►JS 44 (Rev. 11/04)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS				DEFENDANTS					
Chad Elie				Ifrah PLLC, a Pro Jeffery Ifrah a/k/a					
(b) County of Residence		lark County, NV		County of Residence of		Detendant .	District of C	olumbia	<u> </u>
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE LAND INVOLVED.				Ē	
(a) Annual 20 (b) N	A 1 form of Table 1, and Mountain			Attorneys (If Known)					
Sigal Chattah, Esq., Law	Address, and Telephone Number		, Rivd	Brian K. Terry, Eso	a Thornda	1 Armetrona	Delk Balke	nhuch &	·
#024, Las Vegas, Nevada			v biva.	Eisinger, 1100 E. E					
II. BASIS OF JURISD			1	TIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPA	L PARTIES			
U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government)	Not a Party)			TF DEF	Incorporated or Pri of Business In This		PTF	u) DEF 4
2 U.S. Government Defendant	5 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenshi	p of Parties in Item III)	Citize	en of Another State	2 🗇 2	Incorporated and P of Business In A		5 5	10 5
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IV. NATURE OF SUIT	(Place an "X" in One Box Onl	y)		reign Country					
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150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment	320 Assault, Libel & Slander	Product Liability 368 Asbestos Persons		30 Liquor Laws 40 R.R. & Truck	□ 820 Copyr	TY RIGHTS ights	460 Deporta470 Rackete		d and
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(Excl. Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment	345 Marine Product Liability	370 Other Fraud371 Truth in Lending	Lane Comment	90 Other LABOR	SOCIALS	SECURITY	☐ 810 Selectiv ☐ 850 Securiti		ities/
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☐ 160 Stockholders' Suits ☐ 190 Other Contract	355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability	Property Damage 385 Property Damage	: 07	Act 20 Labor/Mgmt. Relations	☐ 863 DIWC	/DIWW (405(g))	12 USC		,
☐ 195 Contract Product Liability ☐ 196 Franchise	360 Other Personal Injury	Product Liability	0 7	30 Labor/Mgmt.Reporting & Disclosure Act	□ 864 SSID 1 □ 865 RSI (4		☐ 890 Other St ☐ 891 Agricult		ions
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS	PRISONER PETITIO		40 Railway Labor Act	FEDERAL	L TAX SUITS	☐ 892 Econom	ic Stabilizat	
☐ 210 Land Condemnation ☐ 220 Foreclosure	441 Voting 442 Employment	510 Motions to Vacat Sentence		90 Other Labor Litigation 91 Empl. Ret. Inc.	☐ 870 Taxes or Defe	(U.S. Plaintiff	☐ 893 Environ ☐ 894 Energy		
☐ 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	443 Housing/	Habeas Corpus:		Security Act	☐ 871 IRS—	Third Party	395 Freedon		
240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability	Accommodations 3 444 Welfare	530 General 535 Death Penalty	1		26 USC	7609	Act 3 900Appeal of	f Fee Deterr	mination
290 All Other Real Property	445 Amer. w/Disabilities -	540 Mandamus & Oti	her		ļ		Under Ed	qual Access	
	Employment 446 Amer. w/Disabilities -	550 Civil Rights555 Prison Condition					to Justice 950 Constitu		
	Other 440 Other Civil Rights						State Sta	rutes	
V. ORIGIN Original Proceeding Original Original Proceeding Original Original Original Proceeding Original Origina									
	Cite the U.S. Civil Sta 28 U.S.C. 1332	tute under which you a	re filing (Do not cite jurisdictions	al statutes un	less diversity):			
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION Brief description of cause: Professional Malpractice, Breach of Contract, Breach of Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing, Intentional									
VII. REQUESTED IN		IS A CLASS ACTION		EMAND \$	CF	IECK YES only i			
COMPLAINT: UNDER F.R.C.P. 23 75,000.00 JURY DEMAND: Tyes 7 No									
VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY OCKET NUMBER DOCKET NUMBER									
5-21-13									
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY									
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- 1. The jurisdictional ground for removal is diversity of citizenship pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332.
- 2. There is complete diversity in this case. Plaintiff CHAD ELIE is a citizen of the State of Nevada. Defendant IFRAH PLLC is a professional limited liability company doing business in the District of Columbia. Defendant ALAIN JEFF IFRAH is a citizen of the State of Maryland.
- 3. This lawsuit arises out Plaintiff's indictment and eventual guilty plea for conspiracy to commit an offense against or to defraud the United States under 18 U.S.C. § 371 by the commission of bank fraud and by the operation of an illegal gambling business in violation of federal law. Plaintiff alleges causes of action against Defendants for professional malpractice, breach of contract, breach of a covenant of good faith and fair dealing, intentional misrepresentation, racketeering, and civil conspiracy. Defendants dispute each of these claims. Each claim lacks a reasonable basis in fact and law.
- 4. The amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000 exclusive of interest and costs. Plaintiff claims, among other things, that he paid Defendants in excess of \$4 Million "in attorney's fees and commissions over the scope and course of Ifrah's representation" and he claims he served five months in prison as "a result of Defendant's wrongful advice." Although Defendants dispute the veracity of each of Plaintiff's claims, the jurisdictional amount required under 28 U.S.C. § 1332 is easily satisfied.
- 5. Attached to this notice are copies of all process, pleadings, and orders served upon Defendant IFRAH PLLC in the state court action. Plaintiff filed this lawsuit on April 11, 2013. (See Comp., attached as Exhibit "A"). A summons was issued by the

district court on April 15, 2013. (See Summons, attached as Exhibit "B"). Plaintiff filed an amended complaint on May 14, 2013. (See Am. Comp., attached as Exhibit "C").
Defendant IFRAH PLLC was served with process and a copy of the complaint on May 3,
2013. Defendant ALAIN JEFF IFRAH was served with process and a copy of the complaint
on May 6, 2013. Accordingly, this notice of removal has been timely filed within 30 days
of service and within one year of commencement of the state court action.
6. All Defendants named in Plaintiff's complaint consent to removal.
DATED this 2013
THORNDAL, ARMSTRONG, DELK,
BALKENBUSH & EASINGER
11000
BRIAN K. TERRY, ESQ/ Nevada Bar No. 3171
KENNETH R. LUND, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 10133
1100 Bridger Avenue Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
Attorneys for Defendants,
IFRAH PLLC and ALAIN JEFF IFRAH (incorrectly captioned ALAIN
Jeffery Ifrah)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 5, I hereby certify that I am an employee of the law firm of Thorndal, Armstrong, Delk, Balkenbush & Eisinger, a Professional Corporation, and that on this 2/ day of May, 2013, I duly deposited for mailing at Las Vegas, Nevada, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing NOTICE OF REMOVAL PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332, 1441, AND 1446, postage prepaid, addressed to:

NAME	TEL., FAX NO. & E-MAIL	PARTY REPRESENTING
Sigal Chattah, Esq. LAW OFFICES OF SIGAL CHATTAH 5875 South Rainbow Blvd., #204	Tel.: (702) 360-6200 Fax: (702) 643-6292	Plaintiff
Las Vegas, Nevada 89118	E-Mail: chattahlaw@gmail.com	

Employee of THORNDAL, ARMSTRONG, DELK,
BALKENBUSH & EISINGER



LAW OFFICES

THORNDAL ARMSTRONG DELK BALKENBUSH & EISINGER

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION www.thorndal.com

EXHIBIT A

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0 4	COMP SIGAL CHATTAH, ESQ. Nevada Bar No.; 8264 LAW OFFICES OF SIGAL CHATTA 5875 S. Rainbow Blvd. #024 Las Vegas, Nevada 89118 Tel: (702) 360-6200 Fax:(702) 643-6292 Chattahlaw@gmail.com Attorney for Plaintiff Chad Elie	ORIGINA	Electronically Filed 04/11/2013 03:44:59 P
2 mg	D	ISTRICT COU	RT
∞ ਹ	CLAR	K COUNTY NE	EVADA
13 IFI Co 14 IFI XX 15 16 17 18 19 CHA 20 Defe	Plaintiff, vs. RAH PLLC, a Professional Limited Lie impany, ALAIN JEFFERY IFRAH a/k RAH, individually, DOE individuals I t L, and ROE CORPORATIONS I throu Defendants. COMES NOW, Plaintiff, CHAD El ATTAH, ESQ., of the LAW OFFICES Indants and each of them and allege as i	/a JEFF) hrough) gh XX,) LIE, by and throu OF SIGAL CHA follows: ARTIES	TTAH, who hereby complains of
22	1. Plaintiff, CHAD ELIE (herein oned, a resident of County of Coun	nafter "Mr. ELIF	"Y is and as ate.
23 mention 24 /// 25 ///	oned, a resident of County of Clark, the	state of Nevada.	at all times herein
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2. At all times mentioned herein, Defendant, IFRAH PLLC, (hereinafter "IFRAH PLLC") is a Professional Corporation doing business in the District of Columbia, with its principal place of business located in the District of Columbia. 3.

