1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

24

25

26

27

28

FLOYD E. IVEY Liebler, Ivey, Connor, Berry & St. Hilaire P. O. Box 6125 Kennewick, WA 99336-0125 509-735-3581 Attorneys for Defendant Impulse Marketing Group, Inc. and Third Party Plaintiff Klein, Zelman, Rothermel, & Dichter, L.L.P. By: Sean Moynihan, Esq.; Peter Glantz 485 Madison Avenue New York, New York 10022 Telephone Number (212) 935-6020 Facsimile Number (212) 753-8101 Attorneys for Defendant Impulse Marketing Group, Inc. and Third Party Plaintiff Robert J. Siegel 1325 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. Suite 940 Seattle, Wa. 98101-2509 Telephone: 206 624 9392 Facsimile Number 206 624 0717 Attorney for Plaintiff

#### **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE**

#### EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

JAMES S. GORDON, JR., 17

Plaintiff, 18 VS.

19 IMPULSE MARKETING GROUP, INC., 20

#### Defendant 21

22 IMPULSE MARKETING GROUP, INC., 23

- Third-Party Plaintiff, VS.
- BONNIE GORDON, et al.,

Third-Party Defendants.

#### No. CV-04-5125-FVS

MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO DISMISS THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS COUNTERCLAIMS

Noted for Hearing May 12, 2006 at 1:30 p.m.

WITH ORAL ARGUMENT

1

2

3

4

28

#### MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO DISMISS THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS' COUNTERCLAIMS

#### PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

Pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6), Third Party Plaintiff, Impulse Marketing Group, Inc. 5 ("Impulse" or the "Third Party Plaintiff") submits this Memorandum of Law in 6 7 support of its motion to dismiss fifteen (15) Counterclaims brought by Bonnie 8 Gordon, James S. Gordon, III, Jonathan Gordon, Jamila Gordon, Robert Pritchett and 9 10 Emily Abbey (collectively, "Third Party Defendants") against Impulse on the ground 11 that Third party Defendants have not stated and cannot state claims for which relief 12 can be granted.<sup>1</sup> 13

The Counterclaims brought by these Third Party Defendants have not been
filed pursuant to a motion under Fed. R. Civ. P. 15(a). The Counterclaims will
require an examination of the scheduling of this matter.

18 Further, pursuant to Rule 11, Impulse respectfully requests that this Court 19 impose sanctions upon Third Party Defendants on the ground that Third Party 20 21 Defendants' Counterclaims are frivolous and would have been understood to be 22 frivolous upon a reasonable investigation by Third Party Defendants.<sup>2</sup> Impulse has 23 placed Third Party Defendants on notice that they should withdraw their 24 25 <sup>1</sup> Third Party Defendant Robert Pritchett only alleges the first six (6) Counterclaims, which Counterclaims are identical to the other Third Party Defendants. 26 <sup>2</sup> Third Party Defendants simultaneously filed associated affidavits with their Counterclaims. 27 By separate motion, Impulse is respectfully requesting that this Court strike these affidavits

Counterclaims. Third Party Defendants have failed to withdraw their Counterclaims.
 As such, Impulse requests that this Court impose sanctions upon Third Party
 Defendants in an amount equal to the time and money expended by counsel for
 Impulse in researching, preparing and filing a response to Third Party Defendants'
 Counterclaims.

8 Impulse further requests that this Court grant Impulse its attorneys' fees and 9 reasonable costs expended in responding to Third party Defendants' baseless 10 Counterclaims. Impulse's attorneys have spent a total of thirty-five (35) hours 11 12 researching and preparing this motion. Specifically, Peter Glantz has expended 13 twenty (20) billable hours researching and preparing the instant motion, Sean 14 Moynihan has spent ten (10) billable hours reviewing and preparing the instant 15 16 motion and Floyd Ivey has billed five (5) hours researching, reviewing and filing the 17 instant motion. 18

19

28

### **PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

On November 18, 2005, Impulse filed a Second Third Party Amended
 Complaint against each of the Third Party Defendants arising out of Third Party
 Defendants' wrongful and fraudulent conduct in connection with James Gordon's
 ("Plaintiff") claims. Third Party Defendants failed to interpose a timely Answer to
 the Second Amended Third Party Complaint. Instead, *pro se* Third Party Defendants,

Motion to Dismiss Third Party Defendants' Counterclaims Page 3 of 32

after the time to respond to the Second Third Party Amended Complaint expired, moved to dismiss the Second Third Party Amended Complaint.

On March 9, 2006, this Court denied Third Party Defendants' motion to 4 5 dismiss the Second Amended Complaint in its entirety, holding that Impulse's Second 6 Amended Complaint stated a prima facie case for indemnity and contribution, breach 7 8 of contract, tortious interference with business relations, fraud and deceit and 9 injunctive relief. On or about March 10, 2006, March 13, 2006 and March 14, 2006, 10 respectively, Third Party Defendants answered the Second Amended Complaint and 11 12 asserted fifteen (15) identical Counterclaims against Impulse.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Third Party Defendants have filed

1

2

3

13

14

15

24

Third Party Defendants have failed to state claims for which relief can be granted. Third Party Defendants' attempt to portray themselves as victims, rather than co-conspirators in a scheme to defraud Impulse is without merit. In fact, this Court has already ruled that Impulse pled valid causes of action against Third Party Defendants for, indemnification and contribution, fraud and deceit, breach of contract and tortious interference with business relationships.

Third Party Defendants are not innocent parties to the transactions underlying Plaintiff's Complaint. Rather, Third Party Defendants are complicit in a premeditated and systematic effort to cause harm to Impulse by, *inter alia*, providing Impulse with

1 false and/or inaccurate subscriber profiles at various Impulse-related websites, 2 conspiring with Plaintiff to provide Impulse with false and/or inaccurate subscriber 3 profiles, and repeatedly soliciting, unsubscribing and then repeatedly re-soliciting 4 5 email from Impulse and/or its marketing partners in a scheme to fabricate and 6 exacerbate claims against Impulse based upon their subjective belief that Impulse 7 8 violated RCW 19.190 et seq. Third Party Defendants' actions were undertaken in 9 deliberate bad faith and there was no legitimate reason for Third Party Defendants to 10 engage in such a premeditated and systematic scheme to cause harm to Impulse.<sup>3</sup> 11

12 Further exacerbating Third Party Defendants' improper conduct, Third Party 13 Defendants now assert fifteen (15) baseless Counterclaims against Impulse. By way 14 of example, Third Party Defendants admit in their Counterclaims that their 15 16 Counterclaims are "civil" in nature and "not criminal" matters. Notwithstanding this, 17 Third Party Defendants' asserted criminal causes of action against Impulse for the 18 19 sole purpose of forcing Impulse to expend time and money dismissing same. All 20 fifteen (15) Counterclaims follow a similar pattern in that they lack any factual or 21 legal basis whatsoever. By conducting a reasonable investigation into the merits of 22 23 their allegations, as federal law mandates, Third Party Defendants would have 24 understood that all of their Counterclaims were entirely without merit. 25

26

<sup>3</sup> This Court has already taken judicial notice of the related action brought by Plaintiff against <sup>2</sup>Commonwealth Marketing Group, Inc. in its Order Denying Impulse's Motion To Dismiss Plaintiff's <sup>2</sup>Complaint, dated July 11, 2005. As this Court will recall, Plaintiff's Rule 26 disclosures reveal, *inter alia*, that <sup>2</sup>Third Party Defendants registered to receive email from Impulse.

