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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Plaintiff AARON STANZ, individually  
and derivatively on behalf of Jet Genius  
Holdings, Inc.,  
  
Plaintiff,  
  
v.  
  
Defendants JORDAN BROWN; et al.,  
  
Defendants,  
  
and  
  
JET GENIUS HOLDINGS, INC.,  
  
Nominal Defendant.

Case No.: 3:22-cv-01164-GPC-JLB

**ORDER TO FILE RESPONSE TO  
MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS  
COUNSEL**

**[ECF No. 179]**

Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 83.3(f)(3), the law firm of Higgs Fletcher & Mack,  
and all attorneys associated with it including Sean M. Sullivan and Justin M. Martin  
("Movant"), filed an *ex parte* motion to withdraw as counsel for Defendants Bowman  
Aviation, Inc., Jet Agency Global LLC, C3 Limo LLC, Jordan Brown, Jet Genius  
Holdings, Inc., Jet Genius Florida Holdings, Inc., C3 Jets LLC ("Defendants"), on

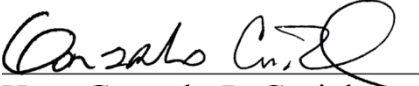
1 grounds that Defendants did not meet the material terms of the Engagement Agreement,  
2 thus permitting withdrawal under Rule 1.16(b)(5) of California’s Rules of Professional  
3 Conduct. ECF No. 179.

4 Defendants have yet to file their own response to this motion. In considering a  
5 motion to withdraw as counsel, the Court must account for several factors, including  
6 whether the motion is opposed or joined by the party in question and the harm that  
7 withdrawal might cause to the administration of justice. *See In re Saber*, No. 21-55913,  
8 2022 WL 11592836, at \*1 (9th Cir. Oct. 20, 2022). Most Defendants in this case are  
9 corporate entities, and they must proceed with counsel; the time to retain replacement  
10 counsel may prejudice their claims. Defendants’ lack of response prevents the Court  
11 from engaging in a fulsome inquiry on these factors and more.

12 Having considered the motion, and in light of the issues regarding the derivative  
13 claims, the Court **ORDERS** Defendants to file a response expressing whether they have  
14 objections to the *ex parte* motion and whether and how they intend to retain substitute  
15 counsel. This response shall be due within one week of this Order.

16 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

17 Dated: January 7, 2025

18   
19 Hon. Gonzalo P. Curiel  
20 United States District Judge  
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