1 2 3 4 5 6 7	MAYER BROWN LLP LEE H. RUBIN (SBN 141331) lrubin@mayerbrown.com DONALD M. FALK (SBN 150256) dfalk@mayerbrown.com Two Palo Alto Square, Suite 300 3000 El Camino Real Palo Alto, CA 94306-2112 Telephone: (650) 331-2000 Facsimile: (650) 331-2061 Attorneys for Defendant Google Inc.			
8	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT			
10	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA			
11	SAN JOSE DIVISION			
12	BRAD GREENSPAN,	Case No. 5:14-cv-04187-RMW		
13	Plaintiff	DEFENDANT GOOGLE INC.'S		
14	v.	NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR AN ORDER DECLARING		
15	IAC/INTERACTIVE CORP., a Delaware corporation;	PLAINTIFF A VEXATIOUS LITIGANT AND FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. § 1927		
16	GOOGLE, INC., a Delaware corporation;	1 URSUANT 10 26 U.S.C. § 1727		
17	NEWS CORP., a Delaware corporation;	Date: September 23, 2016 Time: 9:00 a.m.		
18	Defendants.	Dept: Courtroom 6		
19		The Honorable Ronald M. Whyte		
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	DEFENDANT GOOGLE INC.'S NOTICE OF MOT	TION AND MOTION FOR AN ORDER DECLARING		

NOTICE OF MOTION 1 TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR COUNSEL OF RECORD: 2 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on September 23, 2016 at 9:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter 3 as the matter may be heard in the United States District Court for the Northern District of 4 California, Courtroom 6, 4th Floor, located at 280 South 1st Street, San Jose, California, the 5 Honorable Ronald M. Whyte presiding, Defendant Google Inc. ("Google"), will, and hereby 6 does, move this Court for an order: 7 (1) Declaring Plaintiff Brad Greenspan ("Greenspan") to be a vexatious litigant and 8 requiring Greenspan to obtain leave of court before filing any further motions in 9 this proceeding; and 10 (2) Requiring Greenspan to reimburse Google for its attorneys' fees incurred in 11 bringing this motion, in the amount of \$21,793.50. 12 This Motion is based upon this Notice of Motion, the accompanying Memorandum of 13 Points and Authorities, the Declaration of Lee H. Rubin and accompanying exhibits, the 14 15 complete files in this action, any oral argument, any matters that the Court may take judicial notice of, and such other further matters this Court may consider. 16 17 Dated: August 18, 2016 MAYER BROWN LLP LEE H. RUBIN 18 DONALD M. FALK 19 /s/ Lee H. Rubin By: Lee H. Rubin 20 Attorneys for Defendant GOOGLE INC. 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

It has been over a year since the Court dismissed this case on May 15, 2015. In that time, Greenspan has continued to file motion after motion—sixteen in total (seven of which were filed after May 5, 2016, when the Court denied Greenspan's motion to set aside the Court's judgment to dismiss the case, effectively ending this litigation). None of these post-judgment filings do anything but try to advance his dismissed claims. Indeed, Greenspan is simply (and blatantly) ignoring the Court's orders and needlessly burdening the Court and the parties with wholly unnecessary and unwarranted motion practice. Google does not file this motion lightly, but enough is enough. The time has come for the Court to deem Greenspan a vexatious litigant and constrain his ability to file any further pleadings in this closed case.

Notably, Greenspan's troublesome behavior is not unique to this case. Greenspan has a long history of presenting filings in related matters after the cases had clearly ended. Without judicial intervention, Greenspan will continue to improperly burden the parties and the Court and will "preempt the use of judicial time that properly could be used to consider the meritorious claims of other litigants." *De Long v. Hennessey*, 912 F.2d 1144, 1148 (9th Cir. 1990).

Accordingly, Google respectfully requests this Court to issue an order: (1) declaring Greenspan a vexatious litigant and requiring him to obtain leave of court before making further filings in this case, and (2) requiring him to reimburse Google for the attorneys' fees it incurred in bringing this motion.