1	Accordingly, Impulse respectfully requests that this Court: (1) dismiss Third				
2 3	Party Defendants' Counterclaims pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6); (2) impose sanctions				
4	against Third Party Defendants under Rule 11 for interposing fifteen (15) baseless				
5	Counterclaims; and (3) grant Impulse reasonable costs and attorneys fees expended				
6 7	in responding to this motion.				
8	ARGUMENT				
9 10	For purposes of simplicity and judicial economy, Impulse will address Third				
11	Party Defendants' Counterclaims seritim. 18 USC 1514 is a tool available to United				
12 13	States District Attorneys to prevent the harassment of victims or witnesses in a federal				
14	criminal case.				
15 16 17	I. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS FAILED TO STATE A VALID CLAIM FOR WHICH RELIEF CAN BE GRANTED UNDER 18 USC 1514 (CRIMINAL OBSTRUCTION <u>OF JUSTICE</u> )				
18 19 20 21	A. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS LACK STANDING TO INSTITUTE A_FEDERAL PROSECUTION UNDER 18 USC 1514 (CRIMINAL OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE)				
22 23	Third Party Defendants allege that Impulse breached 18 USC 1514(c) <sup>4</sup> .				
24	However, Third Party Defendants are well aware that 18 USC 1514 has no				
25 26					
27 28 <sup>def</sup> 28 <sub>cat</sub>	<sup>4</sup> Please be advised that 18 USC 1514(c), as alleged in Third Party Defendants' Counterclaims, simply ines the term "harassment" for purposes of 18 USC 1514. Title 18 USC 1514(c) does not set forth a specific se of action or violation and is therefore groundless by definition.				
	LIEDLED NEW CONNOD DEDDY & CT. III ADDE				

application in the instant matter. Third Party Defendants even admit that the instant lawsuit "is a civil not a criminal matter."

Even if Third Party Defendants had pled a violation of the statute, rather than 4 5 a definitional provision, Third Party Defendants would obviously still lack standing, 6 since private citizens have no authority to institute a federal criminal prosecution 7 8 under a federal criminal statute under these circumstances. Cok v. Cosentino, 876 9 F.2d 1, 2 (1st Cir. 1989); Winslow v. Romer, 759 F. Supp. 670, 673-74 (D. Colo. 10 1991). Applicable authorities within the United States government are the only 11 12 entities that can enforce federal criminal statutes. Id. For example, in Kennan v. 13 McGrath, 328 F.2d 610 (1<sup>st</sup> Cir. 1964), the court held that a private person could not 14 initiate a criminal prosecution in his own name in federal court. See also U.S. v. 15 16 Panza, 381 F. Supp. 1133 (W.D. Pa. 1974), where the court held that a private citizen 17 was not entitled to file a criminal complaint before the court against another alleging 18 19 violation of federal law.

As private citizens, Third Party Defendants lack standing to initiate a criminal
 prosecution under 18 USC 1514 and, therefore, Third Party Defendants' First
 Counterclaim should be dismissed. Moreover, since Third Party Defendants'
 Counterclaims admit that there is no basis for their allegations, sanctions, attorneys
 fees and reasonable costs are warranted.

27 28

1

2

3

Motion to Dismiss Third Party Defendants' Counterclaims Page 7 of 32

LIEBLER, IVEY, CONNOR, BERRY & ST. HILAIRE Attorneys at Law P.O. Box 6125 Kennewick, Washington 99336-0125 (509) 735-3581

	Case 2:04-cv-05125-FVS Document 321 Filed 03/31/2006						
1 2 3	B. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS HAVE FAILED TO STATE A VALID CLAIM FOR WHICH RELIEF CAN BE GRANTED UNDER 18 USC 1514 <u>(OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE)</u>						
4 5	Although this may be superfluous, Third Party Defendants have not pled the						
6	necessary elements of the statute.						
7 8	18 USC 1514 provides, in part, that:						
9	A United States district court, upon application of the						
10	attorney for the Government, shall issue a temporary restraining order prohibiting harassment of a victim or						
11	witness in a Federal criminal case if the court finds, from						
12	specific facts shown by affidavit or by verified complaint, that there are reasonable grounds to believe that						
13	harassment of an identified victim or witness in a Federal						
14	criminal case exists or that such order is necessary to prevent and restrain an offense under section 1512 of this						
15	title, other than an offense consisting of misleading						
16	conduct, or under section 1513 of this title.						
17 18	Third Party Defendants have failed to allege, inter alia, that: (1) they are						
19	victims or witnesses in a Federal criminal case; and/or (2) a United States						
20	Government attorney filed an application to this Court for the issuance of a temporary						
21 22	restraining order prohibiting harassment as defined in 18 USC 1514(c). Accordingly,						
23	Third Party Defendants have failed to state a valid claim for which relief can be						
24	granted under 18 USC 1514.						
25							
26							
27							
28							
	Motion to Dismiss Third Party Defendants' Counterclaims Page 8 of 32 LIEBLER, IVEY, CONNOR, BERRY & ST. HILAIRE Attorneys at Law P.O. Box 6125 Kennewick, Washington 99336-0125 (509) 735-3581						

	Case 2:04-cv-05125-FVS Document 321 Filed 03/31/2006						
1 2 3	II. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS HAVE FAILED TO STATE A VALID CLAIM FOR WHICH RELIEF CAN BE GRANTED UNDER 18 USC 1037 (CRIMINAL FRAUD <u>AND RELATED ACTIVITY IN CONNECTION WITH ELECTRONIC MAIL)</u>						
4 5	Third Party Defendants assert a Counterclaim against Impulse arising out of						
6	Impulse's alleged violations of 18 USC 1037 (Criminal Fraud and Related Activity						
7 8	In Connection With Electronic Mail). 18 USC 1037, once again, is a federal criminal						
9	statute. 18 USC 1037 is intended to protect the public against individuals that, <i>inter</i>						
10	alia, knowingly, fraudulently and intentionally transmit email. Penalties for violations						
11 12	of 18 USC 1037 are, <i>inter alia</i> , fines and punishment.						
13 14	A. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS LACK STANDING TO INSTITUTE A FEDERAL PROSECUTION UNDER 18 USC 1037						
15 16	Third Party Defendants' attempt to prosecute criminal offenses under 18 USC						
17	1037 is without any merit since private citizens have no authority to institute a federal						
18 19	criminal prosecution under a federal criminal statute under these circumstances. <u>Cok</u> ,						
20	876 F.2d at 2; <u>Winslow</u> , 759 F.Supp. at 673-74; <u>see also Kennan</u> , 328 F.2d at 611;						
21	Panza, 381 F.Supp. at 1133, where the court held that a private citizen was not						
22 23	entitled to file a criminal complaint before the court against another alleging violation						
24	of federal law.						
25	As private citizens, Third Party Defendants lack standing to initiate a criminal						
26 27	prosecution under 18 USC 1037.						
27 28							
20	Motion to Dismiss Third Party Defendants' Counterclaims Page 9 of 32 LIEBLER, IVEY, CONNOR, BERRY & ST. HILAIRE Attorneys at Law P.O. Box 6125 Kennewick, Washington 99336-0125 (509) 735-3581						

#### B. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS HAVE FAILED TO PLEAD A VALID <u>CLAIM FOR WHICH RELIEF CAN BE GRANTED UNDER</u> <u>18 USC 1037</u>

Moreover, even assuming Third Party Defendants had standing under the 18

USC 1037, Third Party Defendants have not pled the necessary elements of the

federal criminal statute.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

18 USC 1037 provides, in part that:

(a) In general.--Whoever, in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce, knowingly-- (1) accesses a protected computer without authorization, and intentionally initiates the transmission of multiple commercial electronic mail messages from or through such computer, (2) uses a protected computer to relay or retransmit multiple commercial electronic mail messages, with the intent to deceive or mislead recipients, or any Internet access service, as to the origin of such messages, (3) materially falsifies header information in multiple commercial electronic mail messages and intentionally initiates the transmission of such messages, (4) registers, using information that materially falsifies the identity of the actual registrant, for five or more electronic mail accounts or online user accounts or two or more domain names, and intentionally initiates the transmission of multiple electronic mail messages from any commercial combination of such accounts or domain names, or (5) falsely represents oneself to be the registrant or the legitimate successor in interest to the registrant of 5 or more Internet Protocol addresses, and intentionally initiates the transmission of multiple commercial electronic mail messages from such addresses, or conspires to do so, shall be punished as provided in subsection (b).

1 Third Party Defendants have failed to allege, *inter alia*, that Impulse: (1) 2 criminally accessed a protected computer without authorization, and intentionally 3 initiated the transmission of multiple commercial electronic mail messages from or 4 5 through such computer; (2) criminally used a protected computer to relay or 6 retransmit multiple commercial electronic mail messages, with the intent to deceive 7 8 or mislead recipients, or any Internet access service, as to the origin of such 9 messages; (3) criminally materially falsified header information in multiple 10 commercial electronic mail messages and intentionally initiated the transmission of 11 12 such messages; (4) criminally registered, using information that materially falsified 13 the identity of the actual registrant, for five or more electronic mail accounts or online 14 user accounts or two or more domain names, or intentionally initiated the 15 16 transmission of multiple commercial electronic mail messages from any combination 17 of such accounts or domain names; (5) criminally and falsely represented itself to be 18 19 the registrant or the legitimate successor in interest to the registrant of 5 or more 20 Internet Protocol addresses, and intentionally initiated the transmission of multiple 21 commercial electronic mail messages from such addresses, or conspired to do so; and 22 23 (6) affected interstate or foreign commerce. Based on the foregoing, Third Party 24 Defendants have failed to state a valid claim for which relief can be granted under 18 25 26 USC 1037. 27 28

### C. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS HAVE NOT MET THE RULE 9(b) <u>HEIGHTENED PLEADING REQUIREMENT</u>

23

26

27

28

1

Even if Third Party Defendants could plead criminal causes of action, they fail 4 5 to comply with the heightened pleading requirement of Rule 9(b). Rule 9(b) sets 6 forth more stringent pleading requirements in cases involving allegations of fraud or 7 mistake. "In all averments of fraud or mistake, the circumstances constituting fraud 8 9 or mistake shall be stated with particularity." See Rule 9(b). Rule 9(b) serves three 10 (3) purposes: (a) to assure a defendant of fair notice of the nature of claims and the 11 12 ground upon which they rest; (b) to protect a defendant from harm that would befall 13 its goodwill when it is charged with serious wrongdoing; and (c) to diminish the 14 possibility that plaintiff with a largely groundless claim will be able to use the threat 15 16 of extensive discovery to impose an *in terrorem* increase on a settlement value. See 17 Cowen & Co. v. Merriam, 745 F. Supp. 925 (S.D.N.Y. 1990); U.S. ex rel. Stinson, 18 19 Lyons, Gerlin & Bustamante, P.A. v. Blue Cross Blue Shield of Georgia, Inc., 755 20 F.Supp. 1055 (S.D.Ga. 1990) (see also The Segal Comp. v. Amazon.com, 280 F. 21 Supp. 2d 1229 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2003)). Since Third Party Defendants have failed to plead 22 23 their Second Counterclaim with any specificity whatsoever, Third Party Defendants' 24 Second Counterclaim should be dismissed as a matter of law. 25

	Case 2:04-cv-05125-FVS Document 321 Filed 03/31/2006					
1 2 3	III. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS FAILED TO STATE A VALID CLAIM FO WHICH RELIEF CAN BE GRANTED UNDER RCW 4.24.510 (WASHINGTO ANTI-SLAPP <u>STATUTE)</u>					
4 5	RCW 4.24.510 is the Washington state whistleblower statute. RCW 4.24.510					
6	provides that:					
7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	A person who communicates a complaint or information to any branch or agency of federal, state, or local government, or to any self-regulatory organization that regulates persons involved in the securities or futures business and that has been delegated authority by a federal, state, or local government agency and is subject to oversight by the delegating agency, is immune from civil liability for claims based upon the communication to the agency or organization regarding any matter reasonably of concern to that agency or organization. A person prevailing upon the defense provided for in this section is entitled to recover expenses and reasonable attorneys' fees incurred in establishing the defense and in addition shall receive statutory damages of ten thousand dollars. Statutory					
18 19 20	complaint or information was communicated in bad faith. The purpose of the Washington Anti-SLAPP statute is to protect individuals					
20	who report, <i>inter alia</i> , fraud to governmental agencies and are then sued to stop the					
22	reporting. The Anti-SLAPP statute was designed to allow early dismissal of a lawsuit					
23 24	where the individual making a report to a governmental agency is sued. See					
25	Legislative Intent of RCW 4.24.510 ("Notes Intent 2002 c. 232"). Third Party					
26 27	Defendants allege that Impulse sued them since they were prospective witnesses to					
28	a lawsuit. However, Third Party Defendants are not a class of people that this statute					
	Motion to Dismiss Third Party Defendants' Counterclaims Page 13 of 32 LIEBLER, IVEY, CONNOR, BERRY & ST. HILAIRE Attorneys at Law P.O. Box 6125 Kennewick, Washington 99336-0125 (509) 735-3581					

