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## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

PARAMOUNT PICTURES CORPORATION, a Delaware corporation; and CBS STUDIOS INC., a Delaware corporation,

Plaintiffs,

٧.

AXANAR PRODUCTIONS, INC., a California corporation; ALEC PETERS, an individual, and DOES 1-20,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:15-cv-09938-RGK-E

## RENEWED APPLICATION FOR LEAVE TO FILE BRIEF AS AMICUS CURIAE

Judge: Hon. R. Gary Klausner

On April 27, 2016, Language Creation Society ("Amicus" or "LSC") applied for leave to file a brief in this matter as as Amicus Curiae. Amicus argued in support of Defendants' Motion to Dismiss on the narrow issue that the Klingon language should not be entitled

to copyright protection. This Court denied the LCS's Application without prejudice because the Court did not reach the issue of whether languages, specifically the Klingon language, are copyrightable. CCP § 1008(b) states that "[a] party who originally made an application for an order which was refused in whole or part [...] may make a subsequent application for the same order upon new or different facts, circumstances, or law..." Now that the instant matter is ripe for summary judgment, LSC renews its request to participate. LSC believes that the amicus brief will be instructive to this Court on arguments raised by Plaintiffs at Dkt. 85 at 9 and Defendants at Dkt. 132 at 9.

In their Motion for Summary Judgment, Plaintiffs say that Defendants' use of Klingons, specifically their "dialogue," is protected. (Dkt. 85 at 9). Further, Plaintiffs have introduced evidence of use of the Klingon language and this issue is contested by the Defendants (Dkt. 132 at 9).

Amicus renews its request for leave to file its brief of amicus curiae (Dkt. 35). This brief is not re-submitted in support of any party, but narrowly supports Defendants' Opposition to Plaintiffs' Motion for Summary Judgment for the limited issue of Plaintiffs' claim of any copyright in the Klingon language. Specifically, Amicus argues that the Klingon language, in which Plaintiffs assert copyright and is still a

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claim for evidence, is not and cannot be protected under copyright law and is part of the public domain.

Amicus Language Creation Society is a non-profit California entity that was established to promote and encourage the development of constructed languages ("conlangs"). Conlangs are languages deliberately germinated by individuals or groups, such as Esperanto and Klingon, as opposed to languages that develop organically over long periods of time, such as English. This is not to say that those (and other) conlangs do not develop, grow, and morph organically over time, in fact, they do. But, the "conlang" designation only applies to languages that originate as a deliberate act.

No court, in this Circuit or elsewhere, has weighed in on the issue of whether a language may be copyrighted, and this issue has received insufficient briefing from the parties. Amicus thus wishes to educate the court as to the state of the law on this issue and potential ramifications for a ruling that Plaintiffs have a copyright interest in the Klingon language.

Accordingly, Amicus respectfully requests that the Court consider its amicus brief, filed previously as Dkt. 35 in support of Defendants' Opposition to Plaintiffs' Motion for Summary Judgment.

Counsel for Amicus solicited the Parties' positions on the relie
requested in this application. Counsel for Defendants consented to
Amicus' request. Counsel for Plaintiffs declined to share a position.

Dated: December 29, 2016. Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Marc J. Randazza
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Case No. 2:15-cv-09938-RGK-E

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on December 29, 2016, I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court using CM/ECF. I also certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document is being served via transmission of Notices of Electronic Filing generated by CM/ECF.

Respectfully Submitted,

Employee,

Randazza Legal Group, PLLC

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