

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
NORFOLK DIVISION**

FIRST TIME VIDEOS LLC,

Plaintiff,

v.

WILLIAM MEYER, JR.,

Defendant.

CASE NO. 2:11-cv-00690

Judge: Hon. Mark S. Davis

Magistrate Judge: Hon. F. Bradford Stillman

SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

Plaintiff First Time Videos LLC, through its undersigned counsel, hereby files this Second Amended Complaint requesting damages and injunctive relief, and alleges as follows:

NATURE OF THE CASE

1. Plaintiff files this action for copyright infringement under the United States Copyright Act and related common law claims of civil conspiracy and contributory infringement to combat the willful and intentional infringement of its creative works. William Meyer, Jr. and his co-conspirators, whose names Plaintiff expects to ascertain during discovery, knowingly and illegally, reproduced and distributed Plaintiff's copyrighted Video, and materially contributed to the infringing conduct by acting in concert via the BitTorrent file sharing protocol and, upon information and belief, continue to do the same. Plaintiff seeks a permanent injunction, statutory or actual damages, award of costs and attorney's fees, and other relief.

THE PARTIES

2. Plaintiff First Time Videos LLC is a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the State of Nevada. Plaintiff is the exclusive holder of the relevant rights with respect to the copyrighted creative work at issue in this complaint.

3. Plaintiff is a producer of adult entertainment content. Plaintiff invests significant capital in producing the content associated with its brand and has produced substantial numbers of videos and photographs. The copyrighted work at issue here is one of these adult videos, "FTV 6 Tiffany" (the "Video"). The certificate of registration is attached hereto as Exhibit C.

4. William Meyer, Jr. and his co-conspirators' actual names are unknown to Plaintiff. Instead, they are known to Plaintiff only by an Internet Protocol address ("IP address"), which is a number assigned to devices, such as computers, connected to the Internet. In the course of monitoring Internet-based infringement of its copyrighted content, Plaintiff's agents observed unlawful reproduction and distribution occurring among the IP addresses listed on Exhibits A and B, attached hereto, via Bit Torrent protocol. Plaintiff cannot ascertain William Meyer, Jr. or his co-conspirators' actual identities without information from their Internet Service Providers ("ISPs").

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

5. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over the copyright infringement claim under 17 U.S.C. §§ 101, *et seq.*, (the Copyright Act), 28 U.S.C. § 1331 (actions arising under the laws of the United States), and 28 U.S.C. § 1338(a) (actions arising under an Act of Congress relating to copyrights). This Court has supplemental jurisdiction over the civil conspiracy claim and the contributory infringement claim under 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a) because they are so related to Plaintiff's copyright infringement claim, which is within this Court's original jurisdiction, that these three claims form part of the same case and controversy under Article III of the United States Constitution.

6. This Court has personal jurisdiction because upon information and belief, William Meyer, Jr. either resides in or committed copyright infringement in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Plaintiff used geolocation technology to trace the IP address of William Meyer, Jr. to a

point of origin within the Commonwealth of Virginia. Geolocation is a method for ascertaining the likely geographic region associated with a given IP address at a given date and time.

Although not a litmus test for personal jurisdiction, the use of geolocation gives Plaintiff good cause for asserting that personal jurisdiction is proper over William Meyer, Jr.

7. In the alternative, this Court has personal jurisdiction over William Meyer, Jr. under the Virginia long-arm statute, Va. Code Ann. § 8.01-328.1(A)(3), which authorizes personal jurisdiction over a person causing tortious injury by an act within Virginia, and § 8.01-328.1(B), which specifies that use of a computer or computer network located within Virginia constitutes an act within Virginia. Use of a computer or computer network is broadly defined as including communication with, storage of data to, or retrieval of data from any device, as well as any function for which that computer was generally designed, § 18.2-152.2.

8. Venue is properly founded in this judicial district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b) and 1400(a) because William Meyer, Jr. resides in this District, may be found in this District, or a substantial part of the events giving rise to the claims in this action occurred within this District.

BACKGROUND

9. BitTorrent is a modern file sharing method (protocol) used for distributing data via the Internet.

10. Traditional file transfer protocols involve a central server, which distributes data directly to individual users. This method is prone to collapse when large numbers of users request data from the central server, in which case the server can become overburdened and the rate of data transmission can slow considerably or cease altogether. In addition, the reliability of access to the data stored on a server is largely dependent on the server's ability to continue functioning for prolonged periods of time under high resource demands.

11. Standard P2P protocols involve a one-to-one transfer of whole files between a single uploader and single downloader. Although standard P2P protocols solve some of the issues associated with traditional file transfer protocols, these protocols still suffer from such issues as scalability. For example, when a popular file is released (e.g. an illegal copy of the latest blockbuster movie) the initial source of the file performs a one-to-one whole file transfer to a third party, who then performs similar transfers. The one-to-one whole file transfer method can significantly delay the spread of a file across the world because the initial spread is so limited.

