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16		
17	UNITED STATES	DISTRICT COURT
18	CENTRAL DISTRIC	CT OF CALIFORNIA
19	WESTERN	DIVISION
20		
21	LEGALZOOM.COM, INC., a Delaware corporation,	Case No. 2:12-cv-09942-GAF-AGR
22	Plaintiff,	JOINT SCHEDULING CONFERENCE REPORT
23	,	PURSUANT TO RULE 26(f)
24	v. ROCKET LAWYER	Date: April 15, 2013
25	INCORPORATED, a Delaware	Time: 1:30 p.m. Judge: Judge Gary A. Feess
26	corporation,	Courtroom: 740 255 East Temple Street
27	Defendant.	Los Angeles, CA 90012 Action Filed: November 20, 2012
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Plaintiff LegalZoom.com, Inc. ("Plaintiff" or "LegalZoom") and Defendant Rocket Lawyer Incorporated ("Defendant" or "Rocket Lawyer," collectively "the Parties") hereby submit this Joint Scheduling Conference Report Pursuant to Rule 26(f) and the Court's Order Regarding Rule 26(f) Scheduling Conference and Joint Report, ECF No. 12, following a series of conferences of the Parties first held on March 1, 2013 and the final conference held on April 4, 2013.

I. SYNOPSIS

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A. Plaintiff

LegalZoom asserts that Rocket Lawyer has engaged in willful and systematic acts of false advertising and unfair competition in violation of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a) and California Business & Professions Code §§ 17500 and 17200 et seq. In particular, LegalZoom asserts that Rocket Lawyer falsely and misleadingly advertises "free" products and services, which Rocket Lawyer knows, or by exercise of reasonable care should know, are not in fact "free." For example, Rocket Lawyer's advertisements represent that customers can "incorporate for free... pay no fees (\$0)" and "free incorporation," when, in fact, customers seeking to "incorporate for free" through Rocket Lawyer's services are nonetheless required to pay the state fees associated with incorporation – a fact which customers do not discovery until after they have accessed the Rocket Lawyer website, completed a "company setup" and filled out information relating to the "company details." Rocket Lawyer's advertisements also represent that customers can get "free help from local attorneys" and "free legal review" when, in fact, access to the "free help from local attorneys" and access to the "free legal review" are available only after customers become paid members of RocketLawyer's "Basic Legal Plan" or "Pro Legal Plan." This membership requirement for the "free help from local attorneys" and "free legal review" is **not** disclosed in close proximity to the advertisements on the RocketLawyer website. While after the filing of LegalZoom's original Complaint, RocketLawyer changed the language of its "On Call Terms of Service"

to provide that "Customers who enter into a one week (seven (7) calendar days) free 1 2 trial are eligible to receive one (1) free legal matter consultation," access to the 3 advertised "free help from local attorneys" and the "free legal review" is still 4 conditioned upon customers actively enrolling in RocketLawyer's trial membership and providing RocketLawyer with their credit card information. Rocket Lawyer's 5 advertisements also represent that customers can get "free" trials of RocketLawyer's 6 "Pro Legal Plan," when, in fact, customers who sign up for a trial membership under 7 8 the "Pro Legal Plan" are directed to enroll in a one-week trial of RocketLawyer's "Basic Legal Plan" and thereafter find themselves enrolled unwittingly in 9 RocketLawyer's "negative option" program without conspicuous notice of the terms 10 11 at the outset of the offer. Not only does Rocket Lawyer engage in false and 12 misleading advertisement practices, Rocket Lawyer purchases search terms, including, but not limited to, "LegalZoom," "LegalZoom" and "LegalZoom.com," 13 from Internet search engines such as Google.com, Yahoo.com and Bing.com, to 14 15 trigger sponsored links to Rocket Lawyer's false and misleading advertisements, which improperly diverts potential LegalZoom customers to Rocket Lawyer's 16 17 website. Further, LegalZoom asserts that Rocket Lawyer has registered, in bad 18 faith, the internet domain names, "www.legalzoomgadget.com" and "www.legalzoomer.com." These domain names are confusingly similar to 19 LegalZoom's trademarks and Rocket Lawyer is not licensed or authorized in any 20 way to use LegalZoom's trademarks, or any confusingly similar imitations thereon 21 in connection with its advertisements for its products or services. 22

B. Defendant

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Plaintiff's First Amended Complaint, ECF No. 14, asserts claims for: (1) Federal False & Misleading Advertising and Unfair Competition under the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a); (2) California False and Misleading Advertising; and (3) California Unfair Competition Law violations.