- At all times mentioned herein, Defendant, ALAIN JEFFERY IFRAH a/k/a JEFF IFRAH, (hereinafter "IFRAH") was a licensed Attorney working on behalf of IFRAH PLLC, is a Professional Corporation doing business in the District of Columbia, with its principal place of business located in the District of Columbia. 4.
- 8 The true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, associate, or otherwise, of Defendants DOES I through V, and ROE CORPORATIONS I through V, inclusive, are unknown to Plaintiff, who therefore sues said Defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that each of the Defendants designated herein as a DOE or ROE CORPORATION is responsible in some manner for the events and happenings herein referred to and damages caused proximately thereby to Plaintiff as herein alleged; that Plaintiff will ask leave of this Court to amend this Complaint to insert the true names and capacities of said Defendants DOES I through V and/or ROE CORPORATIONS I through V, when same have been ascertained by Plaintiff, together with appropriate charging allegations, and to join such Defendants in this action. 5.
- All of the acts or failures to act herein were duly performed by and attributable to all Defendants, each acting as agent, employee, or under the direction and/or control of the others. Said acts or failures to act were within the scope of said agency and/or employment and each Defendant and ratified the acts and omissions by the other Defendants. Whenever and wherever reference is made in this Complaint to any acts by Defendants, such allegations and references shall also be deemed to mean the acts of each Defendant acting individually, jointly or 111

IL INTRODUCTION

- Defendant law firm IFRAH PLLC and their associates including IFRAH were retained to represent Mr. Elie in a United States District Court Case 2:09-cv-02120-PMP-VCF.
- 7. Defendant IFRAH PLLC and IFRAH was also retained by Mr. Elie on behalf of his Company Elite Debit and 21 Debit to represent him in various transactions involving the processing of funds for Full Tilt Poker (FTP) and Poker Stars (PS).
- Defendant IFRAH PLLC and IFRAH represented Mr. Elie individually on various other cases.

Jeff Ifrah/ Ifrah PLLC

- 9. Jeff Ifrah, Esq., was at all times relevant herein and still continues to be known in the gaming and legal industry as a Specialist in his field.
- 10. Ifrah continues to write blogs and columns regarding online gaming, poker and E-Gaming business; including frequent contributing editorials on EGaming Review.
- 11. Ifrah has been nationally recognized as having expert knowledge in the online gaming industry by various online outlets such as EGaming Review, A-Z Online Casinos, and other outlets.
- 12. Ifrah has also been named by Chambers & Partners as "[o]ne of the most customer service-oriented lawyers," and offers "exceptional expertise.", as to gaming law.
- 13. Even after the Black Friday Indictments, Ifrah remained the legal authority as Counsel to Full Tilt Poker and PokerStars (and Elie) to the continuous media coverage of the matter.

- 14. Naturally, as an expert in his field and the field of online gaming, specifically poker. Elie paid Ifrah in excess of \$4,000,000 USD, in attorney's fees and commissions over the scope and course of Ifrah's representation of Elie.
- 15. Once indicted as part of the Black Friday Indictments, throughout the course of discovery with the US Attorney's Office, Elie discovered the gruesome truth, that his own lawyer, Defendant, misrepresented him; That Ifrah hid critical documentation that had said documentation been disclosed to Mr. Elie, Mr. Elie would have never continued to process poker.
- 16. It was clear that Ifrah, used his position and esteem in the internet gaming industry to further his own economic endeavors insofar as to give Mr. Elie wrong advice regarding poker processing so that he could make a windfall from Elie, Full Tilt Poker and Pokerstars; then hid his involvement in same in violation of 18 USC §1001 when he provided information about his Clients to the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York.

Partner Weekly, LLC v. Viable Marketing Corp et al

- 17. On October 7, 2009, Partner Weekly filed a Complaint in the Eighth Judicial District Court against Viable Marketing Corp (hereinafter "Viable") and Chad Elie individually; Case No: A09-601153 (later removed to USDC Case No.: 2:09-cv-02120-PMP-VCF).
- 18. The subject of said lawsuit involved an Advertising Agreement entered into by the Parties therein (Partner Weekly and Viable) wherein there was a dispute as too monies due and owing on said Agreement.

- 19. Part of both Viable's and Mr. Elie's Affirmative Defenses and issues of material breach of contract were a breach of Exclusivity Agreement that was provided by Partner Weekly as an incentive in the subject transaction.
- 20. Defendant failed to file an Opposition on a Motion for Summary Judgment that was filed in said case, resulting in Partner Weekly prevailing against Viable and Mr. Elie on Summary Judgment.
- 21. Defendant further failed to litigate the merits on behalf of Elie and Viable regarding the Breach of the Exclusivity Agreement, resulting in the claim being lost as a result of said neglect.

US v Isai Schienberg Et Al Case No.: S3 10 Cr. 336 Poker Processing Conflict

- 22. Defendant individually and on behalf of the PLLC represented Pokerstars and Full Tilt Poker as their Counsel, in various cases and endeavors.
- 23. Defendant met Elie when Defendant represented a Company called Intabill acting on behalf of Pokerstars, which was suing Elie's Company Viable Marketing Corp.
- 24. Upon resolution of the litigation with Intabill, Elie subsequently, retained

 Defendant to represent him individually and on behalf of various other Companies including but
 not limited to Viable, Elite Debit and 21 Debit.
- 25. Defendant discussed various options of processing peer to peer online financial transactions with Elie on behalf of his Clients Full Tilt Poker and Pokerstars.
- 26. Defendant was representing a bank in Utah, known as Sun First Bank and Jeremy Johnson individually, and had encouraged Elie to begin processing through Sun First

Bank wherein, Defendant would be paid as Counsel for Sun First Bank and Elite Debit (i.e. Johnson and Elie).

- 27. In 2009, Elic by and through his Company Elite Debit, retained Ifrah to represent his interests in obtaining information regarding legalities and recommendations regarding processing financial transactions related to peer to peer online poker.
- 28. Despite Defendant's repeated claims that the poker processing was completely legal, the Federal Trade Commission had obtained a Temporary Restraining Order and froze all monies held by Sun First Bank associated with poker processing.
- 29. Defendant had a clear incentive for his Clients, Full Tilt Poker and Pokerstars in finding a Company that would process the financial transactions, and Mr. Elie's Company, 21 Debit was the perfect Company to do so.
- 30. Despite Elie's hesitation to continue to process poker after the Department of Justice and Federal Trade Commission's Involvement in Sun First Bank, Ifrah continued to assure Elie that the peer to peer processing was lawful and that there were no criminal ramifications to engage in such activities.
- 31. Defendant made continuous representations to Elie that according to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) there were no problems with Pokerstars, Full Tilt Poker and Elie continuing to process poker transactions.
- 32. Thereafter, Defendant orchestrated meetings with various Chicago Banks to begin processing Poker, specifically All American Bank and New City Bank in Chicago, Illinois.
- 33. Defendant claimed to represent Full Tilt Poker and Poker Stars as their Counsel, and as Counsel for 21 Debit in the transactions, reaping financial benefits from both.

- 34. Defendant gave Elie misleading advice to further his own pecuniary interests in his representation of Full Tilt Poker and Pokerstars.
- 35. Thereafter, Ifrah represented Elie with various banks as to set up the poker processing for both Pokerstars and Full Tilt Poker, whereby Elie by and through his Company 21 Debit LLC relied on Ifrah's representation as to the legalities of same.
- 36. Defendant received payments from Full Tilt Poker and Pokerstars in his representation of them, for among other things, procuring companies (i.e. banks) to process poker transactions, regardless of whether such peer to peer online poker was legal or not.
- 37. Defendant further solicited, abetted and further recommended and encouraged Elie to continue to seek banks that would conduct such third party payment processing, despite the knowledge that said activities were unlawful.
- 38. Defendant would also receive monthly payments of \$100,000.00 per month from Elie's Company 21 Debit, paid directly from All American Bank as a commission on procuring the deals with the banks which processed poker transactions.
- 39. Ifrah continuously recommended that Elie retain experts and obtain legal opinions as to the legalities of third party processing in order to insulate both himself and Full Tilt Poker and Pokerstars from any liabilities.
- 40. Ifrah completely and with an utter disregard to his ethical obligations continued to serve both Clients despite a clear conflict of interest between them.
- 41. In fact, in late 2010, Ifrah received a Memorandum from the law firm of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP, regarding discussions with the Counsels at Akin Gump and the US Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York; whereby said US Attorneys confirmed to Akin Gump and Ifrah that third party poker processing was illegal.

