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Superior Court of California  
County Of Los Angeles

SEP 02 2015

Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk  
By: Paul So, Deputy

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

JAMES WOODS,

Plaintiff,

v.

JOHN DOE, ET AL.,

Defendants.

Case No. BC589746

Assigned to: Hon. Mel Recana

**DEFENDANT JOHN DOE'S:**

1. **NOTICE OF MOTION AND  
SPECIAL TO MOTION STRIKE  
[CODE CIV. PROC. § 4251.6];**
2. **DECLARATION OF KENNETH P.  
WHITE; AND**
3. **EXHIBITS**

Date: February 2, 2016  
Time: 8:30 a.m.  
Dept.: 45

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that on February 2, 2016, at 8:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as  
the matter may be heard, in Department 45 of the above-entitled Court, located at 111 North Hill

1 Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012, Defendant John Doe ("Mr. Doe") will and hereby does move the  
2 Court for an order striking the entire Complaint pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section 425.16.

3 This Special Motion to Strike is made on the grounds that Plaintiff James Woods' ("Mr.  
4 Woods") claims for defamation and false light invasion of privacy constitute a strategic lawsuit  
5 against public participation ("SLAPP") within the meaning of Code of Civil Procedure section  
6 425.16. That statute protects conduct in furtherance of the exercise of the constitutional right of free  
7 speech. (Code Civ. Proc., § 425.16, subd. (e)(4).) Mr. Doe's speech is protected by the statute and  
8 Mr. Woods cannot show a probability of prevailing on the merits.

9 Mr. Doe's Special Motion to Strike is based on this Notice, the Memorandum of Points and  
10 Authorities attached hereto, the Declaration of Kenneth P. White and the exhibits filed concurrently  
11 herewith, the records and pleadings on file herein, and on such other evidence as may be presented.

12 Dated: September 1, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

13 BROWN WHITE & OSBORN LLP

14 By



15 KENNETH P. WHITE  
16 Attorneys for Defendant  
17 John Doe  
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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### Page

I.	INTRODUCTION .....	1
II.	STATEMENT OF RELEVANT FACTS .....	2
A.	Twitter Is A Social Media Platform Known For Hyperbole and Insult .....	2
B.	Mr. Woods Is Known For Hyperbole and Insult On Twitter .....	3
C.	Mr. Doe Is Also Known For Blunt Rhetoric And For Insulting Political Figures .....	5
D.	Mr. Woods Sent A Political Tweet, Mr. Doe Insulted Him In Response .....	6
III.	ARGUMENT .....	7
A.	California's Anti-SLAPP Statute Protects Mr. Doe's First Amendment Rights From Plaintiff's Frivolous Assault .....	7
B.	The Complaint Arises From Mr. Doe's Protected Speech, Triggering the Anti-SLAPP Statute .....	8
C.	Mr. Woods Cannot Prevail Because The Challenged Language Is Hyperbole, Not A Statement of Provable Fact .....	9
1.	Only Statements of Provable Fact, Not Hyperbole and Insult, Can Be Defamatory .....	9
2.	Mr. Doe's Tweet Was Hyperbole And Insult, Not A Statement of Provable Fact .....	12
D.	Mr. Doe is Entitled To His Attorney Fees .....	15
IV.	CONCLUSION .....	16

## TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

Page

### Cases

<i>American Humane Ass'n v. Los Angeles Times Communications,</i> (2001) 92 Cal.App.4th 1095 .....	15
<i>Beilenson v. Superior Court,</i> 44 Cal.App.4th 944 (1996) .....	14
<i>Bentley Reserve L.P. v. Papaliolios</i> (2013) 218 Cal.App.4 <sup>th</sup> 418 .....	12
<i>Brill Media Co., LLC v. TCW Group, Inc.,</i> (2005) 132 Cal.App.4th 324 .....	7
<i>Chaker v. Mateo</i> (2012) 209 Cal.App.4 <sup>th</sup> 1138 .....	12
<i>Cross v. Cooper</i> (2011) 197 Cal.App.4th 357 .....	9
<i>Ferlauto v. Hamsher</i> (1999) 74 Cal.App.4th 1394 .....	11, 12
<i>Gilbert v. Sykes</i> (2007) 147 Cal.App.4th 13 .....	8
<i>Governor Gray Davis Committee v. American Taxpayers Alliance</i> (2002) 102 Cal.App.4th 449 .....	7
<i>Greenbelt Co-op. Pub. Ass'n v. Bresler</i> (1970) 398 U.S. 6.....	10
<i>Greenbelt Pub. Assn. v. Bresler</i> (1970) 398 U.S. 6.....	10
<i>Gregory v. McDonnell</i> (1976) 17 Cal.3d 596 .....	10, 11, 13
<i>HMS Capital, Inc. v. Lawyers Title Co.</i> (2004) 118 Cal.App.4th 204 .....	8
<i>Krinsky v. Doe 6</i> (2008) 159 Cal.App.4 <sup>th</sup> 1154 .....	11, 14, 15
<i>Martinez v. Metabolife Intern., Inc.</i> <i>113 Cal.App.4th 181(2003)</i> .....	8, 9
<i>McClatchy Newspapers, Inc. v. Superior Court</i> (1987) 189 Cal.App.3d 961 .....	15
<i>Morningstar, Inc. v. Superior Court</i> (1994) 23 Cal.App.4th 676 .....	10

## TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

Page

Moyer v. Amador Valley J. Union High School Dist. (1990) 225 Cal.App.3d 722 .....	10
Nygard, Inc. v. Uusi-Kerttula (2008) 159 Cal.App.4th 1027 .....	9
Paterno v. Superior Court (2008) 163 Cal.App.4 <sup>th</sup> 1342 .....	10
Premier Med. Mgmt. Systems, Inc. v. California Ins. Guar. Ass’n (2006) 136 Cal.App.4th 464 .....	8
Rosenauer v. Scherer (2001) 88 Cal.App.4 <sup>th</sup> 260 .....	10
Rudnick v. McMillan (1994) 25 Cal.App.4th 1183 .....	10
Seelig v. Infinity Broadcasting Corp. (2002) 97 Cal.App.4th 798 .....	10, 13, 14
Standing Commission on Discipline v. Yagman (9 <sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995) 55 F.3d 1430 .....	10
Summit Bank v. Rogers (2012) 206 Cal.App.4 <sup>th</sup> 669 .....	11, 14
Tamkin v. CBS Broadcasting (2011) 193 Cal.App.4 <sup>th</sup> 133 .....	15
Troy Group, Inc. v. Tilson (C.D. Cal. 2005) 364 F.Supp.2d 1149 .....	10
U.S. v. Bradbury (N.D. Ind., May 22, 2015) 2015 WL 244964 .....	3
United States v. Cassidy (D.Md. 2011) 814 F.Supp.2d 574 .....	3
Vogel v. Felice (2005) 127 Cal.App.4th 1006 .....	8

### Statutes

Code Civ. Proc. § 425.16, subd. (a) .....	9
Code Civ. Proc., § 425.16 .....	7
Code Civ. Proc., § 425.16, subd. (b)(1) .....	7
Code Civ. Proc., § 425.16, subd. (b)(2) .....	7
Code Civ. Proc., § 425.16, subd. (c) .....	8

**TABLE OF AUTHORITIES**

Page

<i>Code Civ. Proc.</i> , § 425.16, subd. (e).....	8
<i>Code Civ. Proc.</i> , § 425.16, subd. (e)(3), (4).....	9

1 **MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

2 **I. INTRODUCTION**

3 Plaintiff James Woods (“Mr. Woods”), a celebrity, aggressively exercises his First Amendment  
4 rights on the social media platform Twitter.

5 From his Twitter account @RealJamesWoods, Mr. Woods gleefully calls people “clown” and  
6 “scum.”<sup>1</sup> He fantasizes about killing a man over an offensive shirt.<sup>2</sup> He portrays immigrants as  
7 obedient Democratic voters or as tattooed thugs.<sup>3</sup> He angrily calls Al Sharpton a “disgusting pig” who  
8 is responsible for the murder of policemen.<sup>4</sup> When other Twitter users disagree with him, Mr. Woods  
9 declares that they must be on crack cocaine.<sup>5</sup> Accused of rudeness, he calls the accuser a “disgusting,  
10 reprehensible liar.”<sup>6</sup> When he finds a *Rolling Stone* profile of the Boston Marathon Bomber  
11 unsatisfying, Mr. Woods rages that the publisher – who is gay -- must be masturbating to the image of  
12 the terrorist.<sup>7</sup> Faced with the existence of gay Americans like Defendant John Doe (“Mr. Doe”),<sup>8</sup> Mr.  
13 Woods is scornful: he uses accusations of homosexuality as an insult and derides the notion that gay  
14 Americans seek equal dignity.<sup>9</sup>

15 Mr. Doe agrees that this speech, however vile, is fully protected by the First Amendment.  
16 Regrettably Mr. Woods’ commitment to the First Amendment stops at his own keyboard. When Mr.  
17 Doe responded to one of Mr. Woods’ provocative tweets with an insult, rather than respond with more  
18 words Mr. Woods brought this thoroughly frivolous and censorious lawsuit. Mr. Woods did so even  
19 though the hyperbolic insult – that Mr. Woods is a “cocaine addict” – is exactly the sort of rhetorical  
20 flourish Mr. Woods himself uses all the time,<sup>10</sup> and in fact is a frequently employed in-joke on  
21

22 <sup>1</sup> Exhibits E-3, E-4 to Declaration of Kenneth P. White (“White Decl.”).

23 <sup>2</sup> Exhibits E-7 to White Decl.

24 <sup>3</sup> Exhibits E-8, E-9 to White Decl.

25 <sup>4</sup> Exhibit E-12

26 <sup>5</sup> Exhibits E-1, E-2 to White Decl.

27 <sup>6</sup> Exhibit E-10 to White Decl.

