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United States District Court
For the Northern District of California

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

BERNARD PAUL PARISH, HERBERT
ANTHONY ADDERLEY, and WALTER
ROBERTS III, on behalf of themselves and
all others similarly situated,

No. C 07-00943 WHA

Plaintiffs,

v.

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE PLAYERS
ASSOCIATION, a Virginia corporation, and
NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE PLAYERS
INCORPORATED d/b/a PLAYERS INC., a
Virginia corporation,

Defendants.

_____ /

COURT’S PROPOSED CHARGE TO THE JURY

Appended hereto is a draft charge to the jury given to both sides on **10/31/2008**. By **NOVEMBER 2, 2008, AT 5PM**, both sides may submit a five page critique of the draft limited to the most important points counsel wish to make. The parties will have a subsequent opportunity to critique a more complete version of the instructions.

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[DRAFT]
FINAL CHARGE TO THE JURY

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1.

Members of the jury, it is my duty to instruct you on the law that applies to this case. A copy of these instructions will be available in the jury room for you to consult as necessary.

It is your duty to find the facts from all the evidence presented in the case. To those facts you will apply the law as I give it to you. You must follow the law as I give it to you whether you agree with it or not. You must not be influenced by any personal likes or dislikes, opinions, prejudices or sympathy. That means that you must decide the case solely on the evidence before you. You will recall that you took an oath promising to do so at the beginning of the case. In following my instructions, you must follow all of them and not single out some and ignore others; they are all equally important. You must not read into these instructions or into anything the Court may have said or done as suggesting what verdict you should return — that is a matter entirely up to you.

2.

The evidence from which you are to decide what the facts are consists of:

1. The sworn testimony of witnesses, on both direct and cross-examination, regardless of who called the witness;
2. The exhibits which have been received into evidence;
3. The sworn testimony of witnesses in depositions read into evidence; and
4. Any facts to which all the lawyers have stipulated here in the courtroom before you. You must treat any stipulated facts as having been conclusively proven.

3.

Evidence may be direct or circumstantial. Direct evidence is direct proof of a fact, such as testimony by a witness about what that witness personally saw or heard or did. Circumstantial evidence is proof of one or more facts from which you could find another fact. By way of example, if you wake up in the morning and see that the sidewalk is wet, you may

1 find from that fact that it rained during the night. However, other evidence, such as a turned-on
2 garden hose, may explain the presence of water on the sidewalk. Therefore, before you decide
3 that a fact has been proven by circumstantial evidence, you must consider all the evidence in
4 light of reason, experience and common sense. You should consider both kinds of evidence.
5 The law makes no distinction between the weight to be given to either direct or circumstantial
6 evidence. It is for you to decide how much weight to give to any evidence. You should base
7 your decision on all of the evidence, regardless of which party presented it.

8 4.

9 In reaching your verdict, you may consider only the testimony and exhibits received into
10 evidence. Certain things are not evidence and you may not consider them in deciding what the
11 facts are. I will list them for you:

12 1. Arguments and statements by lawyers are not evidence.

13 The lawyers are not witnesses. What they have said in their opening statements,
14 closing arguments and at other times is intended to help you interpret the
15 evidence, but it is not evidence. If the facts as you remember them differ from the
16 way the lawyers have stated them, your memory of them controls.

17 2. A suggestion in a question by counsel or the Court is not evidence
18 unless it is adopted by the answer. A question by itself is not evidence. Consider
19 it only to the extent it is adopted by the answer.

20 3. Objections by lawyers are not evidence. Lawyers have a duty to
21 their clients to consider objecting when they believe a question is improper under
22 the rules of evidence. You should not be influenced by any question, objection or
23 the Court's ruling on it.

24 4. Testimony or exhibits that have been excluded or stricken, or that
25 you have been instructed to disregard, are not evidence and must not be
26 considered. In addition, some testimony and exhibits have been received only for
27 a limited purpose; where I have given a limiting instruction, you must follow it.

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5. Anything you may have seen or heard when the Court was not in session is not evidence. You are to decide the case solely on the evidence received at the trial.

5.

Certain charts, animations and summaries have been shown to you in order to help explain the facts disclosed by the books, records and other documents which are in evidence in the case. They are not themselves evidence or proof of any facts. If they do not correctly reflect the facts or figures shown by the evidence in the case, you should disregard these charts, summaries, and animations and determine the facts from the underlying evidence.

6.

