

# EXHIBIT 7

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

TERRY GENE BOLLEA, professionally  
known as HULK HOGAN,

Plaintiff,

Case No. 12012447-CI-011

vs.

HEATHER CLEM; GAWKER MEDIA, LLC,  
aka GAWKER MEDIA, et al.,

Defendants.

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HEARING BEFORE THE HONORABLE PAMELA A.M. CAMPBELL

DATE: December 17, 2014

TIME: 1:32 p.m. to 4:12 p.m.

PLACE: St. Petersburg Judicial Building  
545 First Avenue North  
Courtroom A  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

REPORTED BY: ANN S. BEILSTEIN, RPR, FPR  
Notary Public  
State of Florida at Large

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1 THE COURT: Mr. Sullivan.

2 MR. SULLIVAN: Yes, ma'am. May I speak to  
3 that?

4 THE COURT: Yes.

5 MR. SULLIVAN: All right. Thank you.

6 What we would propose, Your Honor, is we think  
7 that a July trial date is not most realistic, and  
8 what we would propose, and prepared a schedule if  
9 you'd care to see it, is a schedule that would have  
10 us use your October trial date. The trial would  
11 commence in October.

12 We think the reason that July is not the best  
13 way to proceed here is that it depends on  
14 everything going smoothly and all things breaking  
15 just right. And we all know that things don't work  
16 out that way in real life and they certainly don't  
17 work out that way in real litigation. And the  
18 problem is with the July schedule, there's no room  
19 for things to go sideways. If things don't break  
20 right, we have a potential problem. And a good  
21 example of that is provided by the recent episode  
22 we had. The parties worked together to prepare for  
23 Your Honor a joint submission on this -- for  
24 purposes of this case management conference. And  
25 we submitted our part, the plaintiff gave us their

1 MR. HARDER: Not at all.

2 MR. SULLIVAN: Okay. Thank you.

3 MR. HARDER: I'm clear for takeoff.

4 MR. SULLIVAN: All right. Hear, hear.

5 Your Honor, we're just getting all kinds of  
6 good luck here today.

7 THE COURT: It's my fortunate day.

8 MR. SULLIVAN: But that's about it,  
9 Your Honor. Unless you have any questions, that's  
10 all I have.

11 THE COURT: Thank you.

12 MR. TURKEL: Judge, if you want to hear from  
13 us, Mr. Harder said I could handle this part of the  
14 hearing, so I figured I'd change the baritone  
15 voice. I don't have much, Judge, and I can't boast  
16 in trying cases all over the world or the nation,  
17 but I've tried a few in Pinellas County.

18 Here's our thought. This schedule that we  
19 have was the byproduct of agonizingly long phone  
20 calls that got us to at least agreed dates with the  
21 assumption of a July trial. I know that because I  
22 was on a lot of those phone calls. And, Judge, I  
23 don't think proceeding with an assumption that  
24 everything's going to go awry is ever a fair  
25 assumption. The reality is we have a very

1 acceptable trial schedule given the July date.  
2 Maybe the assumption is, Judge, that everybody  
3 behaves. But you know what my experience is, is if  
4 you've got a trial date and a judge that's going to  
5 stick to it, that tends to make everybody stick to  
6 their better behavior to get it done. This  
7 includes the much-daunted summary judgment before  
8 trial date on May 29th, which gives over a month  
9 before the trial is supposed to proceed, which is  
10 what you wanted and what they wanted and what is  
11 agreed to.

12 And, you know, the reality is, Judge, is that  
13 it's a self-fulfilling prophecy. You know, if we  
14 put the date on there for July and we all know  
15 you're going to stick to it, then everybody  
16 behaves. And, you know, believe it or not, in the  
17 margins, you look at these third-party depositions,  
18 we have I think four lawyers at the hearing for the  
19 other side today or three from one firm, you have  
20 me and Mr. Harder. I've been in hearings in this  
21 case where there were four lawyers for the other  
22 side. And at the end of the day, Judge, you find a  
23 way to cover the depositions and you find a way to  
24 get them done and you get the case tried.

25 I talked to Mr. Harder when you mentioned

1 August and we'd be amenable to August if that would  
2 make it a lot easier, but if you don't have it, you  
3 don't have it. But three months, Judge, I mean, we  
4 can look at three months a lot of ways. I look at  
5 it as a quarter of a year, you know, in a case  
6 that's been kicking around for a while. And to be  
7 honest with you, if we can get it done in October,  
8 practically speaking, there's no reason why  
9 everybody can't work hard to get it done in July.  
10 And certainly Judge Case thought so. And maybe  
11 it's simplistic, Judge. And I don't mean to be  
12 flip. But if you put the trial date on there and  
13 you've got agreed dates for all the pretrial  
14 deadlines, which we do, and everybody works with  
15 the mind-set that they're going to get ready for  
16 trial, then it gets done. When it doesn't get done  
17 is if somebody doesn't want to get ready for trial  
18 and then we get objections to everything and we're  
19 in here for three hours fighting over discovery  
20 that, practically speaking, you know, may never see  
21 the light of day.

22 So that's my thought on it, Judge. We think  
23 this thing could be ready. They certainly agreed  
24 with us on a tentative schedule. And if that  
25 schedule assumes everybody does everything right,

1 well, gee, Judge, let's be a little aspirational as  
2 we head into 2015 and let's try to make that work,  
3 okay? It's a new positive year for us all and  
4 we'll get that done and we'll bang this thing out  
5 in July.

6 So how about that? A little rah-rah speech,  
7 Judge. A little faith-in-the-system speech, Judge.

8 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Turkel. Okay,  
9 good.

10 MR. TURKEL: That's all I have, Judge, unless  
11 you have any questions for us.

12 THE COURT: I don't.

13 Mr. Gaines, do you have anything else you want  
14 to add?

15 MR. TURKEL: Mike agrees with me. He told me  
16 before the hearing. We went to law school together  
17 at Stetson. They taught us at Stetson to agree on  
18 that.

19 MR. GAINES: No, Your Honor, I don't --

20 THE COURT: You always agree with the judge.

21 MR. GAINES: No, Your Honor, I don't want to  
22 add any confusion, Judge. The only thing I do want  
23 to put on the record is we did just get set for a  
24 trial in the Middle District with Judge Honeywell  
25 in October. So just to the extent that --