Google Inc v. Central Mfg. Inc. et al

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IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS EASTERN DIVISION

Leo	Stoller,)	05 B 64075
)	Chicago, Illinois
)	1:00 p.m.
		Debtor.)	October 20, 2006

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE CHAPTER 7 TRUSTEE RICHARD FOGEL

APPEARANCES:

For Debtor: Mr. Richard Golding;

For Pure Fishing: Mr. Wm. Factor;

For U.S. Trustee: Mr. David Gucwa;

2

1	M	MR. FOGEL: This is the continued 341	
2	meeting in the c	converted Chapter 13 case of Leo	
3	Stoller, S-t-o-l	l-l-e-r, 05 B 64075. My name is	
4	Richard Fogel. 1	am the case trustee for the Stoller	
5	estate. To my 1	right is Janice Alwin, one of my	
6	counsel.		
7		Counsel for debtor, would you please	
8	state your name?		
9	М	MR. GOLDING: Richard Golding.	
10	Ą	MR. FOGEL: Who else appears, please?	
11	И	MR. FACTOR: William Factor on behalf	
12	of creditor Pure	Fishing.	
13	И	MR. FOGEL: Sir?	
14	N	MR. GUCWA: David Gucwa on behalf of	
15	the U.S. Trustee	e's office.	
16	ī	MR. FOGEL: Sir?	
17	מ	THIRD SPEAKER: (Unintelligible) for	
18	creditor.		
19	7	MR. FOGEL: Very good.	
20	s	Sir, would you state your name?	
21	ı	MR. STOLLER: Leo Stoller.	

Oct 19 Section 341 mtg.txt MR. FOGEL: Do you have a photo I.D.? 22 23 MR. STOLLER: No, I don't. MR. FOGEL: Do you have proof of your 24 25 social security number? 3 1 MR. STOLLER: I do. MR. FOGEL: May I see it? 2 I don't have it with me. MR. STOLLER: 3 MR. FOGEL: Mr. Golding, does your 4 client know that he has to provide a photo I.D. and 5 proof of his social security number? 6 MR. GOLDING: I did not remind him. 7 MR. STOLLER: I can get that for you. 8 9 MR. FOGEL: I will proceed on the representation that the debtor will provide the 10 information to counsel, and I know counsel will 11 12 forward it on to me. So that would be a photo I.D. and social security number. 13 14 (Witness sworn.) 15 LEO STOLLER, WITNESS, SWORN 16 EXAMINATION 17 BY MR. FOGEL: 18 Mr. Stoller, did you file a Chapter 13 0 bankruptcy case on December 20th of 2005?

- 20 Upon the advice of my attorney I'm taking Α
- 21 the Fifth Amendment to all questions that are being
- 22 asked.
- Mr. Stoller, I show you a declaration 23
- 24 regarding electronic filing. Is that your signature?
- 25 Α Upon the advice of my attorney I'm taking
 - the Fifth Amendment to all questions that are being
 - 2 asked.
 - MR. GOLDING: The debtor will take the 3
 - Fifth Amendment as to any and all questions that are 4
 - presented other than for his name and address. 5
 - For the record, there -- any further 6
 - questions will be answered the same way. And that is 7
 - the result of certain statements that have been made
 - to counsel for the debtor in this case.
- 10 BY MR. FOGEL:
- Mr. Stoller, have you turned over to me any 11
- and all recorded information including books, 12
- documents, records and papers that you have relating 13
- 14 to property of the estate?
- 15 Α I decline to answer that question on the
- 16 grounds of the Fifth Amendment.
- 17 MR. FOGEL: Mr. Golding, have you Page 4

- discussed with your client the fact that under 18
- 19 Section 521(4) of the Bankruptcy Code the debtor
- 20 shall provide the items I just requested information
- 21 about whether or not immunity is granted under
- 22 Section 344?
- 23 MR. GOLDING: Yes.
- MR. FOGEL: And he is still not going 24
- 25 to answer the question?