In deciding the facts in this case, you may have to decide which testimony to believe and which testimony not to believe. You may believe everything a witness says or part of it or none of it. In considering the testimony of any witness, you may take into account:

1. The opportunity and ability of the witness to see or hear or know the things testified to;
2. The witness' memory;
3. The witness' manner while testifying;
4. The witness' interest in the outcome of the case and any bias or prejudice;
5. Whether other evidence contradicted the witness' testimony;
6. The reasonableness of the witness' testimony in light of all the evidence; and
7. Any other factors that bear on believability.

The weight of the evidence as to a fact does not necessarily depend on the number of witnesses who testify. Nor does it depend on which side called the witnesses or produced evidence. You should base your decision on all of the evidence, regardless of which party presented it.

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7.

You are not required to decide any issue according to the testimony of a number of witnesses, which does not convince you, as against the testimony of a smaller number of witnesses or other evidence, which is more convincing to you. The testimony of one witness worthy of belief is sufficient to prove any fact. This does not mean that you are free to disregard the testimony of any witness merely from caprice or prejudice, or from a desire to favor either side. It does mean that you must not decide anything by simply counting the number of witnesses who have testified on the opposing sides. The test is not the number of witnesses but the convincing force of the evidence.

8.

A witness may be discredited or impeached by contradictory evidence or by evidence that at some other time the witness has said or done something, or has failed to say or to do something, that is inconsistent with the witness' present testimony. If you believe any witness has been impeached and thus discredited, you may give the testimony of that witness such credibility, if any, you think it deserves.

9.

Discrepancies in a witness' testimony or between a witness' testimony and that of other witnesses do not necessarily mean that such witness should be discredited. Inability to recall is common. Innocent misrecollection is not uncommon. Two persons witnessing an incident or a transaction sometimes will see or hear it differently. Whether a discrepancy pertains to an important matter or only to something trivial should be considered by you.

However, a witness willfully false in one part of his or her testimony is to be distrusted in others. You may reject the entire testimony of a witness who willfully has testified falsely on a material point, unless, from all the evidence, you believe that the probability of truth favors his or her testimony in other particulars.

10.

In determining what inferences to draw from the evidence you may consider, among other things, a party's failure to explain or deny such evidence.

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11.

You have heard testimony from witnesses referred to as “expert witnesses.” These are persons who, because of education or experience, are permitted to state opinions and the reasons for their opinions. Opinion testimony should be judged just like any other testimony. You may accept it or reject it, and give it as much weight as you think it deserves, considering the witness’ education and experience, the reasons given for the opinion and all the other evidence in the case. If an expert witness was not present at the events in question, his or her opinion is necessarily based on an assumed set of circumstances. In evaluating the opinion during the trial, you should take into account the extent to which you do agree or do not agree with the circumstances assumed by the expert witness.

12.

In these instructions, I will often refer to the burden of proof. The only burden of proof in this case is known as a burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence. When a party has the burden of proof on any issue by a preponderance of the evidence, it means you must be persuaded by the evidence that the issue is more probably true than not true. To put it differently, if you were to put the evidence favoring plaintiff and the evidence favoring defendant on opposite sides of a scale, the party with the burden of proof on the issue would have to make the scale tip somewhat toward its side. If the party fails to meet this burden, then the party with the burden of proof loses on that issue. Preponderance of the evidence basically means “more likely than not.”

13.

If you find that plaintiff carried its burden of proof as to an issue your verdict should be for plaintiff on that specific issue. If you find that plaintiff did not carry its burden of proof, you must find against plaintiff on that issue.

14.

I now will turn to the law that applies to this case. This is a class action lawsuit. A class action lawsuit is one where the plaintiff is allowed to bring a claim on behalf of a large group who share a

1 common interest in the same issue. As to the claims made in this
2 case, your verdict will govern for the entire class.

3 15.

4 This class action arises out of a form agreement between
5 various individual retired players and the National Football League
6 Players Association (the “NFLPA”) entitled “Retired Player Group
7 Licensing Authorization Form.” I will refer to it as the RPRPGLA.
8 Mr. Herb Adderley is the representative of a class of 2,056 retired
9 NFL players who, like Mr. Adderley, signed RPGLAs. The RPGLAs
10 signed by the members of the class were in effect during all or part of
11 the period between February 2004 to February 2007. This time
12 period is determined by the statute of limitations, not on any change
13 in format of the RPGLA. Mr. Adderley and the class he represents
14 are referred to in these instructions as “plaintiff” or the “RPGLA
15 Class members.” Your job is to decide the claims asserted on behalf
16 of the entire class. As stated, based on the statute of limitations, the
17 time frame for the claims is February 14, 2004, to February 14, 2007.