- 42. Defendant failed to disclose this Memorandum to Elie and continued receiving payments from both Full Tilt Poker/ Pokerstars and Elie as long as all Parties continued processing poker, which Defendant aggressively sought.
- 44. It was only after Mr. Elie was indicted that it became known to him, that his Attorney, Mr. Ifrah, withheld the 2010 Akin Gump Memorandum.
- 45. Defendant received in excess of \$1,000,000.00 (One Million USD) in commission payments from Elie's company as Defendant's "cut" from the processing poker payments with the Banks.
- 46. It is clear that Defendants activities in both representing Full Tilt Poker and Pokerstars and Elie (and 21 Debit) were clear conflicts of interests whereby Defendant was continuously benefitting from his representation of both Companies.
- 47. Defendant specifically mislead Elie regarding the legalities of processing poker so that he can continue to receive monies (commission payments) from Elie.
- 48. It is also clear that Defendant placed Full Tilt Poker and Pokerstars interests above Elie's interests in violation of his Ethical obligations.
- 49. The most egregious act Defendant engaged in however, was providing testimony and information against Mr. Elie and others to the United States Attorney's Office in the Investigation leading to the Black Friday Indictments, including but not limited to his own Clients' indictments.
- 50. Defendant provided testimony against his own Clients to avoid being indicted, denying his involvement in the Black Friday Affair. Defendants statements minimized his involvement in the operations in violation of 18 USC §1001.

- 51. While providing the US Attorney's office with testimony against his Clients,

 Defendant failed to disclose that he was receiving commission payments directly from Elie's 21

 Debit and Elite Debit as a commission for assisting Elie obtain said poker payment processing accounts with Full Tilt Poker and Pokerstars.
- 52. Defendant violated the basic rules of his ethical obligations to Mr. Elie and put his own pecuniary interests ahead of his Clients' and in turn thereafter, attempted to absolve himself of any illegal activity and cooperated with the US Attorney's office against his own Clients to avoid his own indictment.
- 53. As a result of Defendant's misrepresentations and false and misleading legal advice, Mr. Elie was indicted along with others in the April 15, 2011, Black Friday indictments.
- 54. As a further result of Defendant's false and misleading legal advice, Elie was forced to plead guilty to one count of Felony Bank Fraud and was sentenced to five (5) months in prison for same.

III. FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Professional Malpractice) 2:09-CV-02120-PMP-VCF

- 55. Plaintiff repleads and realleges all of the paragraphs in the preceding Claims for Relief and incorporates the same by reference as if fully set forth herein.
- 56. Defendant and his law firm owed a duty to defend Mr. Elie from Partner Weekly LLC and to use such skill, prudence, and diligence as a lawyer of ordinary skill and capacity in exercising and performing the tasks which they undertook.
- 57. Defendant failed to provide Mr. Elie with adequate defense, failing to respond to a Motion for Summary Judgment and further failing to pursue that Counterclaims on behalf of Viable therein.

- 66. Defendant failed in his obligation to represent Elie so that he would obtain monthly commission payments in the amount of \$100,000.00 USD regardless of whether processing poker was legal or not.
- 67. In total for services rendered by Mr. Ifrah as Counsel for Mr. Elie, Defendant received no less than \$3,000,000.00 USD in fees for same.
- 68. Defendant further violated the Rules of Professional Conduct by disclosing privileged information that was wrongful legal advice given to Mr. Elie, in order to avoid indictment from the US Attorney's office for his own illegal activities.
- 69. As a result of Defendant's wrongful advice, Mr. Elie was convicted of Felony Bank Fraud and was sentenced to five (5) months in prison for same.
- 70. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach, Mr. Elie has suffered damages in excess of \$10,000.00, the exact amount of which will be proven at trial.
- 71. As a further direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach, Mr. Elie has had to hire counsel to prosecute this matter by reason of which he is entitled to reasonable attorney's fees,

IV. THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Breach Of Contract Against All Defendants)

- 72. Plaintiff repleads and realleges all of the paragraphs in the preceding Claims for Relief and incorporates the same by reference as if fully set forth herein.
- 73. Mr. Elie hired Defendant to represent him in the above-mentioned matters as his Counsel of record, paying him for said services.
- 74. Defendant's failed to comply with the terms of his Retainer Agreement and represent Mr. Elie in accordance with same.

- 75. Defendants have materially breached the Agreement with Mr. Elie the terms of thereon.
- 76. That it is Plaintiff's belief that all Defendants acted collusively with the intent to defraud Mr Elie of his monies, with malice aforethought regardless of Defendant's ethical obligations.
- 77. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach of contract, Plaintiffs have been damaged in an amount in excess of \$10,000.00, the exact amount of which will be determined at trial.
- 78. That it has been necessary for Plaintiff to retain counsel to prosecute this action by reason of which he is entitled to reasonable attorney's fees.

VI. FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Breach Of Covenant Of Good Faith and Fair Dealing Against All Defendants)

- 79. Plaintiff repleads and realleges all of the paragraphs in the preceding Claims for Relief and incorporates the same by reference as if fully set forth herein.
- 80. Based on the continuous relationship between Plaintiff and Defendants, Elie continued to pay Defendants for the legal advice and consults as agreed by said parties and expected to be represented competently therefore.
- 81. Defendants, wrongfully and deliberately took advantage of the good faith extended by Mr. Elie in continuously providing payments under said Agreement, thereby breaching the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing inherent in the subject Agreement.
- 82. Wherefore Defendants did not act in good faith, that is, did not perform the contract in the manner reasonably contemplated by the parties, Mr. Elie has a remedy that goes beyond that of breach of the express terms of the contract.

83. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach, Plaintiff has suffered damages in excess of \$10,000.00, the exact amount of which will be proven at trial.

84. As a further direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach, Plaintiff has had to hire counsel to prosecute this matter by reason of which it is entitled to reasonable attorney's fees.

VII. FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Intentional Misrepresentation Fraud Against All Defendants)

- 85. Plaintiff repleads and realleges all of the preceding paragraphs and incorporates the same by reference as if fully set forth herein.
- 86. That Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their agents and/or representatives, made numerous material, false, and misleading written and oral representations as contained in the foregoing allegations set forth in the paragraphs six (6) through fifty-four (54) above to defraud Plaintiff of his monies.
- 87. That when the Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their agents and/or representatives, made the aforementioned representations as contained in the foregoing allegations set forth in the paragraphs six (6) through fifty four (54) above, they knew or should have known them to be false. That the Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their agents and/or representatives, negligently, willfully and/or maliciously made said statements and/or representations, and knew or should have known that the Plaintiff would fully rely upon said statements and/or representations and the accuracy of same and enter into agreements and business transactions with Defendants and provide access to substantial amounts of monies to Defendants, resulting in Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their agents and/or representatives receiving substantial compensation.

- 88. That at the time Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their agents and/or representatives, made the statements and representations as contained in the foregoing allegations set forth in the paragraphs six (6) through fifty-four (54) above, and at the time the Plaintiff entered into their respective agreements and business transactions with, and provided monies to, Defendants, Plaintiff were ignorant of the falsity of the statements and/or representations of the Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their agents and/or representatives.
- 89. That in reliance upon the statements and/or representations of the Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their representatives and/or agents, the Plaintiff were induced to enter agreements and business transactions with and provide monies to Defendants, believing that the Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their agents and/or representatives would perform as represented and promised.
- 90. That had the Plaintiff known that Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their representatives and/or agents, never intended to perform as represented and promised, the Plaintiff would have never entered into their respective agreements and business transactions with Defendants and would have never tendered monies to Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their representatives and/or agents for same.
- 91. That Plaintiff's reliance upon the verbal and written representations of Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their representatives and/or agents was justified.
- 92. That as a result of the false and fraudulent misrepresentations of the Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their representatives and/or agents, the Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount in excess of \$10,000.00, and is entitled to punitive damages in

addition to general and/or compensatory damages, according to proof to be taken by the Court at the time of the trial of this matter, plus any and all applicable interest at the legal rate until fully paid.

93. That it has been necessary for Plaintiff to retain the services of legal counsel for which Plaintiff is entitled to recover such costs and expenses from Defendants.

XI SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Civil Actions For Damages Resulting From Racketeering) All Defendants

- 93. Plaintiff repleads and realleges all of the preceding paragraphs and incorporates the same by reference as if fully set forth herein.
- 94. NRS 207.400 forbids the use of any proceeds derived from racketeering activity when such person has received such proceeds with criminal intent.
- 95. NRS 207.470 provides that any person injured in his business or property by reason of any violation of NRS 207.400 has a cause of action against the person causing such injury for three times the actual damages sustained.
 - 96. Defendants are considered an "Enterprise" as defined under NRS 207.380.
- 97. NRS 207.390 defines "Racketeering activity" as engaging in at least two crimes related to racketeering that have the same or similar pattern, intents, results, accomplices, victims or methods of commission, or are otherwise interrelated by distinguishing characteristics and are not isolated incidents, if at least one of the incidents occurred after July 1, 1983, and the last of the incidents occurred within 5 years after a prior commission of a crime related to racketeering.
- 98. During the course of the Defendant's representation of Elie commencing in 2009, the Defendants and others who are both known and unknown to the Plaintiff at this time, being person employed by and associated with the enterprise described in Paragraphs 2 through 5

which was engaged in, the activities which affected, interstate and foreign affairs of the enterprise through a pattern of racketeering activity, as hereinafter set forth in violation of NRS 207.350 et seq.

