## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA GREENSBORO DIVISION

Anne Martinez, individually and on behalf of all other persons similarly situated,	) )
Plaintiffs,	Civil Action No. 07cv00188
v.	)
RegisterFly, Inc. Unifiednames Inc. Hosting Services Group Inc. Kevin Medina, in his personal capacity and as an agent of RegisterFly, Inc. and as an agent of Unifiednames Inc. John Naruszewicz, in his capacity as an agent of both Unifiednames and RegisterFly, eNom, and ICANN,	DECLARATION OF DOUG BRENT IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANT ICANN'S MOTION TO DISMISS PURSUANT TO F.R.C.P. 12(B)(2) AND 12(B)(3)
Defendants.	)

- I, Doug Brent, declare and affirm as follows:
- 1. I am the chief operating officer of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers ("ICANN"), a defendant in this action. I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth herein and am competent to testify to those matters. I make this declaration in connection with ICANN's Motion to Dismiss Pursuant to F.R.C.P. 12(b)(2) and 12(b)(3).

## **Background on ICANN**

2. ICANN is a not-for-profit public benefit corporation organized under the laws of the State of California. Its principal place of business is in Marina del Rey, which is in Los Angeles County, California. ICANN is responsible for the global coordination of the Internet's domain name system unique identifiers. Background on the privatization of the Internet is



available in a publication published by the Department of Commerce on June 5, 1998 entitled *Management of Internet Names and Addresses* and is available at 63 Fed. Reg. 31741 (1998).

3. ICANN maintains a series of agreements with generic TLD Internet registries (such as .com and .net) and registrars, and these agreements provide that the registries and registrars pay ICANN fees, some of which are based on a per-registration basis. ICANN collects these fees only from the registries or registrars, and not from the registrants.

#### ICANN's Lack of Connection to North Carolina

- 4. ICANN does not have any employees, assets, real property, personal property, offices, or facilities in North Carolina. ICANN is not licensed to do business in North Carolina and does not have a registered agent in North Carolina for service of process.
- 5. The only activity ICANN has with any North Carolina resident is a registrar accreditation agreement ("RAA") with Advanced Internet Technologies, Inc. ("AIT"), which is a company that ICANN has authorized to sell domain name subscriptions to consumers (just as defendant RegisterFly was previously accredited to sell domain name subscriptions to consumers). ICANN did not solicit AIT to become a registrar; indeed, it does not solicit any persons or entities to become registrars. AIT like any other person or entity seeking accreditation contacted ICANN in California. ICANN and AIT entered into this agreement in 2005, and the agreement was entered into in Calfornia. Like all RAAs, the agreement contains an exclusive jurisdiction and venue clause requiring all disputes to be adjudicated in California. The RAA between ICANN and AIT obligates AIT to pay ICANN based on the number of Internet names that AIT registers on behalf of consumers. AIT's payments to ICANN for ICANN's most recent fiscal year (2005-06) constituted approximately 0.01% of ICANN's net revenues.
- 6. Attached to my affidavit as Exhibit 1 is a true and correct copy of the RAA between ICANN and RegisterFly's predecessor company. Section 5.6 of the RAA provides that all disputes between RegisterFly and ICANN are to be resolved in a court located in California. To the extent the complaint seeks to enforce a contract between defendant eNom and ICANN.

the RAA that eNom signed likewise provides that any disputes arising out of that contract are to be resovled in a court located in California.

- 7. To the extent ICANN has witnesses who have knowledge of the facts alleged in the complaint, all of those witnesses are in California because all of ICANN's staff involved in the RegisterFly matter work out of ICANN's offices in Marina del Rey, California.
  - 8. No contract exists between ICANN and Plaintiff Anne Martinez.
- 9. ICANN maintains a website that is located at http://www.icann.org. That website is operated from web server physically located in Marina del Rey, California. The website contains a wealth of information about ICANN, about the people who work for ICANN, and about the projects that ICANN has undertaken in connection with the Internet. The website also contains "links" to other information that is related to ICANN's activities. ICANN does not offer anything for sale on its website; in fact, ICANN does not sell anything.
- 10. On March 29, 2007, ICANN filed suit against RegisterFly in the United States District Court for the Central District of California. Attached to my affidavit as Exhibit 2 is a true and correct copy of the complaint that ICANN filed. ICANN also has filed an application for a temporary restraining order that would require RegisterFly to provide to ICANN a copy of all the Data (as defined in the complaint) to ICANN every forty-eight hours.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct.

This declaration was signed on April \_\_\_, 2007 at Marina del Rey, California

MARILYN KING

Commission # 1540431

Notary Public - California

Los Angeles County

My Comm. Expires Jan 1, 2009

SWORN to and subscribed before me this the  $\frac{5}{2}$  day of  $\frac{100}{100}$ , 2007.

NOTARY PUBLIC

My commission expires: 01-07-09



This REGISTRAR ACCREDITATION AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is by and between the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers ("ICANN"), a California non-profit, public benefit corporation, and **Top Class Names, Inc.**, a Delaware Corporation ("Registrar"), and shall be deemed made on September 13, 2004, at Los Angeles, California, USA.

- 1 DEFINITIONS. For purposes of this Agreement, the following definitions shall apply:
  - 1.1 "Accredit" means to identify and set minimum standards for the performance of registration functions, to recognize persons or entities meeting those standards, and to enter into an accreditation agreement that sets forth the rules and procedures applicable to the provision of Registrar Services.
  - 1.2 "DNS" refers to the Internet domain-name system.
  - 1.3 The "Effective Date" is September 13 2004.
  - 1.4 The "Expiration Date" is September 12 2009.
  - 1.5 "ICANN" refers to the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, a party to this Agreement,
  - 1.6 "Personal Data" refers to data about any identified or identifiable natural person.
  - 1.7 "Registered Name" refers to a domain name within the domain of a TLD that is the subject of an appendix to this Agreement, whether consisting of two or more (e.g., john.smith.name) levels, about which a TLD Registry Operator (or an affiliate engaged in providing Registry Services) maintains data in a Registry Database, arranges for such maintenance, or derives revenue from such maintenance. A name in a Registry Database may be a Registered Name even though it does not appear in a zone file (e.g., a registered but inactive name).
  - 1.8 "Registered Name Holder" means the holder of a Registered Name.
  - 1.9 The word "Registrar," when appearing with an initial capital letter, refers to Top Class Names, Inc., a party to this Agreement.
  - 1.10 The word "registrar," when appearing without an initial capital letter, refers to a person or entity that contracts with Registered Name Holders and with a Registry Operator and collects registration data about the Registered Name Holders and submits registration information for entry in the Registry Database.
  - 1.11 "Registrar Services" means services provided by a registrar in connection with a TLD as to which it has an agreement with the TLD's Registry Operator, and includes contracting with Registered Name Holders, collecting registration data

EXHIBIT

- about the Registered Name Holders, and submitting registration information for entry in the Registry Database.
- 1.12 "Registry Data" means all Registry Database data maintained in electronic form, and shall include TLD Zone-File Data, all data used to provide Registry Services and submitted by registrars in electronic form, and all other data used to provide Registry Services concerning particular domain name registrations or nameservers maintained in electronic form in a Registry Database.
- 1.13 "Registry Database" means a database comprised of data about one or more DNS domain names within the domain of a registry that is used to generate either DNS resource records that are published authoritatively or responses to domain-name availability lookup requests or Whois queries, for some or all of those names.
- 1.14 A "Registry Operator" is the person or entity then responsible, in accordance with an agreement between ICANN (or its assignee) and that person or entity (those persons or entities) or, if that agreement is terminated or expires, in accordance with an agreement between the US Government and that person or entity (those persons or entities), for providing Registry Services for a specific TLD.
- 1.15 "Registry Services," with respect to a particular TLD, shall have the meaning defined in the agreement between ICANN and the Registry Operator for that TLD.
- 1.16 A Registered Name is "sponsored" by the registrar that placed the record associated with that registration into the registry. Sponsorship of a registration may be changed at the express direction of the Registered Name Holder or, in the event a registrar loses accreditation, in accordance with then-current ICANN specifications and policies.
- 1.17 "Term of this Agreement" begins on the Effective Date and continues to the earlier of (a) the Expiration Date, or (b) termination of this Agreement.
- 1.18 A "TLD" is a top-level domain of the DNS.
- 1.19 "TLD Zone-File Data" means all data contained in a DNS zone file for the registry, or for any subdomain for which Registry Services are provided and that contains Registered Names, as provided to nameservers on the Internet.