28 <sup>7</sup> Exhibits E-11, E-13, E-14 to White Decl.

<sup>8</sup> Mr. Doe is appearing anonymously, as the law permits. (*See, e.g., Digital Music News LLC v. Superior Court* (2014) 226 Cal.Ap.4<sup>th</sup> 216, 228.)

<sup>9</sup> Exhibits E-5, E-6, E-13, E-14 to White Decl.

<sup>10</sup> Exhibits E-1, E-2 to White Decl.

1 Twitter.<sup>11</sup> Like a bully who can dish it out but can't take it, Mr. Woods uses his wealth and fame to  
2 abuse the court system in order to punish and bully an obscure and much less powerful Twitter user  
3 who taunted him.

4 Fortunately California's anti-SLAPP statute<sup>12</sup> protects Mr. Doe – and anyone whose speech  
5 annoys James Woods – from vexatious and ruinously expensive litigation.

6 Mr. Doe carries his initial burden under § 425.16 with ease: his speech is on a public forum,  
7 Twitter, and is on a subject of public interest, a political argument with a celebrity. But Mr. Woods  
8 cannot possibly carry *his* burden of showing a probability of prevailing. Mr. Doe's "cocaine addict"  
9 jab at Mr. Woods was classic rhetorical insult and hyperbole, not a provable statement of fact. In  
10 determining whether a statement is protected rhetoric or unprotected fact, California courts look at the  
11 totality of the circumstances, and especially at the context of the statement and how its intended  
12 audience would interpret it. Here *every relevant factor* shows that the "cocaine addict" tweet was mere  
13 insult and "lusty and imaginative expression of contempt," not a statement of provable fact. It was  
14 uttered on Twitter, a platform known for insult and exaggeration. It was uttered by an anonymous  
15 account known for hyperbole *to* an account known for hyperbole. It employed a widely used Twitter  
16 "meme" to insult Mr. Woods. Most importantly, as Mr. Woods himself angrily emphasizes, it was part  
17 of a pattern of *insults* directed at Mr. Woods based on his political views. Under well-established  
18 California law, it was protected by the First Amendment, and Mr. Woods cannot prevail.

19 This Court should strike the Complaint entirely and award Mr. Doe his attorney fees. Thanks to  
20 the anti-SLAPP statute, the wealthy and famous cannot silence the weak.

## 21 **II. STATEMENT OF RELEVANT FACTS**

### 22 **A. Twitter Is A Social Media Platform Known For Hyperbole and Insult**

23 Twitter is a social media platform – a way for users to interact through the internet. Users have  
24 usernames starting with an "@" sign, like Mr. Woods with @RealJamesWoods and Mr. Doe with  
25 @AbeListed. Users can make statements called "tweets," which are brief expressions of up to 140  
26

27 <sup>11</sup> Exhibits C-1 to C-2 to White Decl.

28 <sup>12</sup> Code Civ. Proc. § 425.16. All statutory references herein are to the California Code of Civil  
Procedure unless otherwise noted.



1 characters that may include images, video, or links. Anyone who “follows” a user’s Twitter account  
2 will see the tweets that user sends. Twitter user “A” can also “retweet” Twitter user “B’s” tweet,  
3 copying it so that “A’s” own followers see it as well. Twitter users can direct a tweet at another user by  
4 adding their Twitter username in the tweet. (White Decl. at ¶¶ 7-17; *United States v. Cassidy* (D.Md.  
5 2011) 814 F.Supp.2d 574, 576.) Mr. Woods sues over such an exchange, in which he sent a tweet and  
6 Mr. Doe responded to him by using @RealJamesWoods. (Exhibit A to White Decl.)

7 Twitter is known for hyperbole, overheated rhetoric, and ad hominem attacks. It’s “notorious  
8 for spreading misinformation.”<sup>13</sup> It’s also known for being relentlessly insulting: “the Twitter universe  
9 is never happier than when it’s being snarky, or downright nasty, to someone.”<sup>14</sup> One court, in noting  
10 the difficulty of distinguishing between hyperbole and a true threat online, noted “[a] lot of people  
11 spout off online via Twitter, Facebook and other social media.” (*U.S. v. Bradbury* (N.D. Ind., May 22,  
12 2015) 2015 WL 2449641, at \*3.)

13 **B. Mr. Woods Is Known For Hyperbole and Insult On Twitter**

14 Mr. Woods epitomizes the rough-and-tumble tone of Twitter.

15 Mr. Woods has been called “Obama’s biggest Twitter troll”<sup>15</sup> and a “prolific, highly articulate,  
16 and politically incorrect conservative voice on Twitter.”<sup>16</sup> He has suggested publicly on Twitter that  
17 his vocal conservative advocacy will cost him work in Hollywood,<sup>17</sup> and has explained that he

18  
19  
20 <sup>13</sup> Rutkin, *Twitter Bots Grow Up and Take Over the World* (July 30, 2014) New Scientist [retrieved  
21 from [https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg22329804-000-twitter-bots-grow-up-and-take-on-the-](https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg22329804-000-twitter-bots-grow-up-and-take-on-the-world/)  
22 [world/](https://www.newscientist.com/article/mg22329804-000-twitter-bots-grow-up-and-take-on-the-world/) as of July 27, 2015.]

23 <sup>14</sup> Gross, *Study: Twitter Opinions Don’t Match the Mainstream* (March 4, 2013) CNN.com [retrieved  
24 from <http://www.cnn.com/2013/03/04/tech/social-media/twitter-reactions-public-opinion/> as of July  
25 27, 2015].

26 <sup>15</sup> Suebsang, *How James Woods Became Obama’s Biggest Twitter Troll* (December 31, 2014) Daily  
27 Beast [retrieved from [http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2014/12/31/how-james-woods-became-](http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2014/12/31/how-james-woods-became-obama-s-biggest-twitter-troll.html)  
28 [obama-s-biggest-twitter-troll.html](http://www.thedailybeast.com/articles/2014/12/31/how-james-woods-became-obama-s-biggest-twitter-troll.html) as of July 27, 2015.]

<sup>16</sup> Treacher, *James Woods: I’ll Probably Never Work In That Town Again* (October 9, 2013) Daily  
Caller [retrieved from [http://dailycaller.com/2013/10/09/james-woods-ill-probably-never-work-in-](http://dailycaller.com/2013/10/09/james-woods-ill-probably-never-work-in-that-town-again/#ixzz3k38zCMXD)  
[that-town-again/#ixzz3k38zCMXD](http://dailycaller.com/2013/10/09/james-woods-ill-probably-never-work-in-that-town-again/#ixzz3k38zCMXD) as of July 27, 2015.]

<sup>17</sup> “Woods, who recently appeared in *White House Down* and *Jobs*, was replying to a tweet that  
questioned the wisdom of his outspoken declarations. “I don’t expect to work again. I think Barack  
Obama is a threat to the integrity and future of the Republic. My country first.” Pulver, *James Woods*  
*Claims Hollywood Is Against Him After Anti-Obama Tweets* (October 10, 2013) The Guardian  
[retrieved from <http://www.theguardian.com/film/2013/oct/10/james-woods-tweets-barack-obama> as  
of July 27, 2015.]

expresses himself on Twitter to avoid mainstream media “editorializing.”<sup>18</sup> On occasion, he retweets the vulgar and abusive insults directed at him.<sup>19</sup>

Mr. Woods earned this reputation. He routinely engages in political hyperbole and exaggeration on Twitter:

- Mr. Woods uses terms like “clown” and “scum” to deride people with whom he disagrees. (Exhibits E-3, E-4 to White Decl.).
- Mr. Woods called the controversial Al Sharpton a “disgusting pig” and said that he was “DIRECTLY responsible for the murder of two good policemen.” (Exhibit E-12 to White Decl.)
- Mr. Woods posted a picture of a man wearing a shirt that appears to celebrate the 9/11 attacks and stated “I could shoot this guy in the head and sleep like a baby.” (Exhibit E-7 to White Decl.)
- When *Rolling Stone* published a profile of the Boston Marathon Bomber and featured his picture on the cover, Mr. Woods launched an angry tirade, suggesting that publisher Jann Wenner – who is gay -- harbored “erotic fantasies” about the domestic terrorist and was “whacking off” to him, and that Wenner was a “disgusting piece of shit” who made the bomber into a “dreamboat homoerotic fantasy.” (Exhibits E-11, E-13, and E-14 to White Decl.)
- The homophobic quality of Mr. Woods’ Wenner tweets are typical. On another occasion, Mr. Woods sneered at Justice Kennedy’s statement “gays ask for equal dignity in the eyes of the law” by posting a picture of explicit conduct by nearly-naked men at a gay pride parade. (Exhibit E-6 to White Decl.)
- Mr. Woods expresses his hostility for illegal immigration, posting pictures of immigrants as “undocumented Democrats on their way to America’s voting booths” and suggesting that

<sup>18</sup> Twitch.com, ‘*For the Record*’: James Woods Explains Why He’s Giving Up on The MSM and Sticking To Twitter (October 11, 2013) [retrieved from <http://twitchy.com/2013/10/11/for-the-record-james-woods-explains-why-hes-giving-up-on-the-msm-and-sticking-to-twitter/> as of July 27, 2015.]

<sup>19</sup> Twitchy.com, ‘*Unending Stream of Mindless Bile*’: James Woods Retweets Liberal Followers, (August 8, 2014) [retrieved from <http://twitchy.com/2014/08/08/unending-stream-of-mindless-bile-james-woods-retweets-liberal-followers/> as of July 27, 2015.]

1 illegal immigrants are not children worthy of sympathy but menacing tattooed gang  
2 members. (Exhibits E-8 and E-9 to White Decl.)

- 3 • When questioned or insulted, Mr. Woods throws a rhetorical elbow right back. When a  
4 Twitter user called him a “dick,” Mr. Woods rejoined that “dick” was a “menu choice” for  
5 the insulter. (Exhibit E-5 to White Decl.) When another user used the same insult and  
6 claimed that Mr. Woods wouldn’t take a picture with her, Mr. Woods called her a  
7 “disgusting, reprehensible liar.” (Exhibit E-10 to White Decl.).

8 Mr. Woods’ odd combativeness obviously wasn’t meant to go unnoticed, and it doesn’t.  
9 Perhaps because he has portrayed drug users during his long and successful acting career, and perhaps  
10 because his Twitter persona seems manic, for several years Twitter users have routinely joked that Mr.  
11 Woods is on cocaine. Exhibits C1 through C10 are ten different examples of Twitter users reacting to  
12 Mr. Woods’ diatribes with that “you’re on coke” insult. That vivid insult – “your political views  
13 suggest you are on drugs” -- is a staple of American rhetorical life.<sup>20</sup> In fact, *Mr. Woods has*  
14 *repeatedly used the insult himself* – the very insult that he now sues over. (Exhibits E-1, E-2 to White  
15 Decl.)

16 **C. Mr. Doe Is Also Known For Blunt Rhetoric And For Insulting Political Figures**

17 Mr. Doe is not rich or famous like Mr. Woods. He polices Twitter expression he doesn’t like  
18 through responsive speech, not through expensive lawsuits. People who follow his Twitter account  
19 @AbeListed would be familiar with his blunt and abrasive style of insulting political opponents, often  
20 directing his insults at their Twitter accounts. For example:

- 21 • In response to a tweet by Donald Trump advancing the notion that President Obama was not  
22 born in the United States, Mr. Doe snarked “the new Klan will have orange hair.” (Exhibit  
23 D-1 to White Decl.) Mr. Doe later called Trump and conservative writer Rich Lowry  
24 (called out specifically as @RichLowry) “the United Racists of America” and joked that  
25 they were actually Democratic agents working to alienate the Latino vote from the GOP.  
26 (Exhibit D-2 to White Decl.) He exaggerated, arguably, by suggesting that Glenn Beck’s  
27 political views showed a need for anti-psychotic medication. (Exhibit D-7 to White Decl.)

28 <sup>20</sup> It is not clear why Mr. Woods, who makes homophobic comments on Twitter, has singled out Mr.  
Doe, a vocal gay rights activist, as the one Twitter user to sue over this joke.

- Mr. Doe’s remarks often included the rhetorical trope of suggesting that alcohol or drugs produced the political positions he didn’t like. In response to a post criticizing President Obama, Mr. Doe mocked former Reagan speechwriter Peggy Noonan as “hitting the gin again” and asked if she “read any Pew polls between cocktails.” (Exhibit D-4 to White Decl.) Similarly, when Liz Cheney suggested that Sarah Palin was more qualified than President Obama, Mr. Doe asked “what drugs is Liz Cheney on?” (Exhibit D-8 to White Decl.)
- As Mr. Woods angrily reveals in the Complaint, Mr. Doe has insulted Mr. Woods before, calling him “ridiculous scum clown-boy James, a joke.” (Exhibit B to White Decl.)
- A gay rights activist, Mr. Doe is particularly vigorous in attacking Twitter users and public figures who engage in homophobia. When evangelist Franklin Graham called for a boycott of LGBT-friendly companies Mr. Doe called him a “two-bit huckster.” (Exh. D-5 to White Decl.) Regarding Justice Scalia, who penned dissents to recent gay rights decisions, Mr. Doe offered the colorful if incoherent insult “why can’t I inject Scalia with an admixture of Breitbart’s recycled cholesterol and Ben Shapiro’s colorless piss,” referring to two prominent conservative commentators. (Exhibit D-9 to White Decl.)

**D. Mr. Woods Sent A Political Tweet, Mr. Doe Insulted Him In Response**

Mr. Woods is suing Mr. Doe over a July 15, 2015 Twitter exchange. It began when Mr. Woods tweeted “USATODAY app features Bruce Jenner’s latest dress selection, but makes zero mention of Planned Parenthood baby parts market.” (Exhibit A to White Decl.) To Mr. Doe, Mr. Woods tweet – which deliberately called the transgendered woman Caitlyn Jenner by her former name and tied her to an unrelated political controversy about abortion – was the latest in a pattern of aggressive homophobic tweets. So he responded with an insult – an insult commonly directed at Mr. Woods on Twitter as an in-joke (Exhibits C1-10 to White Decl.), and an insult Mr. Woods has employed himself (Exhibits E-1 and E-2 to White Decl.). He responded “cocaine addict James Woods still sniffing and spouting.” (Exhibit A to White Decl.)

The screenshot of the tweet submitted by Mr. Woods shows that one person “favorited” Mr. Doe’s insult. (Exhibit A.) It would have been visible to Mr. Doe’s followers and potentially to anyone

1 who searched for the terms within it. (White Decl. at ¶¶ 16-17.) It would not have automatically  
2 displayed to Mr. Woods' followers, unless they also followed Mr. Doe. (*Ibid.*)

3 In response Mr. Woods has sued Mr. Doe for defamation and false light invasion of privacy.  
4 Mr. Woods focuses on the "cocaine addict" tweet, but also complains bitterly that Mr. Doe has engaged  
5 in "rantings" and "childish name calling" and has called him things like "joke" and "ridiculous" and  
6 "scum" and "clown-boy." (Complaint at ¶¶ 1,8.)

### 7 **III. ARGUMENT**

8 The Court should strike Mr. Woods' complaint under California's anti-SLAPP statute. Mr. Doe  
9 easily carries his burden under the first prong of the anti-SLAPP test; his speech is in a public forum  
10 and on a matter of public interest. But Mr. Woods cannot carry his burden: because Mr. Doe's tweet is  
11 rhetorical hyperbole plainly protected by the First Amendment, Mr. Woods' attempt to abuse the courts  
12 to censor Mr. Doe must fail.

#### 13 **A. California's Anti-SLAPP Statute Protects Mr. Doe's First Amendment Rights From** 14 **Plaintiff's Frivolous Assault**

15 California's anti-SLAPP statute helps defend against the "disturbing increase in lawsuits  
16 brought primarily to chill the valid exercise of the constitutional rights of freedom of speech and  
17 petition for the redress of grievances." (§ 425.16.) An anti-SLAPP motion like this one triggers a two-  
18 step process.

19 First, Mr. Doe must make a prima facie showing that the conduct cited in the Complaint  
20 concerns or arises from "any act of that person in furtherance of the person's right of petition or free  
21 speech under the United States Constitution or the California Constitution in connection with a public  
22 issue." (§ 425.16, subd. (b)(1); *Governor Gray Davis Committee v. American Taxpayers Alliance*  
23 (2002) 102 Cal.App.4th 449, 458–59.) In determining whether Mr. Doe has sustained his initial  
24 burden, the Court considers the pleadings, declarations and matters that may be judicially noticed. (§  
25 425.16, subd. (b)(2); *Brill Media Co., LLC v. TCW Group, Inc.*, (2005) 132 Cal.App.4th 324, 329.)

26 Second, once Mr. Doe carries his burden (as he easily does), the burden shifts to Mr. Woods to  
27 show that he has a probability of prevailing on his claim. (§ 425.16, subd. (b)(1); *Premier Med. Mgmt.*  
28 *Systems, Inc. v. California Ins. Guar. Ass'n* (2006) 136 Cal.App.4th 464, 476 ["plaintiff must

demonstrate that the complaint is both legally sufficient and supported by a sufficient prima facie showing of facts to sustain a favorable judgment”].) Mr. Woods’ burden “resembles the burden he would have in fending off a motion for summary judgment or directed verdict.” *Gilbert v. Sykes* (2007) 147 Cal.App.4th 13, 53. He must therefore submit *admissible* evidence to oppose an anti-SLAPP motion. (*HMS Capital, Inc. v. Lawyers Title Co.* (2004) 118 Cal.App.4th 204, 212.) If Mr. Woods can’t even state a cause of action, he by definition can’t meet this standard. (*Vogel v. Felice* (2005) 127 Cal.App.4th 1006, 1017 plaintiff cannot show a probability of success where claim is legally insufficient on its face]).

If Mr. Woods cannot carry his burden, the Court must strike the Complaint and award attorney fees and costs to Mr. Doe. (§ 425.16, subd. (c).)

**B. The Complaint Arises From Mr. Doe’s Protected Speech, Triggering the Anti-SLAPP Statute**

Mr. Doe easily carries his burden under the first prong of the anti-SLAPP statute. That statute applies to the following expression:

(1) any written or oral statement or writing made before a legislative, executive, or judicial proceeding, or any other official proceeding authorized by law; (2) any written or oral statement or writing made in connection with an issue under consideration or review by a legislative, executive, or judicial body, or any other official proceeding authorized by law; (3) ***any written or oral statement or writing made in a place open to the public or a public forum in connection with an issue of public interest***; (4) or ***any other conduct in furtherance of the exercise of the constitutional right of petition or the constitutional right of free speech in connection with a public issue or an issue of public interest.*** (§ 425.16, subd. (e) [emphasis added].)

It does not matter what guise or cause of action Mr. Woods uses to attack the protected expression. If the factual conduct described in the Complaint falls into one of these categories, it triggers the anti-SLAPP statute. (*Martinez v. Metabolife Intern., Inc.* (2003) 113 Cal.App.4th 181, 187 [“a plaintiff cannot avoid operation of the anti-SLAPP statute by attempting, through artifices of pleading, to characterize an action as a ‘garden variety breach of contract [or] fraud claim’ when in fact the liability claim is based on protected speech or conduct.”].) Therefore it applies both to Mr. Woods’ defamation claim and to his claim styled as “false light invasion of privacy.”



1 Here, Mr. Woods’ own complaint demonstrates that Mr. Doe’s challenged tweet was both a  
2 statement on a matter of public interest in a public forum and an exercise of his right to free speech on  
3 an issue of public interest. (§ 425.16, subd. (e)(3), (4).)

4 First, the Complaint demonstrates that Twitter is a public forum – Mr. Woods describes how  
5 hundreds of thousands of users read his statements there. (Complaint at ¶1.) Anyone can sign up for  
6 Twitter, make statements there, and read other people’s statements. (White Decl. at ¶ 8.)

7 Second, the exchange between Mr. Woods and Mr. Doe was a quintessential matter of public  
8 interest. A matter of public interest is “any issue in which the public is interested.” *Nygaard, Inc. v.*  
9 *Uusi-Kerttula* (2008) 159 Cal.App.4th 1027, 1042 [story about a celebrity’s conduct was a matter of  
10 public interest]; *Cross v. Cooper* (2011) 197 Cal.App.4th 357, 372-73. In this case the exchange arose  
11 when Mr. Woods tweeted about two issues of public interest – the recent highly publicized gender  
12 transition of Caitlyn Jenner and controversial abortion videos. (Exhibit A.) In the tweet that is the  
13 basis for this lawsuit, Mr. Doe responded with an insult directed to Mr. Woods, who is a self-described  
14 “world-renowned award-winning actor.” (*Ibid.*; Complaint at ¶ 3.) Moreover, as is noted above, Mr.  
15 Woods’ penchant for rough-and-tumble exchanges on Twitter has already been the subject of numerous  
16 media reports.<sup>21</sup> This is more than enough, especially in light of the Legislature’s instructions that  
17 courts interpret the anti-SLAPP statute broadly. (*Martinez, supra*, 113 Cal.App.4th 181, 187; § 425.16,  
18 subd. (a).)

19 Mr. Doe has therefore made a prima facie showing that his challenged expression is covered by  
20 the anti-SLAPP statute. The burden now shifts to Mr. Woods to show a probability of prevailing.  
21 Because Mr. Doe’s tweet was so clearly rhetorical hyperbole and not a provable statement of fact, Mr.  
22 Woods cannot prevail.

23 **C. Mr. Woods Cannot Prevail Because The Challenged Language Is Hyperbole, Not A**  
24 **Statement of Provable Fact**

25 Mr. Woods can’t carry his burden because he is suing over a tweet that is clear rhetorical  
26 hyperbole, and therefore absolutely protected by the First Amendment.

27 **1. Only Statements of Provable Fact, Not Hyperbole and Insult, Can Be Defamatory**

28 To be defamatory a statement “must contain a false statement of *fact*.” (*Gregory v. McDonnell*

<sup>21</sup> See footnotes 15-19, *supra*.

(1976) 17 Cal.3d 596, 600-01.) Only **provably false statements of fact** can be defamatory; insults, hyperbole, and “loose and figurative expressions of opinion” cannot be. (*Paterno v. Superior Court* (2008) 163 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 1342, 1356.) “Rhetorical hyperbole,” “vigorous epithet,” “lusty and imaginative expression of [ ] contempt,” and language used “in a loose, figurative sense” are all protected by the First Amendment. (*Greenbelt Pub. Assn. v. Bresler* (1970) 398 U.S. 6, 14.)

Many courts have applied this rule to rhetorical and insulting accusations of criminal activity or dishonesty. For example, in *Rosenauer v. Scherer* (2001) 88 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 260, 280 the court upheld an anti-SLAPP order when the defendant called plaintiff a “thief” and “liar” in “the midst of a heated confrontation over a political issue,” because, as the court explained, the language was “the type of loose, figurative, or hyperbolic language that is constitutionally protected.” Similarly, in *Standing Commission on Discipline v. Yagman* (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995) 55 F.3d 1430, 1440, the court found that the term “dishonest” was protected opinion because it was “used to convey the low esteem” in which the defendant lawyer held a judge, not as a literal allegation of dishonesty. (See also *Greenbelt Co-op. Pub. Ass'n v. Bresler* (1970) 398 U.S. 6, 14 [an article using the term “blackmail” was not defamatory because “even the most careless reader must have perceived that the word was no more than rhetorical hyperbole, a vigorous epithet”]; *Troy Group, Inc. v. Tilson* (C.D. Cal. 2005) 364 F.Supp.2d 1149, 1159 [“crooks” is obvious hyperbole and not a statement of fact]; *Morningstar, Inc. v. Superior Court* (1994) 23 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 676, 691 [titling article “Lies, Damn Lies, and Fund Advertisements” not actionable as libel because it “cannot reasonably be read to imply a provably false factual assertion”].)

Whether a statement is one of fact or one of hyperbole is a question of law for the court. (*Seelig v. Infinity Broadcasting Corp.* (2002) 97 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 798, 809-10.) In making this determination, California courts look at the totality of the circumstances, including both the words used and their context. (*Ibid.*, citing *Rudnick v. McMillan* (1994) 25 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 1183, 1191.) In considering the context of a statement, courts examine the “**knowledge and understanding of the audience to whom the publication was directed.**” (*Seelig, supra*, 97 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> at 809-810 [emphasis added]; *Moyer v. Amador Valley J. Union High School Dist.* (1990) 225 Cal.App.3d 722, 724.) A statement made by a publication known for hyperbole and abuse is therefore more likely to be taken as hyperbole and not fact. In *Seelig*, for instance, the court considered the “irreverence” of a morning radio program “which



1 may strike some as humorous and others as gratuitously disparaging” in determining that “no  
2 reasonable listener” could take the challenged statements as factual pronouncements. (97 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup>  
3 at p. 811.)

4 Similarly, statements in an adversarial setting are more likely to be interpreted as hyperbole and  
5 not fact. “[W]here potentially defamatory statements are published in a ... setting in which the audience  
6 may anticipate efforts by the parties to persuade others to their positions by use of epithets, fiery  
7 rhetoric or hyperbole, language which generally might be considered as statements of fact may well  
8 assume the character of statements of opinion.” (*Gregory v. McDonnell Douglas Corp.* (1976) 17  
9 Cal.3d 596, 601[statements in a bulletin attacking the motives of union officers in a labor dispute],  
10 quoted in *Ferlauto v. Hamsher* (1999) 74 Cal.App.4th 1394, 1401-02.)

11 In applying this doctrine, California courts have repeatedly recognized that speech on internet  
12 forums like Twitter is likely to be viewed by its audience as opinion or hyperbole, not fact. That’s  
13 particularly true when the statements are couched in bombastic language:

- 14 • In *Krinsky v. Doe 6* (2008) 159 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 1154, the court found that posts on a Yahoo!  
15 Finance board that accused the plaintiff of misconduct using terms like “mega scum bag”  
16 and “cockroach” were not statements of fact. “A reasonable reader of this diatribe would  
17 not comprehend the harsh language and belligerent tone as anything more than an irrational,  
18 vituperative expression of contempt for the three officers of SFBC and their supporters.”  
19 (159 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> at 1175-76. [noting that debate or criticism often becomes “heated or  
20 caustic” on the internet]).
- 21 • In *Summit Bank v. Rogers* (2012) 206 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 669, the court reviewed numerous  
22 authorities for the proposition that “online blogs and message boards are places where  
23 readers expect to see strongly worded opinions rather than objective facts.” (*Id.* at pp. 696-  
24 97.) The court emphasized that in determining whether a statement is taken as fact or  
25 bluster, the court must consider how someone familiar with the context would view them:  
26 “Rogers’s statements must be viewed from the perspective of the average reader of an  
27 Internet site such as Craigslist’s ‘Rants and Raves,’ not the Bank or a banking expert who  
28 might view them as conveying some special meaning.” (*Ibid.*)

- 1 • In *Chaker v. Mateo* (2012) 209 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 1138, the court found that an ex-lover’s rant on  
2 a review site called “Ripoff Report” was non-actionable opinion. Because the defendant’s  
3 statements were made “on Internet Web sites which plainly invited the sort of exaggerated  
4 and insulting criticisms of businesses and individuals which occurred here,” the defendant’s  
5 statements that plaintiff “picks up street walkers and homeless drug addicts and is a dead  
6 beat dad would be interpreted by the average Internet reader as . . . insulting name calling . .  
7 . .” (*Id.* at p. 1149.)

8 The fact that something is posted on the internet doesn’t *automatically* make it hyperbole. An  
9 internet statement can be treated as one of fact if it is accompanied by indicia of reliability, none of  
10 which are present in this case:

11 Internet posts where the “tone and content is serious,” where the poster represents  
12 himself as “unbiased” and “having specialized knowledge,” or where the poster claims  
13 his posts are “Research Reports” or “bulletins” or “alerts,” may indeed be reasonably  
14 perceived as containing actionable assertions of fact. ([Overstock.com, supra, 151](#)  
15 [Cal.App.4th at pp. 705–706, 61 Cal.Rptr.3d 29.](#)) And while “generalized” comments on  
16 the Internet that “lack any specificity as to the time or place of” alleged conduct may be  
17 a “further signal to the reader there is no factual basis for the accusations,” specifics, if  
18 given, may signal the opposite and render an Internet posting actionable. (*Chaker, supra*,  
19 209 Cal.App.4th at pp. 1149–1150, 147 Cal.Rptr.3d 496 [making this distinction but  
20 finding the comments at issue too generalized to support a defamation claim]; cf.  
21 *ComputerXpress, Inc. v. Jackson, supra*, 93 Cal.App.4th at p. 1013, 113 Cal.Rptr.2d 625  
22 [though generally dismissing Internet postings as nonactionable, suggesting that in a  
23 “few instances in which the postings did contain apparent statements of \*432 facts—  
24 such as the statement that a company owned by the former president had filed for  
25 bankruptcy”—they could have been actionable had there been evidence of falsehood].)  
26 (*Bentley Reserve L.P. v. Papaliolios* (2013) 218 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 418, 433.)

