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5
6 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
7
8 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
9

10 In the Matter Of a Petition By)
11 INGENUITY13 LLC,)
12)
13)
14)

No.

Judge:

**VERIFIED PETITION TO
PERPETUATE TESTIMONY**

15
16 1. Petitioner Ingenuity13 LLC by and through its undersigned attorney, hereby
17 petitions this Court for an order pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 27 authorizing the
18 issuance of subpoenas *duces tecum* to the Internet Service Providers (“ISPs”) listed on Exhibit A to
19 this petition.

20 2. Petitioner is limited liability company organized and existing under the laws
21 of the Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis. Petitioner produces adult entertainment content and this
22 content is being unlawfully reproduced and distributed over the Internet via the BitTorrent file
23 transfer protocol. An individual or individuals wrongfully reproduced and distributed Petitioner’s
24 copyrighted works via the BitTorrent protocol in violation of Petitioner’s exclusive rights under
25 United States Copyright Act, 17 U.S.C. §§ 101, *et seq.* Petitioner anticipates bringing a civil action
26 against the person or persons engaging in such unlawful activity. This action would be cognizable in
27 a United States court as United States courts have exclusive jurisdiction over copyright actions.
28 Without knowing the identity or identities of the anonymous infringers, Petitioner has no means to

1 engaged in infringing activities via the IP addresses set forth on Exhibit B hereto based on the
2 parties' use of the BitTorrent protocol to illegally reproduce and distribute Petitioner's work(s).

3 **A. The Unknown Infringers used BitTorrent to Infringe Petitioner's Copyrights**

4 8. BitTorrent is a modern file sharing method ("protocol") used for distributing
5 data via the Internet. BitTorrent protocol is a decentralized method of distributing data. Instead of
6 relying on a central server to distribute data directly to individual users, the BitTorrent protocol
7 allows individual users to distribute data among themselves by exchanging pieces of the file with
8 each other to eventually obtain a whole copy of the file. When using the BitTorrent protocol, every
9 user simultaneously receives information from and transfers information to one another.

10 9. The BitTorrent protocol is an extremely popular method for transferring data.
11 A group of individuals transferring data among one another (the "swarm") will commonly include
12 peers from many, if not every, state in the United States and several countries around the world. And
13 every peer in the swarm participates in distributing the file to dozens, hundreds, or even thousands of
14 other peers.

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

19 11. Efforts at combating BitTorrent-based copyright infringement have been
20 stymied by BitTorrent's decentralized nature. Because there are no central servers to enjoin from
21 unlawfully distributing copyrighted content, there is no primary target on which to focus anti-piracy
22 efforts. Indeed, the same decentralization that makes the BitTorrent protocol an extremely robust and
23 efficient means of transferring enormous quantities of data also acts to insulate it from anti-piracy
24 measures.

25 12. The infringing parties in this action were all observed using the BitTorrent
26 protocol to unlawfully reproduce and distribute Plaintiff's copyrighted work by exchanging pieces
27 with one another either directly or via a chain of data distribution.

1 peers with the URL address(es). The tracker computer or computers direct a peer user's computer to
2 another peer user's computer that have particular pieces of the file, in this case, one of the copyright
3 Works on them, and facilitates the exchange of data among the computers. Depending on the
4 BitTorrent Client, a tracker can either be a dedicated computer (centralized tracking) or each peer
5 can act as a tracker (decentralized tracking).

6 **D. Torrent Sites**

7 18. "Torrent Sites" are websites that index torrent files that are currently being
8 made available for copying and distribution by the people using the BitTorrent protocol. There are
9 numerous torrent websites, such as www.torrentz.eu or thepiratebay.org.

10 19. Upon information and belief, each infringer went to a torrent site to upload
11 and download one of the Petitioner's copyrighted Works.

12 **E. Uploading and Downloading a Work Through a BitTorrent Swarm**

13 20. Once the initial seeder has created a torrent and uploaded it onto one or more
14 torrent sites, then other peers begin to download and upload the computer file to which the torrent is
15 linked (here, one of the copyright Works) using the BitTorrent Client that the peers installed on their
16 computers.

17 21. The BitTorrent protocol causes the initial seed's computer to send different
18 pieces of the computer file, here, one of the copyrighted Works, to the peers who are seeking to
19 download the computer file. Once a peer receives a piece of the computer file, it starts transmitting
20 that piece to other peers. In this way, all of the peers and seeders are working together in what is
21 called a "swarm."

22 22. Here, each infringing peer member participated in a swarm through digital
23 handshakes, the passing along of computer instructions, uploading and downloading, and by other
24 types of transmissions.

25 23. In this way, and by way of example only, one initial seeder can create a
26 torrent that breaks a movie up into hundreds of piece saved in the form of a computer file, like the
27 Works here, upload the torrent file onto a torrent site, and deliver a different piece of the computer
28

1 file to each of the peers. The receiving peers then automatically begin delivering the piece they just
2 received to the other peers in the same swarm.

3 24. Once a peer, here an infringer, has downloaded the full file, the BitTorrent
4 Client reassembles the piece and the peer is able to view the video. Also, once a peer has
5 downloaded a full file, that peer becomes known as “an additional seed” because it continues to
6 distribute the torrent file which, in this case, was one of the copyrighted Works.

7 **F. Petitioner’s Computer Investigators Identified Each Infringer’s IP Address as an**
8 **Infringer of Petitioner’s Copyright Works**

9 25. Petitioner retained 6881 Forensics, LLC (“6881”) to identify the IP addresses
10 used by the individual or individuals that were misusing the BitTorrent protocol to unlawfully
11 distribute Petitioner’s copyrighted Work.

12 26. 6881 used forensic software, “BitTorrent Auditor” to audit a swarm for the
13 presence of infringing transactions.

14 27. 6881 extracted the resulting data gathered from the investigation, reviewed the
15 evidence logs, and isolated the transactions and the IP addresses associated with the copyrighted
16 work listed on Exhibit D hereto.

17 28. The IP addresses and hit dates contained on Exhibits B accurately reflects
18 what is contained in the evidence logs and show that:

19 (A) Each infringer copied a piece of one of Petitioners copyrighted work;
20 and

21 (B) Each infringer was part of a BitTorrent swarm.

22 29. 6881’s technician analyzed each BitTorrent “piece” distributed by the IP
23 addresses listed on Exhibit B and verified that each piece consisted of part of the copyrighted work.

24 30. In order for petitioner to be able to take appropriate action to protect its
25 copyrighted work under 17 U.S.C. §§ 101, *et seq*, petitioner must be authorized issuance of
26 subpoenas *duces tecum* to the ISPs listed on Exhibit A to this petition.

27 31. No prior application has been made for the relief sought herein.
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