12. In contrast, the BitTorrent protocol is a decentralized method of distributing data. Instead of relying on a central server to distribute data directly to individual users, the BitTorrent protocol allows individual users to distribute data among themselves. Further, the BitTorrent protocol involves breaking a single large file into many small pieces, which can be transferred much more quickly than a single large file and in turn redistributed much more quickly than a single large file. Moreover, each peer can download missing pieces of the file from multiple sources—often simultaneously—which causes transfers to be fast and reliable. After downloading a piece, a peer automatically becomes a source for the piece. This distribution method contrasts sharply with a one-to-one whole file transfer method.

13. In BitTorrent vernacular, individual downloaders/distributors of a particular file are called peers. The group of peers involved in downloading/distributing a particular file is called a swarm. A server which stores a list of peers in a swarm is called a tracker. A computer program that implements the BitTorrent protocol is called a BitTorrent client. Each swarm is unique to a particular file.

14. The BitTorrent protocol operates as follows. First, a user locates a small "torrent" file. This file contains information about the files to be shared and about the tracker, the

computer that coordinates the file distribution. Second, the user loads the torrent file into a BitTorrent client, which automatically attempts to connect to the tracker listed in the torrent file. Third, the tracker responds with a list of peers and the BitTorrent client connects to those peers to begin downloading data from and distributing data to the other peers in the swarm. When the download is complete, the BitTorrent client continues distributing data to other peers in the swarm until the user manually disconnects from the swarm or the BitTorrent client otherwise does the same.

15. The degree of anonymity provided by the BitTorrent protocol is extremely low. Because the protocol is based on peers connecting to one another, a peer must broadcast identifying information (i.e. an IP address) before it can receive data. Nevertheless, the actual names of peers in a swarm are unknown, as the users are allowed to download and distribute under the cover of their IP addresses.

16. The BitTorrent protocol is an extremely popular method for transferring data. The size of swarms for popular files can reach into the tens of thousands of unique peers. A swarm will commonly have peers from many, if not every, state in the United States and several countries around the world. And every peer in the swarm participates in distributing the file to dozens, hundreds, or even thousands of other peers.

17. The BitTorrent protocol is also an extremely popular method for unlawfully copying, reproducing, and distributing files in violation of the copyright laws of the United States. A broad range of copyrighted albums, audiovisual files, photographs, software, and other forms of media are available for illegal reproduction and distribution via the BitTorrent protocol.

18. Efforts at combating BitTorrent-based copyright infringement have been stymied by BitTorrent's decentralized nature. Because there are no central servers to enjoin from

unlawfully distributing copyrighted content, there is no primary target on which to focus anti-piracy efforts. Indeed, the same decentralization that makes the BitTorrent protocol an extremely robust and efficient means of transferring enormous quantities of data also acts to insulate it from anti-piracy measures. This lawsuit is Plaintiff's only practical means of combating BitTorrent-based infringement of the Video.

ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL COUNTS

19. Plaintiff is the exclusive rights holder of the Video.

20. Plaintiff has applied for and received a certificate of copyright registration for the Video from the United States Copyright Office. The copyright registration number is PA 1-755-996.

21. The torrent file used to access the copyrighted material was named in a manner that would have provided an ordinary individual with notice that the Video was protected by the copyright laws.

22. Plaintiff employs proprietary peer-to-peer network forensic software to perform exhaustive real time monitoring of the BitTorrent-based swarm involved in distributing the Video. This software is effective in capturing data about the activity of peers in a swarm and their infringing conduct.

23. William Meyer, Jr. and his co-conspirators, without Plaintiff's authorization or license, intentionally downloaded a torrent file particular to Plaintiff's Video, purposefully loaded that torrent file into their BitTorrent clients, entered a BitTorrent swarm particular to Plaintiff's Video, and reproduced and distributed the Video to numerous third parties.

24. Plaintiff observed William Meyer, Jr. and his co-conspirators' activities in the torrent swarm specific to the Video and created a log identifying William Meyer, Jr. and his co-conspirators by their IP address and the date and time of their unlawful activity. The log

regarding William Meyer, Jr. is attached as Exhibit A. The log regarding William Meyer, Jr. and his co-conspirators is attached as Exhibit B.

COUNT I – COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT

25. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained in the preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth fully herein.

26. William Meyer, Jr. and his co-conspirators' conduct infringes upon Plaintiff's exclusive rights of reproduction and distribution that are protected under the Copyright Act.

27. William Meyer, Jr. and his co-conspirators knew or had constructive knowledge that their acts constituted copyright infringement.

28. William Meyer, Jr. and his co-conspirators' conduct was willful within the meaning of the Copyright Act: intentional, and with indifference to the Plaintiff's rights.

