Case Nos. 08-16745, 08-16873, 09-15021

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT

THE FACEBOOK, INC. and MARK ZUCKERBERG,

Plaintiffs-Appellees,

V.

CONNECTU, INC. (formerly known as CONNECTU LLC), CAMERON WINKLEVOSS, TYLER WINKLEVOSS, DIVYA NARENDRA,

Defendants-Appellants.

Appeal from the United States District Court Northern District of California, Case No. CV 07-01389-JW, The Honorable James Ware

NOTIFICATION OF NECESSITY TO FILE UNDER SEAL APPELLEES' REPLY IN SUPPORT OF CROSS-MOTION FOR JUDICIAL NOTICE

I. Neel Chatterjee Monte Cooper Theresa A. Sutton ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP 51 West 52nd Street 1000 Marsh Road Menlo Park, CA 94025 (650) 614-7400

E. Joshua Rosenkranz ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP

New York, NY 10019 (212) 506-5000

Theodore W. Ullyot Colin S. Stretch Facebook, Inc. 1601 S. California Avenue Palo Alto, CA 94304 (650) 543-4800

Attorneys for Appellees



Pursuant to Ninth Circuit Rule 27-13, Appellees The Facebook, Inc. and Mark Zuckerberg (collectively, "Facebook") respectfully hereby notify this Court as to the necessity to file under seal Appellees' Reply In Support of Cross-Motion for Judicial Notice.

The Appellees' Reply and supporting documents thereto include materials filed under seal in this proceeding and proceedings below. These sealed materials contain information designated confidential by one or more of the parties, the disclosure of which is governed by the January 23, 2006 Stipulated Protective Order. The Protective Order is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

In addition, some of the terms of the parties' Settlement Agreement also are protected from public disclosure by the District Court's July 2, 2008, Order finding that "the terms of the parties' settlement and the related negotiations at their mediation fall within the category of information 'traditionally kept secret,' and are not subject to public disclosure." The Court's July 2, 2008 Order is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

For these reasons, Facebook respectfully requests that Appellees' Reply In Support of Cross-Motion for Judicial Notice be filed under seal.

Dated: September 13, 2010

ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP

Theresa A. Sutton

Attorneys for Appellees

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EXHIBIT A

G. HOPKINS GUY, III (STATE BAR NO. 124811) **ENDORSED** 1 I. NEEL CHATTERJEE (STATE BAR NO. 173985) MONTE COOPER (STATE BAR NO. 196746) ROBERT D. NAGEL (STATE BAR NO. 211113) 2 700b JAN 23 A 11: 28 JOSHUA H. WALKER (STATE BAR NO. 224940) 3 ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE LLP CENTRIE GEN CHE NEBOROLAT 1000 Marsh Road 4 Menlo Park, CA 94025 SECTION CONTRACTOR Telephone: 650-614-7400 5 650-614-7401 Facsimile: R. NELSON Attorneys for Plaintiff 7 FACEBOOK, INC. 8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 **COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA** 10 11 CASE NO. 1:05-CV-047381 FACEBOOK, INC., 12 STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER Plaintiff, 13 ٧. CONNECTU LLC, CAMERON WINKLEVOSS, TYLER WINKLEVOSS, HOWARD WINKLEVOSS, DIVYA NARENDRA, AND DOES 1-25, 16 Defendants. 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 DOCSSV1:433570.3

Disclosure and discovery activity in this Action are likely to involve production of confidential, proprietary, or private information for which special protection from public disclosure and from use for any purpose other than prosecuting this litigation would be warranted. Accordingly, each of the parties, Plaintiff FaceBook, Inc. ("Plaintiff"), Defendants ConnectU LLC, Cameron Winklevoss, Tyler Winklevoss, Howard Winklevoss, and Divya Narendra (collectively "Defendants"), assert that the Parties to This Litigation possess information that one or more parties contends is confidential. The Parties wish to ensure that such Confidential Information shall not be used for any purpose other than This Litigation, shall not be made public, and shall not be disseminated beyond the extent necessary for This Litigation. Accordingly, the following procedure shall be adopted for the protection of the parties' respective Confidential Information.

The Parties hereby stipulate to and petition the court to enter the following Stipulated Protective Order ("Order"). The Parties acknowledge that this Order does not confer blanket protections on all disclosures or responses to discovery and that the protection it affords extends only to the limited information or items that are entitled under the applicable legal principles to treatment as confidential. The Parties further acknowledge that this Order creates no entitlement to file Confidential Information under seal; California Rules of Court 243.1 and 243.2 set forth the procedures that must be followed and reflect the standards that will be applied when a Party seeks permission from the court to file material under seal.

