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9 **Attorneys for Plaintiffs and the Proposed Classes**

10 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
 11 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

12 CATS AND DOGS ANIMAL
 13 HOSPITAL, INC.; ASTRO
 14 APPLIANCE SERVICE; BLEEDING
 15 HEART, LLC d/b/a BLEEDING
 16 HEART BAKERY; CALIFORNIA
 17 FURNISHINGS, INC. d/b/a SOFA
 18 OUTLET; CELIBRÉ, INC.; J.L. FERRI
 19 ENTERTAINMENT, INC. d/b/a
 20 ADULT SOCIALS; LE PETITE
 21 RETREAT DAY SPA, LLC; SAN
 22 FRANCISCO BAY BOAT CRUISES,
 23 LLC d/b/a MERMAIDS CRUISE;
 24 WAG MY TAIL, INC.; and ZODIAC
 25 RESTAURANT GROUP, INC. d/b/a
 26 SCION RESTAURANT, on behalf of
 27 themselves and all others similarly
 situated,

Case No: 2:10-cv-01340-VBF-SS
 Pleading Type: Class Action

**PLAINTIFFS' OPPOSITION TO
 DEFENDANT YELP! INC.'S EX
 PARTE APPLICATION TO
 CONSOLIDATE RELATED
 CASES FOR ALL PURPOSES
 AND TO SET DATES FOR
 CONSOLIDATED AMENDED
 COMPLAINT, RESPONSIVE
 PLEADING, AND JOINT
 SCHEDULING CONFERENCE**

Judge: Hon. Valerie Baker Fairbank
 Action Filed: February 23, 2010

Plaintiffs,

v.

YELP! INC.,

Defendant.

1 **PLAINTIFFS’ OPPOSITION TO YELP’S *EX PARTE* MOTION**

2 Having been served with the Complaint in this case a month ago, on
3 February 25, 2010, and having already secured Plaintiffs’ agreement to a two-week
4 extension in which to answer, Yelp now seeks to:

- 5 • cancel the Scheduling Conference that, on March 3, the Court set for
6 April 26, and not reschedule it for at least three months¹;
7 • delay the beginning of discovery by at least three months;
8 • delay any response to the Complaint by at least two months; and
9 • further delay its response to the Complaint by a month, without showing
10 any need or basis, even if the Court denies Yelp’s motion.²

11 But contrary to Yelp’s representation that months of delay are “in the interest of
12 orderly case management” (Mot. at 7), suspension is *not necessary*.

13 Rather than addressing any genuine concern that *LaPausky’s* nearly
14 verbatim copycat complaint—which is entirely subsumed in the *Cats and Dogs*
15 First Amended Complaint—makes case management unruly, Yelp seeks to
16 leverage the copycat filing to delay advancement of this action. But the relief
17 *Plaintiffs* seek in their own *ex parte* motion for consolidation,³ is a *more efficient*,
18 *fairer*, and *complete* solution, which Yelp would surely prefer if it were genuinely
19 interested in efficiency rather than delay.

20 By consolidating the cases, designating the *Cats and Dogs* First Amended
21 Complaint as the consolidated complaint, and appointing The Weston Firm and

22 _____
23 ¹ Yelp asks that the Court order Plaintiffs to file a consolidated complaint 30 days
24 after deciding its motion (not “within” 30 days); that Yelp be allowed 30 more
25 days to Answer; and that a scheduling conference be held no earlier than 30 days
later. (Yelp Ex Parte Mot. at 3, ¶¶3-5.)

26 ² See Yelp Ex Parte Mot. at 3, n.2.

27 ³ Dkt. No. 16.

1 Beck & Lee Business Trial Lawyers as interim class counsel, the Court can
2 provide Yelp with the neatness it professes to want without needlessly delaying the
3 case *at least* three months to Plaintiffs’ prejudice.

4 Rather than recite the arguments made in Plaintiffs’ *ex parte* motion,
5 Plaintiffs briefly make only the following additional two points in opposition to
6 Yelp’s Motion:

7 First, the case schedule in the coming weeks is *already* “sequenced logically
8 to allow sufficient time for consolidation, orderly preparation of post-consolidation
9 complaint and responsive pleading, and resolution of the lead counsel issue” (Mot.
10 at 2 & 7), all while providing ample time to meet and confer on Rule 26 issues and
11 prepare a Joint Rule 26(f) Report by April 12. Yelp’s Answer to *Cats and Dogs’*
12 First Amended Complaint is due in *seven days*, on April 1, and undoubtedly Yelp
13 is prepared to timely file its responsive pleading if the Court does not extend
14 Yelp’s time by three months. In granting Plaintiffs’ motion to designate the *Cats*
15 *and Dogs* First Amended Complaint as the consolidated complaint, the Court
16 would not thereby prejudice Yelp. In other words, designating the *Cats and Dogs*
17 First Amended Complaint as the consolidated complaint would not create any new
18 work for Yelp requiring a three-month delay, nor would it interfere with the case’s
19 current schedule, including the April 26 conference.

20 Second, Yelp’s motion shows *LaPausky’s* counsel is acting contrary to the
21 best interests of the Class. Without advising *Cats and Dogs’* counsel, Mr. Marron
22 has apparently consented entirely to Yelp’s requested delays seeking to thwart the
23 case’s progression. Moreover, *LaPausky’s* counsel has served a “Notice of

24 //

25 //

26 //

27

1 Unavailability of Counsel” in which he claims to not even be accepting *notices* in
2 the case for at least six weeks.⁴

3 Plaintiffs respectfully request that the Court consolidate the *Cats and Dogs*
4 and *LaPausky* actions, but otherwise deny the delay-in-the-form-of-relief that Yelp
5 seeks. Instead, Plaintiffs respectfully request that the Court address Yelp’s
6 concerns by granting Plaintiffs’ *ex parte* motion to consolidate, designating the
7 *Cats and Dogs* First Amended Complaint as the consolidated complaint, and
8 appointing *Cats and Dogs*’ counsel as interim class counsel.

9
10 DATED: March 25, 2010

Respectfully Submitted,

11
12 s/Gregory S. Weston

13 Gregory S. Weston

14 Jack Fitzgerald

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25 ⁴ See Exhibit E to the Declaration of Gregory S. Weston in Support of Plaintiffs’
26 Ex Parte Motion for Reassignment, Consolidation, Designation of Lead Case, and
27 Appointment of Interim Lead Counsel (Dkt. No. 16).

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Counsel for Plaintiffs and the
Proposed Classes

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Evan P. Lee, declare:


I am employed in the City and County of San Diego, State of California in the office of a member of the bar of this court at whose discretion the following service was made. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action. My business address is The Weston Firm, 888 Turquoise Street, San Diego, California 92107. On **March 24, 2010**, I served the following Documents:

1. Plaintiffs' Reply in Opposition to Defendant Yelp! Inc.'s Ex Parte Application to Consolidate

- (a) via electronic filing, using the Court's Case Management/Electronic Case Filing system, to all parties listed for electronic service, **AND**
- (b) via facsimile and email to Ron Marron, Plaintiff's counsel in No. CV 10-01578 VBF (SSx), at Facsimile: (619) 564-6665; e-mail: ron.marron@gmail.com.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California and the United States that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on March 25, 2010, in San Diego, California.


Evan P. Lee