

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

OSPREY LLC,

Plaintiff,

v.

ALLADINBOX, *et al.*,

Defendants.

Civil Action No.

21-cv-1095

**FILED UNDER SEAL**

**1) TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER; 2) ORDER RESTRAINING ASSETS AND MERCHANT STOREFRONTS; 3) ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE WHY A PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION SHOULD NOT ISSUE; AND 4) ORDER AUTHORIZING EXPEDITED DISCOVERY**

This matter is before the Court upon Plaintiff's *Ex Parte* Application for the following: 1) a temporary restraining order; 2) an order restraining assets and Merchant Storefronts (as defined *infra*); 3) an order to show cause why a preliminary injunction should not issue; and 4) an order authorizing expedited discovery against the Defendants identified on **Schedule "A"** to the Complaint and attached hereto (collectively, the "Defendants"). The Court has considered the Application, the evidence in the record, and the applicable law.

By the instant Application, Plaintiff, moved *ex parte* pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1116, Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 64 and 65, and The All Writs Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1651(a), for entry of a temporary restraining order and an order restraining assets and Merchant Storefronts, for federal unfair competition in violation of Section 43(a) of the Trademark Act of 1946, as amended; federal trademark infringement; common law unfair competition; and common law trademark infringement. Because Plaintiff has satisfied the requirements for the issuance of a temporary restraining order, the Court grants Plaintiff's Application.

**FACTUAL FINDINGS & CONCLUSION OF LAW**

1. Plaintiff, OSPREY LLC, (“Osprey” or “Plaintiff”) is likely to prevail on its Lanham Act claims, and related state law claims at trial.
  
2. Richard Mason founded Plaintiff in 2005. He invented the FrogLog<sup>®</sup> back in 2004 when good friends of his became upset that they were finding many dead frogs in the skimmer of their pool. During one morning, his friends found a total of 53 frogs and toads in their pool. Other friends with swimming pools also said frogs were regularly found in their pools. In addition to frogs, there was the occasional mole, mouse, baby bird, opossum, turtle, salamander, squirrel, bat, chipmunk, and more. As an animal biologist, Mason wanted to prevent these needless deaths if possible. He set to work and researched the problem, but there was nothing very effective on the market. He knew that the animal’s natural instinct was to swim all around the edge of the water looking for a way to get out. His thought was that if, while instinctively swimming along the edge of the pool, the frogs could somehow find and climb across a bridge from the pool to the land, they would be able to escape to their safety, before tiring and getting sucked into the pool skimmer.
  
3. Using foam, fabric, and needle and thread, Mason built a few prototypes and put them into service. He tested the invention by setting up cone traps at the end of the bridge. Over a 23-day period, a total of 50 frogs were rescued from the pool. In the early years of developing the FrogLog<sup>®</sup>, Mason spent several thousand hours catching varies species of wildlife, placing them in the pool and observing how they react and use or not use multiple different prototypes of the product. This took place over countless hours and many different prototypes. Developing the prototypes also took many, many hours and required a financial commitment. Mason made modifications and continued testing and gave out more prototypes and continued to test from

2004 to 2005. Reports from the fields were very positive and his invention was actually saving frogs, toads, small insects (like crickets) and small animals too. Today, Plaintiff sells the animal rescue device under the brand FrogLog<sup>®</sup>. (“Plaintiff’s Product”)

4. Plaintiff owns the federally registered trademark U.S. Reg. No. 5,390,968 for Frog Log<sup>®</sup>. The FrogLog<sup>®</sup> animal rescue device is sold in online marketplaces such as Amazon.com and in brick and mortar stores. The Plaintiff’s Product is designed to permit small animals and insects to rescue themselves from being trapped in a pool. The Plaintiff’s Product is royal blue, made of pool chemical safe materials, and comprises a floating platform in a distinct half-moon shape (“Island”) using an inflatable bladder for floating on the water. The Island is connected to a rectangular animal rescue bridge (“Bridge”) connected to a square weighted pouch to keep the device in place on the pool deck (“Dock”). The Plaintiff’s Product includes distinct and non-functional design aspects, including its shape, color, and configuration. (“Plaintiff’s Trade Dress” or “Trade Dress”). Plaintiff identified the need for this product and created the market for this product.

