

[^0]February 26， 2007

## BY HAND

Honorable Debra C．Freeman
United States Magistrate Judge
Unined States Districl Court
for the Southern Disırict of New York
500 Pearl Street，Room 525
New York，New York 10007－1581
 SO ORDERED：DATE： ．．．．． 466 （4） DEBRA FREEMAN
Re：Anucha Browne Sanders v．Madison Square GarderdRA
Isiah Lord Thomas，Ill and James L．DdATHED STATESMAGISTRATE JUDGE SDNY Case No． 06 CV 0589 （GEL）（DCF）

Dear Judge Freeman：
This firm represents Defendants Madison Square Garden（＂MSG＂）and fames L． Dolan（hercinafter＂Defendants＂）in the above referenced matter．We respectfully request that Your Honor reconsider that portion of the Order dated February 16， 2007 wherein Your Honor denied Defendants＇request that the Court direct Plaintiff to provide authorizalions for the release of her 2000－2004 tax returns by the IRS＂provided Plaintiff is prepared to stipulate that the unsigned copies of the tax returns she has produced for those years are accurate copies of tax returns that were actually filed．＂See，Order dated February 16，2007，at 6 attached hereto as Exhibit A．

In his Order dated November 6，2006，Judge Lynch provided that Plaintiff ＂produce copies of her tax returns for tax years beginning in 2000．＂Your Honor noted in her Order that＂［a］s Defendants argue persuasively that evidence of Plaintiff＇s actually－filed tax returns is relevant to a defense in this case such evidence is properly discoverable unless the need for such discovery can be obviated by stipulation．＂We respectfully maintain that Judge Lynch intended that Plaintiff provide actual copies of the filed and signed tax retums，not the unsigned and incomplete versions of any returns Plaintiff may now represent she filed．Since neither Plaintiff nor her accountants have produced the filed copies，nor any proof of filing for any of the

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subject tax years, the only objective means to confirm and obtain the actual filed returns is directly from the IRS.

Moreover, any representation by Plaintiff that the unsigned versions are accurate copies of the returns she actually filed cannot be relied upon, given the inconsistencies arising from the deposition testimony of her three accountants and Plaintiff's own deposition testimony. Plaintiff acknowledged in her deposition testimony that income tax returns she filed with the IRS and with New York and New Jersey taxing authorities were "incorrect" with regard to her claimed dircct marketing business and business deductions. See Deposition of Anucha BrowneSanders, November 28, 2006 ("Browne Sanders Dep."), 42:20-43:5 attached hereto as Exhibit B. Plaintiff's returns for 2001, 2002 and 2003 claimed deductions for the same business. Further, Plaintiff knew as of April 2006 that her 2004 return contained deductions for a direct marketing business when she spoke with her accountant about those deductions. Deposition of Brock Weaver. CPA on December 21, 2006 ("Weaver Dep."). 76:21-77:19 attached hereto as Exhibit C. Her deposition testimony that she only became aware that the returns were "incorrect" upon reviewing the returns following Judge Lynch's November 6, 2006 order is inconsistent and selfserving. Browne Sanders Dep. 42:20-43:5 attached hereto as Exhibit B. Following Judge Lynch's order, she purportedly corrected two years of inaccurate tax returns resulting in her owing some $\$ 38,000$ in back taxes. She elected not to correct the remaining two years of "incorrect" returns apparently because her accountant advised her that she was insulated from further back tax liability because of the applicable statute of limitations, and, thereby, knowingly received individual tax benefits that she was not qualified to receive for tax years 2001 and 2002. Deposilion of Leon Reimer, January 22, 2007 ("Reimer Dep."), 67:4-68:11, attached hereto as Exhibit D. Finally, it appears that Plaintiff had two tax returns prepared for the year 2005. When asked at his deposition however, the accountant who prepared those two retums was unsure which one Plaintiff actually filed with the IRS. Weaver Dep. 49:9-56:7, attached hereto as Exhibit E.

For all of these reasons, Defendants are entitled to independent corroboration of Plaintiff"s actual signed tax filings from the IRS as ordered by Judge Lynch and should not have to solely rely on Plaintiff's self-serving representations.

We respectfully request that Your Honor reconsider her ruling in this regard.


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