Case No. 16-15469

IN THE

United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

NARUTO, A CRESTED MACAQUE, BY AND THROUGH HIS NEXT FRIENDS, PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL TREATMENT OF ANIMALS, INC.,

PLAINTIFF-APPELLANT,

---v.---

DAVID JOHN SLATER, WILDLIFE PERSONALITIES, LTD., AND BLURB, INC.,

DEFENDANTS-APPELLEES,

APPEAL FROM THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA IN CASE NO. 3:15-CV-04324, U.S. DISTRICT JUDGE WILLIAM H. ORRICK III

OPPOSED REQUEST FOR JUDICIAL NOTICE BY DEFENDANTS-APPELLEES DAVID JOHN SLATER AND WILDLIFE PERSONALITIES, LTD.

ANDREW J. DHUEY 456 Boynton Avenue Berkeley, California 94707 (510) 528-8200

Attorney for Defendants-Appellees, David John Slater and Wildlife Personalities, Ltd.

30 May 2017

REQUEST FOR JUDICIAL NOTICE

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Evidence 201(b) and (d), Defendants-Appellees David John Slater and Wildlife Personalities, Ltd. (henceforth, "Slater") respectfully move the Court to take judicial notice of the following document, annexed as Exhibit A to the accompanying Declaration of Andrew J. Dhuey: "Complaint – Summons" in *New Jersey v. Engelhardt*.

DISCUSSION

Federal Rule of Evidence 201 provides for judicial notice of any fact "not subject to reasonable dispute because it: (1) is generally known within the trial court's territorial jurisdiction; or (2) can be accurately and readily determined from sources whose accuracy cannot be questioned." Fed. R. Evid. 201(b). "The court may take judicial notice at any stage of the proceeding," Fed. R. Evid. 201(d), "whether in the trial court or on appeal." Advisory Committee Notes to Fed. R. Evid. 201(f).

The document attached herewith is a court record from *New Jersey v*. *Engelhardt*, a pending criminal case in Allamuchy Township Municipal Court in New Jersey, case no. S2017000037. The defendant is Antje Engelhardt, Ph.D., a primatologist who filed this action along with People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Inc. ("PETA"), purportedly as "next friends" of Plaintiff Naruto, a crested macaque. The complaining witness is

Jeffrey S. Kerr, PETA's general counsel, who appeared pro hac vice at the district court on behalf of PETA. ER 19. Dr. Engerlhardt is charged with criminal trespass and harassment, stemming from an incident on 22 April 2017 at Mr. Kerr's residence.

This Court may take judicial notice of the attached state court records. *See, e.g., Mozes v. Mozes*, 239 F.3d 1067, 1085 n. 55 (9th Cir. 2001) (panel took judicial notice of state court records that postdated the district court decision under review). Slater submits that these records bear relevance to PETA's eligibility to serve as a "next friend" of Naruto in the absence of Dr. Engelhardt, who moved to withdraw from the case, informing the Court that she "will not continue as a next friend to Appellant in this proceeding." This Court granted Dr. Engelhardt's motion, thus leaving PETA as Naruto's lone putative next friend.²

Regardless of the merits or outcome of the criminal case against Dr. Engelhardt, its very existence is a relevant consideration on whether PETA can adequately represent the interests of Naruto, notwithstanding the documented animosity that has developed between PETA and Dr. Engelhardt. PETA's and Dr. Engelhardt's contentions regarding their "next friends" eligibility are at ER 23 (Complaint). Slater's arguments concerning

¹ Docket entry no. 10, May 4, 2016.

² Docket entry no. 14, May 18, 2016.

PETA's eligibility to serve as Plaintiff's *sole* "next friend" are set forth at pp. 8-11 of his principal brief. PETA's response can be found at pp. 10-13 of its reply brief.

STATEMENT OF OPPOSITION

Slater provided a draft of this Request to counsel for PETA and Defendant-Appellee Blurb, Inc. prior to filing. PETA has stated that it will oppose this Request; Blurb has stated that it will not oppose.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, Slater respectfully requests that this Court take judicial notice of Exhibit A, attached to the Declaration of Andrew J. Dhuey, filed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ ANDREW J. DHUEY Attorney for Defendants-Appellees, DAVID JOHN SLATER and WILDLIFE PERSONALITIES, LTD.

DECLARATION OF ANDREW J. DHUEY IN SUPPORT OF REQUEST FOR JUDICIAL NOTICE

I, Andrew J. Dhuey, declare as follows:

- 1. I am an attorney at law duly licensed to practice law in the State of California. I am also admitted to practice before this Court.
- 2. I am the attorney responsible for representing Defendants-Appellees
 David John Slater and Wildlife Personalities, Ltd. in this appeal. I have
 personal knowledge of the matters set forth below.
- 3. Attached hereto as Exhibit A is a true and correct copy of the Summons and Complaint in *New Jersey v. Engelhardt*, case no. S2017000037, pending in Allamuchy Township Municipal Court. I received this document from the court in response to a records request I had submitted. I believe the clerk of the court made the redactions of Dr. Engelhardt's personal information in the upper-right corner of the Complaint-Summons. I redacted the residential address of Mr. Kerr at PETA's request.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 30th day of May 2017, at Berkeley, California.

/s/ Andrew J. Dhuey

EXHIBIT A

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