5. Plaintiff has gained significant rights in Plaintiff’s Mark and Trade Dress, through use, advertising, and promotion. Plaintiff is also the owner of various published photographs, videos, artwork, creative text, and product instructions appearing on froglog.us. (“Plaintiff’s Works”).

6. Defendants, by operating Internet based e-commerce stores, and fully interactive, commercial Internet websites operating under Defendants’ respective seller identities set forth on Schedule “A” hereto (the “Seller IDs”), have advertised, promoted, sold, and offered for sale goods featuring, displaying, and/or using Plaintiff’s Mark and/or Plaintiff’s Works and/or

Plaintiff's Trade Dress without authorization and Plaintiff has determined the products that each Defendant is offering for sale are not genuine products.

7. Through the e-commerce marketplace platform, Plaintiff accessed all of the e-commerce stores operating under Defendants' Seller IDs and captured the Defendants' listings at issue on the e-commerce stores. At the conclusion of the process, the detailed webpages and photographs were inspected by Plaintiff's representative who confirmed that each Defendant is featuring, displaying, and/or using Plaintiff's Mark and/or Plaintiff's Works and/or Trade Dress without authorization and the products that each Defendant is offering for sale are not genuine products.

8. Plaintiff has a strong probability of proving at trial that consumers are likely to be confused by Defendants' advertisement, promotion, sale, offer for sale, or distribution of products with unauthorized and unlicensed uses of Plaintiff's Mark and/or Plaintiff's Works and/or Plaintiff's Trade Dress, in violation of Section 43(a) of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a), in violation of the Section 1114 of the Lanham Act, and prevailing on its related state law claims.

9. Plaintiff, as well as consumers, is likely to suffer immediate and irreparable losses, damages and injuries before Defendants can be heard in opposition, unless Plaintiff's Application for *ex parte* relief is granted. There is good cause to believe that the unauthorized and unlicensed use of Plaintiff's Mark, Plaintiff's Works, and/or Plaintiff's Trade Dress will continue in the marketplace; that consumers are likely to be misled, confused, and disappointed by the quality of the products so advertised, and that Plaintiff may suffer loss of sales for its genuine products and an unnatural erosion of the legitimate marketplace in which it operates. There is also good cause to believe that if Plaintiff proceeds on notice to Defendants of this

Application, Defendants can easily and quickly change the ownership or modify e-commerce store account data and content, change payment accounts, redirect consumer traffic to other seller identification names, and transfer assets and ownership of Seller IDs, thereby thwarting Plaintiff's ability to obtain meaningful relief. As other courts have recognized, proceedings against those who deliberately traffic in infringing merchandise are often useless if notice is given to the adverse party.

10. The balance of potential harm to Defendants of being prevented from continuing to profit from their illegal and infringing activities if a temporary restraining order is issued is far outweighed by the potential harm to Plaintiff, its reputation, and its goodwill as a manufacturer and distributor of quality products, if such relief is not issued.

11. The public interest favors issuance of the temporary restraining order in order to protect Plaintiff's interests and protect the public from being injured, deceived and defrauded by the passing off of Defendants substandard goods as Plaintiff's genuine goods.

12. Under Pennsylvania law this Court may issue a prejudgment asset restraint where Plaintiff's complaint asserts a claim for money damages. This Court also has the inherent authority to issue a prejudgment asset restraint when Plaintiff's complaint seeks relief in equity. According to both the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1117(a)(1), Plaintiff is entitled, "subject to the principles of equity, to recover ... defendant's profits." Plaintiff seeks, among other relief, that Defendants account for and pay to Plaintiff all profits realized by Defendants by reason of Defendants' unlawful acts. Therefore, this Court has the authority to grant Plaintiff's request for a prejudgment asset freeze to preserve the relief sought by Plaintiff and preserve the Defendants' ability to at least partially satisfy a judgment.