27 Application of this law to these facts leads inexorably to one conclusion: Mr. Doe’s insulting  
28 tweet was not a statement of provable fact, and can’t be defamatory.

21 **2. Mr. Doe’s Tweet Was Hyperbole And Insult, Not A Statement of Provable Fact**

22 In this case, an examination of the context, the understanding of the audience, and the totality of  
23 the circumstances shows that every relevant factor points to Mr. Doe’s insulting tweet being figurative  
24 and hyperbolic, not a statement of fact:

25 ***Twitter is known for hyperbole.*** Twitter is known for abuse and hyperbole, not for fact. (*See*  
26 *Section IIA, supra.*) Twitter users will not be inclined to view heated tweets as stating provable facts.  
27 (*Ferlauto supra*, 74 Cal.App.4th at pp. 1401-02.)

1           **Mr. Doe is known for insult and hyperbole.** Mr. Doe’s audience – his followers on Twitter –  
2 know that he routinely engages in insult and hyperbole over political figures and pundits. (See Section  
3 IIB, *supra*.) In fact, Mr. Doe’s audience knows that he uses rhetorical accusations of drug or alcohol  
4 abuse as a way to express disagreement with political positions. (Exhibits D-4, D-8 to White Decl.)  
5 They also know that he reacts with anger to homophobia. (Exhibits D-5, D-9.) The audience won’t  
6 expect heated tweets to state provable fact. (*Seelig, supra*, 97 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> at pp. 809-810.)

7           **Mr. Woods is known for insult and hyperbole.** Mr. Woods’ followers know that he is routinely  
8 at the center of heated political rhetoric. (See Section IIB, *supra*.) He’s even gone out of his way to  
9 emphasize the vivid insults he receives on Twitter. (See footnote 19, *supra*.) His audience won’t  
10 expect heated exchanges with him to contain provable statements of fact. (*Seelig, supra*, 97  
11 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> at pp. 809-810.)

12           **Mr. Doe’s tweet came as part of a pattern of insult towards Plaintiff.** Plaintiff repeatedly and  
13 specifically states that the tweet he sues over was part of a pattern of insult and abuse. He calls the  
14 tweet “the culmination of a malicious on-line campaign” of “rantings against Woods” including  
15 “childish name calling.” (Complaint at ¶ 1.) He emphasizes that Mr. Doe has called him “prick,”  
16 “joke,” “ridiculous,” “scum,” and “clown-boy.” (*Id.* at ¶ 8; Exh. B to White Decl.) He complains that  
17 Mr. Doe seeks to “humiliate others who dare to harbor opinions different from his own.” (Complaint at  
18 ¶1.) Mr. Doe’s “cocaine addict” tweet comes in the wake of Mr. Doe’s tweet saying “you are a  
19 ridiculous scum clown-boy, James, a joke.” (Exhibit B to White Decl.) Therefore an audience familiar  
20 with this interaction would recognize the tweet as just the *latest item in a series of insults*, not as a fact.  
21 (*Gregory, supra*, 17 Cal.3d at p. 601.)

22           **Mr. Doe’s tweet echoed a Twitter in-joke.** Twitter users routinely use the “cocaine” insult to  
23 respond to Mr. Woods’ political rants. (Exhibits C-1 to C-10 to White Decl.). An audience familiar  
24 with Twitter would therefore interpret Mr. Doe’s tweet as an iteration of that joke, not as a provable  
25 factual assertion. (*Seelig supra*, 97 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> at pp. 809-810.)

26           **Mr. Doe was responding to a vivid political statement.** Mr. Doe’s insult was not offered in the  
27 abstract; it came in response to Plaintiff’s vivid statement suggesting that the media should be  
28 concerned with abortion and not Caitlyn Jenner’s dress selection. (Exhibit A.) Plaintiff pointedly

1 referred to Caitlyn Jenner by her former name, Bruce Jenner, making the expression more pungent to a  
2 gay rights activist like Mr. Doe. (*Id.*) Mr. Doe’s tweet was a political response to this political  
3 statement. Political rhetoric is much more likely to be taken as hyperbole and not as a statement of  
4 literal fact. (*Beilenson v. Superior Court*, 44 Cal.App.4th 944, 950 (1996) [campaign mailer charging  
5 politician with “ripp[ing] off” taxpayers “when taken in context with the other information contained in  
6 the mailer [is] rhetorical hyperbole common in political debate” and not defamatory].)

7 ***Mr. Doe is anonymous.*** Mr. Doe tweets anonymously under a pseudonym. (Complaint at ¶ 1.)  
8 California courts recognize that statements by anonymous internet sources are less likely to be seen as  
9 statements of fact. (*Krinsky, supra*, 59 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> at p. 1162; *Summit Bank supra*,, 206 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> at  
10 p. 697.)

11 ***Mr. Doe’s tweet was not formal.*** Mr. Doe’s tweet “cocaine addict James Woods still sniffing  
12 and spouting” was a sentence fragment, not a carefully crafted and grammatical statement. California  
13 courts recognize that informality doesn’t support viewing a statement as factual. (*Summit Bank supra*,  
14 206 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> at p. 697.)

15 ***Mr. Doe’s statement was not labeled as fact.*** Mr. Doe didn’t label his tweet as factual.  
16 California courts have recognized that as a factor in determining whether a statement is fact or opinion.  
17 (*Papaliolios, supra*, 218 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> at p. 431.)

18 ***Mr. Doe’s statement didn’t include any indicia of reliability.*** Mr. Doe didn’t say why he  
19 thought Mr. Woods was a “cocaine addict,” how he would be in a position to know, or what facts or  
20 evidence supported the statement. It didn’t include any details. In other words, it didn’t include any of  
21 the factors that California courts have identified as suggesting internet bluster can be taken as fact. (*See*,  
22 *e.g., Papaliolios, supra*, 218 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> at p. 431 [noting detail and claims of personal knowledge as  
23 indicia of statements of fact].)

24 In short, **all of the facts show that Mr. Doe’s audience would not have interpreted his tweet**  
25 **as a statement of fact.** (*Seelig, supra*, 97 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> at pp.809-810). The totality of the  
26 circumstances ***overwhelmingly*** shows it was not a statement of fact. (*Ibid.*) The tweet is classic  
27 “rhetorical hyperbole,” “vigorous epithet,” “lusty and imaginative expression of [ ] contempt,” and  
28

language used “in a loose, figurative sense,” and therefore non-defamatory and absolutely protected by the First Amendment. (*Greenbelt supra*, 398 U.S. at p. 14.)

Because Plaintiff can’t show a false statement of provable fact, he can’t make a prima facie case of defamation. Nor can he make a prima facie case for his second cause of action of False Light Invasion of Privacy. First, that claim is defective when combined with a defamation claim based on the same facts. “When an action for libel is alleged, a false-light claim based on the same facts (as in this case) is superfluous and should be dismissed.” (*McClatchy Newspapers, Inc. v. Superior Court* (1987) 189 Cal.App.3d 961, 965.) Moreover, if a defamation claim cannot succeed, nor can a false light claim on the same facts. (*Tamkin v. CBS Broadcasting* (2011) 193 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 133, 148.)

California courts have recognized that online anonymity allows the weak to criticize the strong:

“The use of a pseudonymous screen name offers a safe outlet for the user to experiment with novel ideas, express unorthodox political views, or criticize corporate or individual behavior without fear of intimidation or reprisal. In addition, by concealing speakers’ identities, the online forum allows individuals of any economic, political, or social status to be heard without suppression or other intervention by the media or more powerful figures in the field.” (*Krinsky v. Doe 6, supra*, 159 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> at p. 1162, 72 Cal.Rptr.3d 231.) “The ‘ability to speak one’s mind’ on the Internet ‘without the burden of the other party knowing all the facts about one’s identity can foster open communication and robust debate.’ ” (*Doe v. 2TheMart.com Inc.* (2001) 140 F.Supp.2d 1088, 1092.) (*Digital Music News LLC*, 226 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> at 228-29.)

This case shows exactly why anonymity is valuable and necessary: a rich and famous person, furious that some presumptuous gay activist dares to use the same language he uses all the time, has lashed out with a vexatious lawsuit to silence and abuse his critic. The Court should not permit it. The Court should grant the motion and strike Plaintiff’s vexatious and censorious lawsuit.

#### **D. Mr. Doe is Entitled To His Attorney Fees**

A “prevailing defendant” on a motion to strike “shall be *entitled*” to recover attorney fees and costs. (Code Civ. Proc. § 425.16, subd. (c) [emphasis added].) The fee award is mandatory, and may be sought in three ways: (1) the party may request fees in the motion; (2) the party may make a noticed motion for fees after the ruling on the anti-SLAPP motion; or (3) the party may include the fee request in the cost bill after entry of judgment. (*American Humane Ass’n v. Los Angeles Times Communications*, (2001) 92 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 1095, 1103.)

Here, Mr. Doe will submit a motion for fees after the hearing on this motion.

1 IV. CONCLUSION

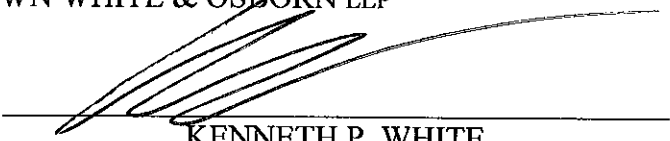
2 For the foregoing reasons, Defendant John Doe respectfully requests that the Court strike this  
3 vexatious Complaint and award his attorney fees, for which he will move separately.

4 Dated: September 1, 2015

Respectfully submitted,

5 BROWN WHITE & OSBORN LLP

6  
7 By

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KENNETH P. WHITE  
Attorneys for Defendant  
JOHN DOE  
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1 **DECLARATION OF KENNETH P. WHITE**

2 I, Kenneth P. White, declare as follows:

3 1. I am an attorney licensed to practice law in California and am a Partner at Brown White  
4 & Osborn LLP, attorneys for Defendant John Doe ("Defendant"). I make this Declaration in support  
5 of Defendant's Special Motion to Strike. I know the matters in this declaration based on my own  
6 knowledge and could testify to them if called as a witness. However, because this declaration is  
7 submitted for a limited purpose, it does include all fact I know about the matter.

