

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

GIANNI VERSACE, S.P.A., et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

VERSACE 19.69 ABBIGLIAMENTO  
SPORTIVO SRL, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. [16-cv-03617-HSG](#)

**ORDER DIRECTING LVBHQ  
DEFENDANTS TO APPEAR AND  
ADDRESS ISSUES RAISED IN  
MOTION TO WITHDRAW**

Re: Dkt. Nos. 61

On November 21, 2016, a motion to withdraw as counsel was filed by Peter W. Ross and Keith J. Wesley, who are attorneys at Brown George Ross LLP (“BGR”) and serve as counsel of record for Defendants V1969 Versace SMO LLC, V1969 Versace HG LLC, and V1969 USA LLC (collectively, “LVBHQ Defendants”). Dkt. No. 61. On December 1, 2016, a stipulated request to shorten time for the hearing on this motion was filed by Plaintiffs Gianni Versace, S.p.A. and Versace USA, Inc. (collectively, “Versace Plaintiffs”), Defendants Versace 19.69 Abbigliamento Sportivo, S.r.l. and Theofanis Papadas (collectively, “VAS Defendants”), and BGR. Dkt. No. 64. The Court granted the stipulation. Dkt. No. 66. On December 5, 2016, Versace Plaintiffs filed a reply stating that they would not oppose a conditional withdrawal. Dkt. No. 67. On December 8, 2016, the Court held a hearing on the motion, at which Versace Plaintiffs’ counsel Rosemarie Theresa Ring appeared and K.C. Maxwell appeared on behalf of BGR. To discuss the basis for the motion, the Court held an in camera hearing with Ms. Maxwell only. After Ms. Ring rejoined the hearing, the Court in its discretion denied the motion on the record, without prejudice to BGR renewing the motion.<sup>1</sup>


<sup>1</sup> “A corporation may appear in federal court only through licensed counsel.” United States v. High Country Broad. Co., 3 F.3d 1244, 1245 (9th Cir. 1993); see also Civil L.R. 3-9(b) (“A corporation, unincorporated association, partnership or other such entity may appear only through a member of the bar of this Court.”)

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

The Court **ORDERS** a client representative for the LVBHQ Defendants to appear in person before the Court on December 27, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. to address the issues raised in BGR's motion to withdraw. BGR shall also appear at the hearing in person. Counsel for Versace Plaintiffs may appear by telephone, arranged via CourtCall, if they wish.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

Dated: 12/9/2016

  
HAYWOOD S. GILLIAM, JR.  
United States District Judge