13. Similarly, if Defendants are given notice of the Application, they are likely to destroy, move, hide or otherwise make inaccessible to Plaintiff the records and documents relating to Defendants' illegal and infringing activities. Therefore, Plaintiff has good cause to be granted expedited discovery.

### **ORDER**

Based on the foregoing findings of fact and conclusions of law, Plaintiff's Application is hereby **GRANTED** as follows (the "Order"):

#### **I. Temporary Restraining Order**

A. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, as sufficient cause has been shown, that each Defendant, its officers, directors, employees, agents, subsidiaries, distributors, and all persons in active concert or participation with any Defendant having notice of this Order are hereby restrained as follows:

- (1) from (a) their unauthorized and unlicensed use of Plaintiff's Mark, Plaintiff's Works and/or Plaintiff's Trade Dress in connection with the distribution, marketing, advertising, offering for sale, or sale of any products; and (b) shipping, delivering, holding for sale, transferring or otherwise moving, storing, distributing, returning, or otherwise disposing of, in any manner products which use Plaintiff's Mark, Plaintiff's Works, and/or Plaintiff's Trade Dress;
- (2) from secreting, concealing, destroying, altering, selling off, transferring or otherwise disposing of and/or dealing with any computer files, data, business records, documents or

any other records or evidence relating to their User Accounts,<sup>1</sup> Merchant Storefronts<sup>2</sup> or any money, securities or other property or assets of Defendants (hereinafter collectively referred to as “Defendants’ Assets”);

(3) effecting assignments or transfers, forming new entities or associations, or creating and/or utilizing any other platform, User Account, Merchant Storefront or any other means of importation, exportation, advertising, marketing, promotion, distribution, and/or display for the purposes of circumventing or otherwise avoiding the prohibitions set forth in this Order;

(4) each Defendant, its officers, directors, employees, agents, subsidiaries, distributors, and all persons in active concert or participation with any Defendant having notice of this Order shall immediately discontinue use of the Plaintiff’s Mark and/or Plaintiff’s Works and/or Plaintiff’s Trade Dress within metatags or other markers within website source code, from use on any web page (including as the title of any product listing), from any advertising links to other websites, from search engines’ databases or cache memory, and any other form of use such terms or works which is visible to a computer user or serves to direct computer searches to Internet based e-commerce stores owned, or operated by each Defendant, including the Merchant Storefronts operating under the Seller IDs;

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in the Application, a “User Account” is, as defined in the Complaint, any and all accounts with online marketplace platform(s) Amazon.com, eBay.com, Aliexpress.com, and wish.com as well as any and all as yet undiscovered accounts with additional online marketplace platforms held by or associated with Defendants, their respective officers, employees, agents, servants and all other persons in active concert with any of them.

<sup>2</sup> As defined in the Application, a “Merchant Storefront” is any and all User Accounts through which Defendants, their respective officers, employees, agents, servants and all persons in active concert or participation with any of them operate storefronts to manufacture, import, export, advertise, market, promote, distribute, display, offer for sale, sell and/or otherwise deal in products which are held by or associated with Defendants, their respective officers, employees, agents, servants and all persons in active concert or participation with any of them.