1. **DEFINITIONS**

- 1.1 Party: any party to this action, including Plaintiff and Defendants and all of their officers, directors, employees, consultants, retained experts, and outside counsel (and their respective support staffs).
- 1.2 <u>Disclosure or Discovery Material</u>: all items or information, regardless of the medium or manner generated, stored, or maintained (including, among other things, testimony, transcripts, or tangible things) that are produced or generated in disclosures or responses to discovery in This Litigation.
- 1.3 "Confidential" Information or Items: information (regardless of how DOCSSV1:433570.3 2 -

generated, stored or maintained) or tangible things that contain trade secrets or other confidential research, development, commercial, or business information.

- extremely sensitive "Confidential Information or Items" whose disclosure to another Party or non-party would create a substantial risk of serious injury that could not be avoided by less restrictive means.
- 1.5 <u>Receiving Party</u>: a Party that receives Disclosure or Discovery Material from a Producing Party.
- 1.6 <u>Producing Party</u>: a Party or non-party that produces Disclosure or Discovery Material in this action.
- 1.7 <u>Designating Party</u>: a Party or non-party that designates information or items that it produces in disclosures or in responses to discovery as "Confidential" or "Highly Confidential Attorneys' Eyes Only."
- 1.8 This Litigation: Case No. 1:05-CV-047381 currently pending in Superior Court of the State of California between Facebook, Inc. and ConnectU LLC, Cameron Winklevoss, Tyler Winklevoss, Howard Winklevoss, and Divya Narendra, as well as any future lawsuits between the parties in the Superior Court of the State of California.
- 1.9 <u>Massachusetts Litigation</u>: Case No. 1:04-CV-11923 currently pending between ConnectU LLC, Cameron Winklevoss, Tyler Winklevoss, and Divya Narendra, and Facebook, Inc., Mark Zuckerberg, Eduardo Saverin, Dustin Moskovitz, Andrew McCollum, and Christopher Hughes in the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts. The Massachusetts Litigation is governed by a separate second stipulated protective order and not this Order.
- 1.10 <u>Protected Material</u>: any Disclosure or Discovery Material that is designated as "Confidential" or as "Highly Confidential Attorneys' Eyes Only."
- 1.11 Outside Counsel: attorneys who are not employees of a Party but who are retained to represent or advise a Party in this action.
- 1.12 <u>In-House Counsel</u>: attorneys who are employees of a Party.

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1.13	Counsel (with	ut qualifier):	Outside	Counsel	and	In-House	Counsel	(as
well as their support	staffs).							

- 1.14 Expert: a person with specialized knowledge or experience in a matter pertinent to the litigation who has been retained by a Party or its counsel to serve as an expert witness or as a consultant in this action and who is not a current employee of a Party or of a competitor of a Party's and who, at the time of retention, is not anticipated to become an employee of a Party or a competitor of a Party. This definition includes any technical experts, discovery experts, and professional jury or trial consultant retained in connection with This Litigation.
- 1.15 <u>Professional Vendors</u>: persons or entities that provide litigation support services (e.g., photocopying; videotaping; translating; preparing exhibits or demonstrations; organizing, storing, retrieving data in any form or medium; etc.) and their employees and subcontractors.
- 1.15 <u>Return Material:</u> Protected Material, including all copies, abstracts, compilations, summaries or any other form of reproducing or capturing any of the Protected Material.

2. SCOPE

The protections conferred by this Stipulation and Order cover not only Protected Material, but also any information copied or extracted therefrom, as well as all copies, excerpts, summaries, or compilations thereof, plus testimony, conversations, or presentations by parties or counsel to or in court or in other settings that might reveal Protected Material.

3. <u>DURATION</u>

Even after the termination of This Litigation and all appeals therefrom, the confidentiality obligations imposed by this Order shall remain in effect until a Designating Party agrees otherwise in writing or a court order otherwise directs.

4. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL

Each Party or non-party that designates information or items for protection under this DOCSSV1:433570.3

Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection.

For Protection under this DOCSSV1:433570.3

Order must take care to limit any such designation to specific material that qualify under the appropriate standards. A Designating Party must take care to designate for protection only those parts of material, documents, items, or oral or written communications that qualify – so that other portions of the material, documents, items, or communications for which protection is not warranted are not swept unjustifiably within the ambit of this Order.

Mass, indiscriminate, or mere boiler-plate designations are prohibited. Designations that are shown to be clearly unjustified, or that have been made for an improper purpose (e.g., to unnecessarily encumber or retard the case development process, or to impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties), expose the Designating Party to sanctions.

If it comes to a Party's or a non-party's attention that information or items that it designated for protection do not qualify for protection at all, or do not qualify for the level of protection initially asserted, that Party or non-party must promptly notify all other parties that it is withdrawing the designation.

4.2 <u>Manner and Timing of Designations</u>. Except as otherwise provided in this Order, or as otherwise stipulated or ordered, material that qualifies for protection under this Order must be clearly so designated before the material is disclosed or produced.

Designation in conformity with this Order requires:

(a) for information in documentary form (apart from transcripts of depositions or other pretrial or trial proceedings), that the Producing Party affix the legend "Confidential" or "Highly Confidential – Attorneys' Eyes Only" on each page that contains material to be protected. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins) and must specify, for each portion to be protected, the level of protection being asserted (either "Confidential" or "Highly Confidential – Attorneys' Eyes Only").

A Party or non-party that makes original documents or materials available for inspection need not designate them for protection until after the inspecting Party has indicated which material it would like copied and produced. During the inspection and before the DOCSSV1:433570.3

designation, all of the material made available for inspection shall be deemed "Highly Confidential – Attorneys' Eyes Only." After the inspecting Party has identified the documents it wants copied and produced, the Producing Party must determine which documents, or portions thereof, qualify for protection under this Order. Then, before producing the specified documents, the Producing Party must affix the appropriate legend ("Confidential" or "Highly Confidential – Attorneys' Eyes Only") on each page that contains material to be protected. If only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the margins) and must specify, for each portion, the level of protection being asserted (either "Confidential" or "Highly Confidential – Attorneys' Eyes Only").

(b) for testimony given in deposition or in other pretrial or trial proceedings, that the Party or non-party offering or sponsoring the testimony identify on the record, before the close of the deposition, hearing, or other proceeding, protected testimony, and further specify any portions of the testimony that qualify as "Highly Confidential – Attorneys' Eyes Only." When it is impractical to identify separately each portion of testimony that is entitled to protection, and when it appears that substantial portions of the testimony may qualify for protection, the Party or non-party that sponsors, offers, or gives the testimony may invoke on the record (before the deposition or proceeding is concluded) a right to have up to thirty (30) days after the receipt of the written transcript to identify the specific portions of the testimony as to which protection is sought and to specify the level of protection being asserted ("Confidential" or "Highly Confidential – Attorneys' Eyes Only"). Only those portions of the testimony that are appropriately designated for protection within the thirty (30) days shall be covered by the provisions of this Order.

Transcript pages containing Protected Material must be separately bound by the court reporter, who must affix on each such page the legend "Confidential" or "Highly Confidential – Attorneys' Eyes Only," as instructed by the Party or non-party offering or sponsoring the witness or presenting the testimony.

(c) <u>for information produced in some form other than documentary, and for</u>
DOCSSV1:433570.3

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STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER

properly designated as "Highly Confidential – Attorneys' Eyes Only" under Section 4.3(a), any such production shall be made on CD. The disclosing person shall provide to the receiving party at least two (2) identical CD's containing the requested materials.

- (ii) The Receiving Party shall not make copies in any medium of any "Highly Confidential Attorneys' Eyes Only" under Section 4.3(a) except as follows:
- (1) At any given time, the Receiving Party may copy each produced copy of "Highly Confidential Attorneys' Eyes Only" under Section 4.3(a) only into the RAM of a single computer. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, a particular copy may not be copied into the RAM of one computer and then, while leaving that copy on the first computer, subsequently copied into the RAM of another computer without prior written approval from counsel for the disclosing person.
- (2) Any computer into whose RAM material properly designated as "Highly Confidential Attorneys' Eyes Only" material is copied must be disconnected from any and all networks before the material is copied onto the computer and for the duration of the time the material remains on the computer. Only after all such material is removed from RAM and that computer has been shut down may any network connection be made or restored.
- (3) Any computer into whose RAM material properly designated as "Highly Confidential Attorneys' Eyes Only" is copied must remain in the direct control only of those persons specified in Section 6.3 of this Order as properly having access to "Highly Confidential Attorneys' Eyes Only" material.
- (4) Except for transitory copies created in the RAM or other internal operating circuitry of a computer, excerpts of material properly designated as "Highly Confidential Attorneys' Eyes Only" shall be copied onto paper or electronic media only for the purpose of creating submissions to the Court for presentation to the Court at hearings or at trial, and, once having been made, all such excerpts of such material shall be designated "Highly Confidential Attorneys' Eyes Only" in the name of the disclosing person.
- 4.4 <u>Inadvertent Failures to Designate</u>. Notwithstanding Section 5.2 below, if DOCSSV1:433570.3

timely corrected, an inadvertent failure to designate qualified information or items as "Confidential" or "Highly Confidential – Attorneys' Eyes Only" does not, standing alone, waive the Designating Party's right to secure protection under this Order for such material. If material is appropriately designated as "Confidential" or "Highly Confidential – Attorneys' Eyes Only" after the material was initially produced, the Receiving Party, on timely notification of the designation, must make reasonable efforts to assure that the material is treated in accordance with the provisions of this Order.

