FILED: NEW YORK COUNTY CLERK 06/17/2021 01:15 PM INDEX NO. 451625/2020

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 255

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Exhibit 1

Excerpt from U.S. PACER Docket for Nat'l Rifle Ass'n of Am. v. Ackerman McQueen, et al., Civ. No. 3:19-cv-02074–G (N.D. Tx.)

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NYSCEF DOC. NO. 255

INDEX NO. 451625/20144
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DISCREF, JURY

U.S. District Court Northern District of Texas (Dallas) CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 3:19-cv-02074-G-BK

National Rifle Association of America v. Ackerman

McOueen Inc et al

Assigned to: Senior Judge A. Joe Fish

Referred to: Magistrate Judge Renee Harris Toliver

Cause: 15:1125 Trademark Infringement (Lanham Act)

Date Filed: 08/30/2019 Jury Demand: Both

Nature of Suit: 890 Other Statutes:

Other Statutory Actions

Jurisdiction: Federal Question

Plaintiff

National Rifle Association of

America

represented by Michael J Collins

Brewer, Attorneys & Counselors

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Suite 5900

Dallas, TX 75201 214-653-4875 Fax: 214-653-101

Fax: 214-653-1015

Email: mjc@brewerattorneys.com

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Brewer Attorneys & Counselors 750 Lexington Avenue 14th Floor New York, NY 10012 212-489-1400 FILED NÊW YORK COUNTY CHERRIVOS TO 21-610 PKR PP. PM

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 255

INDEX NO. 451625/262644
RECEIVED NYSCEF: 06/17/2021

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED Bar Status: Admitted/In Good Standing

V.

ThirdParty Defendant

Wayne Lapierre

represented by Michael J Collins

(See above for address)

LEAD ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Bar Status: Admitted/In Good

Standing

Matthew K Felty

(See above for address)
TERMINATED: 05/28/2020
Bar Status: Not Admitted

Counter Claimant

Jesse Greenberg

represented by J Brian Vanderwoude

(See above for address)

LEAD ATTORNEY

ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Bar Status: Admitted/In Good

Standing

Brian E Mason

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Christina M Carroll

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Standing

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Standing

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NYSCEF DOC. NO. 255

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 06/17/2021

		AM before Senior Judge A. Joe Fish. (Ordered by Senior Judge A. Joe Fish on 10/13/2020) (jmg) (Entered: 10/14/2020)
10/15/2020	175	NOTICE of Plaintiff the National Rifle Association and Third-Party Defendant Wayne LaPierre's Rule 26 Initial Disclosure Statement filed by National Rifle Association of America (Allegretto, Alessandra) (Entered: 10/15/2020)
10/15/2020	<u>176</u>	NOTICE of <i>Defendants' Rule 26 Initial Disclosures</i> filed by Ackerman McQueen Inc, Jesse Greenberg, Henry Martin, Mercury Group Inc, Melanie Montgomery, William Winkler (Mason, Brian) (Entered: 10/15/2020)
10/20/2020	<u>177</u>	NOTICE of <i>Related Case Filing in MDL</i> filed by National Rifle Association of America (Attachments: # 1 Exhibit(s) Motion and Supporting Papers) (Allegretto, Alessandra) (Entered: 10/20/2020)
10/23/2020	178	MOTION to Withdraw <i>As Counsel</i> filed by William A Brewer, III, Brewer Attorneys & Counselors (Attachments: # 1 Proposed Order Granting Motion to Withdraw As Counsel) (Tostrud, Daniel) (Entered: 10/23/2020)
10/23/2020	179	ELECTRONIC ORDER: The motion to withdraw of attorneys Daniel D. Tostrud, William D. Cobb, Jr., and Matthew E. Last of the law firm Cobb Martinez Woodward, PLLC (docket entry 178) is GRANTED. It is therefore ORDERED that Daniel D. Tostrud, William D. Cobb, Jr., and Matthew E. Last of the law firm Cobb Martinez Woodward, PLLC are hereby withdrawn as attorneys of record for non-parties William A. Brewer III and Brewer, Attorneys & Counselors. It is further ORDERED that Daniel D. Tostrud, William D. Cobb, Jr., and Matthew E. Last of the law firm Cobb Martinez Woodward, PLLC are hereby relieved of any further obligations as counsel to the court or to non-parties William A. Brewer III and Brewer, Attorneys & Counselors. (Ordered by Senior Judge A. Joe Fish on 10/23/2020) (chmb) (Entered: 10/23/2020)
10/23/2020	180	Joint STATUS REPORT IN CONNECTION WITH PLAINTIFFS MOTION TO COMPEL AND FOR SANCTIONS (ECF NO. 47), AND DEFENDANTS MOTION TO COMPEL PLAINTIFFS DOCUMENT PRODUCTION AND MOTION FOR SANCTIONS (ECF NO. 54) filed by Ackerman McQueen Inc, Jesse Greenberg, Henry Martin, Mercury Group Inc, Melanie Montgomery, William Winkler. (Mason, Brian) (Entered: 10/23/2020)
10/23/2020	181	(Document Restricted) Sealed MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE UNDER SEAL CERTAIN EXHIBITS TO JOINT STATUS REPORT IN CONNECTION WITH PLAINTIFFS MOTION TO COMPEL AND FOR SANCTIONS (ECF NO. 47), AND DEFENDANTS MOTION TO COMPEL PLAINTIFFS DOCUMENT PRODUCTION

