STATE OF MICHIGAN

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF INCHAM THOMAS M. COOLEY LAW SCHOOL,

Plaintiff,

CASE NO: 11-781-C2

JOHN DOE 1, JOHN DOE 2, JOHN DOE 3, and JOHN DOEA, unknown individuals,

Defardant.

BEFORE THE HONORABLE CLINTON CHARTY, III, CIRCUIT JUCE LANSING, MICHIGAN — WECKESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2011

MOTTICN TO QUASH SUBPODNA

AFTENNIVES:

FOR THE PLAINTIFF:

MICHOEL P. CONNEY, JD PNIL D. HIDGON, JO 150 West Jefferson, Ste. 2500 Detroit, Michigan 48226 232-642-6420 313-963-6420

FOR THE DEFENDANT:

JOHN T. HERHARIN, JD 2684 West Eleven Mile Road Berkley, Michigan 48072 [248]591-9791

Reported by: Teresa J. Moraham, CSR (51?)483-6404 Ingham County Circuit Court - oz_AbrahamQingham.org

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Lanaung, Michigan September 7, 2011 at about 3:55 p.m.

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THE COURT: That just leaves Conley Law School versus John Doe.

MR. CONKLEY: Good afternoon, Your Honor, THE COURT: We are on the record in Thomas Occiley Law School versus John Doe, 1 through 1. Then it has a name on here, John Doe 1 through 4, interested parties, or something.

MR. COMMUEY: There is an amended complaint, Your Monor.

THE COURT: Okay, All right, file number 11-781-CZ. May we have appearances, please?

MR. COMPLEY: Your Honor, Muke Coakley appearing on behalf of Thomas Cooley Law School. With me is Paul Hudson, my colleague.

MR. HERMANN: Your Honor, John Bermann appearing on behalf of John Doe, Number 1, also known as Rockstar05 or

THE COLFO! That's where the name came up,

MR. HERMANN:

THE COURT: Was your associate's name, Mr.

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Argument by Mr. Hermann

14 Argument by Mr. Coakley

WITNESSES: PLAINTIFF'S

None,

WITHESSES: DEFELOANI'S

EXHIBITS:

Description Exhibit #

None.

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Coak Lev?

MR. HUDBON: Paul Hudson, Your Ronor.

THE COURT: Mr - how do you pronounce has

last name?

MR. HEPHANN:



THE OUTPO: What's his ID name?

MR. HERMANN: Rockstar05.

THE COLPT: Okay. So we have John Doe, Pockstar05's mocion so which is now quash subpoena?

MR. HERMANN: Yes, Your Honor. If it may please the Court, I would like to proceed with my מסבוכות?

THE OULFO: Yes.

HR. HERMANN: Your Honor, on August 5th we filed this motion, initially, as a John Doe motion. At that time my client's identity was not known or disclosed. The motion was a motion to quash, or in the alternative, to seek a protective order limiting or restricting use of any information that was acquired through the access or disclosure of information that was via a subpoens that was assued

This action originated on July 14th of 2011.

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Or July 14th, soon thereafter, the Plaintiffs in this matter issued a subpoons to an unternet web host provider by the name of Weekly, Incorporated. And Weebly is a Callifornia-based comporation.

> THE COURT: We Believe? MR. HERMANN: Weebly.

THE COLRT: I see. W-E-E-B-L-Y, Inc., for the reporter?

MR. HERIANN: Correct.

Shortly after the Michigan subpoens was issued, on August 3rd a California action was initiated referencing and incorporating the Muchagan subposta.

THE COURT: By Cooley?

MR. HERMANN: Yes.

THE COURT: Against the same Defendants?

MR. HERMANN: Yes. Well, it was to enforce the Michigan subpoens. The sole purpose of the California action was an action to enforce the Mudrugan aubpoern as to John Doe Number 1, also known as Rockstar05.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. HERMANN: Again, at that time the identity of my client, which was

appropriate remedial measure would be, and all that was encompassed in our motion.