BACKGROUND

I. GREENSPAN'S PRIOR LITIGATION CONDUCT RELATED TO 2005 MYSPACE ACQUISITION

This is the *fifth* time Greenspan has either brought or joined a lawsuit to challenge the July 2005 sale of MySpace, Intermix's subsidiary, to News Corp. at the price of \$580 million. Greenspan, as a 10% owner of MySpace, received \$58 million in that deal, but believes he should have received more. Greenspan first sued many of Intermix's officers and directors for violating their fiduciary duty in selling MySpace too cheaply; that case was dismissed without

leave to amend. In re Intermix Media, Inc. Shareholder Litigation, Nos. BC338945, BC338786, 2006 WL 5535275 (Los Angeles Super. Ct. Oct. 6, 2006), aff'd by Greenspan v. Intermix Media, *Inc.*, No. B196434, 2008 WL 4837565 at *25 (Cal. Ct. App. 2008) (unpublished) (affirming dismissal without leave to amend because the shareholders ratified the transaction).¹ Greenspan later tried to join a federal court class action challenging News Corp.'s acquisition of Intermix, but he was dismissed from that action and was subsequently unsuccessful in his attempt to intervene in it. See Minute Order Dismissing Greenspan from Action, Brown v. Brewer, No. 2:06-cv-03731-GHK-SH (C.D. Cal. Oct. 19, 2010); see also Minute Order Striking Motion to Intervene, Brown v. Brewer, No. 2:06-cv-03731-GHK-SH (C.D. Cal. Nov. 29, 2011). The Ninth Circuit dismissed Greenspan's appeal of the resulting settlement as untimely. See Order, Greenspan v. Brewer, No. 12-55739 (9th Cir. May 9, 2012). Greenspan also has a history of filing post-judgment motions in closed cases. For example, Greenspan filed a complaint in the Delaware Court of Chancery against News Corp. and others in yet another challenge to News Corp.'s acquisition of MySpace, but the court dismissed that case and denied Greenspan's motion for reargument. Greenspan v. News Corp., No. 9567-VCG, 2016 WL 918166 at *2 (Del. Ch. Jan. 22, 2016) (unpublished). Notwithstanding the final judgment, Greenspan sent a Rule 59 Motion and a money order to cover the filing fee to that court, which "return[ed] the Motion and money order both," because the case was closed. See Declaration of Lee H. Rubin In Support of Google's Motion for an

Similarly, Greenspan also filed post-judgment motions in a Central District action against News Corp., in which he had intervened, but the court denied those Rule 60 motions because the case was closed and the motions were irrelevant to the court's decision to dismiss the action for

Order Declaring Plaintiff a Vexatious Litigant ("Rubin Decl.") Ex. B (Letter to Greenspan from

Court Refusing Motion, No. 9567-VCG (Del. Ch. Feb. 29, 2016)).

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¹ The California court of appeal's decision also indicates that Greenspan had filed a separate shareholder derivative action in February 2005, which he later dismissed. *See* 2008 WL 4837565 at *4.

forum non conveniens. *See* Rubin Decl. Ex. C (Minute Order Denying Intervenor's Motion for Relief from Judgment and Denying Intervenor's Motion for Sanctions, *Huthart v. News Corp.*, Case No. CV 13-04253-MFW (C.D. Cal. June 10, 2014)).

In another case in this District where Google was a defendant, Greenspan and two others filed a "motion to intervene" based on purported "new evidence," which the court rejected as meritless and because the attorney who purportedly signed the motion informed the court she did not in fact e-file the motion. Rubin Decl. Ex. D (Order Denying Motion to Intervene, *In re High Tech. Emp. Antitrust Litig.*, No. 11-cv-02509-LHK (N.D. Cal. July 8, 2014)); Rubin Decl. Ex. E (Motion to Intervene, *In re High-Tech*, No. 11-cv-02509-LHK (July 7, 2014)). (The hijacking of the attorney's e-filing account was subsequently reported to the State Bar.)

