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United States District Court
For the Northern District of California

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

ROLAND E. GARCIA,
Plaintiff,

No. C-07-2279 EMC

v.

JURY INSTRUCTIONS

DAVID COLEMAN, *et al.*,
Defendants.

(Final Jury Instructions Nos. 21 - 49 given to
counsel 1/22/2009)

NINTH CIRCUIT MODEL CIVIL JURY INSTRUCTIONS

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**II. FINAL JURY INSTRUCTIONS (READ IMMEDIATELY
PRIOR TO DELIBERATIONS)**

**JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 21 -- BURDEN OF PROOF -- PREPONDERANCE
OF THE EVIDENCE**

When a party has the burden of proof on any claim, or affirmative defense, by a preponderance of the evidence, it means you must be persuaded by the evidence that the claim, or affirmative defense, is more probably true than not true.

You should base your decision on all of the evidence, regardless of which party presented it.

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JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 22 -- WHAT IS EVIDENCE

The evidence you are to consider in deciding what the facts are consists of:

1. the sworn testimony of any witness;
2. the exhibits which are received into evidence; and
3. any facts to which the lawyers have agreed.

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JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 23 -- WHAT IS NOT EVIDENCE

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

- (1) Arguments and statements by lawyers are not evidence. The lawyers are not witnesses. What they have said in their opening statements, will say in their closing arguments, and at other times is intended to help you interpret the evidence, but it is not evidence. If the facts as you remember them differ from the way the lawyers have stated them, your memory of them controls.
- (2) Questions and objections by lawyers are not evidence. Attorneys have a duty to their clients to object when they believe a question is improper under the rules of evidence. You should not be influenced by the objection or by the court’s ruling on it.
- (3) Testimony that has been excluded or stricken, or that you have been instructed to disregard, is not evidence and must not be considered. In addition sometimes testimony and exhibits are received only for a limited purpose; when I give a limiting instruction, you must follow it.
- (4) 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.

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JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 24 -- CREDIBILITY OF WITNESSES

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. Proof of a fact does not necessarily depend on the number of witnesses who testify about 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's memory;
- (3) the witness's manner while testifying;
- (4) the witness's interest in the outcome of the case and any bias or prejudice;
- (5) whether other evidence contradicted the witness's testimony;
- (6) the reasonableness of the witness's 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 about it.

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JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 25 -- STIPULATIONS OF FACT

The parties have agreed to certain facts that will be read to you. You should therefore treat these facts as having been proved.

In the instant case, the parties agree that the defendants used, and therefore, copied, the photograph at issue. The defendants, however, deny that the plaintiff is the owner of the photograph at issue.

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JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 26 -- DEPOSITION IN LIEU OF LIVE TESTIMONY

A deposition is the sworn testimony of a witness taken before trial. The witness is placed under oath to tell the truth and lawyers for each party may ask questions. The questions and answers are recorded.

The defendant David Coleman will be testifying live in this trial. However, the plaintiff also intends to submit testimony that he gave in a deposition in a different case. You should consider that deposition testimony, insofar as possible, in the same way as if the witness had been present to testify.

Do not place any significance on the behavior or tone of voice of any person reading the questions or answers.

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JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 27 -- USE OF INTERROGATORIES OF A PARTY

Some evidence will be presented to you in the form of answers of one of the parties to written interrogatories submitted by the other side. These answers were given in writing and under oath, before the actual trial, in response to questions that were submitted in writing under established court procedures. You should consider the answers, insofar as possible, in the same way as if they were made from the witness stand.

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JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 28 -- EXPERT OPINION

Some witnesses, because of education or experience, are permitted to state opinions and the reasons for those 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's education and experience, the reasons given for the opinion, and all the other evidence in the case.

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**JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 29 -- CHARTS AND SUMMARIES NOT
RECEIVED IN EVIDENCE**

Certain charts and summaries not received in evidence may be shown to you in order to help explain the contents of books, records, documents, or other 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 and summaries and determine the facts from the underlying evidence.

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JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 30 -- CHARTS AND SUMMARIES IN EVIDENCE

Certain charts and summaries may be received into evidence to illustrate information brought out in the trial. Charts and summaries are only as good as the underlying evidence that supports them. You should, therefore, give them only such weight as you think the underlying evidence deserves.

