2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Katherine M. Basile, Esq. (Bar No. 132518) James F. Valentine, Esq. (Bar No. 149269) James R. Cady, Esq. (Bar No. 213377) HOWREY LLP 1950 University Avenue, 4th Floor East Palo Alto, California 94303 Telephone: (650) 798-3500 Facsimile: (650) 798-3600  Dutro E. Campbell II (pro hac vice submitted) HUSCH BLACKWELL SANDERS LLP 190 Carondelet Plaza, Suite 600 St. Louis, MO 63105 Telephone: (314) 480-1905 Facsimile: (314) 480-1505  Attorneys for Plaintiff RIDE THE DUCKS INTERNATIONAL, LLC
198	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
11	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
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13	RIDE THE DUCKS INTERNATIONAL, LLC, Case No. 2195
14	Plaintiff, COMPLAINT FOR TRADEMARK
15	vs. INFRINGEMENT AND UNFAIR  OF THE PROPERTY O
16	BAY QUACKERS, LLC,
17	Defendant.  Defendant.  Defendant.
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20	Plaintiff, Ride The Ducks International, LLC, a Missouri Limited Liability Company, and for
21	its Complaint against Defendant Bay Quackers, LLC, states and alleges as follows:
22	FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS
23	The Parties
24	1. Plaintiff, Ride The Ducks International, LLC ("Ride The Ducks" or "Plaintiff") is and
25	at all times material hereto has been a Missouri Limited Liability Company with its principal place of
26	business at 5445 Triangle Parkway, Norcross, Georgia 30092.
HOWREY LLP 27	
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	COMPLAINT FOR TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT AND UNFAIR COMPETITION

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2. Upon information and belief, Defendant Bay Quackers, LLC ("Bay Quackers" or "Defendant") is and at all times material hereto has been a California Limited Liability Company with its principal place of business at 2800 Leavenworth Street, San Francisco, California 94133.

#### Jurisdiction and Venue

- 3. This Court has original federal question jurisdiction and supplemental jurisdiction over this action under 15 U.S.C. § 1121 and 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1338 & 1367(a), as this case arises under the trademark laws of the United States, 15 U.S.C. §§ 1051 et seq.
- 4. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b) because the Defendant is doing business and can be found in this District, and because a substantial part of the events giving rise to the claim occurred in this District.

### Nature of the Action

- 5. Ride The Ducks owns U.S. Trademark Registration No. 2,484,276 for a service mark comprised of a sound consisting of a quacking noise made by tour guides and tour participants by use of duck call devices throughout various portions of guided amphibious vehicle tours ("Ride The Ducks' registered sound mark"). Ride The Ducks' use of its registered sound mark in connection with guided tours over land and water by amphibious vehicles dates back to as early as 1996. The United States Patent and Trademark Office issued U.S. Trademark Registration No. 2,484,276 on September 4, 2001. This registration is valid, subsisting, and incontestable pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1065. A copy of this registration is attached hereto as Exhibit A.
- 6. Ride The Ducks brings this action to stop Bay Quackers from the unauthorized and infringing use of Ride The Ducks' registered sound mark. Bay Quackers' use of Ride The Ducks' registered sound mark is likely to cause confusion, mistake or to deceive the public as to the source of the Bay Quackers' goods and services, and as to the existence of a connection, affiliation or sponsorship between Bay Quackers and Ride The Ducks, when no such connection or affiliation exists.
- 7. This action seeks permanent injunctive relief, monetary relief, and attorneys' fees based on Defendant's violation of: (1) § 32 of the Lanham Trademark Act of 1946, as amended (the "Lanham Act"), 15 U.S.C. § 1114 (federal trademark infringement); (2) § 43 of the Lanham Act, 15

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U.S.C. §1125(a) (federal unfair competition and false designation of origin) and (3) Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200, et seq. (California Unfair Competition).

- 8. Ride The Ducks owns a number of federal trademark registrations associated with its guided amphibious tours, including but not limited to the following:
  - a. Sound mark consisting of a quacking noise made by tour guides and tour participants by use of duck call devices throughout various portions of the tours, Fed. Reg. No. 2,484,276 for "tour guide services over land and water by amphibious vehicles." International Class 39, first use anywhere at least as early as August 22, 1996 and use in commerce at least as early as August 22, 1996. See Exhibit A.
  - b. **WACKY QUACKERS**, Fed. Reg. No. 2,167,682 for "duck calls and toy noise makers." International Class 28, first use anywhere at least as early as March 1, 1997 and use in commerce at least as early as March 1, 1997. A copy of this registration is attached hereto as Exhibit B.
- 9. At all times material hereto, Ride The Ducks' federal registrations have been, and continue to be, valid and subsisting.
- 10. Ride The Ducks began using its registered sound mark over a decade ago. Since that time, Ride The Ducks has continuously and extensively used its registered sound mark in several different cities across the United States in connection with its tour guide services. Moreover, Ride The Ducks' right to use its registered sound mark is incontestable pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1065. A copy of the Notice of Acceptance of Section 8 Declaration of Continued Use and Notice of Acknowledgement of Section 15 Declaration of Incontestability is attached hereto as Exhibit C.
- 11. Ride The Ducks' registered marks are recognized by consumers as representing Ride The Ducks' high-quality tour guide services.
- 12. Ride The Ducks operates guided amphibious sightseeing tours in several cities, including Baltimore, Maryland; Branson, Missouri; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Seattle, Washington; Newport, Kentucky; Stone Mountain Park, Georgia and San Francisco, California.