Plaintiff's first two claims allege that Rocket Lawyer has advertised a variety

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of free services without disclosing related fees and/or limitations. Rocket Lawyer asserts two main affirmative defenses:

- (1) Unclean Hands: Plaintiff engages in the same conduct alleged in its complaint, in particular in its use of "free" for its own products and services, and engages in misleading and anticompetitive conduct by operating through an agent the review website www.legalspring.com, which represents itself as a neutral third party while actually promoting Plaintiff's website to the detriment of consumers and competitors, including Rocket Lawyer.
- (2) Laches, Waiver, and/or Estoppel: Plaintiff raised the alleged misconduct with Rocket Lawyer over a year before filing its complaint, delaying filing to coincide with Rocket Lawyer's much-publicized international launch after conveying by inaction its lack of interest in prosecuting the alleged claims. Rocket Lawyer relied on Plaintiff's silence after initially raising these allegations to Rocket Lawyer's detriment.

Rocket Lawyer asserts counterclaims based on LegalZoom's operation or direction of LegalSpring.com ("LegalSpring"). LegalSpring purports to be a neutral, third-party reviewer of legal services providers. In fact, LegalSpring was created by a LegalZoom employee, likely at LegalZoom's direction, and it acts to promote LegalZoom while failing to mention several of its top competitors at all, and it receives payments from LegalZoom in exchange for the click-throughs it provides. LegalZoom has not adequately disclosed its relationship and/or direction of LegalSpring, thus causing a likelihood of consumer confusion or deception, harming Rocket Lawyer through the direct diversion of sales from Rocket Lawyer to LegalZoom.

Rocket Lawyer seeks declaratory judgment that it has properly advertised its free products and services. Rocket Lawyer has also alleged that LegalZoom has engaged in misleading and/or false business practices, in violation of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a) and the California Business and Professions Code,

§§ 17500 and 17200 et seq.

II. KEY LEGAL ISSUES

A. Plaintiff

LegalZoom asserts that the issues in dispute are whether Rocket Lawyer's conduct constitutes violation of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a) and California Business & Professions Code §§ 17500 and 17200 *et seq.* and whether Rocket Lawyer's claims against LegalZoom are valid.

B. Defendant

The key legal issues from Defendant's perspective include:

- Whether Rocket Lawyer has adequately disclosed in its advertisements the terms and conditions related to its free products and services;
- The nature of the relationship between Plaintiff and Travis Giggy and/or LegalSpring.com;
- Whether LegalSpring.com constitutes advertising for Plaintiff;
- Whether Plaintiff's operation and/or direction of LegalSpring.com constitutes advertising and, if so, whether such advertising is misleading and or deceptive;
- Whether Plaintiff's claims are barred in whole or in part by the doctrine of unclean hands; and
- Whether Plaintiff's claims are barred in whole or in party by the doctrine of laches and/or estoppel.

III. PERCIPIENT WITNESSES AND KEY DOCUMENTS

A. Percipient Witnesses

1. Plaintiff

Based on information reasonably available to LegalZoom at this time, LegalZoom hereby identifies the following percipient witnesses:

- (a) Brian Liu;
- (b) Dorian Quispe;

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- (c) Scott MacDonnell; and
- (d) Eddie Hartman

2. Defendant

Defendant's expected witnesses include:

- (a) Charles Moore, Founder and Executive Chairman, Rocket Lawyer;
- (b) David Bega, Senior Vice President, Sales and Business Development,Rocket Lawyer; and
- (c) Alisa Weiner, Vice President, Marketing, Rocket Lawyer.

