ANY:

Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Judge \_\_\_\_\_ Date Terminated: \_\_\_\_\_

Civil cases are deemed related when yes is answered to any of the following questions:

- 1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court? Yes [ ] No [X]
2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior suit pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court? Yes [ ] No [X]
3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier numbered case pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court? Yes [ ] No [X]
4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se civil rights case filed by the same individual? Yes [ ] No [X]

CIVIL: (Place [X] in ONE CATEGORY ONLY)

A. Federal Question Cases:

- 1. [ ] Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other Contracts
2. [ ] FELA
3. [ ] Jones Act-Personal Injury
4. [ ] Antitrust
5. [ ] Patent
6. [ ] Labor-Management Relations
7. [ ] Civil Rights
8. [ ] Habeas Corpus
9. [ ] Securities Act(s) Cases
10. [ ] Social Security Review Cases
11. [X] All other Federal Question Cases (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases:

- 1. [ ] Insurance Contract and Other Contracts
2. [ ] Airplane Personal Injury
3. [ ] Assault, Defamation
4. [ ] Marine Personal Injury
5. [ ] Motor Vehicle Personal Injury
6. [ ] Other Personal Injury (Please specify)
7. [ ] Products Liability
8. [ ] Products Liability — Asbestos
9. [ ] All other Diversity Cases (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

ARBITRATION CERTIFICATION

(Check Appropriate Category)

I, Christopher P. Fiore, counsel of record do hereby certify:
[ ] Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, Section 3(c)(2), that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the damages recoverable in this civil action case exceed the sum of \$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs;
[ ] Relief other than monetary damages is sought.

DATE: 7/10/12

[Signature]
Attorney-at-Law

83018
Attorney I.D.#

NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if there has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.

I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is not related to any case now pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court except as noted above.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ Attorney-at-Law \_\_\_\_\_ Attorney I.D.# \_\_\_\_\_

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

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Does this case involve multidistrict litigation possibilities? Yes [ ] No [X]

RELATED CASE, IF ANY:

Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Judge \_\_\_\_\_ Date Terminated: \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior suit pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court? Yes [ ] No [X]
3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier numbered case pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court? Yes [ ] No [X]
4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se civil rights case filed by the same individual? Yes [ ] No [X]

CIVIL: (Place [X] in ONE CATEGORY ONLY)

A. Federal Question Cases:

- 1. [ ] Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other Contracts
2. [ ] FELA
3. [ ] Jones Act-Personal Injury
4. [ ] Antitrust
5. [ ] Patent
6. [ ] Labor-Management Relations
7. [ ] Civil Rights
8. [ ] Habeas Corpus
9. [ ] Securities Act(s) Cases
10. [ ] Social Security Review Cases
11. [X] All other Federal Question Cases (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases:

- 1. [ ] Insurance Contract and Other Contracts
2. [ ] Airplane Personal Injury
3. [ ] Assault, Defamation
4. [ ] Marine Personal Injury
5. [ ] Motor Vehicle Personal Injury
6. [ ] Other Personal Injury (Please specify)
7. [ ] Products Liability
8. [ ] Products Liability — Asbestos
9. [ ] All other Diversity Cases (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

ARBITRATION CERTIFICATION

(Check Appropriate Category)

I, Christopher P. Fiore, counsel of record do hereby certify:
[ ] Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, Section 3(c)(2), that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the damages recoverable in this civil action case exceed the sum of \$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs;
[ ] Relief other than monetary damages is sought.

DATE: 7/10/12

[Signature]
Attorney-at-Law

83018
Attorney I.D.#

NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if there has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.

I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is not related to any case now pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court except as noted above.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ Attorney-at-Law \_\_\_\_\_ Attorney I.D.# \_\_\_\_\_

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**  
**CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM**

Third Degree Films, Inc.	:	CIVIL ACTION
	:	
v.	:	
	:	
John Does 1-7	:	NO.

In accordance with the Civil Justice Expense and Delay Reduction Plan of this court, counsel for plaintiff shall complete a Case Management Track Designation Form in all civil cases at the time of filing the complaint and serve a copy on all defendants. (See § 1:03 of the plan set forth on the reverse side of this form.) In the event that a defendant does not agree with the plaintiff regarding said designation, that defendant shall, with its first appearance, submit to the clerk of court and serve on the plaintiff and all other parties, a Case Management Track Designation Form specifying the track to which that defendant believes the case should be assigned.

**SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CASE MANAGEMENT TRACKS:**

- (a) Habeas Corpus – Cases brought under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 through § 2255. ( )
- (b) Social Security – Cases requesting review of a decision of the Secretary of Health and Human Services denying plaintiff Social Security Benefits. ( )
- (c) Arbitration – Cases required to be designated for arbitration under Local Civil Rule 53.2. ( )
- (d) Asbestos – Cases involving claims for personal injury or property damage from exposure to asbestos. ( )
- (e) Special Management – Cases that do not fall into tracks (a) through (d) that are commonly referred to as complex and that need special or intense management by the court. (See reverse side of this form for a detailed explanation of special management cases.) (X)
- (f) Standard Management – Cases that do not fall into any one of the other tracks. ( )

<u>7/10/12</u>	<u>Christopher P. Fiore</u>	<u>Plaintiff</u>
<b>Date</b>	<b>Attorney-at-law</b>	<b>Attorney for</b>
<u>(215) 256-0205</u>	<u>(215) 256-9205</u>	<u>CFiore@FioreBarber.com</u>
<b>Telephone</b>	<b>FAX Number</b>	<b>E-Mail Address</b>

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

-----X		
THIRD DEGREE FILMS, INC.,	:	
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	Civil Action No. _____
	:	
vs.	:	
	:	
JOHN DOES 1-7,	:	
	:	
Defendants.	:	
	:	
-----X		

**COMPLAINT-ACTION FOR DAMAGES FOR  
PROPERTY RIGHTS INFRINGEMENT**

Plaintiff, Third Degree Films, Inc., by and through its counsel, Fiore & Barber, LLC, sues John Does 1-7, and alleges:

**Introduction**

1. This matter arises under the United States Copyright Act of 1976, as amended, 17 U.S.C. §§ 101 et seq. (the "Copyright Act").
2. Each of the Defendants copied and distributed a website containing 35 federally registered copyrighted movies owned by Plaintiff. This is known as a "siterip."
3. Through this suit, Plaintiff alleges each Defendant is liable for:
  - Direct copyright infringement in violation of 17 U.S.C. §§ 106 and 501; and
  - Contributory copyright infringement.

**Jurisdiction And Venue**

4. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 (federal question); and 28 U.S.C. § 1338 (patents, copyrights, trademarks and unfair competition).

5. As set forth on Exhibit A, each of the Defendants' acts of copyright infringement occurred using an Internet Protocol address ("IP address") traced to a physical address located within this District, and therefore this Court has personal jurisdiction over each Defendant because each Defendant committed the tortious conduct alleged in this Complaint in the Eastern District of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and (a) each Defendant resides in the Eastern District of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and/or (b) each Defendant has engaged in continuous and systematic business activity, or has contracted to supply goods or services in the Eastern District of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

6. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and (c), because: (i) a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims occurred in this District; and, (ii) a Defendant resides (and therefore can be found) in this District and all of the Defendants reside in this State; additionally, venue is proper in this District pursuant 28 U.S.C. § 1400(a) (venue for copyright cases) because each Defendant or each Defendant's agent resides or may be found in this District.

**Parties**

7. Plaintiff is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of California and has its principal place of business located at 9035 Independence Avenue Canoga Park, CA 91304.

8. Each Defendant is known to Plaintiff only by an IP address.

9. An IP address is a number that is assigned by an Internet Service Provider (an

“ISP”) to devices, such as computers, that are connected to the Internet.

10. The ISP to which each Defendant subscribes can correlate the Defendant’s IP address to the Defendant’s true identity.

### **Joinder**

11. Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 20(a)(2), each of the Defendants was properly joined because, as set forth in more detail below, Plaintiff asserts that: (a) each of the Defendants is jointly and severally liable for the infringing activities of each of the other Defendants, and (b) the infringement complained of herein by each of the Defendants was part of a series of transactions, involving the exact same torrent file containing of Plaintiff’s copyrighted Works, and was accomplished by the Defendants acting in concert with each other, and (c) there are common questions of law and fact; indeed, the claims against each of the Defendants are identical and each of the Defendants used the BitTorrent protocol to infringe Plaintiff’s copyrighted Works.

### **Factual Background**

#### *1. Plaintiff Owns the Copyright to a Motion Picture*

12. An internet screen shot from [www.copyright.gov](http://www.copyright.gov) of each of the 35 Registrations is attached as Composite Exhibit B.

