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Attorneys for Defendant Jack Poulson

ELECTRONICALLY
FILED
Superior Court of California,
County of San Francisco
04/25/2025
Clerk of the Court
BY: WILMA CORRALES
Deputy Clerk

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

MAURY BLACKMAN, an individual,

Plaintiff,

v.

SUBSTACK, INC., a Delaware
Corporation; AMAZON WEB SERVICES,
INC., a Delaware Corporation; JACK
POULSON, an individual; TECH
INQUIRY, INC., a Delaware corporation;
DOES 1-25, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No.: CGC-24-618681

**DECLARATION OF VICTORIA NOBLE IN
SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR ATTORNEYS'
FEES AND COSTS**

DATE: July 29, 2025
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
DEPT: 301

Judge: **Hon. Christine Van Aken**

Action Filed: October 3, 2024
Trial Date: (Date or Unassigned)

DECLARATION OF VICTORIA J. NOBLE

I, VICTORIA NOBLE, declare as follows:

1. I am an attorney duly licensed to practice law in the State of California and before this Court. I represent Defendant Jack Poulson in the above-captioned action.
2. I am presently employed as a staff attorney at the Electronic Frontier Foundation ("EFF"), in San Francisco, California.
3. I received my undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan – Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy in 2013, and my law degree from Stanford University Law School in 2020.

- 1 4. I have more than four years of litigation experience.
- 2 5. I have worked at EFF for nearly one year. At EFF, I litigate First Amendment,
- 3 intellectual property, and privacy cases at the center of speech and technology. I am
- 4 currently representing labor unions and current and former government employees in
- 5 a privacy lawsuit that seeks to enjoin illegal disclosures of sensitive personnel
- 6 records to DOGE. I have also defended an activist against efforts to use copyright
- 7 law to censor his lawful online speech; appealed improper sealing decisions that
- 8 violate the public’s presumptive First Amendment and common law rights to access
- 9 to judicial records; and drafted amicus briefs on a wide range of First Amendment,
- 10 copyright, and privacy issues.
- 11 6. Prior to EFF, I was a commercial litigation associate at Dentons US LLP in Chicago,
- 12 Illinois, where I maintained an active litigation and counseling practice centered on
- 13 First Amendment, privacy, and intellectual property issues. I successfully
- 14 represented television producers, news organizations, major media and entertainment
- 15 companies, and other clients in numerous defamation, intellectual property, and
- 16 privacy matters. I also advised clients on a wide range of speech and privacy issues,
- 17 such as data privacy remediation efforts, strategies to mitigate risks of privacy mass
- 18 arbitrations, and the viability of potential First Amendment challenges to
- 19 forthcoming product labeling mandates.
- 20 7. Prior to joining Dentons, I worked as a First Amendment fellow at First Look
- 21 Institute, where I represented *The Intercept* and its reporters in public records cases. I
- 22 successfully obtained government records that my clients used in award-winning
- 23 investigative reporting and breaking news coverage that led to a congressional
- 24 investigation and the resignation of a top federal official. I also successfully litigated
- 25 a state supreme court case that expanded the scope of the state’s public records law
- 26 to include a new category of documents. I also performed pre-publication review of
- 27 news stories, documentaries, and podcasts, cleared music, and counseled journalists,
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1 editors, podcasters, and filmmakers on a wide range of newsgathering, defamation,
2 intellectual property, and privacy issues.

3 8. Attached hereto as **Exhibit A** is a copy of my resume, which sets forth my
4 qualifications and experience.

5 9. My services in this case included: analysis of Plaintiff's fourteen claims, the incident
6 report, Poulson's relevant reporting, Plaintiff's public statements and publications,
7 and Poulson's defenses; legal research on the California anti-SLAPP statute,
8 Poulson's First Amendment defenses, statutes relied on by Plaintiff, and Plaintiffs'
9 fourteen claims; drafting all or part of Poulson's opposition to Plaintiff's motion for
10 a temporary restraining order, Poulson's memorandum of law in support of his
11 special motion to strike, Poulson's declaration in support of his special motion to
12 strike, my declaration in support of Poulson's special motion to strike, Poulson's
13 reply brief in support of his special motion to strike, Poulson's reply declaration in
14 support of his special motion to strike, and my reply declaration in support of
15 Poulson's special motion to strike; communicating with the client; coordinating with
16 counsel for co-defendants; conferring with counsel for Plaintiff; and oral argument.

17 10. I also supervised intern work on this case, including assigning and reviewing legal
18 research performed by interns. I did not bill for any work related to intern
19 supervision.

20 11. I am confident that the time records in Toggl accurately reflect the time for which
21 fees are being sought here. For most entries, I manually entered my time into Toggl
22 directly or recorded my time on paper and later entered the data into Toggl using the
23 manual function, rounding down to the nearest 15-minute increment. For some
24 entries, I recorded my time contemporaneously using the Toggl app's timer function.
25 I verified the accuracy of my time entries based on my browser and Westlaw
26 histories, email, instant message, and document metadata, and other automatically
27 generated records of computer application use.
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12. EFF's fee agreement with Poulson provides that my hourly rate for this matter in the rate of a fee recovery is \$350. This is also my rate in other matters, and is the rate for other EFF lawyers of similar experience. To the best of my knowledge, my rate is within the prevailing hourly rates in the San Francisco Bay Area for lawyers of comparable education, expertise, and experience who handle First Amendment cases.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Executed this 23rd day of April 2025 in San Francisco, California.

Victoria J. Noble
Victoria J. Noble

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EXHIBIT A

VICTORIA J. NOBLE

815 Eddy Street, San Francisco, CA 94109 | (415) 436-9333 | tori@eff.org

EXPERIENCE

Electronic Frontier Foundation

San Francisco, CA

Staff Attorney, May 2024 – Present; *Legal Intern*, August – November 2019

- Litigated First Amendment, copyright, and privacy cases in state and federal court.
- Drafted amicus briefs on intellectual property, First Amendment, privacy, and jurisdictional issues.
- Developed policy positions, reviewed proposed legislation, and drafted blog posts regarding free speech, artificial intelligence, copyright, and privacy issues.

Dentons US LLP

Chicago, IL

Commercial Litigation Associate, July 2022 – December 2023

- Represented media, entertainment, technology, and consumer products companies and other clients in First Amendment, privacy, defamation, intellectual property, cryptocurrency, and breach of contract matters.
- Drafted dispositive and non-dispositive motions, briefs, expert witness declaration, and other filings.
- Analyzed website code, HTTP requests, and terms of service to assess clients' privacy law exposure. Worked with engineers and consultants to investigate and remediate data privacy issues.
- Conducted legal research and drafted client-facing memoranda on complex issues of first impression.

First Look Institute

New York, NY (Remote)

First Amendment Fellow, October 2020 – May 2022

- Established first in-house public records litigation practice for news organization *The Intercept*. Obtained government records used in award-winning reporting and stories that spurred congressional investigations.
- Drafted complaints, motions, and other court filings, including summary judgment motion and successful state supreme court brief. Argued summary judgment motion and other matters in federal court.
- Conducted pre-publication review of films and articles for defamation, privacy, and copyright issues.
- Counseled journalists, editors, and filmmakers on defamation, privacy, newsgathering, and copyright issues.

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP

New York, NY

Summer Associate, June – July 2019

- Drafted materials related to privacy, patent, securities, and white-collar criminal law. Contributed to report on Federal Circuit Court of Appeals patent cases and white-collar criminal law treatise.

Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press

Washington, D.C.

Google Policy Fellow, June – July 2018

- Researched privacy, surveillance, and First Amendment issues to support initiatives of Technology and Free Press Project. Drafted sections of amicus brief filed in state supreme court. Co-wrote published reports on whistleblower prosecutions and U.S. Supreme Court nominee's media law cases.

EDUCATION

Stanford Law School

Stanford, CA

J.D., June 2020

- Honors: Gerald Gunther Prizes for Outstanding Performance in *Constitutional Law* and *Legal Research & Writing*; High Pro Bono Distinction
- Journal: *Stanford Technology Law Review* (Volume 22: Lead Editor, Volume 21: Member Editor)
- Activities: Research Assistant to Hon. Mariano-Florentino Cuéllar; Stanford Law Association (Vice President); Artificial Intelligence and Law Society (Board Member); Criminal Defense Clinic; Computer Hacking Lab; Kirkwood Moot Court Competition

University of Michigan – Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy

Ann Arbor, MI

B.A., with Distinction, Public Policy, May 2017

- Honors: Phi Beta Kappa; Phi Kappa Phi; Barger Leadership Institute (Fellow); Blue Ribbon of Excellence in Undergraduate Research, Ford Case Competition (First Place)
- Activities: Music and Licensing Strategy Intern, Viacom; *The Michigan Daily* (Columnist and Editor); Research Assistant to Professors James Hines, Jr. and Barbara Koremenos; Study Abroad:

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Tori Noble, “AI and Copyright: Expanding Copyright Hurts Everyone—Here’s What to Do Instead,” *Electronic Frontier Foundation* (Feb. 19, 2025), <https://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2025/02/ai-and-copyright-expanding-copyright-hurts-everyone-heres-what-do-instead>.

Tori Noble, “Copyright and AI: the Cases and the Consequences,” *Electronic Frontier Foundation* (Feb. 19, 2025), <https://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2025/02/copyright-and-ai-cases-and-consequences>.

Mitch Stoltz and Tori Noble, “Copyright Is Not a Tool to Silence Critics of Religious Education,” *Electronic Frontier Foundation* (Aug. 28, 2024), <https://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2024/08/copyright-not-tool-silence-critics-religious-education>.

Tori Noble, “To Fight Surveillance Pricing, We Need Privacy First,” *Electronic Frontier Foundation* (Aug. 5, 2024), <https://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2024/08/fight-surveillance-pricing-we-need-privacy-first>.

Gabe Rottman and Victoria Noble, “Federal Cases Involving Unauthorized Disclosures to News Media, 1844 to the Present,” *Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press* (Summer 2018), https://www.rcfp.org/wp-content/uploads/imported/20181003_211252_rcfp_leaks_investigations_chart.pdf.

Gabe Rottman, et al., “Special Report on Supreme Court Nominee Brett M. Kavanaugh,” *Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press* (July 12, 2018), <https://www.rcfp.org/kavanaugh/>.

BAR ADMISSIONS

Illinois (February 2021); California (June 2021); New York (June 2021); Washington, D.C. (March 2022)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Skills: Python, Javascript, HTML, and CSS; graphic design; Spanish (intermediate)

Interests: Sailing, skiing, and rock climbing