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- 13. Ride The Ducks first began offering guided amphibious sightseeing tours in Branson, Missouri in 1977. Since that time, Ride The Ducks' fleet of amphibious tour vehicles has grown to over seventy-five (75) vehicles.
- 14. Ride The Ducks is the nation's largest amphibious tour operator and amphibious vehicle manufacturer. Over one million (1,000,000) guests enjoy Ride The Ducks tours each year.
- 15. Ride The Ducks amphibious tours provide sightseers an experience that combines fun and music with history and sights.
- 16. To foster participation by its customers, Ride The Ducks distributes a duck call device, known as a "Wacky Quacker," to its patrons for use while aboard the amphibious vehicle. The customers use the Wacky Quacker devices during the course of the tour to quack at one another, the tour personnel and random passers-by. Ride the Ducks tour guides, likewise, use the "Wacky Quacker" duck calls to encourage participation of the tour patrons.
- 17. Ride The Ducks' longstanding use of the Wacky Quacker devices for its amphibious tours have caused customers and prospective customers to recognize and associate Ride The Ducks' registered sound mark with the amphibious tour services provided by Ride The Ducks.
- 18. Upon information and belief, in November 2005, Bay Quackers began operating an amphibious tour in San Francisco.
- 19. Like Ride The Ducks' amphibious tours, Bay Quackers' tour takes customers on a tour in an amphibious vehicle across land and water.
- 20. Like Ride The Ducks' amphibious tour in San Francisco, Bay Quackers' tour takes customers on a tour in an amphibious vehicle through historic San Francisco streets and across the waters of San Francisco Bay.
- 21. Like Ride the Ducks' amphibious tours, including its San Francisco amphibious tour, part of Bay Quackers' tour also includes distributing duck call devices to its patrons for use while aboard the amphibious vehicle. The sounds emanating from Bay Quackers' duck call devices are similar to, if not identical to, the sounds made by Ride the Ducks' Wacky Quacker devices and Ride The Ducks' registered sound mark.

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- 22. Bay Quackers' use of Ride The Ducks' registered sound mark has caused actual confusion.
- 23. Upon information and belief, Bay Quackers had prior knowledge of Ride The Ducks' use of its Wacky Quacker devices and its registered sound mark before Bay Quackers' first use of duck call devices for its amphibious tours in San Francisco.
- 24. By letters dated February 7, 2008, May 16, 2008, December 2, 2008 and April 20, 2009. Ride The Ducks notified Bay Quackers that it objected to Bay Quackers' use of Ride The Ducks' registered sound mark and demanded that Bay Quackers immediately cease and desist from all use of Ride The Ducks' registered sound mark. Copies of these cease and desist letters are attached hereto as Exhibit D.
- 25. Bay Quackers refused to comply with Ride The Ducks' repeated cease and desist demands and continues to willfully and unlawfully infringe Ride The Ducks' registered sound mark.
- 26. Bay Quackers' use of Ride The Ducks' registered sound mark, or a sound mark that is similar thereto, is intentional and likely to cause confusion with Ride The Ducks' customers and potential customers. Further, the goods and services offered by Bay Quackers are closely related, if not identical, to the goods and services Ride The Ducks sells and offers under its registered sound mark.
- Bay Quackers' use of Ride The Ducks' registered sound mark, or a sound mark that is 27. similar thereto, is likely to cause confusion or mistake or deceive the public into believing that Bay Quackers is affiliated with, connected to or associated with Ride The Ducks.
- Bay Quackers' use of Ride The Ducks' registered sound mark, or a sound mark that is 28. similar thereto, is likely to cause confusion or mistake or to deceive the public as to the origin, sponsorship or approval of Bay Quackers' goods, services or commercial activities by Ride The Ducks.
- Unless enjoined, Bay Quackers will continue to willfully infringe and violate Ride The 29. Ducks' rights in its registered sound mark, which will irreparably harm Ride The Ducks and cause Ride The Ducks to suffer damage, including but not limited to, damage to its goodwill and business reputation.