#### 2 ICANN OBLIGATIONS.

- 2.1 <u>Accreditation</u>. During the Term of this Agreement, Registrar is hereby accredited by ICANN to act as a registrar (including to insert and renew registration of Registered Names in the Registry Database) for the TLD(s) that are the subject of appendices to this Agreement according to Subsection 5.5.
- 2.2 Registrar Use of ICANN Name and Website. ICANN hereby grants to Registrar a non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free license during the Term of this Agreement (a) to state that it is accredited by ICANN as a registrar for each TLD that is the subject of an appendix to this Agreement and (b) to link to pages and documents within the ICANN web site. No other use of ICANN's name or

- website is licensed hereby. This license may not be assigned or sublicensed by Registrar.
- 2.3 <u>General Obligations of ICANN</u>. With respect to all matters that impact the rights, obligations, or role of Registrar, ICANN shall during the Term of this Agreement:
  - 2.3.1 exercise its responsibilities in an open and transparent manner;
  - 2.3.2 not unreasonably restrain competition and, to the extent feasible, promote and encourage robust competition;
  - 2.3.3 not apply standards, policies, procedures or practices arbitrarily, unjustifiably, or inequitably and not single out Registrar for disparate treatment unless justified by substantial and reasonable cause; and
  - 2.3.4 ensure, through its reconsideration and independent review policies, adequate appeal procedures for Registrar, to the extent it is adversely affected by ICANN standards, policies, procedures or practices.

#### 3 REGISTRAR OBLIGATIONS.

- 3.1 Obligations to Provide Registrar Services. During the Term of this Agreement, Registrar agrees that it will operate as a registrar for each TLD for which it is accredited by ICANN in accordance with this Agreement.
- 3.2 <u>Submission of Registered Name Holder Data to Registry</u>. During the Term of this Agreement:
  - 3.2.1 As part of its registration of Registered Names in a TLD as to which it is accredited, Registrar shall submit to, or shall place in the Registry Database operated by, the Registry Operator for the TLD the following data elements:
    - 3.2.1.1 The name of the Registered Name being registered:
    - 3.2.1.2 The IP addresses of the primary nameserver and secondary nameserver(s) for the Registered Name;
    - 3.2.1.3 The corresponding names of those nameservers:
    - 3.2.1.4 Unless automatically generated by the registry system, the identity of the Registrar;
    - 3.2.1.5 Unless automatically generated by the registry system, the expiration date of the registration; and
    - 3.2.1.6 Any other data the Registry Operator requires be submitted to it.

The appendix to this Agreement for a particular TLD may state substitute language for Subsections 3.2.1.1 through 3.2.1.6 as applicable to that TLD; in that event the substitute language shall

- replace and supersede Subsections 3.2.1.1 through 3.2.1.6 stated above for all purposes under this Agreement but only with respect to that particular TLD.
- 3.2.2 Within five (5) business days after receiving any updates from the Registered Name Holder to the data elements listed in Subsections 3.2.1.2, 3.1.2.3, and 3.2.1.6 for any Registered Name Registrar sponsors, Registrar shall submit the updated data elements to, or shall place those elements in the Registry Database operated by the Registry Operator.
- 3.2.3 In order to allow reconstitution of the Registry Database in the event of an otherwise unrecoverable technical failure or a change in the designated Registry Operator, within ten days of any such request by ICANN, Registrar shall submit an electronic database containing the data elements listed in Subsections 3.2.1.1 through 3.2.1.6 for all active records in the registry sponsored by Registrar, in a format specified by ICANN, to the Registry Operator for the appropriate TLD.
- 3.3 Public Access to Data on Registered Names. During the Term of this Agreement:
  - 3.3.1 At its expense, Registrar shall provide an interactive web page and a port 43 Whols service providing free public query-based access to upto-date (i.e., updated at least daily) data concerning all active Registered Names sponsored by Registrar for each TLD for which it is accredited. The data accessible shall consist of elements that are designated from time to time according to an ICANN adopted specification or policy. Until ICANN otherwise specifies by means of an ICANN adopted specification or policy, this data shall consist of the following elements as contained in Registrar's database:
    - 3.3.1.1 The name of the Registered Name;
    - 3.3.1.2 The names of the primary nameserver and secondary nameserver(s) for the Registered Name;
    - 3.3.1.3 The identity of Registrar (which may be provided through Registrar's website);
    - 3.3.1.4 The original creation date of the registration;
    - 3.3.1.5 The expiration date of the registration;
    - 3.3.1.6 The name and postal address of the Registered Name Holder;
    - 3.3.1.7 The name, postal address, e-mail address, voice telephone number, and (where available) fax number of the technical contact for the Registered Name; and

3.3.1.8 The name, postal address, e-mail address, voice telephone number, and (where available) fax number of the administrative contact for the Registered Name.

The appendix to this Agreement for a particular TLD may state substitute language for Subsections 3.3.1.1 through 3.3.1.8 as applicable to that TLD; in that event the substitute language shall replace and supersede Subsections 3.3.1.1 through 3.3.1.8 stated above for all purposes under this Agreement but only with respect to that particular TLD.

- 3.3.2 Upon receiving any updates to the data elements listed in Subsections 3.3.1.2, 3.3.1.3, and 3.3.1.5 through 3.3.1.8 from the Registered Name Holder, Registrar shall promptly update its database used to provide the public access described in Subsection 3.3.1.
- 3.3.3 Registrar may subcontract its obligation to provide the public access described in Subsection 3.3.1 and the updating described in Subsection 3.3.2, provided that Registrar shall remain fully responsible for the proper provision of the access and updating.
- 3.3.4 Registrar shall abide by any iCANN specification or policy established as a Consensus Policy according to Section 4 that requires registrars to cooperatively implement a distributed capability that provides query-based Whois search functionality across all registrars. If the Whois service implemented by registrars does not in a reasonable time provide reasonably robust, reliable, and convenient access to accurate and up-to-date data, the Registrar shall abide by any ICANN specification or policy established as a Consensus Policy according to Section 4 requiring Registrar, if reasonably determined by ICANN to be necessary (considering such possibilities as remedial action by specific registrars), to supply data from Registrar's database to facilitate the development of a centralized Whois database for the purpose of providing comprehensive Registrar Whois search capability.
- In providing query-based public access to registration data as required by Subsections 3.3.1 and 3.3.4, Registrar shall not impose terms and conditions on use of the data provided, except as permitted by policy established by ICANN. Unless and until ICANN establishes a different policy according to Section 4, Registrar shall permit use of data it provides in response to queries for any lawful purposes except to: (a) allow, enable, or otherwise support the transmission by e-mail, telephone, or facsimile of mass, unsolicited, commercial advertising or solicitations to entities other than the data recipient's own existing customers; or (b) enable high volume, automated, electronic processes that send queries or data to the systems of any Registry Operator or ICANN-Accredited registrar, except as reasonably necessary to register domain names or modify existing registrations.

- 3.3.6 In addition, Registrar shall provide third-party bulk access to the data subject to public access under Subsection 3.3.1 under the following terms and conditions:
  - 3.3.6.1 Registrar shall make a complete electronic copy of the data available at least one time per week for download by third parties who have entered into a bulk access agreement with Registrar.
  - 3.3.6.2 Registrar may charge an annual fee, not to exceed US\$10,000, for such bulk access to the data.
  - 3.3.6.3 Registrar's access agreement shall require the third party to agree not to use the data to allow, enable, or otherwise support the transmission by e-mail, telephone, or facsimile of mass, unsolicited, commercial advertising or solicitations to entities other than such third party's own existing customers.
  - 3.3.6.4 Registrar's access agreement shall require the third party to agree not to use the data to enable high-volume, automated, electronic processes that send queries or data to the systems of any Registry Operator or ICANN-Accredited registrar, except as reasonably necessary to register domain names or modify existing registrations.
  - 3.3.6.5 Registrar's access agreement may require the third party to agree not to sell or redistribute the data except insofar as it has been incorporated by the third party into a value-added product or service that does not permit the extraction of a substantial portion of the bulk data from the value-added product or service for use by other parties.
  - 3.3.6.6 Registrar may enable Registered Name Holders who are individuals to elect not to have Personal Data concerning their registrations available for bulk access for marketing purposes based on Registrar's "Opt-Out" policy, and if Registrar has such a policy, Registrar shall require the third party to abide by the terms of that Opt-Out policy; provided, however, that Registrar may not use such data subject to opt-out for marketing purposes in its own value-added product or service.
- 3.3.7 Registrar's obligations under Subsection 3.3.6 shall remain in effect until the earlier of (a) replacement of this policy with a different ICANN policy, established according to Section 4, governing bulk access to the data subject to public access under Subsection 3.3.1, or (b) demonstration, to the satisfaction of the United States Department of Commerce, that no individual or entity is able to exercise market

power with respect to registrations or with respect to registration data used for development of value-added products and services by third parties.