B. Key Documents

1. Plaintiff

Based upon information reasonably available to LegalZoom at this time, LegalZoom hereby describes the key documents:

- (a) LegalZoom's trademarks and file history;
- (b) Communications and other documents related to RocketLawyer's use of LegalZoom's trademarks as search terms to trigger RocketLawyer's advertisements;
- (c) Communications and other documents related to RocketLawyer's advertisements using the term "free";
- (d) Communications and other documents related to RocketLawyer's negative option program;
- (e) RocketLawyer's registration of the domain names www.legalzoomer.com and www.legalzoomgadget.com; and
- (f) Non-party Legalspring.com's disclosure related to its affiliate relationships with third party sites reviewed on its site.

2. Defendant

Based on information reasonably available at this time, Rocket Lawyer expects to rely on:

(a) Advertising by Plaintiff in various formats and locations;

- (b) Screenshots of advertising by Rocket Lawyer in various formats and locations;
- (c) Screenshots of LegalSpring.com;
- (d) Documents and communications establishing the relationship between Plaintiff and LegalSpring.com, as well as its creator, Travis Giggy;
- (e) Documents showing the volume business driven to Plaintiff through its affiliation with and/or direction of LegalSpring.com;
- (f) Documents showing Plaintiff's history of duplicating Rocket Lawyer's products, services, and web layouts;
- (g) Documents and communications related to LegalZoom's advertising use of the word "free".

The above documents reflect what was attached as part of Rocket Lawyer's answer and counterclaims and the documents currently available to Rocket Lawyer. Both parties have served written discovery and Rocket Lawyer anticipates that additional evidence in support of Rocket Lawyer's counterclaims and defenses will be produced in discovery.

IV. DAMAGES

A. Plaintiff

LegalZoom is currently unaware of the total amount of damages as it has not yet received any discovery in this case. LegalZoom seeks damages adequate to compensate it for Rocket Lawyer's misconduct, including its actual damages, Rocket Lawyer's profits, treble and punitive damages, as well as its attorneys' fees and costs, in an amount to be ascertained pursuant to applicable laws, including without limitation, 15 U.S.C. §1117 and California law. LegalZoom further seeks the transfer of the domains, www.legalzoomer.com and www.legalzoomgadget.com, to LegalZoom. LegalZoom further seeks a temporary, preliminary and permanent injunction against Rocket Lawyer from further registration of domain names that are identical or confusingly similar to

LegalZoom's trademarks, or any infringing or dilutive variations thereto, from further use of LegalZoom's trademarks as search terms to trigger sponsored links to Rocket Lawyer's false and misleading advertisements, from further use of false and misleading advertisements as alleged in LegalZoom's First Amended Complaint, and from any further acts of false and misleading advertising and unfair competition that would damage or injure LegalZoom.

B. Defendant

Rocket Lawyer has no knowledge of the total amount of damages as no discovery has not yet occurred. Rocket Lawyer seeks damages resulting from LegalZoom's improper conduct, including statutory damages, restitution for LegalZoom's violation of Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200, punitive and exemplary damages, and its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs. Rocket Lawyer expects that the total amount of damages will be determined in part by the nature of LegalZoom's relationship with LegalSpring, the volume of customers channeled to LegalZoom by LegalSpring, the revenue received as a result and any payments made by LegalZoom to LegalSpring in exchange.

V. INSURANCE

There does not currently appear to be insurance coverage for the claims being alleged in this action.

VI. LIKELIHOOD OF MOTIONS

A. Motions to Add Parties

The Parties believe that the likelihood is low that either party will file a motion to add additional parties.

B. Motions to Amend Pleadings

The Parties believe that the likelihood is low that either party will file a motion to amend the pleadings and as such have agreed that the pleadings may be amended only upon a showing of good cause.

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C. Motions to Transfer Venue

The parties do not anticipate any motions to transfer venue.

