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The Honorable James L. Robart

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE

SRC Labs, LLC, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

No. 2:18-cv-00321-JLR

v.

Microsoft Corporation,

Defendant.

DECLARATION OF BRANDON  
FREEMAN IN OPPOSITION TO  
DEFENDANT’S MOTION TO STAY  
CASE PENDING *INTER PARTES*  
REVIEW

Brandon Freeman, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington,  
declares that the following is true and correct:

1. I am President and Manager of SRC Labs, LLC (“SRC Labs”) and Chairman of  
DirectSream, LLC (“DirectStream”). DirectStream is the operating company that interfaces  
with customers and government agencies to develop technology and provides platform computer  
services to government contractors and clients in the private sector. SRC Labs is a licensing  
company. DirectStream and SRC Labs are sister companies, which are both owned by FG-SRC,  
LLC. They operate in tandem. FG-SRC is responsible for the management and funding of both  
SRC Labs and DirectStream. Financial burdens on SRC Labs directly affects DirectStream’s  
ability to fund research and development and operations. FG-SRC’s capital is limited.

DECLARATION OF BRANDON FREEMAN IN OPPOSITION TO  
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PARTES REVIEW (2:18-cv-00321-JLR) - 1

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1           2.       SRC Labs entered into an exclusive license agreement with the Saint Regis  
2 Mohawk Tribe that gives SRC Labs a right to sublicense the patents in suit.

3           3.       DirectStream is a small emerging company. Prior to 2016, DirectStream was  
4 known as SRC Computers. Its revenue stream since 2002 has been approximately \$30 million  
5 dollars. SRC Computers and DirectStream have spent over \$100 million on research and  
6 development related to the patents-at-issue. It has developed FPGA (Field Programmable Gate  
7 Arrays) computing services technology and provides FPGA platform computing services to its  
8 customers.

9  
10          4.       DirectStream is a competitor of Microsoft, to the extent any small emerging  
11 company can compete with the largest computer software company in the world. Both  
12 DirectStream and Microsoft provide FPGA-based reconfigurable computing hardware and  
13 services to companies.

14  
15          5.       Specifically, Microsoft is using infringing FPGA-based reconfigurable computing  
16 technology in its datacenters that power its Azure cloud services. Microsoft's clients refactor  
17 and reconfigure their networks and applications to work with Microsoft's cloud computing  
18 technology. For example, if a global payment network adopts Microsoft's cloud computing  
19 services for its clients to access its network and if Microsoft is allowed to continue to use  
20 Plaintiffs' patented technology, DirectStream and Plaintiffs will be irreparably harmed because  
21 potential customers of DirectStream, such as a global payment network, will already have  
22 refactored and configured their systems and applications to work with Microsoft's cloud  
23 computing services, and will not change their networks to adapt to DirectStream's platform.

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PARTES REVIEW (2:18-cv-00321-JLR) - 2

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1           6.       Similarly, companies use the FPGA technology for processing machine learning  
2 models, and use Microsoft's Azure cloud services for deploying machine learning models for  
3 real-time artificial intelligence. These same companies are potential customers of DirectStream.

4           7.       Both Microsoft and DirectStream provide computing services to the Department  
5 of Defense and are competitors for government contracts requiring FPGA technology.  
6 DirectStream provides FPGA platform computing services to the Department of Defense and the  
7 Intelligence Community, including the National Security Agency since 2002. DirectStream has  
8 had services and system contracts with the U.S. Airforce, U.S. Army, and U.S. Navy since 2006.  
9 Microsoft uses FPGA technology to provide cloud computing service to the Department of  
10 Defense and the U.S. Navy through its Azure product.

11           8.       DirectStream currently provides its FPGA-based reconfigurable cloud computing  
12 services to private sector companies, such as Lockheed Martin and Boon Logic. Microsoft uses  
13 FPGA technology to provide cloud computing services to the private sector through its Azure  
14 product. Thus, DirectStream and Microsoft are competitors in providing cloud computing  
15 services to private customers using FPGA technology.

16           9.       DirectStream will continue to experience a loss of goodwill and market share if  
17 Microsoft is allowed to continue infringing Plaintiffs' patents to compete with DirectStream.  
18 Microsoft's infringe and delay strategy – filing of serial IPRs, appeals and other actions in the  
19 USPTO, such as post-grant reviews and interferences – may force DirectStream out of business.  
20 SRC Labs has already received estimates that the cost to defend the IPRs Microsoft has currently  
21 filed will exceed \$700,000 just to get preliminary responses filed and basic pre-hearing  
22 discovery.

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PARTES REVIEW (2:18-cv-00321-JLR) - 3

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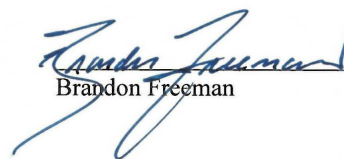
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10. As a small company, DirectStream is reliant upon access to capital to fund its contracts and continued operations. If it is not able to exclusively use its patents on the FPGA technology, the company is less valuable, and may be unable to secure adequate financing to fulfill its contracts.

11. Based on the foregoing, I believe a stay in this case will erode DirectStream's market share and goodwill and could possibly destroy the company.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 25<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2018 in Dallas, TX.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brandon Freeman

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 29th day of October, 2018, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system, which will send notification of such filing to all counsel of record.

s/Mark A. Griffin  
Mark A. Griffin, WSBA #16296

DECLARATION OF BRANDON FREEMAN IN OPPOSITION TO  
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PARTES REVIEW (2:18-cv-00321-JLR) - 5

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