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JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 31 -- COPYRIGHT

The plaintiff, Roland E. Garcia (doing business as Garcia International Trading), claims ownership of a copyright in a photograph and seeks damages against the defendants, David Coleman and Amerivine, Inc., for copyright infringement. The defendants deny that the plaintiff is the owner of the photograph at issue and further deny infringing the copyright. The defendants also assert affirmative defenses, *e.g.*, the plaintiff granted them a nonexclusive license to use the photograph, the plaintiff's lawsuit is barred by the statute of limitations or the doctrine of laches, and the plaintiff abandoned any rights to the photograph.

Although the photograph in question was used on a wine label, this case does not involve a dispute over the ownership of the wine label, the label design, or the brand name. Only the photograph is at issue in this case. Any testimony or evidence relating to the Sonoma Ridge wine label, label design, or brand name was presented for the limited purpose of explaining the context of the transaction in which the photograph was used. Any testimony or evidence relating to the Sonoma Ridge wine label, label design, or brand name may be considered only for this limited purpose and for no other reason.

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JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 32 -- COPYRIGHT -- DEFINED

Copyright is the exclusive right to copy. This right to copy includes the exclusive rights to:

- (1) authorize, or make additional copies, or otherwise reproduce the copyrighted work in copies;
- (2) recast, transform, or adapt the work, that is, prepare derivative works based upon the copyrighted work;
- (3) distribute copies of the copyrighted work to the public by sale or other transfer of ownership]; and
- (4) display publicly a copyrighted pictorial work such as a photograph.

It is the owner of a copyright who may exercise these exclusive rights to copy. The term “owner” includes the author of the work or an assignee. In general, copyright law protects against production, adaptation, distribution, or display of substantially similar copies of the owner’s copyrighted work without the owner’s permission. An owner may enforce these rights to exclude others in an action for copyright infringement. Even though one may acquire a copy of the copyrighted work, the copyright owner retains rights and control of that copy, including uses that may result in additional copies or alterations of the work.

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JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 33 -- SUBJECT MATTER -- GENERALLY

The work involved in this trial is a photograph.

You are instructed that a copyright may be obtained in the photograph at issue.

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**JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 34 -- COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT -- ELEMENTS --
OWNERSHIP AND COPYING**

Anyone who copies original elements of a copyrighted work during the term of the copyright without the owner's permission infringes the copyright.

On the plaintiff's copyright infringement claim, the plaintiff has the burden of proving both of the following by a preponderance of the evidence:

1. the plaintiff is the owner of a valid copyright; and
2. the defendant(s) copied original elements from the copyrighted work.

If you find that the plaintiff has proved both of these elements, your verdict should be for the plaintiff. If, on the other hand, the plaintiff has failed to prove either of these elements, your verdict should be for the defendant(s).

1 **JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 35 -- OWNERSHIP OF VALID COPYRIGHT -- DEFINITION**

2 The plaintiff is the owner of a valid copyright in the photograph if the plaintiff proves by a
3 preponderance of the evidence that:

- 4 1. the plaintiff's work is original; and
5 2. the plaintiff is the author or creator of the work or received a transfer of the copyright.

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JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 36 -- COPYRIGHT INTERESTS -- AUTHORSHIP

The creator of an original work is called the author of that work. An author originates or “masterminds” the original work, controlling the whole work’s creation and causing it to come into being.

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JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 37 -- COPYRIGHT INTERESTS -- ASSIGNEE

In this case, the plaintiff does not claim to be the author, creator, or initial owner of the copyright at issue. Instead, the plaintiff claims that he received the copyright by virtue of assignment from the work's author, creator, or initial owner so that the plaintiff is now the assignee of the copyright.

A copyright owner may transfer, sell, or convey to another person all or part of the owner's property interest in the copyright; that is, the right to exclude others from copying the work. The person to whom the copyright is transferred, sold, or conveyed becomes the owner of the copyright in the work.

To be valid, the transfer, sale, or conveyance must be in writing. The person to whom this right is transferred is called an assignee. The assignee may enforce this right to exclude others in an action for copyright infringement.