18 16.

19 Under the RPGLA, the retired player authorized the NFLPA
20 and Players Inc., to use and to license to third parties his name,
21 image, voice, signature, and biographical information in the “NFLPA
22 Retired Player Group Licensing Program.” According to the
23 RPGLA, group licensing programs meant programs in which a
24 licensee, *i.e.*, a company like Electronic Arts, used a total of six or
25 more present or former NFL player images, among other things. This
26 was a nonexclusive license, meaning that the retired player retained a
27 right to make his own deals directly with companies like Electronic
28 Arts.

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17.

On behalf of the RPGLA class, plaintiff asserts two claims against defendants: (1) breach of the RPGLA contract and (2) breach of fiduciary duty as it relates to the RPGLA. On the other hand, defendants claim that there was no breach of contract or breach of any fiduciary duty relating to the RPGLA. You must apply the following instructions in deciding whether plaintiff has proven these claims.

18.

On the breach-of-contract claim, plaintiff has the burden of establishing by a preponderance of the evidence the following:

1. That moneys were generated by defendants’ licensing of rights covered by the RPGLA at issue; and
2. That at least some of any such money was not paid to the RPGLA class pursuant to the RPGLA.

19.

This case involves three different levels of license agreements and I will identify them for you. One is the RPGLA between an individual player and defendants, like the one Mr. Adderley signed.

A second are the so-called “ad hoc” agreement. These were licenses between individual players, a third party like EA, and defendants. Under these agreements, certain retired players received money, seven million of which went to class members. No one in this case is suing to recover any of that money, that is, no one contends that any of the ad hoc license revenue should be re-distributed to all class members under the RPGLA. Rather, the class of retired players is contending that they should have received some

1 Whether any such money was due under the RPGLA by any
2 third-party licensing depends on the coverage of the RPGLA as well
3 as the coverage of the third-party licenses, questions of coverage that
4 you the jury must consider. Deciding these questions will require you
5 to consider the meaning of the various contracts. Plaintiff has the
6 burden to prove liability on the claim and it must do so by a
7 preponderance of the evidence. So I will now give you the rules you
8 must follow in interpreting the various contracts at issue.

9 21.

10 Interpretation of a contract is a determination of the
11 reasonable and mutual expectations of the parties to a contract, taking
12 into account the words and phrases used and the circumstances
13 surrounding the formation of the contract. You should start with the
14 words actually used. The express written language of a contract is the
15 primary reference you should consult when interpreting the meaning
16 of the contract. That is because the whole point of a written contract
17 is to reduce the agreement to writing and the only way to do so is
18 through words and phrases. Words and phrases used by the parties in
19 a contract should be given their usual and ordinary meaning unless it
20 is proven that they had a special meaning accepted by those in the
21 business involved, here professional football. Sometimes, however,
22 words and phrases as used in a contract are subject to two or more
23 possible meanings. This is called ambiguity. To resolve such
24 ambiguities, the law has developed further guidelines for contract
25 interpretation that I will now discuss.

26 22.

27 In determining the reasonable and mutual expectations of the
28 parties to the contract, you should also consider the relevant facts and

1 circumstances known to the parties at the time of making the
2 agreement and evaluate how these surrounding circumstances
3 informed the reasonable expectations of the parties concerning the
4 agreement. You may consider the circumstances that existed at the
5 time the contract was made, including the apparent purpose of the
6 parties in entering into the contract, the history of negotiations
7 leading up to the contract, and the statements of the parties about their
8 understanding of the contract made at the time the contract was
9 entered into.

10 23.

11 In determining the reasonable and mutual expectations of the
12 parties to a contract, you may also consider the conduct of the parties
13 in carrying out the contract before any controversy arose, that is, how
14 the parties to a contract implemented their contract before any
15 contemplation of litigation. If *both* sides to a contract consistently
16 acted as if certain words and phrases meant one thing and not another,
17 then their conduct may be viewed by you as their own practical
18 construction of those words and phrases and any such consistent
19 conduct would be entitled to considerable weight. Similarly, even if
20 only one side acted consistently as if the words and phrases meant
21 one thing and not another and that action was made known to the
22 other party and acquiesced in without objection, all prior to any
23 contemplation of litigation, then you may also consider that course of
24 known and unprotested conduct as the parties own practical
25 construction of the words and phrases and you may adopt any such
26 interpretation as the proper interpretation.

