

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO

FILED

2017 APR 10 A 0:58

STATE OF OHIO, ex rel.)
MICHAEL DEWINE)
ATTORNEY GENERAL)
615 W. SUPERIOR, 11TH FL.)
Cleveland, Ohio 44113-1899)

CASE NO.

JUDGE

Judge: DAVID T MATIA

CV 12 780062

J. E. FUERST
CLERK OF COURTS
CUYAHOGA COUNTY

Plaintiff,)

v.)

STEVEN SIGMAN)
d/b/a COMPANY EXPRESS)
6809 Mayfield Road)
Mayfield Heights, Ohio)

COMPLAINT AND REQUEST
FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF
DECLARATORY JUDGMENT,
CONSUMER RESTITUTION
AND CIVIL PENALTIES

Defendant.)

JURISDICTION

1. Plaintiff, State of Ohio, by and through the Attorney General of Ohio, Michael DeWine, having reasonable cause to believe that violations of Ohio's consumer protection laws have occurred, brings this action in the public interest and on behalf of the State of Ohio under the authority vested in him by R.C. 1345.01 et seq. (the Ohio Consumer Sales Practices Act).

2. The actions of Defendant Steve Sigman, hereinafter described, have occurred in the State of Ohio, County of Cuyahoga, and as set forth below, are in violation of R.C. 1345.01 et seq.

3. Defendant operates on-line businesses, including Company Express, which has a mailing address of 6809 Mayfield Road in Mayfield Heights, Cuyahoga County, Ohio.

4. Defendant is a “supplier”, as that term is defined in R.C. 1345.01(C), as Defendant is engaged in the business of effecting “consumer transactions” by offering consumer on-line services for a fee, within the meaning of R.C. 1345.01(A).

5. Defendant has accepted monies from consumers and has failed to provide any service whatsoever to those consumers. Defendant Sigman has represented to consumers that he can make money for those consumers through internet marketing, and by “generating multiple income streams”. Consumers allege that Sigman represented that if they advance Sigman and Company Express fees or advance deposits, they will receive compounded daily interest on those monies.

6. Jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action lies with this Court pursuant to the Ohio Consumer Sales Practices Act, R.C. 1345.04.

7. This Court has venue to hear this case pursuant to Ohio Civ. R. 3(B)(3), in that Defendant conducted many of the transactions complained of herein, ~~occurred~~ in Cuyahoga County, Ohio.

PLAINTIFF’S CAUSE OF ACTION

COUNT ONE

FAILURE TO PROVIDE SERVICES

8. Plaintiff incorporates by reference, as if completely rewritten herein, the allegations set forth in Paragraphs One through Seven (1-7) of this Complaint.

9. Defendant has committed unfair and deceptive acts and practices in violation of the Consumer Sales Practices Act, R.C. 1345.02(A) by accepting monies from consumers and failing to provide any service for those fees. Such acts or practices

have been previously determined by Ohio courts to violate the Consumer Sales Practices Act, R.C. 1345.01 et seq. Defendant committed said violations after such decisions were available for public inspection pursuant to R.C. 1345.05(A)(3).

PLAINTIFF'S CAUSE OF ACTION

COUNT TWO

FAILURE TO DELIVER

10. Plaintiff incorporates by reference, as if completely rewritten herein, the allegations set forth in Paragraphs One through Seven (1-7) of this Complaint.

11. Defendant has committed unfair and deceptive acts or practices in violation of the Consumer Sales Practices Act, R.C. 1345.02(A) and the Ohio Administrative Code 109:4-3-09, the Failure to Deliver Rule, by accepting money from consumers for goods and services and failing to make full delivery or a refund. Pursuant to R.C. 1345.07(D), for any violation of a rule adopted pursuant to 1345.02(B)(2), the attorney general of Ohio may request that the court impose a civil penalty of not more than twenty five thousand dollars against the supplier.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court:

1. **ISSUE** a permanent injunction enjoining Defendant, under this or any other names, his agents, servants, representatives, salesmen, employees, successors and assigns and all persons acting in concert or participate with Defendant, directly or indirectly, from engaging in the acts or practices of which Plaintiff complains;

2. **ISSUE** a declaratory judgment declaring that each act or practice complained of in this Complaint violates the Ohio Consumer Sales Practices Act, and the Substantive Rules contained in the Ohio Administrative Code in the manner set forth in this Complaint;

3. **IMPOSE** upon Defendant civil penalties in the amount of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) for each violation of each count pursuant to R.C. 1345.07(D);

4. **ORDER** Defendant to reimburse consumers who have been injured by the acts and practices of which Plaintiff complains;

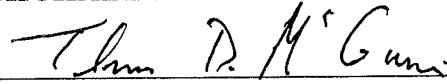
5. As a means of ensuring compliance with this Court's Order and with the consumer protection laws of Ohio, **ORDER** Defendant, his successors or assigns, under this or any other name, to maintain in their possession and control for a period of five (5) years all business records relating to Defendant's solicitation or effectuation of business in Ohio and to permit the Ohio Attorney General or his representative, upon reasonable twenty-four (24) hour notice, to inspect and/or copy any and all of said records and further **ORDER** that copies of such records be provided at Defendant's expense to the Ohio Attorney General upon request of the Ohio Attorney General or his representatives;

6. **GRANT** Plaintiff his costs in bringing this action;

7. **ASSESS** all court costs to the Defendant;

8. **GRANT** such further relief as justice and equity require.

Respectfully submitted,
ATTORNEY GENERAL
MICHAEL DEWINE



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