UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

KINGVISION PAY-PER-VIEW, LTD.,

Plaintiff,

- against -

JANET FALU and 178 SHERMAN AVENUE CORP.,

Defendants.

JOHN G. KOELTL, District Judge:

The plaintiff has filed a motion to dismiss the counterclaims of counter-plaintiff Janet Falu pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. In deciding a motion to dismiss counterclaims pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6), the allegations in the counterclaims are accepted as true and all reasonable inferences must be drawn in the counter-plaintiff's favor. McCarthy v. Dun & Bradstreet Corp., 482 F.3d 184, 191 (2d Cir. 2007); Arista Records LLC v. Lime Group LLC, No. 06 Civ. 5936, 2007 WL 4267190, at *4-*5 (S.D.N.Y. Dec. 3, 2007). Where, as here, the counterplaintiff is proceeding pro se, although the same standards for dismissal apply, a court should give the pro se litigant special latitude in responding to a motion to dismiss. See McPherson v. Coombe, 174 F.3d 276, 279 (2d Cir. 1999); Cooney v. Consol. Edison, 220 F. Supp. 2d 241, 244

06 Civ. 4457 (JGK)

MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER

1

(S.D.N.Y.2002). The Court should not dismiss the counterclaims if the counter-plaintiff has stated "enough facts to state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face." <u>Twombly v. Bell Atlantic Corp.</u>, 127 S. Ct. 1955, 1974 (2007).

In this case, the counterclaims should be **dismissed** without prejudice because the counter-plaintiff has failed to satisfy the <u>Twombly</u> standard. The counterclaims contain conclusory statements, which are insufficient to defeat a motion to dismiss, and do not state facts sufficient to raise the counter-plaintiff's right to relief above the speculative level. <u>Twombly</u>, 127 S. Ct. at 1965; <u>Smith v.</u> <u>Local 819 I.B.T. Pension Plan</u>, 291 F.3d 236, 240 (2d Cir. 2002).

The counter-plaintiff responds that the counterdefendant has not adequately responded to discovery, but whether or not the counter-defendant has satisfied its discovery obligations does not affect the question of whether the counter-plaintiff has alleged sufficient facts to state a plausible claim for each of the alleged counterclaims. Moreover, the dismissal of the counterclaims should not affect the discovery obligations of the parties in this case.

2

The motion to dismiss the counterclaims is therefore granted without prejudice to the filing of amended counterclaims. Any amended counterclaims must be filed within twenty days.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: New York, New York February 4, 2008

elp

John G. Koeltl United States District Judge