5. CHALLENGING PROTECTED MATERIAL DESIGNATIONS

- 5.1 <u>Timing of Challenges</u>. Unless a prompt challenge to a Designating Party's Protected Material designation is necessary to avoid foreseeable substantial unfairness, unnecessary economic burdens, or a later significant disruption or delay of the litigation, a Party does not waive its right to challenge a Protected Material designation by electing not to mount a challenge promptly after the original designation is disclosed.
- Designating Party's Protected Material designation must do so in good faith and must begin the process by conferring directly (in voice to voice dialogue; other forms of communication are not sufficient) with Outside Counsel for the Designating Party. In conferring, the challenging Party must explain the basis for its belief that the Protected Material designation was not proper and must give the Designating Party an opportunity to review the designated material, to reconsider the circumstances, and, if no change in designation is offered, to explain the basis for the chosen designation. A challenging Party may proceed to the next stage of the challenge process only if it first has engaged in this meet and confer process and only after the Designating Party has been given ten (10) calendar days to respond to the challenging Party's objection.
- 5.3 <u>Judicial Intervention</u>. A Party that elects to address a challenge to a confidentiality designation after participating in the meet and confer required by Section 5.2 may file and serve a motion that identifies the challenged material and sets forth in detail the basis for the challenge or the designation. Absent good cause for extending the following deadlines, a Party's motion must be filed within fourteen (14) days of (a) the Designating Party's response to DOCSSV1:433570.3

the challenge or, if no response, (b) the expiration of the ten (10) days given to the Designating Party to respond. Each such motion must be accompanied by a competent declaration that affirms that the moving Party has complied with the meet and confer requirements imposed in Section 5.2. The burden of persuasion in any such proceeding shall be on the Designating Party. Until the court rules on the challenge, all parties shall continue to afford the material in question the level of protection to which it is entitled under the Producing Party's designation.

6. ACCESS TO AND USE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL

- 6.1 <u>Basic Principles.</u> A Receiving Party may use Protected Material that is disclosed or produced by another Party or by a non-party in direct connection with this case or in only for prosecuting, defending, or attempting to settle This Litigation. Protected Material may be disclosed only to the categories of persons and under the conditions described in this Order. When This Litigation (including all appeals) has been terminated, a Receiving Party must comply with the provisions of Section 11 below. Protected Material must be stored and maintained by a Receiving Party at a location and in a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons authorized under this Order.
- 6.2 <u>Disclosure of "CONFIDENTIAL" Information or Items</u>. Unless otherwise ordered by the court or permitted in writing by the Designating Party, a Receiving Party may disclose any information or item designated "Confidential" only to:
- (a) the Receiving Party's Outside Counsel of record in this action and its employees directly involved with This Litigation;
- (b) the officers, directors, and employees (including In-House Counsel) of the Receiving Party to whom disclosure is demonstrably necessary for This Litigation and who have signed the "Agreement to Be Bound by Protective Order" (Exhibit A);
- (c) Experts (as defined in this Order) of the Receiving Party to whom disclosure is demonstrably necessary for This Litigation and who have executed the "Agreement to Be Bound by Protective Order" (Exhibit A);
 - (d) the Court, its personnel, and any other person(s) designated by order of the

Court;

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STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER

above, shall first exclude from the room any person who is not entitled to receive such material under this Order.

7. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED PRODUCED IN OTHER LITIGATION

If a Receiving Party is served with a subpoena or an order issued in other litigation that would compel disclosure of any information or items designated in This Litigation as "Confidential" or "Highly Confidential – Attorneys' Eyes Only," the Receiving Party must so notify the Designating Party, in writing immediately and in no event more than three (3) court days after receiving the subpoena or order. Such notification must include a copy of the subpoena or court order.

The Receiving Party also must immediately inform in writing the party who caused the subpoena or order to issue in the other litigation that some or all the material covered by the subpoena or order is the subject of this Order. In addition, the Receiving Party must deliver a copy of this Order promptly to the party in the other action that caused the subpoena or order to issue.

The purpose of imposing these duties is to alert the interested parties to the existence of this Order and to afford the Designating Party in This Litigation an opportunity to try to protect its confidentiality interests in the court from which the subpoena or order issued. The Designating Party shall bear the burdens and the expenses of seeking protection in that court of its confidential material – and nothing in these provisions should be construed as authorizing or encouraging a Receiving Party in This Litigation to disobey a lawful directive from another court.

8. <u>UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL</u>

If a Receiving Party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed Protected Material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this Order, the Receiving Party must immediately (a) notify in writing the Designating Party of the unauthorized disclosures, (b) use its best efforts to retrieve all copies of the Protected Material, (c) inform the person or persons to whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of this Order, and (d) request such person or persons to execute the "Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be DOCSSVI:433570.3