FILED: NEW YORK COUNTY CLERK 06/17/2021 01:15 PM

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 255 RECEIVED NYSCEF: 06/17/2021

INDEX NO. 451625/2020

Case 3:19-cv-02074-G-BK Document 103 Filed 04/15/20 Page 1 of 10 PageID 6162

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA,	§ §
Plaintiff and Counter-Defendant	<pre>\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ Civil Action No. 3:19-cv-02074-G</pre>
and	8 & &
WAYNE LAPIERRE,	\$ \$ \$ Civil Action No. 3:19-cv-02074-G
Third-Party Defendant,	\$ \$
V.	\$ \$
ACKERMAN MCQUEEN, INC.,	§ §
Defendant and Counter-Plaintiff,	§ §
and	ω
MERCURY GROUP, INC., HENRY	§
MARTIN, WILLIAM WINKLER,	§
MELANIE MONTGOMERY, and JESSE	§
GREENBERG,	§ 8
Defendants.	§

PLAINTIFF NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA'S REPLY IN SUPPORT OF ITS MOTION FOR ENTRY OF AN ALTERNATIVE PROTECTIVE ORDER FOR THE PARTIES

BREWER, ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS

Michael J. Collins, Esq. (TX Bar No. 00785493) mjc@brewerattorneys.com 1717 Main Street, Suite 5900 Dallas, Texas 75201

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ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF AND COUNTER-DEFENDANT NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA AND THIRD-PARTY DEFENDANT WAYNE LAPIERRE

NEW YORK COUNTY CLERK 06/17/2021

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 255

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 06/17/2021

Case 3:19-cv-02074-G-BK Document 103 Filed 04/15/20 Page 10 of 10 PageID 6171

Respectfully submitted, Dated: April 15, 2020

BREWER, ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS

INDEX NO. 451625/2020

By: /s/ Michael J. Collins

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ATTORNEYS FOR THE PLAINTIFF AND **COUNTER-DEFENDANT NATIONAL RIFLE** ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA AND THIRD-PARTY DEFENDANT WAYNE LAPIERRE

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document was electronically served via the Court's electronic case filing system upon all counsel of record on this 15th day of April 2020.

> /s/ Michael J. Collins Michael J. Collins

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 255

INDEX NO. 451625/2020623RECEIVED NYSCEF: 06/17/2021

DISCREF, JURY

U.S. District Court Northern District of Texas (Dallas) CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 3:19-cv-02074-G-BK

National Rifle Association of America v. Ackerman McQueen Inc et al

Assigned to: Senior Judge A. Joe Fish

Referred to: Magistrate Judge Renee Harris Toliver Cause: 15:1125 Trademark Infringement (Lanham Act)

Plaintiff

National Rifle Association of America

Date Filed: 08/30/2019 Jury Demand: Both

Nature of Suit: 890 Other Statutes: Other Statutory

Actions

Jurisdiction: Federal Question

represented by Michael J Collins

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INDEX NO. 451625/20123

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 255

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V.

Defendant

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INDEX NO. 451625/2920523

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V.

ThirdParty Defendant

Wayne Lapierre

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LEAD ATTORNEY

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Matthew K Felty

(See above for address)
TERMINATED: 05/28/2020
Bar Status: Not Admitted

Counter Claimant

Jesse Greenberg

represented by J Brian Vanderwoude

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INDEX NO. 451625/2020623RECEIVED NYSCEF: 06/17/2021

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V.

Counter Defendant

National Rifle Association of America

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Date Filed Docket Text

INDEX NO. 451625/2020

NYSCEF DOC NO. 255 Case 3:19-cv-02074-G-BK Document 12 Filed 10/01/19 Page 1 of 55 Page D 131

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION	§	
OF AMERICA	§	
	§	
Plaintiff,	§	
	§	
v.	§	Civil Action No. 3:19-cv-02074-G
	§	
ACKERMAN MCQUEEN, INC.,	§	
MERCURY GROUP, INC.,	§	
HENRY MARTIN, AND	§	
JESSE GREENBERG,	§	
	§	
Defendant.	§	
Defendant.	8	

DEFENDANT ACKERMAN MCQUEEN, INC.'S ORIGINAL ANSWER, COUNTERCLAIM AND THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT AGAINST WAYNE LAPIERRE

TO THE HONORABLE A. JOE FISH, SENIOR UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE:

Subject to and without waiving Defendants' pending Motion to Dismiss, Comes Now Ackerman McQueen, Inc. ("AMc"), named as one of the Defendants in the above numbered and styled case and files this its Original Answer to Plaintiff's Original Complaint ("Complaint"), its Counterclaim and Third Party Complaint, respectfully responding as follows:

I.

RESPONSE TO "PRELIMINARY STATEMENT"

1. For decades, the NRA trusted its former advertising agency and communications firm, AMc, to shape and disseminate public communications on its behalf in order to advance the interests of the NRA and its members. During that time, the NRA believed AMc was a valued partner to the NRA and, by extension, the millions of law-abiding gun owners who depend upon the NRA for its Second Amendment Advocacy.

I.

COUNTERCLAIM AND THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT

Becoming Actor, AMc ("Counter-Plaintiff") brings this Counterclaim against the NRA as Counter-Defendant, and its Third Party Complaint against Wayne LaPierre ("LaPierre"), Executive Vice President of the NRA, in his individual capacity.

II.

PARTIES

- 1. Counter-Plaintiff has appeared herein by contemporaneously filing this Answer, counterclaim and Third Party Complaint.
 - 2. Counter-Defendant has appeared herein and is before the Court for all purposes.
- 3. Third Party Defendant Wayne LaPierre is a resident of the State of Virginia who may be served with citation at his place of business, 11250 Waples Mill Rd., Fairfax, Virginia 22030.

III.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

4. This Court has personal and subject matter jurisdiction concerning Third Party Defendant LaPierre pursuant to 28 USC 1332(a) and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000. In addition, the counterclaims asserted herein include compulsory and permissive actions. Venue is proper in the Northern District of Texas, Dallas Division.

FILED: NEW YORK COUNTY CLERK 06/17/2021 01:15 PM

INDEX NO. 451625/2020

NYSCEF DOC NO. 255 Case 3:19-cv-02074-G-BK Document 12 Filed 10/01/19 Page 19 of 55 PageID 149 NYSCEF:

IV.

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

A. Counterclaim.

- 1. Despite its seemingly benign veneer, the instant case is driven by Counter-Defendant's and LaPierre's sinister and intentional efforts to destroy AMc's business. Counter-Defendant's lawsuit invites indeed, mandates an inquiry into the NRA's and LaPierre's conduct. It makes relevant an examination of the real reasons behind termination of the parties' operating agreement (the "Services Agreement," as amended) and an examination of the creation, operation and unquestioned success of NRATV (a digital network dedicated to the advancement of 2nd Amendment issues), that lays bare the falsity of the NRA's "failed endeavor" contention.
- Two events have combined to cause the NRA to switch from friend to foe: (1) the advent of the law firm of Brewer, Attorneys and Counselors, and its principal Bill Brewer ("Brewer") whose ascendency within the NRA has resulted in the NRA embarking on a reckless and self-destructive path, in the process taking down numerous other important service providers and individual NRA leaders and others with it; and (2) AMc's refusal, including a series of events in 2018 to acquiesce in the financial adventurism and organizational mismanagement of NRA's leader, LaPierre. This combination of events has found malicious voice in this, the fourth frivolous lawsuit launched against AMc as well as in lawsuits against Andrew Cuomo, Governor of New York and New York's Chief Insurance Regulator; another unfounded lawsuit against Lt. Col. Oliver North ("North") the NRA's one-time President, for having the temerity to demand an audit of Brewer's \$97,000.00 per day legal bills (totaling over \$24 million for just over one year's activity); and has led to the voluntary resignation of several NRA board members who wanted no part of fiduciary risks being taken; and the enforced ouster of officials and attorneys accused of

NYSCEF DOC AND 255 Case 3:19-cv-02074-G-BK Document 12 Filed 10/01/19 Page 20 of 55 PageID 150 NYSCEF: 06/17/2021

allegedly "conspiring" to oust LaPierre from his position.5

3. The facts supporting this Counterclaim makes clear that it is AMc which has been victimized by the machinations of the NRA, LaPierre and others, and not as portrayed by Counter-Defendants.

B. Third Party Action

- 4. The NRA's case also opens the door to an exposition of the fraudulent conduct of LaPierre, (particularly as it relates to NRATV) his profligate misuse of NRA members' dues, for personal and family benefit, his flaunting of non-profit corporation law, and the reckless abandon with which he and his enabler Brewer have run roughshod over the NRA Board of Directors as well as the NRA Foundation Board of Directors in multiple respects (including failure to obtain prior board approval for his lawsuits against AMc and firing the Board's counsel). It also calls for scrutiny of his personal exposure for libelous statements against AMc, his interference with Third Party NRA Contracts and the fraud he has perpetrated on AMc, particularly with respect to NRATV. All of these areas of inquiry will reveal that what is at the root of Counter Defendant's and LaPierre's effort to scapegoat AMc is the plan to deflect attention from their own misdeeds and to inflict maximum damage on Counter-Plaintiffs. It is LaPierre, with Brewer's assistance, whose artifice has caused AMc serious damage, for which he must pay.
 - 5. This Counterclaim and Third Party Complaint seek to not only restore AMc's reputation; they also seek to hold accountable the NRA and LaPierre, whose dictatorial actions have neutered the NRA as a political force while inflicting serious collateral damage on AMc.

⁵ See, e.g., news articles describing this recent frenetic activity and Brewer's role: Non Profit News Quarterly, (https://nonprofitquarterly.org/why-someone-should-make-the-NRA-into-a-tv-series; Washington Post, https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/how-a-hard-charging-attorney-helped.fuel-a-civil-war-inside-the-NRA); https://www.nytimes.com/2019/08/22/us/politics/nra-guns-wayne-lapierre.html