| | Case 2:10-cv-01356 Docume | nt 1 Filed 08/10/10 Page 1 of 7 | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | |
| 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 | STEVEN A. GIBSON, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 6656 sgibson@righthaven.com J. CHARLES COONS, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 10553 <u>ccoons@righthaven.com</u> JOSEPH C. CHU, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 11082 jchu@righthaven.com Righthaven LLC 9960 West Cheyenne Avenue, Suite 210 Las Vegas, Nevada 89129-7701 (702) 527-5900 Attorneys for Plaintiff | | | |
| 8 | UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT | | | |
| 9 10 | DISTRICT OF NEVADA | | | |
| 11 | | | | |
| 12 | RIGHTHAVEN LLC, a Nevada limited- liability company, | Case No.: 2:10-cv-01356 | | |
| 13 | | COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL | | |
| 14 | Plaintiff, | | | |
| 15 | v. | | | |
| 16 17 | DEMOCRATIC UNDERGROUND, LLC, a District of Columbia limited-liability company; and DAVID ALLEN, an individual, | | | |
| 18 19 | Defendants. | | | |
| 20 | | | | |
| 21 | Righthaven LLC ("Righthaven") complains as follows against Democratic Underground, | | | |
| 22 | LLC ("Democratic Underground") and David Allen ("Mr. Allen"; collectively with Democratic Underground known herein as the "Defendants"), on information and belief: | | | |
| 23 | | | | |
| 24 | NATURE OF ACTION | | | |
| 25 | 1. This is an action for copyright in | nfringement pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 501. | | |
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| 28 | | | | |
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PARTIES

2. Righthaven is, and has been at all times relevant to this lawsuit, a Nevada limitedliability company with its principal place of business in Nevada.

3. Righthaven is, and has been at all times relevant to this lawsuit, in good standing with the Nevada Secretary of State.

4. Democratic Underground is, and has been at all times relevant to this lawsuit, aDistrict of Columbia limited-liability company.

5. Democratic Underground is, and has been at all times relevant to this lawsuit, identified by the current registrar, Dotster, Inc. ("Dotster"), as the registrant for the Internet domain found at <democraticunderground.com> (the "Domain").

6. Democratic Underground is, and has been at all times relevant to this lawsuit, identified by Dotster as an administrative contact and technical contact for the Domain.

7. Mr. Allen is, and has been at all times relevant to this lawsuit, identified by Dotster as an administrative contact and technical contact for the Domain.

8. Mr. Allen is, and has been at all times relevant to this lawsuit, identified as the owner of Democratic Underground by the content accessible through the Domain (the content accessible through the Domain and the Domain itself, collectively known herein as the "Website"), as evidenced by the "Contact Us" page of the Website, attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

JURISDICTION

9. This Court has original subject matter jurisdiction over this copyright infringement action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and 28 U.S.C. § 1338(a).

10. Righthaven is the owner of the copyright in the literary work entitled: "Tea Party power fuels Angle" (the "Work"), attached hereto as Exhibit 2.

11. At all times relevant to this lawsuit, the Work has depicted and depicts the original source publication as the Las Vegas *Review-Journal*.

12.The Defendants willfully copied, on an unauthorized basis, a substantial andsignificant portion of the Work from a source emanating from Nevada.

1 13. On or about May 13, 2010, the Defendants displayed, and continue to display, an
 unauthorized reproduction of the Work (the "Infringement"), attached hereto as Exhibit 3, on the
 Website.

14. At all times relevant to this lawsuit, the Infringement has depicted and depicts the original source publication as the Las Vegas *Review-Journal*.

15. The subject matter, at least in part, of the Work and the Infringement, is the support given to Sharon Angle by the Tea Party and its effect on the race for the republican nomination to oppose Harry Reid for one of Nevada United States Senate seats.

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16. At all times relevant to this lawsuit, the Defendants knew that the Work was originally published in the Las Vegas *Review-Journal*.

17. At all times relevant to this lawsuit, the Defendants knew that the infringement was and is of specific interest to Nevada residents.

18. The Defendants' display of the Infringement was and is purposefully directed at Nevada residents.

19. The Defendants knew, or reasonably should have known, that websites, such as the Website, are and were at all times relevant to this lawsuit, the habitual subject of postings by others of copyright-infringing content.

20. At all times relevant to this lawsuit, the Defendants did not institute any proactive policy of precluding or attempting to preclude the posting by others of copyright-infringing content on the Website.

21. At all times relevant to this lawsuit, the Defendants did not institute any proactive policy of monitoring or attempting to monitor the posting by others of copyright-infringing content on the Website.

24 22. At all times relevant to this lawsuit, the Defendants did not institute any proactive
 25 policy of deleting or attempting to delete the posting by others of copyright-infringing content on
 26 the Website.

27 23. At all times relevant to this lawsuit, the Defendants' failure to institute any
28 proactive policies intended to address the posting by others of copyright-infringing content on

the Website constituted and constitutes the Defendants' willful blindness to copyright infringements occurring on the Website.

VENUE

24. The United States District Court for the District of Nevada is an appropriate venue, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2), because a substantial part of the events giving rise to the claim for relief are situated in Nevada.

25. The United States District Court for the District of Nevada is an appropriate venue, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(c), because Democratic Underground is subject to personal jurisdiction in Nevada.

26. The United States District Court for the District of Nevada is an appropriate venue, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1400(a), because the Defendants are subject to personal jurisdiction in Nevada.

FACTS

27. The Work constitutes copyrightable subject matter, pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 102(a)(1).

28. Righthaven is the owner of the copyright in and to the Work.

29. The Work was originally published on May 13, 2010.

30. On July 9, 2010, the United States Copyright Office (the "USCO") granted Righthaven the registration to the Work, copyright registration number TX0007171977 (the "Registration") and attached hereto as Exhibit 4 is evidence of the Registration from the official USCO database record depicting the occurrence of the Registration.

31. On or about May 13, 2010, the Defendants displayed, and continue to display, the Infringement on the Website.

32. The Defendants did not seek permission, in any manner, to reproduce, display, or otherwise exploit the Work.

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33. The Defendants were not granted permission, in any manner, to reproduce,display, or otherwise exploit the Work.

CLAIM FOR RELIEF: COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT

34. Righthaven repeats and realleges the allegations set forth in Paragraphs 1 through 33 above.

7 35. Righthaven holds the exclusive right to reproduce the Work, pursuant to 17
8 U.S.C. § 106(1).

36. Righthaven holds the exclusive right to prepare derivative works based upon the Work, pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 106(2).

11 37. Righthaven holds the exclusive right to distribute copies of the Work, pursuant to
12 17 U.S.C. § 106(3).

38. Righthaven holds the exclusive right to publicly display the Work, pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 106(5).

39. The Defendants reproduced the Work in derogation of Righthaven's exclusive rights under 17 U.S.C. § 106(1).

40. The Defendants created an unauthorized derivative of the Work in derogation of Righthaven's exclusive rights under 17 U.S.C. § 106(2).

41. The Defendants distributed, and continue to distribute, an unauthorized reproduction of the Work on the Website, in derogation of Righthaven's exclusive rights under 17 U.S.C. § 106(3).

42. The Defendants publicly displayed, and continue to publicly display, an unauthorized reproduction of the Work on the Website, in derogation of Righthaven's exclusive rights under 17 U.S.C. § 106(5).

43. Democratic Underground has willfully engaged in the copyright infringement of
the Work.

44. Mr. Allen has willfully engaged in the copyright infringement of the Work.

45. The Defendants' acts as alleged herein, and the ongoing direct results of those acts, have caused and will continue to cause irreparable harm to Righthaven in an amount Righthaven cannot ascertain, leaving Righthaven with no adequate remedy at law.

46. Unless the Defendants are preliminarily and permanently enjoined from further infringement of the Work, Righthaven will be irreparably harmed, and Righthaven is thus entitled to preliminary and permanent injunctive relief against further infringement by the Defendants of the Work, pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 502.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Righthaven requests that this Court grant Righthaven's claim for relief herein as follows: 1. Preliminarily and permanently enjoin and restrain the Defendants, and the Defendants' officers, agents, servants, employees, attorneys, parents, subsidiaries, related companies, partners, and all persons acting for, by, with, through, or under the Defendants, from directly or indirectly infringing the Work by reproducing the Work, preparing derivative works based on the Work, distributing the Work to the public, and/or displaying the Work, or ordering, directing, participating in, or assisting in any such activity;

2. Direct the Defendants to preserve, retain, and deliver to Righthaven in hard copies or electronic copies:

a. All evidence and documentation relating in any way to the Defendants'
use of the Work, in any form, including, without limitation, all such evidence and
documentation relating to the Website;

b. All evidence and documentation relating to the names and addresses
(whether electronic mail addresses or otherwise) of any person with whom the
Defendants have communicated regarding the Defendants' use of the Work; and

c. All financial evidence and documentation relating to the Defendants' use of the Work;