13. Collectively, each of the 35 movies covered by the 35 Registrations are referred to as the “Works.”

14. Each of the Works were on a website that was converted into are in a single torrent file, as evidenced by a single unique Cryptographic Hash Value (the “Unique Hash Number”).

15. Each of the Defendants copied and distributed, through the BitTorrent protocol, the exact same torrent file, as evidenced by a single unique Cryptographic Hash Value, which contained Plaintiff's 35 registered works.

16. The date on which the United States Copyright Office Registered the works and the date IPP Limited recorded each Defendant's infringement is set forth on Exhibit C. Exhibit C demonstrates that each infringement occurred after the registration date.

*II. Defendants Used BitTorrent To Infringe Plaintiff's Copyright*

17. BitTorrent is one of the most common peer-to-peer file sharing protocols (in other words, set of computer rules) used for distributing large amounts of data; indeed, it has been estimated that users using the BitTorrent protocol on the internet account for over a quarter of all internet traffic. The creators and user's of BitTorrent developed their own lexicon for use when talking about BitTorrent; a copy of the BitTorrent vocabulary list posted on [www.Wikipedia.com](http://www.Wikipedia.com) is attached as Exhibit D.

18. The BitTorrent protocol's popularity stems from its ability to distribute a large file without creating a heavy load on the source computer and network. In short, to reduce the load on the source computer, rather than downloading a file from a single source computer (one computer directly connected to another), the BitTorrent protocol allows users to join a "swarm" of host computers to download and upload from each other simultaneously (one computer connected to numerous computers).

*A. Each Defendant Installed a BitTorrent Client onto his or her Computer*

19. Each Defendant installed a BitTorrent Client onto his or her computer.

20. A BitTorrent "Client" is a software program that implements the BitTorrent protocol. There are numerous such software programs including  $\mu$ Torrent and Vuze, both of



which can be directly downloaded from the internet. See [www.utorrent.com](http://www.utorrent.com) and <http://new.vuze-downloads.com/>.

21. Once installed on a computer, the BitTorrent “Client” serves as the user’s interface during the process of uploading and downloading data using the BitTorrent protocol.

*B. The Initial Seed, Torrent, Hash and Tracker*

22. A BitTorrent user that wants to upload a new file, known as an “initial seeder,” starts by creating a “torrent” descriptor file using the Client he or she installed onto his or her computer.

23. The Client takes the target computer file, the “initial seed,” here the subject website containing the copyrighted Works, and divides it into groups of bits known as “pieces.”

24. The Client then gives each one of the computer file’s pieces, in this case, pieces of the copyrighted Works, a random and unique alphanumeric identifier known as a “hash” and records these hash identifiers in the torrent file.

25. When another peer later receives a particular piece, the hash identifier for that piece is compared to the hash identifier recorded in the torrent file for that piece to test that the piece is error-free. In this way, the hash identifier works like an electronic fingerprint to identify the source and origin of the piece and that the piece is authentic and uncorrupted.

26. Torrent files also have an “announce” section, which specifies the URL (Uniform Resource Locator) of a “tracker,” and an “info” section, containing (suggested) names for the files, their lengths, the piece length used, and the hash identifier for each piece, all of which are used by Clients on peer computers to verify the integrity of the data they receive.

27. The “tracker” is a computer or set of computers that a torrent file specifies and to which the torrent file provides peers with the URL address(es).

28. The tracker computer or computers direct a peer user's computer to other peer user's computers that have particular pieces of the file, here the copyrighted Works, on them and facilitates the exchange of data among the computers.

29. Depending on the BitTorrent Client, a tracker can either be a dedicated computer (centralized tracking) or each peer can act as a tracker (decentralized tracking).

C. Torrent Sites

30. "Torrent sites" are websites that index torrent files that are currently being made available for copying and distribution by people using the BitTorrent protocol. There are numerous torrent websites, including [www.TorrentZap.com](http://www.TorrentZap.com), [www.Btscene.com](http://www.Btscene.com), [www.ExtraTorrent.com](http://www.ExtraTorrent.com), and [www.piratebay.org](http://www.piratebay.org).

31. Upon information and belief, each Defendant went to a torrent site to upload and download Plaintiff's copyrighted Works.

D. Uploading and Downloading Works Through a BitTorrent Swarm

32. Once the initial seeder has created a torrent and uploaded it onto a torrent site then other peers begin to download and upload the computer file to which the torrent is linked (here the copyrighted Works) using the BitTorrent protocol and BitTorrent Client that the peers installed on their computers.

33. The BitTorrent protocol causes the initial seed's computer to send different pieces of the computer file, here the copyrighted Works, to the peers seeking to download the computer file.

34. Once a peer receives a piece of the computer file, here a piece of the Copyrighted Works, it starts transmitting that piece to the other peers.

35. In this way, all of the peers and seeders are working together in what is called a “swarm.”

36. Here, each Defendant peer member participated in the same swarm and directly interacted and communicated with other members of that swarm through digital handshakes, the passing along of computer instructions, uploading and downloading, and by other types of transmissions.

37. In this way, and by way of example only, one initial seeder can create a torrent that breaks a movie up into hundreds or thousands of pieces saved in the form of a computer file, like the Works here, upload the torrent onto a torrent site, and deliver a different piece of the copyrighted work to each of the peers. The recipient peers then automatically begin delivering the piece they just received to the other peers in the same swarm.

38. Once a peer, here a Defendant, has downloaded the full file, the BitTorrent Client reassembles the pieces and the peer is able to view the movie.

*E. Plaintiff's Computer Investigators Identified Each of the Defendants' IP Addresses as Participants in a Swarm That Was Distributing Plaintiff's Copyrighted Works*

39. Plaintiff retained IPP, Limited (“IPP”) to identify the IP addresses that are being used by those people that are using the BitTorrent protocol and the internet to reproduce, distribute, display or perform Plaintiffs' copyrighted works.

40. IPP used forensic software named INTERNATIONAL IPTRACKER v1.2.1 and related technology enabling the scanning of peer-to-peer networks for the presence of infringing transactions.

41. IPP extracted the resulting data emanating from the investigation, reviewed the evidence logs, and isolated the transactions and the IP addresses associated therewith for the file

identified by the SHA-1 hash value of 6B70494F5C2FAC53634DB4E1670C6950988B735C (the “Unique Hash Number”).

42. The IP addresses, Unique Hash Number and hit dates contained on Exhibit A accurately reflect what is contained in the evidence logs, and show:

- (A) Each Defendant had copied a piece of Plaintiff’s copyrighted Works identified by the Unique Hash Number; and
- (B) Therefore, each Defendant was part of the same series of transactions.

43. Through each of the transactions, each of the Defendant’s computers used their identified IP addresses to connect to the investigative server from a computer in this District in order to transmit a full copy, or a portion thereof, of a digital media file identified by the Unique Hash Number.

44. IPP’s agent analyzed each BitTorrent “piece” distributed by each IP address listed on Exhibit A and verified that re-assembly of the pieces using a BitTorrent Client results in a fully playable digital motion picture of the Works.

45. IPP’s agent viewed the Works side-by-side with the digital media file that correlates to the Unique Hash Number and determined that they were identical, strikingly similar or substantially similar.

**Miscellaneous**

46. All conditions precedent to bringing this action have occurred or been waived.

47. Plaintiff retained counsel to represent it in this matter and is obligated to pay said counsel a reasonable fee for its services.

**COUNT I**

**Direct Infringement Against Does 1-7**

48. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1-47 are hereby re-alleged as if fully set

forth herein.

49. Plaintiff is the owner of the copyrights for the Works, each of which contains an original work of authorship.

50. By using the BitTorrent protocol and a BitTorrent Client and the processes described above, each Defendant copied the constituent elements of the Works that are original.

51. Plaintiff did not authorize, permit or consent to Defendants' copying of its Works.

52. As a result of the foregoing, each Defendant violated Plaintiff's exclusive right to:

(A) Reproduce the Works in copies, in violation of 17 U.S.C. §§ 106(1) and 501;

(B) Redistribute copies of the Works to the public by sale or other transfer of ownership, or by rental, lease or lending, in violation of 17 U.S.C. §§ 106(3) and 501;

(C) Perform the copyrighted Works, in violation of 17 U.S.C. §§ 106(4) and 501, by showing the Works' images in any sequence and/or by making the sounds accompanying the Works audible and transmitting said performance of the Works, by means of a device or process, to members of the public capable of receiving the display (as set forth in 17 U.S.C. § 101's definitions of "perform" and "publically" perform); and

(D) Display the copyrighted Works, in violation of 17 U.S.C. §§ 106(5) and 501, by showing individual images of the Works nonsequentially and transmitting said display of the Works by means of a device or process to members of the public capable of receiving the display (as set forth in 17 U.S.C. § 101's definition of "publically" display).

