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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

* * *

JONATHAN B. GOLDSMITH, ESQ.,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
vs.)
)
JORDAN R. COOPER, CHERYL COOPER)
DRISCOLL, FACE BOOK, INC. DOES ROE)
CORPORATIONS ,)
)
Defendants.)
_____)

Case No.: 2:10-cv-01845-RLH-PAL

ORDER

(Motion for Ex Parte Temporary
Restraining Order and Order
Shortening Time—#5)

Before the Court is Plaintiff Jonathan B. Goldsmith’s **Motion for Ex Parte
Temporary Restraining Order (“TRO”) and Application for Hearing on Preliminary
Injunction on an Order Shortening Time (#5)**, filed October 25, 2010. Goldsmith filed this
motion *ex parte*.

BACKGROUND

Plaintiff Goldsmith is counsel of record in an action before the Eighth Judicial
District Court of the State of Nevada wherein Defendant Jordan R. Cooper is an opposing party.
Goldsmith alleges that Defendants have committed tortious acts against him through use of the
internet and other means. Specifically, Goldsmith alleges that Cooper and Defendant Cheryl

1 Cooper Driscoll used Defendant Facebook, Inc.’s social networking website to publish defamatory
2 and demeaning statements about him on or about October 1, 2010. In addition, Goldsmith alleges
3 that Cooper engaged in a pattern of stalking him during August 2010.

4 On October 4, 2010, Goldsmith filed this action against Defendants in the Eighth
5 Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada alleging: (1) slander against all Defendants; (2)
6 slander pre se against all Defendants; (3) libel against all Defendants; (4) libel per se against all
7 Defendants; (5) false light defamation against Cooper and Cooper Driscoll; (6) invasion of privacy
8 against Cooper and Cooper Driscoll; (7) intentional interference with business relations against
9 Cooper and Cooper Driscoll; (8) intentional infliction of emotional distress against Cooper and
10 Cooper Driscoll; (9) stalking against Cooper and Cooper Driscoll; (10) violation of U.S.C. 18 §
11 2511(a) against Cooper and Cooper Driscoll; (11) violation of U.S.C. 18 § 2511(e) against Cooper
12 and Cooper Driscoll; and (12) permanent injunction against Cooper and Cooper Driscoll.

13 Defendant Facebook removed the case to this Court on October 21, 2010. (Dkt. #1, Pet. for
14 Removal.) Defendants Cooper and Cooper Driscoll joined the petition for removal on October 22,
15 2010. (Dkt. #4, Joinder.)

16 Goldsmith has now filed an *ex parte* TRO motion asking the Court to prevent
17 “Defendants from further using Plaintiff’s name and likeness to publish discriminatory,
18 slanderous, misleading and false information about Plaintiff and preventing Defendants from
19 further stalking and harassing Plaintiff in contravention with Nevada and Federal law.” (Dkt. #5,
20 TRO Mot. 6.) For the reasons discussed below, the Court denies Goldsmith’s motion.

21 DISCUSSION

22 I. Legal Standard

23 Under Rule 65(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, plaintiffs seeking a
24 temporary restraining order must establish: (1) a likelihood of success on the merits, (2) a
25 likelihood of irreparable harm in the absence of preliminary relief, (3) the balance of equities tips
26 in their favor, and (4) an injunction is in the public interest. *Winter v. Natural Res. Def. Council*,

1 *Inc.*, --- U.S. ---, 129 S. Ct. 365, 374 (2008). Applying *Winter*, the Ninth Circuit has since held
2 that, to the extent previous cases suggested a lesser standard, “they are no longer controlling, or
3 even viable.” *Stormans, Inc. v. Selecky*, 586 F.3d 1109, 1127 (9th Cir. 2009). Thus, a party must
4 satisfy each of these four requirements.

5 **A. Ex Parte Requirements**

6 The standard for obtaining *ex parte* relief under Rule 65 is very stringent. *Reno Air*
7 *Racing Ass’n v. McCord*, 452 F.3d 1126, 1130 (9th Cir. 2006). The Court will only issue an *ex*
8 *parte* TRO where it appears there would be an irreparable injury *before* the responding party can
9 be heard. Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(b)(1)(A) (emphasis added). Furthermore, Local Rule 7-5 states, “[a]ll
10 *ex parte* motions applications or requests shall contain a statement showing good cause why the
11 matter was submitted to the court without notice to all parties, [and] [a]ll *ex parte* matters shall
12 state the efforts made to obtain a stipulation and why a stipulation was not obtained.”

13 In reality, a TRO is a temporary preliminary injunction issued for a limited period
14 of time until the time when the opposing party has an opportunity to be heard. Rule 65’s stringent
15 restrictions on *ex parte* relief “reflect the fact that our entire jurisprudence runs counter to the
16 notion of court action taken before reasonable notice and an opportunity to be heard has been
17 granted both sides of a dispute.” *Granny Goose Foods, Inc. v. Bhd. of Teamsters & Auto Truck*
18 *Drivers*, 415 U.S. 423, 438–39 (1974). Thus, the central issue for an *ex parte* TRO motion is
19 whether something needs to be done immediately—before a hearing can be held. Once the
20 adverse party is given an opportunity to respond and a hearing is set, then the Court considers
21 whether a preliminary injunction should issue.

22 **B. Analysis**

23 The Court denies Goldsmith’s motion for two reasons. First, Goldsmith has had
24 ample time—over three weeks since filing the action—to notify Defendants of a request for
25 injunctive relief and give them an opportunity to be heard before the Court. However, he has
26 failed to do so. Goldsmith has not satisfied Local Rule 7-5(a)’s requirement for a statement

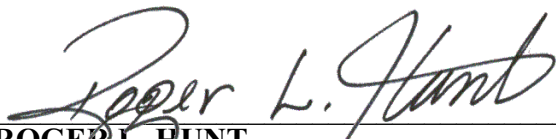
1 *showing good cause why* the matter was submitted to the court without notice to all parties. The
2 Court cannot simply infer good cause from Goldsmith's assertions of irreparable harm. In
3 addition, Goldsmith fails to show any efforts to obtain a stipulation pursuant to Local Rule 7-5(b).
4 Second, Goldsmith has not addressed the Supreme Court's requirement under *Winter* to establish
5 that the balance of equities tips in his favor and an injunction is in the public interest. 129 S. Ct. at
6 374. The Court notes that diligent litigants and their counsel do not fail to comply with the
7 Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or the Local Rules of Practice. Accordingly, the Court denies
8 Goldsmith's motion and finds that Plaintiff has not met his burden in submitting the motion under
9 *ex parte* seal.

10 **CONCLUSION**

11 Accordingly, and for good cause appearing,

12 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Goldsmith's Motion for Temporary Restraining
13 Order (#5) is DENIED. The Clerk of the Court is instructed to unseal the document and related
14 exhibits.

15 Dated: October 29, 2010

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18 **ROGER L. HUNT**
19 **Chief United States District Judge**