- (5) each Defendant shall not transfer ownership of the User Accounts or Merchant Storefronts associated with the Seller IDs;
- (6) each Defendant shall preserve copies of all computer files relating to the use of any User Accounts and/or Merchant Storefronts under the Seller IDs and shall take steps necessary to retrieve computer files relating to the use of the User Accounts and/or Merchant Storefronts under their Seller IDs that may be deleted before the entry of this Order;
- (7) upon receipt of notice of this Order, Defendants and all financial institutions, payment processors, banks, escrow services, money transmitters, or marketplace platforms, including but not limited to Alibaba.com US LLC d/b/a Aliexpress.com (“Aliexpress”), Amazon.com, Inc. and its affiliate, Amazon Services LLC d/b/a Amazon.com (“Amazon”), eBay, Inc. d/b/a eBay.com (“eBay”), and Context Logic, Inc d/b/a wish.com (“Wish”) (“Third Party Service Provider(s)”) and AliPay US Inc. d/b/a Alipay.com (“Alipay”), Amazon Payments, Inc. d/b/a pay.amazon.com, and PayPal, Inc. d/b/a paypal.com (“PayPal”) (“Financial Institution(s)”), and their related companies and affiliates, shall immediately identify and restrain all funds, as opposed to ongoing account activity, in or which are hereafter transmitted into the accounts related to the Defendants as identified on Schedule “A” hereto, as well as all funds in or which are transmitted into (i) any other accounts of the same customer(s); (ii) any other accounts which transfer funds into the same financial institution account(s), and/or any of the other accounts subject to this Order; and (iii) any other accounts tied to or used by any of the Seller IDs identified on Schedule “A” hereto;<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> This Order contemplates that discovery may reveal that Defendants may have other user accounts operated by other Third Party Service Providers and Financial Institutions and that the additionally discovered Third Party

- (8) upon receipt of notice of this Order, Defendants and all financial institutions, payment processors, banks, escrow services, money transmitters, or marketplace platforms, including but not limited to the Third Party Service Provider(s) and the Financial Institution(s), shall immediately divert to a holding account for the trust of the Court all funds in or which are hereafter transmitted into all accounts related to Defendants identified in Schedule “A” hereto, and associated payment accounts, and any other accounts for the same customer(s) as well as any other accounts which transfer funds into the same financial institution account(s) as any other accounts subject to this Order;
- (9) The Third Party Service Provider(s) and Financial Institution(s) shall further, within five (5) business days of receiving this Order, provide Plaintiff’s counsel with all data that details (i) an accounting of the total funds restrained and identifies the financial account(s) which the restrained funds are related to, and (ii) the account transactions related to all funds transmitted into financial account(s) which have been restrained. Such restraining of the funds and the disclosure of the related financial institution account information shall be made without notice to the account holders, until after those accounts are restrained. No funds restrained by this Order shall be transferred or surrendered by any Third Party Service Provider or Financial Institution for any purpose (other than pursuant to a chargeback made pursuant to that Third Party Service Provider or Financial Institution’s security interest in the funds) without express authorization of this Court;
- (10) Upon Plaintiff’s request, any Internet marketplace who is provided with notice of this Order, including but not limited to the Third Party Service Provider(s) and Financial

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Service Providers and Financial Institutions, once identified and provided with notice, shall also be subject to the discovery, restraints and injunctions set forth in this Order.

Institution(s), shall immediately cease fulfillment of and sequester Defendants' inventory assets corresponding to the Seller IDs identified on Schedule "A" hereto in its inventory, possession, custody, or control, and hold such goods in trust for the Court during pendency of this action;

(11) this Order shall apply to the Seller IDs, associated Accounts and Merchant Storefronts, and any other seller identification names, Accounts or Merchant Storefronts, Third Party Service Provider or Financial Institution accounts which are being used by Defendants for the purpose of infringing the Plaintiff's Mark, Plaintiff's Works, and/or Plaintiff's Trade Dress and/or unfairly competing with Plaintiff;

(12) Defendants and all financial institutions, payment processors, banks, escrow services, money transmitters, or marketplace platforms, including but not limited to the Third Party Service Provider(s) and the Financial Institution(s), subject to this Order may petition the Court to modify the asset restraint set out in this Order; and

(13) this Order shall remain in effect until the date for the hearing to show cause why a preliminary injunction should not be issued as set forth below, or until such further dates as set by the Court or stipulated by the parties.

B. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, as sufficient cause has been shown, that upon Plaintiff's request, any Internet marketplace who is provided with notice of this Order, including but not limited to the Third Party Service Providers and Financial Institutions, is hereby restrained and enjoined from engaging in any of the following acts or omissions pending the hearing and determination of Plaintiff's Application for a preliminary injunction, or until further order of the Court:

- (1) secreting, concealing, transferring, disposing of, withdrawing, encumbering or paying Defendants' Assets from or to financial accounts associated with or utilized by any Defendant or any Defendant's User Accounts or Merchant Storefront(s) (whether said account is located in the U.S. or abroad) ("Defendants' Financial Accounts") until further ordered by this Court; and
- (2) within (5) days after receiving notice of this Order, providing services to Defendants, Defendants' User Accounts and Defendants' Merchant Storefronts, including, without limitation, continued operation of Defendants' User Accounts and Merchant Storefronts, and any other listings linked to the same sellers or linked to any other alias seller identification names being used and/or controlled by Defendants.

C. IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, as sufficient cause has been shown, that, upon Plaintiffs' request, within no later than five (5) calendar days of Plaintiffs' request:

- (1) Amazon.com, Inc., and its related companies and affiliates, including Amazon Services, LLC, and Amazon Payments, Inc. (collectively "Amazon"), are hereby restrained and enjoined, pending the hearing and determination of Plaintiff's Application for a preliminary injunction, or until further order of the Court, from processing payments for any products listed under the following Amazon Standard Identification Numbers (ASIN): B004UHY2TY (Froglog 1-pack) or ASIN: B01LQR8W2S (Froglog 2-pack) by any Seller that has not been authorized by Plaintiff; Plaintiff shall provide notice to Amazon of Plaintiff's authorized sellers;
- (2) Amazon.com, Inc., and its related companies and affiliates, including Amazon Services, LLC, and Amazon Payments, Inc., shall place the following Amazon Standard Identification Number (ASIN): B004UHY2TY (Froglog 1-pack) or ASIN:

B01LQR8W2S (Froglog 2-pack), into Amazon's gating program, so that Plaintiff will be able to control which sellers list product under these ASINs; and

- (3) upon Plaintiff's request, any online marketplaces, including but not limited to, Amazon.com, ebay.com, aliexpress.com, and wish.com, shall upon receipt of this Order, suspend, block, tombstone, and/or delete any and any product listings identified by the Plaintiff as either unfairly competing, infringing on the Plaintiff's Mark, using Plaintiff's Works as shown in "**Schedule B**" or infringing on the Plaintiff's Trade Dress;
- (5) Upon Plaintiff's request, any online marketplaces, including but not limited to, Amazon.com, ebay.com, aliexpress.com, and wish.com shall remove listings and/or advertisements for any product that identified by the Plaintiff as unfairly competing and originating from a Country other than the United States, whether sold by the Defendant or other persons or entities; and
- (6) this Order shall remain in effect during the pendency of this action or until further order of the Court.

## **II. Order to Show Cause Why a Preliminary Injunction Should Not Issue and Service of Order**

A. Defendants are hereby ORDERED to show cause before this Court in the United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania, the U.S. Courthouse, 700 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in Courtroom No. 6B on the 1st day of September at 2:00 p.m. or at such other time that this Court deems appropriate, why a preliminary injunction, pursuant to FRCP 65(a), should not issue. **Defendants are on notice that failure to appear at the hearing may result in the imposition of a preliminary injunction against them.**

B. Opposing papers, if any, shall be filed electronically with the Court and served on Plaintiff's counsel by delivering copies thereof to the office of Ference & Associates LLC at 409 Broad Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15143 before **August 30, 2021**. Plaintiff shall file any Reply papers on or before **September 1, 2021**.

C. After Plaintiff's counsel has received confirmation from the Third Party Service Providers and Financial Institutions or otherwise, regarding the restraint of funds directed herein, Plaintiff shall serve copies of the Complaint, the Application, this Order, and any Discovery on each Defendant via their corresponding email/online contact form provided on the Internet based e-commerce stores operating under the respective Seller IDs, or by providing a copy of this order by e-mail to the marketplace platform, which in turn notifies each Defendant of the Order, or by other means reasonably calculated to give notice which is permitted by the Court. In addition, Plaintiff shall post copies of the Complaint, Application, this Order, any Discovery, and all other pleadings and documents filed in this action on a website designated by Plaintiff,<sup>4</sup> and shall provide the website address to Defendants via e-mail/online contact form, and such notice so given shall be deemed good and sufficient service thereof. Plaintiff shall continue to provide notice of these proceedings and copies of the documents on file in this matter to Defendants by regularly updating the website designated by Plaintiff or by other means reasonably calculated to give notice which is permitted by the Court.

