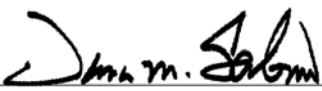


1 is left with the definite and firm conviction that a mistake has been committed." *United*
2 *States v. United States Gypsum Co.*, 333 U.S. 364, 395 (1948). In contrast, the
3 "contrary to law" standard permits independent review of purely legal determinations
4 by a magistrate judge. *See e.g., Haines v. Liggetts Group, Inc.*, 975 F.2d 81, 91 (3d Cir.
5 1992); *Medical Imaging Centers of America, Inc. v. Lichtenstein*, 917 F.Supp. 717, 719
6 (S.D. Cal. 1996). Thus, the district court should exercise its independent judgment with
7 respect to a magistrate judge's legal conclusions. *Gandee v. Glaser*, 785 F.Supp. 684,
8 686 (S.D. Ohio 1992).

9 Here, Apple argues the Magistrate Judge's Order was clearly erroneous, and
10 Apple is no longer relying on FaceTime as a noninfringing alternative, which renders
11 the sought-after discovery irrelevant. The Court agrees with the latter argument, and
12 more importantly, agrees with Apple's other argument that the sought-after discovery
13 is no longer relevant in light of this Court's ruling on Apple's *Daubert* motion. That
14 ruling excluded Wi-LAN's benefits methodology of damages, which was the relevance
15 "hook" for the sought-after discovery. That "hook" has now been removed, and thus
16 Apple need not conduct any further searches or produce any further documents pursuant
17 to Wi-LAN's requests or the Magistrate Judge's Order.

18 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

19 DATED: December 27, 2019

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21 _____
22 HON. DANA M. SABRAW
23 United States District Judge
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