99. The pattern of racketeering activity consisted of at least two acts involving
Offering False Evidence and two acts of obtaining possession of money or property valued at
\$650 or more by false pretenses. The specific acts of racketeering committed by the Defendants
are set further below in paragraphs, eighty-five (85) through).

PREDICATE ACT I- OFFERING FALSE EVIDENCE

- 100. Defendant provided false and untruthful information and testimony about Mr. Elie and his Clients to the US Attorney's Office in the investigation leading to the Black Friday Indictments dated April 15, 2011.
- 101. That Defendant provided said false information and testimony and failed to disclose his own involvement in the Black Friday Investigation to avoid prosecution along with his Clients at Full Tilt Poker/ Pokerstars and Mr. Elie.
- 102. Defendant's actions involved a pattern of providing false and misleading information against Plaintiff herein along with other unnamed individuals, also Clients of Defendant's to the US Attorney's Office in violation of his ethical obligations to his Client to avoid his own prosecution.
- 103. As a result of Defendant's failure to acknowledge and disclose his own receipt of profits from peer to peer poker processing, and protect Mr. Elie's interests, Mr. Elie was indicted along with others in the case of US v Isai Schienberg Et Al, Case No.: S3 10 Cr. 336.

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PREDICATE ACT II- FALSE PRETENSES

- 104. Defendant, knowingly and designedly by false pretense and with an intent to cheat and defraud obtained from Plaintiff monies as his Counsel to represent his best interests individually and on behalf of his Company 21 Debit.
- 105. Defendant continued to provide Elie with false information regarding the legalities of peer to peer poker processing to further his own pecuniary interests as both attorney for Elie and for Full Tilt Poker and Pokerstars.
- 106. Defendant encouraged Elie to process poker with various banks as stated supra.

 And received monies from processing poker transaction despite clearly knowing that the processing of such poker transactions were likely illegal.

PREDICATE ACT III NRS 205.390. OBTAINING SIGNATURE BY FALSE PRETENSES

- 107. Defendants intentionally solicited Plaintiff's business by providing Plaintiff with alleged legal opinions which Defendant allegedly obtained to obtain Elie's business in the poker processing.
- 108. Defendants specifically knew that the legal advice he was providing was more for the purposes of serving his own pecuniary interests over his obligation to Mr. Elie.
- 109. Defendants intentionally and knowingly with the intent to fraudulently induce misrepresented the legal facts to induce Plaintiff into entering into the poker processing Agreements with banks, so that Mr. Ifrah would receive monies in excess of \$1,000,000.00 Annually from 21 Debit.
- 110. Defendant maliciously and knowingly with the intent to fraudulently induce Mr. Elie to process poker continuously misrepresented the legalities of same.

- 110. Defendant, with the intent to cheat and/or defraud Plaintiff herein, another, designedly by color and/or aid of a false writing or other false pretense, representation or presentation obtained the signatures of Plaintiff herein Agreements with banks and poker sites.
- 111. Defendants are further guilty of obtaining possession of money and/or property valued at \$650 or more, and/or obtaining a signature by means of false pretenses;
- Defendants actions of obtaining possession or money and/or property valued at \$650.00 or more and/or obtaining a signature by means of false pretenses has been completed in a pattern of activities, deliberate and with aforethought, to defraud the Plaintiff.
- 113. That it has been necessary for Plaintiff to retain the services of legal counsel for which Plaintiff is entitled to recover such costs and expenses from Defendants.

SEVENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Piercing the Corporate Veil- All Defendants)

- 114. Plaintiff repleads and realleges all of the preceding paragraphs and incorporates the same by reference as if fully set forth herein.
- Defendant IFRAH PLLC, and Defendants each and everyone one of them, collectively as a group, were and are at all times relevant herein influenced and governed by Defendants IFRAH, wherein such a unity of interest and ownership that one is inseparable from the other.
- 116. Wherefore such behavior of a corporate entity demonstrates that any adherence to the corporate fiction of a separate entity would sanction fraud and/or promote injustice.
- 117. That as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' unconscionable behavior,

 Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount in excess of \$10,000.00, the exact amount of which will
 be determined at trial.

j.	118. As a further direct and proximate result of Defendants b	ehavior, Plaintiff has had
2	to hire Counsel to prosecute this matter by reason which he is entitled to	o reasonable attorney's
3	fees.	
4		
5	EIGHTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Civil Conspiracy/Collusion All Defendant)	s)
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8	the same by reference as if fully set forth herein.	
9	120. Defendants and each of them acted in concert in planning	ig and carrying out the
10	actions alleged in this Complaint	
11	121. Defendants and each of them engaged in the acts allege	d in this Complaint in
12	furtherance of the common design.	
13	122. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' actions	, Plaintiffs have incurred
14	compensatory damages in an amount according to proof.	
15	123. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' actions	, Plaintiffs have incurred
16	reasonable attorneys' fees and costs in pursuing this action in an amou	int according to proof.
17	WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendan	ts as follows:
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19	of which will be proven at trial;	
20	2. For all out of pocket costs incurred by the Plaintiff since	e the commencement of
21	the underlying litigation.	
22	2 3. For punitive damages in accordance with NRS 207.470)
23	For attorney's fees and costs of suit;	
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	·
•	5. For such other and further relief as this Honorable Court deems just and
2.	reasonable under the circumstances.
3	Dated this 11th day of April, 2012.
4	LAW OFFICES OF SIGAL CHATTAH
5	AL
6	SIGAL CHATTAH, ESQ. Nevada Bar No.: 8264
7	LAW OFFICES OF SIGAL CHATTAH 5875 S. Rainbow Blvd. #204
8	Las Vegas, Nevada 89118 Attorney for Plaintiff
9	Chad Elie
10	Challe Till Paker and
11	On April 15, 2011 the United States Department of Justice charged the principals of Pokerstars, Full Tilt Poker and Absolute Poker along with Elie (Black Friday Chad) with Bank Fraud, illegal gambling offenses and money laundering billions of dollars in gambling proceeds. This was followed by the seizure of internet domain names used laundering billions of dollars in gambling proceeds. The second s
12	laundering billions of dollars in gambling proceeds. This was inflowed by the second by Pokerstars, Full Tilt Poker and Absolute Poker as well as the freezing of 75 bank accounts utilized by those operators and their payment processors.
(3	operators and their payment processors.
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LAW OFFICES

THORNDAL ARMSTRONG DELK BALKENBUSH & EISINGER

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION www.thorndal.com

EXHIBIT B

SUMM

District Court

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

CHAD ELIE	Case No.: A-13-679951-C
Plaintiff,	Dept No.: XV/
vs.)	-2
IFRAH PLLC, a Professional Limited Liability (Company, ALAIN IEFFERY IFRAH a/k/a IEFF) IFRAH, individually, DOE individuals I through (XX, and ROE CORPORATIONS I through XX,)	SUMMONS
Defendants.	
<u> </u>	

NOTICE! YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. THE COURT MAY DECIDE AGAINST YOU WITHOUT YOUR BEING HEARD UNLESS YOU RESPOND WITHIN 20 DAYS. READ THE INFORMATION BELOW.

TO THE DEFENDANT(S): A civil Complaint has been filed by the Plaintiff(s) against you for the relief set forth in the Complaint.

- 1. If you intend to defend this lawsuit, within 20 days after this Summons is served on you, exclusive of the day of service, you must do the following:
 - File with the Clerk of this Court, whose address is shown below, a formal written response to the PL. Complaint in accordance with the rules of the Court, with the appropriate filing fee.
 - Serve a copy of your response upon the attorney whose name and address is shown below. b.
- 2. Unless you respond, your default will be entered upon application of the Plaintiff(s) and this Court may enter a judgment against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint, which could result in the taking of money or property or other relief requested in the Complaint.
- 3. If you intend to seek the advice of an attorney in this matter, you should do so promptly so that your response may be filed on time.
- 4. The State of Nevada, its political subdivisions, agencies, officers, employees, board members, commission members and legislators, each have 45 days after service of this Summons within which to file an Answer or other responsive pleading to the Complaint.

By:

Submitted By:

CLERK OF COURT

APR 1 5 2013

(Signature)

SIGAL-CHATTAH, ESO.