II. GREENSPAN'S CONDUCT IN THIS LITIGATION

In this action, Greenspan made the implausible claim that Google delayed bidding for the right to provide the search engine for the MySpace site, and thus depressed the price that News Corp. paid to acquire MySpace. Dkt. No. 1; *see* Dkt Nos. 18, 19, 20 (Defendants' Motions to Dismiss First Amended Complaint and Google's Request for Judicial Notice). Before the motions to dismiss were decided, Greenspan filed a second amended complaint, but failed to request leave to do so. Dkt. No. 21. He did not otherwise respond to the motions to dismiss.

Greenspan then failed to appear at a hearing and to respond to an order to show cause as to why his case should not be dismissed for failure to prosecute. Dkt. Nos. 26-28. Accordingly, on May 15, 2015, this Court dismissed Greenspan's case with prejudice and entered judgment in favor of Defendants. Dkt. Nos. 29 & 30.

Over the next several weeks, Greenspan filed several motions, including one asking to be relieved from the judgment. Dkt. No. 39. On September 18, 2015, Court stated that it would grant Greenspan relief from the previous judgment on two conditions: (1) Greenspan had to obtain new class counsel (his former counsel having withdrawn due in part to a break-down in

² In terms of formatting and language style, the "Motion to Intervene" bears striking similarities with Greenspan's *pro se* pleadings in this case. *Compare* Rubin Ex. D *with* Dkt Nos. 131 & 142.

the attorney-client relationship); and (2) he had to reimburse Defendants' costs and expenses incurred as a result of Greenspan's post-judgment "motions." Dkt. No. 66; Dkt. No. 96.

It is undisputed that Greenspan did not comply with this payment condition. This Court set a deadline, which it extended at Greenspan's request, but Greenspan still did not pay. On May 5, 2016, this Court denied Greenspan's motion to set aside the judgment, denied his request for (another) extension, and granted his then-current counsel's motion to withdraw. Dkt. No. 99.

Greenspan soon filed a 60(b)(2) motion claiming that new evidence warranted setting aside the judgment entered on May 5, 2015. The Court denied that motion because Greenspan failed to cite any new evidence and had not reimbursed Defendants, which was a necessary condition for the Court to grant Greenspan relief from the judgment. Dkt. No. 114.

In summary, Greenspan has filed sixteen substantive motions since this Court dismissed the case in May 2015. Dkt. Nos. 31-32, 39, 46, 47, 57, 58-59, 60, 113, 116, 121, 124, 127, 131-132, 145. Seven of those motions were filed after the Court's May 5, 2016 and June 9, 2016 Orders that effectively closed this case. None of the motions argues that Greenspan complied with the Court's prior orders. Indeed, he is simply ignoring them as if they do not exist or do not apply to him. And the most he claims to have paid Google is \$7.77 of the \$20,000 he was ordered to pay.

Moreover, the post-dismissal motions merely repackage his previously rejected arguments. For example, although this Court already rejected Greenspan's Rule 60(b)(2) motion based on "new evidence," he recently filed another motion that essentially requested relief based on new evidence. *See* Dkt. No. 127 ("FRCP 60(b)(1) Motion"). Similarly, Greenspan has filed several motions claiming Google's Certificate of Interested Parties was inaccurate because it identified Alphabet Inc. as a "holding company" rather than a "parent" company or "parent holding company" for Google (even though the Certificate simply—and correctly—stated that Google is a wholly owned subsidiary of Alphabet Inc.). *See* Dkt. Nos. 116, 120-22, 131 (Greenspan's motions); Dkt No. 138 (Google's Opposition to Motion for Sanctions).

III. GREENSPAN IS A VEXATIOUS LITIGANT WHO SHOULD BE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN LEAVE OF COURT BEFORE MAKING FURTHER FILINGS.

A court has the power under the All Writs Act to place restrictions on the filings and claims made by vexatious litigants, including *pro se* litigants. *See De Long*, 912 F.2d at 1147 ("Under the power of 28 U.S.C. § 1651(a) . . . enjoining litigants with abusive and lengthy histories is one such form of restriction that the district court may take").