8 **EXHIBITS**

9 2. Attached as **Exhibit A** is a true and correct copy of a screenshot of the July 15, 2015  
10 Twitter exchange that is the subject of this lawsuit. I obtained it from Exhibit A to Plaintiff's ex parte  
11 application for early discovery, referred to in paragraph 3 of Mr. Woods' August 27, 2015 declaration  
12 in support of that ex parte application.

13 3. Attached as **Exhibit B** is a true and correct copy of a screenshot of the December 25,  
14 2015 Twitter exchange referred to in Plaintiff's complaint. I obtained it from Exhibit B to Plaintiff's  
15 ex parte application for early discovery, referred to in paragraph 6 of Mr. Woods' August 27, 2015  
16 declaration in support of that ex parte application.

17 4. Attached as **Exhibit C** are 10 true and correct copies of screenshots of Twitter  
18 exchanges in which Twitter users make reference to cocaine use by Plaintiff. They were found at the  
19 following locations:

- 20 a. C-1: <https://twitter.com/AnnLynch3/status/563114160071122945>  
21 b. C-2: <https://twitter.com/BexaRaven/status/563710275816157184>  
22 c. C-3: <https://twitter.com/Jaccuse1/status/562483964078592000>  
23 d. C-4: <https://twitter.com/HaneyClay/status/557986986301325312>  
24 e. C-5: <https://twitter.com/Rinkguy/status/555336155877900288>  
25 f. C-6: <https://twitter.com/sunny37130/status/547209909809332226>  
26 g. C-7: <https://twitter.com/BaronMatrix/status/388403286132281344>  
27 h. C-8: <https://twitter.com/realmrmom/status/551072794851565569>  
28 i. C-9: <https://twitter.com/Cjenkinshammond/status/547554606801104896>



- 1 j. C-10: <https://twitter.com/fukyu70/status/549348416078487552>
- 2 5. Attached as **Exhibit D** are true and correct copies of screenshots of tweets posted by Mr.
- 3 Doe on his @AbeListed Twitter account. They were found at the following locations:
- 4 a. D-1: <https://twitter.com/abelisted/status/411371374389624832>
- 5 b. D-2: <https://twitter.com/abelisted/status/616436842095751169>
- 6 c. D-3: <https://twitter.com/abelisted/status/407180532699512832>
- 7 d. D-4: <https://twitter.com/abelisted/status/472185624565280768>
- 8 e. D-5: <https://twitter.com/abelisted/status/608013379999899648>
- 9 f. D-6: <https://twitter.com/abelisted/status/464774085281460225>
- 10 g. D-7: <https://twitter.com/abelisted/status/326935265065185280>
- 11 h. D-8: <https://twitter.com/abelisted/status/357259754847993858>
- 12 i. D-9: <https://twitter.com/abelisted/status/448733069332054016>
- 13 6. Attached as **Exhibit E** are true and correct copies of screenshots of tweets posted by
- 14 Plaintiff on his @RealJamesWoods account. They were found at the following locations:
- 15 a. E-1: <https://twitter.com/RealJamesWoods/status/388773780417302528>
- 16 b. E-2: <https://twitter.com/RealJamesWoods/status/546782498525839360>
- 17 c. E-3: <https://twitter.com/RealJamesWoods/status/491672808012144640>
- 18 d. E-4: <https://twitter.com/RealJamesWoods/status/357750439518797824>
- 19 e. E-5: <https://twitter.com/RealJamesWoods/status/381629222823161856>
- 20 f. E-6: <https://twitter.com/RealJamesWoods/statuses/614751096255283200>
- 21 g. E-7: <https://twitter.com/RealJamesWoods/status/549327893567115267>
- 22 h. E-8: <https://twitter.com/EmptyChair2012/status/495427243716644866>
- 23 i. E-9: <https://twitter.com/RealJamesWoods/status/488953744730914817>
- 24 j. E-10: <https://twitter.com/RealJamesWoods/status/390674524523352064>
- 25 k. E-11: <https://twitter.com/RealJamesWoods/status/357747578009432064>
- 26 l. E-12: <https://twitter.com/RealJamesWoods/status/546618313884045312>
- 27 m. E-13: <https://twitter.com/RealJamesWoods/statuses/357748304416735232>
- 28 n. E-14: <https://twitter.com/RealJamesWoods/statuses/357739270162751488>



1                    **TWITTER**

2                    7.        I have used the social media platform Twitter for more than five years and am very  
3 familiar with how it works. I co-run a Twitter account that has posted almost 75,000 “tweets” over  
4 that time and has more than 43,000 followers. In addition, I have researched and written several times  
5 about the implications of defamation and true threat law as applied to communications on Twitter, and  
6 have been interviewed on that subject by various media outlets.

7                    8.        Twitter users create an account with a username. The account name is preceded with  
8 an “at sign,” @. Thus Mr. Woods’ Twitter account is @RealJamesWoods, and Mr. Doe’s is  
9 @AbeListed. Anyone with an email address can sign up, make statements, and read other people’s  
10 statements.

11                  9.        Twitter users can post messages of up to 140 characters from their account in a single  
12 message, and can post pictures, video, and links to other web sites as part of those messages. Each  
13 message is called a “tweet.”

14                  10.       Once a Twitter user has an account, they can *follow* other accounts with a push of a  
15 button. “Following” another account means that the user sees the tweets that the account-user posts on  
16 Twitter – in effect, the follower is a subscriber to the followed account. The aggregate of all the  
17 Twitter accounts a user follows is sometimes called the user’s “Twitter feed.” Depending on how  
18 many accounts the user follows, the feed may generate “tweets” to read slowly or very swiftly.

19                  11.       A Twitter user can also “retweet” or “RT” someone else’s “tweet.” By clicking on a  
20 symbol under another user’s tweet, a user can cause that tweet to repeat in his or her own timeline, so  
21 his or her own followers see that other user’s tweet. Tweets by celebrities and other famous people are  
22 commonly retweeted hundreds or thousands of times.

23                  12.       A Twitter user can “favorite” a tweet by clicking a star symbol under the tweet. This  
24 puts the tweet in the user’s “favorites” list, which other users can see if they click on that user’s  
25 “favorites” column.

26                  13.       Twitter displays how many times a tweet has been “retweeted” or “favorited.” For  
27 instance, Exhibit E-1 shows that at the time that particular screenshot was taken, Mr. Woods’ tweet  
28 had been retweeted by 8 Twitter users and favorited by 14 Twitter users.

14. A Twitter user can also click a "Notifications" link to see the following:

- a. All the times their tweets have been retweeted or favorite by others; and
- b. All the times someone has addressed them by using like username – like @AbeListed – in a tweet.

15. Twitter has a search function on its main screen. A user can search for a word, or a username, and Twitter will display recent tweets reflecting that word or username.

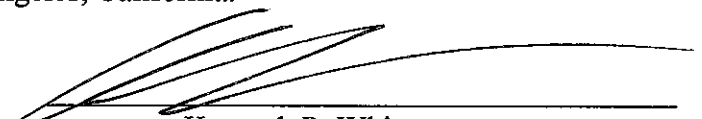
16. A user will only see someone else's tweet under five circumstances:

- a. When the user *follows the person who tweeted*;
- b. When the user *follows someone who retweeted* the tweet in question;
- c. When someone "*favorites*" the tweet, and the user clicks on that person's "favorites" column;
- d. When the user *searches for a word or username* that is in the tweet, and sees it in search results; or
- e. When *the tweet is promoted* through Twitter's advertising mechanism.

17. Therefore, when someone like @Abelisted tweets something like Exhibit A to someone like @RealJamesWoods, @Abelisted's followers will see it, but @RealJamesWoods' followers will not automatically see it.

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

Executed on September 1, 2015 in Los Angeles, California.



Kenneth P. White

## **EXHIBIT A**



## **EXHIBIT B**



File Edit View Favorites Tools Help  
https://twitter.com/RealJamesWoods/243206573877  
Twitter, Inc. (US) Abe List on Twitter: @RealJamesWoods  
Search Twitter

Home Notifications Messages

**James Woods** @RealJamesWoods · Dec 25  
I was so moved by Obama's Christmas message today from the steps of his church. He finally put all those nasty Muslim rumors to rest.

651 903

**Abe List** @abelisted 

**@RealJamesWoods** you are a ridiculous scum clown-boy James, a joke.

4 6  
RETWEETS FAVORITES

6:54 PM - 25 Dec 2014

Reply to @abelisted @RealJamesWoods

Παρίψ Υιός Αγνο Πνεύ @CelticOwlWisdom · Dec 28

https://twitter.com/notifications



**Big Sexy Jeb! Lund** @Mobute · Jun 28

James Woods has been in character as a dumb shithead for so long that the movie's gonna be overshadowed by the prep.



**James Woods** @RealJamesWoods

@RealJamesWoods Justice Anthony Kennedy: "Gays ask for equal dignity in the eyes of the law." #LiveandLetLive

11 37



**Is\_It\_October\_Yet**

@ifstonefan



Follow

@Mobute @RealJamesWoods - I used to think he was great in The Boost, "playing" a coke addicted asshole. Then I realized he wasn't playing.


FAVORITE

1







7:02 PM - 28 Jun 2015


Retweet Like Reply



**James Woods** @RealJamesWoods · Feb 6




Conservatism is sabotaged by constant accommodation to liberals who strive to subvert it. Reagan's greatest strength was his unabashed pride


 607  728 




**T @southerntalker** · Feb 6


OH Reagan 's pride you say @RealJamesWoods--Please go do some research B4 you make a fool of yourself. HE tanked economy & oh, Iran/Contra

 1 




**Mrs\_Raven**  
@BexaRaven







 Follow

@southerntalker I thought Woods spent the 80s snorting coke and beating women?  
@RealJamesWoods

FAVORITE  
1



8:46 AM - 6 Feb 2015







**James Woods** @RealJamesWoods · Feb 2

The Libs switched from "global warming" to "climate change" just in time. These record cold winters would have been a tad embarrassing...



1K



913



**Brett:**

@Jaccuse1



Follow

@RealJamesWoods @Callisto1947 woods has whiffed to much coke to be taken seriously, his little brain is in powder form now

11:33 PM - 2 Feb 2015



Brett: @Jaccuse1 @RealJamesWoods @Callisto1947



**James Woods** @RealJamesWoods · Jan 21

France: Better weapons for fighting terror [usat.ly/1JcR8uN](http://usat.ly/1JcR8uN) And again the need for better arms in today's world is realized too late



354



316



[View summary](#)



**Clay Haney**

@HaneyClay



**Follow**

@RealJamesWoods

You need to quit smoking Crack!

1:43 PM - 21 Jan 2015





Imagine if this kind of courage and dignity were in the White House...



1.1K 1.4K



**Jim McMorrow**  
@Rinkguy



[Follow](#)

@RealJamesWoods @jstines3 is j.w. smoking crack?

6:10 AM - 14 Jan 2015

1.1K 1.4K



**Joyce Meredith**  
@sunny37130



Follow

[@RealJamesWoods](#) Mr. Woods...I used to think you were a great actor and now I see that you still are. Acting like you've been smoking crack.

7:59 PM - 22 Dec 2014





**James Woods** @RealJamesWoods · 7 Oct 2013

Sixteen tears of machine Democrats shredding the fabric of this Republic will toss the greatest democracy on the trash heap of world history



373



193



**Christian M. Howell**

@BaronMatrix



Follow

@RealJamesWoods STEP AWAY FROM THE CRACK PIPE...

Reagan began our debt.. GWB and his dad blew it up to ridiculous proportions...

3:38 PM - 10 Oct 2013





**Redheaded Mischief** @ElizabethNelsOn · Jan 2

@RealJamesWoods and to think, you earned every one of us, unlike Obama's follower\$, with your insightful tweets; we loves you.



4



**MrMom**

@realmrmom



Follow

@ElizabethNelsOn @RealJamesWoods

Bahahahaha!!!. You admire a Cocaine addled old actor who is dating a 18yr old with a criminal record?!

FAVORITE

1



11:49 AM - 2 Jan 2015

📍 Hermosa Beach, CA





**ABFoundation** @ABFalecbaldwin · Dec 21

I am slightly shocked to see some of the otherwise informed people who would politicize the deaths of police officers.

[@RealJamesWoods](#)



64



96



**C J**

@Cjenkinshammond



**Follow**

[@ABFalecbaldwin](#) [@RealJamesWoods](#) AB  
MUST be referring to that coke head pimp

6:49 PM - 23 Dec 2014



**James Woods** @RealJamesWoods · Dec 28

Is flying on the plane very dangerous during a thunderstorm? - Yahoo Answers  
This may explain the AirAsia tragedy. [answers.yahoo.com/question/index...](http://answers.yahoo.com/question/index...)



62



72



**Charles Davis**

@fukyu70



Follow

@RealJamesWoods say nigga! You still on cocaine?

RETWEET

1



5:37 PM - 28 Dec 2014







**Donald J. Trump** @realDonaldTrump · 12 Dec 2013

How amazing, the State Health Director who verified copies of Obama's "birth certificate" died in plane crash today. All others lived



1.9K



788



**Abe List**

@abelisted



Following

@realDonaldTrump the new Klan will have orange hair.

11:45 PM - 12 Dec 2013





**Abe List**  
@abelisted



Following

Donald Trump and @RichLowry the United Racists of America, are actually Democrat agents working to alienate el voto latino from GOP forevah

FAVORITES

5



9:42 PM - 1 Jul 2015





**David Frum** @davidfrum · 1 Dec 2013

Now that the Obamacare website is fixed, I can quickly and conveniently pay 33% more for my health insurance!

👤 85 ⭐ 30 ⋮



**Abe List**

@abelisted



Following

@davidfrum Or move back to Canada and quit whining. You've already damaged this country enough, eh?

10:12 AM - 1 Dec 2013

👤 ⤴ ⭐ ⋮



**WhiteHousePressCorps** @whpresscorps · 29 May 2014

RT @Peggynoonannyc: Obama's inattention to governing may kill the progressive project. [on.wsj.com/1ppu1rl](http://on.wsj.com/1ppu1rl)



3



2



[View summary](#)



**Abe List**

@abelisted



Following

@whpresscorps @Peggynoonannyc lol.  
hitting the gin again Peggy? read any Pew  
polls between cocktails, Peggy?

8:20 PM - 29 May 2014





**Abe List**  
@abelisted



Following

hahaha 2-penny huckster [@Franklin\\_Graham](#) sets himself up for another failure. bring it, my bitch.

**CBS Los Angeles @CBSLA**

Evangelist Franklin Graham calls for boycott of Wells Fargo, Tiffany's, other LGBT-friendly companies [cbsloc.al/1KXEFAr](#)

FAVORITE

1



3:51 PM - 8 Jun 2015





**Kurt Schlichter** @KurtSchlichter · 9 May 2014

It's cute how some stupid people imagine that they are my peers. #caring



2



4



**Vegas Allende 81** @BrooklynJuggler · 9 May 2014

.@KurtSchlichter lick my boots, Kurt



2



**Abe List**

@abelisted



Following

@BrooklynJuggler @KurtSchlichter

Ambulance chaser "lemon lawyer" 3rd rate law school eyeballs in debt. Yet still superior to me. Sadz.

FAVORITES

2



9:00 AM · 9 May 2014



**Glenn Beck** @glennbeck · 23 Apr 2013

Janet N DHS admitted under oath today they DID "event" Saudi.NO CONSPIRACY. SHE ADMITTED FACT ONE TODAY. Now the hammer drops in AM.



206



58



**Abe List**

@abelisted



Following

@glennbeck Glenn you should be prescribed some atypical anti-psychotic meds to help relieve your paranoia.

12:46 AM - 24 Apr 2013







**Liz Cheney** @Liz\_Cheney · 29 Jul 2012

Rarely do I disagree with best VP ever but @SarahPalinUSA more qualified than Obama and Biden combined. Huge respect 4 all she's done 4 GOP.



1K



170



**Abe List**

@abelisted



Following

@Liz\_Cheney @BuzzFeedAndrew  
@SarahPalinUSA Omg what drugs is Liz  
Cheney on?

5:05 PM - 16 Jul 2013





**Big Sexy Jeb! Lund** @Mobute · 26 Mar 2014

Why can't I legally bludgeon Antonin Scalia in the dick with something like Matt Drudge's skull?



1



19



**Abe List**

@abelisted

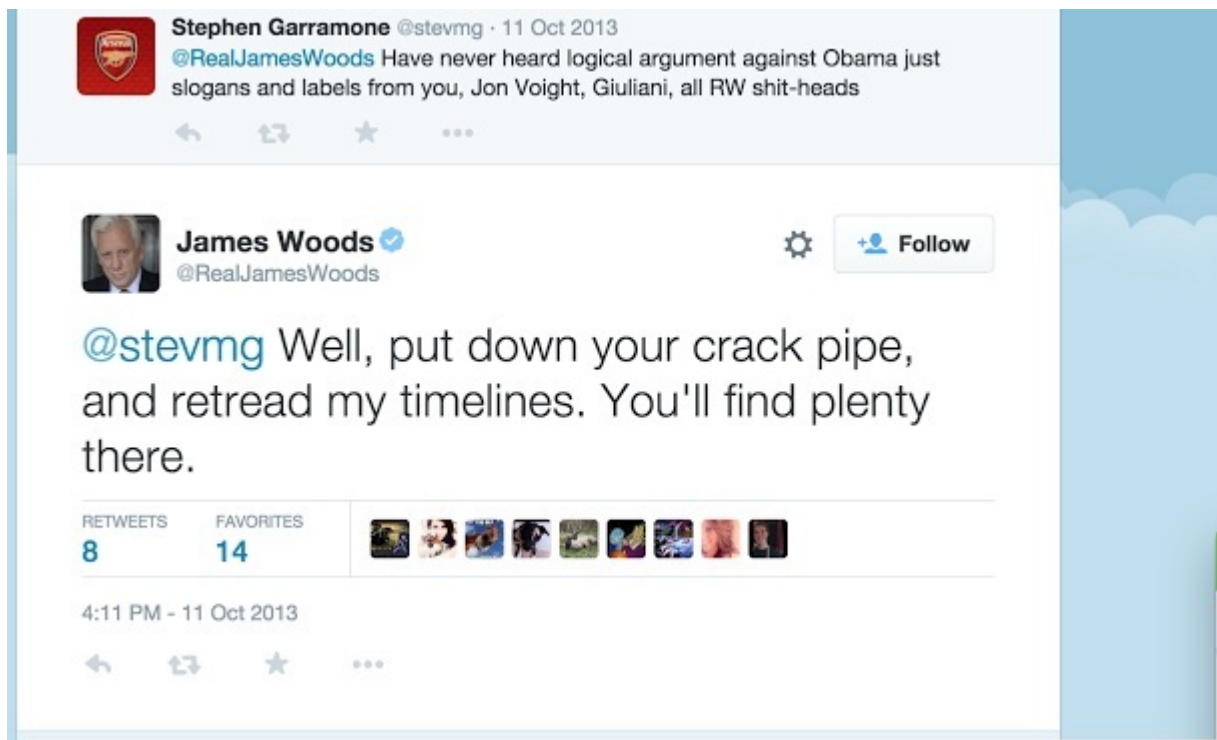


Following

@Mobute why can't i inject Scalia with an admixture of Breitbart's recycled cholesterol and Ben Shapiro's colorless piss? Why?!

