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10	Attorneys for Defendants WILL ADAMS	(sued as WILL ADAMS,		
11	Attorneys for Defendants WILL ADAMS p/k/a will.i.am, individually and d/b/a WI ALLAN PINEDA (sued as ALLAN PINE and d/b/a JEEPNEY MUSIC PUBLISHIN (sued as JAIME GOMEZ, p/k/a Taboo, in NETWORKS BURLISHING, an individual	LL.I AM MUSIC PUBLISHING); EDA, p/k/a apl.de.ap, individually		
12	and d/b/a JEEPNEY MUSIC PUBLISHIN (sued as JAIME GOMEZ, p/k/a Taboo, in	NG, an individual); JAIME GOMEZ		
13	NETWORKS PUBLISHING, an individu STACY FERGUSON, p/k/a Fergie): WIL	al); STACY FERGUSON (sued as		
14	NETWORKS PUBLISHING, an individu STACY FERGUSON, p/k/a Fergie); WIL LANE MUSIC PUBLISHING COMPAN GEORGE PAJON, JR.; EMI BLACKWO	Y, INC.; TAB MAGNETIC, INC.;		
15	OLOROL I AJON, JR., EMI BLACKWC	od wosie, ive.		
16	UNITED STATES	DISTRICT COURT		
17	CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA – WESTERN DIVISION			
18				
19	GEORGE CLINTON, an individual,	Case No. CV10-9476 ODW (PLAx)		
20	Plaintiff,	Hon Otio D. Wright H		
21	v.	Hon. Otis D. Wright, II Courtroom 11		
22		ANSWER OF DEFENDANT		
23	WILL ADAMS, p/k/a will.i.am, individually and d/b/a WILL.I AM	WILLIAM ADAMS AND WILL.I.AM		
24	MUSIC PÜBLISHING; ALLAN PINEDA, p/k/a apl.de.ap, individually and d/b/a JEEPNEY MUSIC	MUSIC, INC.		
25	PUBLISHING, an individual; JAIME			
26	GOMEZ, p/k/a Taboo, individually and d/b/a NAWASHA NETWORKS	Complaint Filed: December 10, 2010		
27	PUBLISHING, an individual;STACY FERGUSON, p/k/a Fergie, an individual;	Trial Date: Not Assigned		
28	GEORGE PAJON, JR., an individual; JOHN CURTIS, an individual;			

9 10 10 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11		4 5 6 7	UNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP, INC., a Delaware corporation; UMG RECORDINGS, INC., a Delaware corporation; and WILL I AM MUSIC, INC., a California corporation; CHERRY LANE MUSIC PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC., a New York corporation; EL CUBANO MUSIC, INC., a California corporation; EMI BLACKWOOD MUSIC, INC., a Connecticut corporation; TAB MAGNETIC, INC., a California corporation; and DOES 1 through 10, Defendants.
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Defendants William Adams p/k/a "will.i.am" (incorrectly identified as "WILL ADAMS, p/k/a will.i.am, individually and d/b/a WILL.I AM MUSIC PUBLISHING"¹) and will.i.am music, inc. present the following Answer to Plaintiff's Complaint ("Complaint"):

NATURE OF THE ACTION

- 1. Answering Paragraph 1 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits that Plaintiff is asking for certain relief, but denies that Plaintiff is entitled to such relief. Further, Defendant Adams admits "Shut Up" was first released in 2003 and two remixes were released in 2003 and 2009, respectively. Defendant Adams denies the remaining allegations.
- 2. Answering Paragraph 2 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 2, and on that basis denies each and every such allegation.
- 3. Answering Paragraph 3 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits that Plaintiff is asking for certain relief, but denies that Plaintiff is entitled to such relief, and further denies the remaining allegations of the paragraph.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 4. Answering Paragraph 4 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits, on information and belief, that this action appears to rise under the Copyright Act and that this Court would appear to have subject matter jurisdiction. Defendant Adams denies that the Complaint states any claim upon which relief can be granted.
- 5. Answering Paragraph 5 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits that he may be found in this district. As to the remaining allegations, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny them, and on that basis, denies such allegations.
- 6. Answering Paragraph 6 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits

¹ WILL.I AM MUSIC PUBLISHING does not exist as a d/b/a or otherwise.