In order to do so, a district court must: (1) find the litigant was provided with both adequate notice and an opportunity to be heard; (2) establish an adequate record for review; (3) make substantive findings as to the frivolous or harassing nature of the plaintiff's litigation; and (4) limit the breadth of the order by narrowly tailoring it "to closely fit the specific vice encountered." *Id.* at 1147-48. To address the last two factors, courts have applied the five-factor analysis in *Safir v. United States Lines, Inc.*, 792 F.2d 19, 24 (2d Cir. 1986), addressing

(1) the litigant's history of litigation and in particular whether it entailed vexatious, harassing or duplicative lawsuits; (2) the litigant's motive in pursuing the litigation, e.g., does the litigant have an objective good faith expectation of prevailing?; (3) whether the litigant is represented by counsel; (4) whether the litigant has caused needless expense to other parties or has posed an unnecessary burden on the courts and their personnel; and (5) whether other sanctions would be adequate to protect the courts and other parties.

Molski v. Evergreen Dynasty Corp., 500 F.3d 1047, 1058 (9th Cir. 2007) (finding the five-factor *Safir* standard "a helpful framework for applying the two substantive factors (factors three and four) of our own four-factor standard").

All of the *DeLong* factors indicate that Greenspan is a vexatious litigant. First, this noticed motion provides Greenspan with notice and an adequate opportunity to be heard. *See Loumena v. Kennedy*, No. 15-CV-00951 LHK, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 139369 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 13, 2015). Second, as detailed above, the Court can establish an adequate record for review. The third and fourth *De Long* factors (i.e. the five *Safir* factors) are also satisfied.

A. Greenspan has a history of filing vexatious, harassing, and duplicative suits and motions.

Greenspan has filed or joined at least five lawsuits related to the 2005 MySpace

acquisition and has filed frivolous post-judgment motions in other closed cases. *Supra* at pp. 2-4. Moreover, in this litigation, Greenspan has filed seven post-judgment motions after the case was closed for good. Some motions make the same type of Rule 60 "new evidence" argument that this Court has already rejected (Dkt. No. 114); others request relief from the judgment and orders of this Court without addressing his failure to comply with Court orders. Dkt. Nos. 113, 114, 127. Similarly, Greenspan has argued in assorted motions (*e.g.*, his Motion for Sanctions and his Motion to Strike) that Google's Certificate of Interested Parties is fraudulent or somehow inaccurate, an argument that is both patently false and meritless. Dkt. Nos. 116, 121, 129. And the bulk of his arguments are incoherent.

In a similar case, this Court found two defendants to be vexatious litigants after they had tried three times to remove the same case to federal court even though they were told there were no adequate grounds for removal. The filings were "sufficiently egregious because they arise in the same case, attempt to take the same improper action, and raise the same arguments that have already been rejected." *Bank of N.Y. Mellon v. Brewer*, No. C-12-03179 RMW, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 128578 at *12-13 (N.D. Cal Sep. 7, 2012; *see also Rivera v. Lingle*, No. 06-00406 ACK-LEK, 2006 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 59298, *3 (D. Haw. Aug. 17, 2006) (entering a pre-filing order prohibiting litigant from making further post-judgment motions in that action, including motions to vacate or amend judgment). Greenspan's conduct is equally improper.