1	IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH	COUNSEL OF RECORD.
2	DATED: December <u>30</u> , 2005	ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE, LLP
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4		By: Cerpl
5		Monte M.H. Cooper Attorneys for Plaintiff Facebook, Inc.
6		,
7	DATED: December, 2005	FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
8		GARRETT & DUNNER, LLP
9		
10 11		By:Scott R. Mosko
12		Attorneys for Defendants ConnectU LLC, Cameron Winklevoss, Tyler Winklevoss, Howard
13		Winklevoss, Divya Narendra
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ı	IT IS SO STIPULATED, THROUGH COUNSEL OF RECORD.			
2	DATED: December <u>30</u> , 2005	ORRICK, HERRINGTON & SUTCLIFFE, LLP		
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4		By: The ceret		
5		Attorneys for Plaintiff Facebook, Inc.		
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7	DATED: December <u>\$0</u> , 2005	FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, LLP		
9		$/ \bigcirc 1$		
10		By: Nosko		
11		Scott R. Mosko Attorneys for Defendants ConnectU LLC, Cameron		
12		Winklevoss, Tyler Winklevoss, Howard Winklevoss, Divya Narendra		
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15	PURSUANT TO STIPULATION, IT IS SO	O ORDERED.		
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17 18	DATED:			
19		Hon. William J. Elfving Judge of the Superior Court		
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EXHIBIT

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EXHIBIT A

AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND BY PROTECTIVE ORDER

I,, declare under penalty of perjury the following.
I have read in its entirety and understand the Stipulated Protective Order that was issued
by the Superior Court of the State of California, Santa Clara County on, 200
in Case No. 1:05-CV-047381 currently pending in Superior Court of the State of California
between Facebook, Inc. and ConnectU LLC, Cameron Winklevoss, Tyler Winklevoss, Howard
Winklevoss, and Divya Narendra.
I have been provided with, carefully read, and understand the Stipulated Protective Order.
I will comply with and to be bound by all the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order. I
understand and acknowledge that failure to so comply could expose me to sanctions and
punishment in the nature of contempt. I solemnly promise that I will not disclose in any manner
any confidential information or items that is subject to this Stipulated Protective Order prepared
or disclosed to me, including and abstracts, extracts, excerpts, and summaries thereof, to any
person or entity except in strict compliance with the provisions of this Order and will return said
confidential information or items in my possession to counsel for the party by whom I am
designated, employed, or retained.
I hereby submit to the jurisdiction of the Superior Court of State of California, Santa Clara
County for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this Stipulated Protective Order, even if such
enforcement proceedings occur after termination of this action.
I hereby appoint [print or type full name] of
[print or type full address and
telephone number] as my California agent for service of process in connection with this action or
any proceedings related to enforcement of this Stipulated Protective Order.
My address is I am a citizen of the
United States.
My present employer is
My present occupation or job description is
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1	Date:
2	City and State where sworn and signed:
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4	Printed name:
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	STIPULATED PROTECTIVE ORDER

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EXHIBIT B

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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SAN JOSE DIVISION

The Facebook, Inc., et al.,

NO. C 07-01389 JW

Plaintiffs, ConnectU, Inc., et al.,

ORDER GRANTING NON-PARTY CNET'S MOTION TO INTERVENE FOR THE LIMITED PURPOSE OF MOVING TO UNSEAL COURT RECORDS; SETTING CONDITIONS WITH RESPECT TO ACCESS TO MATERIALS PREVIOUSLY FILED IN THIS CASE

Defendants.

I. INTRODUCTION

The parties to this lawsuit reached a confidential settlement through private mediation. However, a dispute developed in the execution of the settlement. One of the parties filed what was entitled a "Confidential Motion to Enforce Settlement Agreement," and requested that the Court hear portions of that motion in a closed courtroom. At the hearing, members of the press were present and voiced objections to the proceedings being conducted in a closed courtroom. The Court proceeded to close the courtroom but invited the press to make formal motions with respect to their objection.

Presently before the Court is CNET Networks, Inc.'s ("CNET") Motion for Leave to Intervene and to Unseal Hearing Transcript and Other Documents. (hereafter, "Motion," Docket Item No. 467.) The Court conducted a hearing on July 2, 2008. Based on the papers submitted to date and oral arguments of the parties and CNET, the Court GRANTS CNET's motion to intervene

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United States District Court

For the Northern District of California

and orders that a redacted transcript of the proceedings be filed for public access. The Court also sets conditions with respect to access to other materials previously filed under seal in this case.

II. BACKGROUND

A full factual background leading to the resolution of this case may be found in the Court's June 25, 2008 Order. (Docket Item No. 461.) The Court briefly reviews facts relevant to this motion.

Plaintiffs in this lawsuit are The Facebook Inc. and Mark Zuckerberg (collectively, "Facebook"). Plaintiffs bring this action against ConnectU, Inc., Pacific Northwest Software, Inc., Winston Williams, and Wayne Chang (collectively, "Defendants") alleging, inter alia, misappropriation of trade secrets, unfair competition, and violations of 18 U.S.C. § 1030, et seq. In essence, Facebook alleges that ConnectU gained unauthorized access to Facebook's servers and website and took information for its own unlawful use.

