Dean A. Dickie (appearing <i>Pro Hac Vice</i>) Dickie@MillerCanfield.com		
Kathleen E. Koppenhoefer (appearing <i>Pro Hac Vice</i>)		
MILLER, CANFIELD, PADDOCK AND STONE, P.L.C.		
Chicago, IL 60606 Telephone: 312.460.4200		
gould@igouldlaw.com		
rgreely@igouldlaw.com		
120 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2750		
Telephone: 312.781.0680		
	33)	
Colin C. Holley (State Bar No. 191999) cholley@hamptonholley.com HAMPTONHOLLEY LLP		
		Corona del Mar, California 92625
Facsimile: 949.718.4580		
Attorneys for Plaintiff BRYAN PRINGLE		
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT		
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA SOUTHERN DIVISION		
SOUTHERN DIVISION		
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Case No. SACV 10-1656 JST(RZx)	
	PLAINTIFF'S RESPONSE TO EX PARTE APPLICATION TO	
· ·) CONSOLIDATE HEARINGS	
WILLIAM ADAMS, JR.; STACY FERGUSON; ALLAN PINEDA; and LAIME GOMEZ, all individually and		
collectively as the music group The Black		
))	
	Dickie@MillerCanfield.com Kathleen E. Koppenhoefer (appearing Pro H Koppenhoefer@MillerCanfield.com MILLER, CANFIELD, PADDOCK AND S' 225 West Washington Street, Suite 2600 Chicago, IL 60606 Telephone: 312.460.4200 Facsimile: 312.460.4288 Ira Gould (appearing Pro Hac Vice) gould@igouldlaw.com Ryan L. Greely (appearing Pro Hac Vice) rgreely@igouldlaw.com GOULD LAW GROUP 120 North LaSalle Street, Suite 2750 Chicago, IL 60602 Telephone: 312.781.0680 Facsimile: 312.726.1328 George L. Hampton IV (State Bar No. 14443 ghampton@hamptonholley.com Colin C. Holley (State Bar No. 191999) cholley@hamptonholley.com HAMPTONHOLLEY LLP 2101 East Coast Highway, Suite 260 Corona del Mar, California 92625 Telephone: 949.718.4550 Facsimile: 949.718.4580 Attorneys for Plaintiff BRYAN PRINGLE UNITED STATES DI CENTRAL DISTRICT SOUTHERN BRYAN PRINGLE, an individual, Plaintiff, v. WILLIAM ADAMS, JR.; STACY FERGUSON; ALLAN PINEDA; and JAIME GOMEZ, all individually and	

Definite Statement from January 24, 2011 to January 31, 2011, so that they can be heard on the same day as Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Injunction. Plaintiff's counsel opposes Defendants' request because it would confuse the issues, overwhelm the Court, and potentially prejudice Plaintiff, and because Defendants have not established good cause for consolidating the motions.

BACKGROUND

On January 24, 2011, the Court will hear argument on the following motions:

- 1. Motion to Dismiss First Amended Complaint, Motion to Strike First Amended Complaint, Motion for More Definite Statement filed by Defendants Cherry River Music Co., EMI April Music Inc., Stacy Ferguson (collectively as the music group the Black Eyed Peas), Jaime Gomez (collectively as the music group the Black Eyed Peas), Headphone Junkie Publishing LLC, Jeepney Music Inc., William Adams, Jr. (individually), Allan Pineda (collectively as the music group the Black Eyed Peas), Tab Magnetic Publishing, Will.I.Am Music LLC, and
- 2. Motion to Dismiss filed by Defendant Shapiro Bernstein and Co.

Each of the remaining Defendants have moved to join the two motions. Both motions have been fully briefed by the parties. Each of these motions involves substantial legal issues which will require adequate time for both parties to properly address at the hearing. There are many different defendants and numerous law firms involved in the case and who will desire an opportunity to speak at the hearing.

In addition to Defendants' motions, plaintiff Bryan Pringle ("Pringle") filed a Motion for Preliminary Injunction, and that motion is set for hearing on **January 31**, **2011**. This is also an important motion raising substantive legal issues and evidentiary matters. Defendants responded to the motion on January 10, 2011. Pringle's reply will be filed on January 18, 2011 (as January 17, 2011 is a Court holiday).

ARGUMENT

2 Defendants cite convenience to the Court, without explanation, as one reason supporting consolidation of the two hearings. Given the number of issues involved in the three motions (none of which are overlapping between Pringle's Motion for Preliminary Injunction and Defendants' motions), however, consolidating all motions to one date, and effectively bunching them together, would create more work for the Court and its staff¹ as well as create the risk of confusion between the relevant issues on the same day that could potentially prejudice the Plaintiff. First, bunching up the hearings on the same day would no doubt impose serious time constraints on the respective Motions, thus prohibiting Plaintiff (and Defendants for 10 that matter) from being able to properly address all the issues before the Court. 11 Second, in the event that the Court rules on Defendants' motions in a way that substantively or procedurally affects Plaintiff's Motion for Preliminary Injunction, 13 Plaintiff may have no time to determine just how the hearing might be affected, and in the end there would be a risk that the hearing might not be finished on the 15 scheduled date. 16