3.3.8 To comply with applicable statutes and regulations and for other reasons, ICANN may from time to time adopt policies and specifications establishing limits (a) on the Personal Data concerning Registered Names that Registrar may make available to the public through a public-access service described in this Subsection 3.3 and (b) on the manner in which Registrar may make such data available. In the event ICANN adopts any such policy, Registrar shall ablde by it.

#### 3.4 Retention of Registered Name Holder and Registration Data.

- 3.4.1 During the Term of this Agreement, Registrar shall maintain its own electronic database, as updated from time to time, containing data for each active Registered Name sponsored by it within each TLD for which it is accredited. The data for each such registration shall include the elements listed in Subsections 3.3.1.1 through 3.3.1.8; the name and (where available) postal address, e-mail address, voice telephone number, and fax number of the billing contact; and any other Registry Data that Registrar has submitted to the Registry Operator or placed in the Registry Database under Subsection 3.2.
- 3.4.2 During the Term of this Agreement and for three years thereafter, Registrar (itself or by its agent(s)) shall maintain the following records relating to its dealings with the Registry Operator(s) and Registered Name Holders:
  - 3.4.2.1 In electronic form, the submission date and time, and the content, of all registration data (including updates) submitted in electronic form to the Registry Operator(s);
  - 3.4.2.2 In electronic, paper, or microfilm form, all written communications constituting registration applications, confirmations, modifications, or terminations and related correspondence with Registered Name Holders, including registration contracts; and
  - 3.4.2.3 In electronic form, records of the accounts of all Registered Name Holders with Registrar, including dates and amounts of all payments and refunds.
- 3.4.3 During the Term of this Agreement and for three years thereafter, Registrar shall make these records available for inspection and copying by ICANN upon reasonable notice. ICANN shall not disclose the content of such records except as expressly permitted by an ICANN specification or policy.

- 3.5 Rights in Data. Registrar disclaims all rights to exclusive ownership or use of the data elements listed in Subsections 3.2.1.1 through 3.2.1.3 for all Registered Names submitted by Registrar to the Registry Database for, or sponsored by Registrar in, each TLD for which it is accredited. Registrar does not disclaim rights in the data elements listed in Subsections 3.2.1.4 through 3.2.1.6 and Subsections 3.3.1.3 through 3.3.1.8 concerning active Registered Names sponsored by it in each TLD for which it is accredited, and agrees to grant nonexclusive, irrevocable, royalty-free licenses to make use of and disclose the data elements listed in Subsections 3.2.1.4 through 3.2.1.6 and 3.3.1.3 through 3.3.1.8 for the purpose of providing a service or services (such as a Whois service under Subsection 3.3.4) providing interactive, query-based public access. Upon a change in sponsorship from Registrar of any Registered Name in a TLD for which it is accredited. Registrar acknowledges that the registrar gaining sponsorship shall have the rights of an owner to the data elements listed in Subsections 3.2.1.4 through 3.2.1.6 and 3.3.1.3 through 3.3.1.8 concerning that Registered Name, with Registrar also retaining the rights of an owner in that data. Nothing in this Subsection prohibits Registrar from (1) restricting bulk public access to data elements in a manner consistent with this Agreement and any ICANN specifications or policies or (2) transferring rights it claims in data elements subject to the provisions of this Subsection.
- 3.6 Data Escrow. During the Term of this Agreement, on a schedule, under the terms, and in the format specified by ICANN, Registrar shall submit an electronic copy of the database described in Subsection 3.4.1 to ICANN or, at Registrar's election and at its expense, to a reputable escrow agent mutually approved by Registrar and ICANN, such approval also not to be unreasonably withheld by either party. The data shall be held under an agreement among Registrar, ICANN, and the escrow agent (if any) providing that (1) the data shall be received and held in escrow, with no use other than verification that the deposited data is complete, consistent, and in proper format, until released to ICANN; (2) the data shall be released from escrow upon expiration without renewal or termination of this Agreement; and (3) ICANN's rights under the escrow agreement shall be assigned with any assignment of this Agreement. The escrow shall provide that in the event the escrow is released under this Subsection, ICANN (or its assignee) shall have a non-exclusive, irrevocable, royalty-free license to exercise (only for transitional purposes) or have exercised all rights necessary to provide Registrar Services.
- 3.7 Business Dealings, Including with Registered Name Holders.
  - 3.7.1 In the event ICANN adopts a specification or policy, supported by a consensus of ICANN-Accredited registrars, establishing or approving a Code of Conduct for ICANN-Accredited registrars, Registrar shall abide by that Code.
  - 3.7.2 Registrar shall abide by applicable laws and governmental regulations.
  - 3.7.3 Registrar shall not represent to any actual or potential Registered Name Holder that Registrar enjoys access to a registry for which

Registrar is Accredited that is superior to that of any other registrar Accredited for that registry.

- 3.7.4 Registrar shall not activate any Registered Name unless and until it is satisfied that it has received a reasonable assurance of payment of its registration fee. For this purpose, a charge to a credit card, general commercial terms extended to creditworthy customers, or other mechanism providing a similar level of assurance of payment shall be sufficient, provided that the obligation to pay becomes final and non-revocable by the Registered Name Holder upon activation of the registration.
- 3.7.5 Registrar shall register Registered Names to Registered Name Holders only for fixed periods. At the conclusion of the registration period, failure by or on behalf of the Registered Name Holder to pay a renewal fee within the time specified in a second notice or reminder shall, in the absence of extenuating circumstances, result in cancellation of the registration. In the event that ICANN adopts a specification or policy concerning procedures for handling expiration of registrations, Registrar shall abide by that specification or policy.
- 3.7.6 Registrar shall not insert or renew any Registered Name in any registry for which Registrar is accredited by ICANN in a manner contrary to an ICANN policy stating a list or specification of excluded Registered Names that is in effect at the time of insertion or renewal.
- 3.7.7 Registrar shall require all Registered Name Holders to enter into an electronic or paper registration agreement with Registrar including at least the following provisions:
  - 3.7.7.1 The Registered Name Holder shall provide to Registrar accurate and reliable contact details and promptly correct and update them during the term of the Registered Name registration, including: the full name, postal address, e-mail address, voice telephone number, and fax number if available of the Registered Name Holder; name of authorized person for contact purposes in the case of an Registered Name Holder that is an organization, association, or corporation; and the data elements listed in Subsections 3.3.1.2, 3.3.1.7 and 3.3.1.8.
  - 3.7.7.2 A Registered Name Holder's willful provision of inaccurate or unreliable information, its willful failure promptly to update information provided to Registrar, or its failure to respond for over fifteen calendar days to inquiries by Registrar concerning the accuracy of contact details associated with the Registered Name Holder's registration shall constitute a material breach of the Registered Name

Holder-registrar contract and be a basis for cancellation of the Registered Name registration.

- 3.7.7.3 Any Registered Name Holder that intends to license use of a domain name to a third party is nonetheless the Registered Name Holder of record and is responsible for providing its own full contact information and for providing and updating accurate technical and administrative contact information adequate to facilitate timely resolution of any problems that arise in connection with the Registered Name. A Registered Name Holder licensing use of a Registered Name according to this provision shall accept liability for harm caused by wrongful use of the Registered Name, unless it promptly discloses the identity of the licensee to a party providing the Registered Name Holder reasonable evidence of actionable harm.
- 3.7.7.4 Registrar shall provide notice to each new or renewed Registered Name Holder stating:
  - 3.7.7.4.1 The purposes for which any Personal Data collected from the applicant are intended;
  - 3.7.7.4.2 The intended recipients or categories of recipients of the data (including the Registry Operator and others who will receive the data from Registry Operator);
  - 3.7.7.4.3 Which data are obligatory and which data, if any, are voluntary; and
  - 3.7.7.4.4 How the Registered Name Holder or data subject can access and, if necessary, rectify the data held about them.
- 3.7.7.5 The Registered Name Holder shall consent to the data processing referred to in Subsection 3.7.7.4.
- 3.7.7.6 The Registered Name Holder shall represent that notice has been provided equivalent to that described in Subsection 3.7.7.4 to any third-party individuals whose Personal Data are supplied to Registrar by the Registered Name Holder, and that the Registered Name Holder has obtained consent equivalent to that referred to in Subsection 3.7.7.5 of any such third-party individuals.
- 3.7.7.7 Registrar shall agree that it will not process the Personal Data collected from the Registered Name Holder in a way incompatible with the purposes and other limitations about