27 24.

1 The point in time that matters is when the contract was
2 entered into. You must determine the reasonable expectations of the
3 parties as of that point in time. You may consider subsequent events,
4 such as any practical construction of the parties in implementing the
5 contract, only as it sheds light on the reasonable expectations of the
6 parties at the time they made the agreement.

7 25.

8 You have heard much testimony from both sides as to how
9 various participants expected the contracts at issue would work or
10 how they understood the contracts at the time they were signed. You
11 should consider all such evidence but there are caveats. Again, your
12 primary consideration should always be the actual words of the
13 contract. Once litigation arises, witnesses often say they had one
14 understanding or the other of a contract. Such general testimony
15 must be viewed with a measure of skepticism, given the risk that a
16 witness might be tempted simply to testify after the fact in a manner
17 convenient to his interest. If, however, the witness communicated his
18 understanding to the *other* party in the course of the making of the
19 contract itself then such a communication is entitled to greater weight
20 than a statement first expressed only after the litigation arose. This is
21 because a disclosure during negotiations of how a party understood a
22 proposed term put the other side on fair notice and helped inform the
23 reasonable expectations and intent of both parties.

24 Also, you may consider whether or not the supposed
25 interpretation was ever expressed in a contemporaneous letter or
26 email or other writing, even if it was not communicated to the other
27 side of the transaction. Circumstances known only to one side of a
28 transaction can be considered by you in deciding the reasonable

1 expectations of the party with respect to the meaning of the contract
2 but, if those circumstances were not disclosed or known to the other
3 side, then those circumstances are entitled to less weight in deciding
4 on the reasonable expectations of the parties. Such a circumstance
5 could not have influenced the reasonable expectations of the *other*
6 contracting party but it at least could provide corroboration of
7 testimony.

8 26.

9 In evaluating evidence of an understanding testified to by a
10 party to a contract, you may take into account whether the
11 interpretation was against the interest of that testifying party rather
12 than in the self-interest of that testifying party. An admission against
13 one's own interest is usually of more probative value than a self-
14 serving statement. This is because admissions against interest are
15 usually made only if they are true. A self-serving interpretation,
16 however, may also be accurate. It is entirely up to you to decide how
17 much weight to give any witness testimony.

18 27.

19 Again, you have heard much testimony about various
20 "understandings" by witnesses at the time in question. Such
21 testimony should only be evaluated in light of the actual words used
22 in the contract itself. In other words, you should take into account
23 whether the actual words used in the contract were reasonably
24 susceptible to any such understanding, taking into account the
25 circumstances known to the contracting parties. If a contract word or
26 phrase seems ambiguous, meaning that it is susceptible to two or
27 more different meanings, you may use verbal testimony to help select
28 among the alternative meanings. You may not use testimony,

1 however, to adopt a meaning the words and phrases themselves will
2 not reasonably bear.

3 28.

4 The contract should be considered as a whole; no part of it
5 should be ignored. The contract should be interpreted to give effect
6 to all of its parts. No word or phrase in a contract should be treated as
7 meaningless if any meaning which is reasonable and consistent with
8 other parts of the contract can be given to it. If a term of a contract is
9 ambiguous, you are not required to choose between only the
10 interpretations offered by the two sides but you are free to adopt any
11 meaning consistent with the actual words of the contract, using the
12 rules of contract interpretation given above.

13 29.

14 If, after applying all of the foregoing rules of construction,
15 you are unable to resolve an ambiguity in the meaning of a word or a
16 phrase in the contract, such doubt or ambiguity may be resolved
17 against the party who drafted the contract. This is because the drafter
18 of the contract was in the best position to have avoided an ambiguity
19 in the first place.

20 30.

21 As I instructed you earlier, in evaluating the claims in this
22 case you may have to decide the meaning of the third-party license
23 agreements like the Electronic Arts license agreements. In evaluating
24 that question, you should use the same rules of interpretation but, of
25 course, you should apply them from the point of view of the
26 reasonable expectations of the specific parties to the those third-party
27 license agreements.