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1 TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT (15 U.S.C. § 1114) 2 Ride The Ducks realleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1-29 of the 30. 3 Complaint. 4 Bay Quackers have used Ride The Ducks' registered sound mark, or a sound mark that 31. 5 6 is similar thereto, in connection with the sale, offering for sale or advertising of goods and services. 7 32. Bay Quackers' use of Ride The Ducks' registered sound mark, or a sound mark that is similar thereto, is likely to cause confusion, mistake or deceive an appreciable number of ordinary 8 buyers as to the source of or association of those goods and services with Ride The Ducks. 10 33. On information and belief Bay Quackers' conduct is willful. 34. Bay Quackers' conduct constitutes trademark infringement in violation of § 32 of the 11 Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1114. 12 By reason of the foregoing acts of Bay Quackers, Ride The Ducks has sustained, and 13 35. unless enjoined will continue to sustain, substantial injury and damage. 14 36. Bay Quackers' acts have caused Ride The Ducks irreparable harm and, unless enjoined, 15 will continue to cause Ride The Ducks continuing irreparable harm. 16 17 37. This harm constitutes an injury for which Ride The Ducks has no adequate remedy at law. 18 19 UNFAIR COMPETITION/FALSE DESIGNATION OF ORIGIN 20 (15 U.S.C. § 1125(A)) 38. Ride The Ducks realleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1-37 of the 21 Complaint. 22 39. Bay Quackers' unauthorized use of Ride The Ducks' sound mark, or a sound mark that 23 is similar thereto, for both related and/or identical goods and/or services (e.g., amphibious tours and 24 goods and services related thereto) falsely suggests that its products and services are connected with, 25 sponsored by, affiliated with, or related to Ride The Ducks. 26 IOWREY LLP 27 40. Bay Quackers continues to use Ride The Ducks' sound mark, or a sound mark that is at least confusingly similar thereto, in connection with their goods and services. 28 COMPLAINT FOR TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT

AND UNFAIR COMPETITION

1	41. The foregoing acts of Bay Quackers constitute unfair competition and false designation
2	of origin in violation of § 43 of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a).
3	42. By reason of the foregoing acts of Bay Quackers, Ride The Ducks has sustained, and
4	unless enjoined will continue to sustain, substantial injury and damage. Bay Quackers' acts, unless
5	enjoined, will cause Ride The Ducks continuing irreparable harm.
6	43. This harm constitutes an injury for which Ride The Ducks has no adequate remedy at
7	law.
8	COUNT III UNFAIR COMPETITION
9	(CAL. BUS. & PROF. CODE § 17200)
10	44. Ride The Ducks realleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1-43 of the
11	Complaint.
12	45. Bay Quackers' acts above constitute unfair competition in violation of California
13	Business & Professions Code Section 17200 et seq.
14	46. Bay Quackers' acts of unfair competition have caused and will continue to cause Ride
15	The Ducks irreparable harm.
16	47. This harm constitutes an injury for which Ride The Ducks has no adequate remedy at
17	law for Bay Quackers' unfair competition.
18	48. As a consequence of Bay Quackers' actions, Ride The Ducks is entitled to a judgment
19	enjoining and restraining Bay Quackers from engaging in further unfair competition, and an order that
20	Bay Quackers disgorge all profits arising from its unlawful acts.
21	<u>PRAYER FOR RELIEF</u>
22	WHEREFORE, Ride The Ducks prays for judgment in its favor and against Bay Quackers with
23	respect to all of the foregoing Counts as follows:
24	A. Entry of an order and judgment permanently enjoining Bay Quackers, their servants,
25	agents and employees, and all other persons in active concert or participation with Bay Quackers, and
26	their successors and assigns, from directly or indirectly:
IOWREY LLP 27	(1) using any of Ride The Ducks' marks or names, including Ride The
28	Ducks' registered sound mark or any colorable imitation of Ride The Ducks' registered sound mark, in
	COMPLAINT FOR TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT -7- AND UNFAIR COMPETITION

1	advertising (including signage and on the Internet) or promotions or otherwise in conjunction with its
2	amphibious tours;
3	(2) expressly or impliedly representing themselves to customers, potential
4	customers, suppliers, potential suppliers or the public to be affiliated in any way with Ride The Ducks
5	(3) representing by words or conduct that any product or service provided,
6	offered for sale, sold, advertised, or rendered by Bay Quackers is supplied, authorized, sponsored, or
7	endorsed by or otherwise connected with Ride The Ducks;
8	(4) otherwise infringing Ride The Ducks' registered sound mark; or
9	(5) competing unfairly with Ride The Ducks in any manner by improperly
10	using Ride The Ducks' registered sound mark, or any mark that is likely to cause confusion with Ride
11	The Ducks' marks;
12	B. Ordering Bay Quackers to deliver up for destruction all noise makers or other
13	implements that produce sounds that are identical or similar to Ride The Ducks' registered sound
14	mark;
15	C. Ordering Bay Quackers to file with this Court and serve on Ride The Ducks within
16	thirty (30) days from the date of entry of any restraining order and/or injunction, a report in writing,
17	under oath, setting forth in detail the manner and form in which Bay Quackers have complied with the
18	terms of the injunction;
19	D. Ordering Bay Quackers to pay Ride The Ducks:
20	(1) all profits, gains and advantages obtained from Bay Quackers' unlawful
21	conduct, including lost profits and corrective advertising damages in an amount to be determined at
22	trial;
23	(2) all monetary damages sustained and to be sustained by Ride The Ducks
24	as a consequence of Bay Quackers' unlawful conduct, including lost profits, in an amount to be
25	determined at trial; and
26	(3) Ride The Ducks' costs and disbursements of this action, including
IOWREY LLP 27	reasonable attorneys' fees.
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1	E.	Finding Bay Quackers' a	ctions to have been willful, and therefore order that Bay
2	Quackers' pr	rofits or Ride The Ducks' da	amages (whichever is greater) be trebled as provided under
3	15 U.S.C. § 1	1117(b).	
4	F.	Awarding interest on the	above damages awards;
5	G.	Assessing court costs aga	ninst Bay Quackers; and
6	Н.	Awarding such other reli	ef as this Court may deem just and proper.
7			
8	Dated: May	19, 2009	Dognootfully submitted
9			Respectfully submitted, HOWREY LLP
10			V 079/0+
11			By: Janes J. Valelie
12			/ Katherine M. Basile James F. Valentine
13			James R. Cady Attorneys for Plaintiff
14			RIDE THE DUCKS INTERNATIONAL, INC.
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**JURY DEMAND** Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 38(b), Ride The Ducks demands a trial by jury. Dated: May 19, 2009 Respectfully submitted, **HOWREY LLP** By: James F. Valentine James R. Cady Attorneys for Plaintiff RIDE THE DUCKS INTERNATIONAL, INC. HOWREY LLP 27 