As soon as we filed our morion, a copy of the motion was served on Weehly. And attached as an exhibit was an e-mail correspondence that was directed to a Richard Huffaker(sp) of Weebly. And on August 9th Mr. Huffaker confirmed that he had received the motion to quash, and that no further action would be taken, and that the contents of nothing would be disseminated from Weebly. I can read the contents of Mr. Huffaker's response:

You can consider the subpoens quashed at this point. I will keep you informed of the situation. Let me know of you have any questions."

As of Audiust 9th I was under the assumption, as was my client, that all efforts that were initiated were most at that point until further hearing of the Court. The earliest court date that we could get in front of Your Honor was September 7th, the date and time scheduled for this motion, at which time there would be a hearing, presumably, to discuss the equiropriateress of the expoera

not known. The purpose of the subpoens, both the Midrigan subpoers and the California subpoers, was to disclose or riotain information relative to the owner of the web host account on a particular date and time that was maintained by the person that was referenced in Thomas Cooley's original complaint that was associated with that Rockstar05 Notmail address linked to that blog host.

We filled the motion to quash, or in the alternative, to seek a protective order limiting or restricting or prohibiting use of any of that information.

In addition to our motion to quash, we asserted a number of grounds as to why the sulposts was improper, prenature, and not appropriate. As an alternative, we were also seeking to restrict any dissemination use in the event that the contents of the information was disclosed.

THE COURT: What kind of information did you suspect or now know to be in it?

NR HERWIN: Inhabever was responsive to the subpoena, we were asking that it he sequestered or protected until such time that the Court could conduct a review or determine what the

Unbeknowner to the parties, unfortunately, Weebly inadvertently disclosed the contents of all the information that was requested, via autopoena, on August 17th, to Mr. Coakley and Mr. Coakley's office.

THE COURT: So August 9th, you got your e-mail from Weebly saying they would hold it? August 17th they responded?

MR. HERMANN: Yes. In between that time there is an interesting development, because by initiating the California action there is a special law in California, it's called an anti-slap statute that Michigan does not have. But California has a special Consumer Protection Law that protects the types of disclosures in which someone is seeking the identity of someone for a blog or internet type of speech activity. And it's referenced under California Civil Orde Procedure 1987-2. And any time that a California action is initiated to seek the identity to acreane on a blog host, site or a website, there can be immediate action to dismiss the California action, whether it's a subpoera, complaint or matnot. And there is an immatuate alepension on all discovery efforts until there's a ruling on

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the California action to dismise. And on August of 11 of 2011, I instructed Mr. Coakley that I would be seeking an independent action in California in order to move to dismise the California action based on California Civil Code of Procedure 1987-2.

At that point in time Mr. Coakley was aware that I was attacking both Michigan subpoens and the California subpoens, and all efforts to disseminate the information that was requested of Weebly. I had written confirmation from Weebly's representatives, but they were not going to release the information. And somehow or other that information got released.

THE COURT: What happened in California?

MR. HEPMANN: I don't know. I have not received any written correspondence from Weebly as to why they released the information. I'm at a complete loss as to why they released the information.

THE COURT: Dud you proceed with the California actack?

MR. HERMANN: The attack's most once the action or once the information is released.

THE COLRT: It'd sort of be like over here,

the alternate relief that we were seeking to obtain in our original motion for protective order that we were claiming that it was privileged or that we were seeking to obtain privilege or confidence over that information, that after being notified, a party must promptly return, sequester, destroy the specified information and any oppies it has, and may not use or disclose the information until the claim is resolved."

On August 26th of this year I did indicate, prior to coming to this Court's hearing, we requested that of Mr. Coakley's office that whatever information had been turned over to Mr. Coakley's office from Weebly had been inadvertently distributed to his office, and that it be sequestered, returned. And that MCR 2.302(C)(7) has a remedy in place in which that they could seek the appropriate relief in order to use that information. And that was not done.