B. Greenspan's litigation history suggests that his motive in pursuing this litigation is to harass Defendants.

This Court has already recognized that Greenspan's post-judgment "motions" are causing Defendants to incur needless costs and expenses. Dkt. Nos. 66, 83 (ordering Greenspan to pay Google and IAC for costs and expenses they incurred following entry of judgment as a condition of the Court granting Greenspan relief from the judgment). Despite that admonition, Greenspan continues to file meritless post-judgment motions that confirm that he has paid only \$7.77 of the \$20,000 he owes to Google. Although Greenspan's motions are often difficult to decipher, none has merit. Their only purpose and effect is to harass Defendants and impose costs on them and

	this Court. Further, the baseless and scandalous accusations in his papers (e.g., alleging that				
	Google and IAC's attorneys engaged in fraudulent conduct) further indicate an intent to harass.				
	Gabor v. County of Santa Clara Bd. of Supervisors, No. C-07-04266 RMW (HRL), 2008 U.S.				
	Dist. LEXIS 32115 at *21 (N.D. Cal. March 31, 2008), aff'd, 363 Fed.Appx. 456 (9th Cir. 2010)				
	(noting that "based on the number of defendants and the vitriol expressed in the instant				
	complaint, it would appear that there may be some intent to harass"). Nor could Greenspan				
	reasonably "have an objective good faith expectation of prevailing" on his motions, Safir, 792				
	F.2d at 24, given his history in this case and other closed matters.				
	C. Greenspan is currently proceeding <i>pro se</i> because both of his former counsel withdrew with leave of this Court.				
	Greenspan is not the typical pro se litigant. He was successively represented by two				
	different counsel who withdrew, with leave of this Court. Dkt. Nos. 23, 24, 96, 99. One former				
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Greenspan is not the typical pro se litigant. He was successively represented by two different counsel who withdrew, with leave of this Court. Dkt. Nos. 23, 24, 96, 99. One former counsel explained there was an irreparable breakdown in the attorney-client relationship for several reasons, including Greenspan's refusal to follow his attorney's advice on how to proceed in this litigation. Dkt. No. 96. Upon this Court's order, Greenspan sought new counsel, but that counsel, too, later withdrew after Greenspan filed a "motion to intervene" on his own behalf without informing his attorney. Dkt. Nos. 91-94, 96, 99.

Even for *pro se* litigants, any "flagrant abuse of the judicial process cannot be tolerated." *Gabor*, 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 32115 at *21. In *Gabor*, this Court found two litigants who brought all their actions in *propria persona* to be vexatious and entered a pre-filing order against them. *Id.* at 21-23. Here, Greenspan's filings have been so numerous and abusive that this factor favors Defendants.

D. Greenspan's post-judgment motions have caused needless expense to Google and placed a needless burden on this Court.

Although this case has been closed, Greenspan continues to make post-judgment "motions" in this case as if it were a live matter. *See* Dkt. Nos. 114, 116-134, 144. Since the Court's June 9, 2016 order denying his first motion to vacate the May 5 order (that in turn finally

denied his order to vacate the May 2015 final judgment), Google has been forced to respond to no less than seven "motions" made by Greenspan. More particularly, Google has incurred time and expense by having to file: (i) an opposition to motion for sanctions, (ii) an opposition to motion to strike, (iii) an opposition to motion to amend complaint, (iv) a consolidated opposition to Greenspan's Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 59, Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 60(b)(1), and Fed. R. Civ. 60(d)(3) motions, and, most recently, (v) an opposition to Greenspan's second motion to strike. Dkt. Nos. 138-141, 147. Greenspan's continuing conduct has "forced not only the unnecessary expenditure of time and money on the part of [Defendants] but also" has consumed "the court's limited resources that could be better used in processing legally supported claims." *Brewer*, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 128578 at *14.

E. The requested sanction is narrowly tailored because other sanctions alone will not provide adequate protection to Defendants or the Court.

Google's request that the Court constrain Greenspan's ability to make further filings in this case is appropriate under the circumstances. As the record of this case makes clear, monetary sanctions alone will not deter Greenspan from making further filings in this closed case. He continues to file frivolous "motions" after failing to comply with the Court's past Orders to pay a combined amount of \$45,000 to Defendants Google and IAC . *See* Dkt. Nos. 116-134. Moreover, the requested sanction—declaring Greenspan a vexatious litigant and requiring him to obtain leave of Court before making further filings in this case— is narrowly tailored "to closely fit the specific vice encountered." *De Long*, 912 F.2d at 1148; *Wood v. Santa Barbara Chamber of Commerce, Inc.*, 705 F.2d 1515, 1523-26 (9th Cir. 1983). Such a pre-filing order will communicate that a final judgment has been entered and cannot be set aside simply by making more frivolous "motions."

IV. REQUEST FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. § 1927

In addition, and pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1927, Google requests that the Court order Greenspan to pay Google the attorneys' fees it incurred to bring this motion to stop the vexatious conduct outlined above.

The purpose of 28 U.S.C. § 1927 is to deter a party—(see Wages v. I.R.S., 915 F.2d				
1230, 1235-36 (9th Cir. 1990))—from future litigation abuse. See Haynes v. City & Cnty. of San				
Francisco, 688 F.3d 984, 987-88 (9th Cir. 2012), aff'g, 474 Fed.Appx. 689 (9th Cir. 2012)				
(stating that the purpose of § 1927 sanctions is to both compensate the victims and deter plaintiff				
from future misconduct). An award under section 1927, requires a "finding of subjective bad				
faith," which "is present when an attorney knowingly or recklessly raises a frivolous argument,				
or argues a meritorious claim for the purpose of harassing an opponent." Moore v. Keegan				
Mgmt. Co. (In re Keegan Mgmt. Co., Sec. Litig.), 78 F.3d 431, 436 (9th Cir. 1996) (quoting				
Estate of Blas v. Winkler, 792 F.2d 858, 860 (9th Cir. 1986)). Filing substantially duplicate				
claims can be evidence of bad faith. See, e.g., Boress v. Reynolds, No. C 03-2897 VRW, 2004				
U.S. Dist. LEXIS 15804, 9-10 (N.D. Cal. 2004) (applying sanctions after finding plaintiff in bad				
faith had multiplied proceedings unreasonably and vexatiously when, despite the court				
overruling his objections, he filed substantially similar claims in state court), aff'd, 126				
Fed.Appx. 412 (9th Cir. 2005).				

Even though prior monetary sanctions alone have failed to deter Greenspan, his continued intransigence and bad faith conduct does not entitle him to a pass from being subject to additional monetary sanctions. Indeed, the opposite is true: his unabated vexatious conduct in the face of previous monetary sanctions warrants additional monetary sanctions, especially in light of the Court's earlier order that made Greenspan acutely aware that his post-judgment filings were improperly increasing Defendants' costs. By failing to comply with that order, Greenspan forfeited the ability to maintain this action. He should bear the attorneys' fees of \$21,793.50, which Google incurred for bringing this motion. Rubin Decl. ¶¶ 2-8.

CONCLUSION

For all the reasons stated above, the Court should issue an order: (1) declaring Greenspan a vexatious litigant and requiring him to obtain leave of court before making further filings in this case; and (2) requiring Greenspan to pay Google's attorneys' fees for bringing this motion, which amount to \$21,793.50.

1	Dated: August 18, 2016	MAYER	BROWN LLP
2	1	By: <u>/s</u>	/ Lee H. Rubin ee H. Rubin
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DEFENDANT GOOGLE INC.'S NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR AN ORDER DECLARING PLAINTIFF A VEXATIOUS LITIGANT AND FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. § 1927; CASE NO. 5:14-CV-04187-RMW

Certificate of Service 1 I hereby certify that the foregoing motion and accompanying declaration and proposed 2 order were electronically filed with the Clerk of the Court for the United States District Court for 3 the Northern District of California by using the ECF system on August 18, 2016. All participants 4 in the case who are registered ECF users will be served by the ECF system. 5 In addition, a copy of this motion and accompanying declaration and proposed order were 6 served, pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(b)(2)(C), by U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, and addressed to: 7 8 **Brad Greenspan** 2885 Sanford Avenue SW #33395 9 Grandville, MI 49418 10 **Dated:** August 18, 2016 11 MAYER BROWN LLP 12 13 By: /s/ Lee H. Rubin Lee H. Rubin 14 Attorneys for Defendant Google, Inc. 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28