1	was designed to protect. The statute is not intended to protect witnesses in a lawsuit.				
2					
3					
4	Moreover, Third Party Defendants' attempt to portray themselves as victims				
5	of a whistleblower statute, rather than co-conspirators in a scheme to defraud Impulse				
6 7	is baseless. This Court has already ruled that Impulse has pled valid causes of action				
8	against Third Party Defendants for fraud and deceit, indemnification and contribution,				
9 10	breach of contract and tortious interference with business relationships.				
11	IV. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS HAVE FAILED TO STATE A CLAIM FOR				
12	WHICH RELIEF CAN BE GRANTED UNDER RCW 9.35.005 (CRIMINAL				
13	IDENTITY <u>THEFT)</u>				
14	Title 9 of the Revised Code of Washington sets forth the <u>Criminal Code</u> for the				
15	The 9 of the Revised Code of Washington sets forth the <u>Criminal Code</u> for the				
16	State of Washington. RCW 9.35 et seq. is entitled "Identity Crimes." Violations of				
17 18	RCW 9.35 et seq. are "Class C" felonies pursuant to RCW 9.35.010(5). The				
19	legislative intent as set forth in RCW 9.35 et seq. is to criminally penalize				
20	unscrupulous people for improperly obtaining financial information.				
21	A. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS LACK STANDING TO INSTITUTE				
22 23	A CRIMINAL PROSECUTION UNDER RCW 9.35 ET SEQ.				
23					
25	A private citizen has no right under RCW 9.35 to bring a criminal charge.				
26	Prosecution under RCW 9.35 et seq. is the right of those with prosecutorial				
27	discretion, namely the district attorneys of the various counties in the State of				
28					
	Motion to Dismiss Third Party Defendants' Counterclaims Page 14 of 32 P.O. Box 6125 Kennewick, Washington 99336-0125 (509) 735-3581				

1	Washington. A private citizen has no constitutional, statutory, or common law right				
2	te mensione e meltie efficiel te incretie etc en muser entre e miner. Linde D.C. e. Diele mi				
3	to require a public official to investigate or prosecute a crime. <u>Linda R.S. v. Richard</u>				
4	<u>D.</u> , 410 U.S. 614 (1973). The remedy to a private citizen who fails to persuade a				
5 6	prosecutor to bring a criminal charge is to file a complaint with the county police				
0 7	department. A Washington county District Attorney may, in his or her discretion,				
8	petition the superior court to summon a grand jury in accordance with the Criminal				
9	Investigatory Act of 1971 (RCW 10.27.030). Accordingly, Third Party Defendants				
10	Investigatory fact of 1971 (RefW 10.27.030). Recordingry, finite facty Defendants				
11	lack standing to assert a claim under RCW 9.35.				
12	B. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS ALLEGE THAT IMPULSE				
13	VIOLATED RCW 9.35.005, WHICH PROVISION MERELY SETS				
14	FORTH A DEFINITIONAL <u>TERM</u>				
15					
16	Third Party Defendants allege that Impulse violated the specific provision				
17	located at RCW 9.35.005. However, RCW 9.35.005 simply sets forth a definitional				
18 19	term ("Means of Identification") within a criminal statute. Given that the Washington				
	State legislature did not specifically create any violation whatsoever under RCW				
20	State registrature and not specifically create any violation whatsoever under ite w				
21	9.35.005, Third Party Defendants' Fourth Counterclaim should be dismissed, as a				
22	matter of law. <sup>5</sup>				
23					
24	V. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS HAVE NOT STATED AND CANNOT				
25	STATE A CLAIM FOR WHICH RELIEF CAN BE GRANTED UNDER RCW 10.14 (WASHINGTON CRIMINAL ANTI-HARASSMENT STATUTE)				
26					
27					
28 ap	<sup>5</sup> Third Party Defendants refer to a subsection "(3)" in its Counterclaim. However, there does not be a subsection "(3)" under RCW 9.35.005.				
	Motion to Dismiss Third Party Defendants' Counterclaims Page 15 of 32 LIEBLER, IVEY, CONNOR, BERRY & ST. HILAIRE Attorneys at Law P.O. Box 6125 Kennewick, Washington 99336-0125				

I

1					
2	Third Party Defendants Fifth Counterclaim is based upon Impulse's alleged				
3	harassment of Third Party Defendants, pursuant to RCW 10.14. RCW 10.14 is a				
4 5	criminal statute. Title 10 of The Revised Code of Washington sets forth Washington				
6	State's Criminal Procedures including, but not limited to, the process for obtaining				
7 8	an anti-harassment protection order. Violation of such a protective order is a gross				
8 9	misdemeanor.				
10	It is self evident that this Court is not the proper forum to obtain relief under				
11	RCW 10.14. <u>A petition for a protective order must be submitted by a county district</u>				
12	KC w 10.14. A perior tor a protective order must be submitted by a county district				
13	attorney to the Superior Court of a Washington County. See RCW 10.14. The form				
14	of petition is specified by RCW 10.14.040. RCW 10.14.020 states the elements				
15 16	required for harassment under RCW 10.14 et seq. as follows:				
17	"Unlawful harassment" means a knowing and willful				
18	course of conduct directed at a specific person which				
19	seriously alarms, annoys, harasses, or is detrimental to such person, and which serves no legitimate or lawful purpose.				
20	The course of conduct shall be such as would cause a				
21	reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress, and shall actually cause substantial emotional distress to				
22	the petitioner, or, when the course of conduct would cause				
23	a reasonable parent to fear for the well-being of their child.				
24	Third Party Defendants do not allege that they have met any of the				
25	requirements for a protective order, nor have Third Party Defendants submitted a				
26					
27	petition for a protective order. Regardless, this Court does not have jurisdiction to				
28	Motion to Dismiss Third Party Defendants' Counterclaims Page 16 of 32 LIEBLER, IVEY, CONNOR, BERRY & ST. HILAIRE Attorneys at Law P.O. Box 6125 Kennewick, Washington 99336-0125 (509) 735-3581				

