

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
MCALLEN DIVISION

TRACFONE WIRELESS, INC. §
§
VS. § CIVIL NO. M-08-137
§
VERINET, INC., *et al* §

FINAL JUDGMENT AND PERMANENT INJUNCTION
AGAINST DEFENDANTS VERINET, INC.,
D/B/A/ MR. WIRELESS, SHANNON PERO, AND JESSE BACHSIHAN

Plaintiff, TracFone Wireless, Inc. (“TracFone”), brought the above-captioned lawsuit against Defendants, Verinet, Inc., a California corporation, d/b/a Mr. Wireless (“Mr. Wireless”), Shannon Pero, individually (“Pero”), and Jesse Bachsihan, individually (“Bachsihan”) (Mr. Wireless, Pero, and Bachsihan are collectively referred to as “Defendants”), alleging that the Defendants are engaged in an unlawful enterprise involving the acquisition, sale and alteration of large quantities of TracFone and TracFone’s NET10 branded prepaid wireless telephones (“TracFone/NET10 Prepaid Phones” or “Phones”) purchased from various retail outlets such as Wal-Mart, Target and Sam’s Club, the solicitation and payment of others to bulk purchase TracFone/NET10 Prepaid Phones for Defendants’ benefit, computer hacking and erasing or otherwise disabling the prepaid software (“TracFone/NET10 Prepaid Software”) installed in the Phones essential for consumers to access TracFone’s prepaid wireless network, or reselling the Phones to others who disable the software, and ultimately selling the altered Phones as new under TracFone’s trademarks for the unauthorized use outside of the TracFone prepaid wireless system for profit (the “Bulk Resale Scheme”).

TracFone/NET10 Prepaid Phones are sold subject to terms and conditions (“Terms and Conditions”) which conspicuously restrict and limit the sale and use of TracFone/NET10 Prepaid Phones. These Terms and Conditions are set forth in printed inserts that are included in the packaging with every TracFone Phone, and are also available to the public on TracFone’s website. The Terms and Conditions are also referenced in printed warnings that are placed on the outside of the retail packaging of the Phones. The Terms and Conditions and language on the packaging constitute a valid binding contract.

Pursuant to the Terms and Conditions and the language on the packaging, purchasers of TracFone/NET10 Prepaid Phones agree: (a) to use the Phones only in conjunction with the TracFone/NET10 prepaid wireless service; (b) not to tamper with or alter TracFone/NET10 Prepaid Phones or the Phones’ software, enter unauthorized PIN numbers in the Phones, engage in any other unauthorized or illegal use of the Phones or the TracFone/NET10 service, or assist others in such acts; and (c) not to export any TracFone/NET10 Prepaid Phones outside of the TracFone/NET10 wireless system coverage area (“Coverage Area”). In violation of the Terms and Conditions, TracFone Defendants have, among other things, unlawfully exported TracFone/NET10 Prepaid Phones to foreign countries outside of the Coverage area or knowingly facilitated others who have done so; facilitated others to use the Phones without the TracFone/NET10 prepaid wireless service; and altered TracFone/NET10 Prepaid Phones and the Phones’ software or facilitated others who have done so.

As a result of Defendants’ involvement in the Bulk Resale Scheme, TracFone asserted claims against the Defendants for federal trademark infringement under 15

U.S.C. § 1114; federal unfair competition under 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a); breach of contract; contributory trademark infringement; copyright infringement under 17 U.S.C. § 106; copyright infringement under Title 17 of the United States Code; circumvention of copyrighted software protection systems and trafficking in circumvent technology under 17 U.S.C. § 1201, *et. seq.* as a violation of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (“DMCA”); common law unfair competition; conspiracy to induce breach of contract; unfair competition and false advertising under Fla. Stat. 501.204; civil conspiracy; and unjust enrichment. Accordingly, it is hereby,

ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED that:

1. This Court has jurisdiction over all the parties and all of the claims set forth in TracFone’s complaint.
2. The Court finds that TracFone owns all right, title, and interest in and to United States Trademark Registration No. 2,114,692, issued on November 18, 1997 and based on a first use date of June 30, 1996; United States Trademark Registration No. 2,761,017, issued on September 9, 2003 and based on a first use date of December 2000; United States Trademark Registration No. 3,224,929, issued on April 3, 2007 and based on a first use date of December 31, 2005; United States Trademark Registration No. 3,222,623, issued on March 27, 2007 and based on a first use date of December 31, 2005; United States Trademark Registration No. 3,118,250, on July 18, 2006 and based on a first use date of March 1, 2005; United States Trademark Registration No. 3,255,754, issued on June 26, 2007 and based on a first use date of December 31, 2005; United States Trademark Registration No. 3,253,506, issued on June 19, 2007 and based on a first use date of December 31, 2005; and United States Trademark Registration No.

3,251,389, issued on June 12, 2007 and based on a first use date of December 31, 2005 (collectively the “TracFone Trademarks”).

3. The TracFone Trademarks are valid, distinctive, protectable, famous, have acquired secondary meaning and are associated exclusively with TracFone. The Court finds that the trademark registered under Registration No. 2,114,692 is incontestable.

4. The Court further finds that TracFone holds a valid and enforceable copyright registration, TX 6-515-894, on the TracFone Prepaid Software.

5. The Court finds that the Defendants’ involvement in the Bulk Resale Scheme constitutes As a result of Defendants’ involvement in the Bulk Resale Scheme, TracFone asserted claims against the Defendants for federal trademark infringement under 15 U.S.C. § 1114; federal unfair competition under 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a); breach of contract; contributory trademark infringement; copyright infringement under 17 U.S.C. § 106; copyright infringement under Title 17 of the United States Code; circumvention of copyrighted software protection systems and trafficking in circumvent technology under 17 U.S.C. § 1201, *et. seq.* as a violation of the DMCA; common law unfair competition; conspiracy to induce breach of contract; unfair competition and false advertising under Fla. Stat. 501.204; civil conspiracy; and unjust enrichment.

6. The Court finds that the Terms and Conditions constitute a valid binding contract enforceable against Defendants. The Court finds that (a) facilitating others to use TracFone/NET10 Prepaid Phones in conjunction with service providers other than TracFone, (b) tampering with or altering TracFone/NET10 Prepaid Phones or the Phones’ software, entering unauthorized PIN numbers in the Phones for purposes of unlocking or

reflashing the Phones, or facilitating others in such acts, and/or (c) exporting TracFone/NET10 Prepaid Phones outside of the Coverage Area, or assisting others in such acts, respectively, constitute independent breaches of contract for which TracFone is entitled to relief.

7. The Court further finds that Defendants' participation in the Bulk Resale Scheme has caused substantial and irreparable harm to TracFone, and will continue to cause substantial and irreparable harm to TracFone unless enjoined.

8. TracFone is entitled to injunctive relief and damages on the claims set forth in the Complaint.

9. On November 27, 2006, the Librarian of Congress, upon the recommendation of the Register of Copyrights, issued a Final Rule setting forth six (6) classes of copyrighted works that are exempt from the provisions of the DMCA, including:

Computer programs in the form of firmware that enable wireless telephone handsets to connect to a wireless telephone communication network, when circumvention is accomplished for the sole purpose of lawfully connecting to a wireless telephone communication network.

71 Fed. Reg. 68472 (Nov. 27, 2006) (amending 37 C.F.R. § 201.40(b)). The Court finds that this new exemption does not absolve the Defendants of liability for their violations of the DMCA as alleged in TracFone's complaint, because the Defendants' conduct as alleged in this case does not come within the scope of the new exemption. The

Defendants' purchase and resale of the TracFone handsets was for the purpose of reselling those handsets for a profit, and not "for the sole purpose of lawfully connecting to a wireless telephone communication network." Because the exemption does not apply to the conduct alleged in this case, there is no need for the Court to address the validity of the exemption or the circumstances surrounding its enactment.

10. Final judgment is hereby entered, jointly and severally, against Defendants, Verinet, Inc., a California corporation, d/b/a/ Mr. Wireless, Shannon Pero, individually, and Jesse Bachsihan, individually, and in favor of the Plaintiff, TracFone Wireless, Inc., on all of the claims set forth in TracFone's complaint, in the principal amount of FIVE MILLION DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS (\$5,000,000.00), which shall bear interest at the legal rate, for which let execution issue forthwith.

11. Defendants, and each and all of their past and present respective officers, directors, successors, assigns, parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, related companies, predecessors in- interest, agents, employees, attorneys, accountants, investigators, consultants, heirs, personal representatives, beneficiaries, relatives, and all other persons or entities acting or purporting to act for him/her/it or on his/her/its behalf, including but not limited to any corporation, partnership, proprietorship or entity of any type that is in any way affiliated or associated with any Defendant or any Defendant's representatives, agents, assigns, parent entities, employees, independent contractors, accountants, attorneys, associates, servants, affiliated entities, and any and all persons and entities in active concert and participation with any Defendant who receive notice of this Order, shall be and hereby are PERMANENTLY ENJOINED from:

- a. purchasing and/or selling any wireless mobile phone that they know or should know bears any TracFone, NET10 and/or Safelink Wireless Trademark, any other trademark owned or used by TracFone, NET10 and/or Safelink Wireless, or any other model of wireless mobile phone sold or marketed by TracFone, NET10 and/or Safelink Wireless (“TracFone/NET10 Handsets”). Specifically, the Defendants are enjoined from purchasing and/or selling all models of TracFone/NET10 Handsets currently offered for sale by TracFone, or that may be offered for sale in the future, as listed and updated from time to time on TracFone’s and NET10’s websites, http://tracfone.com/activation_pick_brand.jsp and www.net10.com, including without limitation the following TracFone/NET10 handsets:

Motorola W175

Motorola W260g

Motorola W376g

Motorola W370R

Motorola W370

Motorola W375

Motorola C261

Motorola C139

PINK Motorota C139

Motorola V176

Motorola V170

Motorola V171

Motorola C155

Motorola C343

Motorola V60i

Nokia 2126

Nokia 2126i

Nokia 2600

Nokia 1100

Nokia 1112

Nokia 1221

Nokia 1600

Nokia 2285

LG 400G

LG 3280

LG CG225

LG 1500

LG 200C

Kyocera K126C

- b. reflashing and/or unlocking of any TracFone/NET10 Handset;
- c. accessing, altering, erasing, tampering with, deleting or otherwise disabling TracFone's proprietary prepaid cellular software contained within any and all models of TracFone/NET10 Handsets;
- d. facilitating or in any way assisting other persons or entities who Defendants know or should know are engaged in reflashing and/or unlocking TracFone/NET10 Handsets and/or hacking, altering, erasing, tampering with, deleting or otherwise disabling the software installed in TracFone/NET10 Handsets;
- e. facilitating or in any way assisting other persons or entities who Defendants know or should know are engaged in any of the acts prohibited under this permanent injunction including, without limitation, the buying and/or selling of unlocked TracFone/NET10 Handsets; and
- f. knowingly using the TracFone Trademarks or any other trademark owned or used by TracFone, or that is likely to cause confusion with TracFone's Trademarks, without TracFone's prior written authorization.

12. The address of Defendant, Verinet, Inc., a California corporation, d/b/a Mr. Wireless, is 7325 Atoll Avenue, North Hollywood, California 91605.

13. The address of Defendant, Jesse Bachsihan, is 3940 Laurel Canyon Blvd #1218, Studio City, California 91604.


14. The address of Defendant, Shannon Pero, is 3940 Laurel Canyon Blvd #1218, Studio City, California 91604.

15. The address of Plaintiff, TracFone Wireless, Inc. is 9700 NW 112th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33178.

16. The Court retains jurisdiction over this matter and the parties to this action in order to enforce any violation of the terms of this Permanent Injunction by a finding of contempt and an order for payment of compensatory damages to TracFone Wireless, Inc. in an amount of \$5,000 for each TracFone/NET10 Handset that a Defendant is found to have purchased, sold, or unlocked in violation of this injunction. The Court finds that these amounts are compensatory and will serve to compensate TracFone for its losses in the event a Defendant violates the terms of this Order.

17. The prevailing party in any proceeding to enforce compliance with the terms of this Permanent Injunction shall be entitled to an award of its attorneys' fees and costs.

SO ORDERED this 21st day of October, 2008, at McAllen, Texas.



Randy Crane
United States District Judge