	Case 3:20-cv-04423-JD Document 160	Filed 08/22/22 Page 1 of 47
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	DAVID H. KRAMER, SBN 168452 MAURA L. REES, SBN 191698 LAUREN GALLO WHITE, SBN 309075 WILSON SONSINI GOODRICH & ROSATI Professional Corporation 650 Page Mill Road Palo Alto, CA 94304-1050 Telephone: (650) 493-9300 Facsimile: (650) 565-5100 Email: dkramer@wsgr.com mrees@wsgr.com lwhite@wsgr.com	BRIAN M. WILLEN (admitted <i>Pro Hac Vice</i>) WILSON SONSINI GOODRICH & ROSATI Professional Corporation 1301 Avenue of the Americas, 40th Floor New York, NY 10019-6022 Telephone: (212) 999-5800 Facsimile: (212) 999-5801 Email: bwillen@wsgr.com
8	YOUTUBE, LLC and GOOGLE LLC	
9	UNITED STATES	DISTRICT COURT
10	NORTHERN DISTRI	CT OF CALIFORNIA
11	SAN FRANCIS	SCO DIVISION
12	MARIA SCHNEIDER, UNIGLOBE) CASE NO.: 3:20-cv-04423-JD
13 14	ENTERTAINMENT, LLC, and AST PUBLISHING LTD., individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated,	YOUTUBE AND GOOGLE'S ANSWER AND COUNTERCLAIMS
15	Plaintiffs,	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
16	V.	
17	YOUTUBE, LLC and GOOGLE LLC,	
18	Defendants	
19	YOUTUBE, LLC and GOOGLE LLC,)
20		
21	Counterclaimants,	
22	V.	
23	PIRATE MONITOR LTD, PIRATE MONITOR LLC, and GÁBOR CSUPÓ,	
24	Counterclaim Defendants.)
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26		
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	YOUTUBE AND GOOGLE'S ANSWER AND COUNTERCLAIMS	-1- CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD

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PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

Since its founding in 2005, YouTube has gone far above and beyond its legal obligations to assist copyright holders in protecting their rights. It has developed best-in-class processes for removing allegedly infringing materials pursuant to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act ("DMCA"), which protects online services like YouTube from claims of infringement by their users. It has also invested well over a hundred million dollars to pioneer industry-leading copyright management tools like its Content ID system.

8 Precisely because YouTube's novel copyright management tools are so powerful, they 9 must be used with care. These special tools enable users to automatically (or at the touch of a 10 button) remove content from YouTube or block it from appearing in the first place. Misused or 11 put in the wrong hands, these tools can be used to censor videos that others have every right to 12 share through YouTube. These tools can also enable users to wrongfully claim ownership rights 13 in others' content or to take for themselves revenue that rightly belongs to others.

Plaintiffs' claims in this case offer an especially pointed example of why YouTube limits 14 15 access to Content ID. Plaintiffs complain that they have not been allowed access to Content ID. But Dismissed Plaintiff Pirate Monitor has clearly demonstrated why it cannot be trusted to use 16 17 that tool properly. As set forth In YouTube's Counterclaims, Pirate Monitor engaged in 18 widespread abuse of the DMCA's notice-and-takedown process, going so far as to upload hundreds of videos to YouTube under false pretenses only then to claim, through false DMCA 19 20 notices, that those same videos were infringing. This was apparently a ruse to obtain access to Content ID, and when it failed Pirate Monitor responded with this lawsuit. As for Plaintiffs 21 Maria Schneider, Uniglobe Entertainment, LLC ("Uniglobe"), and AST Publishing Ltd ("AST"), 22 23 they are suing YouTube on copyrighted works that they and their agents licensed YouTube to 24 use. Not only that, despite Plaintiffs Maria Schneider and Uniglobe's claims that they have no 25 access to Content ID, their agents in fact used the tool to generate revenue from those same 26 works on their behalf. Use of Content ID requires far greater care and candor.

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Plaintiffs' claims of entitlement to use Content ID are badly misguided; their claims of 1 2 copyright infringement even more so. Defendants YouTube, LLC ("YouTube") and Google LLC 3 ("Google," and collectively, "Defendants") hereby answer the First Amended Complaint ("First 4 Amended Complaint," Dkt. No. 99) and assert Counterclaims against Dismissed Plaintiff Pirate Monitor LTD.¹ 5 6 **DEFENDANTS' ANSWER** 7 To the extent the paragraphs ("Paragraphs") of the First Amended Complaint are grouped 8 under headings and subheadings, Defendants respond generally that such headings and 9 subheadings (some of which are repeated below for reference only and which do not constitute 10 admissions) state legal conclusions and pejorative inferences to which no response is required. 11 To the extent a response is necessary, Defendants deny each and every heading and subheading 12 in the First Amended Complaint and incorporate by reference this response in each Paragraph 13 below as if fully set forth herein. 14 Further, Defendants object that, rather than a short and plain statement of Plaintiffs' 15 allegations and claims required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 8, the First Amended Complaint is an overlong 16 narrative with lengthy Paragraph after lengthy Paragraph of advocacy. The complex rhetoric and 17 built-in assumptions in the First Amended Complaint make straightforward responses often 18 impossible. 19 Except as expressly admitted herein, Defendants deny any and all allegations as set forth 20 in the First Amended Complaint. Defendants expressly reserve the right to amend and/or 21 supplement their Answer as may be necessary. Defendants further answer the numbered 22 Paragraphs in the First Amended Complaint as follows: 23 1. Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 1.

27 ¹ On March 8, 2021, Plaintiff Pirate Monitor voluntarily dismissed all claims against Defendants. (Dkt. No. 66). The parties stipulated that Defendants' counterclaims remain in this suit.

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(Dkt. No. 66). The parties stipulated that Defendants' counterclaims remain in this suit.

YOUTUBE AND GOOGLE'S ANSWER AND COUNTERCLAIMS

Case 3:20-cv-04423-JD Document 160 Filed 08/22/22 Page 4 of 47

1	2.	Defendants admit that Yo	ouTube provides certai	n users with a tool known as
2	"Content ID" for the purpose of managing copyrighted works. Defendants deny the remaining			
3	allegations in Paragraph 2.			
4	3.	Defendants lack knowled	ge or information suff	icient to form a belief about
5	Plaintiffs' alleg	ged "lack [of] resources an	nd leverage necessary	to combat copyright
6	infringement."	Defendants deny the rem	aining allegations in P	Paragraph 3.
7	4.	Defendants lack knowled	ge or information suff	icient to form a belief about the
8	allegation that	"watching[ing] more than	one billion hours of v	videos every single day equat[es]
9	to approximate	ely 5 billion videos viewed	l each day." Defendan	ts otherwise admit the allegations
10	in Paragraph 4			
11	5.	Defendants deny the alleg	gations in Paragraph 5	
12	6.	Defendants deny the alleg	gations in Paragraph 6	
13	7.	Defendants admit that the	ey generate revenue fro	om targeted advertising.
14	Defendants de	ny the remaining allegatio	ns in Paragraph 7.	
15	8.	Defendants admit that Yo	ouTube provides certai	n users with a tool known as
16	"Content ID" f	for the purpose of managing	ng copyrighted works,	and that the tool scans videos
17	uploaded to Yo	ouTube and comparing the	em against files previo	usly provided to YouTube by
18	copyright own	ers. Defendants also admi	t that an uploaded vide	eo that matches copyright material
19	submitted thro	ugh Content ID may recei	ve a Content ID claim	. Defendants further admit that
20	copyright own	ers who use the Content II	D tool can then choose	e to block that video, license and
21	monetize that	video, and/or track viewer	ship statistics. See "He	ow Content ID works,"
22	https://support	.google.com/youtube/ansv	<u>wer/2797370?hl=en</u> . D	efendants deny the remaining
23	allegations in I	Paragraph 8.		
24	9.	Defendants admit that Yo	ouTube provides certai	n users with a tool known as
25	"Content ID" f	for the purpose of managing	ng copyrighted works.	Defendants further admit that
26	YouTube also	provides a notice-and-take	edown system for the	purpose of managing copyrighted
27	works. Defend	ants deny the remaining a	llegations in Paragraph	h 9.
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	YOUTUBE AND AND COUNTERC	GOOGLE'S ANSWER CLAIMS	-4-	CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD

1 10. Defendants admit that YouTube provides certain users with a tool known as
 "Content ID" for the purpose of managing copyrighted works; that Content ID screening occurs,
 among other times, at the moment a user uploads a video to YouTube; and that such screening
 may prevent the public availability of the uploaded video, at the Content ID user's election.
 Defendants further admit that YouTube also provides a notice-and-takedown system for the
 purpose of managing copyrighted works. Defendants deny the remaining allegations in
 Paragraph 10.

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11. Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 11.

9 12. Defendants admit that YouTube assesses "strikes" for copyright violations and bans repeat copyright infringers from its platform. Defendants further admit that under 10 11 YouTube's repeat infringer policy, Users become eligible to have a copyright strike expire after 12 90 days subject to certain conditions, including completing YouTube's Copyright School 13 (including passing a quiz) and not accruing 2 or more copyright strikes within the 90-day period. 14 Defendants further admit that the DMCA creates a safe harbor from liability for copyright 15 infringement to which Defendants are entitled. Defendants further admit that a video being 16 identified as a Video Match through Content ID does not satisfy the criteria for an allegation of 17 infringement set forth in Section 512(c) of the DMCA. Defendants deny the remaining 18 allegations in Paragraph 12.

Defendants admit that YouTube has received DMCA takedown requests sent
 purporting to be on behalf of Plaintiffs Maria Schneider, Uniglobe Entertainment, LLC
 ("Uniglobe"), and AST Publishing Ltd. ("AST"). Defendants further admit that Plaintiffs have
 not been individually approved to use the Content ID tool. Defendants deny the remaining
 allegations in Paragraph 13.

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14. Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 14.

15. Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 15.

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YOUTUBE AND GOOGLE'S ANSWER AND COUNTERCLAIMS

	Case 3:20-cv-04423-JD Document 160 Filed 08/22/22 Page 6 of 47		
1	PLAINTIFFS		
2	16. Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the		
3	truth of the allegations in Paragraph 16.		
4	17. Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the		
5	truth of the allegations in Paragraph 17.		
6	18. Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the		
7	truth of the allegations in Paragraph 18.		
8	DEFENDANTS		
9	19. Defendants admit that YouTube, LLC, is a Delaware limited liability company		
10	with its principal place of business at 901 Cherry Avenue, San Bruno, California 94066.		
11	Defendants also admit that in 2006, YouTube was purchased by Google and since that purchase		
12	YouTube has operated as a wholly owned and controlled subsidiary of Google. Plaintiffs'		
13	allegations regarding operation and control of the YouTube website and that YouTube "conducts		
14	business as Google" are vague and ambiguous. As a result, Defendants lack knowledge or		
15	information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of those allegations. Defendants deny the		
16	remaining allegations of Paragraph 19.		
17	20. Defendants admit that Defendant Google LLC is a Delaware limited liability		
18	company with its principal place of business at 1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View,		
19	California 94043. Defendants further admit Google has owned and controlled YouTube since		
20	late 2006. Plaintiffs' allegation that "YouTube and Google also combine both products for		
21	purposes of Google's AdWords advertising program " and its allegation regarding testing of		
22	search links are vague and ambiguous. As a result, Defendants lack knowledge or information		
23	sufficient to form a belief about the truth of those allegations. Defendants deny the remaining		
24	allegations of Paragraph 20.		
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	YOUTUBE AND GOOGLE'S ANSWER -6- CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD AND COUNTERCLAIMS		

Case 3:20-cv-04423-JD Document 160 Filed 08/22/22 Page 7 of 47

1		JURISDICTION
2	21.	Defendants admit that the First Amended Complaint purports to assert claims for
3	copyright inf	ringement, but Defendants deny that the First Amended Complaint alleges adequate
4	factual or leg	al predicates for those claims and otherwise deny the allegations in Paragraph 21.
5	22.	Defendants admit the allegations in Paragraph 22.
6	23.	Defendants admit that YouTube and Google are corporate citizens of the State of
7	California. D	efendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth
8	of the remain	ning allegations in Paragraph 23.
9	24.	Defendants admit this Court has personal jurisdiction over them for this matter,
10	that they are	headquartered in this judicial district and transact substantial business and generate
11	revenue in th	is district. Defendants further admit that YouTube's physical address for receipt of
12	DMCA taked	lown requests regarding allegedly infringing content on YouTube is in California
13	and in this di	strict. Defendants deny the remaining allegations in Paragraph 24.
14	25.	Defendants admit the allegations in Paragraph 25.
15	26.	Defendants admit the allegations in Paragraph 26.
16		NATURE OF THE ACTION
17	27.	Paragraph 27 sets forth legal contentions to which no response is required. To the
18	extent that a	response is required, Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a
19	belief about t	the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 27.
20	28.	Paragraph 28 sets forth legal contentions to which no response is required. To the
21	extent that a	response is required, Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a
22	belief about t	the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 28.
23	29.	Paragraph 29 sets forth legal contentions to which no response is required. To the
24	extent that a	response is required, Defendants deny that Plaintiffs have accurately summarized
25	the 1976 Cop	pyright Act, and deny the remaining allegations of Paragraph 29.
26	30.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 30.
27	31.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 31.
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32. Defendants admit the allegation that "YouTube, now the world's most popular 1 2 online video site, launched in 2005." Defendants deny the remaining allegations in Paragraph 32. 3 33. Defendants admit that, as a general matter, the video files that users upload to 4 YouTube are automatically transcoded for safety, security, and accessibility. Defendants further 5 admit that YouTube generates revenue from its website. Defendants further admit that uploaders 6 have the option to manually add "tags," which are descriptive keywords, to their videos. See 7 https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/146402?hl=en. Defendants deny the allegations in 8 Paragraph 33 to the extent they purport to characterize how the video file transcoding process 9 works in all circumstances, and deny the remaining allegations of Paragraph 33. 34. 10 Defendants admit that YouTube provides users with an ability to search for and 11 view video content on the YouTube platform in web browsers and on mobile devices. 12 Defendants also admit that searches for content on the YouTube platform will return results (if 13 any) in the form of links to web pages where users can view video content. Defendants further 14 admit that the search results pages and video content web pages on YouTube sometimes contain 15 additional information about that video content, such as the title of the content supplied by the 16 uploader and the number of times that the content has been viewed. Defendants deny the 17 remaining allegations in Paragraph 34. 18 35. Defendants admit that the YouTube platform provides users with the optional 19 ability to embed video content on web pages hosted by other web domains. See 20 https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/171780?hl=en. Defendants further admit that the 21 YouTube platform provides users with the optional ability to share links to video content through 22 a variety of channels, including email messages. See 23 https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/57741?hl=en&ref topic=9257102. The ability to embed and share links to video content and the manner in which video content is embedded and 24 25 shared depends on a variety of conditions, including privacy settings. For instance, users have 26 the option to disable embedding of video content that they have uploaded. Defendants therefore 27 deny the allegations in Paragraph 35 to the extent they purport to describe how the embedding 28 CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD YOUTUBE AND GOOGLE'S ANSWER -8-

AND COUNTERCLAIMS

1	and sharing functions work in all circumstances, and deny the remaining allegations of Paragraph			
2	35.			
3	36.	Defendants deny the all	egations in Paragraph 3	6.
4	37.	Defendants admit that the	he YouTube platform m	ay generate recommendations for
5	video conten	t via computer algorithms	depending on a user's d	levice and settings, and that such
6	recommenda	tions take into account a v	ariety of factors to enha	nce user experience. Defendants
7	admit that Yo	ouTube provides an "Auto	Play" feature that users	can choose to disable and that the
8	cited article of	uotes a YouTube represe	ntative as stating: "We a	also wanted to serve the needs of
9	people when	they didn't necessarily kn	ow what they wanted to	o look for." Defendants deny the
10	remaining all	egations in Paragraph 37.		
11	38.	Defendants deny the all	egations in Paragraph 3	8.
12	39.	Defendants deny the all	egations in Paragraph 3	9.
13	40.	Defendants admit that g	rowth in the total numb	er of users and videos is one of
14	many factors	that may influence YouT	ube's business. Defenda	ints deny the remaining allegations
15	in Paragraph	40.		
16	41.	Defendants admit that Y	ouTube generates reven	nue through advertising.
17	Defendants f	urther admit that it require	es users to accept its Ter	ms of Service
18	(<u>https://www</u>	.youtube.com/static?tgem	plate=terms), which inc	orporate by reference Google's
19	Privacy Polic	y (https://policies.google.	<u>com/privacy?hl=en</u>). Do	efendants also admit that user
20	engagement	with video content on You	Tube is one of many fa	ctors that may affect advertising
21	spend on the	YouTube platform. Defe	ndants deny the remaini	ng allegations in Paragraph 41.
22	42.	To the extent the allegat	tions of Paragraph 42 pt	rport to paraphrase and
23	characterize	various extrinsic documen	ts, Defendants deny tha	t Plaintiffs do so correctly.
24	Defendants d	eny the remaining allegat	ions in Paragraph 42.	
25	43.	Defendants admit that C	Boogle once provided a	service known as Google Video.
26	Defendants d	eny the remaining allegat	ions in Paragraph 43.	
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	YOUTUBE AND	D GOOGLE'S ANSWER	-9-	CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD

Case 3:20-cv-04423-JD Document 160 Filed 08/22/22 Page 10 of 47

1	44.	Defendants admit that a	approximately 15 years ag	o, a low-level Google employee
2	wrote an ema	il that mischaracterized Y	ouTube's copyright polic	y. Defendants further admit that
3	Google later acknowledged that Google was mistaken about YouTube's copyright policy.			
4	Defendants d	eny the remaining allegat	tions in Paragraph 44.	
5	45.	Defendants admit that "	'Google purchased YouTu	be in October 2006 for \$1.6
6	billion." To tl	ne extent the allegations of	of Paragraph 45 purport to	paraphrase and characterize
7	various extrin	sic documents, Defendar	nts deny that Plaintiffs do	so correctly. Defendants deny
8	the remaining	allegations in Paragraph	45.	
9	46.	Defendants admit that t	here are "over 500 hours o	of videos uploaded every
10	minute" to Ye	ouTube. Defendants deny	the remaining allegations	in Paragraph 46.
11	47.	Defendants admit that Y	YouTube generates revenu	e through advertising.
12	Defendants al	lso admit that user engage	ement with video content	on YouTube is one of many
13	factors that m	ay affect advertising spen	nd on the YouTube platfor	rm. Defendants deny the
14	remaining all	egations in Paragraph 47.		
15	48.	Defendants lack knowle	edge or information suffic	ient to form a belief about the
16	truth of the al	legations in Paragraph 48	3.	
17	49.	Defendants admit that Y	YouTube generates revenu	e through advertising, including,
18	as a general n	natter, a substantial perce	entage of the revenue gene	rated by advertisements placed
19	on YouTube'	s homepage (www.youtu	be.com) and search results	s pages. Defendants also admit
20	that user enga	igement with video conte	ent on YouTube is one of r	nany factors that may affect
21	advertising sp	end on the YouTube plat	tform. Defendants deny th	e remaining allegations in
22	Paragraph 49			
23	50.	Defendants admit that t	he YouTube Partner Prog	ram allows for monetization of
24	video content	. Defendants further adm	it that together with its cre	eators, YouTube generated
25	approximatel	y \$15.1 billion in gross a	dvertising revenue in 2019	D. Defendants deny the remaining
26	allegations in	Paragraph 50.		
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	YOUTUBE ANI AND COUNTER	GOOGLE'S ANSWER CLAIMS	-10-	CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD

Case 3:20-cv-04423-JD Document 160 Filed 08/22/22 Page 11 of 47

1	51. Defendants admit that it requires YouTube users to accept its Terms of Service		
2	(https://www.youtube.com/static?template=terms), which incorporate by reference Google's		
3	Privacy Policy (<u>https://policies.google.com/privacy?hl=en</u>). Defendants deny the allegations in		
4	Paragraph 51 to the extent they mischaracterize those documents. Defendants admit that		
5	YouTube has approximately 2 billion monthly users. Defendants further admit that some of those		
6	users may convey information "concerning their preferences for topics, products, and services"		
7	depending on, among other things, their privacy settings. Defendants admit that the information		
8	provided by YouTube users about their preferences may be used to help YouTube grow its		
9	business (depending on user settings among other factors). Defendants lack knowledge or		
10	information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegation that "Google is now		
11	estimated to control 40% of the entire online advertising market". Defendants deny the		
12	remaining allegations in Paragraph 51.		
13	52. Defendants admit that the DMCA creates a safe harbor from liability for		
14	copyright infringement to which Defendants are entitled. Defendants deny the remaining		
15	allegations in Paragraph 52.		
16	53. Defendants admit that YouTube generates revenue through advertising.		
17	Defendants deny the remaining allegations in Paragraph 53.		
18	54. Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 54.		
19	55. Defendants deny the allegation in the last two sentences of Paragraph 55.		
20	Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the		
21	remaining allegations in Paragraph 55.		
22	56. Defendants admit that YouTube provides certain users with a tool known as		
23	"Content ID" for the purpose of managing copyrighted works, and that the tool works by		
24	scanning videos uploaded to YouTube and comparing them against files previously provided to		
25	YouTube by copyright owners. Defendants also admit that an uploaded video that matches		
26	copyright material submitted through Content ID may receive a Content ID claim. Defendants		
27	further admit that copyright owners who use the Content ID tool can then choose to block that		
28			
	YOUTUBE AND GOOGLE'S ANSWER -11- CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD AND COUNTERCLAIMS		

video, license and monetize that video, or track viewership statistics. *See* "How Content ID
 works," <u>https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2797370?hl=en</u>. Defendants deny the
 remaining allegations in Paragraph 56.

- 57. 4 Defendants admit that YouTube provides certain users with a tool known as 5 "Content ID" for the purpose of managing copyrighted works, and that the tool works by 6 scanning videos uploaded to YouTube and comparing them against files previously provided to 7 YouTube by copyright owners. Defendants also admit that an uploaded video that matches 8 copyright material submitted through Content ID may receive a Content ID claim. Defendants 9 further admit that copyright owners who use the Content ID tool can then choose to block that 10 video, license and monetize that video, or track viewership statistics. See "How Content ID 11 Works," https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2797370?hl=en. Defendants also admit that 12 the quoted language comes from a YouTube Help page, and that it is intended to provide one 13 example of an appropriate use case for the Content ID tool. See "Copyright Management Tools," 14 https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/9245819?hl=en. Defendants deny the remaining 15 allegations in Paragraph 57. 16 58. Defendants admit that Plaintiffs have not been individually approved to use the 17 Content ID tool. Defendants deny the remaining allegations in Paragraph 58. 18 59. Defendants admit receiving a letter from a handful of congressional members in 19 September 2019 that Plaintiffs have accurately excerpted. Defendants deny that the letter 20 accurately characterizes the functionality of the Content ID tool or the choices available to 21 copyright owners on the YouTube platform. Defendants deny the remaining allegations in 22 Paragraph 59. 23 60. Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 60. 24 25 61. Defendants admit that certain musical works mentioned in Paragraph 60 of the 26 First Amended Complaint and the accompanying footnote have been posted in full or in part on 27 YouTube by Plaintiff Maria Schneider, her agents, and her licensees. Defendants lack knowledge
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or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the remaining allegations in
 Paragraph 61.

62. Defendants admit that Plaintiff Maria Schneider applied and was rejected for
direct access to the Content ID tool in 2015. Defendants lack knowledge or information
sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in Paragraph 62 to the extent that
Plaintiffs allege that Maria Schneider directly applied for the Content ID tool on a second
occasion.

63. Defendants admit that YouTube has received DMCA takedown requests
purporting to be on behalf of Plaintiff Maria Schneider since 2013. Defendants lack knowledge
or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegation that the video content
that was the subject of those notices contained her songs or infringed her copyrights, and deny
the remaining allegations in Paragraph 63.

13 64. Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the
14 truth of the allegations in Paragraph 64.

65. Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 65.

16 66. Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the17 truth of the allegations in Paragraph 66.

18 67. Defendants deny that the English language version of *5 Weddings* was registered
19 with the U.S. Copyright Office as a motion picture in October 2016. Defendants lack knowledge
20 or information sufficient to form a belief about the remaining allegations in Paragraph 67.

21 68. Defendants deny that *Americanizing Shelley* was registered with the U.S.
22 Copyright Office as a motion picture in March 2006. Defendants lack knowledge or information
23 sufficient to form a belief about the remaining allegations in Paragraph 68.

24 69. Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the25 allegations in Paragraph 69.

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70. Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the 1 2 allegations in the last sentence of Paragraph 70. Defendants deny the remaining allegations in 3 Paragraph 70. 71. 4 Defendants admit that the English-language version of 5 Weddings and 1 a 5 *Minute* motion pictures have been posted in full or in part on YouTube by Plaintiff Uniglobe 6 Entertainment, LLC, its agents, or its licensees, and have been viewed by YouTube users. 7 Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the 8 remaining allegations in Paragraph 71. 9 72. Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the allegations in the first sentence of Paragraph 72. 10 73. 11 Defendants admit that YouTube has received DMCA takedown requests 12 purporting to be on behalf of from Plaintiff Uniglobe. Defendants lack knowledge or information 13 sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the remaining allegations in Paragraph 73. 14 74. Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the 15 truth of the allegations in Paragraph 74. 16 75. Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the 17 truth of the allegations in Paragraph 75. 76. 18 Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the 19 truth of the allegations in Paragraph 76. 20 77. Defendants admit that YouTube has received DMCA takedown requests purporting to be on behalf of Plaintiff AST. Defendants further admit that YouTube subsequently 21 22 removed certain user videos that were the targets of AST's takedown requests. Defendants lack 23 knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegation that the video content that was the subject of those notices infringed AST's copyrights, and deny the 24 25 remaining allegations in Paragraph 77. 26 78. Defendants lack knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief about the 27 truth of the allegations in Paragraph 78. 28 CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD YOUTUBE AND GOOGLE'S ANSWER -14-AND COUNTERCLAIMS

1	79.	Defendants admit that Y	ouTube has received DM	ICA takedown requests from
2	Plaintiffs Maria Schneider, Uniglobe, and AST. Defendants deny the allegation that they were			
3	"aware of prior infringement concerning these very same works" that were the purported subject			" that were the purported subject
4	of the DMCA	takedown requests receiv	ed by YouTube. Defend	ants deny the allegation that they
5	"repeatedly al	llowed further infringing v	videos (often the exact sa	ume videos) to be publicly
6	performed, di	splayed, reproduced, or di	stributed". Defendants la	ack knowledge or information
7	sufficient to f	orm a belief about the rem	naining allegations in Par	agraph 79.
8	80.	Defendants deny the alle	egations in Paragraph 80.	
9	81.	Defendants deny the alle	egations in Paragraph 81.	
10	82.	Paragraph 82 is a legal c	onclusion that purports t	o characterize Section 1202 of
11	the DMCA. T	o the extent that a response	se is required, Defendant	s deny that Paragraph 82
12	accurately cha	aracterizes Section 1202.		
13	83.	Defendants deny the alle	egation "that Defendants	and their business model and
14	systems routin	nely ignore CMI." Defe	endants lack knowledge o	or information sufficient to form
15	a belief about	the truth of the remaining	allegations in Paragraph	ı 83.
16	84.	Defendants deny the alle	egations in Paragraph 84.	
17	85.	Defendants deny the alle	egations in Paragraph 85.	
18	86.	Defendants deny the alle	egations in Paragraph 86.	
19	87.	Defendants admit that the	e DMCA creates a safe l	narbor from liability for
20	copyright infr	ingement to which they an	re entitled. Defendants de	eny the remaining allegations in
21	Paragraph 87.			
22	88.	Defendants admit that the	e DMCA creates a safe l	narbor from liability for
23	copyright infr	ingement to which they an	re entitled. To the extent	that Paragraph 88 purports to
24	recite the prov	visions of the DMCA, Det	fendants deny that it does	s so accurately or completely and
25	otherwise den	y the allegations of Parag	raph 88.	
26	89.	Defendants deny the alle	egations in Paragraph 89.	
27	90.	Defendants deny the alle	egations in Paragraph 90.	
28				
	YOUTUBE AND AND COUNTER	GOOGLE'S ANSWER CLAIMS	-15-	CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD

1	91.	Defendants admit that the DMCA requires the	adoption and implementation of a
2	repeat infringer policy. Defendants further admit that YouTube assesses "strikes" for copyright		
3	violations and	d that YouTube has adopted and reasonably imple	emented a policy that provides for
4	the termination	on in appropriate circumstances of repeat infringe	ers. Defendants further admit that
5	under YouTu	be's repeat infringer policy, Users become eligib	le to have a copyright strike expire
6	after 90 days	subject to certain conditions, including completing	ng YouTube's Copyright School
7	(including pa	assing a quiz) and not accruing 2 or more copyrigh	nt strikes within the 90-day period.
8	Defendants d	leny the remaining allegations in Paragraph 91.	
9	92.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 9	2.
10	93.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 9	3.
11	94.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 9	4.
12	95.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 9	5.
13	96.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 9	6.
14	97.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 9	7.
15	98.	Defendants admit that YouTube has received D	MCA takedown requests
16	purporting to	be on behalf of Plaintiffs Maria Schneider, Unig	lobe, and AST. Defendants deny
17	the remaining	g allegations in Paragraph 98.	
18	99.	Defendants admit that the DMCA requires acco	ommodation of "standard technical
19	measures." D	Defendants further admit that YouTube's terms of	service prohibit users from
20	"access[ing] t	the service using any automated means (such rob	ots, botnets, or scrapers) except (a)
21	in the case of	f public search engines, in accordance with YouT	ube's robots.txt file; or (b) with
22	YouTube's p	rior written permission[.]" Defendants lack know	ledge or information sufficient to
23	form a belief	about the allegations about "Pex and similar com	panies." To the extent that
24	Paragraph 99 purports to recite the provisions of the DMCA, Defendants deny that it does so		
25	accurately or	completely and otherwise deny the allegations in	Paragraph 99.
26	100.	Defendants admit that YouTube utilizes digital	fingerprints as one component of a
27	broad array o	of functionalities that comprise Content ID. Defen	dants further admit that YouTube
28			
	YOUTUBE AND	D GOOGLE'S ANSWER -16- RCLAIMS	CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD

Case 3:20-cv-04423-JD Document 160 Filed 08/22/22 Page 17 of 47

has described Content ID as an "example of collaboration between [online service providers] and
 rights-holders facilitated by the DMCA." Defendants deny the remaining allegations in
 Paragraph 100.
 101. Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 101.

5 6 102. Defendants admit that Pex has violated YouTube's API Terms of Service and other policies and that YouTube has revoked Pex's access to certain YouTube APIs. Defendants deny the remaining allegations in Paragraph 102.

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CLASS ACTION ALLEGATIONS

9 103. Paragraph 103 is a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the
10 extent a response is required, Defendants deny that there are sufficient factual or legal predicates
11 in the First Amended Complaint for class certification.

12 104. Paragraph 104 is a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the
13 extent a response is required, Defendants deny that there are sufficient factual or legal predicates
14 in the First Amended Complaint for class certification.

15 105. Paragraph 105 is a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the
16 extent a response is required, Defendants deny that there are sufficient factual or legal predicates
17 in the First Amended Complaint for class certification.

18 106. Defendants admit that YouTube has more than two billion monthly users, which YouTube estimates is "almost one-third of the Internet." Defendants also admit that YouTube is 19 20 localized in over 100 countries and can be accessed in 80 different languages. Defendants further 21 admit that users watch more than one billion hours of video every day and that on average, an 22 estimated 720,000 hours of content are uploaded to YouTube every day. To the extent 23 Paragraph 106 characterizes a third-party estimate regarding the content on YouTube in 2007, Defendants deny that it characterizes them correctly. The remaining allegations in Paragraph 24 25 106 are legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, 26 Defendants deny those allegations.

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Case 3:20-cv-04423-JD Document 160 Filed 08/22/22 Page 18 of 47

1	107.	Paragraph 107 is a legal	conclusion to which no re	esponse is required. To the
2	extent a response is required, Defendants deny that there are sufficient factual or legal predicates			cient factual or legal predicates
3	in the First A	mended Complaint for cla	ass certification.	
4	108.	Paragraph 108 is a legal	conclusion to which no re	esponse is required. To the
5	extent a respo	onse is required, Defendar	its deny that there are suff	cient factual or legal predicates
6	in the First A	mended Complaint for cla	ass certification.	
7	109.	Paragraph 109 is a legal	conclusion to which no re	esponse is required. To the
8	extent a respo	nse is required, Defendar	its deny that there are suff	icient factual or legal predicates
9	in the First A	mended Complaint for cla	ass certification.	
10	110.	Paragraph 110 and its su	ıb-paragraphs are a legal c	onclusion to which no response
11	is required. To	o the extent a response is	required, Defendants deny	that there are sufficient factual
12	or legal predic	cates for class certification	n.	
13	111.	Paragraph 111 is a legal	conclusion to which no re	esponse is required. To the
14	extent a respo	onse is required, Defendar	its deny that there are suff	icient factual or legal predicates
15	in the First A	mended Complaint for cla	ass certification.	
16		CA	AUSE OF ACTION I	
17		(Direct	Copyright Infringement)
18	112.	Defendants reiterate the	ir responses to the precedi	ng paragraphs of this Answer to
19	the First Ame	nded Complaint as if full	y set forth herein.	
20	113.	Defendants deny the all	egations in Paragraph 113.	
21	114.	Defendants deny the all	egations in Paragraph 114.	
22	115.	Defendants deny the all	egations in Paragraph 115.	
23	116.	Defendants deny the all	egations in Paragraph 116.	
24	117.	Defendants deny the all	egations in Paragraph 117.	
25	118.	Defendants deny the all	egations in Paragraph 118.	
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	YOUTUBE AND	GOOGLE'S ANSWER CLAIMS	-18-	CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD

Case 3:20-cv-04423-JD	Document 160	Filed 08/22/22	Page 19 of 47

1		CAUSE OF ACTION II
2		(Inducement of Copyright Infringement)
3	119.	Defendants reiterate their responses to the preceding paragraphs of this Answer to
4	the First Ame	ended Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
5	120.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 120.
6	121.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 121.
7	122.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 122.
8	123.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 123.
9	124.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 124.
10	125.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 125.
11	126.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 126.
12		CAUSE OF ACTION III
13		(Contributory Copyright Infringement)
14	127.	Defendants reiterate their responses to the preceding paragraphs of this Answer to
15	the First Ame	ended Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
16	128.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 128.
17	129.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 129.
18	130.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 130.
19	131.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 131.
20	132.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 132.
21	133.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 133.
22	134.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 134.
23		CAUSE OF ACTION IV
24		(Vicarious Copyright Infringement)
25	135.	Defendants reiterate their responses to the preceding paragraphs of this Answer to
26	the First Ame	ended Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
27	136.	Defendants deny the allegations in Paragraph 136.
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	YOUTUBE AND AND COUNTER	-19- CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD

	Case 3:20)-cv-04423-JD	Document 160	Filed 08/22/22	Page 20 of 47
1	137.	Defendants der	ny the allegations i	n Paragraph 137.	
2	138.	Defendants der	ny the allegations i	n Paragraph 138.	
3	139.	Defendants der	ny the allegations i	n Paragraph 139.	
4	140.	Defendants der	ny the allegations i	n Paragraph 140.	
5	141.	Defendants der	ny the allegations i	n Paragraph 141.	
6	142.	Defendants der	ny the allegations i	n Paragraph 142.	
7			CAUSE OF	ACTION V	
8	(Removal o	of Copyright Ma	anagement Inform	ation and Distrib	oution of Altered or Missing
9		(Copyright Manage	ement Informatio	n)
10	143.	Defendants rei	terate their respons	ses to the preceding	g paragraphs of this Answer to
11	the First Ame	ended Complaint	as if fully set forth	herein.	
12	144.	Defendants der	ny the allegations i	n Paragraph 144.	
13	145.	Defendants der	ny the allegations i	n Paragraph 145.	
14	146.	Defendants der	ny the allegations i	n Paragraph 146.	
15	147.	Defendants der	ny the allegations i	n Paragraph 147.	
16	148.	Defendants add	mit that YouTube l	nas received DMC	A takedown requests
17	purporting to	be on behalf of	Plaintiffs Maria Sc	hneider, Uniglobe	, and AST. Defendants deny
18	the remaining	g allegations in P	aragraph 148.		
19	149.	Defendants der	ny the allegations i	n Paragraph 149.	
20	150.	Defendants der	ny the allegations i	n Paragraph 150.	
21	151.	Defendants der	ny the allegations i	n Paragraph 151.	
22	152.	Defendants der	ny the allegations i	n Paragraph 152.	
23			PRAYER F	OR RELIEF	
24	153.	Paragraph 153	is a legal conclusion	on to which no res	ponse is required. To the
25	extent a respo	onse is required,	Defendants deny th	nat there are suffic	ient factual or legal predicates
26	in the First A	mended Compla	int for class certific	cation.	
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	YOUTUBE ANI AND COUNTER	O GOOGLE'S ANSV RCLAIMS	VER	-20-	CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD

Case 3:20-cv-04423-JD Document 160 Filed 08/22/22 Page 21 of 47

1	154. Paragraph 154 is a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the
2	extent a response is required, Defendants deny that there are sufficient factual or legal predicates
3	in the First Amended Complaint for the relief requested in Paragraph 154.
4	155. Paragraph 155 is a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the
5	extent a response is required, Defendants deny that there are sufficient factual or legal predicates
6	in the First Amended Complaint for the relief requested in Paragraph 155.
7	156. Paragraph 156 is a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the
8	extent a response is required, Defendants deny that there are sufficient factual or legal predicates
9	in the First Amended Complaint for the relief requested in Paragraph 156.
10	157. Paragraph 157 is a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the
11	extent a response is required, Defendants deny that there are sufficient factual or legal predicates
12	in the First Amended Complaint for the relief requested in Paragraph 157.
13	158. Paragraph 158 is a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the
14	extent a response is required, Defendants deny that there are sufficient factual or legal predicates
15	in the First Amended Complaint for the relief requested in Paragraph 158.
16	159. Paragraph 159 is a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the
17	extent a response is required, Defendants deny that there are sufficient factual or legal predicates
18	in the First Amended Complaint for the relief requested in Paragraph 159.
19	160. Paragraph 160 is a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the
20	extent a response is required, Defendants deny that there are sufficient factual or legal predicates
21	in the First Amended Complaint for the relief requested in Paragraph 160.
22	AFFIRMATIVE AND OTHER DEFENSES
23	Pursuant to Rule 8(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Defendants assert the
24	following affirmative and other defenses, and do so on information and belief as to the actions of
25	others. Defendants do not concede that they bear the burden of proof or persuasion on any of
26	these defenses. Defendants reserve the right to assert additional defenses in the event that
27	discovery or further investigation demonstrates that any such defense is appropriate or
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	YOUTUBE AND GOOGLE'S ANSWER -21- CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD AND COUNTERCLAIMS

applicable. In particular, given that Plaintiffs have failed to identify precisely what copyrighted 1 2 works they claim were infringed, or to identify the allegedly infringing activity about which they 3 complain with specificity, Defendants are unable to fully assess the defenses that may be 4 available to them regarding any particular infringement claim. Furthermore, with respect to other 5 members of the putative class, Defendants reserve the right to assert additional affirmative 6 defenses that may become available based on the facts of any individual claim and context. 7 FIRST DEFENSE (Failure to State a Claim) 8 9 Plaintiffs' First Amended Complaint fails to state a claim for copyright infringement 10 because it lacks legally sufficient allegations of, among other things, the material on YouTube that purportedly violates Plaintiffs' copyright, that Defendants engaged in any volitional conduct 11 12 in regard to Plaintiffs' works and that Defendants had specific knowledge of the alleged 13 infringement of those works by third parties. In addition, the First Amended Complaint fails to state a claim insofar as Plaintiffs purport to be asserting infringement claims based on 14 15 copyrighted works that they have not actually identified in the First Amended Complaint or 16 works that have not been registered with the Copyright Office. Moreover, the First Amended 17 Complaint fails to state a claim based on Section 1202 because Plaintiffs have not adequately 18 alleged Defendants acted with the requisite mental state. 19 **SECOND DEFENSE** (DMCA Safe Harbors) 20 Plaintiffs' claims are barred in whole or in part because Defendants are protected by one 21 or more of the DMCA Safe Harbors set out in 17 U.S.C. § 512 et seq. Most notably, Defendants 22 are not liable for any alleged infringement that arises by reason of the storage at the direction of 23 users of material residing on the YouTube service. See 17 U.S.C. § 512(c). 24 25 26 27 28 CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD YOUTUBE AND GOOGLE'S ANSWER -22-AND COUNTERCLAIMS

1 2	THIRD DEFENSE (License)	
3	Plaintiffs Schneider and Uniglobe complain that they have been denied access to	
4	YouTube's Content ID system, but have long had that access through their agents and licensees	
5	who have expressly used Content ID to generate revenue on their behalf using the Content ID	
6	system. More generally, Plaintiffs' claims are barred in whole or in part by licenses, consents, or	
7	permissions that Plaintiffs and their agents, have granted to YouTube and Google, and/or to third	
8	parties who in turn have granted licenses to YouTube and Google.	
9	FOURTH DEFENSE (Fair Use)	
10	(Fair Use)	
11	Although the First Amended Complaint fails to identify any specific allegedly infringing	
12	activity on the YouTube platform, such activity is not infringing to the extent it constitutes a fair	
13	use of the underlying copyrighted material. See 17 U.S.C. § 107.	
14	FIFTH DEFENSE (Contract Provisions)	
15	(Contract 1 Tovisions)	
16	Plaintiffs' claims are barred in whole or in part by the provisions of YouTube's Terms of	
17	Service, which Plaintiffs agreed to and are bound by. For example, YouTube's Terms of Service	
18	impose limitations of liability for any use of Plaintiffs' content, and disclaim all warranties,	
19	including any warranty suggesting aspects of the service will be available to Plaintiffs.	
20	Moreover, to the extent that Plaintiffs such as Uniglobe are asserting claims based on content	
21	they or their licensees uploaded to YouTube, Plaintiffs have agreed to indemnify YouTube.	
22	SIXTH DEFENSE (Estoppel)	
23	(Estopper)	
24	Plaintiffs' claims are barred in whole or in part by the doctrine of estoppel. YouTube has	
25	relied on representations from Plaintiffs or their representatives or agents (including but not	
26	limited to Modern Works Publishing, ASCAP, Vision Films, and LitRes) about their	
27		
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	YOUTUBE AND GOOGLE'S ANSWER -23- CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD AND COUNTERCLAIMS	

1	authorization to post and YouTube's authorization to use all or portions of the copyrighted works		
2	at issue.		
3 4	SEVENTH DEFENSE (Unclean Hands)		
5	Plaintiffs' claims are barred in whole or in part by unclean hands. For example, Plaintiff		
6	Uniglobe has misrepresented copyright authorship and ownership of its works in a host of ways,		
7	making it impossible for Defendants to identify who owns what rights, and what rights were		
8	licensed to Defendants.		
9 10	EIGHTH DEFENSE (Failure to Mitigate)		
11	Plaintiffs' claims are barred in whole or in part because Plaintiffs have failed to mitigate		
12	their damages, if any. Plaintiffs are, for example, well aware of the ability to request the removal		
13	from YouTube of allegedly infringing content using the process set forth in the DMCA. To the		
14	extent Plaintiffs failed to employ that process with respect to specific allegedly infringing		
15	material on the YouTube service, Plaintiffs have failed to mitigate their damages.		
16	NINTH DEFENSE (Statute of Limitations)		
17			
18	Plaintiffs' claims are barred in whole or in part by contractual and statutory limitations		
19	which require Plaintiffs to have brought their claims within one year or three years of their		
20	accrual respectively.		
21	TENTH DEFENSE (Substantial Non-Infringing Use)		
22			
23	Plaintiffs' claims are barred in whole or in part based on the doctrine of substantial non-		
24	infringing use, although Defendants submit Plaintiffs bear the burden of proving the doctrine's		
25	inapplicability.		
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	YOUTUBE AND GOOGLE'S ANSWER -24- CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD AND COUNTERCLAIMS		

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ELEVENTH DEFENSE
(De Minimis Use)

2	(De Minimis Use)
3	Although the First Amended Complaint fails to identify any specific allegedly infringing
4	activity on the YouTube platform, such activity is not infringing to the extent it constitutes de
5	minimis use of the underlying copyrighted material.
6	TWELFTH DEFENSE

TWELFTH DEFENSE (Putative Class Members)

7	(Putative Class Members)			
8	Defendants allege that this lawsuit cannot proceed as a class action. Should the Court			
9	determine otherwise, Defendants may have numerous affirmative defenses and counterclaims			
10	against individual members of any alleged class, and accordingly Defendants reserve their right			
11	to assert those affirmative defenses and counterclaims in a timely fashion. By way of example			
12	only, Dismissed Plaintiff and putative class representative, Pirate Monitor, would be subject to			
13	the defenses of unclean hands and copyright misuse based upon its fraudulent attempt to use			
14	copyrights-including those it did not even own-to leverage access to YouTube's proprietary			
15	systems. While Pirate Monitor has since dismissed its claims with prejudice and is now subject			
16	to counterclaims in this action, any other putative plaintiff could be subject to individualized			
17	defenses like these that would require considerable Plaintiff-specific discovery and litigation.			
18	PRAYER FOR RELIEF			
19	WHEREFORE, Defendants respectfully request the following relief:			
20	1. A judgment in favor of Defendants denying Plaintiffs all relief requested in their			
21	First Amended Complaint in this action and dismissing Plaintiffs' First Amended Complaint			
22	with prejudice;			
23	2. That Defendants be awarded their costs of suit, including reasonable attorney's			
24	fees; and			
25	3. That the Court award Defendants such other and further relief as the Court deems			
26	just and proper.			
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	YOUTUBE AND GOOGLE'S ANSWER -25- CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD AND COUNTERCLAIMS			

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Defendants demand a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

COUNTERCLAIMS

Counterclaimants Google LLC and YouTube, LLC (collectively "YouTube") assert the
following Counterclaims against Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC (except where
otherwise indicated, Pirate Monitor LTD and Pirate Monitor LLC are referred herein together as
"Pirate Monitor") and Gábor Csupó ("Csupó"), on personal knowledge as to YouTube's own
actions and on information and belief as to the actions of others, as follows:

9 1. Working together, Pirate Monitor and Csupó misused the YouTube service and 10 engaged in a fraudulent scheme to obtain access to YouTube's copyright management systems. 11 Using false identities and/or agents in an attempt to hide their involvement, Pirate Monitor and 12 Csupó uploaded roughly two thousand videos to YouTube, each time representing that they had 13 the rights to upload that content and that the content did not infringe any third party copyrights. 14 Shortly thereafter, Pirate Monitor and Csupó invoked the notice-and-takedown provisions of the 15 Digital Millennium Copyright Act ("DMCA") to demand that YouTube remove the very same 16 videos that Pirate Monitor and Csupó had uploaded. In those notices, Pirate Monitor and Csupó 17 represented that the videos were infringing their copyrights or those of copyright owners they 18 claimed to represent.

Pirate Monitor and Csupó violated the law. Either they lied to YouTube when
 they uploaded the videos in the first place, or lied when they demanded their removal. Their
 misrepresentations were intended to fool YouTube into believing that they could be trusted not to
 abuse YouTube's powerful copyright management tools, including Content ID. And their
 machinations render them liable to YouTube for breach of contract and fraud or, alternatively,
 violations of Section 512(f) of the DMCA.

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THE PARTIES

3. Counterclaim Plaintiff Google is a Delaware limited liability company with its
principal place of business in Mountain View, California. YouTube, a Google subsidiary, is a

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Delaware limited liability company with its principal place of business in San Bruno, California. 1 2 YouTube offers an online platform, including a website and mobile applications, that, among 3 other things, enables users to share videos they post with a global audience at no charge.

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4. Counterclaim Defendant Pirate Monitor LTD, a Plaintiff in this action, is a 5 limited company claiming a principal place of business at Intershore Chambers, 3rd Floor, 6 Geneva Place, Road Town, Tortola, VG1110 British Virgin Islands. Pirate Monitor LTD itself, 7 or through agents and related entities, has operations in Hungary and California, but has not 8 registered to do business in California. Pirate Monitor LTD claims in the Complaint to own the 9 copyrights to certain works through assignment from Hungarian movie producer Mega Film Kft ("Mega Film"). Pirate Monitor LTD is a shell corporation set up principally if not exclusively for purposes of pursuing this action and furthering the unlawful scheme described below.

12 5. At the time of the filing of this pleading, despite filing this lawsuit against 13 YouTube more than seven months ago, Pirate Monitor LTD has failed to produce a single document in response to YouTube's discovery requests that were served on October 12, 2020. 14 15 YouTube's requests seek, among other things, information regarding Pirate Monitor LTD's 16 corporate structure, identification of its agents and affiliates, its operations, its capitalization, and 17 its observance of corporate formalities. Pirate Monitor LTD has not even indicated if or when 18 document production will start. Pirate Monitor LTD is withholding the requested documentation 19 in a further effort to conceal the facts regarding the misconduct about which YouTube 20 complains, along with the identity of the individuals and entities involved.

21 6. Counterclaim Defendant Gábor Csupó is an individual, a Hungarian film 22 director and a resident of California. Csupó is the managing director, sole stockholder, sole 23 decision maker, and alter ego of Pirate Monitor LTD. From what YouTube has been able to 24 piece together given Pirate Monitor LTD's refusal to provide any discovery, Pirate Monitor LTD 25 has no principals or employees other than Csupó. It is inadequately capitalized, disregards 26 corporate formalities, and commingles funds and other assets with Csupó. Csupó dominates and 27 controls Pirate Monitor LTD to such an extent that it has no separate corporate personality. So

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thorough is Csupó's dominance of Pirate Monitor LTD that, if the actions of Pirate Monitor LTD
alleged herein were treated as those of Pirate Monitor LTD alone, and not those of Csupó, it
would lead to an inequitable result. Csupó created Pirate Monitor LTD after his personal liability
for the acts alleged herein first arose, and his misuse of the corporate form is continuing. As a
result, Csupó is responsible, and personally liable for, not only his own actions, but the acts of
Pirate Monitor LTD as well.

7 7. Counterclaim Defendant Pirate Monitor LLC represented itself to YouTube as 8 a business entity, but YouTube has not found corporate registration information for a "Pirate 9 Monitor LLC" anywhere in the world, and Pirate Monitor LTD has not provided any discovery 10 on the question. Instead, it appears that Pirate Monitor LLC is merely an unincorporated d/b/a of 11 Csupó. If Pirate Monitor LLC actually exists as a corporate entity at all, it is indistinguishable 12 from Pirate Monitor LTD. Pirate Monitor LTD does not view Pirate Monitor LLC as an entity 13 distinct from itself. In Paragraph 13 of its Complaint in this action, Pirate Monitor LTD alleges that it has applied for and been denied access to Content ID and that it has sent "successful 14 15 takedown requests" to YouTube. But, according to YouTube's records, the only Pirate Monitor 16 entity that has applied for Content ID or sent "successful takedown notices" to YouTube is the 17 entity calling itself "Pirate Monitor LLC." By claiming Pirate Monitor LLC's actions as its own 18 in the Complaint (in allegations that are central to its claim to represent a putative class), Pirate 19 Monitor LTD has demonstrated that it believes itself to be, and holds itself out as, functionally 20 the same entity as Pirate Monitor LLC.

8. No matter what Pirate Monitor LLC's corporate status, Csupó is responsible for
 the acts of Pirate Monitor LLC. Insofar as Pirate Monitor LLC is an unincorporated d/b/a of
 Csupó, Pirate Monitor LLC's actions are Csupó's actions, and Csupó is personally liable for
 them. Alternatively, insofar as Pirate Monitor LLC actually exists as a corporate entity, Csupó is
 the alter ego of Pirate Monitor LLC. From what YouTube has been able to piece together given
 Pirate Monitor LTD's refusal to provide any discovery, Pirate Monitor LLC has no other
 principals, employees, or even operations. It is a shell corporation set up for purposes of

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furthering the scheme described herein. Under Csupó's sole control, Pirate Monitor LLC is
inadequately capitalized, disregards corporate formalities, and commingles funds and other
assets with Csupó. Csupó dominates and controls Pirate Monitor LLC to such an extent that it
has no separate corporate personality. So thorough is Csupó's dominance of Pirate Monitor LLC
that if its actions alleged herein were treated as those of Pirate Monitor LLC alone, and not those
of Csupó, it would lead to an inequitable result. As a result, Csupó is responsible and personally
liable for the acts of Pirate Monitor LLC.

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JURISDICTION AND VENUE

9 9. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over the counterclaims pursuant to 28
10 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1338, 1367.

10. Pirate Monitor LTD is subject to this Court's personal jurisdiction because it has 12 availed itself of the jurisdiction of this Court by filing the Complaint in this action and because it 13 has minimum contacts with the State of California. The Court also has personal jurisdiction over 14 Pirate Monitor LTD because it consented to such jurisdiction in the Terms of Service Agreement 15 it entered into with YouTube and because it purposefully directed the misconduct described 16 herein against YouTube in this District.

17 11. Csupó is subject to this Court's personal jurisdiction because he is a resident of
18 California and because he has minimum contacts with this State. The Court also has personal
19 jurisdiction over Csupó because he is the alter ego of Plaintiff Pirate Monitor LTD and thus
20 availed himself of this Court's jurisdiction by filing the Complaint in this action. The Court also
21 has personal jurisdiction over Csupó because he consented to such jurisdiction in the Terms of
22 Service Agreement he entered into with YouTube and because he purposefully directed the
23 misconduct described herein against YouTube in this District.

12. To the extent it is a corporate entity separate from Pirate Monitor LTD or Csupó,
Pirate Monitor LLC is subject to this Court's personal jurisdiction because it has availed itself of
the jurisdiction of this Court because it consented to such jurisdiction in the Terms of Service

Agreement it entered into with YouTube, and because it purposefully directed the misconduct
 described herein against YouTube in this District.

3 13. Venue is proper in this judicial district under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391(b) and 1400(a) 4 because this is a judicial district in which a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise 5 to the claim occurred, because this Court has personal jurisdiction over Counterclaim 6 Defendants, because Pirate Monitor LTD filed the Complaint in this district, and because Pirate 7 Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó consented to venue in this District via the Terms 8 of Service Agreements that they entered into with YouTube. 9 The YouTube Service 14. 10 Since its founding in 2005, YouTube has pursued the goal of providing a platform

for users to share their video creations with the world. YouTube serves as an unparalleled
medium for free marketing, exposure, and visibility for everyone from individuals to established
corporate brands.

14 15. YouTube also offers a worldwide audience the opportunity to access and watch an
15 extraordinarily diverse library of original, creative expression.

16 16. YouTube has never been a service devoted to promoting piracy or illegitimate
17 uses of copyrighted works. Rather, YouTube is strongly committed to helping copyright owners
18 protect against the unauthorized use of their works on the service, and it has implemented
19 numerous industry-leading initiatives toward this end.

17. While YouTube complies in all respects with safe harbor provisions of the Digital
Millennium Copyright Act ("DMCA"), YouTube's efforts in helping copyright owners and
content creators protect against unwanted use of their works goes far beyond what the law
requires.

18. For example, YouTube has invested over \$100 million to develop Content ID, a
best-in-class content identification system that uses digital fingerprinting technology to help
identify copyrighted materials. Using Content ID, rightsholders and/or their agents can be
automatically notified of user-uploaded videos that "match" what they claim are their

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Case 3:20-cv-04423-JD Document 160 Filed 08/22/22 Page 31 of 47

copyrighted works and can choose in advance what they want to happen when those videos are 1 2 detected, including options to "monetize" the videos, (i.e. earn advertising revenue when users 3 watch the videos) or to "block" the videos from appearing altogether.

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19. Content ID and YouTube's other scaled copyright management tools empower 5 users to automatically, or at the touch of a button, remove content from YouTube or block it 6 from appearing in the first place. The tools thus have the potential to be used improperly to 7 censor videos that others have every right to post and share through YouTube. Further, the tools 8 enable users to claim ownership rights in others' content, and to siphon to themselves revenue 9 that rightly belongs to others.

20. Because of the potential for abuse of these scaled tools, YouTube limits access to 10 11 them, seeking to ensure that those who use them will do so responsibly, and will not cause harm 12 to YouTube, its users, or to other copyright owners.

13

Users' Promises And Representations To YouTube

14 21. To create an account and post content on the YouTube service, users must 15 affirmatively accept the YouTube Terms of Service Agreement (the "ToS Agreement"). Parties 16 to the ToS Agreement consent to personal jurisdiction and exclusive venue for disputes arising 17 out of or relating to the YouTube service in the Courts of Santa Clara County, California.

18 22. Under the applicable ToS Agreement in effect during all times relevant to these 19 counterclaims, a user creating a YouTube account promised to provide "accurate and complete" 20 identification information for the account to YouTube.

21 23. Under the ToS Agreement in effect during all times relevant to these 22 counterclaims, users represent and warrant to YouTube that if they upload any content to the 23 YouTube service, they will "own or have the necessary licenses, rights, consents, and 24 permissions to publish Content [they] submit." Users also promise that any "content [they] 25 submit to the Service [will] not contain third party copyrighted material, or material that is 26 subject to other third party proprietary rights, unless [they have] permission from the rightful 27 owner of the material or [they are] otherwise legally entitled to post the material." And users

agree to grant YouTube a copyright license in and to any content they submit, representing that
 they have the required rights to do so.

24. In addition to accepting the ToS Agreement and making the representations and
promises it contains when creating an account, users must reaffirm their agreement to the ToS
each time they upload material to the service. In that upload process, users are again expressly
warned against submitting content that violates others' copyrights.

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Pirate Monitor And Csupó Uploaded Nearly 2000 Video Clips To YouTube Through "Ransom Nova" Accounts And Represented That They Did Not Infringe Anyone's Copyright

9 25. From August through November 2019, Pirate Monitor and Csupó created, or
authorized and directed their agents to create, at least 23 accounts on YouTube. Each time they
caused a new account to be created, Pirate Monitor and Csupó, or the agents acting on their
behalf and under their direction and control, affirmatively agreed to the YouTube ToS
Agreement, and made the representations and promises to YouTube that are set out in the ToS
Agreement.

15 26. Among other things, Pirate Monitor and Csupó promised to provide YouTube 16 with "accurate and complete" identification information for their YouTube accounts. They 17 represented and warranted to YouTube that if they uploaded any content to the YouTube service, 18 they would "own or have the necessary licenses, rights, consents, and permissions to publish 19 Content [they] submit." They also promised that any "content [they] submit to the Service [will] 20 not contain third party copyrighted material, or material that is subject to other third party 21 proprietary rights, unless [they have] permission from the rightful owner of the material or [they 22 are] otherwise legally entitled to post the material." And they granted YouTube a copyright 23 license to the videos they submitted, representing that they had the required rights to do so.

24 27. To deceive YouTube, and in violation of the ToS Agreement, Pirate Monitor and
25 Csupó, or the agents acting on their behalf and under their direction and control, provided bogus
26 account registration information. Rather than properly identifying themselves as the account
27 creator, Pirate Monitor and Csupó, or the agents acting on their behalf and under their direction

Case 3:20-cv-04423-JD Document 160 Filed 08/22/22 Page 33 of 47

and control, used alternative account names and contact information designed to mask the
 relationship of the account creators and the accounts to Pirate Monitor and Csupó.

28. Pirate Monitor and Csupó, or the agents acting on their behalf and under their
direction and control, created and used at least the following YouTube accounts (or "channels")
between August 23 and November 13, 2019.

Account Name	Associated Email Address	Account Creation Date
ransom nova2	ransomnova2@gmail.com	August 23, 2019
ransom nova3	ransomnova3@gmail.com	September 3, 2019
ransom nova	ransomnova4@gmail.com	September 25, 2019
ransom nova6	ransomnova6@gmail.com	September 28, 2019
ransom nova	ransomnova7@gmail.com	September 28, 2019
ransom nova	ransomnova8@gmail.com	October 7, 2019
ransom nova9	ransomnova9@gmail.com	October 7, 2019
ransom nova10	ransomnova10@gmail.com	October 7, 2019
ransom noval1	ransomnova11@gmail.com	October 7, 2019
ransom nova12	ransomnova12@gmail.com	October 7, 2019
ransom nova13	ransomnova13@gmail.com	October 8, 2019
ransom nova14	ransomnova14@gmail.com	October 8, 2019
ransom nova15	ransomnova15@gmail.com	October 8, 2019
Massive Films	ransomnova18@gmail.com	November 4, 2019
Movie Mania	ransomnova19@gmail.com	November 5, 2019
Movie Fun	ransomnova20@gmail.com	November 6, 2019
Movie Festival	ransomnova21@gmail.com	November 8, 2019
Entertainment Movie Channel	ransomnova22@gmail.com	November 8, 2019
Ultimate Entertainment	ransomnova23@gmail.com	November 9, 2019

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Case 3:20-cv-04423-JD Document 160 Filed 08/22/22 Page 34 of 47

Avengers	ransomnova25@gmail.com	November 10, 2019
Fantastic	ransomnova26@gmail.com	November 10, 2019
Amazing Channel	ransomnova27@gmail.com	November 10, 2019
Avenger film	ransomnova29@gmail.com	November 13, 2019
	Fantastic Amazing Channel	Fantastic ransomnova26@gmail.com Amazing Channel ransomnova27@gmail.com

Most of the account names that Pirate Monitor or its agents selected for these
accounts were variants on the name "Ransom Nova." Variations of the name "Ransom Nova"
also appear in the email addresses that Pirate Monitor or its agents supplied in the account
registration process. YouTube refers to these accounts hereafter as the "Ransom Nova accounts."

30. The person(s) who created the Ransom Nova accounts did so using a computing
device connected to the YouTube service via Internet Protocol ("IP") addresses indicating that
they were in Pakistan at the time the accounts were created.

- 31. From at least August 24, 2019 through at least November 13, 2019, Pirate
 Monitor and Csupó, or the agents acting on their behalf and under their direction and control,
 used the Ransom Nova accounts to upload at least 1,960 videos to YouTube. At the time of the
 uploads, the Ransom Nova accounts were connected to the YouTube service from a computing
 device using IP addresses again indicating that they were in Pakistan.
- 18 32. Using the Ransom Nova accounts, Pirate Monitor and Csupó, or the agents acting 19 on their behalf and under their direction and control uploaded hundreds of video clips from the 20 Hungarian film Csak szex és más semi ("Csak szex"), one of the copyrighted works that Pirate 21 Monitor LTD claimed to own in the Complaint and accused YouTube of infringing in this action. 22 33. Pirate Monitor and Csupó, or the agents acting on their behalf and under their 23 direction and control, also used the Ransom Nova accounts to upload hundreds of video clips 24 from the Hungarian film Zimmer Feri to YouTube. Zimmer Feri is a prequel to Zimmer Feri 2, 25 another work that Pirate Monitor claimed to own in the Complaint and accused YouTube of 26 infringing in this action.
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1	34. Each time Pirate Monitor and Csupó, or the agents acting on their behalf and
2	under their direction and control, uploaded a video to the YouTube service through the Ransom
3	Nova accounts, they were required to and did reconfirm that they were abiding by the ToS
4	Agreement; in relevant part, they represented and warranted to YouTube each time that they
5	owned or had the rights to upload and license the material contained in the videos and that the
6	videos they uploaded did not infringe any third party's copyrights.
7 8	Pirate Monitor Demanded Removal Of The Nearly 2000 Video Clips It Had Previously Uploaded Through the Ransom Nova Accounts, Charging That They Infringed Copyrights
9	35. Between October 29 and November 15, 2019, Pirate Monitor and Csupó sent
10	YouTube hundreds of takedown notices under the DMCA for the same videos they had uploaded
11	or had directed to be uploaded through the Ransom Nova accounts. The DMCA takedown
12	notices were sent in the name of an entity calling itself "Pirate Monitor LLC," using a Google
13	account opened in the name of Gábor Csupó with the email address
14	usintellectualpropertyllc@gmail.com. Csupó electronically signed each of the takedown notices.
15	36. In those DMCA takedown notices, Pirate Monitor and Csupó represented to
16	YouTube under penalty of perjury that "Mega Film" was the copyright owner of the videos that
17	were the subject of the notices, and that they were Mega Film's authorized representatives. Pirate
18	Monitor and Csupó also represented in the notices that the targeted video clips included material
19	from the films Czak Szex and Zimmer Feri that infringed Mega Film's copyrights—i.e., that the
20	use was not "authorized by Mega Film, its agents or the law." The notices were all virtually
21	identical save for targeting different video clips uploaded through varying Ransom Nova
22	accounts.
23	37. At the time YouTube received these DMCA takedown notices from Pirate
24	Monitor and Csupó, it was not aware of the connection between Pirate Monitor and Csupó on the
25	one hand and the Ransom Nova accounts on the other. YouTube did not know that the parties
26	insisting that the videos were infringing and should be removed were the same parties that had
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28	
	YOUTUBE AND GOOGLE'S ANSWER -35- CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD AND COUNTERCLAIMS

Case 3:20-cv-04423-JD Document 160 Filed 08/22/22 Page 36 of 47

uploaded or directed the upload of the videos in the first place and who had represented in that
 process that the videos were not infringing.

3 38. In reliance on the representations from Pirate Monitor and Csupó in the takedown
notices that were made to YouTube via the DMCA's statutorily prescribed mechanism, YouTube
processed approximately 1,800 separate notices from Pirate Monitor and Csupó and
expeditiously removed the targeted videos.

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Pirate Monitor And Csupó's Scheme Amounts Either To Fraud And Breach Of Contract Or A Violation Of Section 512(f) Of The DMCA

9 39. As set forth above, Pirate Monitor and Csupó uploaded, or authorized and
10 directed their agents to upload, nearly two thousand videos to YouTube, representing to
11 YouTube that the videos did not infringe copyrights, and then promptly sent DMCA takedown
12 notices for the same videos, representing to YouTube that the videos did infringe copyrights.
13 Without the benefit of discovery, it is unclear which of these conflicting representations about
14 the videos were truthful. But either way, Pirate Monitor and Csupó made material
15 misrepresentations on which YouTube relied.

40. On the one hand, if Pirate Monitor and Csupó falsely represented to YouTube that
they had the authority to post the videos and that the videos did not infringe anyone's copyrights,
then Pirate Monitor and Csupó breached the ToS Agreement and perpetrated a fraud on
YouTube. Had Pirate Monitor and Csupó not made the representations to YouTube that they did,
YouTube would not have allowed them to create accounts on the service, and it would not have
allowed them to upload content to the service.

- 41. On the other hand, if Pirate Monitor and Csupó accurately represented to
 YouTube that they had the authority to post the videos and that the videos did not infringe any
 third party's copyrights, then Pirate Monitor and Csupó made knowingly false statements when
 they subsequently represented to YouTube in their DMCA takedown notices that those same
 videos were infringing.
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Case 3:20-cv-04423-JD Document 160 Filed 08/22/22 Page 37 of 47

42. These conflicting representations from Pirate Monitor and Csupó were no
 accident. Their serial uploads and DMCA takedown notices for the same videos were central to a
 scheme through which they hoped to gain access to YouTube's powerful copyright management
 tools, in particular Content ID.

43. In May 2019, an entity calling itself Pirate Monitor LLC applied for access to use
YouTube's copyright management tools. The application was made by Gabor Csupó, who
supplied the email address <u>usintellectualpropertyllc@gmail.com</u>.

8 44. YouTube denied this application in June 2019, explaining to Pirate Monitor and
9 Csupó that access to YouTube's copyright management tools was predicated in part on
10 demonstrating both a need for such access and a history of properly using the DMCA takedown
11 notice process.

12 45. Pirate Monitor and Csupó believed that they could demonstrate both the need for 13 access, and a track record of valid DMCA takedown notices, by surreptitiously uploading a 14 substantial volume of content through accounts seemingly unconnected to them, and then 15 sending DMCA takedown notices for that same content. Three months after YouTube declined 16 their copyright management tools application, Pirate Monitor and Csupó began the process of 17 creating the Ransom Nova accounts and uploading videos through those accounts, in furtherance 18 of their scheme.

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The Evidence To Date Without Discovery Of The Connection Between Pirate Monitor, Csupó, And The Ransom Nova Accounts

46. Pirate Monitor and Csupó are in sole possession of the full information regarding
their unlawful scheme, and have refused to provide any of it to YouTube in response to
YouTube's specific discovery requests. By way of example, attached as Exhibit A is a true and
correct copy of Pirate Monitor LTD's objections and responses to YouTube's Second Set of
Document Requests in which it objects in full to every request, including those seeking
information regarding *inter alia*, Ransom Nova and Pirate Monitor LLC.

47. While withholding from YouTube all relevant information they possess, Pirate 1 2 Monitor and Csupó have never denied that they and/or their agents were responsible for creating 3 the Ransom Nova accounts. They have never denied that they and/or their agents uploaded 4 through those accounts the very same videos that they then promptly claimed in DMCA 5 takedown notices were infringing.

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48. YouTube already has overwhelming evidence that reveals Pirate Monitor and Csupó's deceptions and demonstrates that Pirate Monitor and Csupó either operated the Ransom 8 Nova accounts directly or that the person(s) operating the Ransom Nova accounts were agents of 9 Pirate Monitor and Csupó, acting at their direction and control and for their benefit.

49. 10 First, the video uploading activity conducted through the Ransom Nova accounts 11 was not consistent with the behavior of users actually seeking to share videos with others 12 through the YouTube service. Though the videos contained clips from the Hungarian movies 13 *Csak szex* and *Zimmer Feri*, the user(s) uploading those videos selected nondescript titles for the 14 clips, such as "Test1" or "Hot Clip." An uploader genuinely seeking an audience on YouTube 15 for clips from those films would have selected titles that enabled users looking for clips from the 16 films to find them. Additionally, almost all of the nearly two thousand video clips uploaded via 17 the Ransom Nova accounts were the same length, 31 seconds, and they did not correspond to 18 particular moments or scenes from the films. Further, the clips were not uploaded in any 19 recognizable order, such as to track the films sequentially. It is evident from this unusual pattern 20 that the person(s) who uploaded these clips to YouTube through the Ransom Nova accounts did 21 not expect anyone to actually find and watch them. That is because the videos were not uploaded 22 by a genuine YouTube user, but instead by or at the direction of Pirate Monitor and Csupó for 23 the purpose of sending DMCA takedown notices for those clips.

50. Second, Pirate Monitor and Csupó regularly sent DMCA takedown notices for 24 25 videos uploaded through the Ransom Nova accounts within a very short time-no more than a 26 few days-after the videos were uploaded. For example, 99 clips were uploaded through the 27 "Ransom Nova" account, "Amazing Channel," on November 10, 2019. All 99 clips were

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thesubject of DMCA takedown notices four days later. When Pirate Monitor and Csupó sent
their takedown notices, none of the videos targeted in those notices had an appreciable number of
views on YouTube. In many cases, *the videos targeted in Pirate Monitor and Csupó's takedown notices had not recorded even a single view on YouTube*. In other words, Pirate Monitor and
Csupó knew that the videos for which they sent takedown notices were on the YouTube service
without having to actually view them. That is because Pirate Monitor and Csupó were
responsible for having uploaded those videos in the first place.

8 51. Third, there is powerful forensic evidence tying Pirate Monitor and Csupó to the 9 Ransom Nova accounts. When Pirate Monitor and Csupó sent their takedown notices to YouTube-on behalf of Hungarian film company Mega Film-for videos uploaded through the 10 11 Ransom Nova accounts, they had no reason to conceal their identities. They correctly identified 12 themselves and invariably sent their takedown notices from a computer connected to the Internet 13 via a unique Hungarian IP address: 217.65.XXX.XXX. On November 12, 2019, Pirate Monitor 14 and Csupó were sending takedown notices to YouTube from that Hungarian IP address. At 15 roughly the same time, someone logged into one of the Ransom Nova accounts-specifically the account created by RansomNova7@gmail.com-not from a Pakistani IP address, but from the 16 17 same IP address in Hungary (217.65.XXX.XXX) that Pirate Monitor and Csupó were 18 concurrently using to send the takedown notices. In other words, RansomNova7 was sharing a 19 computer and/or unique Internet connection with Pirate Monitor and Csupó in Hungary 20 on the same day (and in fact, at almost the same time) that Pirate Monitor and Csupó were 21 using that same computer and/or Internet connection to send takedown notices to 22 YouTube. That is because the person operating and responsible for the 23 RansomNova7@gmail.com account either was Pirate Monitor or Csupó, or someone acting on their behalf. 24 25 52. YouTube's investigation following the filing of this lawsuit has further revealed 26 that the person or persons who created several of the Ransom Nova accounts on YouTube 27 supplied the email address sarfrazjbd@gmail.com in connection with the accounts. That address 28 CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD YOUTUBE AND GOOGLE'S ANSWER -39-

AND COUNTERCLAIMS

Case 3:20-cv-04423-JD Document 160 Filed 08/22/22 Page 40 of 47

1 is registered to a person named Sarfraz Arshad Khan. Mr. Khan represents himself on the 2 Internet as a Pakistani resident and computer services freelancer and advertises having expertise 3 in data entry and promotion of content on YouTube. Mr. Khan also has a LinkedIn profile, 4 posted under the name "Ransom Nova," which states that he is a computer science student in 5 Pakistan. These facts make it extremely unlikely that Mr. Khan was acting on his own in setting up and using the Ransom Nova accounts, but instead suggest that he was hired by Pirate Monitor 6 7 and Csupó to perform that work. 8 53. Although Pirate Monitor has withheld all evidence, based on what YouTube 9 knows today, the only plausible conclusion is that the Ransom Nova accounts were created and 10 operated directly by Pirate Monitor and Csupó as part of the scheme alleged herein, or that they 11 were created and operated by agents, including Mr. Khan, acting at the direction and control of 12 Pirate Monitor and Csupó and for their benefit. Either way, Pirate Monitor and Csupó are 13 responsible for the acts performed through the Ransom Nova accounts. 14 **COUNTERCLAIM I: Against Pirate Monitor LTD,** Pirate Monitor LLC, And Gábor Csupó 15 **Breach of Contract** 54. YouTube restates and realleges the preceding allegations of its Counterclaims. 16 17 55. Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó directly themselves, and/or 18 through their authorized agents who created the "Ransom Nova" accounts, agreed to be bound 19 by the ToS Agreement. 20 56. The ToS Agreement constitutes a valid, binding contract between each of Pirate 21 Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó, and YouTube. 57. 22 YouTube has performed its obligations under the ToS Agreement, save for any 23 that have been excused, including by providing YouTube services to the parties who created the "Ransom Nova" YouTube accounts. 24 25 58. Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó directly themselves, and/or through their authorized agents who created the "Ransom Nova" accounts, breached the ToS 26 27 Agreement by, among other things: 28 CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD YOUTUBE AND GOOGLE'S ANSWER -40-

AND COUNTERCLAIMS

1	1 i. failing to p	rovide complete and accurate identification information in	the	
2	2 account creation process; and	account creation process; and		
3	3 ii. uploading	videos to YouTube that infringed third-party copyrights.		
4	4 59. These breaches ha	ve proximately caused damage to YouTube, including amo	ong	
5	5 other things, the cost of investigation	ting and processing the subsequent DMCA takedown notic	es	
6	6 sent by Pirate Monitor and Csupó	claiming that the content they uploaded was infringing.		
7	7 60. To the extent that	Pirate Monitor LTD's claims in this action implicate conte	nt	
8	8 that Pirate Monitor itself uploade	d (or is responsible for causing to be uploaded) to the You	Гube	
9	9 service, the costs of defending the	e action as well as any liability also constitute damages		
10	0 proximately caused by Pirate Mo	nitor's breaches of contract.		
11	1 61. Pirate Monitor LT	D, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó are additionally obligat	ed	
12	2 under their ToS Agreements with	YouTube to indemnify YouTube for claims arising out of	or	
13	3 relating to their use of the YouTu	be service. In seeking defense costs and any potential liabi	lity	
14	4 in this action as damages for these	e contract breaches, YouTube expressly preserves its separ	ate	
15	5 entitlement to contractual indemn	ity and is entitled to that indemnity to the extent Pirate Mo	nitor	
16	.6 LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and C	supó refuse to honor their indemnity obligation.		
17 18	Pirate	CLAIM II: Against Pirate Monitor LTD, e Monitor LLC, And Gábor Csupó Fraud		
19	9 62. YouTube restates	and realleges the preceding allegations of its Counterclaim	s.	
20	63. Between at least A	ugust 23 and at least November 13, 2019, Pirate Monitor I	LTD,	
21	Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó d	lirectly themselves, and/or through their authorized agents,		
22	created at least 23 "Ransom Nova	a" YouTube accounts. Each time they created a new account	nt,	
23	they made the representations and	d promises to YouTube that are set out in the ToS Agreeme	ent.	
24	64. Among other thing	gs, Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó		
25	directly themselves, and/or throug	gh their authorized agents, promised to provide YouTube w	vith	
26	26 "accurate and complete" identific	ation information for their YouTube accounts. They promi	sed	
27	27 YouTube that if they uploaded an	y content to the YouTube service, they would "own or hav	e the	
28	28			
	YOUTUBE AND GOOGLE'S ANSWER AND COUNTERCLAIMS	-41- CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04	423-JD	

Case 3:20-cv-04423-JD Document 160 Filed 08/22/22 Page 42 of 47

necessary licenses, rights, consents, and permissions to publish Content [they] submit." They
also promised that any "content [they] submit to the Service [will] not contain third party
copyrighted material, or material that is subject to other third party proprietary rights, unless
[they have] permission from the rightful owner of the material or [they are] otherwise legally
entitled to post the material." And they granted YouTube a copyright license to any videos they
submitted, representing that they had the required rights to do so.

65. Each time Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó directly
themselves, and/or through their authorized agents uploaded a video to the YouTube service,
they reaffirmed their agreement to the ToS Agreement, and made those same promises and
representations.

But Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó had no intention of
honoring the promises in the ToS Agreement either at the time they created their accounts or
when they uploaded videos to the service. Rather, they intended to use the service to upload
material that infringed third-party copyrights.

67. Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó themselves or through their
authorized agents also represented to YouTube through the ToS Agreement at the time they
created the Ransom Nova accounts and again in the video upload process that they had the
authority to post the videos that they did, and that the videos did not infringe any third party's
copyrights. These representations were made, in materially identical form, each time videos were
uploaded through the Ransom Nova accounts. The representations were false, and Pirate Monitor
LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó knew that the representations were false.

68. Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó made those representations
or caused their authorized agents to make them with the intention of inducing YouTube to accept
and allow to be uploaded the content that Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó
wanted uploaded to the YouTube service.

26 69. Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó made the false promises and
27 misrepresentations they did because they knew that YouTube would not allow them to create

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Case 3:20-cv-04423-JD Document 160 Filed 08/22/22 Page 43 of 47

accounts or allow them to upload content through those accounts if they did not make those false
 promises and misrepresentations. That, in turn, would have frustrated their scheme to send mass
 takedown notices and establish the track record they hoped would gain them access to
 YouTube's copyright management tools.

- 70. YouTube relied on Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó's false
 promises and misrepresentations by allowing them to create accounts and by accepting content
 uploaded through those accounts to the YouTube service. YouTube would not have allowed the
 creation of the accounts or accepted the content but for Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor
 LLC, and Csupó's false promises and misrepresentations.
- 10 71. YouTube's reliance was justifiable. It had no reason to believe Pirate Monitor
 11 LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó would make promises they had no intention of performing
 12 or misrepresent the nature of the content they were uploading.
- 13 72. Because they hid their intention not to honor their promises in the ToS
 14 Agreement, and because of the misrepresentations they made in the ToS Agreement, Pirate
 15 Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó were able to create at least 23 accounts and
 16 upload at least 1,960 videos to YouTube, and soon thereafter sent DMCA takedown notices for
 17 those same videos.
- 18 73. As a proximate result of Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó's
 19 promises made without intention to perform and misrepresentations, YouTube has been damaged
 20 in an amount to be proven at trial, but including among other things, the cost of processing at
 21 least 1,800 DMCA takedown notices for the content Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC,
 22 and Csupó uploaded, and the cost of investigating and remediating their misconduct.
- 74. To the extent that Pirate Monitor LTD's claims in this action implicate content
 that Pirate Monitor LTD itself uploaded to the YouTube service, the costs of defending the
 action as well as any liability also constitute damages proximately caused by Pirate Monitor
 LTD's promises without intention to perform and false representations.
- 27 28

1	75. Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó's conduct was undertaken
2	with the intent to injure YouTube, and with a willful and conscious disregard of YouTube's
3	rights, and constitutes fraud and malice under California Civil Code Section 3294. As a result,
4	YouTube is entitled to an award of punitive damages against Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor
5	LLC, and Csupó in an amount sufficient to punish them and deter them from future misconduct.
6	COUNTERCLAIM III: Against Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, And Gábor Csupó
7	(In the alternative to Counterclaims I & II)
8	Violation of 17 U.S.C § 512(f)
9	76. YouTube pleads Counterclaim III as an alternative to Counterclaims I & II, and
10	incorporates the preceding allegations of Paragraphs 1 to 53 herein.
11	77. Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó directly themselves, and/or
12	through their authorized agents who created the "Ransom Nova" accounts, repeatedly
13	represented to YouTube in the ToS Agreement and in the upload process that they had the
14	authority to post the videos that they did, and that the videos did not infringe any third party's
15	copyrights. Those representations were true.
16	78. From October 29, 2019 through November 15, 2019, Pirate Monitor and Csupó
17	sent approximately 1,800 DMCA takedown notices to YouTube for content that they themselves
18	had uploaded to YouTube. Each of those notices was sent by "Pirate Monitor LLC" signed by
19	Csupó.
20	79. In their DMCA takedown notices, Pirate Monitor and Csupó expressly
21	represented to YouTube that the videos identified in the notices infringed the copyrights of a
22	party they were authorized to represent (Mega Film). They further declared that the information
23	in the takedown notices was accurate, and declared under penalty of perjury that they were the
24	owner, or an agent authorized to act on behalf of the owner, of an exclusive right that was
25	allegedly infringed.
26	80. Pirate Monitor and Csupó's representations in those DMCA takedown notices
27	regarding infringement were knowingly false. As Pirate Monitor and Csupó knew, the videos
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	YOUTUBE AND GOOGLE'S ANSWER -44- CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD AND COUNTERCLAIMS

Case 3:20-cv-04423-JD Document 160 Filed 08/22/22 Page 45 of 47

they identified as infringing in their DMCA takedown notices were not infringing their
 copyrights or those of copyright owners that they represented. In fact, through their authorized
 agents who created the "Ransom Nova" accounts, Pirate Monitor and Csupó themselves had
 uploaded those same videos.

5 81. Each time they sent DMCA takedown notices to YouTube for videos they had
6 uploaded, Pirate Monitor and Csupó knowingly and materially misrepresented that material or
7 activity on YouTube was infringing.

8 82. YouTube, the service provider that received these DMCA takedown notices,
9 relied upon the misrepresentations made by Pirate Monitor LLC and Csupó therein by removing
10 or disabling access to the material they falsely claimed was infringing. YouTube's reliance was
11 reasonable, given that the notices at issue were made in the form prescribed by the DMCA, 17
12 U.S.C. § 512(c)(3).

13 83. YouTube was injured by Pirate Monitor and Csupó's misrepresentations in their
14 DMCA notices. But for those misrepresentations, YouTube would not have had to incur the costs
15 of processing approximately 1,800 DMCA notices and removing the videos identified in those
16 notices. Further, as a result of Pirate Monitor and Csupó's misrepresentations, YouTube had to
17 expend substantial additional sums on an investigation in an effort to detect and thwart their
18 deceptive behavior.

19 84. Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó have yet to admit their role
20 in the scheme detailed herein, much less forsworn similar misconduct in the future. The sheer
21 number of material misrepresentations they made in DMCA takedown notices demonstrates that
22 they have little fear of the threat of monetary liability under Section 512(f). Further, as the
23 Complaint in this action demonstrates, Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó still
24 harbor the same motive to obtain access to Content ID as they did when they first hatched their
25 plan.

26 85. Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó have demonstrated their
27 willingness to conceal their identities in furtherance of their goals. Having been caught by

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YouTube, they now can learn from their mistakes to evade detection in the future by, inter alia, 1 2 selecting new account names, masking their IP addresses, using new and different agents to 3 upload videos, and sending new false DMCA takedown notices for different videos that their 4 new agents upload. Because YouTube relies on the sworn representations made by those that 5 send facially valid copyright removal requests, there is no guarantee it can detect and prevent 6 such fraudulent behavior in the future, nor should it be forced to expend substantial sums to try 7 to do so. Further, YouTube has no ready means of calculating the harm that such 8 misrepresentations would cause to YouTube or its users in terms of lost goodwill, lost audiences, 9 and lost opportunities. To prevent such irreparable harm, injunctive relief barring Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Csupó from future misrepresentations in DMCA takedown 10 11 notices is warranted. 12 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF** 13 Wherefore, YouTube respectfully requests that the Court: 14 Award damages against Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and a. 15 Gábor Csupó sufficient to compensate YouTube for the harm caused by their conduct; 16 17 Award punitive damages against Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, b. 18 and Gábor Csupó for their fraudulent conduct; 19 Issue an injunction barring Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and c. 20 Gábor Csupó and all those in active concert with them from submitting notices of 21 alleged infringement to YouTube that misrepresent that material on the YouTube 22 service is infringing copyrights held or claimed to be held by Pirate Monitor LTD, 23 Pirate Monitor LLC, and Gábor Csupó or anyone they claim to represent; 24 d. Award YouTube the costs of this action along with attorneys' fees pursuant 25 to 17 U.S.C. § 512(f) against Pirate Monitor LTD, Pirate Monitor LLC, and Gábor 26 Csupó; and 27 28 CASE NO. 3:20-CV-04423-JD YOUTUBE AND GOOGLE'S ANSWER -46-AND COUNTERCLAIMS

	Case 3:20-cv-04423-JD	Document 160	Filed 08/22/22	Page 47 of 47
1	e. Award	VouTube such oth	er and further relie	ef as the Court may deem just
2	and proper.	rouruoe suen om		as the court may deem just
3			Respectfully sub	mitted,
4	Dated: August 22, 2022		WILSON SONS	INI GOODRICH & ROSATI
5			Professional Cor	poration
6	E		By: <u>/s/ David H. Kramer</u> David H. Kramer	
7			Attorneys for De	fendants and Counterclaimants C and GOOGLE LLC
8			YOUTUBE, LLO	C and GOOGLE LLC
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