### **III. Order Authorizing Expedited Discovery**

A. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, as sufficient cause has been shown, that:

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<sup>4</sup> Rule 65 has been interpreted to require that a party have notice of the motion and hearing; perfecting service on a defendant is not a prerequisite to the entry of a preliminary injunction order. *Pate v. Gov't of the Virgin Islands*, 2015 WL 1937701 n.9 (VI Sup. Ct. April 17, 2015); *Corrigan Dispatch Co. v. Casa Guzman, S.A.*, 569 F.2d 300, 302 (5th Cir. 1978).

(1) Plaintiff may propound interrogatories pursuant to Rules 26 and 33 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and Defendants, their respective officers, employees, agents, servants and attorneys, and all persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, shall provide written responses under oath to such interrogatories within fourteen (14) days of service to Plaintiff's counsel.

(2) Plaintiff may serve requests for the production of documents pursuant to FRCP 26 and 34, and Defendants, their respective officers, employees, agents, servants and attorneys, and all persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, shall produce all documents responsive to such requests within fourteen (14) days of service to Plaintiff's counsel.

(3) Plaintiff may serve requests for admissions pursuant to FRCP 26 and 36, and Defendants, their respective officers, employees, agents, servants and attorneys, and all persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of this Order, shall provide written responses under oath to such requests within fourteen (14) days of service to Plaintiff's counsel.

B. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, as sufficient cause has been shown, that within fourteen (14) days of receiving actual notice of this Order, Defendants and all financial institutions, payment processors, banks, escrow services, money transmitters, or marketplace platforms, including but not limited to the Third Party Service Provider(s) and the Financial Institution(s), shall provide to Plaintiff's counsel all documents and records in their possession, custody or control (whether located in the U.S. or abroad) relating to Defendants' User Accounts and Defendants' Merchant Storefronts, including, but not limited to, documents and records relating to:

- (1) any and all User Accounts and Defendants' Merchant Storefronts and account details, including, without limitation, identifying information and account numbers for any and all User Accounts and Defendants' Merchant Storefronts that Defendants have ever had and/or currently maintain with the respective Third Party Service Provider;
- (2) the identities, location and contact information, including any and all e-mail addresses of Defendants that were not previously provided;
- (3) the Defendants' methods of payment, methods for accepting payment and any and all financial information, including, but not limited to, information associated with Defendants' User Accounts and Defendants' Merchant Storefronts, a full accounting of Defendants' sales history and listing history under such accounts and Defendants' Financial Accounts associated with Defendants' User Accounts and Defendants' Merchant Storefronts; and
- (4) Defendants' unauthorized and unlicensed use of Plaintiff's Mark, and/or Plaintiff's Works, and/or Plaintiff's Trade Dress in connection with the distribution, marketing, advertising, offering for sale, or sale of any products, and any products which use Plaintiff's Mark, and/or Plaintiff's Works, and/or Plaintiff's Trade Dress.

#### **V. Security Bond**


IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Plaintiff shall place security (corporate surety bond, cash, certified check, or attorney's check) in the amount of \$5,000 Dollars with the Court, which amount is determined adequate for the payment of any damages any person may be entitled to recover as a result of an improper or wrongful restraint ordered hereunder. **If presented as cash or check, the funds will be placed in the local Court Registry and will remain there until further order of court.**

**VI. Summons**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of the Court shall issue a single original summons in the name of "ALLADINBOX and all other Defendants identified in the Complaint" that will apply to all Defendants.

**SO ORDERED.**

SIGNED this 19<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2021, at 11:45 A.m.  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

  
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W. SCOTT HARDY  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE