1 2 3 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 4 5 FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 6 7 KZSA BROADCASTING, INC., A California corporation; DIAMOND 8 BROADCASTING, a California 2:10-cv-01213-GEB-EFB corporation, 9 Plaintiffs, ORDER DENYING PLAINTIFFS' 10 EX PARTE APPLICATION FOR A TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER v. 11 IMMACULATE HEART RADIO EDUCATIONAL 12 BROADCASTING, INC., a California non-profit corporation, DOUGLAS 13 M. DAGGS, SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE OF THE SYLVIA DELLAR TRUST, SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE OF THE DELLAR FAMILY TRUST; 14 Roes 1-10, 15 Defendants. 16 17 Plaintiffs have filed an application for an ex parte 18 temporary restraining order ("TRO") in which they request that the 19 court enjoin Defendants from: 20 (1) removing, storing, concealing[,] preventing access and removal of, use, direct or indirect use, 21 direct or indirect blocking access to or peaceful removal of any and all of Plaintiff's broadcast 22 transmission equipment, including 200 antenna transmission tower and all property removed by Defendants on or about May 4, 2010 from the property Plaintiffs formally leased by Plaintiffs 23 to an undisclosed location and all broadcast and 24 transmission equipment that remains on the property 25 that Plaintiffs' formerly leased (collectively "The KZSA/Diamond Property"); and (2) to immediately cease and desist from making use of any of The 26 KZSA/Diamond Property directly or indirectly by any 27 means. 28

(TRO Application 2:1-15.) Plaintiffs, however, have not shown they are entitled to an ex parte TRO.

Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(b)(1) prescribes:

The court may issue a temporary restraining order without written or oral notice to the adverse party or its attorney only if:

- (A) specific facts in an affidavit or a verified complaint clearly show that immediate and irreparable injury, loss, or damage will result to the movant before the adverse party can be heard in opposition; and
- (B) the movant's attorney certifies in writing any efforts made to give notice and the reasons why it should not be required.

Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(b)(1). Further, Local Rule 231(a) details the type of notice the movant is required to provide to the adverse party:

Except in the most extraordinary of circumstances, no temporary restraining order shall be granted in the absence of actual notice to the affected party and/or counsel, by telephone or other means, or a sufficient showing of efforts made to provide notice. Appropriate notice would inform the affected party and/or counsel of the intention to seek a temporary restraining order, the date and time for hearing to be requested of the Court, and the nature of the relief requested. Once a specific time and location has been set by the Court, the moving party shall promptly give additional notice of the time and location of the hearing.

E.D. Cal. R. 231(a).

Plaintiffs' TRO application includes declarations from Paula Nelson, the owner of KZSA Broadcasting, Inc. and Diamond Broadcasting Inc., and S. Raye Mitchell, Plaintiffs' counsel. However, neither of these declarations satisfy the requirements in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 65(b)(1) and Local Rule 231(a) concerning notice and Plaintiffs' obligation to demonstrate irreparable injury.

Further, Plaintiffs' TRO application and the supporting declarations refer to a TRO application Defendant Daggs filed in "Sacramento Superior Court to obtain a temporary restraining order

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. . . to bar [Plaintiff] KZSA [Broadcasting, Inc.] from obtaining [KZSA's] property which [Plaintiffs' assert] has been unlawfully

converted." (Nelson Decl. ¶ 10.) This indicates that the relief Plaintiffs seek through their TRO application in federal court could conflict with relief Defendant Daggs seeks in the TRO application he filed earlier in the Sacramento Superior Court. Specifically, Defendant Daggs' TRO application could lead to an injunction precluding Plaintiffs from obtaining and possessing the same property Plaintiffs seek to have this federal court compel Defendants to allow Plaintiffs to possess. This indicates that even if Plaintiffs could ultimately satisfy applicable injunction factors in this federal action, since control of the property appears to be litigated in two courthouses-federal court and state court-Plaintiffs would need to address whether equity and comity "counsels in favor of deferring to [Defendant Daggs'] parallel state-court suit." Moses H. Cone Memorial Hosp. v. Mercury Const. Corp., 460 U.S. 1, 28 (1983).

For the stated reasons, Plaintiffs' \underline{ex} \underline{parte} TRO application is DENIED.

Dated: May 20, 2010

GARLAND E. BURRE United States District Judge