> COMPLAINT FOR TRADEMARK INFRINGEMENT -10-AND UNFAIR COMPETITION

Int. Cl.: 39

Prior U.S. Cls.: 100 and 105

Reg. No. 2,484,276

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Registered Sep. 4, 2001

#### SERVICE MARK PRINCIPAL REGISTER

#### **NO DRAWING-SENSORY MARK**

OZARKS SCENIC TOURS, INC. (MISSOURI COR-PORATION) HIGHWAY 76, P.O. BOX 1837 BRANSON, MO 65626

FOR: TOUR GUIDE SERVICES OVER LAND AND WATER BY AMPHIBIOUS VEHICLES, IN CLASS 39 (U.S. CLS. 100 AND 105).

FIRST USE 8-22-1996; IN COMMERCE 8-22-1996.

THE MARK CONSISTS OF A QUACKING NOISE MADE BY TOUR GUIDES AND TOUR PARTICIPANTS BY USE OF DUCK CALL DEVICES THROUGHOUT VARIOUS PORTIONS OF THE TOURS".

SER. NO. 75-686,528, FILED 4-14-1999.

NORA BUCHANAN WILL, EXAMINING ATTORNEY

Int. Cl.: 28

Prior U.S. Cls.: 22, 23, 38 and 50

Reg. No. 2,167,682

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Registered June 23, 1998

# TRADEMARK PRINCIPAL REGISTER

### **WACKY QUACKERS**

OZARKS SCENIC TOURS, INC. (MISSOURI CORPORATION) P.O. BOX 1068 BRANSON, MO 65616 FIRST USE 3-1-1997; IN COMMERCE 3-1-1997.

SER. NO. 75-319,817, FILED 7-7-1997.

FOR: DUCK CALLS AND TOY NOISE MAKERS, IN CLASS 28 (U.S. CLS. 22, 23, 38 AND 50).

TRICIA SONNEBORN, EXAMINING ATTORNEY

Commissioner for Trademarks 2900 Crystal Drive Arlington, VA 22202-3514 www.uspto.gov

REGISTRATION NO: 2167682 SERIAL NO: 75/319817

REGISTRATION DATE: 06/23/1998

MAILING DATE: 04/28/2004

MARK: WACKY QUACKERS

REGISTRATION OWNER: OZARKS SCENIC TOURS, LLC

#### **CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:**

THOMAS Y. AUNER 3432 CULPEPPER COURT P.O. BOX 10764 **SPRINGFIELD, MO 65808-0764** 

### **NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE**

15 U.S.C. Sec. 1058(a)(1)

THE COMBINED AFFIDAVIT FILED FOR THE ABOVE-IDENTIFIED REGISTRATION MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 8 OF THE TRADEMARK ACT, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 1058.ACCORDINGLY, THE SECTION 8 AFFIDAVIT IS ACCEPTED.

### NOTICE OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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15 U.S.C. Sec. 1065

THE AFFIDAVIT FILED FOR THE ABOVE-IDENTIFIED REGISTRATION MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 15 OF THE TRADEMARK ACT, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 1065.ACCORDINGLY, THE SECTION 15 AFFIDAVIT IS ACKNOWLEDGED.

THE REGISTRATION WILL REMAIN IN FORCE FOR CLASS(ES): 028

NEWTON, DANA L PARALEGAL SPECIALIST POST-REGISTRATION DIVISION (703)308-9500

> PLEASE SEE THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS NOTICE FOR INFORMATION **CONCERNING REQUIREMENTS FOR MAINTAINING THIS REGISTRATION** ORIGINAL

REQUIREMENTS FOR MAINTAINING A FEDERAL TRADEMARK REGISTRATION) SECTION 8: AFFIDAVIT OF CONTINUED USE The registration shall remain in force for 10 years, except that the registration shall be canceled for failure to file an Affidavit of Continued Use under Section 8 of the Trademark Act, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 1058, at the end of each successive 10-year period following the date of registration. Failure to file the Section 8 Affidavit will result in the cancellation of the registration. II) SECTION 9: APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL The registration shall remain in force for 10 years, subject to the provisions of Section 8, except that the registration shall expire for failure to file an Application for Renewal under Section 9 of the Trademark Act, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 1059, at the end of each successive 10-year period following the date of registration. Failure to file the Application for Renewal will result in the expiration of the registration.

www.courthousenews.com

NO FURTHER NOTICE OR REMINDER OF THESE REQUIREMENTS WILL BE SENT TO THE REGISTRANT BY THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE REGISTRANT CONTACT THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE APPROXIMATELY ONE YEAR BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF THE TIME PERIODS SHOWN ABOVE TO DETERMINE APPROPRIATE REQUIREMENTS AND FEES.

### UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Trademarks P.O. Box 1451 Alexandria, VA 22313-1451 www.uspto.gov

MAILING DATE: 07/07/2008 SERIAL NO: 75/319817 REGISTRATION NO: 2167682 REGISTRATION DATE: 06/23/1998

MARK: WACKY QUACKERS

REGISTRATION OWNER: RIDE THE DUCKS INTERNATIONAL, LLC

#### **CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:**

Rebecca J. Brandau Husch Blackwell Sanders LLP Suite 600 190 Carondelet Plaza St. Louis MO 63105

# **NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE**

15 U.S.C. Sec. 1058(a)(3)

THE COMBINED AFFIDAVIT AND RENEWAL APPLICATION FILED FOR THE ABOVE-IDENTIFIED REGISTRATION MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 8 OF THE TRADEMARK ACT, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 1058.ACCORDINGLY, THE SECTION 8 AFFIDAVIT IS ACCEPTED.

# **NOTICE OF RENEWAL**

15 U.S.C. Sec. 1059(a)

THE COMBINED AFFIDAVIT AND RENEWAL APPLICATION FILED FOR THE ABOVE-IDENTIFIED REGISTRATION MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 9 OF THE TRADEMARK ACT, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 1059.ACCORDINGLY, THE REGISTRATION IS RENEWED.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

THE REGISTRATION WILL REMAIN IN FORCE FOR CLASS(ES):

CONLEY, JOYCE MARIE PARALEGAL SPECIALIST POST-REGISTRATION DIVISION 571-272-9500

> PLEASE SEE THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS NOTICE FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING REQUIREMENTS FOR MAINTAINING THIS REGISTRATION **ORIGINAL**

REQUIREMENTS FOR MAINTAINING A FEDERAL TRADEMARK REGISTRATIONI) SECTION 8: AFFIDAVIT OF CONTINUED USE The registration shall remain in force for 10 years, except that the registration shall be canceled for failure to file an Affidavit of Continued Use under Section 8 of the Trademark Act, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 1058, at the end of each successive 10-year period following the date of registration.

www.courthousenews.com

Failure to file the Section 8 Affidavit will result in the cancellation of the registration.

II) SECTION 9: APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL The registration shall remain in force for 10 years, subject to the provisions of Section 8, except that the registration shall expire for failure to file an Application for Renewal under Section 9 of the Trademark Act, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 1059, at the end of each successive 10-year period following the date of registration. Failure to file the Application for Renewal will result in the expiration of the registration.

NO FURTHER NOTICE OR REMINDER OF THESE REQUIREMENTS WILL BE SENT TO THE REGISTRANT BY THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE REGISTRANT CONTACT THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE APPROXIMATELY ONE YEAR BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF THE TIME PERIODS SHOWN ABOVE TO DETERMINE APPROPRIATE REQUIREMENTS AND FEES.

#### UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Trademarks P.O. Box 1451 Alexandria, VA 22313-1451 www.uspto.gov

REGISTRATION NO: 2484276 SERIAL NO: 75/686528 MAILING DATE: 09/13/2007

REGISTRATION DATE: 09/04/2001

MARK: NO DRAWING-SENSORY MARK

REGISTRATION OWNER: RIDE THE DUCKS INTERNATIONAL, LLC

#### **CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:**

Rebecca J. Brandau Husch & Eppenberger, LLC Suite 600 190 Carondelet Plaza St. Louis MO 63105

### NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE

15 U.S.C. Sec. 1058(a)(1)

THE COMBINED AFFIDAVIT FILED FOR THE ABOVE-IDENTIFIED REGISTRATION MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 8 OF THE TRADEMARK ACT, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 1058.ACCORDINGLY, THE SECTION 8 AFFIDAVIT IS ACCEPTED.

# NOTICE OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

15 U.S.C. Sec. 1065

THE AFFIDAVIT FILED FOR THE ABOVE-IDENTIFIED REGISTRATION MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 15 OF THE TRADEMARK ACT, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 1065.ACCORDINGLY, THE SECTION 15 AFFIDAVIT IS ACKNOWLEDGED.

THE REGISTRATION WILL REMAIN IN FORCE FOR CLASS(ES): 039.

RICE, GREGGRY A
PARALEGAL SPECIALIST
POST-REGISTRATION DIVISION
571-272-9500

PLEASE SEE THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS NOTICE FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING REQUIREMENTS FOR MAINTAINING THIS REGISTRATION ORIGINAL

**REQUIREMENTS FOR MAINTAINING A FEDERAL TRADEMARK REGISTRATION!) SECTION 8: AFFIDAVIT OF CONTINUED USE** The registration shall remain in force for 10 years, except that the registration shall be canceled for failure to file an Affidavit of Continued Use under Section 8 of the Trademark Act, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 1058, at the end of each successive 10-year period following the date of registration. **Failure to file the Section 8 Affidavit will result in the cancellation of the registration.** 

II) SECTION 9: APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL The registration shall remain in force for 10 years, subject to the provisions of Section 8, except that the registration shall expire for failure to file an Application for Renewal under Section 9 of the Trademark Act, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 1059, at the end of each successive 10-year period following the date of registration. Failure to file the Application for Renewal will result in the expiration of the registration.

NO FURTHER NOTICE OR REMINDER OF THESE REQUIREMENTS WILL BE SENT TO THE REGISTRANT BY THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE REGISTRANT CONTACT THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE APPROXIMATELY ONE YEAR BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF THE TIME PERIODS SHOWN ABOVE TO DETERMINE APPROPRIATE REQUIREMENTS AND FEES.

Husch & Eppenberger, LLC

Assorneys and Counselors at Law

190 Carondelet Plaza, Suite 600 St. Louis, Missouri 63105-3441 314.480.1500 Fax 314.480.1505 www.husch.com

February 7, 2008

### VIA CERTIFIED MAIL and email: jscan@bayquackers.com

Mr. John Scannell, President, CEO Bay Quackers, LLC 2800 Leavenworth Street San Francisco, CA 94133

Re:

Ride The Ducks International, LLC

Trademark Matter Our Ref.: 57002.052

Dear Mr. Scannell:

We represent Ride the Ducks International, LLC ("RTDI"), a Herschend Family Entertainment Corporation company. It has come to our attention that you operate a retail business in which you offer tours of San Francisco in WWII landing craft under the trade names "Bay Quackers" and "San Francisco Duck Tours."

RTDI is the owner of US Trademark No. 2484276 (copy enclosed) for a sound consisting of a quacking noise made by tour guides and tour participants by use of duck call devices throughout various portions of the tours. The subject mark is registered for use in connection with land and sea "duck" tours and has been used since at least as early as August 22, 1996. This mark was registered on the Principal Register in 2001 and is now incontestable. Your use of the same or similar mark for a similar business is likely to cause consumer confusion.

The purpose of this letter is to demand that you immediately cease and desist from use of the RTDI registered quacking sound, made by "duck call" devices, in association with the Bay Quackers-San Francisco Duck Tours or any confusingly similar trademark or service mark in connection with your Duck Tour business.

Please contact me immediately upon your receipt of this letter to provide assurances that appropriate actions will be taken.

Very thuty yours Kuffers Chandau Rebecca J. Brandau

jrm/rjb Enclosure

2883785.01

BLACKWELL SANDERS

Rebecca J. Brandau
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190 CARONDELET PLAZA, SUITE 600, ST. LOUIS, MO 63105

May 16, 2008

#### VIA EMAIL AND FIRST CLASS MAIL: jscan@bayquackers.com

Mr. John Scannell, President, CEO Bay Quackers, LLC 2800 Leavenworth Street San Francisco, CA 94133

Re:

Ride The Ducks International, LLC

Trademark Matter Our Ref.: 57002.052

Dear Mr. Scannell:

We have yet to receive a response from you to our letter of February 7, 2008 in the above-referenced matter. We and our client, Ride The Ducks International, LLC, have been more than patient in this matter. However, rather than contacting us as requested, Bay Quackers reportedly continues to use the infringing duck call sound on its San Francisco Duck Tours. Please correct me if this information is incorrect.

Because you may not understand the importance of this situation we urge you to contact your intellectual property counsel *post haste*. Then, please provide us with the courtesy of a response in no less than two weeks from the date of this letter.

Very truly yours,

HUSCH BLACKWELL SANDERS LLP

Rebecca J. Brandau, Esq.

bhs/jr



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December 2, 2008

# VIA CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. John Scannell, President, CEO Bay Quackers, LLC 2800 Leavenworth Street San Francisco, CA 94133

Re:

Ride The Ducks International, LLC

Trademark Matter Our Ref.: 57002-149

Dear Mr. Scannell:

Further to our letters of February 7 and May 16, 2008, we understand that you continue to operate San Francisco Bay Quackers, including using the infringing duck call sound made by our client's WACKY QUACKERS toy duck calls. You are continuing to ignore our client's intellectual property rights in its registered and incontestable US trademarks. Copies of US Reg. No. 2484276 and 2167682 are attached for your convenience. Your actions are clearly designed to confuse the consuming public between San Francisco Bay Quackers and Ride The Ducks International, LLC and their respective services. In fact, extensive evidence of actual confusion between your company and our client's has been found to exist. Therefore, your actions constitute unfair competition, trade dress infringement and trademark infringement and are actionable under the trademark laws of the United States.

Again, we urge you to contact your intellectual property counsel for advice at once. Please let us hear from you within ten days of the date of this letter if litigation is to be avoided.

Rebecca J. Brandau

bhs **Enclosures** 



creating memories worth repeating"

5445 Triangle Parkway, Suite 200 Norcross Georgia 30092 phone 770-441-1940 fax 770-441-3266

April 20, 2009

# VIA OVERNIGHT DELIVERY RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. John Scannell, President, CEO Bay Quackers, LLC 2800 Leavenworth Street San Francisco, CA 94133

Re:

Ride The Ducks International, LLC

Trademark Matter

Dear Mr. Scannell:

I am General Counsel for Herschend Family Entertainment Corporation, the parent company of Ride The Ducks International, LLC ("RTDI"). Over the past year RTDI, through its outside counsel, has sent you three letters (dated February 7, May 16, and December 2, 2008) demanding that you cease and desist the use of the infringing duck call sound made by RTDI's WACKY QUACKERS toy duck calls. It is my understanding that you have failed to make any response to these letters and that you continue the unauthorized use of RTDI's intellectual property rights in its registered and incontestable US trademarks.

It has been RTDI's desire to avoid litigation in this matter. Accordingly, in one last attempt to resolve this matter amicably, RTDI is offering to settle this dispute by forgoing past damages it is entitled to because of your actions in return for you ceasing to use RTDI's intellectual property going forward. I have attached a settlement agreement with this letter setting forth the terms of our offer of settlement and compromise. If you accept this offer of settlement, please sign the agreement, without change, and return it to me within ten (10) days. If I have not received the signed agreement within ten (10) days of your receipt of this letter, this offer of settlement is withdrawn.

www.courthousenews.com

If you fail to accept this offer, RTDI is prepared to take the necessary legal action to prohibit you from continuing your unfair competition, trade dress infringement and trademark infringement and creating a likelihood of confusion among consumers.

I urge you to contact your intellectual property counsel for advice at once.

Sincerely.

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StepHen L. Earnest

Enclosure

#### SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This Confidential Service Mark License and	d Settlement Agr	eement ("Settlement Agreement" or
"A greement") is entered into this	day of	2009 ("Effective Date") between
Ride The Ducks International, LLC ("RTD	I"), a Missouri L	imited Liability Company, and Bay
Ouackers, LLC, a California limited liability	company ("BA"	Y QUACKERS").

#### RECITALS

WHEREAS, RTDI provides sightseeing tours using an amphibious vehicle under the tradename Ride The Ducks in various locations throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, RTDI is the owner of all intellectual property rights for its trademark of WACKY QUACKERS, United States Patent and Trademark Office US Reg. No. 2164682, and for its trademark/service mark of the sound of a quacking noise made by a toy duck call, United States Patent and Trademark Office US Reg. No. 2484276, (the "Marks") related to the sightseeing business that it provides; and

WHEREAS, BAY QUACKERS provides similar sightseeing tour services ("Services") in the San Francisco area; and

WHEREAS, RTDI and BAY QUACKERS have a dispute regarding BAY QUACKERS' unauthorized use of RTDI's Marks in the past ("Dispute"); and

WHEREAS, RTDI and BAY QUACKERS desire to settle the Dispute subject to the terms and conditions set forth below.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the releases and mutual promises contained herein exchanged between the parties, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties, in order to implement the settlement and consistent therewith, agree to the following terms and conditions:

#### **AGREEMENT**

- 1. Recitals. The forgoing Recitals are fully incorporated into and a part of this Settlement Agreement.
- 2. Terms and Conditions of Settlement:
  - (a) Within one (1) day of signing this Agreement, BAY QUACKERS, including its predecessors, successors, parents, direct subsidiaries, indirect subsidiaries, affiliates, assigns, heirs, agents, and attorneys, will cease and desist any and all uses of the Marks, and any confusingly similar trademark or service marks, and will not use such Marks going forward in any advertising, operations, or provision of Services that are provided by BAY QUACKERS. BAY QUACKERS acknowledges that the Marks and all goodwill associated therewith are, and shall remain, the sole property of RTDI and that no rights have been conferred upon BAY QUACKERS. Additionally, BAY

QUACKERS will not challenge the validity of the Marks or make any claim adverse to RTDI regarding the Marks

(b) As full and final settlement of the Dispute, pursuant to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, RTDI shall forgo monetary damages it has incurred and is entitled to as a result of the unauthorized use of its Marks by BAY QUACKERS.