The parties are engaged in at least two other lawsuits over these matters; in those cases, ConnectU is the Plaintiff and Facebook is the Defendant. In the course of this lawsuit, the parties engaged in private mediation. On February 22, 2008, as the result of the mediation, the parties signed a written "Term Sheet & Settlement Agreement" (the "Agreement"). In the Agreement, the parties agreed to resolve all of their disputes and to dismiss the pending lawsuits. The parties agreed that they "may execute more formal documents but these terms are binding." The parties also stipulated that the federal court in San Jose, California has jurisdiction to enforce the Agreement. After signing the Agreement, the parties attempted to draft formal documents but failed to reach a consensus on certain terms.

Based on a belief that a court order was necessary to enforce the Agreement, Facebook moved the Court to enforce settlement and filed its motion under seal. (Docket Item No. 329, filed under seal.) On June 23, 2008, the Court conducted a hearing on Facebook's motion to enforce

¹ The other actions are ConnectU, LLC v. Zuckerberg, Appeal No. 07-1796 (1st Cir.) and ConnectU, Inc. v. The Facebook, Inc., Case No. C 07-10593-DPW (D. Mass.).

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settlement. On June 18, 2008, prior to the hearing, the Court conducted a telephonic conference with the parties to discuss how it should handle the confidential information contained in the parties' motion papers. (See Docket Item No. 437.) As the parties requested in the telephonic conference, and on the record at the hearing, the Court closed its doors to the public in an effort to have a "frank" discussion regarding Plaintiffs' motion. (Tr. at 6.) Relying on the Court's intention to seal the transcript of the hearing, the parties disclosed confidential information that they otherwise might not have disclosed had the hearing been public. (Id.) In the course of litigation, a number of other documents were also filed under seal.

As recited above, the Court closed the courtroom during the hearing on Facebook's motion to enforce the Agreement. CNET moves the Court to allow it to intervene in the action for the limited purpose of making a motion and moves the Court to unseal certain court records in this case.

III. DISCUSSION

It is well established that the media have a right to appear in cases of public concern for the purpose of challenging requests or orders to seal records. See, e.g., San Jose Mercury News Inc. v. U.S. Dist. Ct., 187 F.3d 1096, 1101 (9th Cir. 1999). The parties do not oppose CNET's intervention.2 Accordingly, the Court GRANTS CNET's motion to intervene for the limited purpose of moving to unseal court records. The Court proceeds to consider whether certain Court records should be unsealed.

Open access to the courts is an important aspect of the United States legal system. Phoenix Newspapers Inc. v. U.S. Dist. Court. 156 F.3d 940, 946 (9th Cir. 1998). In the spirit of open access, "the courts of this country recognize a general right to inspect and copy public records and documents, including judicial documents and records." Nixon v. Warner Comme'ns, Inc., 435 U.S. 589, 597 (1978). There is a strong presumption in favor of access unless a particular court record is

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² (Plaintiffs' Partial Opposition to CNET's Motion for Leave to Intervene at 1, Docket Item No. 470.) ConnectU has elected to not file any opposition as invited by the Court's briefing schedule on CNET's motion. (See Docket Item No. 462.)

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one traditionally kept secret. Kamakana v. City of Honolulu, 447 F.3d 1172, 1178 (9th Cir. 2006); Foltz v. State Farm Mutual Auto. Ins. Co., 331 F.3d 1122, 1135 (9th Cir. 2003).

If a court record is not one that has traditionally been kept secret, one of two standards is used to determine whether the presumption of public access may be overcome. Only a "particularized showing" under the "good cause" standard of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(c) is required to preserve the secrecy of sealed material related to a non-dispositive motion. Kamakana, 447 F.3d at 1180; Foltz, 331 F.3d at 1138. However, to retain any protected status for documents related to a dispositive motion, the proponent of the motion to seal must meet the "compelling reasons" standard. Kamakana, 447 F.3d at 1177; Foltz, 331 F.3d at 1135. Similar to the compelling reasons standard, a decision to close the court and to conduct a hearing under seal requires a showing that a compelling interest would be harmed and that no alternatives to closure would adequately protect that interest. See Phoenix, 156 F.3d at 946. The "good cause" and "compelling reasons" standards should not be conflated; a "good cause" showing will not, without more, satisfy the "compelling reasons" test. Kamakana, 447 F.3d at 1180; Foltz, 331 F.3d at 1135-36.

CNET requests that the Court remove the seal on several types of records in this case. The Court considers each category in turn.

A. **Settlement Terms and Mediation Negotiations**

Courts have traditionally "granted protective orders to protect confidential settlement agreements." Phillips ex rel. Estates of Byrd v. Gen. Motors Corp., 307 F.3d 1206, 1212 (9th Cir. 2002) (citing Hasbrouck v. BankAmerica Housing Serv., 187 F.R.D. 453, 455 (N.D.N.Y. 1999); Kalinauskas v. Wong, 151 F.R.D. 363, 365-67 (D. Nev. 1993)). For instance, the ADR Local Rules of the Northern District of California explicitly provide:

[T]his court, . . . all counsel and parties, and any other persons attending the mediation shall treat as "confidential information" the contents of the written Mediation Statements, anything that happened or was said, any position taken, and any view of the merits of the case formed by any participant in connection with any mediation. "Confidential information" shall not be: (1) disclosed to anyone not involved in the litigation; (2) disclosed

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to the assigned judge; or (3) used for any purpose, including impeachment, in any pending or future proceeding in this court.

ADR L.R. 6-11(a). Other circuits have also spoken to the necessity for secrecy in settlement terms and negotiations:

[T]he presumption of public access to settlement conferences, settlement proposals, and settlement conference statements is very low or nonexistent under either constitutional or common law principles. Weighed against this presumption is the strong public policy which encourages the settlement of cases through a negotiated compromise. . . . In a perfect world, the public would be kept abreast of all developments in the settlement discussions of lawsuits of public interest. In our world, such disclosure would . . . result in no settlement discussions and no settlements.

United States v. Glens Falls Newspapers, Inc., 160 F.3d 853, 855-56 (2nd Cir. 1998). For this reason alone, allowing a confidential settlement to remain privileged "serves a sufficiently important public interest." Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. v. Chiles Power Supply, Inc., 332 F.3d 976, 980 (6th Cir. 2003).

Aside from the fact that confidentiality fosters settlement, it also may be the case that what is stated for purposes of settlement is puffing or posturing. Glens Falls, 160 F.3d at 858. "Settlement positions are often extreme and should they be made public a litigant would reasonably fear being judged in the court of public opinion based upon what are nothing more than bargaining positions. These concerns would hardly encourage negotiations." Id.

In this case, in formalizing their Agreement, the parties explicitly added a confidentiality clause to protect their interests: "All terms of agreement are confidential..." (Agreement ¶ 3.) Since the ADR Local Rules provide for confidentiality of mediation and settlement negotiations, and other circuits have recognized the importance of preventing disclosure of these types of agreements, the Court finds that the terms of the parties' settlement and the related negotiations at their mediation fall within the category of information "traditionally kept secret," and are not subject to public disclosure.3

³ This includes the redacted portions of records which have been publically disclosed, such as the redacted "Term Sheet & Settlement Agreement" in the Court's June 25, 2008 Order.

For the Northern District of California

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Accordingly, the Court refers CNET's motion to unseal particular records which relate to the parties' settlement terms or negotiations to the assigned Magistrate Judge Maria-Elena James, for a determination consistent with this Order.

B. Court Records Related to Non-Dispositive Motions

"Good cause" is the showing a party must make when seeking to prevent disclosure of documents filed with a non-dispositive motion. Pintos v. Pacific Creditors Ass'n., 504 F.3d 792, 801 (9th Cir. 2007) (citing Phillips, 307 F.3d at 1206). This is because courts recognize that nondispositive motions are often "unrelated, or only tangentially related" to the underlying cause of action, and therefore, the public's interest in accessing dispositive materials does not apply with equal force to non-dispositive materials. <u>Id.</u> at 802 (citing <u>Kamakana</u>, 447 F.3d at 1179). "Applying the 'compelling interest' standard under these circumstances would needlessly 'undermine a district court's power to fashion effective protective orders." <u>Id.</u> (citing Foltz, 331 F.3d at 1135).

In this case, all the sealed documents relating to non-dispositive motions were sealed pursuant to a protective order entered by the Court. Under Phillips, a motion by a party to seal a document pursuant to a valid protective order satisfies the "good cause" standard. Phillips, 307 F.3d at 1213 (noting that "when a court grants a protective order for information produced during discovery, it already has determined that 'good cause' exists to protect this information from being disclosed to the public"). The Court finds that sealed documents relating to non-dispositive motions are not subject to public disclosure if "good cause" to have sealed them was, or subsequently is, established.

Accordingly, the Court refers CNET's motion to unseal particular records relating to nondispositive motions to the assigned Magistrate Judge Maria-Elena James, for a determination consistent with this Order.

C. Sealed Materials Attached to Dispositive Motions

To satisfy the "compelling reasons" standard required for keeping documents associated with dispositive motions under seal, a party seeking to maintain the seal must articulate compelling

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reasons supported by specific factual findings that outweigh the public policy favoring disclosure. Kamakana, 447 F.3d at 1178-79; San Jose Mercury News, 187 F.3d at 1102-03. Generally, "compelling reasons" sufficient to outweigh the public's interest in disclosure and justify sealing court records exist when the court files might become a vehicle for improper purposes, such as the use of records to gratify private spite, promote public scandal, circulate libelous statement, or release trade secrets. Kamakana, 447 F.3d at 1179; Nixon, 435 U.S. at 598. The mere fact that the production of records may lead to a litigant's embarrassment, incrimination, or exposure to further litigation will not, without more, compel the court to seal its records. Kamakana, 447 F.3d at 1179; Foltz. 331 F.3d at 1136. "The judge need not document compelling reasons to unseal; rather, the proponent of sealing bears the burden with respect to sealing. A failure to meet that burden means that the default posture of public access prevails." Kamakana, 447 F.3d at 1182.