1 consider such a petition. Further, the conduct Third Party Defendants complain of 2 does not rise to the level of causing substantial emotional distress as required under 3 RCW 10.14.020. As such, Third Party Defendants' Fifth Counterclaim should be 4 5 dismissed as a matter of law.<sup>6</sup> 6 THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS HAVE FAILED TO STATE A VALID VI. 7 CLAIM FOR WHICH RELIEF CAN BE GRANTED UNDER RCW 19.170 (PROMOTIONAL ADVERTISING OF PRIZES) 8 9 10 Third Party Defendants allege that Impulse violated RCW 19.170 by falsely 11 advertising prizes without meeting the statutory requirements.<sup>7</sup> 12 RCW 19.170 provides, in pertinent part, that: 13 14 1) The legislature finds that deceptive promotional advertising of prizes is a matter vitally affecting the public 15 interest for the purpose of applying the consumer 16 protection act, chapter 19.86 RCW. (2) Deceptive promotional advertising of prizes is not reasonable in 17 relation to the development and preservation of business. 18 A violation of this chapter is an unfair or deceptive act in 19 trade or commerce for the purpose of applying the consumer protection act, chapter 19.86 RCW, and 20 constitutes an act of deceptive promotional advertising. (3) 21 This chapter applies to a promotion offer: (a) Made to a person in Washington; (b) Used to induce or invite a 22 person to come to the state of Washington to claim a prize, 23 attend a sales presentation, meet a promoter, sponsor, salesperson, or their agent, or conduct any business in this 24 state; or (c) Used to induce or invite a person to contact by 25 26 <sup>6</sup> Third Party Defendants allegations in its Fifth Counterclaim relate to emails that Third Party fendants intentionally solicited.  $2^{\text{pe}}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Third Party Defendants allege that Impulse did not fulfill its obligation of providing prizes to paintiff' had won. However, Third Party Defendants lack standing to assert claims on behalf of Plaintiff.

1

2

9

16

24

28

any means a promoter, sponsor, salesperson, or their agent in this state.

Third Party Defendants have not, *inter alia*, alleged: (1) what promotional advertisements they have personally received; and (2) what advertisements that they have personally viewed. As such, Third Party Defendants' Sixth Counterclaim should be dismissed for failing to meet even the basic pleading requirements.

Moreover, any and all allegations against Defendant for violations of RCW

10 19.170 "sound in," or are "grounded in fraud." <u>See Fidelity Mortgage Corp. v.</u>
11 Seattle <u>Times Company</u>, 213 F.R.D. 573; 2003 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 4508; 32 Media L.

12
13 Rep.1094. (holding that cases that are "grounded in fraud" or "sound in fraud" must

<sup>14</sup> satisfy the particularity requirement of Rule 9(b)). In fact, the express language of

RCW 19.170 et seq. uses terms such as "deceptive," "unfair" and "induce". The use

<sup>17</sup> of these adjectives is not coincidental. In truth, the essence of these terms certainly

"sound in" or are "grounded in fraud." As such, Third Party Defendants should be

20 subject to a heightened pleading requirement under Rule 9(b).

<sup>21</sup> VII. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS HAVE FAILED TO STATE A VALID
 <sup>22</sup> CLAIM FOR WHICH RELIEF CAN BE GRANTED UNDER RCW 18.86.090
 <sup>23</sup> (DEFINITION OF VACARIOUS LIABILITY IN THE CONEXT OF REAL
 <sup>23</sup> ESTATE BROKERAGE <u>RELATIONSIPS</u>)

RCW 18.86 is entitled "Real Estate Brokerage Relationships" and is entirely
 inapplicable to any type of relationship between Third Party Defendants and Impulse.

RCW 18.86 pertains to the provisioning of real estate brokerage services as defined
 under RCW 18.86.010(11). Given that the Third Party Defendants have failed to
 allege that any real estate brokerage relationship existed between Third Party
 Defendants and Impulse, Third Party Defendants' Seventh Counterclaim should be
 dismissed as a matter of law.

8 Moreover, RCW 18.86.090 simply sets forth a definitional term for violations 9 relating to real estate brokerage relationships. Specifically, RCW 18.86.090 defines 10 the term "vicarious liability" in the context of violations under RCW 18.86 et seq. 11 12 Additionally, RCW 18.86.090 does not create any liability whatsoever. Given that 13 the Washington State legislature did not create any violation whatsoever under RCW 14 18.86.090, Third Party Defendants' Seventh Counterclaim should be dismissed as a 15 16 matter of law. 17

## 18 VIII. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS LACK STANDING TO INSTITUTE A CRIMINAL\_PROSECUTION UNDER RCW 9A.60.040 (CRIMINAL 19 IMPERSONATION IN THE <u>FIRST DEGREE</u>)

Third Party Defendants' Eighth Counterclaim against Impulse arises out of
 Impulse's alleged violations of RCW 9A.60.040 (Criminal Impersonation in the First
 Degree). A person is guilty of criminal impersonation in the first degree if, *inter alia*,
 the person assumes a false identity and does not act in his or her assumed character
 a

20

1 with intent to defraud another or for any other unlawful purpose. See RCW 2 9A.60.040(1)(a). Violations of RCW 9A.60.040(1)(a) are class "C" felonies. 3 Third Party Defendants' attempt to prosecute criminal offenses under RCW 4 5 9A.60.040 is baseless, since private citizens have no authority to institute a criminal 6 prosecution under Title 9 of the Revised Code of Washington. The private citizen has 7 8 no constitutional, statutory, or common law right to commence a criminal action 9 under these circumstances or to require a public official to investigate or prosecute 10 a crime. Linda R.S., 410 U.S. at 619. As Third Party Defendants are private citizens, 11 12 Third Party Defendants lack standing to initiate a criminal prosecution under RCW 13 9A.60.040 and, therefore, Third Party Defendants' Eighth Counterclaim should be 14 dismissed as a matter of law. 15 16 IX. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS HAVE FAILED TO STATE VALID 17 CLAIMS FOR ESTOPPEL AND UNCLEAN HANDS 18 19 The doctrines of unclean hands and estoppel are generally affirmative defenses 20 and not separate causes of action. As such, Third Party Defendants' Ninth 21 Counterclaim should be dismissed, as a matter of law. 22 23 Even assuming that such claims somehow create liability, Third Party 24 Defendants have failed to plead any facts which would in any way make out a cause 25 of action against Impulse. 26 27 28 LIEBLER, IVEY, CONNOR, BERRY & ST, HILAIRE Motion to Dismiss Third Party Defendants' Counterclaims Attorneys at Law Page 20 of 32 P.O. Box 6125