53. Each of the Defendants' infringements was committed "willfully" within the meaning of 17 U.S.C. § 504(c)(2).

54. Plaintiff has suffered actual damages that were proximately caused by each of the Defendants including lost sales, price erosion and a diminution of the value of its copyrights.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that the Court:

(A) Permanently enjoin each Defendant and all other persons who are in active concert or participation with each Defendant from continuing to infringe Plaintiff's copyrighted Works;

(B) Order that each Defendant delete and permanently remove the torrent file relating to Plaintiff's copyrighted Works from each of the computers under each such Defendant's possession, custody or control;

(C) Order that each Defendant delete and permanently remove the copy of the Works each Defendant has on the computers under Defendant's possession, custody or control;

(D) Award Plaintiff the greater of: (i) statutory damages in the amount of \$150,000 per Defendant, per registered Work infringed, pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 504-(a) and (c), or (ii) Plaintiff's actual damages and any additional profits of the Defendant pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 504-(a)-(b);

(E) Award Plaintiff its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 505; and

(F) Grant Plaintiff any other and further relief this Court deems just and proper.

## COUNT II

### **Contributory Infringement Against Does 1-7**

55. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1-47 are hereby re-alleged as if fully set forth herein.

56. Plaintiff is the owner of the copyrights for the Works, each of which contains an original work of authorship.

57. By using the BitTorrent protocol and a BitTorrent Client and the processes described above, each Defendant copied the constituent elements of each of the Works that are

original.

58. By participating in the BitTorrent swarm with the other Defendants, each Defendant induced, caused or materially contributed to the infringing conduct of each other Defendant.

59. Plaintiff did not authorize, permit or consent to Defendants' inducing, causing or materially contributing to the infringing conduct of each other Defendant.

60. Each Defendant knew or should have known that other BitTorrent users, here the other Defendants, would become members of a swarm with Defendant.

61. Each Defendant knew or should have known that other BitTorrent users in a swarm with it, here the other Defendants, were directly infringing Plaintiff's copyrighted Works by copying constituent elements of the Works that are original.

62. Indeed, each Defendant directly participated in and therefore materially contributed to each other Defendant's infringing activities.

63. Each of the Defendants' contributory infringements were committed "willfully" within the meaning of 17 U.S.C. § 504(c)(2).

64. Plaintiff has suffered actual damages that were proximately caused by each of the Defendants including lost sales, price erosion, and a diminution of the value of its copyright.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that the Court:

(A) Permanently enjoin each Defendant and all other persons who are in active concert or participation with each Defendant from continuing to infringe Plaintiff's copyrighted Works;

(B) Order that each Defendant delete and permanently remove the torrent file relating to Plaintiff's copyrighted Works from each of the computers under each such Defendant's

possession, custody or control;

(C) Order that each Defendant delete and permanently remove the copy of the Works each Defendant has on the computers under Defendant's possession, custody or control;

(D) Find that each Defendant is jointly and severally liable for the direct infringement of each other Defendant;

(E) Award Plaintiff the greater of: (i) statutory damages in the amount of \$150,000 per Defendant, per registered Work infringed, pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 504-(a) and (c), or (ii) Plaintiff's actual damages and any additional profits of the Defendant pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 504-(a)-(b);

(F) Award Plaintiff its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 505; and

(G) Grant Plaintiff any other and further relief this Court deems just and proper.

**DEMAND FOR A JURY TRIAL**

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

Respectfully submitted,

FIORE & BARBER, LLC

By: 

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SHA-1 Hash: 6B70494F5C2FAC53634DB4E1670C6950988B735C

Title: TD Siterip #1  
Rights Owner: Third Degree

DOE#	IP	Hit date (UTC)	City	State	ISP	Network
1	69.242.7.33	6/4/2012 18:19	Norristown	PA	Comcast Cable	BitTorrent
2	69.253.48.167	5/28/2012 9:32	Philadelphia	PA	Comcast Cable	BitTorrent
3	71.224.87.0	6/18/2012 22:40	Pottstown	PA	Comcast Cable	BitTorrent
4	71.58.17.71	6/13/2012 0:59	North Wales	PA	Comcast Cable	BitTorrent
5	24.102.143.180	6/26/2012 0:05	Allentown	PA	PenTeleData	BitTorrent
6	216.15.69.85	6/28/2012 13:37	Northampton	PA	RCN Corporation	BitTorrent
7	71.123.61.248	6/16/2012 7:03	Parkesburg	PA	Verizon Internet Services	BitTorrent

EXHIBIT A

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