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LOS ANGELES SU BY M. BUTCHER. DE

## SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

## FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

ALEXANDER BURTON; MARK RYAN; and MICHAEL E., a minor, by and through his Guardian ad Litem, BONNIE MOUND,,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

MARC COLLINS-RECTOR; CHAD SHACKLEY; BROCK PIERCE; DIGITAL ENTERTAINMENT NETWORK, INC.; DOES 1 through 100, inclusive; ABC CORPORATIONS 1 through 100, inclusive,

Defendants.

CASE NO. LC053103.

DEFENDANT BROCK PIERCE'S SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO SET ASIDE DEFAULT JUDGMENT PURSUANT TO C.C.P. SECTION 473.5

Date:

July 17, 2003 8:30 am

Time: Dept:

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Action Filed: Trial Date:

July 20, 2000 None Set

SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO SET ASIDE DEFAULT JUDGMENT

Defendant Brock Pierce (hereinafter "Defendant" or "Pierce") hereby files and serves this Supplemental Declaration in further support of his Motion to Set Aside Default Judgment of Plaintiffs Alexander Burton, Mark Ryan and Michael Egan, by and through his guardian ad litem Bonnie Mound (hereinafter collectively "Plaintiffs"), as follows:

## SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF BROCK PIERCE

- I, Brock Pierce, declare and state as follows:
- I have personal knowledge of the matters stated herein, and could and would 1. competently testify to the same if called as a witness in this action.
- I am a former officer and director of Digital Entertainment Network ("DEN"), a 2. company that provided entertainment programming (e.g., "situation comedies" and other programming similar to television shows) over the internet. Marc Collins-Rector ("Collins-Rector") and Chad Shackley ("Shackley") are also former officers and/or directors of DEN.
- In or about July 1999, Plaintiff Alexander Burton ("Burton"), who was a childhood 3. friend of mine from Minnesota, came to visit me in the Los Angeles area. At that time, I was living at the home of Collins-Rector and Shackley as their guest. Burton quickly initiated a romantic relationship with Shackley which, to the best of my knowledge and information, continued as a consensual romantic relationship at least until early Spring 2000. As a result of Burton's relationship with Shackley, Burton became an employee of DEN; Burton lived as a guest at the home of Collins-Rector and Shackley; and Burton accompanied Collins-Rector, Shackley and myself on virtually all of our domestic and international travels between July 1999 and early Spring 2000.
- In late 1999, DEN began to experience business difficulties. Most significant, DEN and Collins-Rector (then, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of DEN) were named as defendants in a civil lawsuit in New Jersey (the "New Jersey Lawsuit") which had been filed in or about May 24 | 1999. By late 1999, the New Jersey Lawsuit appeared likely to cause significant detriment to DEN. I was not a defendant in the New Jersey Lawsuit nor involved in that litigation in any way.
- The New Jersey Lawsuit resulted in a confidential settlement agreement. 5. Inexplicably, the details of the confidential settlement agreement in the New Jersey Lawsuit, and 28 various other pieces of confidential information concerning DEN and Collins-Rector were "leaked"

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- On or about October 25, 1999, Collins-Rector, Shackley and I resigned as officers 6. and/or directors of DEN. Shortly thereafter, Collins-Rector, Shackley and left the country to avoid the adverse publicity generated by the New Jersey Lawsuit and DEN's business problems and to pursue new business opportunities in the internet sector in Europe. Burton accompanied us on those travels, as a guest of Shackley. I am no longer in possession of the passport I used for those travels, because that passport expired and I surrendered it when I received my new passport.
- On or about November 1, 1999 through November 13, 1999, I was on the island of St. 7. Martin with Collins-Rector, Shackley and Burton. At no time during this period did Burton state or otherwise indicate that he believed that he had been sexually abused by Collins-Rector, Shackley, or 12 me, nor that he had any intention of filing any lawsuit whatsoever against me, Collins-Rector or Shackley. At no time did Burton state that he was being mistreated in any way and, to the best of my knowledge and information, Burton's consensual romantic relationship with Shackley continued during this period of time.
  - On or about November 16, 1999, Burton, Collins-Rector, Shackley and I visited 8. Barbados to obtain a new passport for Burton. At no time during this visit to Barbados did Burton state or otherwise indicate that he believed that he had been sexually abused by Collins-Rector, Shackley, or me, nor that he had any intention of filing any lawsuit whatsoever against me, Collins-Rector or Shackley. At no time did Burton state that he was being mistreated in any way and, to the best of my knowledge and information, Burton's consensual romantic relationship with Shackley continued during this period of time.
  - On or about November 17, 1999, I traveled to France with Burton, Collins-Rector and 9. Shackley. We remained in France until December 26, 1999. At no time during this period did Burton state or otherwise indicate that he believed that he had been sexually abused by Collins-Rector, Shackley, or me. Burton did, however, at that time while we were in France, indicate to me for the first time that he was considering a plan to extort money from Collins-Rector and/or DEN. He solicited my interest in participating in his planned extortion. I advised Burton that I had no interest

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1 in participating in such an extortion scheme, and I strongly discouraged him from pursuing it. Thereafter, he never again mentioned the extortion plan to me. At no time during this period did Burton state that he was being mistreated by Collins-Rector, Shackley, or me, in any way, and to the best of my knowledge and information, Burton's consensual romantic relationship with Shackley continued during this period of time.