28

1 In this connection, there is a recital in various third-party
2 licenses that deserves attention. I will use TX 28 as an example. TX
3 28 is an Electronic Arts agreement. The first paragraph started with a
4 recital that stated as follows and I will quote:

5 PLAYERS INC represents that it is a licensing
6 affiliate of the National Football League Players
7 Association (“NFLPA”); that the NFLPA has been
8 duly appointed and is acting on behalf of the football
9 players of the National Football League who have
10 entered into a Group Licensing Authorization, either
11 in the form attached hereto as Attachment “A” or
12 through the assignment contained in Paragraph 4(b)
13 of the NFL Player Contract, which have been
14 assigned to PLAYERS INC; and that in such capacity
15 PLAYERS INC has the right to negotiate this contract
16 and the right to grant rights and licenses described
17 herein.

12 Plaintiff and defendants agree in this case that this passage referred
13 only to *active* NFL players. One reason is that the Attachment A
14 referenced in the passage was used exclusively with active players.
15 As well, the Electronic Arts witness testified that it referred only to
16 *active* players. Therefore, you should treat as established that that
17 sentence referred solely to active players. The two sides, however,
18 disagree on the meaning of the next sentence in the recital, which
19 stated as follows:

20 Licensee acknowledges that PLAYERS INC also on
21 occasion secures authorization for inclusion in
22 PLAYERS INC licensing programs from players,
23 including but not limited to retired players, who have
24 not entered into such Group Licensing Authorization,
25 but who, nevertheless, authorize PLAYERS INC to
26 represent such players for designated PLAYERS INC
27 licensed programs.

24 Throughout the trial you have heard the competing interpretations of
25 this sentence. As stated, this was a recital. A recital is sometimes
26 used in a written contract to set the stage for the promises or grants
27 that follow in the document. The purpose of a recital is to explain at
28 least some of the background and surrounding circumstances so as to

1 place the grants and promises in a context. After the recital in TX 28
2 came the key provision, which was the grant of license. It stated as
3 follows:

4 Upon the terms and conditions hereinafter set forth,
5 PLAYERS INC hereby grants to Licensee and
6 Licensee hereby accepts the exclusive right, license,
7 and privilege of utilizing the trademarks and names of
8 PLAYERS INC which may be amended from time to
9 time by PLAYERS INC and the names, likeness
 (including, without limitation, numbers), pictures,
 photographs, voices, facsimile signatures and/or
 biographical information (hereinafter “identity”) of
 the NFL players referenced in Paragraph 1(A) above .
 . . .

10 In this lawsuit, plaintiff contends that the phrase, “the NFL players
11 referenced in Paragraph 1(A) above,” as just quoted, included both
12 retired and active players whereas defendants contend it included
13 only active players. In resolving this dispute, you should apply the
14 rules of interpretation stated above. I have referred to an Electronic
15 Arts agreement but only as an example — you should, of course,
16 consider each of the third-party agreements in evidence.

17 31.

18 Under the relevant law, a contract claim must be brought
19 within three years of the time when the breach occurred. This lawsuit
20 was filed on February 14, 2007. To recover on the breach of contract
21 claim, plaintiff must prove a breach in the period between February
22 14, 2004, to February 14, 2007.

23 With respect to the contract claim, you must decide whether
24 plaintiff has proven that moneys were generated by defendants’
25 licensing of retired player group rights covered by the Retired Player
26 RPGLA and, if so, the extent those moneys should have been paid to
27 the class under the RPGLA during the relevant limitations period. In
28 making this decision, you must consider the meaning of the RPGLA

1 and must also consider whether any third-party license generated any
2 such money within the meaning of the RPGLA.

3 32.

4 A separate claim you must decide is a claim for breach of
5 fiduciary duty as it related to the RPGLA. Plaintiffs claim that to the
6 extent money was not generated within the meaning of the RPGLA,
7 defendants failed to make reasonable efforts to market the RPGLA
8 class members' images and identities and that this failure breached a
9 fiduciary duty under the RPGLA. Specifically, plaintiff contends that
10 defendants should have made one or more group deals on behalf of all
11 RPGLA retired class members. On plaintiff's breach of fiduciary
12 duty claim, plaintiff has the burden of establishing by a
13 preponderance of the evidence the facts necessary to prove the
14 following elements:

15 1. That, in connection with the RPGLA, defendants owed
16 a fiduciary duty to the RPGLA class members to market and promote
17 their names, images, and identities as an entire group;

18 2. That defendants breached any such duty;

19 3. That the RPGLA Class members suffered damages as
20 a result.

21 33.

22 To establish a fiduciary relationship, plaintiff must prove an
23 agency relationship that required defendants to promote the names
24 and images of the RPGLA class. The mere existence of a license
25 agreement, by itself, does not give rise to a fiduciary or agency
26 relationship.

27 34.
28

1 An agency relationship results when one person, called the
2 principal, agrees that another person, called the agent, shall act on the
3 principal’s behalf and subject to the principal’s control, and the agent
4 agrees to do so. In this case plaintiff alleges they were the principals
5 and the defendants were their agents. Defendants admit that a license
6 was acquired by them but deny that there was any fiduciary
7 relationship requiring defendants to actively promote retired players.

8 35.

9 An agency relationship is sometimes created by an express
10 contract where one side explicitly agrees to be the agent to promote
11 the other side. You have heard evidence, for example, that some
12 sports figures have agents to negotiate on their behalf and to promote
13 their interests. A mere license is not the same as an agency contract.
14 A license by itself gives the licensee the option to use or sell rights
15 owned by the licensor and does not require the licensee to promote
16 those rights or create a fiduciary relationship, it being up to the
17 licensee to decide how to use the rights for its purposes. On the other
18 hand, a licensee may, depending on the circumstances, also undertake
19 to act as an agent to affirmatively promote the rights on behalf of the
20 licensor. In that case, the licensee is not only a licensee but also an
21 agent with fiduciary duties.

22 36.

23 In evaluating this question, you must consider not only the
24 actual words used in the written agreement but also all of the
25 circumstances surrounding the licensed rights at issue and the parties’
26 relationship. Whether or not a principal-agent relationship exists in a
27 given situation depends on the particular facts of each case. In
28

1 determining whether a principal-agent relationship exists, the
2 following factors should be considered.

3 37.

4 In an agency relationship, the principal usually has the right to
5 discharge the agent and to terminate the relationship. One reason is
6 so that the principal can engage someone else to promote him or to
7 make other promotional arrangements. On the other hand, the
8 absence of a right to discharge is an indication of a bare-license
9 relationship wherein the licensee is free, during the life of the license,
10 to use or not use the rights as it wishes. So one factor you should
11 examine is whether there was or was not a power to discharge.

12 38.

13 A second factor to consider is control. In an agency
14 relationship, the principal usually has the ability to control the agent's
15 conduct. For example, the principal may direct the agent to try to
16 make certain deals and not other deals. This is called control. The
17 presence of such control is a factor indicative of an agency
18 relationship. On the other hand, the absence of control is an
19 indication that the relationship was a mere license arrangement
20 whereby the licensee was free to try and market or not market such
21 license rights it wished.

22 39.

23 A third factor to consider is the extent to which the activity
24 contemplated by the relationship was the regular business of the
25 principal. If the activity was one regularly undertaken by the
26 principal, then an agency relationship is less indicated. This is
27 because an agency relationship is usually indicated when the
28 principal uses the assistance of someone of special skill to act on his

1 behalf, a factor that is absent when the principal is already in that
2 business and is already skilled in the work involved. If the principal
3 is already involved in the work contemplated by the contract, then it
4 is indicative of an ordinary contractual relationship rather than a
5 fiduciary.

6 40.

7 The basic issue you must decide is whether defendants were
8 mere licensees under the RPGLAs or whether, in addition to
9 acquiring license rights, defendants also undertook a fiduciary duty to
10 promote and to market those retired players who signed RPGLAs. If
11 you find that there was no such fiduciary undertakings, then you must
12 find for defendants on the fiduciary-duty claim. If, however, you find
13 such a duty, then you must consider whether that duty was breached.

14 41.

15 A fiduciary owes several duties to his principal. A fiduciary
16 must exercise good faith and loyalty to his principal. This means that
17 the fiduciary must put the principal's interests ahead of his own, as to
18 all matters connected with the relationship. The fiduciary is also
19 required to refrain from conduct that is adverse to or likely to damage
20 the principal's interests.

21 42.

22 A fiduciary has a duty to act reasonably and with the care,
23 competence and diligence normally exercised by fiduciaries in similar
24 circumstances. Special skills or knowledge possessed by a fiduciary
25 are circumstances to be taken into account in determining whether the
26 fiduciary acted with due care and diligence. If a fiduciary claims to
27 possess special skills or knowledge, the fiduciary has a duty to the
28

1 principal to act with the care, competence and diligence normally
2 exercised by fiduciaries with such skill or knowledge.

3 43.