- which it has provided notice to the Registered Name Holder in accordance with Subsection 3.7.7.4 above.
- 3.7.7.8 Registrar shall agree that it will take reasonable precautions to protect Personal Data from loss, misuse, unauthorized access or disclosure, alteration, or destruction.
- 3.7.7.9 The Registered Name Holder shall represent that, to the best of the Registered Name Holder's knowledge and belief, neither the registration of the Registered Name nor the manner in which it is directly or indirectly used infringes the legal rights of any third party.
- 3.7.7.10 For the adjudication of disputes concerning or arising from use of the Registered Name, the Registered Name Holder shall submit, without prejudice to other potentially applicable jurisdictions, to the jurisdiction of the courts (1) of the Registered Name Holder's domicile and (2) where Registrar is located.
- 3.7.7.11 The Registered Name Holder shall agree that its registration of the Registered Name shall be subject to suspension, cancellation, or transfer pursuant to any ICANN adopted specification or policy, or pursuant to any registrar or registry procedure not inconsistent with an ICANN adopted specification or policy, (1) to correct mistakes by Registrar or the Registry Operator in registering the name or (2) for the resolution of disputes concerning the Registered Name.
- 3.7.7.12 The Registered Name Holder shall indemnify and hold harmless the Registry Operator and its directors, officers, employees, and agents from and against any and all claims, damages, liabilities, costs, and expenses (including reasonable legal fees and expenses) arising out of or related to the Registered Name Holder's domain name registration.
- 3.7.8 Registrar shall abide by any specifications or policies established according to Section 4 requiring reasonable and commercially practicable (a) verification, at the time of registration, of contact information associated with a Registered Name sponsored by Registrar or (b) periodic re-verification of such information. Registrar shall, upon notification by any person of an inaccuracy in the contact information associated with a Registered Name sponsored by Registrar, take reasonable steps to investigate that claimed inaccuracy. In the event Registrar learns of inaccurate contact

- information associated with a Registered Name it sponsors, it shall take reasonable steps to correct that inaccuracy.
- 3.7.9 Registrar shall abide by any ICANN adopted specifications or policies prohibiting or restricting warehousing of or speculation in domain names by registrars.
- 3.7.10 Nothing in this Agreement prescribes or limits the amount Registrar may charge Registered Name Holders for registration of Registered Names.
- 3.8 <u>Domain-Name Dispute Resolution</u>. During the Term of this Agreement, Registrar shall have in place a policy and procedures for resolution of disputes concerning Registered Names. Until different policies and procedures are established by ICANN under Section 4, Registrar shall comply with the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy identified on ICANN's website (www.icann.org/general/consensus-policies.htm).
- 3.9 <u>Accreditation Fees</u>. As a condition of accreditation, Registrar shall pay accreditation fees to ICANN. These fees consist of yearly and variable fees.
  - 3.9.1 Yearly Accreditation Fee. Registrar shall pay ICANN a yearly accreditation fee in an amount established by the ICANN Board of Directors, in conformity with ICANN's bylaws and articles of incorporation. This yearly accreditation fee shall not exceed US\$4,000 for the first TLD for which Registrar is Accredited plus US\$500 for each additional TLD for which Registrar is Accredited at any time during the year. Payment of the yearly fee shall be due within thirty days after invoice from ICANN.
  - 3.9.2 <u>Variable Accreditation Fee.</u> Registrar shall pay the variable accreditation fees established by the ICANN Board of Directors, in conformity with ICANN's bylaws and articles of incorporation, provided that in each case such fees are reasonably allocated among all registrars that contract with ICANN and that any such fees must be expressly approved by registrars accounting, in the aggregate, for payment of two-thirds of all registrar-level fees. Registrar shall pay such fees in a timely manner for so long as all material terms of this Agreement remain in full force and effect, and notwithstanding the pendency of any dispute between Registrar and ICANN.
  - 3.9.3 On reasonable notice given by ICANN to Registrar, accountings submitted by Registrar shall be subject to verification by an audit of Registrar's books and records by an independent third-party that shall preserve the confidentiality of such books and records (other than its findings as to the accuracy of, and any necessary corrections to, the accountings).

3.10 Insurance. Registrar shall maintain in force commercial general liability insurance with policy limits of at least US\$500,000 covering liabilities arising from Registrar's registrar business during the term of this Agreement.

# 4 PROCEDURES FOR ESTABLISHMENT OR REVISION OF SPECIFICATIONS AND POLICIES.

- 4.1 Registrar's Ongoing Obligation to Comply With New or Revised Specifications and Policies. During the Term of this Agreement, Registrar shall comply with the terms of this Agreement on the schedule set forth in Subsection 4.4, with
  - 4.1.1 new or revised specifications (including forms of agreement to which Registrar is a party) and policies established by ICANN as Consensus Policies in the manner described in Subsection 4.3,
  - 4.1.2 in cases where:
    - 4.1.2.1 this Agreement expressly provides for compliance with revised specifications or policies established in the manner set forth in one or more subsections of this Section 4; or
    - 4.1.2.2 the specification or policy concerns one or more topics described in Subsection 4.2.
- 4.2 <u>Topics for New and Revised Specifications and Policies</u>. New and revised specifications and policies may be established on the following topics:
  - 4.2.1 issues for which uniform or coordinated resolution is reasonably necessary to facilitate interoperability, technical reliability, and/or operational stability of Registrar Services, Registry Services, the DNS, or the Internet;
  - 4.2.2 registrar policies reasonably necessary to implement ICANN policies or specifications relating to a DNS registry or to Registry Services;
  - 4.2.3 resolution of disputes concerning the registration of Registered Names (as opposed to the use of such domain names), including where the policies take into account use of the domain names;
  - 4.2.4 principles for allocation of Registered Names (e.g., first-come/first-served, timely renewal, holding period after expiration);
  - 4.2.5 prohibitions on warehousing of or speculation in domain names by registries or registrars;
  - 4.2.6 meintenance of and access to accurate and up-to-date contact information regarding Registered Names and nameservers;
  - 4.2.7 reservation of Registered Names that may not be registered initially or that may not be renewed due to reasons reasonably related to (a) avoidance of confusion among or misleading of users, (b) intellectual

property, or (c) the technical management of the DNS or the Internet (e.g., "example.com" and names with single-letter/digit labels);

- 4.2.8 procedures to avoid disruptions of registration due to suspension or termination of operations by a registry operator or a registrar, including allocation of responsibility among continuing registrars of the Registered Names sponsored in a TLD by a registrar losing accreditation; and
- 4.2.9 the transfer of registration data upon a change in registrar sponsoring one or more Registered Names.

Nothing in this Subsection 4.2 shall limit Registrar's obligations as set forth elsewhere in this Agreement.

- 4.3 Manner of Establishment of New and Revised Specifications and Policies.
  - "Consensus Policies" are those specifications or policies established based on a consensus among Internet stakeholders represented in the ICANN process, as demonstrated by (a) action of the ICANN Board of Directors establishing the specification or policy, (b) a recommendation, adopted by at least a two-thirds vote of the council of the ICANN Supporting Organization to which the matter is delegated, that the specification or policy should be established, and (c) a written report and supporting materials (which must include all substantive submissions to the Supporting Organization relating to the proposal) that (i) documents the extent of agreement and disagreement among impacted groups, (ii) documents the outreach process used to seek to achieve adequate representation of the views of groups that are likely to be impacted, and (lii) documents the nature and intensity of reasoned support and opposition to the proposed policy.
  - 4.3.2 In the event that Registrar disputes the presence of such a consensus, it shall seek review of that issue from an independent Review Panel established under ICANN's bylaws. Such review must be sought within fifteen working days of the publication of the Board's action establishing the policy. The decision of the panel shall be based on the report and supporting materials required by Subsection 4.3.1. In the event that Registrar seeks review and the Independent Review Panel sustains the Board's determination that the policy is based on a consensus among internet stakeholders represented in the ICANN process, then Registrar must implement such policy unless it promptly seeks and obtains a stay or injunctive relief under Subsection 5.6.
  - 4.3.3 If, following a decision by the Independent Review Panel convened under Subsection 4.3.2, Registrar still disputes the presence of such a consensus, it may seek further review of that issue within fifteen

working days of publication of the decision in accordance with the dispute resolution procedures set forth in Subsection 5.6; provided, however, that Registrar must continue to implement the policy unless it has obtained a stay or injunctive relief under Subsection 5.6 or a final decision is rendered in accordance with the provisions of Subsection 5.6 that relieves Registrar of such obligation. The decision in any such further review shall be based on the report and supporting materials required by Subsection 4.3.1.