In this case, the only dispositive motion that was resolved by the Court was Facebook's confidential motion to enforce the settlement. By their very nature, all documents attached to the parties' papers addressing this motion concerned the terms of the settlement and the negotiations preceding it. Since, as noted above, these records are of the kind "traditionally kept secret," the Court need not reach the issue of whether there are compelling reasons for keeping them from being publically disclosed. To the extent that CNET contends there were other dispositive motions filed with the Court, CNET may make a specific request that documents associated with such motions be unsealed.4 This will provide parties the opportunity to make a showing of compelling reasons to keep those documents sealed.

Accordingly, the Court refers CNET's motion to unseal particular records relating to dispositive motions to the assigned Magistrate Judge Maria-Elena James, for a determination consistent with this Order.

⁴ The Court does not regard Facebook's Motion for Partial Summary Judgment as dispositive because the Court never addressed the motion on the merits. Rather, after granting Facebook's confidential motion, the Court found the motion for partial summary judgment moot and ordered the Clerk of Court to terminate it from the Court's docket. (See Docket Item No. 466.)

D. **Hearing Transcript**

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While a court has the right to temporarily seal access to court records pending a hearing, the hearing may be closed to the public and the transcript sealed only when: "(1) closure serves a compelling interest; (2) there is a substantial probability that, in the absence of closure, this compelling interest would be harmed; and (3) there are no alternatives to closure that would adequately protect the compelling interest." Phoenix, 156 F.3d at 949-50. In other words, the public's right to access a hearing is overcome only by a finding "that closure is essential to preserve higher values and is narrowly tailored to serve that interest." Press-Enterprise Co. v. Superior Court, 478 U.S. 1, 8 (1986). Ordinarily, transcripts of properly closed proceedings should be released when the danger of prejudice has passed, i.e., when the competing interests precipitating hearing closure are no longer viable. <u>United States v. Brooklier</u>, 685 F.2d 1162, 1172 (9th Cir. 1982); Phoenix, 156 F.3d at 947-48.5

In this case, the parties do not object to the transcript of the Court's June 23, 2008 hearing being disclosed to the public as long as the certain statements that were made at the hearing are redacted. These statements specifically relate to the terms of the parties' confidential settlement agreement, the vast majority of which have already been disclosed, and statements made or allegedly made in the mediation between the parties which resulted in the settlement. Since the proposed redacted statements are, once again, the type which are "traditionally kept secret," the parties have a compelling interest in keeping them from being disclosed. This interest would be harmed if the statements were disclosed, because such disclosure would harm the general peace reached by the parties.

Significantly, beyond agreeing that their settlement would be "confidential," the parties expressly carved out a provision where neither side would be permitted to "disparage[] any other parties and no party will comment further publicly related to facts underlying or related to this

⁵ However, circumstances exist where permanent sealing is justified, such as the sealing of portions of hearings related to grand jury proceedings where those proceedings are sealed by law. Id. (citing <u>United States v. Sierra</u>, 748 F.2d 1518 (11th Cir. 1986)).

dispute." (Agreement ¶ 3.) In light of this provision of the Agreement, the Court finds it appropriate to redact those portions of transcript which would invite public scrutiny regarding the parties' motivation to settle or their characterization of the settlement process beyond what is reflected in the Court's June 25, 2008 Order.

Accordingly, as an alternative narrowly tailored to best serve the interests of the parties and the public, the Court conditionally grants CNET's motion to unseal the transcript of the June 23, 2008 hearing. The transcript of the June 23, 2008 hearing, as redacted by the Court, shall be filed in accordance with General Order No. 59 of the Court.

IV. CONCLUSION

The Court GRANTS CNET's Motion for Leave to Intervene for the limited purpose of moving to unseal the court records. The Court orders the Court Reporter to file the redacted transcript of the June 23, 2008 hearing in accordance with General Order No. 59 of the Court. Nothing in this Order prohibits the Court Reporter from charging members of the public for copies of the filed redacted transcript.

The Court refers all matters pertaining to access to any other documents or pleadings filed under seal, including the Confidential Motion to Enforce Settlement and responsive papers, to Magistrate Judge Maria-Elena James. Judge James will determine the timing of the hearing of any motion with respect to access to those documents or pleadings.

20 Dated: July 2, 2008

JAMES WARE
United States District Judge

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Dated: July 2, 2008

Richard W. Wieking, Clerk

By: /s/ JW Chambers
Elizabeth Garcia
Courtroom Deputy