- In late 1999, Collins-Rector, Shackley and I began to suspect that someone was 10. "leaking" private information concerning us and confidential business information concerning DEN to DEN's competitors and the public. We hired private investigators to determine the source of such "leaks."
- On or about December 26, 1999, Burton, Collins-Rector, Shackley and I traveled back 11. to Los Angeles, California, where we remained for a brief visit. At no time during this period did 12 | Burton state or otherwise indicate that he believed that he had been sexually abused by Collins-13 Rector, Shackley, or me; nor did he make any further mention of his apparent plan to extort money from Collins-Rector or DEN; nor did he state that he was being mistreated by us in any way. To the best of my knowledge and information, Burton's consensual romantic relationship with Shackley continued during this period of time.
- On or about January 9, 2000, Burton, Collins-Rector, Shackley and I traveled back to 12. 18 France, where we remained for some weeks. At no time during this period did Burton state or otherwise indicate that he believed that he had been sexually abused by Collins-Rector, Shackley, or me; nor did he make any further mention of his apparent plan to extort money from Collins-Rector or DEN; nor did he state that he was being mistreated by us in any way. To the best of my knowledge and information, Burton's consensual romantic relationship with Shackley continued during this period of time.
- At some point in early 2000, Burton, Collins-Rector, Shackley and I returned again for 13. a brief visit to Los Angeles, California. At no time during this period did Burton state or otherwise 26 indicate that he believed that he had been sexually abused by Collins-Rector, Shackley, or me; nor did he make any further mention of his apparent plan to extort money from Collins-Rector or DEN; nor did he state that he was being mistreated by us in any way. To the best of my knowledge and

- In April or May 2000, Collins-Rector, Shackley, Burton and I traveled to Florida, 14. where we lived for approximately one month. During our visit to Florida, Collins-Rector, Shackley and I discovered, through a search of the personal computer than Burton had been using, that Burton had been the source of the leaks of confidential and private information concerning us and DEN to DEN's competitors and the public. We confronted Burton about his misconduct, whereupon Burton became agitated and stormed out of the house and, to the best of my knowledge and information, returned to the Los Angeles area. At that time, Burton did not state or otherwise indicate that he believed that he had been sexually abused by Collins-Rector, Shackley, or me; nor did he make any mention of any plan to extort money from Collins-Rector or DEN; nor did he state that he had been mistreated in any way by Collins-Rector, Shackley, or me. This was the last direct contact we had with Burton.
- On or about May 20, 2000, Collins-Rector, Shackley and I moved to Marbella, Spain. 15. At the time we left for Spain, none of us had any idea that Burton was planning to file suit against any of us. Furthermore, as of this time, Burton had never given us any indication whatsoever that he had been sexually abused or mistreated in any way by any of us.
- According to court records, in July 2000, the present action (this "Action") was 16. commenced by Burton and others against DEN, Collins-Rector, Shackley, myself and several other individuals, two months after the above-described incident in Florida between us and Burton. At that time, as mentioned above, we had already left the country and taken up residence in Spain. We continued to live abroad for approximately two-and-a half years thereafter.
- Eventually, while living overseas, in late 2002, a friend mentioned to me that, 17. sometime earlier, he had seen a news article that indicated that a several million dollar judgment had been entered against Collins-Rector, Shackley and me in a civil matter back in the Los Angeles area. 26 | I eventually obtained a copy of that news article, and became concerned about the litigation that apparently had been commenced against us, so I returned to the United States to investigate the situation. Shortly thereafter, on or about February 25, 2003, I obtained a copy of the Court's "Case

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- I had no idea that I might have been named as a party to any civil action in the United 18. States until I read the aforementioned news article in late 2002, and I had no actual notice of this Action until on or about February 25, 2003, when I obtained the "Case History Report" in this Action. In particular, I had no reason to suspect that Burton was planning to initiate litigation against me, since I saw him on a daily basis from late 1999 to May 2000 (i.e., the period ending a mere two months before Burton initiated this Action), during which time he never gave me any indication that he believed that he had been sexually abused by Collins-Rector, Shackley, or me, nor that he had been mistreated in any way. In fact, I believe that this Action is the manifestation of Burton's scheme (first mentioned to me in France in late 1999) to extort money from DEN and/or Collins-Rector and, moreover, that Burton only named me as a defendant in this Action because of my opposition to and stated refusal to participate in his extortion plot against DEN and Collins-Rector.
- My lack of actual notice of this Action was not due to avoidance of service or 19. inexcusable neglect on my part. I left the country before commencement of this Action for legitimate reasons, I had no reason to suspect that I would be named as a defendant in any such action at the time I left the country, despite my above-described daily contact with Plaintiff Burton until the "eve" of litigation (i.e., two months before

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filing). I never had any actual knowledge of the existence of this Action until on or about February 25, 2003.

I did not have actual notice of this Action in time to defend the Action. 20. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct, and if called as a witness, I would and could testify as to the accuracy of such statements.

Executed this Aday of July, 2003