- A specification or policy established by the ICANN Board of Directors 4.3.4 on a temporary basis, without a prior recommendation by the council of an ICANN Supporting Organization, shall also be considered to be a Consensus Policy if adopted by the ICANN Board of Directors by a vote of at least two-thirds of its members, so long as the Board reasonably determines that immediate temporary establishment of a specification or policy on the subject is necessary to maintain the operational stability of Registrar Services, Registry Services, the DNS, or the Internet, and that the proposed specification or policy is as narrowly tailored as feasible to achieve those objectives. In establishing any specification or policy under this provision, the ICANN Board of Directors shall state the period of time for which the specification or policy is temporarily adopted and shall immediately refer the matter to the appropriate Supporting Organization for its evaluation and review with a detailed explanation of its reasons for establishing the temporary specification or policy and why the Board believes the policy should receive the consensus support of Internet stakeholders. If the period of time for which the specification or policy is adopted exceeds ninety days, the Board shall reaffirm its temporary establishment every ninety days for a total period not to exceed one year, in order to maintain such specification or policy in effect until such time as it meets the standard set forth in Subsection 4.3.1. If the standard set forth in Subsection 4.3.1 is not met within the temporary period set by the Board, or the council of the Supporting Organization to which it has been referred votes to reject the temporary specification or policy, it will no longer be a "Consensus Policy."
- 4.3.5 For all purposes under this Agreement, the policies specifically identified by ICANN on its website (www.icann.org/general/consensus-policies.htm) at the date of this Agreement as having been adopted by the ICANN Board of Directors before the date of this Agreement shall be treated in the same manner and have the same effect as "Consensus Policies" and accordingly shall not be subject to review under Subsection 4.3.2.
- 4.3.6 In the event that, at the time the ICANN Board of Directors establishes a specification or policy under Subsection 4.3.1 during the Term of this Agreement, ICANN does not have in place an Independent Review Panel established under ICANN's bylaws, the fifteen-working-day period allowed under Subsection 4.3.2 to seek review shall be

extended until fifteen working days after ICANN does have such an Independent Review Panel in place and Registrar shall not be obligated to comply with the specification or policy in the interim.

4.4 <u>Time Allowed for Compliance</u>. Registrar shall be afforded a reasonable period of time after receiving notice of the establishment of a specification or policy under Subsection 4.3 in which to comply with that specification or policy, taking into account any urgency involved.

#### 5 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

- 5.1 <u>Specific Performance</u>. While this Agreement is in effect, either party may seek specific performance of any provision of this Agreement in the manner provided in Section 5.6 below, provided the party seeking such performance is not in material breach of its obligations.
- 5.2 <u>Termination of Agreement by Registrar</u>. This Agreement may be terminated before its expiration by Registrar by giving ICANN thirty days written notice. Upon such termination by Registrar, Registrar shall not be entitled to any refund of fees paid to ICANN pursuant to this Agreement.
- 5.3 <u>Termination of Agreement by ICANN</u>. This Agreement may be terminated before its expiration by ICANN in any of the following circumstances:
  - 5.3.1 There was a material misrepresentation, material inaccuracy, or materially misleading statement in Registrar's application for accreditation or any material accompanying the application.

#### 5.3.2 Registrar:

- 5.3.2.1 is convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction of a felony or other serious offense related to financial activities, or is judged by a court of competent jurisdiction to have committed fraud or breach of fiduciary duty, or is the subject of a judicial determination that ICANN reasonably deems as the substantive equivalent of those offenses; or
- 5.3.2.2 is disciplined by the government of its domicile for conduct involving dishonesty or misuse of funds of others.
- 5.3.3 Any officer or director of Registrar is convicted of a felony or of a misdemeanor related to financial activities, or is judged by a court to have committed fraud or breach of fiduciary duty, or is the subject of a judicial determination that ICANN deems as the substantive equivalent of any of these; provided, such officer or director is not removed in such circumstances.
- 5.3.4 Registrar fails to cure any breach of this Agreement (other than a failure to comply with a policy adopted by ICANN during the term of this Agreement as to which Registrar is seeking, or still has time to seek, review under Subsection 4.3.2 of whether a consensus is

- present) within fifteen working days after ICANN gives Registrar notice of the breach.
- 5.3.5 Registrar fails to comply with a ruling granting specific performance under Subsections 5.1 and 5.6.
- 5.3.6 Registrar continues acting in a manner that ICANN has reasonably determined endangers the stability or operational integrity of the Internet after receiving three days notice of that determination.
- 5.3.7 Registrar becomes bankrupt or insolvent.

This Agreement may be terminated in circumstances described in Subsections 5.3.1 – 5.3.6 above only upon fifteen days written notice to Registrar (in the case of Subsection 5.3.4 occurring after Registrar's failure to cure), with Registrar being given an opportunity during that time to initiate arbitration under Subsection 5.6 to determine the appropriateness of termination under this Agreement. In the event Registrar initiates litigation or arbitration concerning the appropriateness of termination by ICANN, the termination shall be stayed an additional thirty days to allow Registrar to obtain a stay of termination under Subsection 5.6 below. If Registrar acts in a manner that ICANN reasonably determines endangers the stability or operational integrity of the Internet and upon notice does not immediately cure, ICANN may suspend this Agreement for five working days pending ICANN's application for more extended specific performance or injunctive relief under Subsection 5.6. This Agreement may be terminated immediately upon notice to Registrar in circumstance described in Subsection 5.3.7 above.

Term of Agreement: Renewal: Right to Substitute Updated Agreement. This 5.4 Agreement shall be effective on the Effective Date and shall have an initial term running until the Expiration Date, unless sooner terminated. Thereafter, if Registrar seeks to continue its accreditation, it may apply for renewed accreditation, and shall be entitled to renewal provided it meets the ICANNadopted specification or policy on accreditation criteria then in effect, is in compliance with its obligations under this Agreement, as it may be amended, and agrees to be bound by terms and conditions of the then-current Registrar accreditation agreement (which may differ from those of this Agreement) that ICANN adopts in accordance with Subsection 2.3 and Subsection 4.3. In connection with renewed accreditation, Registrar shall confirm its assent to the terms and conditions of the then-current Registrar accreditation agreement by signing that accreditation agreement. In the event that, during the Term of this Agreement, ICANN posts on its web site an updated form of registrar accreditation agreement applicable to Accredited registrars, Registrar (provided it has not received (1) a notice of breach that it has not cured or (2) a notice of termination of this Agreement under Subsection 5.3 above) may elect, by giving ICANN written notice, to enter an agreement in the updated form in place of this Agreement. In the event of such election, Registrar and ICANN shall promptly sign a new accreditation agreement that contains the provisions of the updated form posted on the web site, with the length of the term of the substituted

- agreement as stated in the updated form posted on the web site, calculated as if it commenced on the date this Agreement was made, and this Agreement will be deemed terminated.
- Date, Registrar shall be accredited according to Subsection 2.1 for each TLD as to which an appendix executed by both parties is attached to this Agreement. During the Term of this Agreement, Registrar may request accreditation for any additional TLD(s) by signing an additional appendix for each additional TLD in the form prescribed by ICANN and submitting the appendix to ICANN. In the event ICANN agrees to the request, ICANN will sign the additional appendix and return a copy of it to Registrar. The mutually signed appendix shall thereafter be an appendix to this Agreement. During the Term of this Agreement, Registrar may abandon its accreditation for any TLD under this Agreement (provided that Registrar will thereafter remain accredited for at least one TLD under this Agreement) by giving ICANN written notice specifying the TLD as to which accreditation is being abandoned. The abandonment shall be effective thirty days after the notice is given.
- Resolution of Disputes Under this Agreement. Disputes arising under or in 5.6 connection with this Agreement, including (1) disputes arising from ICANN's failure to renew Registrar's accreditation and (2) requests for specific performance, shall be resolved in a court of competent jurisdiction or, at the election of either party, by an arbitration conducted as provided in this Subsection 5.6 pursuant to the International Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association ("AAA"). The arbitration shall be conducted in English and shall occur in Los Angeles County, California, USA. There shall be three arbitrators: each party shall choose one arbitrator and, if those two arbitrators do not agree on a third arbitrator, the third shall be chosen by the AAA. The parties shall bear the costs of the arbitration in equal shares, subject to the right of the arbitrators to reallocate the costs in their award as provided in the AAA rules. The parties shall bear their own attorneys' fees in connection with the arbitration, and the arbitrators may not reallocate the attorneys' fees in conjunction with their award. The arbitrators shall render their decision within ninety days of the conclusion of the arbitration hearing. In the event Registrar initiates arbitration to contest the appropriateness of termination of this Agreement by ICANN, Registrar may at the same time request that the arbitration panel stay the termination until the arbitration decision is rendered, and that request shall have the effect of staying the termination until the arbitration panel has granted an ICANN request for specific performance and Registrar has failed to comply with such ruling. In the event Registrar initiates arbitration to contest an Independent Review Panel's decision under Subsection 4.3.3 sustaining the Board's determination that a specification or policy is supported by consensus, Registrar may at the same time request that the arbitration panel stay the requirement that it comply with the policy until the arbitration decision is rendered, and that request shall have the effect of staying the requirement until the decision or until the arbitration panel has granted an ICANN request for lifting of the stay. In all litigation involving ICANN concerning this Agreement (whether in a case where arbitration has not been elected or to enforce an arbitration award), jurisdiction

and exclusive venue for such litigation shall be in a court located in Los Angeles, California, USA; however, the parties shall also have the right to enforce a judgment of such a court in any court of competent jurisdiction. For the purpose of aiding the arbitration and/or preserving the rights of the parties during the pendency of an arbitration, the parties shall have the right to seek temporary or preliminary injunctive relief from the arbitration panel or in a court located in Los Angeles, California, USA, which shall not be a waiver of this arbitration agreement.

- 5.7 <u>Limitations on Monetary Remedies for Violations of this Agreement.</u> ICANN's aggregate monetary liability for violations of this Agreement shall not exceed the amount of accreditation fees paid by Registrar to ICANN under Subsection 3.9 of this Agreement. Registrar's monetary liability to ICANN for violations of this Agreement shall be limited to accreditation fees owing to ICANN under this Agreement. In no event shall either party be liable for special, indirect, incidental, punitive, exemplary, or consequential damages for any violation of this Agreement.
- 5.8 Handling by ICANN of Registrar-Supplied Data. Before receiving any Personal Data from Registrar, ICANN shall specify to Registrar in writing the purposes for and conditions under which ICANN intends to use the Personal Data. ICANN may from time to time provide Registrar with a revised specification of such purposes and conditions, which specification shall become effective no fewer than thirty days after it is provided to Registrar. ICANN shall not use Personal Data provided by Registrar for a purpose or under conditions inconsistent with the specification in effect when the Personal Data was provided. ICANN shall take reasonable steps to avoid uses of the Personal Data by third parties inconsistent with the specification.
- 5.9 Assignment. Either party may assign or transfer this Agreement only with the prior written consent of the other party, which shall not be unreasonably withheld, except that ICANN may, with the written approval of the United States Department of Commerce, assign this agreement by giving Registrar written notice of the assignment. In the event of assignment by ICANN, the assignee may, with the approval of the United States Department of Commerce, revise the definition of "Consensus Policy" to the extent necessary to meet the organizational circumstances of the assignee, provided the revised definition requires that Consensus Policies be based on a demonstrated consensus of Internet stakeholders.
- 5.10 No Third-Party Beneficiaries. This Agreement shall not be construed to create any obligation by either ICANN or Registrar to any non-party to this Agreement, including any Registered Name Holder.
- 5.11 Notices, Designations, and Specifications. All notices to be given under this Agreement shall be given in writing at the address of the appropriate party as set forth below, unless that party has given a notice of change of address in writing. Any notice required by this Agreement shall be deemed to have been properly given when delivered in person, when sent by electronic facsimile with receipt of confirmation of delivery, or when scheduled for delivery by internationally

recognized courier service. Designations and specifications by ICANN under this Agreement shall be effective when written notice of them is deemed given to Registrar.

If to ICANN, addressed to:

Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers Registrar Accreditation 4676 Admiralty Way, Suite 330 Marina del Rey, California 90292 USA Attention: General Counsel Telephone: 1/310/823-9358 Facsimile: 1/310/823-8649

If to Registrar, addressed to:

Top Class Names, Inc. a Delaware Corporation 150 West Maynard, Apt. 1K Columbus, Ohio 43202 USA

Attention: Bhavin Turakhia

Registrar Website URL: www.topclassnames.com

Telephone: 91-9820097557 Facsimile: 91 22 5679 7510 e-mail: info@topclassnames.com

- 5.12 <u>Dates and Times</u>. All dates and times relevant to this Agreement or its performance shall be computed based on the date and time observed in Los Angeles, California, USA.
- 5.13 <u>Language</u>. All notices, designations, and specifications made under this Agreement shall be in the English language.
- 5.14 Amendments and Waivers. No amendment, supplement, or modification of this Agreement or any provision hereof shall be binding unless executed in writing by both parties. No waiver of any provision of this Agreement shall be binding unless evidenced by a writing signed by the party waiving compliance with such provision. No waiver of any of the provisions of this Agreement shall be deemed or shall constitute a waiver of any other provision hereof, nor shall any such waiver constitute a continuing waiver unless otherwise expressly provided.
- 5.15 <u>Counterparts</u>. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.
- 5.16 Entire Agreement. Except to the extent (a) expressly provided in a written agreement executed by both parties concurrently herewith or (b) of written assurances provided by Registrar to ICANN in connection with its Accreditation, this Agreement (including the appendices, which form part of it) constitutes the

entire agreement of the parties pertaining to the accreditation of Registrar and supersedes all prior agreements, understandings, negotiations and discussions, whether oral or written, between the parties on that subject.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed in duplicate by their duly authorized representatives.

ICAN	N C	Top Class Names, Inc.
Ву:		Ву:
·	Kurt Pritz Vice President, Business Operations	Name: Bhaun Turakhia Title: CEO
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Jeffrey A. LeVee (State Bar No. 125863) jlevee@jonesday.com 2 Samantha S. Eisner (State Bar No. 230344) seisner@jonesday.com JONES DAY 3 555 South Flower Street 4 Fiftieth Floor Los Angeles, CA 90071-2300 Telephone: (213) 489-3939 Facsimile: (213) 243-2539 5 6 Attorneys for Plaintiff The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names 7 and Numbers 8 9 10 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 11 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 12 13 The Internet Corporation for Assigned Case No. Names and Numbers, 14 COMPLAINT FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT, PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION, AND DECLARATORY RELIEF Plaintiff, 15 v. 16 RegisterFly.Com, Inc., and 17 UnifiedNames, Inc., 18 Defendants. 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

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COMPLAINT

Plaintiff The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers ("ICANN") brings this Complaint for Breach of Contract, Preliminary Injunction, and Declaratory Relief against Defendants RegisterFly.Com, Inc., and UnifiedNames, Inc. (collectively referred to as "RegisterFly") and alleges the following:

#### **INTRODUCTION**

1. This is an action for breach of contract, injunctive relief, and declaratory relief with respect to the repeated breaches by Defendant RegisterFly.Com, Inc. of its contract with ICANN. A true and correct copy of the contract, the RegisterFly/ICANN RAA ("RegisterFly RAA") is attached hereto as Attachment 1.

#### THE PARTIES

- 2. Plaintiff ICANN is a not-for-profit public benefit corporation organized under the laws of the State of California with its principal place of business in Marina Del Rey, California.
- 3. ICANN is informed and believes that Defendant RegisterFly.com, Inc. is a for-profit public corporation organized under the laws of the State of Delaware with its principal place of business in Miami Beach, Florida.
- 4. ICANN is informed and believes that Defendant UnifiedNames, Inc. is the parent company for RegisterFly.Com, Inc. Defendant UnifiedNames, Inc. is a for-profit public corporation organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey with a separate principal place of business in Miami Beach, Florida.

## JURISDICTION AND VENUE

5. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)(2). The amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs, and the dispute is between a citizen of California, ICANN, a citizen of Florida and Delaware, RegisterFly.com, Inc., and a citizen of New Jersey and Florida, UnifiedNames, Inc.

6. Venue is proper under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(a) because a substantial part of the events giving rise to the claims in this case occurred in this judicial district. Further, Section 5.6 of the RAA provides that jurisdiction and exclusive venue for all litigation concerning the RAA shall be in a court located in Los Angeles, California.

## FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 7. ICANN was established in 1998 as part of the effort by the United States government to "privatize" certain aspects of the domain name system ("DNS") of the Internet. ICANN's mission is to protect the stability and security of the DNS on behalf of the global Internet community. ICANN does not conduct any commercial business, and its bylaws specifically prevent it from doing so. Instead, ICANN administers the Internet's domain name system on behalf of the Internet community.
- 8. ICANN operates under a series of agreements with the United States Department of Commerce ("DOC"), top-level domain name ("TLD") registries and registrars, ccTLD registries, regional internet registries, and other Internet organizations such as the Internet Engineering Task Force. Qualified companies operate what are known as registries. A registry maintains a definitive list of all second-level domain names (*i.e.*, the names with which consumers are mostly familiar such as google.com or ebay.com) within that registry. Some examples of registries are ".com", ".net" and ".org". This Court's Internet website -- http://www.cacduscourts.gov/ -- would be referred to as a second-level domain name. This name is registered in the ".gov" Internet registry.

# The Domain Name Registration Process

9. In order for a consumer to register a second-level domain name in a registry, he or she must do so through an ICANN-accredited registrar. ICANN requires every registrar to complete the published accreditation process. Through the accreditation process, each registrar provides assurances that it has certain

- financial and technical capabilities and that it will follow contractual requirements and consensus-based policies (regarding, among other things the collection and maintenance of certain data for all second-level domain name registrations (the "Data")). These obligations are recorded in the RAA signed by each registrar. Under Section 4.1 of the RAA, all registrars are bound to follow ICANN's consensus policies such as the Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy ("Transfer Policy"). A true and correct copy of the Model RAA ("RAA"), which the RegisterFly RAA is based on, is attached hereto as Attachment 2. A true and correct copy of the Transfer Policy is attached hereto as Attachment 3.
- 10. In order to register names, accredited registrars must also enter into agreements with each registry in which they wish to register names. For each registry, each registrar maintains an account with the registry from which a pername fee is deducted upon completion of registration. If these accounts are not funded, the registry will not allow a domain name to be registered or renewed.
- 11. The Data collection and maintenance requirements are found primarily at Sections 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4 of the RAA. These provisions specifically obligate each registrar to maintain an electronic database containing the following information for each domain name under the Registrar's sponsorship: (1) the Registered Name; (2) the names of the primary nameserver and secondary nameserver(s) for the Registered Name; (3) the identity of the registrar (which may be provided through registrar's website); (4) the original creation date of the registration; (5) the expiration date of the registration; (6) the name and postal address of the Registered Name Holder; (7) the name, postal address, e-mail address, voice telephone number, and (where available) fax number of the technical contact for the Registered Name; (8) the name, postal address, e-mail address, voice telephone number, and (where available) fax number of the administrative contact for the Registered Name; (9) the name and (where available) postal address, e-mail address, voice telephone number, and fax number of the billing contact; (10) any

other Registry Data that the registrar has submitted to the registry operator or placed in the registry database.

- 12. In addition, each registrar must maintain: (a) the submission date and time, and the content, of all registration data (including updates) submitted in electronic form to the registry operator(s); (b) all written communications constituting registration applications, confirmations, modifications, or terminations and related correspondence with Registered Name Holders, including registration contracts; and (c) records of the accounts of all Registered Name Holders with the registrar, including dates and amounts of all payments and refunds.
- 13. Section 3.4.3 of the RAA requires that "[d]uring the Term of this Agreement and for three years thereafter, Registrar shall make [the] records [described in this paragraph] available for inspection and copying by ICANN upon reasonable notice."
- 14. The basic process for registering a domain name is as follows. A potential registrant first contacts a registrar or consults a publicly available "Whois" service to determine whether a desired domain name is available for registration. If the domain name is available, the registrant provides all required information to the registrar (including the registrant's name and contact information) and pays a fee. The registrar then submits the registration to the registry, then the registry deducts a fee from the registrar's account and completes the registration of the domain name. At that point, the consumer can use the domain name on the Internet for a web site, email, or to otherwise interact with the online public.
- 15. Some consumers retain the services of third party "proxy" registration companies (which are usually affiliated in ownership with the registrar or a reseller of the registrar's services) in order to prevent their personal contact data from being displayed publicly through Whois services. Proxy companies generally request and maintain the consumer's contact information in the same way the registrar would,

but the proxy company becomes the public registrant of record for the domain name so that the consumer's information is kept private.

- 16. Domain names may generally only be registered for fixed terms of 1 to 10 years, and the registration must be renewed if the registrant wishes to continue use of the name after the end of the initial registration term. At the time of renewal, the registry again deducts a fee from the registrar's account. If a domain name is not renewed, the registration expires and it is deleted from the registry. It then becomes part of a pool of unregistered names available to any registrar to offer to a new registrant.
- 17. There are times when a domain name holder may wish to transfer its registration to a different registrar. The "losing" registrar in such a transfer has specific obligations under the Transfer Policy to comply with the request and to provide authorization codes to the domain name holder to facilitate the transfer.

## RegisterFly's Relationship With ICANN

- 18. Defendant RegisterFly is currently an ICANN-accredited registrar. On September 13, 2004, ICANN entered into a registrar accreditation agreement with "Top Class Names, Inc." On or around November 22, 2004, Top Class Names, Inc. filed a Certificate of Amendment of Certificate of Incorporation with the State of Delaware, changing its name to RegisterFly.Com, Inc.
- 19. RegisterFly currently has approximately 900,000 domain names under its sponsorship.
- 20. RegisterFly is no longer following the domain name registration process, and the company appears to be in a state of complete disarray. Because of the ongoing breaches of the RAA, ICANN notified RegisterFly on March 16, 2007 that RegisterFly's RAA would be terminated pursuant to Section 5.3 of the RAA, effective March 31, 2007. A true and correct copy of the Notice of Termination of Registrar Accreditation Agreement ("Notice of Termination") is attached hereto as Attachment 4.

- 21. Over the past several months, ICANN has received, by far, more complaints from RegisterFly's customers than any other registrar. ICANN has devoted an enormous amount of attention trying to assist RegisterFly in solving its problems. Nevertheless, RegisterFly has not been able to resolve many of the complaints made, and the company appears at this point to be insolvent and on the brink of bankruptcy. Specifically, RegisterFly's registry accounts are unfunded (or have negative balances), preventing RegisterFly customer's names from being registered or renewed.
- 22. ICANN receives an excess of 100 complaints every day from RegisterFly's customers. This has forced ICANN to literally create a customer service department that is dedicated almost entirely to RegisterFly. The nature of the complaints varies, but some recurring themes are:
  - Customers cannot use their domain names, despite paying RegisterFly, sometimes multiple times, for those names or renewal of those names; and
  - Customers are attempting to transfer their domain names to a new registrar and are unable to obtain the needed authorization codes or release from RegisterFly to effectuate the transfers.
- 23. On February 21, 2007, ICANN sent RegisterFly a notification of breach letter ("First Breach Letter") detailing a number of breaches of the RAA. For example, Section 4.1 of the RAA obligates RegisterFly to comply with the Transfer Policy. RegisterFly, in violation of the Policy and in violation of the RAA, withheld the required "AuthInfo" codes to allow a domain name holder to transfer a domain to another registrar. In addition, RegisterFly failed to unlock domain names, or otherwise provide authorization to facilitate requested transfers. According to customer complaints received by ICANN, RegisterFly continues to impede transfers. Further, under Section 3.4 of the RAA, RegisterFly is bound to maintain and to update all required Data elements for each registered domain name,

as well as to maintain a historical database of this information available to ICANN upon demand. At the time of the First Breach Letter, ICANN had issued multiple requests to audit RegisterFly's data, which were refused. As detailed more below, RegisterFly continues to breach this audit provision.

