Holman et al v. Apple, Inc. et al

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Defendants also move the Court for an order to change the briefing schedule previously agreed to by the parties, pursuant to a stipulation filed with this Court on October 31, 2007. Defendants seek the Order enlarging time and corresponding change to the briefing schedule so that the briefing and hearing schedule for this action conforms with the briefing and hearing schedule in a related action. Such a change will promote judicial economy, including by permitting the Court to address motions to dismiss concerning the same allegations at the same hearing.

I. **INTRODUCTION**

Plaintiffs filed their Complaint in this action (Holman, et al. v. Apple Inc., AT&T Mobility LLC, et al. - "Holman") on October 5, 2007. Also on October 5, 2007, an action was filed in state court against Apple; an amended complaint was filed on November 2, 2007 and the action was removed on November 7, 2007. Timothy P. Smith, et al. v. Apple Inc., AT&T Mobility LLC, et al., Case No. 07-CV-05662-RMW ("Smith").

Smith and Holman are both actions brought against Apple and ATTM which allege that Apple and ATTM entered into what plaintiffs call an unlawful agreement under which ATTM will be the exclusive provider of phone and data services for the iPhone in the United States and Apple will allegedly receive a portion of ATTM's profits. Holman Complaint ¶¶ 38, 41; Smith First Amended Complaint ("FAC") ¶ 28(1)-(3). The complaints further allege that through the use of a software lock and a software update, Apple has prohibited iPhone owners from unlocking their phones for use with cellular telephone service providers other than ATTM. Holman Complaint ¶¶ 34, 51-55; Smith FAC ¶¶ 28(4), 40-42.

Based on these allegations, both the Smith and Holman complaints assert claims against Apple and ATTM for unlawful tying and attempted monopolization under Sections 1 and 2 of the Sherman Antitrust Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 1-2. Holman Complaint ¶¶ 90-97; Smith FAC ¶¶ 128-35. The Smith and Holman complaints both also plead claims based on alleged violations of California's Unfair Competition Law in addition to alleged violations of the California Cartwright Act's prohibitions on unlawful tying and unlawful trusts. Holman Complaint ¶¶ 76-89; Smith FAC ¶¶ 117-27, 196-207. While Smith and Holman each assert additional causes of action against Apple and ATTM, all such claims relate to the same set of alleged practices of the

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defendants described above. Thus, Smith's separate causes of action for common law monopolization, Smith FAC ¶¶ 183-89, breach of warranties, id. ¶¶ 136-57, and alleged violations of the Consumer Legal Remedies Act, id. ¶¶ 158-65, the Computer Fraud Abuse Act, id. ¶¶ 166-71, the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act, id. ¶¶ 190-95, and California Penal Code § 502, id. ¶¶ 172-82, are all based on the same alleged agreements and practices of ATTM and Apple. The same is true for *Holman*'s additional cause of action for "computer trespass/trespass to chattels." *Holman* Complaint ¶¶ 98-102.

Furthermore, both *Holman* and *Smith* are purported class actions that seek to represent the interests of the same class of people. Holman's proposed class is composed of "all individuals or entities who at any time from June 29, 2007 to the date of judgment in this action, bought and implemented the iPhone and sustained damages as a result." *Holman* Complaint ¶ 63. Smith's purported class is made up of "[a] ll persons or entities who... purchased or own an iPhone, intended for use by themselves, their families, or their members, participants, or employees ... during the period from June 29, 2007 through such time in the future as the effects of Apple's illegal conduct, as alleged herein, have ceased... [and who] purchased audio or video files from the iTunes Music Store during the Class Period." Smith FAC ¶¶ 93(a)-(b); see also id. ¶¶ 94(a)-(b). The two potential classes are thus nearly identical.

On November 9, 2007, Apple filed an Administrative Motion requesting that the Court determine that the *Holman* and *Smith* actions are related. See Defendant Apple Inc.'s Administrative Motion To Consider Whether Cases Should Be Related ("Motion for Related Cases").

On November 9, 2007, Defendants and the plaintiffs in the Smith action stipulated that Defendants would answer, or otherwise respond, to the Smith Complaint by or on December 21, 2007. See Sasse Decl. ¶ 5, Exh. D. Given the obvious economies of having the parties and the

It was further stipulated that "if Apple and/or ATTM respond to the Complaint through a motion, the parties agree that plaintiffs' opposition to the motion shall be filed on January 31, 2008, that defendants' reply brief(s) shall be filed on February 11, 2008, and that any such motions shall be set for hearing on February 25, 2008 or another date thereafter that the Court is available." Sasse Decl. ¶ 5 Exh. D.

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Court consider any motions to dismiss or other motions in what the defendants believe to be related cases on the same schedule, counsel for ATTM sought the stipulation by counsel for plaintiffs in *Holman* to adjust the response date and briefing schedule to match the schedule set in Smith. Plaintiffs' counsel declined. See Sasse Decl. ¶ 6. Accordingly, in order to preserve resources and promote judicial economy, Defendants now request that the Court enlarge the time for Defendants to answer, or otherwise respond, to Plaintiffs Complaint and adjust the briefing schedule for any motions to match the briefing schedule in *Smith*.

II. **GROUNDS FOR GRANTING THE MOTION**

As discussed above, and more thoroughly in Defendant Apple's Motion for Related Cases, Smith and Holman are related cases. The cases involve the same defendants, and both challenge an agreement between Apple and ATTM concerning the iPhone, alleging that the agreement violates the antitrust and unfair competition laws. In addition, both *Holman* and Smith challenge various business conduct related to the iPhone and software updates to the iPhone. Accordingly Defendants respectfully submit that having both cases on the same schedule would save both Court and party resources, and would otherwise promote judicial economy.

Plaintiffs in this action will not agree to stipulate to further enlarge the time to answer, or otherwise respond, to the Complaint so that the briefing schedule matches the schedule in *Smith*. See Sasse Decl. ¶ 6. Defendant ATTM's counsel has corresponded with Plaintiffs' counsel and has sent a draft of this motion to Plaintiffs counsel requesting that Plaintiff agree to stipulate to the proposed enlargement of time to answer, or otherwise respond, to the Complaint. See Sasse Decl. ¶ 6. Plaintiffs' counsel has declined to so stipulate.

As discussed above, the briefing schedule has been modified previously by stipulation between the parties on October 31, 2007. Modifying the briefing schedule to conform to the Smith briefing schedule should have very little effect on the overall schedule of the case. The dates for the briefing schedule would be changed as follows:

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| | | 4 | III. CONCLUSION | | | | | | |
| | | 5 | For all the foregoing reasons, good cause exists for the Court to grant Defendants Motion | | | | | | |
| | | 6 | To Enlarge Time To Answer Or Otherwise Respond To Plaintiffs' Complaint and order an | | | | | | |
| | | 7 | alternative briefing schedule. | | | | | | |
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| | | 10 | Dated: November 16, 2007 CROWELL & MORING LLP | | | | | | |
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| | | 20 | Apple Inc. | | | | | | |
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| 4 | III. | CONCLUSION | | | | | | |
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| 10 | Dated | : November 16, 2007 | CROWEL | L & MO | RING LLP | | | |
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/s/ Alice Kelly ALICE KELLY

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