Campbell et al v. Facebook Inc.

Case No. C 13-05996 PJH (MEJ)

Doc. 145

Although a reply is not contemplated by the Rules governing Administrative Motions, Facebook requests leave to submit the following brief response to Plaintiffs' Opposition (Dkt. 144).

Facebook is well aware of the standards governing class certification, and—contrary to Plaintiffs' speculation—it did not request additional pages "to proffer summary judgment arguments" or to "end-run around this Court's scheduling order." (*Id.* at 2.) Indeed, the argument makes no sense: How can Facebook seek summary judgment by way of an Opposition to Plaintiffs' Motion for Class Certification? But this does not mean that the "merits" are off limits to the class certification inquiry, as Plaintiffs erroneously suggest. (*Id.* at 2-3.) As the Supreme Court has explained, "[f]requently that 'rigorous analysis' will entail some overlap with the merits of the plaintiff's underlying claim. That cannot be helped." *Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. v. Dukes*, 131 S. Ct. 2541, 2551 (2011); *id.* at 2552 n.6 (disapproving of language "sometimes mistakenly cited to the contrary in" *Eisen v. Carlisle & Jacquelin*, 417 U.S. 156, 177 (1974)).

Plaintiffs assert that it is "false" that their Motion for Class Certification discusses "new practices and functionalities that were not mentioned anywhere in the operative complaint."

(Dkt. 144 at 1.) But Plaintiffs point to no place in their operative complaint—and there is none—where the practices they challenge for the first time in their Motion (including "Recommendations Plugin," "Activity Plugin," "Insights API," and "Graph API") are referenced. Instead, Plaintiffs seek to mislead the Court by claiming these newly-challenged practices are part of an already-pled "targeted advertising scheme." (*Id.* at 2.) This illustrates precisely why Facebook needs additional pages to respond to Plaintiffs' Motion: these newly-challenged practices have nothing to do with "targeted advertising," and it falls to Facebook to explain to the Court—in a clear and comprehensive manner—the nature of these newly-challenged practices (something Plaintiffs most assuredly have not done in their Motion). Equally important, Facebook also requires additional pages to address the *variability*—which is extensive—surrounding these newly-challenged functionalities (as well as the practices already framed by the operative complaint).

As for moving to strike the report submitted by Plaintiffs' proposed damages expert,

Fernando Torres, Facebook is not doing so because it is "standard fare in class certification briefing"

(id.); rather, it is doing so because Mr. Torres completely failed to undertake the analysis that an

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