3:07 AM - 26 Mar 2014





 benghazi victim retweeted



James Woods

@RealJamesWoods · Dec 21

@JGSaxon Thank God. I wouldn't want you to spend your precious crack allowance being enlightened.

RETWEETS

71

FAVORITES

135



3:41 PM - 21 Dec 2014 · Details



Hide conversation

Reply to @RealJamesWoods @JGSaxon



**James Woods** ✓  
@RealJamesWoods



Follow

This clown's opinion of our National Guard.  
[toprightnews.com/?p=4657](http://toprightnews.com/?p=4657)

RETWEETS

177

FAVORITES

100



2:55 PM - 22 Jul 2014





**James Woods** @RealJamesWoods · 18 Jul 2013

These money hungry **scum** will even cash in on something like the Boston atrocity for their thirty pieces of silver. Boggles the mind...



75



39





**Radley Balko** @radleybalko · 21 Sep 2013

James Woods: Kind of a dick. [twitter.com/realjameswoods...](https://twitter.com/realjameswoods...)

This Tweet is unavailable.

🔄 21 ⭐ 11 ⋮



**James Woods** ✓  
@RealJamesWoods



+ Follow

@radleybalko @GrazianoPerrell Of course I'm not sure, coming from him, if "dick," is an insult or a menu choice! Lol.

RETWEETS

7

FAVORITES

14



11:01 PM - 21 Sep 2013

🔄 ⭐ ⋮





**James Woods** ✓  
@RealJamesWoods



Follow

[@RealJamesWoods](#) Justice Anthony Kennedy: "Gays ask for equal dignity in the eyes of the law." [#LiveandLetLive](#)





**James Woods** ✓  
@RealJamesWoods



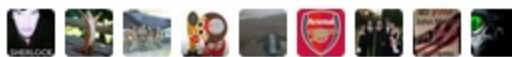
Follow

I could shoot this guy in the head and sleep like a baby.



RETWEETS  
**2,440**

FAVORITES  
**2,735**



2:15 PM - 28 Dec 2014

E7



**James Woods** @RealJamesWoods · 1 Aug 2014

Undocumented Democrats on their way to America's voting booths...



2K



1.3K



**Loafs & Fishes**

@EmptyChair2012



Follow

When did @RealJamesWoods turn into such a bigoted prick? I'll have to renew my Variety subscription. #immigration [twitter.com/RealJamesWoods...](https://twitter.com/RealJamesWoods...)

This Tweet is unavailable.

11:33 PM - 1 Aug 2014





**James Woods** ✓  
@RealJamesWoods



Follow

The "children"...



RETWEETS

2,358

FAVORITES

1,241



HIT



2:50 AM - 15 Jul 2014



**James Woods** @RealJamesWoods · 16 Oct 2013

Barack Obama has achieved his dream. America, as we once knew her, is circling the drain. We are now the Nation of the Outstretched Palm.

🔄 2.8K ⭐ 1.1K ⋮



**Kristen Bartlett** @kristencheeks · 16 Oct 2013

I knew @RealJamesWoods was a dick when he wouldn't take a photo with me at the Kodak & then again when he appeared on Entourage as himself.

🔄 11 ⭐ 32 ⋮



**James Woods** ✓  
@RealJamesWoods



+ Follow

@kristencheeks You are damned liar. I have never refused a picture with anyone in my life. You are a disgusting, reprehensible liar.

RETWEETS  
**81**

FAVORITES  
**101**



11:03 PM - 16 Oct 2013

🔄 ⭐ ⋮



**James Woods** @RealJamesWoods · 18 Jul 2013

First Amendment protects Rolling Stone, but nobody had to buy that shit rag. Boycott Rolling Stone. Put it out of business...

← ↻ 246 ★ 95 ...



**James Woods** @RealJamesWoods · 18 Jul 2013

First Amendment protects Rolling Stone, but nobody has to buy that shit rag. Boycott Rolling Stone. Put it out of business..SHAME

← ↻ 75 ★ 34 ...



**Brooklyn McMaster** @Brooke\_McMaster · 18 Jul 2013

@RealJamesWoods It's a long departure from the days of Hunter S. Thompson and Lester Bangs. Just a heap of shit.

← ↻ 5 ★ 4 ...



**James Woods** ✓

@RealJamesWoods



+ Follow

@Brooke\_McMaster Jann Wenner whacking off to this puke terrorist is like Gore Vidal drooling over McVeigh.

RETWEETS

28

FAVORITES

12



2:24 AM - 18 Jul 2013

← ↻ ★ ...



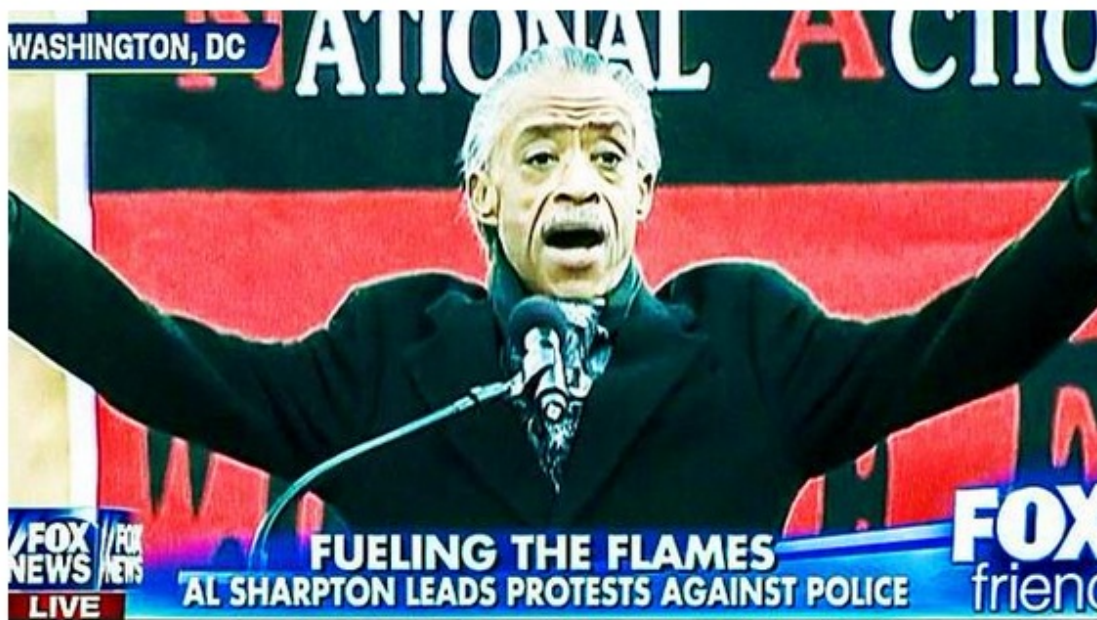
**James Woods** ✓

@RealJamesWoods



Follow

@RealJamesWoods This disgusting pig is DIRECTLY responsible for the murder of two good policemen. No discussion:



RETWEETS

4,520

FAVORITES

3,395



5:48 AM - 21 Dec 2014







**James Woods** ✓  
@RealJamesWoods



 Follow

Could that disgusting piece of shit Wenner have picked a prettier cover shot of his dreamboat homoerotic fantasy? What an asshole...

RETWEETS

105

FAVORITES

47



2:26 AM - 18 Jul 2013





**James Woods**   
@RealJamesWoods



 Follow

Does that puke Jann Wenner harbor erotic fantasies for that other puke, the Boston Bomber? Fuck them both...

RETWEETS

115

FAVORITES

58



1:51 AM - 18 Jul 2013



**PROOF OF SERVICE**  
**STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

I am employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to the within action. My business address is 333 South Hope Street, 40<sup>th</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, California 90071.

On September 1, 2015, I served the following document(s) described as: **DEFENDANT JOHN DOE'S NOTICE OF MOTION AND SPECIAL TO MOTION STRIKE; DECLARATION OF KENNETH P. WHITE; EXHIBITS** in this action by placing true copies thereof enclosed in sealed envelopes and/or packages addressed as follows:

Evan N. Spiegel, Esq.  
Lavelly & Singer, P.C.  
2049 Century Park East, Ste. 2400  
Los Angeles, CA 90067

- ☒ **BY MAIL:** I deposited such envelope in the mail at 333 South Hope Street, 40th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90071. The envelope was mailed with postage thereon fully prepaid. I am "readily familiar" with the firm's practice of collection and processing correspondence for mailing. It is deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on that same day in the ordinary course of business. I am aware that on motion of the party served, service is presumed invalid if postal cancellation date or postage meter date is more than one (1) day after date of deposit for mailing in affidavit.
- ☐ **BY FACSIMILE:** I served said document(s) to be transmitted by facsimile pursuant to Rule 2008 of the California Rules of Court. The telephone number of the sending facsimile machine was 213/613-0550. The name(s) and facsimile machine telephone number(s) of the person(s) served are set forth in the service list.
- ☐ **BY OVERNIGHT DELIVERY:** I served such 5ized by the overnight service carrier to receive documents, in an envelope or package designated by the overnight service carrier.
- ☐ **BY HAND DELIVERY:** I caused such envelope(s) to be delivered by hand to the above addressee(s).
- ☐ **BY ELECTRONIC MAIL:** On the above-mentioned date, from Los Angeles, California, I caused each such document to be transmitted electronically to the party(ies) at the e-mail address(es) indicated below. To the best of my knowledge, the transmission was reported as complete, and no error was reported that the electronic transmission was not completed.
- ☒ **STATE:** I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on September 1, 2015, at Los Angeles, California.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Letty Perez