Washington 99336-0125

(509) 735-3581

Kennewick

	Case 2:04-cv-05125-FVS Document 321 Filed 03/31/2006					
1	X. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS HAVE FAILED TO STATE A VALID					
2	CLAIM FOR <u>WHICH RELIEF CAN BE GRANTED UNDER RCW 9.58.010</u> (CRIMINAL LIBEL)					
3 4	Third Party Defendants Tenth Counterclaim against Impulse arises out of					
5						
6	Impulse's alleged violations of RCW 9.58.010 (Criminal Libel). The gist of criminal					
7	libel is malice. See State v. Sefrit, 82 Wash. 520 (1914). Criminal libel involves,					
8	<i>inter alia</i> , the malicious publication that exposes a living person to hatred, contempt,					
9	ridicule or obloquy. See RCW 9.58.010(1).					
10 11	A. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS LACK STANDING TO INSTITUTE					
11	A <u>CRIMIAL PROSECUTION UNDER RCW 9.58.010</u>					
13						
14	Third Party Defendants' attempt to prosecute criminal offenses under RCW					
15	9.58.010 is without any merit since private citizens have no authority to institute a					
16 17	criminal prosecution under Title 9 of the Revised Code of Washington in these					
18	circumstances. The private citizen has no constitutional, statutory, or common law					
19	right to require a public official to investigate or prosecute a crime. Linda R.S., 410					
20	U.S. at 619. The remedy to a private citizen, who fails to persuade a prosecutor to					
21 22	bring a criminal charge, is to petition the superior court to summon a grand jury in					
22						
24	accordance with the Criminal Investigatory Act of 1971 (RCW 10.27.030).					
25						
26						
27						
28						
	Motion to Dismiss Third Party Defendants' Counterclaims Page 21 of 32 LIEBLER, IVEY, CONNOR, BERRY & ST. HILAIRE Attorneys at Law P.O. Box 6125 Kennewick, Washington 99336-0125 (509) 735-3581					

	Case 2:04-cv-05125-FVS Document 321 Filed 03/31/2006					
1	B. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS HAVE NOT PLED THE REQUISITE					
2	ELEMENTS FOR CRIMINAL LIBEL IN ACCORDANCE WITH BASIC AND					
3	HEIGHTENED PLEADING REQUIREMENTS AND IMPULSE'S ALLEGED LIBELOUS MATERIAL IS PRIVILEGED					
4						
5	RCW 9.58.010 provides, in pertinent part, that:					
6						
7	Every malicious publication by writing, printing, picture, effigy, sign[,] radio broadcasting or which shall in any					
8	other manner transmit the human voice or reproduce the					
9	same from records or other appliances or means, which shall tend: (1) To expose any living person to hatred,					
10 11	contempt, ridicule or obloquy, or to deprive him of the benefit of public confidence or social intercourse; or (2) To					
11	expose the memory of one deceased to hatred, contempt,					
12	ridicule or obloquy; or (3) To injure any person, corporation or association of persons in his or their					
13	business or occupation, shall be libel. Every person who					
15	publishes a libel shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor.					
16	Initially, Third Party Defendants have failed to allege that Impulse proffered					
17	any libelous or malicious publication by writing, printing, picture, effigy, etc., which					
18 19	publication: (1) exposed Third Party Defendants to hatred, contempt, ridicule or					
20	obloquy, or to deprive him of the benefit of public confidence or social intercourse;					
21	or (2) exposed the memory of one deceased to hatred, contempt, ridicule or obloquy;					
22 23	or (3) injured any person, corporation or association of persons in his or their business					
23 24						
25	or occupation.					
26	Secondly, allegedly libelous statements, spoken or written by a party or counsel					
27	in course of judicial proceeding, are absolutely privileged if they are pertinent or					
28						
	Motion to Dismiss Third Party Defendants' Counterclaims Page 22 of 32 LIEBLER, IVEY, CONNOR, BERRY & ST. HILAIRE Attorneys at Law P.O. Box 6125 Kennewick, Washington 99336-0125 (509) 735-3581					

1 material to redress or relief sought, whether or not statements are legally sufficient 2 to obtain that relief. Mcneal V. F. F. Allen, 621 P.2d 1285, 1285-87 (Sup. Ct. WA 3 1980). The privilege of attorneys is based upon a public policy of securing to them 4 5 as officers of the court the utmost freedom in their efforts to secure justice for their 6 clients. Id. In the case at bar, Impulse has not proffered any writings whatsoever 7 8 about Third Party Defendants, which writings are outside or beyond the scope of this 9 litigation. In fact, Third Party Defendants failed to identify what the alleged libelous 10 writing even is other than what amounts to some third party postings and/or 11 12 discussions about this lawsuit on unidentified websites. As such, Third Party 13 Defendants' Tenth Counterclaim should be dismissed as a matter of law. 14 XI. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS HAVE FAILED TO STATE A VALID 15 CLAIM FOR WHICH RELIEF CAN BE GRANTED UNDER 18 USC 1962(c) 16 (CRIMINAL RACKETEER INFLUENCED AND CORRUPT ORGANIZATIONS 17 ACT, A/K/A RICO). 18 19 Third Party Defendants allege that Impulse violated Title 18, Part I, Chapter 20 96 (Criminal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act, a/k/a RICO).<sup>8</sup> 21 Assuming Third Party Defendants are asserting a claim against Impulse arising out 22 23 of Impulse's alleged violation of 18 USC 1962(c) (which Impulse cannot determine 24 from the allegations contained in Third Party Defendants' Eleventh Counterclaim), 25 26 Third Party Defendants must allege that Impulse engaged in a pattern of racketeering 27 28 <sup>8</sup> Once again, Third Party Defendants have no standing to bring federal criminal claims.

activity within the definition of 18 USC 1961(1)(A) and (D). <u>Sun Savings and Loan</u>
<u>Ass'n v. Dierdorff</u>, 825 F.2d 187, 191 (9th Cir.1987) (citing <u>Sedima, S.P.R.L. v.</u>
<u>Imrex Co.</u>, 473 U.S. 479, 496 (1985)). "Racketeering activity" is any act indictable
under any of the several provisions of Title 18 of the United States Code. <u>See</u> 18
USC 1961. Third Party Defendants have not made, and cannot as a matter of law
make, such allegations against Impulse.

