UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

RELOADED GAMES, INC. Petitioner

v.

PARALLEL NETWORKS, LLC Patent Owner

> Case IPR2014-00136¹ Patent 7,188,145 Case IPR2014-00139 Patent 7,730,262

Before KRISTEN L. DROESCH, BRIAN J. McNAMARA, and HYUN J. JUNG Administrative Patent Judges.

McNAMARA, Administrative Patent Judge.

DOCKET

ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL 37C.F.R. § 42.10

¹ This Order addresses issues that are identical in related cases. Therefore, we exercise our discretion to issue one order to be filed in each case. The parties, however, are not authorized to use this style heading in any subsequent papers.

Cases IPR2014-00136; IPR2014-00139 Patents 7,188,145; 7,730,262

Reloaded Games, Inc. ("Petitioner") filed the subject petitions for inter partes review, which were both accorded a filing date of November 11, 2013. On December 9, 2013, Parallel Networks, Inc. ("Patent Owner") filed a Notice of Appearance by Parallel Networks LLC ("Mandatory Notice") and Power of Attorney in each proceeding. In each case, the Power of Attorney revoked all previous powers of attorney, indicated by a checked box that a Power of Attorney was being submitted, and requested that the Office recognize the correspondence address as that associated with Customer Number 32042. The Power of Attorney did not appoint the Practitioners associated with that customer Number or identify any other practitioners as having been appointed. The Mandatory Notice identified Scott A. Chambers as lead counsel, and Darren W. Collins and Matthew J. Laskoski as back-up counsel, and stated that a power of attorney for the designated counsel was being filed concurrently. However, no Power of Attorney naming these attorneys, or the attorneys associated with Customer Number 32042, has been found in the record. The correspondence information on the Mandatory Notice identified the firm of Patton Boggs LLP as the recipient.

On February 19, 2014, Scott A. Chambers and Darren W. Collins filed a Patent Owner Preliminary Response in IPR2013-00136. On February 20, 2014, Scott A. M. Chambers and Darren W. Collins filed a Patent Owner Preliminary Response in IPR2013-00139.

On April 18, 2014, lead counsel, Scott A. M. Chambers, and back-up counsel, Darren W. Collins, submitted Patent Owner's Motion to Withdraw Counsel ("Motion to Withdraw") in each case. The Motion to Withdraw explains that Mr. Collins is Patent Owner's regular counsel and, for reasons not related to this proceeding, has departed Patton Boggs LLP. The Motion to Withdraw states that Patent Owner would like Mr. Collins to continue his representation and

2

Cases IPR2014-00136; IPR2014-00139 Patents 7,188,145; 7,730,262

assume the role of lead counsel in this proceeding. Therefore, the Motion to Withdraw requests that Mr. Chambers and Mr. Laskoski be permitted to withdraw.

On April 23, 2014, Patent Owner submitted a new Power of Attorney revoking all previous powers of attorney, appointing Darren W. Collins as lead counsel and Robert C. Hilton and Aaron J. Pickell as back-up counsel, and requesting the Office recognize the address associated with customer Number 23345 as the recipient of correspondence in this matter. Patent Owner did not file an updated Mandatory Notice.

In this case, there is some doubt about whether Patent Owner effectively granted a Power of Attorney in the forms filed on December 9, 2014. However, in view of the Mandatory Disclosures filed in each proceeding, Mr. Chambers, Mr. Collins, and Mr. Laskoski appear to have been acting with the Patent Owner's actual authority. In view of the Power of Attorney filed on April 23, 2014, any authority actually granted to Mr. Chambers and Mr. Laskoski has been revoked. A practitioner shall withdraw from the representation of a client where that practitioner has been discharged. 37 C.F.R. §11.116(a)(3). In addition, a practitioner may withdraw from representing a client if the withdrawal can be accomplished without material adverse effect on the interests of the client. 37 C.F.R. § 11.116(b)(1). Patent Owner's appointment of new counsel removes the possibility that its interests will be affected adversely.

In view of the circumstances, it is:

ORDERED that the Motion to withdraw Scott A. M. Chambers and Matthew J. Laskoski as counsel for Patent Owner is GRANTED; and

FURTHER ORDERED, that Patent Owner must file an updated Mandatory Notice in each proceeding not later than May 18, 2014.

Cases IPR2014-00136; IPR2014-00139 Patents 7,188,145; 7,730,262

PETITIONER

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PATENT OWNER

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