VII. DISCOVERY

A. Completed Discovery

The Parties agreed to allow discovery to commence on March 8, 2013. Each Party has served written discovery as of March 13, 2013.

B. Contemplated Future Discovery

The Parties' contemplated future discovery will be addressed *supra* in Section VIII regarding the Discovery Plan. LegalZoom proposes a discovery cut-off of December 3, 2013. Rocket Lawyer proposes a discovery cut-off of December 6, 2013.

VIII. DISCOVERY PLAN

A. Anticipated Depositions

1. By Plaintiff

At this time, LegalZoom anticipates taking approximately five depositions, including, the depositions of: (1) Charley Moore, founder of Executive Chairman of Rocket Lawyer; (2) David Baga, Senior Vice President of Sales and Business Development of Rocket Lawyer; and (3) Alisa Weiner, Vice President of Marketing of Rocket Lawyer.

2. By Defendant

Currently, Rocket Lawyer anticipates taking approximately seven (7) depositions, including those of: (1) Travis Giggy; (2) LegalSpring; (3) LegalZoom, Inc.; (4) Brian Liu; (5) Dorian Quispe; and (6) Scott MacDonnell; and (7) Eddie Hartman. Rocket Lawyer is considering deposing third parties including Alexander Rozman and Google, Inc.

B. Contemplated Written Discovery Requests

Written discovery has been served by both Parties as of March 12, 2013. However, the Parties anticipate that each may serve additional written discovery in

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the form of interrogatories, requests for admission, and requests for production of documents.

C. Schedule for Completion of Discovery

LegalZoom proposes a discovery cut-off of December 3, 2013. Rocket Lawyer proposes a discovery cut-off of December 6, 2013. LegalZoom proposes an expert disclosure deadline of September 24, 2013, and rebuttal report deadline of October 29, 2013. Rocket Lawyer proposes an expert disclosure deadline of September 27, 2013, and rebuttal report deadline of November 1, 2013. The Parties agree that expert depositions shall be held in October or November 2013 prior to the cut-off of discovery.

IX. PROPOSED DISCOVERY CUT-OFF DATE

LegalZoom proposes a discovery cut-off of December 3, 2013. Rocket Lawyer proposes a discovery cut-off of December 6, 2013.

X. ISSUES/CLAIMS RESOLVABLE UPON MOTION

A. Plaintiff

While LegalZoom believes a dispositive motion could be filed on one or more of its claims at this time, LegalZoom will defer the filing of any such motion until it obtains discovery from Rocket Lawyer.

B. Defendant

Rocket Lawyer anticipates that it may seek to resolve certain issues, claims and/or counterclaims through motion for summary judgment, depending upon the documents produced and information exchanged in discovery.

XI. SCHEDULE OF CONTEMPLATED LAW AND MOTION MATTERS

A. Plaintiff

LegalZoom anticipates that it will file a motion for partial summary judgment concerning one or more issues pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 56.

B. Defendant

Rocket Lawyer anticipates that it will file a motion for summary judgment or

partial summary judgment pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 56.

XII. SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS

The Parties have agreed to an early settlement conference with Magistrate Gandhi to determine whether the Parties may be able to resolve this case. The Parties are continuing to discuss the process for mediation.

XIII. ESTIMATED TRIAL LENGTH

The Parties anticipate a 4-5 day jury trial.

XIV. PROPOSED DATES

Matter	Time	Weeks before trial	Plaintiff(s) (Request)	Defendant(s) (Request)	Court Order
Trial (jury) (court) Estimated length: 4-5 days	8:30 am	triai	February 14, 2014	March 7, 2014	
[Jury trial] Hearing on Motions in Limine; Hearing on Disputed Jury Instructions	9:30 am	-1	February 7, 2014	February 28, 2014	
[Court trial] File Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law; Hearing on Motions in Limine		-1	N/A	N/A	
Pretrial Conference; Motions in Limine to be filed; Proposed Voir Dire Qs Lodged and Agreed—to Statement of Case	3:30 pm	-4	January 17, 2014	January 31, 2014	
Lodge Pretrial Conf. Order; File Memo of Contentions of Fact and Law; Exhibit & Witness Lists; File Status Report re Settlement; File Agreed Upon Set of Jury Instructions and Verdict Forms; File Joint Statement re Disputed Instructions, Verdicts, etc.		-6	January 3, 2014	January 17, 2014	