9 Moreover, the Ninth Circuit has applied the particularity requirements of Rule 10 9(b) to RICO claims. Alan Neuman Prods., Inc. v. Albright, 862 F.2d 1388, 1392-93 11 12 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1988); see also, Schreiber Distrib. v. Serv-Well Furniture Co., 806 F.2d 1393, 13 1400 (9th Cir.1986)). Rule 9(b) requires that the pleader state the time, place, and 14 specific content of the false representations as well as the identities of the parties to 15 16 the misrepresentation. Id. at 1401. The Third Party Defendants' RICO Counterclaim 17 does not: (1) attribute specific conduct to the Third Party Plaintiff; (2) specify the 18 19 time or the place of the alleged wrongful conduct; (3) identify the time, place, and 20 manner of each fraud; and (4) set forth Impulse's role in each scheme. 21

Even is this matter was a civil RICO claim, Third Party Defendants have failed
 to file the RICO Case Statement required by Local Rule 3.2.

- Based on the foregoing, Third Party Defendants' Eleventh Counterclaim should
   be dismissed as a matter of law.
  - Motion to Dismiss Third Party Defendants' Counterclaims Page 24 of 32

24

27

28

#### 1 XII. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS HAVE FAILED TO STATE A VALID CLAIM FOR WHICH RELIEF CAN BE GRANTED UNDER THE CAN-SPAM 2 ACT OF 2003 3

5				
4	The CAN-SPAM Act of 2003 (the "Act" or "CAN-SPAM") does not create a			
5	private right of action. Rather, the Federal Trade Commission, States Attorneys			
6	General and Internet Service Providers (e.g., America Online, Earthlink, Microsoft			
7	General and Internet Service 110 viders (e.g., 7 interior Online, Earthink, Wierosoft			
8	and Yahoo!) can commence lawsuits under CAN-SPAM. Further, CAN-SPAM does			
9 10	not make it illegal to "appropriate" e-mail addresses at a personal domain as Third			
11	Party Defendants allege.			
12	Even assuming that Third Party Defendants have standing under CAN-SPAM,			
13	Third Party Defendants have not pled that Impulse violated any portion of CAN-			
14				
15	SPAM. As such, Third Party Defendants Twelfth Counterclaim should be dismissed			
16 17	as a matter of law.			
17 18 19	XIII. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS HAVE FAILED TO STATE A VALID CLAIM FOR WHICH RELIEF CAN BE GRANTED UNDER RCW 19.190 ET SEQ. (WASHINGTON ANTI-SPAM STATUTE)			
20				
21				
22	The Washington Anti-Spam Act, inter alia, prohibits the transmission of a			
23	commercial electronic mail message "to an electronic mail address that the sender			
24				
25	knows, or has reason to know, is held by a Washington State resident that: (a) uses			
26	a third party's internet domain name without permission of the third party, or			
27	otherwise misrepresents or obscures any information in identifying the point of			
28	otherwise misrepresents or obscures any information in identifying the point of			
	Motion to Dismiss Third Party Defendants' Counterclaims Page 25 of 32 LIEBLER, IVEY, CONNOR, BERRY & ST. HILAIRE Attorneys at Law P.O. Box 6125 Kennewick, Washington 99336-0125 (509) 735-3581			

1	origin or the transmission path of a commercial electronic mail message; or (b)				
2 3	contains false or misleading information in the subject line." RCW 19.190.020.				
4	Third Party Defendants have not alleged any factual allegations relating to				
5	violations of RCW 19.190 et seq. Unsupported conclusions of law in a complaint				
6	are not sufficient to withstand a motion to dismiss. "Although this standard for				
7	Rule 12(b)(6) dismissals is quite liberal, more than bare assertions of legal				
8 9	conclusions are ordinarily required to satisfy federal notice pleading				
10	requirements." <u>Scheid v. Fanny Farmer Candy Shops, Inc.</u> , 859 F.2d 434, 436 (6 <sup>th</sup>				
11	Cir. 1988). Third Party Defendants' Counterclaim contains nothing but				
12					
13	conclusory allegations and further, asks the Court to draw unwarranted inferences				
14 15	from them. Based on the foregoing, Third Party Defendants cannot state a claim				
	for which relief can be granted.				
16 17 18	XIV. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS HAVE FAILED TO SATTE A VALID CLAIM FOR WHICH RELIEF CAN BE GRANTED UNDER RCW 19.86 (WASHINGTON CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT)				
18 19					
20	Should the Court dismiss Third Party Defendants' allegations for Impulse's				
21	violations of RCW 19.190 et seq. for the reasons set forth hereinabove, Third Party				
22	Defendants' claim for Impulse's breach of RCW 19.86 is also violated. In fact,				
23 24					
24	practices covered by the Washington Anti-Spam Act are matters vitally affecting the				
25	public interest for the purpose of applying the Consumer Protection Act, RCW 19.86.				
26 27	Third Party Defendants have failed to plead basic notice in support of their				
27					
20					
	Motion to Dismiss Third Party Defendants' Counterclaims Page 26 of 32 LIEBLER, IVEY, CONNOR, BERRY & ST. HILAIRE Attorneys at Law P.O. Box 6125 Kennewick, Washington 99336-0125				

Counterclaim. The entire Counterclaim consists of one (1) conclusory legal
 conclusion. Accordingly, Third Party Defendants' Fourteenth Counterclaim should
 be dismissed.

# <sup>5</sup> XV. THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS HAVE FAILED TO PLEAD THE <sup>6</sup> ELEMENTS <u>NECESSARY TO OBTAIN A PERMANENT INJUNCTION</u>

8 The Third Party Defendants seek the issuance of a permanent injunction. A 9 party seeking the issuance of an injunction must show that: (1) there is a clear legal 10 or equitable right to an injunction; (2) there is a well-grounded fear of immediate 11 invasion of that right; and (3) the acts complained of are either resulting in or will 12 13 result in an actual and substantial injury. Port of Seattle v. International 14 Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union, 325 P.2d 1099, 1101 (Wash. 1958); 15 County of Spokane v. Local No. 1553, American Federation of State Employees, 76 16 Wash. App. 765, 771 888 P.2d 735 (Wash. App. 1995); Beacon Theatres, Inc. v. 17 18 Westover, 359 U.S. 500, 506-07 (1959). Third Party Defendants have literally failed 19 to plead any of these elements. As such, Third Party Defendants have not stated a 20 claim for which relief can be granted. 21

# 22 XVI. THIS COURT SHOULD IMPOSE SANCTIONS AGAINST THIRD PARTY 23 DEFENDANTS PURSUANT TO RULE 11

Third Party Defendants admit in their Counterclaims that their Counterclaims
 are "civil" in nature and "not criminal" matters. Notwithstanding this, Third Party
 Defendants' asserted criminal causes of action against Impulse for the sole purpose

7

of forcing Impulse to expend time and money dismissing same. All fifteen (15)
 Counterclaims follow a similar pattern in that they lack any factual or legal basis
 whatsoever. By conducting a reasonable investigation into the merits of their
 allegations, as federal law mandates, Third Party Defendants would have understood
 that all of their Counterclaims were entirely without merit.