- 7. Answering Paragraph 7 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations of Paragraph 7, and on that basis denies each and every such allegation.
- 8. Answering Paragraph 8 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits that will.i.am music, inc. has conducted business in the State of California.

 Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations contained in Paragraph 8, and on that basis denies each and every such allegation.

PARTIES

- 9. Answering Paragraph 9 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits Clinton is a well-known artist and composer. Defendant Adams is without sufficient information to admit or deny the remaning allegations of Paragraph 9, and on that basis denies such allegations.
- 10. Answering Paragraph 10 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits that he is a resident of California and a founding member of the musical group, The Black Eyed Peas, and has been credited as a producer and songwriter for various songs released by that group. Defendant Adams denies that will.i.am Music Publishing is a sole proprietorship of Defendant Adams or a publisher of any songs written by Defendant Adams and released by The Black Eyed Peas. Defendant Adams admits that "(Not Just) Knee Deep" was sampled in certain remixes of "Shut Up" pursuant to a license.
- 11. Answering Paragraph 11 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits that Defendant Allan Pineda lives in California and is a founding member of the musical group, The Black Eyed Peas, and has been credited as a songwriter for various songs released by that group. Except as otherwise admitted in this Answer,

- 12. Answering Paragraph 12 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits that Defendant Jaime Gómez lives in California and is a founding member of the musical group, The Black Eyed Peas, and has been credited as a songwriter for various songs released by that group. Except as otherwise admitted in this Answer, Defendant Adams lacks information sufficient to form a belief as to what Plaintiff is informed or believes, and on that basis denies the remaining allegations in this paragraph.
- 13. Answering Paragraph 13 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits that Defendant Stacy Ferguson first collaborated with The Black Eyed Peas on the album Elephunk and performs vocally on certain remixes of the song "Shut Up." Except as otherwise admitted in this Answer, Defendant Adams lacks information sufficient to form a belief as to what Plaintiff is informed or believes, and on that basis denies the remaining allegations in this paragraph.
- 14. Answering Paragraph 14 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits that Defendant George Pajon, Jr. is credited as a songwriter on various songs released by the group, The Black Eyed Peas. Except as otherwise admitted in this Answer, Defendant Adams is without sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations of Paragraph 14, and on that basis denies such allegations.
- 15. Answering Paragraph 15 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits that Defendant John Curtis is credited as a songwriter on various songs released by the group, The Black Eyed Peas. Except as otherwise admitted in this Answer, Defendant Adams is without sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations of Paragraph 15, and on that basis denies such allegations.
- 16. Answering Paragraph 16 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits that the remaining defendants are commercial entities within the music industry.

 Except as otherwise admitted in this Answer, Defendant Adams is without sufficient

- 17. Answering Paragraph 17 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 17, and on that basis denies each and every such allegation.
- 18. Answering Paragraph 18 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 18, and on that basis denies each and every such allegation.
- 19. Answering Paragraph 19 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams is without sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations of Paragraph 19, and on that basis denies such allegations.
- 20. Answering Paragraph 20 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies exploiting infringing sound records. Defendant Adams lacks information sufficient to form a belief as to what Plaintiff is informed or believes, and on that basis denies the remaining allegations in this paragraph.
- 21. Answering Paragraph 21 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks information sufficient to form a belief as to what Plaintiff is informed or believes, and on that basis denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 22. Answering Paragraph 22 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks information sufficient to form a belief as to what Plaintiff is informed or believes, and on that basis denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 23. Answering Paragraph 23 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks information sufficient to form a belief as to what Plaintiff is informed or believes, and on that basis denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 24. Answering Paragraph 24 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks information sufficient to form a belief as to what Plaintiff is informed or believes, and on that basis denies the allegations in this paragraph.
 - 25. Answering Paragraph 25 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks

- 26. Answering Paragraph 26 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 27. Answering Paragraph 27 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.

SAMPLING "(NOT JUST) KNEE DEEP"

- 28. Answering Paragraph 28 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits that certain remixes of "Shut Up" contain authorized samples of "(Not Just) Knee Deep" pursuant to a license. Except as expressly admitted, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 29. Answering Paragraph 29 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits that certain remixes of "Shut Up" contain authorized samples of "(Not Just) Knee Deep" pursuant to a license. Except as expressly admitted, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 30. Answering Paragraph 30 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits that certain remixes of "Shut Up" contain authorized samples of "(Not Just) Knee Deep" pursuant to a license. Defendant Adams further admits that sound recordings of the musical compositions "Shut Up" and "Shut Up Remix" have been exploited since their creation. Except as admitted herein, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 31. Answering Paragraph 31 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits that, upon information and belief, a recording of "(Not Just)" Knee Deep" appears on Funkadelic's album "Uncle Jam Wants You," and on information and belief it has been sampled by many musical artistis. Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the remaining allegations of Paragraph 31, and on that basis, denies such remaining allegations.
 - 32. Answering Paragraph 32 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks

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- 33. Answering Paragraph 33 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations of Paragraph 33, and on that basis denies each and every such allegation.
- 34. Answering Paragraph 34 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations of Paragraph 34, and on that basis, denies each and every such allegation.
- 35. Answering Paragraph 35 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations of Paragraph 35, and on that basis denies each and every such allegation.
- 36. Answering Paragraph 36 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations of Paragraph 36, and on that basis denies each and every such allegation.
- 37. Answering Paragraph 37 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 38. Answering Paragraph 38 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.

RELEASE OF SHUT UP REMIX

- 39. Answering Paragraph 39 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits the allegations in this paragraph.
- 40. Answering Paragraph 40 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits the allegations in this paragraph.
- 41. Answering Paragraph 41 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks information sufficient to form a belief as to what Plaintiff is informed or believes, and on that basis denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 42. Answering Paragraph 42 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits, upon information and belief, the allegations in this paragraph.

- 43. Answering Paragraph 43 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations set forth in this paragraph, and on that basis denies the same.
- 44. Answering Paragraph 44 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits certin remixes have been exploited in singles. Defendant Adams lacks information as to which remixes Plaintiff is referring to, and on that basis denies the remaining allegations of the paragraph
- 45. Answering Paragraph 45 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits that certain remixes contain authorized samples. Defendant Adams lacks information as to which remixes Plaintiff is referring to, and on that basis denies the remaining allegations of the paragraph.
- 46. Answering Paragraph 46 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks information as to which remixes Plaintiff is referring to, and on that basis denies the remaining allegations of the paragraph.
- 47. Answering Paragraph 47 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations set forth in this paragraph, and on that basis denies the same.
- 48. Answering Paragraph 48 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.

RELEASE OF "SHUT THE PHUNK UP REMIX"

- 49. Answering Paragraph 49 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 49, and on that basis, denies each and every allegation.
- 50. Answering Paragraph 50 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 50 of the Complaint, and on that basis denies each and every such allegation.
- 51. Answering Paragraph 51 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits that The Black Eyed Peas album, "The E.N.D." was released in or about June of

- 52. Answering Paragraph 52 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits that *The E.N.D.* was nominated by the Grammy Awards for "Album of the Year" and won a Grammy Award for the "Best Pop Vocal Album" on or about January 31, 2010. Defenant Adams denies the remaining allegations in this paragraph.
- 53. Answering Paragraph 53 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient to form a belief as to what Plaintiff is informed or believes, and on that basis denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 54. Answering Paragraph 54 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient to form a belief as to what Plaintiff is informed or believes, and on that basis denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 55. Answering Paragraph 55 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 55, and on that basis denies each and every such allegation.
- 56. Answering Paragraph 56 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 57. Answering Paragraph 57 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 57, and on that basis denies each and every such allegation.
- 58. Answering Paragraph 58 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 58, and on that basis denies each and every such allegation.
- 59. Answering Paragraph 59 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 59, and on that basis denies each and every such allegation.
 - 60. Answering Paragraph 60 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks

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sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 60, and on that basis, denies each and every such allegation

- 61. Answering Paragraph 61 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 61, and on that basis denies each and every such allegation.
- 62. Answering Paragraph 62 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 62, and on that basis denies each and every such allegation.

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS OF SAMPLING

- 63. Answering Paragraph 63 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in this paragraph, and on that basis denies each and every such allegation.
- 64. Answering Paragraph 64 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in this paragraph, and on that basis denies each and every such allegation.

LIABILITY OF EACH DEFENDANT AND DAMAGES TO PLAINTIFF

- 65. Answering Paragraph 65 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 66. Answering Paragraph 66 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 67. Answering Paragraph 67 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 67, and on that basis denies each and every such allegation.
- 68. Answering Paragraph 68 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 68, and on that basis, denies each and every such allegation.
- 69. Answering Paragraph 69 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.

- 70. Answering Paragraph 70 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.
 71. Answering Paragraph 71 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 72. Answering Paragraph 72 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Copyright infringement (sound recording) relating to "(Not Just) Knee Deep";

against all named defendants and DOES 1 through 10)

- 73. Answering Paragraph 73 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams incorporates his answers and responses to Paragraphs 1-72 above, as if fully restated herein.
- 74. Answering Paragraph 74 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 75. Answering Paragraph 75 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 76. Answering Paragraph 76 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 77. Answering Paragraph 77 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 78. Answering Paragraph 78 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 79. Answering Paragraph 79 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 80. Answering Paragraph 80 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.
 - 81. Answering Paragraph 81 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies

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the allegations in this paragraph.

- 82. Answering Paragraph 82 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.
- 83. Answering Paragraph 83 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies the allegations in this paragraph.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Declaratory Judgment;

against all named defendants and DOES 1 through 10)

- 84. Answering Paragraph 84 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams incorporates his answers and responses to Paragraphs 1-83 above, as if fully restated herein.
- 85. Answering Paragraph 85 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams lacks sufficient information to admit or deny the allegations contained in Paragraph 85, and on that basis denies each and every such allegation.
- 86. Answering Paragraph 86 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits that, upon information and belief, Plaintiff seeks declaratory relief, but denies that he is entitled to such relief. As to the remaining allegations of Paragraph 86, Defendant denies each and every such allegation.
- 87. Answering Paragraph 87 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits that, upon information and belief, Plaintiff seeks declaratory relief, but denies that he is entitled to such relief. As to the remaining allegations of Paragraph 87, Defendant denies each and every such allegation.

THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Permanent injunction;

(against all named defendants and DOES 1 through 10)

88. Answering Paragraph 88 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams incorporates his answers and responses to Paragraphs 1-87 above, as if fully restated herein.

89. Answering Paragraph 89 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies 1 the allegations in this paragraph. 2 Answering Paragraph 90 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies 90. 3 the allegations in this paragraph. 4 Answering Paragraph 91 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams admits 91. 5 that, upon information and belief, Plaintiff seeks an injunction, but denies that 6 Plaintiff is entitled to an injunction of any sort, and further, notes that an injunction 7 is a species of relief, not a discrete claim for relief. 8 Plaintiff's Complaint does not include a Pararaph 92, and therefore, no 92. 9 response is given for that numbered paragraph. 10 Plaintiff's Complaint does not include a Pararaph 93, and therefore, no 93. 11 response is given for that numbered paragraph. 12 NATURE OF LIABILITY 13 94. Answering Paragraph 94 of the Complaint, Defendant Adams denies 14 the allegations of this paragraph. 15 PRAYER FOR RELIEF 16 Defendant Adams denies that Plaintiff is entitled to any of the relief requested 17 in his Prayer for Relief. 18 **AFFMIRMATIVE DEFENSES** 19 FIRST DEFENSE 20 (Failure to State a Claim) 21 The Complaint and all claims for relief alleged therein fail to state a 1. 22 claim upon which relief can be granted. 23 SECOND DEFENSE 24 (License) 25 2. Plaintiff's claims and the relief requested are barred based on the 26 existence of a valid license that authorized each of the Defendants to engage in the 27 allegedly infringing conduct. 28

1		THIRD DEFENSE	
2		(Statute of Limitations)	
3	3.	The Complaint is barred by the applicable statute of limitations.	
4		FOURTH DEFENSE	
5		(Consent)	
6	4.	Plaintiffs claims and the relief requested because he consented to	
7	allegedly wrongful conduct stated in the Complaint.		
8		FIFTH DEFENSE	
9		(Waiver)	
10	5.	Plaintiff's claims and relief requested are barred by the equitable	
11	doctrine of waiver.		
12		SIXTH DEFENSE	
13		(Acquiescence)	
14	6.	Plaintiff's claims and relief requested are barred by the equitable	
15	doctrine of acquiescence.		
16		SEVENTH DEFENSE	
17		(Estoppel)	
18	7.	Plaintiff's claims and relief requested are barred by the equitable	
19	doctrine of estoppel.		
20		EIGHTH DEFENSE	
21		(Laches)	
22	8.	This Complaint is barred in whole or in part by the equitable doctrine	
23	of laches.		
24		NINTH DEFENSE	
25		(Unclean Hands)	
26	9.	Plaintiff's claims and requested relief are barred by the equitable	
27	doctrine of unclean hands.		
28			

RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

Defendant Adams reserves the right, upon completion of his investigation and discovery, to advance such additional defenses and/or counterclaims as they may be appropriate.

WHEREFORE, having fully answered Plaintiff's Complaint, Defendant
Adams prays for judgment against Plaintiff and awarding Defendant Adams his
costs, interest, reasonable attorneys' fees, together with such other and further relief
as the Court may deem proper.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 4, 2011

BRYAN CAVE LLP
Jonathan S. Pink
Kara E. F. Cenar
Mariangela M. Seale

By: /s/ Jonathan S. Pink
Jonathan S. Pink
Attorneys for Defendants
WILL ADAMS; ALLAN PINEDA; JAIME
GOMEZ; STACY FERGUSON;
WILL.I.AM MUSIC, INC.; CHERRY
LANE MUSIC PUBLISHING COMPANY,
INC.; TAB MAGNETIC, INC.; GEORGE
PAJON, JR.; EMI BLACKWOOD MUSIC,
INC.

JURY TRIAL DEMAND Defendant Adams hereby demands a jury trial. Respectfully submitted, **BRYAN CAVE LLP** Dated: March 4, 2011 Jonathan S. Pink Kara E. F. Cenar Mariangela M. Seale By: <u>/s/Jonathan S. Pink</u> Jonathan S. Pink Attorneys for Defendants
WILL ADAMS; ALLAN PINEDA; JAIME
GOMEZ; STACY FERGUSON;
WILL.I.AM MUSIC, INC.; CHERRY
LANE MUSIC PUBLISHING COMPANY, 3161 MICHELSON DRIVE, SUITE 1500 IRVINE, CALIFORNIA 92612-4414 INC.; TAB MAGNETIC, INC.; GEORGE PAJON, JR.; EMI BLACKWOOD MUSIC, INC.