- MR. GOLDING: He's not going to answer 1
- the question. He may provide the information, but 2
- 3 he's not going to answer the question.
- BY MR. FOGEL:
- 5 Mr. Stoller, do you have any recorded
- information including books, documents, records and 6
- 7 papers?
- 8 I'm going to decline to answer the question A
- on the grounds of the Fifth Amendment. 9
- 10 Mr. Stoller, on your schedules you
- indicated that you were a shareholder and in other 11
- 12 documents you have indicated you were an officer of
- certain corporate entities. Do you have any 13
- corporate records regarding any of those entities? 14
- 15 Α I'm going to decline to answer that Page 5

- 16 question on the advice of counsel based on my Fifth
- 17 Amendment rights.
- 18 MR. FOGEL: Mr. Golding, have you
- 19 discussed the case of Braswell versus the United
- 20 States --
- 21 MR. GOLDING: I have not.
- 22 MR. FOGEL: -- with your client?
- 23 MR. GOLDING: I have not.
- 24 MR. FOGEL: In case you have
- 25 forgotten, the cite is 487 U.S. 99, in which an
 - individual who has corporate records must produce,
 - cannot resist a subpoena on the ground that the act
 - 3 of production would be incriminating.
 - MR. GOLDING: Did you subpoena any 4
 - documents?
 - MR. FOGEL: I don't have to because 6
 - the debtor has a duty under 521 to produce the
 - documents.
 - 9 MR. GOLDING: Well --
- 10 MR. FOGEL: I'm just bringing this to
- your attention, sir.
- 12 MR. GOLDING: You're citing a case and
- 13 telling me it provides that pursuant to a subpoena. Page 6

- 14 You didn't subpoena him, so I'm not sure if there's a
- 15 relevance to the case.
- MR. FOGEL: You're probably right.
- MR. GOLDING: But do you want to give
- 18 me the cite again?
- 19 MR. FOGEL: No. I will give it to you
- 20 later.
- 21 BY MR. FOGEL:
- 22 Q Mr. Stoller, what domain names do you own?
- 23 A I'm going to decline to answer that
- 24 question on the advice of counsel and my Fifth
- 25 Amendment rights.

- 1 Q Mr. Stoller, do you have any licenses with
- 2 any entities by the names either Epsco (phonetic)
- 3 Lindy-Little Joe, Jas. D. Easton, Inc., MD
- 4 Manufacturing, Inc.?
- 5 A I'm going to decline to answer that
- 6 question on my Fifth Amendment rights and upon the
- 7 advice of counsel.
- 8 Q Mr. Stoller, do you own any real estate?
- 9 A I decline to answer that question on my
- 10 Fifth Amendment rights.
- 11 Q Mr. Stoller, when you filed your bankruptcy
 Page 7

- petition in December of '05, you indicated a bank 12
- 13 account at Bank of America. Do you know the account
- 14 number?
- 15 Α I'm going to decline to answer that
- question on my Fifth Amendment rights. 16
- 17 Q Mr. Stoller, in your schedules you have
- 18 identified five corporate entities that you claim to
- be the sole shareholder of. Do you have proof of 19
- 20 ownership of any of those companies?
- 21 Α I'm going to decline to answer that
- 22 question on my Fifth Amendment rights.
- 23 Q Mr. Stoller, you have indicated that you
- 24 had trademarks worth \$36,000 on the day you filed
- 25 your bankruptcy case. Do you have any documentation
 - relating to those trademarks?
- I decline to answer that question on my 2 Α
- 3 Fifth Amendment rights.
- MR. GOLDING: You know, there really 4
- is no need to continue to ask all the questions. He 5
- will answer it the same way. We will stipulate that 6
- 7 you will ask all the questions and that he will
- answer by exercising his Fifth Amendment rights to 8
- any and all questions other than his name and Page 8

- 10 address.
- 11 He's doing so because it has been
- 12 suggested that this matter would be referred to the
- 13 United States Attorney's office by the trustee. So
- 14 there is really no need for us to go through the sham
- 15 of having to actually ask each question and not -- we
- 16 will stipulate that you will ask all the questions
- 17 and that the debtor will respond accordingly.
- 18 MR. FOGEL: I expected that you would
- 19 say that, sir, but not all of the questions that I am
- 20 asking have answers that might lead to incriminating
- 21 statements. And, therefore, you cannot take a
- 22 blanket assertion of the Fifth Amendment. You must
- 23 assert it in response to every question I ask, and
- 24 then we can later determine which are proper
- 25 assertions and which are improper assertions, if any
 - 1 of them are improper.
- I'm sorry, I've been instructed to do
- 3 it the way I'm doing it.
- 4 MR. GOLDING: Okay.
- 5 MR. FOGEL: I appreciate that. Thank
- 6 you.
- 7 BY MR. FOGEL:

- 8 Q Mr. Stoller, how many bank accounts besides
- 9 Bank of America do you have?
- 10 A I decline to answer that question on the
- 11 grounds of my Fifth Amendment rights.
- 12 Q Have you made any payments to legal counsel
- 13 since your Chapter 13 case was filed?
- 14 A I'm going to decline to answer that
- 15 question on the grounds of my Fifth Amendment rights.
- 16 Q Did you receive \$20,000 from your
- 17 soon-to-be ex-wife's estate in connection with
- 18 payment of legal fees?
- 19 A I'm going to decline to answer that
- 20 question on the grounds of my Fifth Amendment rights.
- 21 Q Do you have any credit cards?
- 22 A I'm going to decline to answer that
- 23 question based on the grounds of my Fifth Amendment
- 24 rights.
- Q Where are you currently living?

10

- 1 A My address is 7815 Westwood Drive.
- 2 Q In Chicago, Illinois?
- 3 A Elmwood Park.
- 4 Q Is that a house or an apartment?
- 5 A House.

- 6 Q Do you have any ownership interest in it?
- 7 A No.
- 8 Q Who does?
- 9 A My wife.
- 10 Q What's your wife's name?
- 11 A Nancy Reich, R-e-i-c-h.
- 12 Q Have you received any income from any
- 13 advertisers on the Rentamark web site in the last six
- 14 months?
- 15 A I'm going to decline to answer that
- 16 question on the grounds of my Fifth Amendment rights.
- 17 Q Have you sold any address lists to any
- 18 third parties since the commencement of your
- 19 bankruptcy case?
- 20 A I decline to answer that question on the
- 21 grounds of my Fifth Amendment rights.
- 22 Q Have you ever owned or operated a business
- 23 that provided goods or services to any clients,
- 24 customers or third parties?
- 25 A I decline to answer that question on the
 - 1 grounds of my Fifth Amendment rights.
- 2 Q Do you have any employees?
- 3 A I decline to answer that question on the Page 11

- grounds of my Fifth Amendment rights.
- 5 What's your current source of income?
- 6 Α I'm going to decline to answer that
- 7 question on the grounds of my Fifth Amendment rights.
- 8 Q Where are the computers that you used to
- use when you were in business on Belmont?
- 10 Α I decline to answer that question on the
- 11 grounds of my Fifth Amendment rights.
- 12 Where's the checkbook for the checking
- 13 account at First Security Bank in the name of Chemico
- 14 (phonetic) Manufacturing Company, Inc.
- 15 Α I have no idea. I'm going to decline to
- answer that question on the grounds of my Fifth 16
- 17 Amendment rights.
- 18 0 What issues are you appealing from in the
- Pure Fishing case before Judge Lindberg?
- 20 Α I'm going to decline to answer that
- 21 question on the grounds of my Fifth Amendment rights.
- 22 When was the last time you were at 1212
- 23 North Lathrop Street?
- 24 Α I decline to answer that question on the
- grounds of my Fifth Amendment rights.

1 Q How did you feel last week when you found Page 12

- 2 out that I stopped the sale of that property?
- 3 A I'm going to decline to answer on the
- 4 grounds of my Fifth Amendment rights.
- 5 MR. FOGEL: Mr. Factor, do you have
- 6 any questions?
- 7 MR. FACTOR: Yes.
- 8 EXAMINATION
- 9 BY MR. FACTOR:
- 10 Q Mr. Stoller, have you committed any
- 11 bankruptcy fraud in the last year?
- 12 A I will decline to answer that question on
- 13 the grounds of my Fifth Amendment rights.
- 14 Q Mr. Stoller, is the information in your
- 15 bankruptcy schedules accurate?
- 16 A I'm going to decline to answer that
- 17 question on the grounds of my Fifth Amendment rights.
- 18 Q Mr. Stoller, did you conceal your interest
- 19 in the 1212 North Lathrop property in River Forest?
- 20 A I will decline to answer that question on
- 21 the grounds of my Fifth Amendment rights.
- 22 Q Mr. Stoller, the information about income
- 23 that you reported in the bankruptcy schedules, is
- 24 that correct?
- 25 A I'm going to decline to answer that Page 13

EXHIBIT

1 question on the grounds of my Fifth Amendment rights.

- Q Mr. Stoller, have you disclosed all the
- 3 interests in properties that you held as of the date
- 4 you filed for Chapter 13?
- 5 MR. GOLDING: The trustee asked that
- 6 question. It's already been responded to by the
- 7 exercise of his Fifth Amendment rights.
- 8 BY MR. FACTOR:
- 9 Q Mr. Stoller, is it accurate to say that you
- 10 engaged in trademark trafficking?
- 11 A I'm going to decline to answer that
- 12 question on the grounds of my Fifth Amendment rights.
- 13 Q Mr. Stoller, it's true, is it not, that you
- 14 do not have any interest in the Stealth trademark?
- 15 A I'm going to decline to answer that
- 16 question on the grounds of my Fifth Amendment rights.
- 17 Q Mr. Stoller, it's true, is it not, that no
- 18 company that you have an interest in has any rights
- 19 in the Stealth trademark?
- 20 MR. GOLDING: I'm going to object to
- 21 the continuing line of questions that ask for legal
- 22 conclusions. I'm letting it go, you know, a little
- 23 bit here, but all these questions are objectionable Page 14

- 24 anyhow; they require a legal conclusion. The witness
- 25 is here and he would testify as to facts and not as
 - 14

- 1 to legal conclusions.
- 2 Do you have any other questions?
- 3 MR. FACTOR: You're instructing him
- 4 not to answer?
- 5 MR. GOLDING: I am.
- 6 BY MR. FACTOR:
- 7 Q Mr. Stoller, it is true, is it not, that
- 8 you have manufactured claims of ownership of
- 9 trademarks in order to extort money from businesses?
- 10 A I'm going to decline to answer that
- 11 question on the grounds of my Fifth Amendment rights.
- MR. FACTOR: I have no other questions
- 13 at this time.
- MR. GUCWA: No questions.
- MR. FOGEL: Mr. Golding, before we
- 16 conclude for the day, have you discussed with the
- 17 debtor his obligations under Rule 1019 to file a
- 18 final report?
- 19 MR. GOLDING: I have not, but I don't
- 20 know if Mr. Kaplan has. But I will.
- 21 MR. FOGEL: Mr. Kaplan has filed a Page 15

- 22 motion to withdraw is my understanding.
- MR. GOLDING: I'm aware of that, but I
- 24 don't know if --
- MR. FOGEL: Are you planning to file a
 - 1 motion to withdraw as well or are you planning to
 - 2 represent the debtor?
 - 3 MR. GOLDING: It's under
 - 4 consideration.
 - 5 MR. FOGEL: I will continue the
 - 6 meeting today for four weeks. I don't know if anyone
 - 7 has a calendar.
 - 8 MR. GOLDING: I do.
 - 9 MR. FOGEL: I will continue the
- 10 meeting to November 17th at 1:00 o'clock to see how
- 11 certain other matters play out in connection with
- 12 this case.
- Please get me a copy of his photo I.D.
- 14 and proof of his social security number at your
- 15 convenience.
- 16 Please file the report under
- 17 1019(5)(b) at your earliest convenience. Thank you
- 18 for attending.
- MR. GOLDING: Thank you, Mr. Fogel.
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	Oct 19 Section 341 mtg.txt
20	(Which were all the proceedings had in
21	the above-entitled cause, October 20,
22	2006, 1:00 p.m.)
23	I, JACKLEEN DE FINI, CSR, RPR, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND
24	ACCURATE TRANSCRIPT OF THE AUDIO TAPED
25	PROCEEDINGS HAD IN THE ABOVE- ENTITLED CAUSE.