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Matter	Time	before trial	(Request)	(Request)	Court Order
Last date to conduct Settlement Conference		-8	2 weeks after ruling on dispositive motion	December 20, 2013	
Last day for hearing motions	9:30 am	<u>-9</u>	December 10, 2013	December 13, 2013	
Discovery cut-off [Note: Expert disclosure no later than 70 days prior to this date.]		-10	December 3, 2013 (expert disclosures September 24, 2013)	December 6, 2013 (expert disclosures September 27, 2013)	
Last to Amend Pleadings or Add Parties			Good cause	Good cause	

XV. OTHER ISSUES

Confidential information will be exchanged in this matter; therefore, the parties agree that a protective order will be necessary and will attempt to agree on the form of the protective order. The parties also agree that service by e-mail will be regarded as personal service under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 5(b) for purposes of serving any document or pleading. For any pleading that are non-confidential and that are served using the ECF system, the parties agree to accept service via the NEF from the ECF system. For any portion of any pleading that is confidential and that is filed with the Court under seal, the parties agree to accept service by e-mail, which service shall be regarded as personal service under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 5(b).

The parties have also agreed to discuss a format for productions and a privilege log. They are also considering exchanging search terms for the search and review of documents responsive to each parties' respective requests for production.

XVI. CORPORATE DISCLOSURES

Α. **Plaintiff**

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LegalZoom has lodged a Certification and Notice of Interested Parties with the Court identifying Institutional Venture Partners XIII, L.P. and Polaris Venture Partners V, L.P. as shareholders of LegalZoom. See ECF No. 2. Other than the entities listed on LegalZoom's Certification and Notice of Interested Parties and the named parties, there are no entities known by LegalZoom to have either: (a) a financial interest in the subject matter in controversy or in a party to the proceeding; or (2) any other kind of interest that could be substantially affected by the outcome of the proceeding.

В. **Defendant**

Defendant has lodged a Corporate Disclosure Statement with the Court identifying that Rocket Lawyer has no parents or subsidiaries. See ECF No. 8. Other than the entities listed on Rocket Lawyer's Corporate Disclosure Statement and the named Parties, there are no entities known by Rocket Lawyer to have either: (a) a financial interest in the subject matter in controversy or in a party to the proceeding; or (2) any other kind of interest that could be substantially affected by the outcome of the proceeding.

Dated: April 8, 2013

Respectfully submitted,

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By:/s/ Fred D. Heather Patricia L. Glaser pglaser@glaserweil.com Fred D. Heather fheather@glaserweil.com Mary Ann T. Nguyen mnguyen@glaserweil.com GLASER WEIL FINK JACOBS HOWARD AVCHEN & SHAPIRO LLP 10250 Constellation Boulevard, 19th Floor

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PROOF OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, certify and declare that I am over the age of 18 years, employed in Suffolk County Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and not a party to the above-entitled cause. On April 8, 2013, I electronically filed the following document(s) using the CM/ECF system.

JOINT SCHEDULING CONFERENCE REPORT PURSUANT TO RULE 26(f)

Participants in the case who are registered CM/ECF users will be served by the CM/ECF system. I further certify that some of the participants in the case are not registered CM/ECF users. I have mailed the foregoing document by First Class Mail, Federal Express, postage prepaid, or have dispatched it to a third party commercial carrier for delivery within 3 calendar days, to the following non-CM/ECF participants:

Mary Ann Thi Nguyen Glaser Weil Fink Jacobs Howard Avchen and Shapiro LLP 10250 Constellation Boulevard 19th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90067

I declare under penalty of perjury that I am employed in the office of a member of the bar of this Court at whose direction this service was made and that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on April 8, 2013, at Boston, Massachusetts.

Arianne M. Waldron (Type or print name)