#### 3. Release and Discharge:

- (a) BAY QUACKERS, its predecessors, successors, parents, direct subsidiaries, indirect subsidiaries, affiliates, assigns, heirs, agents, and attorneys hereby remise, release and forever discharge RTDI, and all their predecessors, successors, parents, direct subsidiaries, indirect subsidiaries, affiliates, and their assigns, agents, directors, officers, employees, heirs, personal representatives, and shareholders from and against all actions, causes of action, claims, suits, debts, damages, judgments, liabilities, demands and controversies whatsoever, whether matured or unmatured, whether at law or in equity, whether before a local, state or federal court or state or federal administrative agency, commission or arbitration administrator, and whether now known or unknown, liquidated or unliquidated, that BAY QUACKERS now has or may have had, or thereafter claims to have, regarding the issues arising out of or directly or indirectly related to the Dispute, on behalf of itself, or any other person or entity, at any time prior to and including the Effective Date of this Agreement.
- (b) RTDI, its predecessors, successors, parents, direct subsidiaries, indirect subsidiaries, affiliates, assigns, heirs, agents, and attorneys hereby remise, release and forever discharge BAY QUACKERS, and all their predecessors, successors, parents, direct subsidiaries, indirect subsidiaries, affiliates, and their assigns, agents, directors, officers, employees, heirs, personal representatives, and shareholders from and against all actions, causes of action, claims, suits, debts, damages, judgments, liabilities, demands and controversies whatsoever, whether matured or unmatured, whether at law or in equity, whether before a local, state or federal court or state or federal administrative agency, commission or arbitration administrator, and whether now known or unknown, liquidated or unliquidated, that RTDI now has or may have had, or thereafter claims to have, regarding the issues arising out of or directly or indirectly related to the Dispute, on behalf of itself, or any other person or entity, at any time prior to and including the Effective Date of this Agreement.
- 4. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed and construed in accordance with the substantive laws of the State of Missouri, without regard to that state's choice of law or conflict of laws principles. The terms of this Agreement may be enforced by the state or federal regulatory authority with jurisdiction over similar disputes and authority to order the remedy sought by the non-breaching party and by the appropriate state or federal court.
- 5. Modifications. This Agreement may not be modified or amended, except in a writing signed on behalf of both parties by their duly authorized representatives.

- 6. **Relationship.** Neither party is, nor represents itself to be, an agent, employee, partner or joint venturer of the other, nor will either party transact any business on the other's behalf, nor in any form make promises, representations or warranties that incur any liability for or on behalf of the other party.
- 7. Confidentiality. This Agreement shall remain confidential and its terms shall not be disclosed by either party, or by their respective employees and agents, except as required for implementation or to the extent otherwise required by law or to enforce the parties' rights under the Agreement. If either party receives a lawful order or other process that requires disclosure of the terms of the Agreement, that party shall give prompt written notice to the other party of such order or process, and each party shall cooperate reasonably with the other if one of them wishes to try to obtain a protective order or other lawful means to avoid such compelled disclosure.
- 8. Successors and Assigns. This Agreement shall bind and inure to the benefit of each of the signatories hereto and their representatives, predecessors, successors, assigns, agents, shareholders, officers, directors (in their individual and representative capabilities), subsidiaries, affiliates, parent corporations, if any, joint ventures, heirs, executors, administrators, trustees, and attorneys.
- 9. **Joint Efforts.** This Agreement is and shall be deemed for all purposes to have been prepared for the benefit of and through the joint efforts of the parties hereto and shall not be construed or interpreted against the party originating or preparing it.
- 10. Authorized Representatives. Each party represents and warrants that its representatives executing this Agreement are fully authorized to do so on the party's behalf.
- 11. Liability. The parties understand and agree that this Agreement, any consideration given or accepted in connection with it, and the covenants made in it are all made, given, and accepted in settlement and compromise of disputed claims and are not an admission of liability or wrongdoing by either party.
- 12. Counterparts. This Settlement Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which taken together shall constitute one and the same document.
- 13. Legal Advice. Each party hereto agrees that it has had the opportunity to seek and has sought from lawyers any such advice, as it deems appropriate with respect to signing this document, or the meaning of it. Each party has undertaken such independent investigation and evaluation as it deems appropriate and is entering into this Agreement in reliance on that information and not in reliance on any advice, disclosure, representation or information provided by or expected from any other party or party's lawyers. This is an agreement of settlement and compromise, made in recognition that the parties may have different or incorrect understandings, information and contentions, as to facts and law, and with each party compromising and settling any potential correctness or incorrectness of its

understandings, information and contentions as to the facts and law, so that no misunderstanding or misinformation shall be a ground for rescission hereof. Each party bears its own attorneys fees and costs.

- 14. Entire Agreement of the Parties. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement with respect to the subject matter contained herein and supersedes all prior agreements and documents regarding this subject matter. No terms or conditions of this Agreement may be modified or waived except by an instrument in writing duly signed by or on behalf of each of the parties hereto.
- 15. Severability. If any provision of this Agreement, or part thereof, shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity or unenforceability shall not invalidate the entire Agreement, unless such construction would be unreasonable. The Agreement shall be construed as if it did not contain the invalid or unenforceable provision or provisions, and the rights and obligations of each party shall be construed and enforced accordingly. Provided, however, that in the event such invalid or unenforceable provision or provisions are essential elements of this Agreement and substantially impair the rights or obligations of either party, the parties shall promptly negotiate a replacement provision or provisions.
- 16. Title and Captions. Title and captions to each article and paragraph herein are for reference only and have no substantive meaning.
- 17. Additional Documentation. The parties agree to cooperate fully, to execute any and all supplementary documents and to take all additional actions that may be necessary or appropriate to give full force and effect to the terms and intent of this Agreement.
- 18. Assignment. BAY QUACKERS may not assign this Agreement in whole or in part without the prior written consent of the RTDI and any attempt to assign the Agreement without written consent shall be void.

[remainder of page intentionally left blank]

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement by their duly authorized representatives in duplicate originals, each of which shall be deemed an original on the dates set forth below.

Bay Quackers, LLC

Ву:	
Name:	
Title:	
Date:	
	e Ducks International, LLC
By:	
By:	Chris Herschend
•	Chris Herschend President