Snyder v. Phelps et al Doc. 263

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MARYLAND

Chambers of
Richard D. Bennett
United States District Judge
Northern Division

U.S. Courthouse - Chambers 5D 101 W. Lombard Street Baltimore, MD 21201 Tel: 410-962-3190

Fax: 410-962-3177

March 5, 2008

LETTER ORDER

TO COUNSEL OF RECORD AND PRO SE DEFENDANTS

Re: Snyder v. Phelps, et al. Civil No. RDB 06-1389

Dear Counsel, Ms. Phelps-Davis, and Ms. Phelps-Roper:

This letter confirms the telephone conference held yesterday on the record. The hearing regarding the pending Motions to Stay (Papers No. 212 & 214) that was previously scheduled for March 6, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. will be postponed until Thursday, **April 3, 2008** at **9:00 a.m.**

The Defendants' request, made through letters to this Court on February 27-28, 2008, to not have to produce a financial statement prepared by a certified public accountant is granted. Defendant Westboro Baptist Church, Inc. can submit a sworn statement by Timothy Phelps, its corporate representative, as to the church's assets, as well as a copy of the annual report submitted to Kansas indicating that the church has no shareholders. The individual Defendants can submit sworn statements as to their assets, even those held jointly with non-parties. All four Defendants shall submit to this Court all other documents noted in this Court's previous Letter Order of February 21, 2008 (Paper No. 247) as soon as possible.

As noted in this Court's Letter Order of February 25, 2008 (Paper No. 260), the individual Defendants' income tax returns will be kept under seal. Also, the Defendants' bank account numbers and bank names will be redacted from any version released to the public. Thus, the bank records and tax returns should be submitted only to this Court, and counsel for Plaintiff may review these records in chambers. All other documentation such as certified copies of property deeds and mortgages, shall be submitted both to this Court and to counsel for Plaintiff.

Although informal in format, this letter nonetheless constitutes an Order of Court and the Clerk is directed to docket it as such.

March 5, 2008 Letter Order Page Two

Sincerely,

Richard D. Bennett United States District Judge

RDB/emz