29. Plaintiff has been damaged by William Meyer, Jr. and his co-conspirators' conduct, including but not limited to economic and reputation losses. Plaintiff continues to be damaged by such conduct, and has no adequate remedy at law to compensate the Plaintiff for all of the possible damages stemming from the William Meyer, Jr. and his co-conspirators' conduct.

30. Plaintiff hereby reserves the right, pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 504(c), to elect to recover statutory damages for each infringement, in lieu of seeking recovery of actual damages.

31. As William Meyer, Jr. and his co-conspirators' infringement was intentional and willful, the Plaintiff is entitled to an award of statutory damages, exemplary damages, attorneys' fees, and the costs of the suit.

COUNT II – CIVIL CONSPIRACY

32. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained in the preceding paragraphs as if set forth fully herein.

33. In using the peer-to-peer BitTorrent file distribution method, William Meyer, Jr. and his co-conspirators engaged in a concerted action with other yet unnamed individuals to reproduce and distribute Plaintiff's Video by exchanging pieces of the Video file in the torrent swarm.

34. William Meyer, Jr. and his co-conspirators downloaded a torrent file, opened it using a BitTorrent client, and then entered a torrent swarm comprised of other individuals distributing and reproducing Plaintiff's Video.

35. Participants in the torrent swarm have conspired to provide other individuals with pieces of the Video in exchange for receiving other pieces of the same Video to eventually obtain a complete copy of the file.

36. In furtherance of this civil conspiracy, William Meyer, Jr. and his co-conspirators committed overt tortious and unlawful acts by using BitTorrent software to download the Video from and distribute it to others, and were willful participants in this joint activity.

37. As a proximate result of this conspiracy, Plaintiff has been damaged, as is more fully alleged above.

COUNT III – CONTRIBUTORY INFRINGEMENT

38. Plaintiff hereby incorporates by reference each and every allegation contained in the preceding paragraphs as if set forth fully herein.

39. William Meyer, Jr. and his co-conspirators, with knowledge that they were illegally downloading and distributing copyrighted material without permission or consent from the copyright holder, materially contributed to the infringing conduct of each other .

40. William Meyer, Jr. and his co-conspirators, each and individually, had both actual and constructive knowledge that they were engaged in an act consisting of direct infringement to Plaintiff's copyright.

41. William Meyer, Jr. and his co-conspirators downloaded a torrent file, opened it using a Bit Torrent client, and then entered a torrent swarm comprised of other conspirators, thereby partaking in the illegal distributing and reproducing of Plaintiff's copyrighted Video.

42. William Meyer, Jr. and his co-conspirators, each and individually, materially contributed to each other's efforts in reproducing an illegal copy of Plaintiff's Video through the BitTorrent file distribution method by downloading and exchanging pieces of the Plaintiff's Video in the torrent swarm.

43. As a result of the contributory infringement of copyright by William Meyer, Jr. and his co-conspirators, Plaintiff has been damaged, as is more fully alleged in Count I.

JOINDER OF CO-CONSPIRATORS

44. Plaintiff intends to seek leave of the Court to amend this complaint to join William Meyer, Jr.'s co-conspirators as defendants in this action pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 20(a)(2), subject to the constraints of venue and personal jurisdiction.

JURY DEMAND

45. Plaintiff hereby demands a jury trial in this case.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests Judgment and relief as follows:

1) Judgment against William Meyer, Jr. that he has: a) willfully infringed Plaintiff's rights in federally registered copyrights pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 501; and b) otherwise injured the business reputation and business of Plaintiff by his acts and conduct set forth in this complaint;

2) Judgment in favor of the Plaintiff against William Meyer, Jr. for actual damages or statutory damages pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 504, at the election of Plaintiff, in an amount to be ascertained at trial;

3) Order of impoundment under 17 U.S.C. §§ 503 & 509(a) impounding all infringing copies of Plaintiff's audiovisual works, photographs or other materials, which are in William Meyer, Jr.'s possession or under their control;

4) On Count II, an order that William Meyer, Jr. is jointly and severally liable to Plaintiff in the full amount of the Judgment on the basis of a common law claim for civil conspiracy to commit copyright infringement; for an award of compensatory damages in favor of the Plaintiff and against William Meyer, Jr., jointly and severally, in an amount to be determined at trial;

5) On Count III, an order that William Meyer, Jr. is jointly and severally liable to the Plaintiff in the full amount of Judgment on the basis of a common law claim for contributory infringement of copyright; for an award of compensatory damages in favor of the Plaintiff and against William Meyer, Jr., jointly and severally, in an amount to be determined at trial;

6) Judgment in favor of Plaintiff against William Meyer, Jr. awarding the Plaintiff attorneys' fees, litigation expenses (including fees and costs of expert witnesses), and other costs of this action; and

7) Judgment in favor of the Plaintiff against William Meyer, Jr., awarding Plaintiff declaratory and injunctive or other equitable relief as may be just and warranted under the circumstances.

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Respectfully submitted,

FIRST TIME VIDEOS LLC

DATED: April 16, 2012

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