3. Direct Dotster and any successor domain name registrar for the Domain to lock the Domain and transfer control of the Domain to Righthaven;

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|--------------------|------------|----------------|-------------|
| | | | |

| 1 | 4. | Award Righthaven statutory damages for the willful infringement of the Work, | |
|---|--|--|--|
| 2 | | / U.S.C. § 504(c); | |
| 3 | 5. | Award Righthaven costs, disbursements, and attorneys' fees incurred by | |
| 4 | Righthaven in bringing this action, pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 505; | | |
| 5 | 6. | Award Righthaven pre- and post-judgment interest in accordance with applicable | |
| 6 | law; and | | |
| 7 | 7. | Grant Righthaven such other relief as this Court deems appropriate. | |
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DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Righthaven requests a trial by jury pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 38.

Dated this tenth day of August, 2010.

RIGHTHAVEN LLC

By: /s/ J. Charles Coons STEVEN A. GIBSON, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 6656 J. CHARLES COONS, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 10553 JOSEPH C. CHU, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 11082 9960 West Cheyenne Avenue, Suite 210 Las Vegas, Nevada 89129-7701 Attorneys for Plaintiff

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REVIEW-JOURNAL reviewjournal.com

May 13, 2010 Copyright © Las Vegas Review-Journal

Tea Party power fuels Angle

Laura Myers

By LAURA MYERS

LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL

Fueled by a burst of support from the **Tea Party**, Sharron **Angle** has rocketed into a near dead heat with Sue Lowden in the white-hot U.S. Senate Republican primary, according to a new poll commissioned by the Las Vegas Review-Journal.

Lowden, who had been the Republican front-runner since February, lost support to **Angle**, the former Reno assemblywoman seen by likely Republican voters as the most conservative candidate in a contest in which three-quarters of Republican voters say they're somewhat or very conservative, the poll showed.

Danny Tarkanian lost ground to **Angle**, too. She passed him after gaining a bit of political star **power** and a bunch of financial support from an endorsement by the **Tea Party** Express, which launched radio and TV ads to help her win the GOP nomination to face U.S. Sen. Harry Reid in the fall.

All three top GOP candidates are capable of beating Reid, according to previous polls that have shown the Democratic **Party** incumbent in an uphill battle to win a fifth Senate term on Nov. 2.

"I'm confident that we'll be able to win the primary and also to defeat Harry Reid," **Angle** said Wednesday from rural Fallon, where she campaigned door to door, spoke to a group at the convention center and attended a gun supporters event. "These numbers really confirm what we've been fairly certain of all along: that if people heard my conservative message, they would respond."

Angle said voters can look at her eight-year record in the Assembly that shows a consistent pattern of opposing taxes and supporting smaller government. Those are two tenets of the **Tea Party** movement and conservative values in opposition to the Democratic **Party**'s hold on Congress and the White House, government bailouts of industry, and Reid's and President Barack Obama's signature health insurance overhaul.

Lowden said she wasn't worried about the tightening primary race nine days before early voting starts May 22 and three weeks before the June 8 vote.

"We're confident that our lead will hold," Lowden said in an interview in Las Vegas. "We'll have a strong get-out-the-vote effort. You only need one more vote to win, but we'll win by more than that."

According to the Mason-Dixon poll, if the Republican primary were held today: Lowden would win 30 percent of the vote; **Angle** 25 percent; Tarkanian 22 percent; John Chachas 3 percent; and Chad Christensen 2 percent.

The telephone survey of 500 likely Republican voters in Nevada was taken on Monday and Tuesday and has a margin of error of plus or minus 4.5 percentage points.

In a similar Mason-Dixon survey taken April 5 to 7, Lowden led the crowded field of 12 Republicans with 45 percent support compared with 27 percent for Tarkanian, 5 percent for **Angle**, 4 percent for Las Vegas Assemblyman Christensen and 3 percent for Chachas, an Ely native and Wall Street investment banker.

"Lowden's loss has been **Angle**'s gain," said Mason-Dixon pollster Brad Coker. "Lowden has been the anointed front-runner for a couple of months, which made her a target for everybody. And **Angle** got the **Tea Party** endorsement, and she's the most conservative candidate running."

Angle also has a history "of running strong down the stretch" in close elections, Coker added.

In 2006, **Angle** was all but counted out in a congressional GOP primary until the last few weeks, and then she narrowly lost to Rep. Dean Heller by fewer than 500 votes. Two years ago, she almost beat state Senate Minority Leader Bill Raggio, R-Reno, one of Nevada's most powerful lawmakers.

"Obviously, **Angle** still has her homestretch legs," Coker said, although he added that anything can happen in such a competitive race. "I think you have to be conservative and say it's a three-way race. But trend-wise, **Angle** has jumped out quickly and has the momentum."

The **Tea Party** Express, the national group that held an anti-Reid protest in the senator's hometown of Searchlight in late March, shook up the race April 15 when it endorsed **Angle** at a Tax Day news conference in Washington, D.C. The group's political action committee has been raising money for **Angle** with a goal of \$500,000. It already has spent \$200,000 for her, including on radio and TV ads.

Meantime, **Angle** has been stacking up endorsements from more than two dozen conservative groups and people, from Gun Owners of America to "Joe the Plumber."

Angle's name recognition has jumped to 85 percent compared with 67 percent about a month ago. Only 4 percent of GOP primary voters do not know Lowden's name, and only 3 percent do not know Tarkanian, a real estate developer and former basketball star for the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, whose dad is well-known ex-basketball coach Jerry Tarkanian.

The Tarkanian campaign expressed skepticism that **Angle** had risen so high so fast. Jamie Fisfis, consultant to the campaign, said his tracking polls show **Angle** moving up to 16 percent support, Lowden dropping to 30 percent and Tarkanian gaining to tie the GOP front-runner in his best showing so far.

"In my mind it's still a two-way race because **Angle** does not have the name recognition to be ahead of either of the two candidates in contention," Fisfis said.

Lowden blamed part of her recent drop in the polls to attacks from both her GOP foes — especially Tarkanian — and Reid, whose campaign has focused on her, criticizing her record as a casino executive who with her husband, Paul Lowden, has owned and managed four hotel-casinos.

The Reid campaign has released records that show problems with health and safety violations at the Lowden properties over the years that resulted in heavy fines and offered details of angry disputes with the unions over medical benefits for their workers.

Tarkanian has criticized Lowden for voting for fees as a lawmaker in the early 1990s and for telling a reporter recently that she understood why some members of Congress voted for the first government bailout during the Bush administration when lawmakers said it was needed to avoid massive business failures and a depression. She since has said she wouldn't have voted for bailouts then or now.

"It's not unexpected that the race would tighten after Harry Reid has spent \$8 million going after me," Lowden said Wednesday, referring to how much his campaign has spent. "The Reid

campaign and Harry Reid do not want me to come out of this primary, and so they have targeted me."

In the past month, Lowden has been dogged by near daily attacks by the Democratic **Party** for suggesting people could barter with their doctors for cheaper health care.

She defended her remarks made at a town hall meeting in Mesquite by saying that in the old days, people even used chickens to barter, a comment that prompted video spoofs and late-night talk show jokes about her.

The gaffe hasn't had much effect on Republican primary voters, however, according to the new Mason-Dixon poll, which asked what effect her remarks would have on support for her.

Some 70 percent of those polled said Lowden's bartering remarks would have "no effect" on their voting decision, 15 percent said they would be "less likely" to vote for her, and 12 percent said they would be "more likely" to vote for her. Another 3 percent said they weren't sure.

Lowden said that during her campaign stops in rural Nevada, voters have told her that they're still bartering with doctors to get cheaper medical care in some cases.

"I never said this was my health care policy, but bartering is still happening out there in rural Nevada," Lowden said Wednesday. "Harry Reid is the one who's out of touch if he doesn't know that."

Lowden has been running a primary and general campaign at the same time, which has cost her support among staunch conservatives and **Tea Party** movement supporters.

According to the new poll, 58 percent said they consider themselves "a supporter of the **Tea Party** movement." Another 27 percent do not, and 15 percent said they don't know or refused to answer.

"I am a member of the **Tea Party** movement, as well, and many of my supporters and volunteers are members," said Lowden, who spoke at the **Tea Party** Express event in Searchlight and has attended many local **Tea Party** group events as candidates compete for that key slice of the 2010 vote.

"It's not unexpected that Sharron would get their support, but they know I'm one of them, too."

LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL

reviewjournal.com

OPINION POLL

U.S. SENATE

-- If the 2010 Republican primary election for Nevada's U.S. Senate seat were held today would you vote for:

Sue Lowden 30%

Sharron Angle 25%

Danny Tarkanian 22%

John Chachas 3%

Chad christensen 2%

Undecided 18%

http://nl.newsbank.com/nl-search/we/Archives?p_action=print

-- Republican Senate candidate Sue Lowden recently made remarks about bartering with doctors and saying "In the olden days our grandparents, they would bring a chicken to the doctor." Do Lowden's remarks make you more likely to vote for her in the primary, less likely to vote for her or do they have no real effect on your voting decision?

MORE LIKELY 12%

LESS LIKELY 15

NO EFFECT 70

NOT SURE 3

-- Would you support or oppose having Nevada enact a law similar to Arizona's that would give state and local law enforcement the **power** to ask people already stopped for possible violations of the law to show proof they are in the country legally and then arrest those that could not provide such proof?

SUPPORT 85%

OPPOSE 8

UNDECIDED 7

-- Do you consider yourself a supporter of the **Tea Party** movement, or not?

Yes 58%

No 27

Don't know/refused 15

-- Would you describe your personal political views as:

VERY CONSERVATIVE 43%

SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE 34

MODERATE 18

SOMEWHAT LIBERAL 3

VERY LIBERAL --

DON'T KNOW/REFUSED 2

Margin of error: plus or minus 4.5 percentage points.

SOURCE: Mason-Dixon Polling & Research Inc.

LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL

Contact Laura Myers at Imyers@reviewjournal.com or 702-387-2919.

http://nl.newsbank.com/nl-search/we/Archives?p action=print



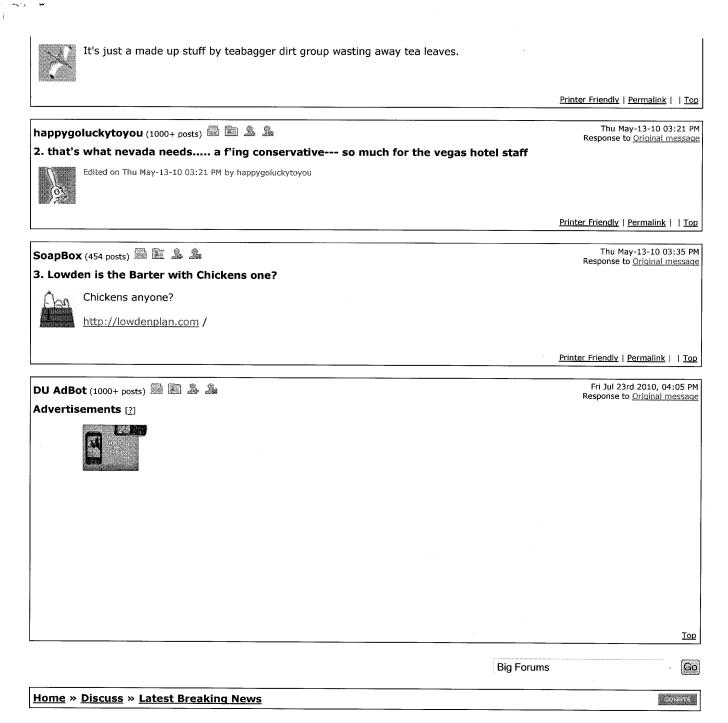
Bryn 🔅 (1000+ posts) 📓 🗟 🎎 🤽

1. There's no such thing as "the Tea Party"

http://www.democraticunderground.com/discuss/duboard.php?az=view_all&address=102x... 7/23/2010

Response to Original message





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Type of Work: Text Registration Number / Date: TX0007171977 / 2010-07-09 Application Title: Tea Party power fuels Angle. Title: Tea Party power fuels Angle. Appears in: Las Vegas Review-Journal, May 13, 2010 Description: Electronic file (eService) Copyright Claimant: Righthaven LLC, Transfer: By written agreement. Date of Creation: 2010 Date of Publication: 2010-05-13 Nation of First Publication: United States Authorship on Application: Stephens Media LLC, employer for hire; Domicile: United States; Citizenship: United States. Authorship: text. Rights and Permissions: Chief Operating Officer, Righthaven LLC, 9960 West Cheyenne Avenue, Suite 210, Las Vegas, NV, 89129-7701, United States, (702) 527-5900, dbrownell@righthaven.com Names: Stephens Media LLC Righthaven LLC