NEVADA BAR NO.: 8264 5875 S. RAINBOW BLVD #203

LAS VEGAS NEVADA 89118

(702) 360-6200

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF

Clark County Courthouse 200 South Third Street Las Vegas, NV 89155

Deputy Clerk

WALTER ABREGO-BONILLA

NOTE: When service is by publication, add a brief statement of the object of the action.



LAW OFFICES

THORNDAL ARMSTRONG DELK BALKENBUSH & EISINGER

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EXHIBIT C

ORIGINAL Electronically Filed 05/14/2013 03:50:12 PM 1 **ACOMP** SIGAL CHATTAH, ESQ. Nevada Bar No.: 8264 **CLERK OF THE COURT** LAW OFFICES OF SIGAL CHATTAH 5875 S. Rainbow Blvd. #024 Las Vegas, Nevada 89118 Tel: (702) 360-6200 Fax:(702) 643-6292 5 Chattahlaw@gmail.com Attorney for Plaintiff Chad Elie 6 7 DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY NEVADA 8 **** 9 10 **CHAD ELIE** Case No.: A679951 11 Plaintiff, Dept. No.: XVI vs. 12 IFRAH PLLC, a Professional Limited Liability AMENDED COMPLAINT 13 Company, ALAIN JEFFERY IFRAH a/k/a JEFF IFRAH, individually, DOE individuals I through **EXEMPT FROM** 14 XX, and ROE CORPORATIONS I through XX, ARBITRATION 15 Defendants. 16 17 **AMENDED COMPLAINT** 18 COMES NOW, Plaintiff, CHAD ELIE, by and through his attorney of record, SIGAL 19 CHATTAH, ESQ., of the LAW OFFICES OF SIGAL CHATTAH, who hereby submits the 20 foregoing Amended Complaint and complains of Defendants and each of them and allege as 21 follows: 22 /// 23 24 /// 25

I. PARTIES

- 1. Plaintiff, CHAD ELIE (hereinafter "Plaintiff" or "Mr. ELIE") is and at all times herein mentioned, a resident of County of Clark, the State of Nevada.
- 2. At all times mentioned herein, Defendant, IFRAH PLLC, (hereinafter "IFRAH PLLC") is a Professional Corporation with its principle office located in the District of Columbia, but which has done business on behalf of Mr. ELIE in numerous states, including Nevada California, Florida, and Illinois.
- 3. At all times mentioned herein, Defendant, ALAIN JEFFERY IFRAH a/k/a JEFF IFRAH, (hereinafter "Mr. IFRAH") was a licensed Attorney owning and operating IFRAH PLLC. Upon information and belief, Mr. IFRAH is licensed as an attorney in the District of Columbia, but not licensed in Nevada, California, Florida or Illinois, although he performed services for and provided legal advice to Mr. ELIE while Mr. ELIE was residing in those other jurisdictions and/or operating businesses from those other jurisdictions.
- 4. The true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, associate, or otherwise, of Defendants DOES I through V, and ROE CORPORATIONS I through V, inclusive, are unknown to Plaintiff, who therefore sues said Defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that each of the Defendants designated herein as a DOE or ROE CORPORATION is responsible in some manner for the events and happenings herein referred to and damages caused proximately thereby to Plaintiff as herein alleged; that Plaintiff will ask leave of this Court to amend this Complaint to insert the true names and capacities of said Defendants DOES I through V and/or ROE CORPORATIONS I through V, when same have been ascertained by Plaintiff, together with appropriate charging allegations, and to join such Defendants in this action.
- 5. All of the acts or failures to act herein were duly performed by and attributable to all Defendants, each acting as agent, employee, or under the direction and/or control of the

others. Said acts or failures to act were within the scope of said agency and/or employment and
each Defendant and ratified the acts and omissions by the other Defendants. Whenever and
wherever reference is made in this Complaint to any acts by Defendants, such allegations and
references shall also be deemed to mean the acts of each Defendant acting individually, jointly or

severally.

II. INTRODUCTION

- 6. Defendant law firm IFRAH PLLC and its partners and associates, including Mr. IFRAH were retained to represent Mr. ELIE in a United States District Court Case 2:09-cv-02120-PMP-VCF.
- 7. Defendant IFRAH PLLC and Mr. IFRAH was also retained by Mr. ELIE on behalf of his Company Elite Debit and 21 Debit to represent him in various transactions involving the payment processing for two internet poker businesses that Mr. IFRAH represented: Full Tilt Poker ("FTP") and Poker Stars ("PS").
- 8. Defendant IFRAH PLLC and Mr. IFRAH represented Mr. ELIE individually on various other cases and provided ongoing legal advice to Mr. ELIE from 2008 until through 2011 and even after Mr. ELIE's arrest on Friday, April 15, 2011, following his indictment for offenses concerning his operations as a payment processor for Internet Merchants FTP and PS.

Jeff Ifrah/ Ifrah PLLC

9. At all times relevant herein, Mr. IFRAH portrayed himself as a leader in the provision of legal advice to individuals and entities involved in the gaming industry-including but not limited to the Internet Poker industry. Mr. IFRAH held himself out as a Specialist in the Internet gaming field.

- 10. Mr. IFRAH has published and continues to publish blogs and columns regarding online gaming, poker and E-Gaming business, including frequent contributing editorials on EGaming Review.
- 11. Mr. IFRAH has permitted himself to be nationally recognized as having expert knowledge in the online gaming industry by various online outlets such as EGaming Review, A-Z Online Casinos, and other outlets.
- 12. Mr. IFRAH has also been named by Chambers & Partners as "[o]ne of the most customer service-oriented lawyers," offering "exceptional expertise" concerning gaming law.
- 13. Mr. ELIE relied on Mr. IFRAH's professional expertise as a top-tier litigation attorney with particular expertise over the field of online gaming, specifically Internet poker.
- 14. Acting upon such reliance, Mr. ELIE engaged Mr. IFRAH's services as his attorney and eventually, ELIE paid Mr. IFRAH in excess of four million dollars (\$4,000,000.00), in attorney's fees and what Mr. IFRAH termed "commissions" during the course of Mr. IFRAH's representation of Mr. ELIE.
- 15. Once indicted as part of the Black Friday Indictments, throughout the course of discovery with the US Attorney's Office, ELIE discovered the gruesome truth, that his own lawyer, Mr. IFRAH, knowingly misrepresented the facts and the law to him; that Mr. IFRAH hid critical documentation that had said documentation been disclosed to Mr. ELIE, Mr. ELIE would have never continued to process poker.
- 16. It was clear that Mr. IFRAH, used his position and esteem in the internet gaming industry to further his own economic endeavors at Mr. ELIE's expense and to Mr. ELIE'S prejudice.

- 17. IFRAH gave Mr. ELIE wrong advice regarding poker processing so that Mr. IFRAH's other client-operators of Internet Poker sites-would benefit while Mr. IFRAH would make a windfall not just from Mr. ELIE; but from these other clients that were paying Mr. IFRAH substantial sums to find them a payment processing solution that would allow them to operate in the United States without any apparent domestic presence here.
- 18. Mr. IFRAH took money not just from Mr. ELIE, but from FTP and PS; then hid his involvement in same in violation of 18 USC §1001 when he provided information about his Clients to the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York.
- Mr. IFRAH specifically denied ever advising Mr. ELIE that processing exclusively for Internet poker operators was legal.

Partner Weekly, LLC v. Viable Marketing Corp et al

- 20. On October 7, 2009, Partner Weekly filed a Complaint in the Eighth Judicial District Court against Viable Marketing Corp (hereinafter "Viable") and Chad ELIE individually; Case No: A09-601153 (later removed to USDC Case No.: 2:09-cv-02120-PMP-VCF).
- 21. The subject of said lawsuit involved an Advertising Agreement entered into by the Parties therein (Partner Weekly and Viable) wherein there was a dispute as to monies due and owing on said Agreement.
- 22. Part of both Viable's and Mr. ELIE's Affirmative Defenses and issues of material breach of contract were a breach of Exclusivity Agreement that was provided by Partner Weekly as an incentive in the subject transaction.
- 23. Mr. ELIE retained Defendants to defend his and Viable's interest in the litigation but Defendants-failed to file a timely Opposition on a Motion for Summary Judgment that was

1 filed in said case, resulting in Partner Weekly prevailing against Viable and Mr. ELIE on 2 Summary Judgment. 3 Defendant further failed to litigate the merits on behalf of ELIE and Viable 24. 4 regarding the Breach of the Exclusivity Agreement, resulting in the claim being lost as a result 5 of said neglect. 6 US v Isai Schienberg Et Al 7 Case No.: S3 10 Cr. 336 Poker Processing Conflict and 8 Affirmative or Fraud/Misrepresentations 9 25. Defendant Mr. IFRAH individually and on behalf of the PLLC represented PS 10 and FTP as their Counsel, in various cases and endeavors. 11 26. Mr. IFRAH met Mr. ELIE when Defendant represented a Company called 12 Intabill a lawsuit that Intabill initiated against Mr. ELIE's company, Viable Marketing, Inc.. 13 27. During the Intabill lawsuit, even while knowing that Mr. ELIE was represented 14 by counsel in that matter, Mr. IFRAH directly engaged in settlement negotiations with Mr. 15 ELIE. 16 28. Said communications affected Mr. ELIE's existing attorney-client relationship 17 with his then-existing counsel, even prompting Mr. ELIE's former counsel to threaten reporting 18 these direct communications to the Court and/or the State Bar of Florida officials. 19 20 29. Based on Mr. IFRAH's representations to Mr. ELIE about future processing 21 opportunities, Mr. ELIE resolved the litigation with Intabill by agreeing to pay funds to Internet 22 poker merchants. 23 24 25

¹ PS acquired the interest of Intabill through the course of PS litigation against Intabill and one Daniel Tsvetkoff.