8 Pro se litigants are generally held to the same standard as attorneys. Westberg 9 v. All-Purpose Structures Inc., 936 P.2d 1175, 1177-78 (Wash. 1997); In re Pers. 10 Restraint Pet. of Connick, 28 P.3d 729, 736 (Wash. 2001) (pro se petitioner held to 11 12 the same responsibility as a lawyer and required to follow applicable statutes and 13 rules). Courts hold pro se litigants to the same standard as attorneys, and an 14 attorney's incompetence or neglect is not excusable. In re Marriage of Olson, 850 15 16 P.2d 527, 530 (Wash. 1993); Lane v. Brown & Haley, 912 P.2d 1040, 1043 (Wash. 17 1996). In fact, sanctions may be imposed on anyone who signs a pleading, motion, 18 19 or other paper which is filed in a federal case, whether that person be an attorney, a 20 client, or a pro se litigant. Shrock v. Altru Nurses Registry, 810 F2d 658 (7th Cir. 21 1987). In the case at bar, the fact that the Third Party Defendants in this case filed 22 23 fifteen (15) Counterclaims without the assistance of counsel does not excuse them 24 from having to investigate the factual basis of their Counterclaims. Id. For example, 25 explaining that Rule 11 does not establish a lesser duty to make a reasonable inquiry 26 27 for pro se litigants, the court imposed Rule 11 sanctions on a pro se plaintiff who 28

filed a civil rights action against a state trial judge for denying a motion in a previous
action regarding a speeding ticket. <u>Dyson v. Sposeep</u>, 637 F Supp 616 (N.D. Ind.
1986).

Further, *pro se* litigants are subject to Rule 11 sanctions, and their filings, like
 those of attorneys, are judged by an objective standard of reasonableness. <u>Cook v.</u>
 <u>Peter Kiewit Sons, Co.</u>, 775 F.2d 1030, 1037 n. 13 (9th Cir. 1985); <u>Business Guides</u>
 <u>v. Chromatic Communications, Enterprises</u>, 892 F.2d 802, 811 (9th Cir. 1989), aff'd
 111 S. Ct. 922 (1991).

Impulse has placed Third Party Defendants on notice that they should withdraw
 their Counterclaims. Third Party Defendants have failed to withdraw their
 Counterclaims. As such, Impulse requests that this Court impose sanctions upon
 Third Party Defendants in an amount equal to the time and money expended by
 counsel for Impulse in researching, preparing and filing a response to Third Party
 Defendants' Counterclaims.

Impulse further requests that this Court grant Impulse its attorneys' fees and
 reasonable costs expended in responding to Third party Defendants' baseless
 Counterclaims. Impulse's attorneys have spent a total of thirty-five (35) hours
 researching and preparing this motion. Specifically, Peter Glantz has expended
 twenty (20) billable hours researching and preparing the instant motion, Sean
 Moynihan has spent ten (10) billable hours reviewing and preparing the instant

motion and Floyd Ivey has billed five (5) hours researching, reviewing and filing the
 instant motion.

4

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

#### A. <u>PUBLIC POLICY OF RULE 11(c)</u>

5 Rule 11(c) requires attorneys and *pro se* litigants to conduct a reasonable 6 inquiry into the law and facts before signing, inter alia, pleadings. Rule 11 sets forth 7 8 the responsibility that litigants have toward the Court and requires litigants to stop 9 and think before initially making legal or factual contentions. One purpose of Rule 10 11 sanctions is to streamline the litigation process by discouraging the use of dilatory 11 12 or abusive tactics, such as the filing of frivolous claims or defenses or the use of 13 pleadings to harass or delay. Golden Eagle Distributing Corp. v. Burroughs Corp., 14 801 F2d 1531 (Cal. CA. 1986). 15

Based on the foregoing, Impulse respectfully requests that the Court impose
 sanctions against Third Party Defendants pursuant to Rule 11 and grant Impulse
 reasonable costs and attorneys fees for the amount of cost and time devoted to
 researching, preparing and filing this response.

1

(509) 735-3581

#### **CONCLUSION**

2 Pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6), Impulse requests that the Court dismiss Third Party 3 Defendants' Counterclaims on the ground that Third party Defendants have not 4 5 stated, and cannot state, claims for which relief can be granted. Further, pursuant to 6 Rule 11, Impulse respectfully requests that this Court impose sanctions upon Third 7 8 Party Defendants on the ground that Third Party Defendants' Counterclaims are 9 frivolous and would have been understood to be frivolous upon a reasonable 10 investigation by Third Party Defendants. 11 12 DATED this 31st day of March, 2006. 13 14 15 S/FLOYD E. IVEY 16 17 Liebler, Ivey, Conner, Berry & St. Hilaire 18 By: Floyd E. Ivey 19 1141 N. Edison, Suite C P.O. Box 6125 20 Kennewick, Washington 99336 21 Local Counsel for Defendant Impulse Marketing Group, Inc. 22 23 S/FLOYD E. IVEY for SEAN **MOYNIHAN and PETER GLANTZ** 24 25 Sean A. Moynihan 26 Peter J. Glantz Klein, Zelman, Rothermel & Dichter, 27 LLP 28 LIEBLER, IVEY, CONNOR, BERRY & ST, HILAIRE Motion to Dismiss Third Party Defendants' Counterclaims Attorneys at Law P.O. Box 6125 k, Washington 99336-0125 Page 31 of 32 Kennewick,

	Case 2:04-cv-05125-FVS Doc	ument 321	Filed 03/31/2006			
1		485	5 Madison Avenue, 15 <sup>th</sup> Floor			
2	2		w York, New York 10022			
3	3		2) 935-6020 2) 753-8101 (fax)			
4	1					
5	5					
6	5					
7						
8	<sup>9</sup> I hereby certify that on March 31, 2006, I electronically filed MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO DISMISS TH					
10 11	<sup>10</sup> PARTY DEFENDANTS' COUNTERCLAIMS with the Clerk of the C 11 the CM/ECF System which will send notification of such filing to Robe					
11	Siegel, Peter J. Glantz and Sean A. Moynihan. I hereby certify that I have se					
12	the foregoing to the following non-CM/ECF participants by other means: Bo					
14	and Jamila Gordon	,				
15	5					
16						
17	S/ FLOYD E. IVEY					
18	8					
19	9 FLOYD E. IVEY					
20						
21						
22						
23						
24						
25 26						
20 27						
27						
	Motion to Dismiss Third Party Defendants' Counte Page 32 of 32	erclaims	LIEBLER, IVEY, CONNOR, BERRY & ST. HILAIRE Attorneys at Law P.O. Box 6125 Kennewick, Washington 99336-0125 (509) 735-3581			