The amended complaint, which listed my client by specific neme and identity, was a specific result of the information that was produced to them, inadvertently. And it's my position that that use of that information was

tco?

MR. REPARMS: With the exception of this motion as an alternative, a protective order. And I am also seeking, in addition, I filed a supplemental brief which talks about what happens in the event of an inadvertent disclosure

And in my eupplemental brief, one of the issues that was raised, which is — the situation here is what you do when information is inalvertently disclosed that shouldn't have been disclosed.

THE COLRT: From Weekly to Cooley or Cooley classwhere?

MR HERMAN: Or to Cooley's lawyers. And under MDR 2.302(C)(7) there are a set of rules and procedures in place where there is a situation where a document or piece of evidence is inadvertently disclosed.

THE COURT: What's the reason?

MR. HERMANN: MCR 2 302(C)(7). And the subsection is entitled: Information inatvectently

produced. I'm paraphrasing, but the beginning of the subsection indicates:

"Information subject to a claim of privilege which we were asserting by virtue of improper under the circumstances in light of the meterials that we were provided, showing that Weebly was not going to release the information, in light of my written attempts to Mr. Coakley's office, seeking that we were going to obtain relief in California court, in light of my request for the information to be returned once it had been inadvertently disclosed. And rather than seeking relief from the Court, Mr. Coakley and his client used that information as the basis for the amended complaint which then identified my client by name, specifically. And, in other woods, we were trying to put the Genie back in the bottle.

There is a procedure to do that That would have been under 2.302(C)(7). That wean't followed. And, unfortunately, because the rule wasn't followed, my client is at a loss. My client's rights are prejudiced. And we are seeking the appropriate remedy based on the violation of the 2.3202(C)(7) in that they are not being allowed to use any reference or use of the information that stemmed from any of the information that was released to them from Weebly. In other words, I will use the criminal

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analogy: Any fruit from the poisonous tree should not be allowed to be used or utilize based on the violation of MCR 2.302(C)(7).

THE COURT: Other than the name, what other information was provided?

MR. HERMANN: Well, that's how they identified him so that they could name him in --

THE COLRT: Right. But suppose I agreed with you. So we have his name. You want his name removed? He still would be known as John Doe.

MR. HEEMANN: John Doe, And what's interesting --

THE OURT: I'm just asking what the practical effect is. I mean, suppose I agree with you But, I mean -

MR. HERIANN: They would have no way of knowing who that individual would --

THE COURT: But they know now, so what are you proposing the relief would be? That we know who John Doe is now, so how can I put that back in the bottle?

MR. REPMANN: Well, the relief would be that they would be purchabited from using any of the information that was disseminated from Weebly So, for instance, any of the e-mail addresses that anything.

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THE COUNT: Well, I mean, you -MR. COAKLEY: The motion is still moot, Your Hover.

THE COURT: Well, but you know - it's not really most. You had the information, so.w.

MR. COAKLEY: Right.

THE COURT: As far as his name is most, I would sort of agree with that. But why would 1 allow you to keep that information if it was inadvertently disclosed?

MR COAKLEY. Well, that's the problem Your Honor. It wasn't inadvertently disclosed

THE COURT: He says he had an e-mail from Wedoly saying we weren't going to do it. Then it gets disclosed. Weebly just does it anyways. So he had a right to rely on that e-mail, I assume.

MR. COAMLEY: We had a right to rely on our subpoens, Your Honor. We were not provided with that e-mail. We did not know, for example -

THE OTLAT: But you knew before you filed the amended complaint that he was asserting, did you not, that it was an inadventent disclosure? So you had the information, at least, in August 27th, 26th or 27th, I think he said it was,

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were identified that were cross-referenced -

THE COURT: Well, that's why I was asking. What else could they receive? That was the point of my question.

MR. HERMANN: There were e-mail references identifying Hotmail accounts

THE QUIHT: For others and humself?