- 30. Subsequently, Mr. ELIE retained Defendants to represent him individually and on behalf of various other Companies including but not limited to Viable Marketing, and payment processing companies Elite Debit and 21 Debit.
- 31. Defendants discussed various options of processing peer to peer online financial transactions with Mr. ELIE on behalf of Mr. IFRAH's other clients-FTP and PS.
- 32. Initially, Mr. IFRAH indicated that he represented PS and that he had a very close relationship with its Owner/Founder, Isai Sheinberg; later Mr. IFRAH would indicate to Mr. ELIE that he represented, or also represented FTP's interest.
- 33. In 2009, ELIE by and through his Company Elite Debit, retained IFRAH to represent his interests in obtaining information regarding legalities and recommendations regarding processing financial transactions related to peer to peer online poker.
- 34. During numerous conversations with Mr. ELIE at times when he was being paid by Mr. ELIE, including conversations though phone and phone "texting", Mr. IFRAH told Mr. ELIE that poker processing was lawful and that the US Government was not concerned with poker, but rather with start-up e-commerce and not peer- to peer.
- 35. Mr. IFRAH explained that those other activities were what had compromised Intabill with Regulators and Law Enforcement Officials, not its processing for the Internet Poker Merchants.
- 36. Relying on Mr. IFRAH's counsel, Mr. ELIE and others commenced processing of Internet poker payments on behalf of internet poker merchants out of a Utah based bank known as Sun First Bank.

- 37. IFRAH had encouraged Mr. ELIE and another individual, Jeremy Johnson to begin processing on behalf of the Internet poker merchants he represented through Sun First Bank.
- 38. IFRAH further advised Sun First Bank that processing on behalf of Internet poker merchants was lawful, provided that the occurrence of poker processing was disclosed to the bank.
- 39. IFRAH acting on his own behalf and/or on behalf of his law firm circulated legal opinions from others that appeared to support his advice that such processing was lawful.
- 40. IFRAH further provided advice to Mr. ELIE while charging Mr. ELIE and/or his business partner at that time for services in securing processing relationships with Sun First Bank and the internet poker merchants Mr. IFRAH represented ELIE.
- 41. Mr. IFRAH was paid considerable sums to secure a payment processing solution and IFRAH's solution was to convince Mr. ELIE that he would make lots of money, like IFRAH was making, by engaging in activity that others viewed, *erroneously according to Mr*. *IFRAH* as unlawful.
- 42. In 2010 Mr. ELIE spoke with a US Government Investigator and Prosecutors about his processing of Internet poker transactions.
- 43. After those specific discussions with various Government Investigators (involving different counsel from IFRAH), Mr. ELIE made a conscious decision to retreat from the internet poker processing business.
- 44. At about that same time, Mr. ELIE learned that Federal Regulators had assumed control over Sun First Bank's operations and stopped its payment processing activities.

- 45. Mr. ELIE explained his decision to IFRAH and notified him that he was no longer interested in processing poker payments.
- 46. After Mr. ELIE announced his unwillingness to process Internet poker payment transactions, IFRAH's poker clients agreed to pay IFRAH considerable sums to find for them a domestic based payment processing solution that would allow them to continue operating without any domestic assets.
- 47. IFRAH returned to Mr. ELIE, telling him that there was plenty of legitimate money to be made as long as poker processing was disclosed to the bank.
- 48. When Mr. ELIE questioned IFRAH about this advice, given the fact the Sun First Bank had recently been closed by US Government Officials even though poker processing was fully disclosed at Sun First, IFRAH told Mr. ELIE that Sun First Bank was not shut down because of the processing, but because, of other merchants that the regulators deemed unsavory.
- 49. Furthermore, IFRAH told ELIE that after Mr. ELIE pulled away from Sun First Bank, Mr. ELIE's former Business Partner and his colleagues had started to process on behalf of other Merchants and that Federal Regulators deemed unsavory.
- 50. IFRAH assured Mr. ELIE that poker only transactions were lawful and fully defensible.
- 51. As a test of this advice, Mr. ELIE asked IFRAH to secure an agreement from the poker operators he was also representing to indemnify Mr. ELIE if the Government were to challenge the legality of poker-only payment processing transactions.
- 52. On Mr. ELIE's behalf, IFRAH did negotiate and secure an Indemnification Agreement from at least one of the poker merchants for whom IFRAH also worked.

- 53. Despite Mr. IFRAH's repeated claims that the poker processing was completely legal, the Federal Trade Commission had obtained a Temporary Restraining Order and froze all monies held by Sun First Bank associated with poker processing.
- 54. Defendant had a clear incentive for his Clients, FTP and PS in finding a

 Company that would process the financial transactions, and Mr. ELIE's with his new Company,

 21 Debit became the perfect means for securing a third-party domestic processing solution.
- 55. Despite Mr. ELIE's hesitation to continue to process poker after the Department of Justice and Federal Trade Commission's Involvement in Sun First Bank, IFRAH continued to assure Mr. ELIE that the peer to peer processing was lawful and that there were no criminal ramifications to engage in such activities.
- 56. IFRAH made continuous representations to ELIE that according to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) there were no problems with PS, FTP and Mr. ELIE continuing to process poker transactions.
- 57. Thereafter, IFRAH orchestrated meetings with various Chicago Banks to begin processing poker, specifically All American Bank and New City Bank in the Chicago, Illinois area.
- 58. IFRAH claimed to represent FTP and PS as their Counsel, and as Counsel for 21 Debit in the transactions, charging both for his services and reaping financial benefits from both.
- 59. In Mr. ELIE's case, IFRAH requested the payments made to him be characterized as payments for "consulting" services rather than legal services.
- 60. Upon information and belief, IFRAH asked for such payments to be so characterized because he knew that the US Government was likely to come after Mr. ELIE and

 the poker merchants and he did not want to face disqualification from representing a criminal Defendant on the basis that he had provided legal advice to that or another Defendant.

- 61 IFRAH gave Mr. ELIE misleading advice to further his own pecuniary interests in his representation of Full Tilt Poker and Pokerstars.
- 62. Thereafter, IFRAH represented Mr. ELIE with various banks as to set up the poker processing for both PS and FTP, whereby Mr. ELIE and his Company 21 Debit LLC, relied on IFRAH's representation and assurances as to the legalities of same.
- 63. IFRAH received payments from FTP and PS in his representation of them, for among other things, procuring companies (i.e. banks and payment and payment processors) to process poker transactions, regardless of whether such peer to peer online poker was legal.
- 64. IFRAH further solicited, abetted and further recommended and encouraged Mr. ELIE to continue to seek banks that would conduct such third party payment processing, despite IFRAH's knowledge that said activities were highly risking and possibly unlawful.
- 65. IFRAH would also receive monthly payments of approximately \$100,000.00 per month from Mr. ELIE's Company 21 Debit, paid directly from All American Bank, as a so-called ongoing "commission" on procuring the deals with the banks which processed poker transactions.
- 66. IFRAH continuously recommended that Mr. ELIE also retain other experts and obtain legal opinions as to the legalities of third party processing in order to insulate both himself and FTP and PS from any liabilities.
- 67. IFRAH completely and with an utter disregard to his ethical obligations to Mr. ELIE continued to advise Mr. ELIE and to serve the interests of his poker merchant Clients despite a clear conflict of interest between them and the advice he was giving to them.

- 68. Indeed, the merchants were advised to stay out of the United States of America while Mr. ELIE was advised that what he was doing was safe.
- 69. In fact, in late 2010, IFRAH received a Memorandum from the law firm of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP, regarding discussions involving Akin Gump and the US Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York; whereby prosecutors confirmed to Akin Gump and to IFRAH that they believed that third-party poker processing was illegal.
- 70. IFRAH failed to disclose this Memorandum to Mr. ELIE and continued receiving payments from both FTP/PS and Mr. ELIE as long as all Parties continued processing poker, which IFRAH advised in favor of and aggressively sought.
- 71. It was only after Mr. ELIE was indicted that it became known to him, that his Attorney, IFRAH, withheld the 2010 Akin Gump Memorandum and other information he possessed and believed.
- 72. After his arrest in the Black Friday Indictments, Mr. ELIE was represented by another Attorney; not by IFRAH.
- 73. When said Attorney approached IFRAH about IFRAH's willingness to provide an "[A]dvice of Counsel" defense to Mr. ELIE given the fact that IFRAH had accompanied Mr. ELIE into Sun First Bank and then later from Bank to Bank in Illinois, advising Bank management that poker processing was legal and providing legal opinions to Mr. ELIE and to the banks for their review, IFRAH denied that he represented Mr. ELIE on this issue.
- 74. IFRAH claimed that he had always believed that the government would go after the poker merchants and their payment processors and he wanted to be able to represent one of them in the ensuing criminal prosecution.

- 75. For that reason, IFRAH stated, that he always made sure that his name was not on the legal opinions he circulated.
- 76. IFRAH never disclosed this information about his concerns to Mr. ELIE before Mr. ELIE'S arrest.
- 78. Defendants received in excess of \$1,000,000.00 (One Million USD) in commission payments from Mr. ELIE's companies as Defendant's "cut" from the processing poker payments with the banks.
- 79. It is clear that Defendants' activities in both representing FTP and PS and ELIE (and 21 Debit) were clear conflicts of interests whereby Defendants' were as continuously benefitting from representation of both individuals and entities with interests that were utterly inconsistent but that were not fully disclosed to Mr. ELIE.
- 80. Defendant specifically mislead ELIE regarding the legalities of processing poker so that he can continue to receive monies (commission payments) from ELIE.
- 81. It is also clear that Defendant placed Full Tilt Poker and Pokerstars interests above ELIE's interests in violation of his Ethical obligations.
- 82. The most egregious act Defendant IFRAH engaged in however, was providing testimony and information against Mr. ELIE and others to the United States Attorney's Office in the Investigation leading to the Black Friday Indictments, including but not limited to his own Clients' indictments.
- 83. Defendant IFRAH provided testimony against his own clients to avoid being indicted, altogether denying his involvement in the Black Friday Affair except as an attorney advising the poker companies.

- 84. Defendant's statements minimized his involvement in the operations, including the fact that he was being paid commissions on processing no different from the commissions that the government would determine, in Mr. ELIE's case, were illegal and eventually forfeitable.
- 84. IFRAH received revenue from the poker processing as commission payments tantamount to what a business partner of ELIE would have received.
 - 85. IFRAH's statements were material and certainly violative of 18 U.S.C. §1001.
- 86. While providing the US Attorney's Office with testimony against his clients, IFRAH failed to disclose that he was receiving commission payments directly from Mr. ELIE's companies 21 Debit and Elite Debit as commissions for assisting Mr. ELIE in obtaining exclusive poker payment processing accounts with FTP and PS that IFRAH told Mr. ELIE were fully legal.
- 87. Defendant IFRAH violated the basic rules of his ethical obligations to Mr. ELIE and put his own pecuniary interests ahead of his client's and in turn thereafter, attempted to absolve himself of any illegal activity by denying his involvement in Mr. ELIE's processing decisions.
- 88. Instead IFRAH told the U.S. Attorney's office that he had not provided any legal advice to Mr. ELIE.
- 89. As a result of Defendant's misrepresentations and false and misleading legal advice, Mr. ELIE re-engaged in payment processing with Mr. IFRAH even after Sun First Bank was closed and was indicted along with others in the April 15, 2011, Black Friday indictments.

- 90. As a further result of Defendant's false and misleading legal advice, Mr. ELIE was facing up to eighty years in jail, forcing him to accept a deal to plead guilty to one count of Felony Bank Fraud.
- 91. Mr. ELIE was sentenced to five (5) months in prison for same, was required to forfeit millions of dollars, lost his payment processing business and his good reputation, and will forever be saddled with a felony conviction.

III. FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Professional Malpractice) 2:09-CV-02120-PMP-VCF (Against All Defendants)

- 92. Plaintiff repleads and realleges all of the paragraphs in the preceding Claims for relief and incorporates the same by reference as if fully set forth herein.
- 93. Defendants owed a duty to represent Mr. ELIE and is companies in the lawsuit filed by Partner Weekly LLC and to use such skill, prudence, and diligence as a lawyer of ordinary skill and capacity in exercising and performing the tasks which they undertook.
- 94. Defendant failed to provide Mr. ELIE with adequate defense, failing to respond to a Motion for Summary Judgment and further failing to pursue that Counterclaims on behalf of Viable therein.
- 95. As a result of Defendants' breach of his professional duty and failure to file an Opposition for Motion for Summary Judgment, Plaintiff in said action prevailed in the action without litigating the matter on its merits.
- 96. As a further result of Defendants' breach of his duty and failure to assert a Counterclaim against Partner Weekly, Viable has lost its ability to litigate the merits of the anticipatory breaches in said action.
- 97. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach, Mr. ELIE has suffered damages in excess of \$10,000.00, the exact amount of which will be proven at trial.

98. As a further direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach, Mr. ELIE has had to hire counsel to prosecute this matter by reason of which he is entitled to reasonable attorney's fees.

IV. SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Professional Malpractice) (US v Isai Schienberg Et Al Case No.: S3 10 Cr. 336)

- 99. Plaintiff repleads and realleges all of the paragraphs in the preceding Claims for relief and incorporates the same by reference as if fully set forth herein.
- 100. Defendant owed a duty to Mr. ELIE to use such skill, prudence, and diligence as a lawyer of ordinary skill and capacity in exercising and performing the tasks which they undertook.
- 101. Defendants failed to investigate whether Poker Processing in fact legal in accordance with the task that he was hired to do.
- Defendant further failed to represent ELIE in a matter that was not a conflict with his other Client's specifically FTP and PS.
- 103. Defendant failed in his obligation to represent ELIE so that he would obtain monthly commission payments in the amount of \$100,000.00 USD regardless of whether processing poker was legal or not.
- 104. In total for services rendered by Ifrah as Counsel for Mr. ELIE, Defendant received no less than \$3,000,000.00 USD in fees for same.
- 105. Defendant further violated the Rules of Professional Conduct by disclosing privileged information that was wrongful legal advice given to Mr. ELIE, in order to avoid indictment from the US Attorney's office for his own illegal activities.
- 106. As a result of Defendant's wrongful advice, Mr. ELIE was convicted of Felony Bank Fraud and was sentenced to five (5) months in prison for same.

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VI.

FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Breach Of Covenant Of Good Faith and Fair Dealing Against All Defendants)

- 116. Plaintiff repleads and realleges all of the paragraphs in the preceding Claims for Relief and incorporates the same by reference as if fully set forth herein.
- 117. Based on the continuous relationship between Plaintiff and Defendants, ELIE continued to pay Defendants for the legal advice and consults as agreed by said parties and expected to be represented competently therefore.
- 118. Defendants, wrongfully and deliberately took advantage of the good faith extended by Mr. ELIE in continuously providing payments under said Agreement, thereby breaching the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing inherent in the subject Agreement.
- 119. Wherefore Defendants did not act in good faith, that is, did not perform the contract in the manner reasonably contemplated by the parties, Mr. ELIE has a remedy that goes beyond that of breach of the express terms of the contract.
- 120. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach, Plaintiff has suffered damages in excess of \$10,000.00, the exact amount of which will be proven at trial.
- 121. As a further direct and proximate result of Defendants' breach, Plaintiff has had to hire counsel to prosecute this matter by reason of which it is entitled to reasonable attorney's fees.

VII.

FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Intentional Misrepresentation Fraud Against All Defendants)

122. Plaintiff repleads and realleges all of the preceding paragraphs and incorporates the same by reference as if fully set forth herein.

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- 123. That Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their agents and/or representatives, made numerous material, false, and misleading written and oral representations as contained in the foregoing allegations set forth in the paragraphs six (6) through eighty (80) above to defraud Plaintiff of his monies.
- agents and/or representatives, made the aforementioned representations as contained in the foregoing allegations set forth in the paragraphs six (6) through ninety-one (91) above, they knew or should have known them to be false. That the Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their agents and/or representatives, negligently, willfully and/or maliciously made said statements and/or representations, and knew or should have known that the Plaintiff would fully rely upon said statements and/or representations and the accuracy of same and enter into agreements and business transactions with Defendants and provide access to substantial amounts of monies to Defendants, resulting in Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their agents and/or representatives receiving substantial compensation.
- 125. That at the time Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their agents and/or representatives, made the statements and representations as contained in the foregoing allegations set forth in the paragraphs six (6) through ninety-one (91) above, and at the time the Plaintiff entered into their respective agreements and business transactions with, and provided monies to, Defendants, Plaintiff were ignorant of the falsity of the statements and/or representations of the Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their agents and/or representatives.
- 126. That in reliance upon the statements and/or representations of the Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their representatives and/or agents, the Plaintiff were

induced to enter agreements and business transactions with and provide monies to Defendants, believing that the Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their agents and/or representatives would perform as represented and promised.

- 127. That had the Plaintiff known that Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their representatives and/or agents, never intended to perform as represented and promised, the Plaintiff would have never entered into their respective agreements and business transactions with Defendants and would have never tendered monies to Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their representatives and/or agents for same.
- 129. That Plaintiff's reliance upon the verbal and written representations of Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their representatives and/or agents was justified.
- 130. That as a result of the false and fraudulent misrepresentations of the Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and/or their representatives and/or agents, the Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount in excess of \$10,000.00, and is entitled to punitive damages in addition to general and/or compensatory damages, according to proof to be taken by the Court at the time of the trial of this matter, plus any and all applicable interest at the legal rate until fully paid.
- 131. That it has been necessary for Plaintiff to retain the services of legal counsel for which Plaintiff is entitled to recover such costs and expenses from Defendants.

VIII. <u>SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF</u> (Civil Actions For Damages Resulting From Racketeering) All Defendants

132. Plaintiff repleads and realleges all of the preceding paragraphs and incorporates the same by reference as if fully set forth herein.

- 133. NRS 207.400 forbids the use of any proceeds derived from racketeering activity when such person has received such proceeds with criminal intent.
- 134. NRS 207.470 provides that any person injured in his business or property by reason of any violation of NRS 207.400 has a cause of action against the person causing such injury for three times the actual damages sustained.
 - 135. Defendants are considered an "Enterprise" as defined under NRS 207.380.
- 136. NRS 207.390 defines "Racketeering activity" as engaging in at least two crimes related to racketeering that have the same or similar pattern, intents, results, accomplices, victims or methods of commission, or are otherwise interrelated by distinguishing characteristics and are not isolated incidents, if at least one of the incidents occurred after July 1, 1983, and the last of the incidents occurred within 5 years after a prior commission of a crime related to racketeering.
- 137. During the course of the Defendant's representation of ELIE commencing in 2009, the Defendants and others who are both known and unknown to the Plaintiff at this time, being person employed by and associated with the enterprise described in Paragraphs 2 through 5 which was engaged in, the activities which affected, interstate and foreign affairs of the enterprise through a pattern of racketeering activity, as hereinafter set forth in violation of NRS 207.350 et seq.
- 138. The pattern of racketeering activity consisted of at least two acts involving
 Offering False Evidence and two acts of obtaining possession of money or property valued at
 \$650 or more by false pretenses. The specific acts of racketeering committed by the Defendants
 are set further below in paragraphs, eighty-five (85) through).

PREDICATE ACT I- OFFERING FALSE EVIDENCE

- 139. Defendant provided false and untruthful information and testimony about Mr. ELIE and his Clients to the US Attorney's Office in the investigation leading to the Black Friday Indictments dated April 15, 2011.
- 140. That Defendant provided said false information and testimony and failed to disclose his own involvement in the Black Friday Investigation to avoid prosecution along with his Clients at FTP/ PS and Mr. ELIE.
- 141. Defendants' actions involved a pattern of providing false and misleading information against Plaintiff herein along with other unnamed individuals, also Clients of Defendants' to the US Attorney's Office in violation of his ethical obligations to his Client to avoid his own prosecution.
- 142. As a result of Defendants' failure to acknowledge and disclose his own receipt of profits from peer to peer poker processing, and protect Mr. ELIE's interests, Mr. ELIE was indicted along with others in the case of *US v Isai Schienberg Et Al*, Case No.: S3 10 Cr. 336.

PREDICATE ACT II-FALSE PRETENSES

- 143. Defendant, knowingly and designedly by false pretense and with an intent to cheat and defraud obtained from Plaintiff monies as his Counsel to represent his best interests individually and on behalf of his Company 21 Debit.
- 144. Defendant continued to provide ELIE with false information regarding the legalities of peer to peer poker processing to further his own pecuniary interests as both attorney for ELIE and for Full Tilt Poker and Pokerstars.
- 145. Defendant encouraged ELIE to process poker with various banks as stated *supra*. And received monies from processing poker transaction despite clearly knowing that the processing of such poker transactions were likely illegal.

PREDICATE ACT III NRS 205.390. OBTAINING SIGNATURE BY FALSE PRETENSES

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- 146. Defendants intentionally solicited Plaintiff's business by providing Plaintiff with alleged legal opinions which Defendant allegedly obtained to obtain ELIE's business in the poker processing.
- 147. Defendants specifically knew that the legal advice he was providing was more for the purposes of serving his own pecuniary interests over his obligation to Mr. ELIE.
- 148. Defendants intentionally and knowingly with the intent to fraudulently induce misrepresented the legal facts to induce Plaintiff into entering into the poker processing Agreements with banks, so that Mr. Ifrah would receive monies in excess of \$1,000,000.00 Annually from 21 Debit.
- 149. Defendant maliciously and knowingly with the intent to fraudulently induce Mr. ELIE to process poker continuously misrepresented the legalities of same.
- 150. Defendants, with the intent to cheat and/or defraud Plaintiff herein, another, designedly by color and/or aid of a false writing or other false pretense, representation or presentation obtained the signatures of Plaintiff herein Agreements with banks and poker sites.
- 151. Defendants are further guilty of obtaining possession of money and/or property valued at \$650 or more, and/or obtaining a signature by means of false pretenses;
- 152. Defendants actions of obtaining possession or money and/or property valued at \$650.00 or more and/or obtaining a signature by means of false pretenses has been completed in a pattern of activities, deliberate and with aforethought, to defraud the Plaintiff.
- 153. That it has been necessary for Plaintiff to retain the services of legal counsel for which Plaintiff is entitled to recover such costs and expenses from Defendants.

IX. <u>SEVENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF</u> (Piercing the Corporate Veil- All Defendants)

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- 154. Plaintiff repleads and realleges all of the preceding paragraphs and incorporates the same by reference as if fully set forth herein.
- 155. Defendant IFRAH PLLC, and Defendants each and everyone one of them, collectively as a group, were and are at all times relevant herein influenced and governed by Defendants IFRAH, wherein such a unity of interest and ownership that one is inseparable from the other.
- 156. Wherefore such behavior of a corporate entity demonstrates that any adherence to the corporate fiction of a separate entity would sanction fraud and/or promote injustice.
- 157. That as a direct and proximate result of Defendants' unconscionable behavior,

 Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount in excess of \$10,000.00, the exact amount of which will
 be determined at trial.
- 158. As a further direct and proximate result of Defendants behavior, Plaintiff has had to hire Counsel to prosecute this matter by reason which he is entitled to reasonable attorney's fees.

X. <u>EIGHTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF</u> (Civil Conspiracy/Collusion All Defendants)

- 159. Plaintiff repleads and realleges all of the preceding paragraphs and incorporates the same by reference as if fully set forth herein.
- 160. Defendants and each of them acted in concert in planning and carrying out the actions alleged in this Complaint

1	161.	Defendants and each of them engaged in the acts alleged in this Complaint in
2	furtherance of the common design.	
3	162.	As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' actions, Plaintiffs have incurred
4	compensatory	damages in an amount according to proof.
5	163.	As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' actions, Plaintiffs have incurred
6	reasonable at	torneys' fees and costs in pursuing this action in an amount according to proof.
7	WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands judgment against Defendants as follows:	
8	1.	For consequential damages in an amount in excess of \$10,000, the exact amount
9	of which will be proven at trial;	
10	2.	For all out of pocket costs incurred by the Plaintiff since the commencement of
11	the underlying litigation.	
12	3.	For punitive damages in accordance with NRS 207.470
13	4.	For attorney's fees and costs of suit;
14 15	5.	For such other and further relief as this Honorable Court deems just and
16	reasonable under the circumstances.	
17	·	Dated this 14th day of May, 2013.
18		LAW OFFICE OF SIGAL CHATTAH
19		
20		SIGAL CHATTAH, ESQ. Nevada Bar No., 8264
21		LAW OFFICES OF SIGAL CHATTAH 5875 S. Rainbow Blvd. #204
22		Las Vegas, Nevada 89118 Attorney for Plaintiff
23		Chad Elie
24		
25	Absolute Poker	11 the United States Department of Justice charged the principals of Pokerstars, Full Tilt Poker an along with Elie (Black Friday Chad) with Bank Fraud, illegal gambling offenses and money as of dollars in gambling proceeds. This was followed by the seizure of internet domain names use
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by Pokerstars, Full Tilt Poker and Absolute Poker as well as the freezing of 75 bank accounts utilized by those operators and their payment processors.