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07/11/2023

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

Proceeding no.	91275760
Party	Defendant USFL Enterprises, LLC
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Submission	Motion to Suspend for Civil Action
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Signature	/Matthew J. Clark/
Date	07/11/2023
Attachments	2023-07-11_Opp_91275760_Motion_Suspend.pdf(36601 bytes) 2023-07-11_Motion_Suspend_Exhibit_A.pdf(3965512 bytes) 2023-07-11_Motion_Suspend_Exhibit_B.pdf(782886 bytes) 2023-07-11_Motion_Suspend_Exhibit_C.pdf(244128 bytes) 2023-07-11_Motion_Suspend_Exhibit_D.pdf(251442 bytes)

DOCKET

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

In the Matter of Application Serial No. 90/480,906 Mark: HOUSTON GAMBLERS

CIP FAMILY, LLC,

Opposer,

v.

ΟΟΚΕ

Opposition No. 91275760

USFL ENTERPRISES, LLC

Applicant.

MOTION TO SUSPEND FOR CIVIL ACTION

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 2.117(a), Applicant USFL Enterprises, LLC ("**Applicant**") hereby moves to suspend the above-referenced proceeding pending the outcome of civil action no. 2:23cv-02189-SHL-cgc, *CIP FAMILY, LLC v. THE SPRING LEAGUE, LLC, USFL ENTERPRISES, LLC and FOX SPORTS, INC.*, pending in the United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee (the "**Civil Action**"). Under the aforementioned regulation, "[w]henever it . . . come[s] to the attention of the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board that a civil action . . . may have a bearing on a pending case, proceedings before the Board may be suspended until termination of the civil action." As noted in TBMP § 510.02, it is the "Board's policy to suspend in favor of a civil action."

Opposer CIP Family, LLC ("**Opposer**") sued Applicant, along with others, in the Civil Action for trademark infringement under 15 U.S.C. §§ 1114–1117 and unfair competition and false designation of origin under 15 U.S.C. § 1125 based on its use of the HOUSTON GAMBLERS trademark and service mark—the applied-for mark in Applicant's application that is the subject of this opposition proceeding—on grounds that such trademark and service mark creates a likelihood of confusion with its registered GAMBLERS trademark (reg. no. 6,381,024) used in connection with

Motion to Suspend for Civil Action

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various clothing and its registered GAMBLERS JIU JITSU AND KICKBOXING service mark (reg. no. 6,110,946) used in connection with personal fitness training services. See Exhibit A. In Opposer's Civil Action complaint, Opposer seeks judgment from the court for an order, *inter alia*, that Applicant be enjoined from using the HOUSTON GAMBLERS trademark and service mark, an order requiring Applicant to transfer the HOUSTON GAMBLERS trademark and service mark to Opposer, and any other relief the Court may deem proper. *See Id*. In turn, in the same Civil Action, Applicant filed counterclaims against Opposer seeking cancellation of Opposer's registrations that are the subject of this opposition proceeding, i.e., registration no. 6,381,024 for GAMBLERS and registration no. 6,110,946 for GAMBLERS JIU JITSU AND KICKBOXING, based on several grounds. See Exhibit B.

It is self-evident that judgment in the Civil Action may have a bearing on this opposition proceeding. The Civil Action involves the same parties, the same marks, registrations and applications, the same claim of likelihood of confusion, and the same request to cancel Opposer's registrations. Given the Board's policy to suspend in favor of a civil action, and the clear effect judgments in the Civil Action could have on this pending opposition, Applicant's counsel has requested several times from Opposer's counsel consent to the suspension of the opposition proceeding pending the outcome of the Civil Action. Opposer's counsel, however, will not give consent to the suspension and to date has not identified a reason for the denial.

Therefore, Applicant moves to suspend the above-referenced proceeding pending the outcome of the Civil Action for the reasons noted above. A copy of the Complaint, Defendants' Answer and Counterclaims, Notice of Scheduling Conference, and Plaintiff's Answer to Defendants' Counterclaims are attached as Exhibits A, B, C and D, respectively.

> <u>/Matthew J. Clark/</u> Matthew J. Clark Eric Lamb

> > Motion to Suspend for Civil Action

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DOCKE.

FROST BROWN TODD LLP mclark@fbtlaw.com; elamb@fbtlaw.com; fbtiplitigation@fbtlaw.com

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on July 11, 2023, I caused a true and correct copy of Applicant's Motion to Suspend for Civil Action to be served by email upon the following attorney of record for Opposer:

Viktor Lyusi at <u>Viktor@Lomnitzerlaw.com</u>, <u>allen@lomnitzerlaw.com</u>, <u>assistant@lomnitzerlaw.com</u>, <u>lorri@lomnitzerlaw.com</u>, <u>and Maggie@Lomnitzerlaw.com</u>.

<u>/Matthew J. Clark/</u> Matthew J. Clark

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