

NOTICE OF MOTION

TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on June 23, 2022 at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard before the Honorable Beth Labson Freeman, Courtroom 3, 5th Floor, of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Jose Division, 280 South First Street, San Jose, California 95113, Stubbs Alderton & Markiles, LLP ("SAM"), will and hereby does move the Court, pursuant to Civil Local Rule 11-5(a) and California Rule of Professional Conduct 1.16(a)(2), to immediately and unconditionally withdraw as counsel of record for PersonalWeb Technologies, LLC ("PersonalWeb"), as a result of events that have occurred and issues that have arisen since the Court conditionally granted SAM's prior motion to withdraw on June 25, 2021 (Dkt. 694.) This Motion is based on this Notice, the attached Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the Declarations of Robert L. Kehr, David Parker Michael A. Sherman, and Jeffrey F. Gersh, all the pleadings and records on file in this action, and any further argument or evidence as may be presented at or before the hearing on this matter.

By: __

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 10, 2022

STUBBS, ALDERTON & MARKILES, LLP

/s/ Michael A. Sherman
Michael A. Sherman

Jeffrey F. Gersh

Attorneys for PERSONALWEB TECHNOLOGIES, LLC



	C	Case 5:18-md-02834-BLF Document 728 Filed 02/10/22 Page 3 of 14		
1			TABLE OF CONTENTS	
2				
3	I.	INTRODUCTION		
4	II.	SUMMARY OF RELEVANT BACKGROUND		
5		A.	SAM's Prior Motion to Withdraw Pursuant to Rule 1.16(a)(4) and the Subsequent Events Necessitating this Instant Motion to Withdraw Pursuant	
6			to Rule 1.16(a)(2)	
7		B.	Status of Other Proceedings – State Court Receivership – Impacting SAM and Pending Appeals	
8	III.	LEGA	AL ARGUMENT5	
9		A.	Pursuant to California Rule of Court 1.16(a)(2), SAM's Withdrawal is Mandatory Due to Events and Issues Arising After the Withdrawal Order	
11			1. Business & Professions Code § 6103	
12 13 14 15			2. Due to the irremediable breakdown in the relationship between PersonalWeb and SAM in the post judgment proceedings as detailed in the Declarations of Messrs. Sherman and Gersh, SAM cannot represent PersonalWeb competently under California Rule of Professional Conduct, Rule 1.1	
16 17			3. Due to a conflict of interest between SAM and PersonalWeb that recently arose in the post judgment proceedings, California Rule of Professional Conduct 1.7(b) precludes SAM from representing PersonalWeb in the post-judgment proceedings	
18		В.	Whatever Challenges that Amazon is Experiencing in Its Post	
19 20			Judgment Collection Proceedings Does Not Rise to the Level of Prejudice to Amazon that Outweighs SAM's Mandatory, Ethical Obligations to Withdraw – Nor Will	
21			Permitting SAM to Unconditionally Withdraw as Counsel of Record for PersonalWeb, Now, Promote Delay or Thwart Moving the Post Judgment Collection	
22			Proceedings Along	
	IV.	CON	CLUSION9	
23				
2425				
26				
27				
28				



Case 5:18-md-02834-BLF Document 728 Filed 02/10/22 Page 4 of 14 **TABLE OF AUTHORITIES** Cases Page(s) Blanton v. Womancare, Inc., Chaleff v. Superior Court, In Matter of Genis, Kessler v. Eldred, Statutes Rules Other Authorities PersonalWeb Techs., LLC v. Patreon, Inc.,



MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

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

Through this Motion, Stubbs Alderton & Markiles, LLP ("SAM") seeks to immediately and unconditionally withdraw as counsel of record for PersonalWeb Technologies, LLC ("PersonalWeb") in Case No. 18-MD-2834-BLF and all related cases and matters now pending in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California (the "post judgment proceedings").

SAM acknowledges that this Motion is SAM's second motion to withdraw as counsel of record for PersonalWeb to be considered by the Court. SAM brings this Motion based on materially changed circumstances from that first motion briefed in May 2021 and decided in the Court's Order dated June 25, 2021 (Withdrawal Order"), whereby the Court "conditionally" granted SAM's prior motion to withdraw "...upon notice of appearance by [PersonalWeb's substitute counsel] Ronald Richards, Personal Web's counsel for post-judgment matters." (Dkt. 694 at 4:6-8 (brackets added).)

SAM is mandated to withdraw by rules of ethics applicable to its attorneys based on new developments, events, facts, and issues that arose after the Withdrawal Order. As applicable here, California Rule of Professional Conduct 1.16(a)(2) (which replaced Rule of Professional Conduct 3-700, effective November 1, 2018) mandates withdrawal if the "lawyer knows or reasonably should know that the representation will result in violation of these rules or of the State Bar Act..." As explained below, SAM cannot continue to represent PersonalWeb in the matter of these post judgment discovery/compliance proceedings because (in addition to PersonalWeb having discharged SAM in representing PersonalWeb on post judgment collection matters, the subject of the prior motion) (1) there has been an irremediable breakdown in the relationship between SAM and PersonalWeb, (2) SAM cannot render competent legal services to PersonalWeb in the post judgment proceedings, and (3) there is an actual, adverse, and irreconcilable conflict of interest between SAM and PersonalWeb, which mandates SAM's withdrawal. (Declaration of Robert Kehr ("Kehr Decl."), ¶¶3-7; Declaration of Michael A. Sherman ("Sherman Decl."), ¶5-8; Declaration of Jeffrey F. Gersh ("Gersh Decl."), ¶¶5-8.) In both SAM's view and that of its ethics expert Robert L. Kehr, these three bases of mandatory withdrawal have emerged in the period following the June 25, 2021 Withdrawal Order. (Id.)



DOCKET

Explore Litigation Insights



Docket Alarm provides insights to develop a more informed litigation strategy and the peace of mind of knowing you're on top of things.

Real-Time Litigation Alerts



Keep your litigation team up-to-date with **real-time** alerts and advanced team management tools built for the enterprise, all while greatly reducing PACER spend.

Our comprehensive service means we can handle Federal, State, and Administrative courts across the country.

Advanced Docket Research



With over 230 million records, Docket Alarm's cloud-native docket research platform finds what other services can't. Coverage includes Federal, State, plus PTAB, TTAB, ITC and NLRB decisions, all in one place.

Identify arguments that have been successful in the past with full text, pinpoint searching. Link to case law cited within any court document via Fastcase.

Analytics At Your Fingertips



Learn what happened the last time a particular judge, opposing counsel or company faced cases similar to yours.

Advanced out-of-the-box PTAB and TTAB analytics are always at your fingertips.

API

Docket Alarm offers a powerful API (application programming interface) to developers that want to integrate case filings into their apps.

LAW FIRMS

Build custom dashboards for your attorneys and clients with live data direct from the court.

Automate many repetitive legal tasks like conflict checks, document management, and marketing.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Litigation and bankruptcy checks for companies and debtors.

E-DISCOVERY AND LEGAL VENDORS

Sync your system to PACER to automate legal marketing.