MR HERMANN: For humself that were cices-referenced among student records. My client is a former Cocaley student. So it's fair to say that they sumply ran those addresses and were able to determine that those addresses were -

THE COURT: You made this request partor to the amended complaint they filed?

MR. HETHANN: On August 26th, yes.

THE COURT: Okay. All right, Mr. Coakley?

MR. CONKLEY: Thank you, Your Honor

We are satisfied, Your Honor, with the brief that we filed. So with your permission, I would like to hit the highlights.

THE OCURE: OKAY.

MR. COWKLEY: You know, nothing that I heard thus afternoon, nothing in the argument, and certainly nothing in the applemental brief that the Deferment has submitted has really dranged

before you filed the amended complaint, you knew -

MR. COAKLEY: We know that that was his claim, Your Honor. But that was not an inadvertent disclosure at all

THE COURT: Why not?

MR. QOAKLEY: Because it was disclosed pursuant to - it was a valid subposing by the person that we had subported at Nedoly.

THE COURT: But he had responded and filled hus request that it be quashed, although we couldn't hear it until the 7th. He had information from Weebly saying they weren't going to disclose it. And then you got it anyways.

MR. COAKLEY: And he told us none of that, Your Honor.

THE COURT: He told you kefore you filed your amended complaint?

MR. COAKLEY: It wasn't inadvertent because Mosbly voluntarily produced it without any involvement on our part. We didn't know it was coming when at come

THE COURT: What's it say about unadvartent?

MR. COAKLEY: And, Your Havon, the --

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THE COURT: "If information is subject to a claum of privilege or protection."

He had filed his request already asking for protection before you got it. He had he served it upon Weebly. Weebly got it and said, Okay, we will hold up. And they gave it cut anyway. So it could have been inadvertent in Weekly. I'm not saying that you encouraged him or enticed him to do anything about it. But it seems that he had already filed his request for protection, that Weebly already knew about the request for protection, had responded and told hum that they weren't going to send it out and sent it out anyways.

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MR. COAKLEY: But, Your Honor, the person that responded to our subpoens at Weebly as not the same person that he contacted

THE COUPT: Well, we know the agent argument, Mr. Coakley, it could be John Doe or it could be Billie Jones. I'm not saying that Cooley had anything to do with it, or that they were trying to curounvent the process. But I am leaning toward that it was an inadvertent disclosure on the part of Weebly. They already told him that they haven't, weren't going to do

order, the notion to quash, the only thing that he asked for, and I heard Mr. Hermann get up here and any that his original motion asked for limiting access and restriction on use. What's the motion? That's not --

THE COURT: He asked to quash it. So I mean -

MR. HERMANN: He asked to prevent the protective order part of the motion, asked to prevent Weebly from disclosing the identity of John Doe Number 1. They have done that.

THE COURT: Well, I've already said that partian is moot. But I don't think Cooley should hold all his e-mail addresses and be able to go around and look and see what he has talked to the other people without coming to the Court. I think that's clearly an invasion of his privacy, in my opinion. I don't think anybody would want that.

So, yes, you have a claim for defaration. But I think that has to be subject to an in-camera review by the Court. I don't think you can hold it and then go on out and launch a discovery, bring all these people in and invade his privacy. I really don't.

MR. COAKLEY: Well, and, Your Honor, that

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it. They already had notice of the fact that under the Court Rule he was claiming protection,

MR COMMEY: But this information is not privaleged, it's not --

THE COURT: He was clauming protection. I thunk he has a legitimate claim. Why should Cooley have all his e-mail contacts and all the people he contacted and what he did, other than what he may have communicated to Cooley? I mean, I think that's -

MR COAKLEY: Because his client defended my client, that's why. And he is a central figure in the claim. We will be defenseless to this kind of defanation if he is allowed to sequester that kind of information.

THE COURT: Well, I think he could ask for e protective order that it would come into me. And I could have looked at it, and made a determination. But I think to allow you to axiturise to hold it while we're writing to see what, in fact, is going to be permissible, is kind at traftit

MR. CLAKLEY: Well, Your Honor, the other issue here, I wish you would focus on a little hit, is the fact that this motion for protective

is based on a wrong notion of what the First Amendment Protections are.

THE OTURT: I'm not saying that you - we aren't even getting to that. All I'm saying, I believe that it should be subject to an in camera review for us to make a determination. I'm not saying anything about anybody's First Amendment protection of rights. I'm talking about his right to privacy and a right to have the Court look at thus under the facts of this case. And in this case he did file a request for a protective order. He dud serve it on a person you sent the subpoens to. And Weebly said we will honor it. Somebody didn't do it.

So I'm not saying that you or your office or Cooley want around to try to get the guy to do anything. Inadvertently Weekly sends it out to you anyways. And you have everything, including John Doe's name. And you want to hold on to it. And I thunk that under thus, the remady is that you have to turn it over to the Court, and then copiles - keep a copy. I don't know how we would do that. Let me see. I guess we will have to turn it over to the Court. And then you have to let me know what you want. Then we can have a

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hearing on that to determine if you're entitled, to see where that leads you. Otherwise, I think it's cart blanche. You go in, invade this person's life, go into all the other emails, Cooley related or non-Cooley related, or talking to his gurlfriend or whatever, that has nothing to do with this claim against or defamation against Cooley.

So that's my thoughts on it.

MH. COAKLEY: Well, I guess where we disagree, Your Honor, I guess we will have to leave it at that. I don't think there was any inadvertent disclosure on the part of Westly. They were obligated to respond to the California sukpoena. The only place where that could be challenged is in California. And the Defordant recognized that.

THE CCLPT: Well, I think the Defendant had a right to rely on the e-mail from Weebly. I really do. I practiced a long time. So, you know, I think the inadvertent came from Weebly. It falls right under the rule. Information is subject to a claim of protection, which it was. It's produced in discovery. The party making the claim may notify that the party that received the

are undisputed that Plaintiff — excuse me — Defendant, John Noe 1 had asked for a quash, which I am going to treat as a protection order. He did serve that upon Weebly, who is the subject of your subpoons. Weebly did respond and eay they weren't going to do it, I believe, on August 3rd. Weebly apparently sent it out on August 17th. You got your letter from him pursuant to the Court Rule about August 26th and 27th. And then you filed an amended complaint based on the information you got as a result of the subpoens.

MR. COARLEY: And we also told Mr —
THE COCRT: That's a little thin in my
mind. I mean, even if we are going to take that,
why would you rush to the court, file this, name
this guy, if you know it was likely that I would
rule that it was an inadvertent disclosure? It's
thin. I understand your argument, but I'm just
telling you from a practical standpoint, in my
mind, it's thin.

MR. COAKLEY: It never crossed my mand — THE COLRT: Of course not.

MR. COMMEY: — that you would deem that an inequestiont disclosure.

information of the claim on the basis and the basis for it. He has done that. You acknowledged you got that letter August 26th, and 27th.

HR. COAKLEY: I do.

THE COLRI: "After being notified the party must promptly return, sequester or destroy the specified information, and any copies it has, and it may not use or disclose the information until the claim is resolved."

"The receiving party may promptly present the information to the Court under seal — and that's what I am going to order — for determination of the claim "

"If the receiving party disclosed the information before being notified, it must take reasonable efforts to retrieve it."

I'm going to order that you take reasonable efforts to retrieve any information that you distributed

"And that you must preserve the information until the claim is resolved."

So I am going to find that it was an inadvertent disclosure on the part of Weshly.

I'm not saying it was any fault of Cooley or Miller Canfield. But that seems to be the fault

THE COINT: Well, yes. You rushed in, you got the guy's name out there.

MR. (CANGLEY: No. No. As soon as we got the information, we gave it over to Mr. Remarks We told him — we asked him to withdraw the motion. We told him that we were going to file an amended complaint. What we got in response was a refusal to withdraw the motion, which was a motion to quash to prevent the identity. Nothing else. That was the full extent of the motion that we were facing. There was no request to prevent disclosure, or to prevent use. That was the last-munute thing that he filed.

THE COURT: Today it's most now, I agree. But anyway this is what I am going to do, as I stated. I am going to rule that it was an inadvertent disclosure on the part of Weebly. I am going to ask that, Mr. Coakley, you turn over all the information to me, under seal. And then we can look at it and go from there. I assume your staff has had an opportunity to look at it. So I'm grang to indicate there should not be any additional discovery request generated from this until after the specific order on that. Not to contact anybody else's e-mail address. Not to

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follow-up to see what other texts or messages, whatever it was, without prior permission of the Court.

MR. HEDAMAN: Your Honor, if I may. The americal complaint lists my client by specific name as well as my appearance. I would ask, would the Court consider either striking the americal complaint and leaving the original complaint with a John Doe?

THE COURT: Is that the only difference?

IR. HEMANN: That's the only difference.

THE COURT: That is the only difference?

MR. COAKLEY: That's the only difference.

THE COURT: Strike his name under the pleadings.

MR. (EPHAN): As well as my appearance, also?

THE COLPT: As well as your appearance, for the time being, subject to review.

MR. HEFMANN: Obviously, Your Honor.

THE COUPT: Once we get the documents, we can review them. I mean, I'm pretty liberal on discovery, I can just tell you. But I don't think they need to go into all his private life. I will tell you that.

Honor, that we had some subposens in process. I don't know whether they had been issued or not.

THE COLPAT: If they haven't been issued, we will guash them or remove them. If they have been, anything that comes directly under seal comes to the Court. No copies made, or anything, comes to the Court, we would look at them and see.

MR. HEDMANN: Would Your Honor care to schedule a time for the evidentiary hearing?

THE COURT: I think we can schedule a time with my assistant in the back. Probably have to be on some day other than Wednesday, so she would have to have the schedule based on how much time you think it would be.

MR. COAKLEY: Will Mr. Rermann's client be in attendance at that hearing, Your Honor?

THE COURT: Be interesting, won't it? We will see if he is here.

MR. MOAKLEY: Little difficult to cross-examine John Coe.

THE COURT: I think he'll probably have to appear. I agree with you on that.

MR. COAKLEY: Thank you, We will prepare an order.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. HERMANN: Fair anough.

THE COURT: I know Muller Confield is thorough.

MR. CONFLEY: We are that, Your Honor.
THE COURT: You are thorough. I have been up against you. So you are thorough.

MR. CONKLEY: I hope you aren't going to hold that against me. Mr. Audson pointed out to me all of the information that we had from Neebly is attached to our response as Exhibit B.

THE COURT: I'm going to enter an order that that portion be removed from the Court file, from the pleadings. It shouldn't be in the pleadings. So that should be removed. And enter an order to that effect, Ms. Sadolf. Can you do that? We will be removing that exhibit from the information. The original information should be turned over to me under seal. I guess as an officer of the Court, if you're saying you're not going to take any discovery actions, Mr. Coakley, since copies have been distributed, at all, that would earn to be — would you agree with that?

MR. HERMANN: That's fair enough, Your Honor.

(Proceedings concluded at 4:25 p.m.)

STATE OF MICHIGAN COUNTY OF INCHAM , I, TERESA J. ASSWORD CRITICISM Shorthand Proporter and Notary Public in and for the County of Ingham, State of Michigan, Thurstaith Julicial Curcuit Court, do hereby certify that the facts stated in the foregoing pages are time and correct, and comprise a complete, true and correct transcript of the beconsings taken in this motter on this the 7th day of September, 2011 Teresa J. Acraham, CSR-3445 Date: September 8th, 2010