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 Woods; Blind Squirrel, LLC; Outlaw
 7 Entertainment, LLC (erroneously sued as Outlaw
 Entertainment Group, LLC); and Warmonger
 8 Media, Inc.

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14 Attorneys for Plaintiff Rob Thomas

15
 16 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
 17 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**
 18

19 ROB THOMAS, an individual,
 20
 21 Plaintiff,

22 v.

23 JOHN SKIPPER (“SKIP”) WOODS, an
 individual, *et al.*,
 24 Defendants.

Case No.: 2:13-cv-9389-FMO (SHx)

**STIPULATED PROTECTIVE
 ORDER**

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Plaintiff Rob Thomas and Defendants John Skipper (“Skip”) Woods, Blind Squirrel, LLC, Outlaw Entertainment, LLC, and Warmonger Media, Inc., by and through their attorneys of record, for the protection of the parties’ financial information and other confidential information (including but not limited to unpublished creative materials, if any), hereby Stipulate, and request that the Court Order, as follows:

1. Classified Information

“Classified Information” means any information of any type, kind, or character that is designated as “Confidential” or “Attorneys Eyes Only” by any of the supplying or receiving persons, whether it be a document, information contained in a document, information revealed during a deposition, information revealed in an interrogatory answer, or otherwise.

2. Qualified Persons

“Qualified Persons” means:

a. For Attorneys Eyes Only information:

- i. retained counsel for the parties in this litigation and their respective staff;
- ii. actual or potential independent experts or consultants (and their administrative or clerical staff) engaged in connection with this litigation (which shall not include the current employees, officers, members, or agents of parties or affiliates of parties) who, prior to any disclosure of Classified Information to such person, have signed a document agreeing to be bound by the terms of this Protective Order (such signed document to be maintained by the attorney retaining such person) and have been designated in writing by notice to all counsel;

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iii. this court and its staff and any other tribunal or dispute resolution officer duly appointed or assigned in connection with this litigation.

b. For Confidential information:

- i. the persons identified in subparagraph 2(a);
- ii. the party, if a natural person;
- iii. if the party is an entity, such officers or employees of the party who are actively involved in the prosecution or defense of this case who, prior to any disclosure of Confidential information to such person, have been designated in writing by notice to all counsel and have signed a document agreeing to be bound by the terms of this Protective Order (such signed document to be maintained by the attorney designating such person);
- iv. litigation vendors, court reporters, and other litigation support personnel;
- v. any person who was an author, addressee, or intended or authorized recipient of the Confidential information and who agrees to keep the information confidential, provided that such persons may see and use the Confidential information but not retain a copy.

c. Such other person as this court may designate after notice and an opportunity to be heard.

3. Designation Criteria

a. Nonclassified Information. Classified Information shall not include information that either:

- i. is in the public domain at the time of disclosure, as evidenced by a written document;
- ii. becomes part of the public domain through no fault of the recipient, as evidenced by a written document;
- iii. the receiving party can show by written document was in its rightful and lawful possession at the time of disclosure; or

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3 iv. lawfully comes into the recipient’s possession subsequent to the
4 time of disclosure from another source without restriction as to disclosure,
5 provided such third party has the right to make the disclosure to the receiving
6 party.

7 b. Classified Information. A party shall designate as Classified
8 Information only such information that the party in good faith believes in fact is
9 confidential. Information that is generally available to the public, such as public
10 filings, catalogues, advertising materials, and the like, shall not be designated as
11 Classified.

12 Information and documents that may be designated as Classified Information
13 include, but are not limited to, trade secrets, confidential or proprietary financial
14 information, operational data, business plans, and competitive analyses, personnel
15 files, personal information that is protected by law, and other sensitive information
16 that, if not restricted as set forth in this order, may subject the producing or
17 disclosing person to competitive or financial injury or potential legal liability to
18 third parties.

19 Correspondence and other communications between the parties or with
20 nonparties may be designated as Classified Information if the communication was
21 made with the understanding or reasonable expectation that the information would
22 not become generally available to the public.

23 c. Attorneys Eyes Only. The designation “Attorneys Eyes Only” shall be
24 reserved for information that is believed to be unknown to the opposing party or
25 parties, or any of the employees of a corporate party. For purposes of this order, so-
26 designated information includes, but is not limited to, product formula information,
27 design information, non-public financial information, pricing information, customer
28 identification data, and certain study methodologies.

 d. Ultrasensitive Information. At this point, the parties do not anticipate
the need for higher levels of confidentiality as to ultrasensitive documents or

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3 information. However, in the event that a court orders that ultrasensitive documents
4 or information be produced, the parties will negotiate and ask the court to enter an
5 ultrasensitive information protocol in advance of production to further protect such
6 information.

7 4. Use of Classified Information

8 All Classified Information provided by any party or nonparty in the course of
9 this litigation shall be used solely for the purpose of preparation, trial, and appeal of
10 this litigation and for no other purpose, and shall not be disclosed except in
11 accordance with the terms hereof.

12 5. Marking of Documents

13 Documents provided in this litigation may be designated by the producing
14 person or by any party as Classified Information by marking each page of the
15 documents so designated with a stamp indicating that the information is
16 “Confidential” or “Attorneys Eyes Only.” In lieu of marking the original of a
17 document, if the original is not provided, the designating party may mark the copies
18 that are provided. Originals shall be preserved for inspection.

19 6. Disclosure at Depositions

20 Information disclosed at (a) the deposition of a party or one of its present or
21 former officers, directors, employees, agents, consultants, representatives, or
22 independent experts retained by counsel for the purpose of this litigation, or (b) the
23 deposition of a nonparty may be designated by any party as Classified Information
24 by indicating on the record at the deposition that the testimony is “Confidential” or
25 “Attorneys Eyes Only” and is subject to the provisions of this Order.

26 Any party also may designate information disclosed at a deposition as
27 Classified Information by notifying all parties in writing not later than 30 days of
28 receipt of the transcript of the specific pages and lines of the transcript that should
be treated as Classified Information thereafter. Each party shall attach a copy of
each such written notice to the face of the transcript and each copy thereof in that

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3 party's possession, custody, or control. All deposition transcripts shall be treated as
4 Attorneys Eyes Only for a period of 30 days after initial receipt of the transcript.

5 To the extent possible, the court reporter shall segregate into separate
6 transcripts information designated as Classified Information with blank,
7 consecutively numbered pages being provided in a nondesignated main transcript.
8 The separate transcript containing Classified Information shall have page numbers
9 that correspond to the blank pages in the main transcript.

10 Counsel for a party or a nonparty witness shall have the right to exclude from
11 depositions any person who is not authorized to receive Classified Information
12 pursuant to this Protective Order, but such right of exclusion shall be applicable only
13 during periods of examination or testimony during which Classified Information is
14 being used or discussed.

15 7. Disclosure to Qualified Persons

16 a. To Whom. Classified Information shall not be disclosed or made
17 available by the receiving party to persons other than Qualified Persons except as
18 necessary to comply with applicable law or the valid order of a court of competent
19 jurisdiction; provided, however, that in the event of a disclosure compelled by law
20 or court order, the receiving party will so notify the producing party as promptly as
21 practicable (if at all possible, prior to making such disclosure) and shall seek a
22 protective order or confidential treatment of such information. Information
23 designated as Attorneys Eyes Only shall be restricted in circulation to Qualified
24 Persons described in subparagraph 2(a).

25 b. Retention of Copies During this Litigation. Copies of Attorneys Eyes
26 Only information shall be maintained only in the offices of outside counsel for the
27 receiving party and, to the extent supplied to experts described in subparagraph
28 2(a)(ii), in the offices of those experts. Any documents produced in this litigation,
regardless of classification, that are provided to Qualified Persons shall be
maintained only at the office of such Qualified Person and only necessary working

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3 copies of any such documents shall be made. Copies of documents and exhibits
4 containing Classified Information may be prepared by independent copy services,
5 printers, or illustrators for the purpose of this litigation.

6 c. Each party's outside counsel shall maintain a log of all copies of
7 Attorneys Eyes Only documents that are delivered to Qualified Persons.

8 8. Unintentional Disclosures

9 Documents unintentionally produced without designation as Classified
10 Information later may be designated and shall be treated as Classified Information
11 from the date written notice of the designation is provided to the receiving party.

12 If a receiving party learns of any unauthorized disclosure of Confidential
13 information or Attorneys Eyes Only information, the party shall immediately upon
14 learning of such disclosure inform the producing party of all pertinent facts relating
15 to such disclosure and shall make all reasonable efforts to prevent disclosure by
16 each unauthorized person who received such information.

17 9. Documents Produced for Inspection Prior to Designation

18 In the event documents are produced for inspection prior to designation, the
19 documents shall be treated as Attorneys Eyes Only during inspection. At the time of
20 copying for the receiving parties, Classified Information shall be marked
21 prominently "Confidential" or "Attorneys Eyes Only" by the producing party.

22 10. Consent to Disclosure and Use in Examination

23 Nothing in this order shall prevent disclosure beyond the terms of this order if
24 each party designating the information as Classified Information consents to such
25 disclosure or if the court, after notice to all affected parties and nonparties, orders
26 such disclosure. Nor shall anything in this order prevent any counsel of record from
27 utilizing Classified Information in the examination or cross-examination of any
28 person who is indicated on the document as being an author, source, or recipient of
the Classified Information, irrespective of which party produced such information.

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11. Challenging the Designation

a. Classified Information. A party shall not be obligated to challenge the propriety of a designation of Classified Information at the time such designation is made, and a failure to do so shall not preclude a subsequent challenge to the designation. In the event that any party to this litigation disagrees at any stage of these proceedings with the designation of any information as Classified Information, the parties shall first try to resolve the dispute in good faith on an informal basis, such as by production of redacted copies. If the dispute cannot be resolved, the objecting party may invoke this Protective Order by objecting in writing to the party who designated the document or information as Classified Information. The designating party shall then have 14 days to move the court for an order preserving the designated status of the disputed information. The disputed information shall remain Classified Information unless and until the court orders otherwise. Failure to move for an order shall constitute a termination of the status of such item as Classified Information.

b. Qualified Persons. In the event that any party in good faith disagrees with the designation of a person as a Qualified Person or the disclosure of particular Classified Information to such person, the parties shall first try to resolve the dispute in good faith on an informal basis. If the dispute cannot be resolved, the objecting party shall have 14 days from the date of the designation or, in the event particular Classified Information is requested subsequent to the designation of the Qualified Person, 14 days from service of the request, to move the court for an order denying the disposed person (a) status as a Qualified Person, or (b) access to particular Classified Information. The objecting person shall have the burden of demonstrating that disclosure to the disputed person would expose the objecting party to the risk of serious harm. Upon the timely filing of such a motion, no disclosure of Classified Information shall be made to the disputed person unless and until the court enters an order preserving the designation.

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12. Manner of Use in Proceedings

In the event a party wishes to use any Classified Information in affidavits, declarations, briefs, memoranda of law, or other papers filed in this litigation, the party shall do one of the following: (1) with the consent of the producing party, file only a redacted copy of the information; (2) where appropriate (e.g., in connection with discovery and evidentiary motions) provide the information solely for in camera review; or (3) file such information under seal with the court consistent with the sealing requirements of the court.

13. Filing Under Seal

The clerk of this court is directed to maintain under seal all documents, transcripts of deposition testimony, answers to interrogatories, admissions, and other papers filed under seal in this litigation that have been designated, in whole or in part, as Classified Information by any party to this litigation consistent with the sealing requirements of the court. **See Local Rule 79-5.**

14. Return of Documents

Not later than 120 days after conclusion of this litigation and any appeal related to it, any Classified Information, all reproductions of such information, and any notes, summaries, or descriptions of such information in the possession of any of the persons specified in paragraph 2 (except subparagraph 2(a)(iii)) shall be returned to the producing party or destroyed, except as this court may otherwise order or to the extent such information has been used as evidence at any trial or hearing. Notwithstanding this obligation to return or destroy information, counsel may retain attorney work product, including document indices, so long as that work product does not duplicate verbatim substantial portions of the text of any Classified Information.

15. Ongoing Obligations

Insofar as the provisions of this Protective Order, or any other protective orders entered in this litigation, restrict the communication and use of the

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3 information protected by it, such provisions shall continue to be binding after the
4 conclusion of this litigation, except that (a) there shall be no restriction on
5 documents that are used as exhibits in open court unless such exhibits were filed
6 under seal, and (b) a party may seek the written permission of the producing party or
7 order of the court with respect to dissolution or modification of this, or any other,
8 protective order.

9 16. Advice to Clients

10 This order shall not bar any attorney in the course of rendering advice to such
11 attorney's client with respect to this litigation from conveying to any party client the
12 attorney's evaluation in a general way of Classified Information produced or
13 exchanged under the terms of this order; provided, however, that in rendering such
14 advice and otherwise communicating with the client, the attorney shall not disclose
15 the specific contents of any Classified Information produced by another party if such
16 disclosure would be contrary to the terms of this Protective Order.

17 17. Duty to Ensure Compliance

18 Any party designating any person as a Qualified Person shall have the duty to
19 reasonably ensure that such person observes the terms of this Protective Order and
20 shall be responsible upon breach of such duty for the failure of such person to
21 observe the terms of this Protective Order.

22 18. Waiver

23 Pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence 502, neither the attorney-client privilege
24 nor work product protection is waived by disclosure connected with this litigation.

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19. Modification and Exceptions

The parties may, by stipulation, provide for exceptions to this order and any party may seek an order of this court modifying this Protective Order.

Dated: February 5, 2014

RAINES FELDMAN LLP

By: _____

Robert M. Shore
Attorneys for Defendants John
Skipper (“Skip”) Woods; Blind
Squirrel, LLC; Outlaw
Entertainment, LLC (erroneously
sued as Outlaw Entertainment Group,
LLC); and Warmonger Media, Inc.

Dated: February 5, 2014

TESSER RUTTENBERG & GROSSMAN
LLP


By: _____

Brandon M. Tesser
Attorneys for Plaintiff Rob Thomas

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: February 7, 2014

By: _____


Stephen J. Hillman
United States Magistrate Judge