

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
MARSHALL DIVISION**

GEOTAG, INC.,

Plaintiff,

vs.

STARBUCKS CORP., ET AL.

Defendants.

Case No. 2:10-CV-572-TJW

**DARDEN COPORATION'S ANSWER, AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES, AND
COUNTERCLAIMS TO PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL COMPAINT (#1)**

Defendant and Counterclaimant Darden Corporation (“Darden”), by and through its undersigned counsel, responds to the Plaintiff’s (“GeoTag”) Original Complaint (#1) (“Original Complaint”) as follows:

THE PARTIES

1. – 13. Darden lacks knowledge and information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in each respective paragraph 1 - 13, and accordingly denies the same.

14 - 16. Darden Corporation admits that it has a place of business in Orlando, Florida. On March 24, 2011, the Court granted a joint motion to substitute named defendants Darden Restaurants, Inc. d/b/a Red Lobster d/b/a Longhorn Steakhouse d/b/a Olive Garden d/b/a The Capital Grille d/b/a Bahama Breeze d/b/a Seasons d/b/a Lonhornsteakhouse.com, GMRI, Inc. and Darden Concepts, Inc. with the currently named defendant, Darden Corporation. *See* Dkt. No. 162. In view of this substitution order, Darden Restaurants, Inc., Darden Concepts, Inc., and GMRI, Inc. will not address any allegations contained in the plaintiff’s Original Complaint.

17. – 50. Darden lacks knowledge and information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in each respective paragraph 17 - 50, and accordingly denies the same.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

51. Darden admits that this Court has subject matter and personal jurisdiction over the plaintiff’s purported claims for patent infringement against Darden, and also admits that the United States Patent Laws are codified in Title 35 of the United States Code. Darden admits that it has an interactive website that is available for use within this forum, but denies all remaining allegations in paragraph 51 that are directed to Darden. To the extent the allegations in paragraph 51 are directed at other defendants, Darden lacks knowledge and information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of those allegations, and accordingly denies the same.

52. Darden admits that venue is proper in the Eastern District of Texas, but denies that the Eastern District of Texas is the most convenient forum for this action. Moreover, Darden denies that GeoTag's infringement claims arise directly from Darden's business contacts in and other activities in the State of Texas and the Eastern District of Texas. Darden admits that it has an interactive website that is available for use within this forum, but denies all remaining allegations in paragraph 52 that are directed to Darden. To the extent the allegations in paragraph 52 are directed at other defendants, Darden lacks knowledge and information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of those allegations, and accordingly denies the same.

53. Darden admits that Judge Everingham previously construed certain claim terms in U.S. Patent No. 5,930,474 ("the '474 patent") in *Geomas (Int'l) Ltd. v. Idearc Media Services-West, Inc.*, No. 2:06-CV-475 (E. D. Tex. Nov. 20, 2008), but denies the remaining allegations in paragraph 53.

COUNT I
INFRINGEMENT OF U.S. PATENT NO. 5,930,474

54. Darden admits that the '474 patent indicates on its face that it is entitled "Internet Organizer for Accessing Geographically and Topically Based Information," but denies that the '474 patent was duly and legally issued on July 29, 1999. Darden lacks knowledge and information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of any remaining allegations in paragraph 54, and therefore denies the same.

55. Darden lacks knowledge and information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in paragraph 55, and accordingly denies the same.

56. Darden denies the allegations in paragraph 56 because they state a legal conclusion that is premature given the absence of a claim construction order in this case.

57. Darden denies all portions of paragraph 57 that are directed at Darden. To the extent the allegations in paragraph 57 are directed at other defendants, Darden lacks knowledge and information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of those allegations, and accordingly denies the same.

58. – 67. Darden lacks knowledge and information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in each respective paragraph 58 - 67, and accordingly denies the same.

68. Denied.

69. – 88. Darden lacks knowledge and information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of the allegations in each respective paragraph 69 - 88, and accordingly denies the same.

89. Darden denies all portions of paragraph 89 that are directed at Darden. To the extent the allegations in paragraph 89 are directed at other defendants, Darden lacks knowledge and information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of those allegations, and accordingly denies the same.

90. Darden denies all portions of paragraph 90 that are directed at Darden. To the extent the allegations in paragraph 90 are directed at other defendants, Darden lacks knowledge and information sufficient to form a belief about the truth of those allegations, and accordingly denies the same

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

91. Darden opposes the relief requested or any other relief GeoTag may request.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

92. Darden also demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

DENIAL OF ANY REMAINING ALLEGATIONS

93. Except as specifically admitted herein, Darden denies any remaining allegations in the plaintiff's Original Complaint that are directed to Darden.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

Incorporating by reference the foregoing paragraphs in their entirety, Darden, as its Affirmative Defense to the Original Complaint of GeoTag, states as follows:

FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Failure to State a Claim)

94. GeoTag's claims for relief and each and every one of its allegations fail to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(No Infringement)

95. Darden does not infringe and has not infringed any valid and enforceable claim of the '474 patent.

THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Invalidity)

96. Claims of the '474 patent are invalid for failure to satisfy the conditions for patentability set forth in Title 35 of the United States Code, including, without limitation, §§ 101, 102, 103, and 112.

FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Laches)

97. GeoTag's claims are barred, in whole or in part, by laches.

FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Waiver)

98. GeoTag's claims are barred, in whole or in part, by waiver.

SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE

(Estoppel)

99. GeoTag's claims are barred, in whole or in part, by estoppel.

SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
(Limitation on Damages)

100. GeoTag's claims are limited by 35 U.S.C. § 286.

EIGHT AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE
(Notice)

101. GeoTag's claims are limited by 35 U.S.C. § 287.

RESERVATION OF AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

102. Darden hereby reserves the right to supplement with additional affirmative defenses as discovery proceeds in this matter.

COUNTERCLAIMS

Incorporating by reference the foregoing paragraphs in their entirety, Darden asserts the following counterclaims against GeoTag:

PARTIES

1. Counterclaim plaintiff is a Florida Corporation with a principal place of business in Orlando, Florida.

2. On information and belief based on the plaintiff's Original Complaint, Counterclaim Defendant, GeoTag, is a Delaware Corporation with a place of business in Plano, Texas.

JURISDICTION

3. These counterclaims arise under the patent laws of the United States as enacted under Title 35 of the United States Code and the provisions of the Federal Declaratory Judgment Act. The jurisdiction of this Court is proper under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1338, 2201 and 2202.

VENUE

4. While Darden does not concede that venue is proper in this district with respect to the action brought by GeoTag, should that action remain in this district, venue on these counterclaims is proper in this district under 28 U.S.C. §§ 1391 and 1400 because GeoTag alleges that its place of business is located in this district.

COUNT I – DECLARATION OF NONINFRINGEMENT

5. Based on GeoTag’s filing of this action and Darden’s Affirmative Defenses, an actual controversy has arisen and now exists between GeoTag and Darden as to whether Darden has infringed or is infringing U.S. Patent No. 5,930,474 (“the ‘474 patent”).

6. Pursuant to the Federal Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2201 et seq., Darden requests the declaration of the Court that Darden does not infringe and has not infringed any valid and enforceable claim of the ‘474 patent.

COUNT II – DECLARATION OF PATENT INVALIDITY

7. Based on GeoTag’s filing of this action and Darden’s Affirmative Defenses, an actual controversy has arisen and now exists between GeoTag and Darden as to the validity of the ‘474 patent.

8. Pursuant to the Federal Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2201 et seq., Darden requests the declaration of the Court that the ‘474 patent is invalid.

JURY DEMAND

9. Darden respectfully demands a trial by jury.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

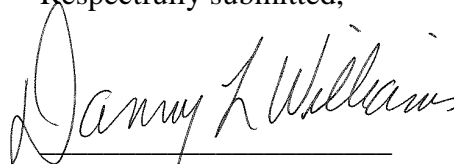
Darden respectfully requests a judgment against GeoTag as follows:

A. A declaration that Darden does not infringe and has not infringed any valid and enforceable claim of the ‘474 patent;

- B. A declaration that the '474 patent is invalid;
- C. That GeoTag take nothing by its Original Complaint;
- D. That the Court enter judgment against GeoTag and in favor of Darden and that GeoTag's Original Complaint be dismissed with prejudice;
- E. That the Court enter a judgment that this is an exceptional case under 35 U.S.C. § 285 and enter a judgment awarding Darden its costs and reasonable attorneys' fees; and
- F. That the Court grant Darden whatever further relief the Court may deem just and proper.

Date: March 28, 2011

Respectfully submitted,



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**ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT
DARDEN CORP.**

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that counsel of record who are deemed to have consented to electronic service are being served on March 28, 2011, with a copy of this document via the Court's CM/ECF systems per Local Rule CV-5(a)(3). Any other counsel will be served electronic mail, facsimile, overnight delivery and/or First Class Mail on this date.

/s/Riny Pieternele
Litigation Paralegal