Netscape Communic	ations Corporation et al v. Federal Ir	surance Compai	ny et al		Doc. 147
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12					
13	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT				
14	FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA				
15	SAN JOSE DIVISION				
16	NETSCAPE COMMUNICATIO	ONS	CASE NO. 5:06-CV	/-00198 JW (PVT)	
	CORPORATION, et al.,				
17	Plaintiffs,		PLAINTIFFS' MC DEFENDANT ST.	DTION TO STRIKE	
18	Fiamunis,			ESIGNATION OF	
19	v.		AUTHORITY AN		
20	FEDERAL INSURANCE COM	IPANY, et al.,	The Hon. James Wa Dept.: 5	are	
21	Defendants.				
22					
23					
24					
25	Plaintiffs Netscape Communications Corporation and America Online, Inc. ("Plaintiffs")				
26	hereby object to, and move to strike Defendant St. Paul's purported "Additional Designation of				
27					
	Authority and Record," filed September 17, 2007, on the following grounds:				
28					
Abelson Herron w	PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO STRIKE DEFENDANT ST. PAUL'S "ADDITIONAL DESIGNATION OF AUTHORITY AND RECORD"				
				Dockets	s.Justia.com
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1	1. <u>St. Paul's Filing Violates N.D. Civil Local Rule 7-3(d)</u>					
2	St. Paul's submission violates N.D. Civil L.R. 7-3(d) and should be stricken. That rule					
3	states as follows:					
4	(d) Supplementary Material . Before the noticed hearing date, counsel may bring					
5	to the Court's attention a relevant judicial opinion published after the date the opposition or reply was filed by serving and filing a Statement of Recent					
6	Decision, containing a citation to and providing a copy of the new opinion -					
7	without argument. Otherwise, once a reply is filed, no additional memoranda, papers or letters may be filed without prior Court approval.					
8	N.D. Civil L.R. 7-3(d) (italics supplied). Here, St. Paul's submission is improper for at least two					
9	separate reasons:					
10	<i>First</i> , supplementary material may not be submitted to the Court after a motion's noticed					
11	hearing date <i>without prior Court approval</i> . Here, the parties' pending Cross Motions for Partial					
12	Summary Adjudication Re: Duty to Defend were heard by the Court more than three months ago					
13	(on June 7, 2007). As such, the motions' hearing date has long since passed. Because St. Paul					
14	failed to seek (much less secure) Court approval prior to filing its supplementary material, its					
15	submission violates this Court's Local Rules and must be stricken. ¹					
16	Second, any supplementary material filed must be submitted "without argument." Here,					
17	again, St. Paul violates the L.R. 7-3(d) because its submission argues this Court may consider the					
18	unpublished New Jersey District Court decision it submitted. This is clearly improper, given that					
19	Plaintiffs have no opportunity to reply in writing and/or otherwise be heard in response to St.					
20	Paul's argument.					
21	For these reasons alone, St. Paul's submission must be stricken.					
22	2. <u>St. Paul's New "Authority" Is Irrelevant to the Parties' Pending Motion</u>					
23	In addition to St. Paul's procedural failings, Defendant's submission should also be					
24	stricken on the ground that it is irrelevant and adds nothing new to the parties' prior (exhaustive)					
25	briefing. The unpublished New Jersey District Court decision submitted by St. Paul, <u>St. Paul Fire</u>					
26						
27	¹ Notably, St. Paul's submission references N.D. Cal. Civil L.R. 3-4(e). Thus, Defendant is					
28	clearly aware of the District's local rules, but simply chose to ignore the one requiring it to obtain prior Court approval before filing supplementary materials.					
Abelson Herron 🗤	PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO STRIKE 2 DEFENDANT ST. PAUL'S "ADDITIONAL DESIGNATION OF AUTHORITY AND RECORD"					

1	and Marine Ins. Co. v. Brother Int'l Corp., ² found no duty to defend a "blast fax" claim against its				
2	insured brought under the federal Telephone Communications Privacy Act (the "TCPA"). As				
3	such, Brother Int'l involves facts and circumstances nearly identical to other "blast fax" cases				
4	cited by St. Paul in its prior briefing (Resource Bankshares, Melrose Hotel, and ACS Systems).				
5	As set forth fully in Plaintiffs' papers in support of their Cross Motion, Defendant's				
6	"blast fax" cases are irrelevant to the parties' pending motions because they all directly address				
7	the following, irrelevant question: Does the St. Paul policy language provide coverage for				
8	violations of <i>seclusion</i> privacy (<i>i.e.</i> , the right to be left alone)? ³ Seclusion privacy is not an				
9	issue in the underlying SmartDownload claims here. Rather, the SmartDownload claimants'				
10	allege a violation of their <i>secrecy</i> privacy (i.e., the right to keep private information private). In				
11	this regard, <u>Brother Int'l</u> specifically acknowledges that the St. Paul policy unquestionably				
12	provides coverage for violations of secrecy privacy, viz:				
13	"Therefore, as in <i>Resource Bankshares Corp.</i> , <i>Brunswick</i> , <i>ACS Systems</i> , <i>Inc.</i> , <i>Melrose Hotel Co.</i> , and <i>Onvia</i> , I find that it is clear from the context of the St. Paul advertising injury provision at issue here that St. Paul's policy provides coverage only if the harmful				
14					
15	content of the material violates the privacy right of secrecy. There is no ambiguity. Accordingly, the policy does not provide coverage for a violation of the seclusion right of privacy."				
16					
17	Brother Int'l, 2007 WL at *13.				
18	For all of these reasons, St. Paul's submission must be stricken. It is procedurally				
19	defective, substantively incorrect, and adds nothing to the consideration on the merits of this				
20	pending matter. In the alternative, Plaintiffs respectfully seek leave to submit a complete				
21	rejoinder to address improprieties raised by Defendant's faulty filing.				
22	Dated: September 17, 2007 ABELSON HERRON LLP				
23					
24	By <u>/S/</u> Leslie A. Pereira				
25	Attorneys for Plaintiffs Netscape Communications Corporation and				
26	America Online, Inc.				
27					
28	² 2007 WL 2571960 (D.N.J.). ³ See Plaintiffs' Cross Motion at 13-22; Plaintiffs' Reply at 6-14.				
Abelson Herron 🗤	<u>See Flamin's Cross Motion at 15-22, Flamin's Reply at 6-14.</u> PLAINTIFFS' MOTION TO STRIKE <u>3</u> DEFENDANT ST. PAUL'S "ADDITIONAL DESIGNATION OF AUTHORITY AND RECORD"				