

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

<b>MERLE L. ROYCE,</b>	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	
v.	)	Case No. 15 C 259
	)	
<b>MICHAEL R. NEEDLE, P.C., et al.,</b>	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	

**AMENDMENT TO APRIL 19, 2016  
MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER**

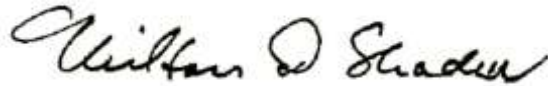
Later in the same day (yesterday, April 19) on which this Court issued a memorandum opinion and order dealing with several aspects of the disputes between counsel for Merle Royce and counsel for the "Amari Group" on the one hand and Michael Needle and Michael R. Needle, P.C. ("Needle, P.C.") on the other, counsel for the Amari Group e-mailed to this Court a brief letter calling attention to what he labeled as "an inadvertent error" in that opinion. Counsel was right on both counts -- there was an error and it was inadvertent (though that is no excuse for the error having been made). This amendment to the opinion addresses that oversight.

Page 2 of the opinion speaks of "a \$600 sanction imposed on Needle, P.C. on October 19, 2015," and page 3 repeats the \$600 figure. As the letter from the Amari Group's counsel accurately reflects, that amount covered only the portion of the October 19 sanction attributable to Royce's fees, but it failed to take into account the \$700 sanction attributable to fees ascribable to counsel for the Amari Group. Accordingly the references to \$600 on pages 2 and 3 of the opinion should have been \$1,300, and the opinion is amended accordingly.

By way of a brief explanation (but not an excuse) as to how the error occurred, the unusual procedures that have had to be followed since Needle, P.C. has been without counsel

(the use of e-mails rather than simply electronic filings for the transmittal of motions and court orders) have frequently resulted in the physical delivery of most courtesy copies of the multitudinous documents to this Court's chambers -- copies that do not bear their docket numbers, unlike copies of the electronic filings that do. For that reason the identification of docket numbers in this Court's opinions has sometimes been drawn from a printout that shows the general nature and the date of each docket entry, rather than from the documents themselves -- and that is what happened in this instance.

When counsel's corrective letter arrived, this Court went back to the underlying document and found that the correction was called for. In any event, the error has now been corrected.



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Milton I. Shadur  
Senior United States District Judge

Date: April 20, 2016