4 A fiduciary has a duty to use reasonable effort to provide the
5 principal with facts that the agent knows, has reason to know, or
6 should know when the agent knows or has reason to know that the
7 principal would wish to have the facts or the facts are material to the
8 agent's duties to the principal. A fiduciary has a duty not to acquire a
9 material benefit from a third party in connection with transactions
10 conducted or other actions taken on behalf of the principal or
11 otherwise through the fiduciary's use of his position. Finally, a
12 fiduciary has a duty to act in accordance with the express and implied
13 terms of any contract between the fiduciary and the principal.

14 44.

15 Plaintiff has the burden to prove that defendants breached any
16 fiduciary duty. You have heard that Electronic Arts scrambled the
17 names and identities of retired players. I remind you again that there
18 is no claim in this case that this scrambling by Electronic Arts
19 violated any player's rights. Instead, plaintiff's claim is that
20 defendants breached a fiduciary duty by insisting on scrambling
21 rather than by trying to sell the entire group of RPGLA rights to
22 Electronic Arts. Although you have heard information about
23 pensions, benefits, and collective bargaining, there is no claim in this
24 case for unfair representation by the union of its members. This case
25 involves the RPGLA.

26 45.

27 Under the relevant law, a claim for breach of fiduciary duty
28 must be brought within three years of the time when the breach

1 occurred. This lawsuit was filed on February 14, 2007. To recover
2 on the breach of fiduciary duty claim, plaintiff must prove a breach in
3 the period between February 14, 2004, to February 14, 2007.

4 46.

5 I will now instruct you on damages. It is the duty of the Court
6 to instruct you about the measure of damages. By instructing you on
7 damages, the Court does not mean to suggest for which party your
8 verdict should be rendered.

9 If you find for plaintiff, the RPGLA Class members, on a
10 particular claim, you must determine the amount of damages they
11 suffered. Damages means the amount of money which will
12 compensate the RPGLA Class members for any injury you find was
13 caused by defendants for a particular claim. You may award plaintiff
14 damages that are based on a just and reasonable estimate derived
15 from relevant evidence.

16 47.

17 If you decide that plaintiffs have proved their breach of
18 contract claim against defendants, then the RPGLA class members
19 are entitled to recover as damages the sum of money that would put
20 the RPGLA Class members in the same economic position as they
21 would have been if the contract had not been breached by the
22 defendants,.

23 The plaintiff has the burden to prove by a preponderance of
24 the evidence the amount of damages suffered by the RPGLA Class
25 members. You may not award damages based on sympathy,
26 conjecture, speculation, guess work or punishment. On the other
27 hand, the law does not require that plaintiff prove the amount of
28 damages with mathematical precision, but with reasonable certainty.

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48.

The purpose of the law of damages is to compensate a plaintiff for the loss, if any, which results from a defendant's conduct. If you find that plaintiff has proven that the defendants breached any fiduciary duty to plaintiff, then you should determine whether the RPGLA Class is entitled to a proven amount of damages. Plaintiff has the burden of proving damages by a preponderance of evidence.

The measure of damages for breach of fiduciary duty is the amount of money necessary to place the RPGLA class in the same economic position he would have been in if defendants' fiduciary duty had not been breached. In other words, the purpose of awarding damages to the RPGLA Class for breach of fiduciary duty is to make them whole for any injuries they suffered.

Plaintiff must first prove that they suffered economic injury as a result of defendants' breach of fiduciary duty. If plaintiff fails to meet their burden, then you may not award any damages for that claim. If, however, you find that plaintiff suffered economic injury as a result of defendants' breach of fiduciary duty, then you may next consider whether plaintiff has proven the amount of such damages.

49.

As the party seeking damages, plaintiff has the burden of proving the amount of damages by a preponderance of the evidence. While plaintiff is not required to prove damages with mathematical precision, it must prove their damages with reasonable certainty. If plaintiff has met their burden, your damages award should put plaintiff in approximately the financial position they would have been in had the breach not occurred.

1 You may only award plaintiff damages that are adequate to
2 compensate for the breach. You may not award any more or less
3 damages. Plaintiff is not entitled to recover damages which are
4 speculative, remote, imaginary, contingent, or merely possible. Your
5 award must be based upon evidence and not upon speculation,
6 guesswork or conjecture.

7 Nor may you include any amount for the purpose of punishing
8 Defendants or setting an example.

9 50.

10 Recovery of damages may be limited to a nominal sum if the
11 plaintiff has failed to prove the extent and amount of damages, even
12 though they have proven that they have been wronged. A nominal
13 sum is a small, symbolic amount of money, such as one dollar,
14 awarded as recognition that an injury was sustained. If you find that
15 defendants breached the RPGLA, or that they breached their fiduciary
16 duties to the RPGLA class members, but that plaintiff has not proved
17 any actual damages, or that plaintiff's proof is vague or speculative,
18 then you may award nominal damages.

19 51.

20 Plaintiff has made claims against defendants for breach of
21 contract and breach of fiduciary duty. If you decide that plaintiff has
22 proved more than one of these causes of action, the same damages
23 that resulted from multiple claims can be awarded only once.

24 32.

25 When you begin your deliberations, you should elect one member of the jury as your
26 foreperson. That person will preside over the deliberations and speak for you here in court.

27 You will then discuss the case with your fellow jurors to reach agreement if you can do
28 so. Your verdict as to each claim and as to damages, if any, must be unanimous. Each of you

1 must decide the case for yourself, but you should do so only after you have considered all of the
2 evidence, discussed it fully with the other jurors, and listened to the views of your fellow jurors.

3 Do not be afraid to change your opinion if the discussion persuades you that you should.
4 Do not come to a decision simply because other jurors think it is right. It is important that you
5 attempt to reach a unanimous verdict but, of course, only if each of you can do so after having
6 made your own conscientious decision. Do not change an honest belief about the weight and
7 effect of the evidence simply to reach a verdict.

8 33.

9 Some of you have taken notes during the trial. Whether or not you took notes, you
10 should rely on your own memory of what was said. Notes are only to assist your memory. You
11 should not be overly influenced by the notes. When you go into the jury room, the Clerk will
12 bring in to you the trial exhibits received into evidence to be available for your deliberations.
13 The Clerk will also provide you with an index to them.

14 34.

15 As I noted before the trial began, when you retire to the jury room to deliberate, you will
16 have with you the following things:

- 17 1. All of the exhibits received into evidence;
- 18 2. An index of the exhibits;
- 19 3. A work copy of these jury instructions for each of you;
- 20 4. A work copy of the verdict form for each of you; and
- 21 5. An official verdict form.

22 You do not have to discuss the questions in the strict sequence indicated in the special
23 verdict form, but you must, by the end, answer them unanimously as indicated in the form.

24 When you recess at the end of a day, please place your work materials in the brown
25 envelope provided and cover up any easels containing your work notes so that if my staff needs
26 to go into the jury room, they will not even inadvertently see any of your work in progress.

27 35.

28

1 A United States Marshal will be outside the jury-room door during your deliberations.
2 If it becomes necessary during your deliberations to communicate with me, you may send a
3 note through the marshal, signed by your foreperson or by one or more members of the jury.
4 No member of the jury should ever attempt to communicate with me except by a signed writing,
5 and I will respond to the jury concerning the case only in writing or here in open court. If you
6 send out a question, I will consult with the lawyers before answering it, which may take some
7 time. You may continue your deliberations while waiting for the answer to any question.
8 Remember that you are not to tell anyone — including me — how the jury stands, numerically
9 or otherwise, until after you have reached a unanimous verdict or have been discharged. Do not
10 disclose any vote count in any note to the Court.

11 36.

12 You have been required to be here each day from 7:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Now that you
13 are going to begin your deliberations, however, you are free to modify this schedule within
14 reason. For example, if you wish to continue deliberating in the afternoons after a reasonable
15 lunch break, that is fine. The Court does, however, recommend that you continue to start your
16 deliberations by 8:00 a.m. If you do not reach a verdict by the end of the week, then you will
17 resume your deliberations on Tuesday, October 14, 2008.

18 It is very important that you let the Clerk know in advance what hours you will be
19 deliberating so that the lawyers may be present in the courthouse at all times the jury is
20 deliberating.

21 37.

22 You may only deliberate when all of you are together. This means, for instance, that in
23 the mornings before everyone has arrived, or when someone steps out of the jury room to go to
24 the restroom, you may not discuss the case. As well, the admonition that you are not to speak to
25 anyone outside the jury room about this case still applies during your deliberation.

26 38.

27 After you have reached a unanimous agreement on a verdict, your foreperson will fill
28 in, date and sign the verdict form and advise the Court through the marshal that you have

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reached a verdict. The foreperson should hold on to the filled-in verdict form and bring it into the courtroom when the jury returns the verdict. Thank you for your careful attention. The case is now in your hands. You may now retire to the jury room and begin your deliberations.

Dated: [ONLY SIGN AND DATE AFTER
INSTRUCTION READ TO THE JURY]

WILLIAM ALSUP
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE