

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA  
JACKSONVILLE DIVISION

PLASTIC THE MOVIE LIMITED, )  
 )  
 Plaintiff, )  
 )  
 v. )  
 )  
 JOHN DOE, subscriber assigned IP address )  
 98.231.87.7, )  
 )  
 Defendant. )  
 \_\_\_\_\_ )

Civil Case No. 3:15-cv-382-J-25 JBT

CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA  
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA  
2015 MAR 27 A 9:48

FILED

**COMPLAINT**

Plaintiff, Plastic the Movie Limited (“Plaintiff”), sues Defendant, John Doe subscriber assigned IP address 98.231.87.7 (“Defendant”), and alleges:

**Introduction**

1. This matter arises under the United States Copyright Act of 1976, as amended, 17 U.S.C. §§ 101, *et seq.* (the “Copyright Act”).

2. Defendant is an online copyright infringer and BitTorrent user. Indeed, Defendant’s IP address as set forth on Exhibit “A” was used without authorization to illegally distribute the copyrighted work owned by Plaintiff listed on Exhibit “B.”

3. Plaintiff is the registered owner of the copyrighted audiovisual work set forth on Exhibit B (the “Copyright-in-Suit”).

**Jurisdiction and Venue**

4. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331 (federal question); and 28 U.S.C. § 1338 (patents, copyrights, trademarks and unfair competition).

5. Plaintiff used proven IP address geolocation technology which has consistently worked in similar cases to ensure that the Defendant's acts of copyright infringement occurred using an Internet Protocol address ("IP address") traced to a physical address located within this District and, therefore, this Court has personal jurisdiction over the Defendant because: (i) Defendant committed the tortious conduct alleged in this Complaint in this State, and (ii) Defendant resides in this State and/or (iii) Defendant has engaged in substantial and not isolated business activity in this State.

6. The geolocation technology used by Plaintiff has proven to be accurate.

7. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) and (c), because: (i) a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims occurred in this District; and, (ii) the Defendant resides (and therefore can be found) in this District and resides in this State; additionally, venue is proper in this District pursuant 28 U.S.C. § 1400(a) (venue for copyright cases) because Defendant or Defendant's agent resides or may be found in this District.

#### **Parties**

8. Plaintiff is a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the United.

9. Plaintiff only knows Defendant by his, her or its IP address. Defendant's IP address is set forth in the style of the case.

10. Defendant's Internet Service Provider can identify the Defendant.

### **Factual Background**

#### **I. *Plastic the Movie Limited Holds the Copyright to a Widely Infringed Popular Film***

11. Plaintiff owns the copyright to the film Plastic (the “Film”), a British action crime comedy.

12. The Film was inspired by the true story of Saq Ahmed, a former conman, who stole millions from some of the world’s wealthiest people—including royalty and large corporations.

13. The Film’s production cost millions and involved filming at locations such as London and Miami.

14. The Film stars Ed Speleers, Will Poulter, Alfie Allen, Sebastian de Souza, and Emma Rigby.

15. The Film is being widely infringed on BitTorrent, which has cost Plaintiff a substantial amount in lost revenue.

#### **II. *Defendant Used the BitTorrent File Distribution Network to Infringe Plaintiff’s Copyrights***

16. The BitTorrent file distribution network (“BitTorrent”) is one of the most common peer-to-peer file sharing systems used for distributing large amounts of data, including, but not limited to, written publications, audiovisual works and other digital media files.

17. BitTorrent’s popularity stems from the ability of users to directly interact with each other in order to distribute a large file without creating a heavy load on any individual source computer and/or network. The methodology of BitTorrent allows users to interact directly with each other, thus avoiding the need for intermediary host websites which are subject to DMCA take-down notices and potential regulatory enforcement actions.

18. In order to distribute a large file, the BitTorrent protocol breaks a file into many

small pieces. Users then exchange these pieces among each other, instead of attempting to distribute a much larger digital file.

19. After the infringer receives all of the pieces of a digital media file, the infringer's BitTorrent client software reassembles the pieces so that the file may be opened and utilized.

20. Each piece of a BitTorrent file is assigned a unique cryptographic hash value.

21. The cryptographic hash value of the piece ("piece hash") acts as that piece's unique digital fingerprint. Every digital file has one single possible cryptographic hash value correlating to it. The BitTorrent protocol utilizes cryptographic hash values to ensure each piece is properly routed among BitTorrent users as they engage in file sharing.

22. The entirety of the digital media file also has a unique cryptographic hash value ("file hash"), which acts as a digital fingerprint identifying the digital media file (e.g., a video). Once infringers complete downloading all pieces which comprise a digital media file, the BitTorrent software uses the file hash to determine that the file is complete and accurate.

23. Plaintiff's infringement detection company, Excipio GmbH ("Excipio") established a direct TCP/IP connection with Defendant.

24. Excipio downloaded part of a digital media file (the "Infringing File") from Defendant. The Infringing File is a copy of Plaintiff's Film.

25. Plaintiff is the author of the Film in the Infringing File which is registered with the U.S. Copyright Office. *See* Exhibit B for the Film's copyright registration information.

26. Plaintiff did not authorize its copyrighted work to be distributed via the BitTorrent protocol. Instead, the initial seeder illegally uploaded the work to BitTorrent and distributed it to numerous other individuals.

27. Defendant downloaded all of the pieces of the Infringing File. Thereafter,

Defendant's BitTorrent client assembled them into a viewable movie file.

28. Excipio also downloaded a full copy of the Infringing File and reviewed it. Excipio further reviewed the original Film as provided by Plaintiff and confirmed that the Infringing File is identical, or substantially similar, to the corresponding original work.

29. At no time did Excipio upload Plaintiff's copyrighted content to any other BitTorrent user.

30. Although there are multiple infringing transactions from Defendant's IP address, the most recent infringing transaction recorded by Excipio prior to preparing this Complaint is set forth on Exhibit A.

31. Exhibit B lists the registration number, registration date, and date of first publication for the Film.

32. Each infringing transaction between Defendant's IP address and Excipio is recorded in a PCAP. A PCAP is akin to a video recording. Here, the recording is of a transaction between the infringer's computer and Excipio's computer. Through each transaction, Defendant distributed a piece of the Infringing File. The PCAP shows Defendant's IP address, and the piece that was distributed. Excipio verified that the piece that was distributed belongs to the Infringing File by calculating its hash value.

#### **Miscellaneous**

33. All conditions precedent to bringing this action have occurred or been waived.

34. Plaintiff has retained counsel and is obligated to pay said counsel a reasonable fee for its services.

#### **COUNT I**

#### **Direct Infringement Against Defendant**

35. The allegations contained in paragraphs 1-34 are hereby re-alleged as if fully set

forth herein.

36. Plaintiff is the owner of the copyright which covers an original work of authorship.

37. By using BitTorrent, Defendant copied and distributed the constituent elements of the copyrighted work.

38. Plaintiff did not authorize, permit or consent to Defendant's distribution of its work.

39. As a result of the foregoing, Defendant violated Plaintiff's exclusive right to:

(A) Reproduce the work in copies, in violation of 17 U.S.C. §§ 106(1) and 501;

(B) Redistribute copies of the work to the public by sale or other transfer of ownership, or by rental, lease or lending, in violation of 17 U.S.C. §§ 106(3) and 501;

(C) Perform the copyrighted work, in violation of 17 U.S.C. §§ 106(4) and 501, by showing the work's images in any sequence and/or by making the sounds accompanying the work audible and transmitting said performance of the work, by means of a device or process, to members of the public capable of receiving the display (as set forth in 17 U.S.C. § 101's definitions of "perform" and "publically" perform); and

(D) Display the copyrighted work, in violation of 17 U.S.C. §§ 106(5) and 501, by showing individual images of the work nonsequentially and transmitting said display of the work by means of a device or process to members of the public capable of receiving the display (as set forth in 17 U.S.C. § 101's definition of "publically" display).

40. Defendant's infringements were committed "willfully" within the meaning of 17 U.S.C. § 504(c)(2).

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff respectfully requests that the Court:

(A) Permanently enjoin Defendant and all other persons who are in active concert or participation with Defendant from continuing to infringe Plaintiff's copyrighted work;

(B) Order that Defendant delete and permanently remove the digital media files relating to Plaintiff's work from each of the computers under Defendant's possession, custody or control;

(C) Order that Defendant delete and permanently remove the infringing copies of the work Defendant has on computers under Defendant's possession, custody or control;

(D) Award Plaintiff statutory damages per infringed work pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 504-(a) and (c);

(E) Award Plaintiff its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to 17 U.S.C. § 505; and

(F) Grant Plaintiff any other and further relief this Court deems just and proper.

**DEMAND FOR A JURY TRIAL**

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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Fax: (305) 350-7441

admin@tamarofflaw.com

*Attorneys for Plaintiff*

**File Hashes for IP Address 98.231.87.7**

**ISP:** Comcast Cable Holdings, LLC

**Physical Location:** Green Cove Springs, FL

<b>Hit Date UTC</b>	<b>File Hash</b>	<b>Title</b>
01/12/2015 16:04:39	CEDE26D7C839F77A7D1601EF424E6C460DDF5A1A	Plastic

**Total Statutory Claims Against Defendant: 1**

EXHIBIT A

MFL129



**Copyrights-In-Suit for IP Address 98.231.87.7**

**ISP:** Comcast Cable Holdings, LLC

**Location:** Green Cove Springs, FL

<b>Title</b>	<b>Registration Number</b>	<b>Date of First Publication</b>	<b>Registration Date</b>	<b>Most Recent Hit UTC</b>
Plastic	PAu003730858	05/02/2014	02/14/2014	01/12/2015

**Total PLASTIC THE MOVIE LIMITED Copyrights Infringed: 1**

EXHIBIT B

MFL129



Help | Search | History | Titles | Start Over

## Public Catalog

Copyright Catalog (1978 to present)

Search Request: Left Anchored Copyright Number = PAu003730858

Search Results: Displaying 1 of 1 entries

◀ previous next ▶

Unlabeled View

### *PLASTIC.*

**Type of Work:** Motion Picture

**Registration Number / Date:** PAu003730858 / 2014-02-14

**Application Title:** PLASTIC.

**Title:** PLASTIC.

**Description:** Videodisc (DVD)

**Copyright Claimant:** Plastic The Movie Limited. Address: 8 Broadstone Place, London, W1U 7EP, United Kingdom.

**Date of Creation:** 2013

**Authorship on Application:** Plastic The Movie Limited, employer for hire; Domicile: United Kingdom. Authorship: entire motion picture.

**Rights and Permissions:** Terry Stone, Gateway Films, terry.stone@gateway-films.com

**Names:** Plastic The Movie Limited

◀ previous next ▶

<b>Save, Print and Email (Help Page)</b>	
Select Download Format	Full Record <input type="button" value="Format for Print/Save"/>
Enter your email address:	<input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Email"/>

[Help](#) | [Search](#) | [History](#) | [Titles](#) | [Start Over](#)

[Contact Us](#) | [Request Copies](#) | [Get a Search Estimate](#) | [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\) about Copyright](#) | [Copyright Office Home Page](#) | [Library of Congress Home Page](#)

EXHIBIT B

JS 44 (Rev. 12/12)

### CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

<b>I. (a) PLAINTIFFS</b> Plastic the Movie Limited  (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff _____ (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)  (c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Tamaroff & Tamaroff, P.A. T: 305.350.7440 169 East Flagler Street, Suite 1633 Miami, FL 33131	<b>DEFENDANTS</b> JOHN DOE subscriber assigned IP address 98.231.87.7  County of Residence of First Listed Defendant <u>Clay County</u> (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)  NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.  Attorneys (If Known)
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<b>II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION</b> (Place an "X" in One Box Only)  <input type="checkbox"/> 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)  <input type="checkbox"/> 2 U.S. Government Defendant <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)	<b>III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES</b> (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant) (For Diversity Cases Only) <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:33%;"></td> <td style="width:33%; text-align: center;">PTF DEF</td> <td style="width:33%;"></td> <td style="width:33%; text-align: center;">PTF DEF</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Citizen of This State</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 1</td> <td>Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Citizen of Another State</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 2</td> <td>Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 3</td> <td>Foreign Nation</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> 6 <input type="checkbox"/> 6</td> </tr> </table>		PTF DEF		PTF DEF	Citizen of This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 1	Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 <input type="checkbox"/> 4	Citizen of Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> 2	Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 <input type="checkbox"/> 5	Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	Foreign Nation	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 <input type="checkbox"/> 6
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Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 <input type="checkbox"/> 3	Foreign Nation	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 <input type="checkbox"/> 6														

IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)					
<b>CONTRACT</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 110 Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> 120 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 130 Miller Act <input type="checkbox"/> 140 Negotiable Instrument <input type="checkbox"/> 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment <input type="checkbox"/> 151 Medicare Act <input type="checkbox"/> 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) <input type="checkbox"/> 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits <input type="checkbox"/> 160 Stockholders' Suits <input type="checkbox"/> 190 Other Contract <input type="checkbox"/> 195 Contract Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 196 Franchise	<b>TORTS</b> <b>PERSONAL INJURY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 310 Airplane <input type="checkbox"/> 315 Airplane Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 320 Assault, Libel & Slander <input type="checkbox"/> 330 Federal Employers' Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 340 Marine <input type="checkbox"/> 345 Marine Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 350 Motor Vehicle <input type="checkbox"/> 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 360 Other Personal Injury <input type="checkbox"/> 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice	<b>PERSONAL INJURY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 367 Health Care/Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability <input type="checkbox"/> 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability  <b>PERSONAL PROPERTY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 370 Other Fraud <input type="checkbox"/> 371 Truth in Lending <input type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage <input type="checkbox"/> 385 Property Damage Product Liability	<b>FORFEITURE/PENALTY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 <input type="checkbox"/> 690 Other  <b>LABOR</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 710 Fair Labor Standards Act <input type="checkbox"/> 720 Labor/Management Relations <input type="checkbox"/> 740 Railway Labor Act <input type="checkbox"/> 751 Family and Medical Leave Act <input type="checkbox"/> 790 Other Labor Litigation <input type="checkbox"/> 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act  <b>IMMIGRATION</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 462 Naturalization Application <input type="checkbox"/> 465 Other Immigration Actions	<b>BANKRUPTCY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 <input type="checkbox"/> 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157  <b>PROPERTY RIGHTS</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 820 Copyrights <input type="checkbox"/> 830 Patent <input type="checkbox"/> 840 Trademark  <b>SOCIAL SECURITY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 861 HIA (1395ff) <input type="checkbox"/> 862 Black Lung (923) <input type="checkbox"/> 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) <input type="checkbox"/> 864 SSID Title XVI <input type="checkbox"/> 865 RSI (405(g))  <b>FEDERAL TAX SUITS</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) <input type="checkbox"/> 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	<b>OTHER STATUTES</b> <input type="checkbox"/> 375 False Claims Act <input type="checkbox"/> 400 State Reapportionment <input type="checkbox"/> 410 Antitrust <input type="checkbox"/> 430 Banks and Banking <input type="checkbox"/> 450 Commerce <input type="checkbox"/> 460 Deportation <input type="checkbox"/> 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations <input type="checkbox"/> 480 Consumer Credit <input type="checkbox"/> 490 Cable/Sat TV <input type="checkbox"/> 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange <input type="checkbox"/> 890 Other Statutory Actions <input type="checkbox"/> 891 Agricultural Acts <input type="checkbox"/> 893 Environmental Matters <input type="checkbox"/> 895 Freedom of Information Act <input type="checkbox"/> 896 Arbitration <input type="checkbox"/> 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision <input type="checkbox"/> 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes

**V. ORIGIN** (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

1 Original Proceeding   
 2 Removed from State Court   
 3 Remanded from Appellate Court   
 4 Reinstated or Reopened   
 5 Transferred from Another District (specify)   
 6 Multidistrict Litigation

**VI. CAUSE OF ACTION**

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):  
17 U.S.C. § 101

Brief description of cause:  
Copyright Infringement

**VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:**

CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.   
**DEMAND \$** 150000   
**CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:**  
**JURY DEMAND:**  Yes  No

**VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY** (See instructions):

JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_ DOCKET NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

DATE 03/25/2015 SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OR RECORD

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIPT # Jax 15727 AMOUNT 400.00 APPLYING IFF \_\_\_\_\_ JUDGE 25 MAG. JUDGE JBT