DECLARATION OF NEAL POOLE IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANT FACEBOOK, INC.'S OPPOSITION TO PLAINTIFFS'

Campbell et al v. Facebook Inc.

Doc. 215 Att. 1

Gibson, Dunn &

Crutcher LLP

I, Neal Poole, declare as follows:

- 1. I am an employee of Defendant Facebook, Inc. ("Facebook"). My job title is Security Engineer. My duties include investigating potential security risks that impact Facebook and its infrastructure, assessing our overall architecture and the architecture of individual products from a security perspective, and performing various security assessments on existing and newly developed products. These duties require use of Facebook's configuration information. I submit this Declaration in support of Facebook's Opposition to Plaintiffs' Motion to Compel Production of "Configuration Tables." Unless otherwise indicated, I have personal knowledge of the facts stated below and could competently testify to them. I provide this Declaration to explain certain facts regarding Facebook's internal databases and certain tables identified by Plaintiffs in their Motion.
- 2. Through their Motion, Plaintiffs seek a court order compelling Facebook to produce "all configuration tables for all databases that contain data derived from Private Message URL content including, but not limited to, the three categories of configuration tables specified [below], to be produced as a text file dump within two weeks of the entry of an Order on this motion." (Mot. (Dkt. 207) at 10.) The three specific "categories of configuration tables" that Plaintiffs request are those related to the following databases and systems (a) "Hive," "Scribe" and "HBase," (b) "Motion and (c) "Motion (Id. at 1.)
- 3. I understand that Plaintiffs are challenging four practices in this case (the "challenged practices"): the creation of certain "EntShares"—the storage of the URL preview feature—as well as three alleged and historical "uses" of that information: (1) the counter next to the "Like" button social plugin, (2) "recommendations for other users" in Facebook's Recommendation Feed plugin, and (3) the "sharing of user data with third parties" through Facebook's "Insights" product. (Dkt. 192 at 3-5.)
- 4. I am not aware of any "configuration tables" at Facebook as Plaintiffs describe them—that is, tables of configuration information related to the challenged practices as they relate to URLs in messages for each of the databases that Plaintiffs identify. Additionally, the tables that Plaintiffs have specifically requested by name are extremely large and filled with sensitive information regarding all of Facebook's system. Moreover, several of the tables do not contain configuration data

at all. And critically, these tables do not contain data that are limited to the four practices challenged in this case. In fact, several of them may have no information relevant to URLs in messages, and the others contain little if anything relevant to URLs in messages.

#### There Are No "Configuration Tables" For URLs In Messages

- 5. As an initial matter, Plaintiffs' Motion seeks to compel the production of things that simply do not exist for the challenged practices. Specifically, Plaintiffs define "configuration tables" as follows:
  - "Each database contains configuration tables which show what kind of data resides on the database, how that data is organized, and how Facebook uses that data." (Dkt. 207 at 2.)
  - "[T]he programming contained in configuration tables [] reveals how Facebook uses the data after it is redirected to databases." (*Id.* at 3.)
  - "The configuration tables Plaintiffs seek not only provide information about the structure of the databases (e.g., the names and characteristics of the data fields), but also the instructions for how that data is utilized and therefore how Facebook stores and uses data intercepted from Private Messages (the subject of the above-described Requests)." (*Id.*)
  - "[Configuration Tables] contain programming as to how data is redirected into databases and thereafter used by Facebook." (*Id.*)
- 6. I am not aware of any tables at Facebook that meet this description of "configuration table" for the challenged practices.

#### **Configuration Data**

- 7. Facebook does have information that is used by the source code—"configuration data"—in various tables or systems,
- . Nor is it possible to determine from looking at the data in these tables and systems whether they are relevant to any particular product, practice, or subject matter. The best way to find relevant configuration data is to review the sections of the source code for the practices at issue, and identify specific "calls" to tables and systems for configuration data.
- 8. I understand that Plaintiffs purport to request configuration data relating to the challenged practices. The best way to collect relevant configuration data for a given practice is to (a) identify the source code for that practice, (b) review that code to identify calls for configuration data from tables and systems, and (c) assess the results of those calls for the existence of relevant

configuration data, the capacity to export that data, and any other additional information available about that data (for example, how it has changed over time). I know of no other way to identify configuration data relevant to a given practice. It does not matter whether it is Plaintiffs or Facebook that attempts to identify relevant calls for configuration data; the necessary process would be the same. There are no existing tools to automate this process. Rather, with existing tools, this would be an initial manual search for each piece of configuration data and a second manual search for any historical information about each piece of configuration data.

9. Trying to review or search "databases" or "tables" for configuration data relevant to a particular process, or for a general category of data (such as "data derived from Private Message URL content" (Mot. at 10)), is not possible.

. The best—indeed, the only—way to identify relevant configuration data is from the source code itself, as discussed above.

### Specific Databases And Tables That Plaintiffs Have Requested

- 10. In their Motion, Plaintiffs identify five databases by name (Hive, Hbase), one logging system (Scribe), and nine specific tables. Plaintiffs ask that Facebook produce all "configuration tables" for the databases and logging system, as well as the specific tables listed.
- 11. The databases and tables identified by Plaintiffs contain information relating to Facebook's entire system—infrastructure, systems operations, security, front-end web design, products, etc. They are not limited to the challenged practices. Similarly, the nine requested tables alone contain hundreds of millions of cells of data, and they contain little, if any, information remotely related to URLs in messages—let alone related to the challenged practices.
- 12. Plaintiffs request "configuration tables" from the following databases. I am not aware of any tables in these databases fitting Plaintiffs' description of a "configuration table" for the challenged practices as they relate to URLs in messages.

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1	Again, the best way for Plaintiffs to identify information from any of these tables or systems relating		
2	to the challenged practices (as they relate to URLs in messages) is to review the code, as explained		
3	above.		
4	I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the		
5	foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on August 19, 2016 in London,		
6	England.		
7	/s/ Neal Poole Neal Poole		
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## **ATTORNEY ATTESTATION**

I, Joshua A. Jessen, attest that concurrence in the filing of this Declaration of Neal Poole has
been obtained from the signatory. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United
States of America that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 19th day of August 2016, in
Irvine, California.

Dated: August 19, 2016 /s/ Joshua A. Jessen
Joshua A. Jessen