
IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH

ME2 PRODUCTIONS, INC.,
Plaintiff,

v.

JOSETTE MORRIS, ET AL.,
Defendants.

**MEMORANDUM DECISION
AND ORDER GRANTING IN PART
AND DENYING IN PART MOTION
FOR DEFAULT JUDGMENT**

Case No. 2:17-cv-00198-DN

District Judge David Nuffer

Plaintiff ME2 Productions, Inc. seeks entry of default judgment, a permanent injunction, and an award of attorney's fees against Defendant Josette Morris.¹ Specifically, Plaintiff seeks an award of \$10,000 in statutory damages against Defendant; a permanent injunction enjoining Defendant from directly or indirectly infringing Plaintiff's copyright in the motion picture *Mechanic: Resurrection*; and an award of costs and attorney's fees.²

Plaintiff's counsel in this case is the same as the plaintiff's counsel in *LHF Productions, Inc. v. Gonzales et al.*, No. 2:17-cv-00103-DN (D. Utah). A complaint³ and motion for default judgment⁴ were filed in *Gonzales*, which are substantively identical to those filed in this case.⁵ The only relevant differences are: the named Plaintiff; the copyrighted work; and the named defendants.

¹ Plaintiff's Motion for Default Judgment, Permanent Injunction and Attorney's Fees as to Certain Defendants ("Motion"), [docket no. 88](#), filed August 6, 2020.

² *Id.* at 2.

³ Amended Complaint for Copyright Infringement and Jury Demand, [ECF No. 81](#) in *Gonzales*, filed June 20, 2019.

⁴ Plaintiff's Motion for Default Judgment Permanent Injunction and Attorney's Fees as to Certain Defendants, [ECF No. 96](#) in *Gonzales*, filed June 29, 2020.

⁵ Amended Complaint for Copyright Infringement and Jury Demand, [docket no. 78](#), filed June 17, 2019; Motion.

On October 28, 2020, a Memorandum Decision and Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part Motion for Default Judgment was entered in *Gonzales* (“*Gonzales* Memorandum Decision and Order”).⁶ Because this case and *Gonzales* are substantively identical, the *Gonzales* Memorandum Decision and Order’s analysis, findings of fact, and conclusions of law⁷ are adopted in total and apply to Plaintiff’s Motion in this case.

Defendant was served⁸ with Plaintiff’s Complaint; failed to timely appear and respond; and the Clerk has entered Defendant’s default.⁹ A copy of the default certificate was mailed to Defendant, but was returned as undeliverable.¹⁰ In a prior ruling on Plaintiff’s Motion, disposition regarding Defendant was deferred to allow time for Plaintiff to verify Defendant’s address and file a change of address if appropriate.¹¹ Plaintiff has not since filed a change of address regarding Defendant. Nevertheless, it is not Plaintiff’s burden to update an opposing party’s address whenever that party moves. Defendant was served, failed to appear and respond, and default has entered. Therefore, it is appropriate to now act on Plaintiff’s Motion regarding Defendant.

The factual allegations of Plaintiff’s Complaint, which are deemed admitted,¹² demonstrate that Defendant is liable for willfully infringing¹³ Plaintiff’s copyright in the motion picture *Mechanic: Resurrection* through use of BitTorrent protocols over the Internet. Therefore,

⁶ ECF No. 101 in *Gonzales*, filed Oct. 28, 2020 (“*Gonzales* Memorandum Decision and Order”).

⁷ *Id.* at 2-25.

⁸ Proof of Service Declaration of Todd E. Zenger, [docket no. 80](#), filed June 11, 2020.

⁹ Entry of Default Pursuant to FRCP 55(a) as to Certain Defendants, [docket no. 86](#), filed July 31, 2020.

¹⁰ [Docket no. 89](#), filed August 10, 2020.

¹¹ Memorandum Decision and Order Granting in Part and Denying in Part Motion for Default Judgment, at 3, [docket no. 90](#), filed Nov. 12, 2020.

¹² *Tripodi v. Welch*, 810 F.3d 761, 764-65 (10th Cir. 2016).

¹³ 17 U.S.C. §§ 411(a), 501; *La Resolana Architects, PA v. Reno, Inc.*, 555 F.3d 1171, 1177-1180 (10th Cir. 2009).

Plaintiff is entitled to entry of a default judgment against Defendant, which includes an award of statutory damages¹⁴ against Defendant and a permanent injunction¹⁵ enjoining Defendant from directly or indirectly infringing Plaintiff's copyright. Plaintiff is also entitled to an award of its costs and reasonable attorney's fees.¹⁶ But because an award of \$750 in statutory damages against Defendant is just under the circumstances,¹⁷ rather than the \$10,000 requested, Plaintiff's Motion¹⁸ is GRANTED in part and DENIED in part.

¹⁴ 17 U.S.C. § 504(c).

¹⁵ *Id.* § 502(a).

¹⁶ *Id.* § 505.

¹⁷ *Gonzales* Memorandum Decision and Order at 4-25.

¹⁸ [Docket no. 88](#), filed August 6, 2020.

ORDER

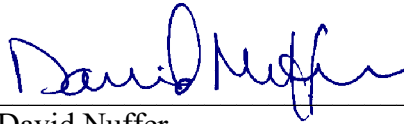
IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Plaintiff's Motion¹⁹ is GRANTED in part and DENIED in part. Default judgment shall enter in favor of Plaintiff and against Defendant Josette Morris. The default judgment shall include an award to Plaintiff of \$750 in statutory damages against Defendant Josette Morris and a permanent injunction enjoining Defendant Josette Morris from directly or indirectly infringing Plaintiff's copyright in the motion picture *Mechanic: Resurrection*. Plaintiff is also entitled to an award of its costs and reasonable attorney's fees, the amount of which shall be determined by subsequent motion.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any motion for attorney's fees must be filed within 14 days after the default judgement's entry.

The Clerk is directed to close the case.

Signed December 29, 2020.

BY THE COURT



David Nuffer
United States District Judge

¹⁹ [Docket no. 88](#), filed August 6, 2020.