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JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 38 -- COPYING

Jury Instruction No. 34 states that the plaintiff has the burden of proving that the defendants copied original elements from the plaintiff's copyrighted work. In the instant case, the parties agree that the defendants used, and therefore, copied, the photograph at issue.

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**JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 39 -- COPYRIGHT -- AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE --
NONEXCLUSIVE LICENSEE**

The defendants contend that they cannot be held liable for copyright infringement because the plaintiff gave them a nonexclusive license to use the photograph.

One who owns a copyright, whether as an original owner or an assignee, may agree to let another person reproduce, prepare a derivative work of, distribute, or display the copyrighted work. The person to whom this right is transferred is called a licensee. A nonexclusive license may be granted orally. A copyright owner who grants a nonexclusive license to use his copyrighted material waives his right to sue the licensee for copyright infringement.

In order to show a nonexclusive license, a defendant has the burden of proving, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the plaintiff agreed to let him or it reproduce, prepare a derivative work of, distribute, or display the copyrighted work.

If you find that the defendant(s) has (have) proved the elements of this affirmative defense, your verdict should be for the defendant(s).

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**JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 40 -- COPYRIGHT -- AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE --
STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS**

The defendants contend that the plaintiff’s copyright infringement claim is barred by the statute of limitations.

A claim for copyright infringement must be filed within three years after the claim has accrued, or it is barred. A claim for copyright infringement accrues (*i.e.*, arises) when the plaintiff has knowledge of the infringement or is chargeable with such knowledge.

The statute of limitations does not bar a claim based on infringing conduct occurring more than three years prior to the filing of suit if the plaintiff was unaware of the infringement, and that lack of knowledge was reasonable under the circumstances. Whether a plaintiff’s lack of knowledge was reasonable takes into account what a reasonable copyright holder in the plaintiff’s position would have known.

In order to show a statute-of-limitations bar, a defendant has the burden of proving, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the plaintiff failed to file his lawsuit within three years after the copyright infringement accrued (*i.e.*, when the plaintiff had knowledge of the infringement or is chargeable with such knowledge).

If you find that the defendant(s) has (have) proved the elements of this affirmative defense, your verdict should be for the defendant(s).

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JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 41 -- COPYRIGHT --

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE -- LACHES

The defendants contend that the plaintiff's copyright infringement claim is barred by the doctrine of laches.

Laches means a person's unreasonable delay in pursuing a claim in a way that prejudices the party against whom relief is sought.

In order to show laches, a defendant has the burden of proving, by a preponderance of the evidence, each of the following:

1. the plaintiff unreasonably delayed in filing the lawsuit; and
2. the plaintiff's delay prejudiced the defendant.

If you find that the defendant(s) has (have) proved each of the elements of this affirmative defense, your verdict should be for the defendant(s).

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**JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 42 -- COPYRIGHT -- AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE --
ABANDONMENT**

The defendants contend that a copyright does not exist in the plaintiff's work because the plaintiff abandoned the copyright. The plaintiff cannot claim ownership of the copyright if it was abandoned.

In order to show abandonment, a defendant has the burden of proving each of the following by a preponderance of the evidence:

- 1. the plaintiff intended to surrender ownership rights in the work; and
- 2. an act by the plaintiff evidencing that intent.

Mere inaction, or publication without a copyright notice, does not constitute abandonment of the copyright; however, these may be factors for you to consider in determining whether the plaintiff has abandoned the copyright.

If you find that the defendant(s) has (have) proved each of the elements of this affirmative defense, your verdict should be for the defendant(s).

1 **JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 43 -- DERIVATIVE LIABILITY -- VICARIOUS**
2 **INFRINGEMENT -- ELEMENTS AND BURDEN OF PROOF**

3 If you find that the defendant David Coleman infringed the plaintiff’s copyright in the
4 photograph, and that the defendant David Coleman has not proven an affirmative defense, you may
5 consider the plaintiff’s claim that the defendant Amerivine, Inc. vicariously infringed that copyright.
6 The plaintiff has the burden of proving, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the defendant
7 David Coleman’s infringing acts were committed within the scope of his employment with the
8 defendant Amerivine, Inc. In particular, the plaintiff has the burden of proving each of the following
9 by a preponderance of the evidence:

- 10 1. Amerivine, Inc. profited directly from the infringing activity of David Coleman;
11 2. Amerivine, Inc. had the right and ability to supervise or control the infringing activity of
12 David Coleman; and
13 3. Amerivine, Inc. failed to exercise that right and ability.

14 If you find that the plaintiff proved the defendant David Coleman is liable for infringing
15 plaintiff’s copyright, and that infringing acts were committed within the scope of his employment
16 with the defendant Amerivine, Inc., your verdict should be for the plaintiff and against defendant
17 Amerivine, Inc. If, on the other hand, the plaintiff has failed to prove the above, your verdict should
18 be for the defendant Amerivine, Inc.

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JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 44 -- COPYRIGHT -- DAMAGES

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

If you find for the plaintiff on the plaintiff's copyright infringement claim, you must determine the plaintiff's damages. The plaintiff is entitled to recover the actual damages suffered as a result of the infringement. In addition, the plaintiff is also entitled to recover any profits of the defendant(s) attributable to the infringement. The plaintiff must prove damages by a preponderance of the evidence.

In this case, the plaintiff seeks to recover profits from the defendant, not actual damages.

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**JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 45 -- COPYRIGHT -- DAMAGES --
DEFENDANT’S PROFITS**

The copyright owner is entitled to any profits of the defendant(s) attributable to the infringement.

You may make an award of the defendant’s (defendants’) profits only if you find that the plaintiff showed a causal relationship between the infringement and the profits generated indirectly from the infringement.

The defendant’s (defendants’) profit is determined by deducting all expenses from the defendant’s (defendants’) gross revenue.

The defendant’s (defendants’) gross revenue is all of the defendant’s (defendants’) receipts from the sale of a product containing or using the copyrighted work. The plaintiff has the burden of proving the defendant’s (defendants’) gross revenue by a preponderance of the evidence.

Expenses are all operating costs, overhead costs, and production costs incurred in producing the defendant’s (defendants’) gross revenue. A defendant has the burden of proving his or its expenses by a preponderance of the evidence.

Unless you find that a portion of the profit from the sale of a product containing or using the copyrighted work is attributable to factors other than use of the copyrighted work, all of the profit is to be attributed to the infringement. The defendant(s) has (have) the burden of proving the portion of the profit, if any, attributable to factors other than infringing the copyrighted work.

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**JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 46 -- COPYRIGHT -- DAMAGES --
WILLFUL INFRINGEMENT**

An infringement is considered willful when the plaintiff has proved both of the following elements by a preponderance of the evidence:

1. the defendant(s) engaged in acts that infringed the copyright; and
2. the defendant(s) knew that those acts infringed the copyright.

If you find that a defendant has willfully infringed, then the defendant is barred from deducting his or its overhead expenses and any income taxes paid from gross revenue to establish profit.

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JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 47 -- DUTY TO DELIBERATE

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

You will then discuss the case with your fellow jurors to reach agreement if you can do so. Your verdict must be unanimous.

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

Do not hesitate to change your opinion if the discussion persuades you that you should. Do not come to a decision simply because other jurors think it is right.

It is important that you attempt to reach a unanimous verdict but, of course, only if each of you can do so after having made your own conscientious decision. Do not change an honest belief about the weight and effect of the evidence simply to reach a verdict.

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JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 48 -- COMMUNICATION WITH COURT

If it becomes necessary during your deliberations to communicate with me, you may send a note through the clerk, signed by your presiding juror or by one or more members of the jury. No member of the jury should ever attempt to communicate with me except by a signed writing; I will communicate with any member of the jury on anything concerning the case only in writing, or here in open court. If you send out a question, I will consult with the parties before answering it, which may take some time. You may continue your deliberations while waiting for the answer to any question. Remember that you are not to tell anyone -- including me -- how the jury stands, numerically or otherwise, until after you have reached a unanimous verdict or have been discharged. Do not disclose any vote count in any note to the court.

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JURY INSTRUCTION NO. 49 -- RETURN OF VERDICT

A verdict form has been prepared for you. After you have reached unanimous agreement on a verdict, your presiding juror will fill in the form that has been given to you, sign and date it, and advise the court that you are ready to return to the courtroom.