Likewise, Defendants did not submit any Declaration stating that it would be a hardship for them to appear at both hearings, nor did they make the claim in their Motion. Instead, they simply argued it would be more efficient to appear once. In support of this argument, Defendants cite to it being in Pringle's convenience as well. It is efficient in a limited way, but inefficient on the broader scale. Pringle's

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This argument was pointed out to Mr. Pink, counsel for Defendants, on January 6, 2010 ("Given the number of motions "on calendar" and the substantive issues involved, Pringle's counsel does not agree that consolidating the hearings in each matter is practical. Indeed, we believe that consolidating the hearings would overwhelm the respective courts and their staff and prolong the hearings."), a communication Defendants did not attach to their *ex parte* application. *See* January 6, 2011 email from George Hampton to Jonathon Pink, a true and correct copy of which is attached to this Response as Exhibit 1.

counsel have already indicated their willingness to travel to California for both hearings and do not find it to be inconvenient. 3 Further, the reasons cited by Defendants are among the primary reasons why local counsel is used—so that inconvenient travel schedules cannot be used as a reason to disrupt litigation schedules. **CONCLUSION** 6 7 For each of the reasons identified in this Memorandum, Plaintiff Bryan Pringle requests that the Court deny Defendants' Ex Parte Application to Consolidate Hearings. 10 Dated: January 11, 2011 Dean A. Dickie (appearing *Pro Hac Vice*) 11 Kathleen E. Koppenhoefer (appearing Pro Hac Vice) MILLER, CANFIELD, PADDOCK AND STONE. 12 P.L.C. 13 Ira Gould (appearing *Pro Hac Vice*) Ryan L. Greely (appearing *Pro Hać Vice*) GOULD LAW GROUP 14 15 George L. Hampton IV (State Bar No. 144433) Colin C. Holley (State Bar No. 191999) 16 HAMPTONHOLLEY LLP 17 18 By: /s/ Ira Gould Ira Gould 19 Attorneys for Plaintiff 20 BRYAŇ PRINGLE 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

George Hampton

From:

George Hampton

Sent:

Thursday, January 06, 2011 11:12 AM

To:

Pink, Jonathan Stuart

Cc:

Dickie, Dean A.; 'Ira Gould'; 'Cenar, Kara'; 'Linda Burrow'; 'rrappaport@loeb.com';

'tdickstein@loeb.com'

Subject:

Consolidating Hearings

Mr. Pink,

This e-mail responds to your January 5, 2011 e-mail to plaintiffs' counsel requesting that we stipulate to consolidate the hearings in the Batts and Pringle matters which are currently scheduled for January 24 and January 31. Given the number of motions "on calendar" and the substantive issues involved, plaintiffs' counsel do not agree that consolidating the hearings in each matter is practical. Indeed, we believe that consolidating the hearings would overwhelm the respective courts and their staff and prolong the hearings.

On a related note, please contact Ira Gould's office to arrange for your expert to analyze the .nrg file of the derivative version of "Take a Dive" at issue in the Pringle matter.

George Hampton

George L. Hampton IV HAMPTONHOLLEY LLP 2101 East Coast Highway Suite 260 Corona del Mar, CA 92625

DID 949.718.4551 Fax 949.718.4580

www.hamptonhollev.com



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Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

1	<u>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</u>		
2	On January 11, 2011, I electronically filed the foregoing PLAINTIFF'S		
	RESPONSE TO EX PARTE APPLICATION TO CONSOLIDATE HEARINGS		
3	using the CM/ECF system which will send notification of such filing to the following		
5	registered CM/ECF Users:		
6	Mariangela Seale	merili.seale@bryancave.com	
	Karen R. Thorland	vhenderson@loeb.com, kthorland@loeb.com	
7	Barry I. Slotnick	bslotnick@loeb.com	
8	Ira P. Gould	gould@igouldlaw.com	
	Tal Efriam Dickstein	tdickstein@loeb.com	
9	Linda M. Burrow	wilson@caldwell-leslie.com, burrow@caldwell-leslie.com, popescu@caldwell-leslie.com,	
10	Ryan Christopher Willian		
11	Kara E. F. Cenar	kara.cenar@bryancave.com	
	Ryan L. Greely	rgreely@igouldlaw.com	
12	Robert C. Levels	levels@millercanfield.com	
13			
1 /	Rachel Aleeza Rappapor		
14	Jonathan S. Pink	jonathan.pink@bryancave.com,	
15		carlie.peisley@bryancave.com,	
16		elaine.hellwig@bryancave.com	
	Dean A. Dickie	dickie@millercanfield.com, frye@millercanfield.com,	
17		deuel@millercanfield.com, smithkaa@millercanfield.com,	
18	II d I D	seaton@millercanfield.com, williamsr@millercanfield.com	
10	Heather L. Pearson	pearson@caldwell-leslie.com	
19			
20	I am unaware of any attorneys of record in this action who are not registered for the CM/ECF system or who did not consent to electronic service.		
21	I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of		
22			
23			
24	Dated: January 11, 2011	/s/Colin C. Holley	
25		George L. Hampton IV (State Bar No. 144433)	
26			
27	2101 East Coast Highway, Suite 260 Corona del Mar, California 92625		
28		Telephone: 949.718.4550 Facsimile: 949.718.4580	