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## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

## FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

No. C 09-00471 WHA

ORDER REGARDING UPCOMING

HEARING ON MOTION TO

WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL

HALSEY MINOR, an individual,

Plaintiff,

No. C 08-05445 WHA v.

CHRISTIE'S INC., a New York and corporation, and DOES 1 through 20,

inclusive,

Defendants.

CHRISTIE'S, INC., a New York

corporation,

Counterclaimant,

v.

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HALSEY MINOR, an individual, and ROES 1 through 20, inclusive,

Counterdefendants. 22

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With respect to the upcoming hearing on Browne Woods George LLP's motion to withdraw as counsel, movant is required to make every effort to ensure that his client, Halsey Minor, is present at Thursday's hearing. Movant must also remember that there is no automatic right to withdraw as counsel and that the Court itself has a significant interest in retaining the assistance of counsel for Mr. Minor in bringing this case to a close.

At the hearing, counsel should be prepared to address whether the motion and supporting declaration filed thus far warrant the relief requested. All the undersigned judge has been told is that "[c]ircumstances and events the Firm is not at liberty to reveal (due to the mandates, among other sources, of the attorney-client privilege) have impaired the relationship and all communications between the Firm and Mr. Minor." Additionally, until and unless movant is relieved as counsel, all Court-ordered deadlines must be followed. Counsel should *not* have attempted to stipulate around the schedule set forth in the order regarding attorney's fees and costs to leave the remaining tasks for replacement counsel (Dkt. Nos. 181, 201). This issue will also be addressed at Thursday's hearing.

## IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: August 30, 2010.

WILLIAM ALSUP UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE