IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA

TERRY GENE BOLLEA professionally known as HULK HOGAN,

Plaintiff,	
vs.	Case No. 12012447CI-011
GAWKER MEDIA, LLC, et al.,	
Defendants.	
	/

DEFENDANTS' POSITION STATEMENT NO. 6: ADMISSIBILITY OF BUBBA CLEM'S STATEMENTS ON HIS OCTOBER 16 AND 17, 2012 RADIO SHOWS

In June 2015, Plaintiff Terry Bollea filed a motion *in limine* that sought to exclude evidence of, or testimony about, statements made by Bubba the Love Sponge Clem on his radio program on October 16 and 17, 2012 about this litigation and matters and events giving rise to it. *See* Pl's Mot. *in Limine* No. 11 (filed June 12, 2015). This Court heard argument on that motion on July 1, 2015, ultimately reserving on the motion. Ex. A (July 1, 2015 Hrg. Tr.) at 185:16 – 193:6. Pursuant to Paragraph 8 of the Second Pretrial Order (dated November 19, 2015), Defendants hereby submit their Position Statement regarding the admissibility of those statements and testimony about them:

1. Mr. Clem's Statements: On October 16 and 17, 2012, shortly after Bollea filed this lawsuit, Mr. Clem took to his radio program and made a series of statements about Bollea in connection with both the conduct giving rise to this lawsuit and his decision to file the lawsuit itself. In those broadcasts, Mr. Clem stated, *inter alia*, that (a) Bollea knew that the sexual encounter with Heather Clem was being recorded, (b) Bollea may have played some role in disseminating the tape for publication, (c) Bollea was not genuinely aggrieved by the conduct

giving rise to the lawsuit, and (d) Bollea was feigning outrage over the sex tape in order to bolster his public image.

- 2. **Mr. Clem's About-Face:** Shortly after Mr. Clem made those statements on his radio program, Bollea settled his claims against Mr. Clem. Mr. Clem then read an "Apology" over the air in which he recanted his prior statements. In his subsequent deposition in this case, Mr. Clem stuck with the story he told in the "Apology" (*i.e.*, that he was lying when he made those critical statements about Bollea). Yet, on two other occasions after his settlement and radio "Apology," Mr. Clem has reiterated those original statements, at least as regards to Bollea's awareness that he was being filmed. He did so once in a formal interview with the FBI in November 2012 (Defs.' Trial Ex. 771), and he did so again on the Howard Stern Show in March 2013 (Defs.' Trial Ex. 304A).
- 3. **Impeachment:** Mr. Clem's statements on his radio show about matters and events giving rise to this litigation, and Bollea's alleged emotional distress, are relevant impeachment material if Mr. Clem testifies at trial consistent with what he said in his deposition. *See, e.g., Morowitz v. Vistaview Apartments, Ltd.*, 613 So. 2d 493, 495 (Fla. 3d DCA 1993) (trial court erred in not admitting evidence to impeach witness where that evidence "clearly contradicted" the witness's testimony regarding a fact at issue). This Court acknowledged as much during an exchange with Bollea's counsel at the July 1 hearing:

THE COURT: ... [W]hy would you call [Mr. Clem] as a witness?

MR. VOGT: Because he's going to testify, as he did in his deposition, that the truth was that Mr. Bollea had no idea he was being taped and I did it without his knowledge.

THE COURT: But if he's going to testify to those things, they have the opportunity to impeach him on it.

Ex. A at 192:4-12. And this extends not only to those prior statements specifically about whether Bollea knew he was being filmed, but also to other matters, such as Mr. Clem's

statements that Bollea was not actually aggrieved by the conduct giving rise to this lawsuit. As in any case, Defendants should be permitted to impeach Mr. Clem with his prior inconsistent statements.

CONCLUSION

Defendants respectfully request that this Court rule that evidence of, and testimony about, the statements Mr. Clem made on his October 16, 2012 and October 17, 2012 radio broadcasts about this litigation and/or matters and events giving rise to this litigation are admissible as impeachment evidence to the extent that Mr. Clem testifies inconsistently with the statements he made on those broadcasts.

Dated: February 12, 2016 Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS & LOCICERO PL

By: <u>/s/ Gregg D. Thomas</u>

Gregg D. Thomas

Florida Bar No.: 223913

Rachel E. Fugate

Florida Bar No.: 0144029

601 South Boulevard, P.O. Box 2602 (33601)

Tampa, FL 33606

Telephone: (813) 984-3060 Facsimile: (813) 984-3070 gthomas@tlolawfirm.com rfugate@tlolawfirm.com

Seth D. Berlin

Pro Hac Vice Number: 103440

Michael D. Sullivan

Pro Hac Vice Number: 53347

Michael Berry

Pro Hac Vice Number: 108191

Alia L. Smith

Pro Hac Vice Number: 104249

Paul J. Safier

Pro Hac Vice Number: 103437

LEVINE SULLIVAN KOCH & SCHULZ, LLP

1899 L Street, NW, Suite 200

Washington, DC 20036 Telephone: (202) 508-1122 Facsimile: (202) 861-9888 sberlin@lskslaw.com msullivan@lskslaw.com mberry@lskslaw.com asmith@lskslaw.com psafier@lskslaw.com

Counsel for Defendants

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 12th day of February, 2016, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing to be served via the Florida Courts' E-Filing Portal on the following counsel of record:

Kenneth G. Turkel, Esq. kturkel@BajoCuva.com Shane B. Vogt, Esq. shane.vogt@BajoCuva.com Bajo Cuva Cohen & Turkel, P.A. 100 N. Tampa Street, Suite 1900 Tampa, FL 33602 Tel: (813) 443-2199 Fax: (813) 443-2193

Attorneys for Plaintiff

David Houston, Esq. Law Office of David Houston dhouston@houstonatlaw.com 432 Court Street Reno, NV 89501 Tel: (775) 786-4188

Attorney for Plaintiff

Timothy J. Conner Holland & Knight LLP 50 North Laura Street, Suite 3900 Jacksonville, FL 32202 timothy.conner@hklaw.com

Charles D. Tobin Holland & Knight LLP 800 17th Street N.W., Suite 1100 Washington, D.C. 20006 charles.tobin@hklaw.com

Attorneys for Intervenors First Look Media, Inc., WFTS-TV and WPTV-TV, Scripps Media, Inc., WFTX-TV, Journal Broadcast Group, and The Associated Press Charles J. Harder, Esq. charder@HMAfirm.com
Jennifer McGrath, Esq. jmcgrath@hmafirm.com
Harder Mirell & Abrams LLP
132 S. Rodeo Drive, Suite 301
Beverly Hills, CA 90212
Tel: (424) 203-1600
Fax: (424) 203-1601

Attorneys for Plaintiff

Allison M. Steele Rahdert, Steele, Reynolds & Driscoll, P.L. 535 Central Avenue St. Petersburg, FL 33701 amnestee@aol.com asteele@rahdertlaw.com ncampbell@rahdertlaw.com

Attorney for Intervenor Times Publ'g Co.

/s/ Gregg D. Thomas
Attorney