- 24. On February 21, 2007, ICANN also sent a Notice of Audit letter again requesting to audit all RegisterFly registration and related Data. In addition, ICANN demanded that RegisterFly, in accordance with section 3.6 of the RAA, provide ICANN with a complete electronic copy of all registration Data.
- 25. RegisterFly failed to comply with both the audit and the Data escrow portions of the February 21 demand. As a result, on February 28, 2007 ICANN issued another demand for audit and a complete copy of all RegisterFly Data. By the terms of the February 28, 2007, ICANN demanded compliance by March 1, 2007. RegisterFly still did not comply.
- 26. On March 2, 2007, ICANN issued a second notice of breach letter ("Second Breach Letter") to RegisterFly. In the Second Breach Letter, ICANN identified RegisterFly's breaches of Sections 3.4, 3.6 and 3.3 of the RAA. The notice was based upon RegisterFly's continued refusal to comply with ICANN's audit demands under Section 3.4, and refusal to provide ICANN with a complete electronic copy of all registration Data under Section 3.6. RegisterFly's breach of Section 3.3 of the RAA arose from RegisterFly's failure to continually maintain public access to Whois data relating to registered names (via its website and Whois service) as required under therein.
- 27. None of the breaches identified in the Second Breach Letter has been cured.
- 28. On March 15, 2007, ICANN sent to RegisterFly a further demand letter seeking a complete copy of RegisterFly's registration data, and reminding RegisterFly of its continuing violation of Section 3.6 arising out of its refusal to provide a complete copy of the Data.

29. On March 16, 2007, upon the expiration of RegisterFly's fifteen working day period to cure all breaches identified in the First Breach Letter, ICANN sent RegisterFly a notice of termination of the RAA ("Notice of Termination"). The Notice of Termination specified that RegisterFly's accreditation would terminate on March 31, 2007, in accordance with Section 5.3 of the RAA. Upon termination of its accreditation, RegisterFly will no longer be able to serve as an ICANN-accredited registrar. ICANN further ordered RegisterFly immediately to cease the use of ICANN's trademarked logos on its website and business materials, as ICANN was immediately terminating the Logo License Appendix to the RAA. The Notice of Termination also requires RegisterFly's assistance in facilitating a bulk transfer of its registered domains to ICANN.

- 30. On March 20, 2007, ICANN again contacted RegisterFly by letter, reminding it of its continued obligation to provide: (1) immediate escrow of RegisterFly's current database with updates every 48 hours until further notice; and (2) access to RegisterFly's records for inspection by March 21, 2007. In addition, ICANN pointed out RegisterFly's failure to remove the ICANN's trademarked logos from its website in recognition of ICANN's termination of the Logo License Appendix to the RAA. RegisterFly failed to immediately comply with any of ICANN's demands.
- 31. On March 23, 2007, ICANN received a disc from RegisterFly purporting to contain the Data ICANN demanded under the RAA. RegisterFly had purported to provide ICANN with the requested Data on March 5, 2007, but the submission was seriously incomplete, did not provide ICANN with Data for customers who opted to use a proxy registration service, was internally inconsistent, and appeared to be missing data for nearly 10% of RegisterFly's sponsored registrations in the two most common registries, .com and .net. RegisterFly's March 23, 2007 submission was identical to the March 5, 2007

submission, meaning that the information was now significantly stale in addition to being inadequate and incomplete.

- 32. On March 27, 2007 ICANN sent a final letter demanding that RegisterFly immediately send all current, correct and complete RegisterFly Data via electronic means to ICANN ("Final Demand Letter"). ICANN also notified RegisterFly that in accordance with Section 5.3 of the RAA, ICANN was providing further notice of termination of the RAA for RegisterFly's failure to cure the additional breaches identified in the Second Breach Letter. In response, RegisterFly contacted ICANN and said that it would make an additional data submission by that evening, although RegisterFly later said the data would be delivered by 9:00 a.m. EDT the next morning.
- 33. Though ICANN arranged for a secure transfer of the Data and confirmed the arrangements with RegisterFly, the Data never arrived.

## Why the Data is Important

- 34. Only by having the Data can ICANN attempt to protect RegisterFly's customers in the event RegisterFly does not (or cannot) protect them. The reason that ICANN is requesting that the Data be updated every 48 hours is that ICANN is concerned that RegisterFly will be making changes to the Data, and ICANN needs to verify that the data is complete, consistent and in the proper format. This will also allow ICANN to monitor the recent requests that RegisterFly customers have made and whether RegisterFly is honoring those requests.
- 35. Each day more RegisterFly customer names expire, registry accounts remain unfunded and transfers are not being completed as required under the Transfer Policy, which is incorporated into the RAA. Without the Data, ICANN has no way to attempt to protect these customers. Without the Data, if RegisterFly goes out of business, ICANN may not even be able to determine who these customers are.

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- 36. The fact that ICANN has some stale "data" does not offer any protection to RegisterFly's customers. Without current, complete and correct Data, in the event that ICANN needs to facilitate a bulk transfer of RegisterFly's sponsored portfolio after the termination of the RAA, any registrar that receives the Data would be unable to authenticate or determine the identity of the true registrant for any of the domain names therein. Without the ability to authenticate the true registrant, the new registrar could not make changes or transfer the name out to another registrar, and the use of the domain name could be suspended or frozen. The inability to authenticate or determine the true identity of registrants also makes the opportunity for fraud rampant.
- 37. The situation is urgent. Any further delay in furnishing complete and accurate Data to ICANN places all RegisterFly's customers at further risk of losing access to their domain names. RegisterFly is already causing numerous customers to lose domain name registrations due to its ongoing failures to fund registry accounts. If those registries refuse to honor RegisterFly's requests with respect to these domain names (because RegisterFly has not paid these registries), the registries might wind up re-selling these names to different consumers. Moreover, the security of RegisterFly's website is questionable. Obtaining the Data is the only way that ICANN can provide any assurance of continued service to the hundreds of thousands of RegisterFly customers.

# COUNT I **BREACH OF CONTRACT**

- 38. ICANN repeats and reasserts the allegations contained in Paragraphs 1 through 37, as if fully set forth herein.
- 39. ICANN and RegisterFly are parties to a signed contract, known as the RAA.
- 40. Section 2 of the RAA sets forth ICANN's obligations under the contract. Section 3 of the RAA sets forth RegisterFly's obligations under the

contract. Neither ICANN nor RegisterFly has been excused from performance of its obligations under the RAA. ICANN is in full compliance with its contractual obligations under the RAA.

- 41. RegisterFly is currently violating at least four sections of the RAA -- Sections 3.3, 3.4, 3.6, and 4.1.
- 42. Under Section 3.3 of the RAA, RegisterFly is required to maintain an interactive web page with daily updates concerning all active Registered Names sponsored by the Registrar. RegisterFly has failed to maintain the continuous operability of its web page and has failed to perform the required updates to the publicly available data in violation of Section 3.3.
- 43. Under Section 3.4 of the RAA, RegisterFly is required to maintain electronic records for each active Registered Name it sponsors in its registry. RegisterFly is also required to make those records available to ICANN for inspection at ICANN's request. Despite numerous requests for inspection by ICANN, RegisterFly refused, and continues to refuse, to allow ICANN to inspect and audit the Data, in violation of the contract.
- 44. Section 3.6 of the RAA requires RegisterFly to escrow with ICANN a complete copy of the Data for all names registered with RegisterFly. ICANN has requested a complete copy of all RegisterFly registration Data on numerous occasions in February and March 2007. In violation of Section 3.6, RegisterFly has failed to provide ICANN with this complete electronic copy.
- 45. Under Section 4.1 of the RAA, RegisterFly is required to follow ICANN's Transfer Policy. In violation of this provision, RegisterFly has been ignoring its customers' transfer requests. RegisterFly is failing to effectuate transfers, failing to provide the necessary codes to facilitate transfers, and failing to unlock names to allow for transfers.
- 46. Each of RegisterFly's breaches provides an independent ground for termination of the RAA.

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- 54. RegisterFly's continuing flagrant breaches of the RAA have prevented ICANN from obtaining access to critical Data that ICANN needs in order to be able to protect RegisterFly's customers.
- 55. The situation is truly urgent, and failure to act will cause irreparable harm to ICANN and RegisterFly's customers. Any delay in furnishing the complete and accurate Data to ICANN places all of RegisterFly's customers at further risk of losing access to their domain names. RegisterFly is already causing numerous customers to lose domain name registrations due to its ongoing failures to fund Registry accounts.
- 56. Most importantly, if the data is lost, it can never be recreated.

  Additionally, the loss of data would cause potentially hundreds of thousands of domain names registered by RegisterFly to become inoperable. RegisterFly's customers would be left with no working domain names, despite paying for them.
- 57. Obtaining the Data, and requiring 48 hour updates on a continuous basis, is the only way ICANN can provide any assurance of continued service to RegisterFly customers. With the data, in the event anything should happen to RegisterFly, or if its servers or the Data were compromised in any way, ICANN will be able to access the Data and assist in restoring its functionality.
- 58. ICANN's sole interest in obtaining access to the Data is to protect RegisterFly's customers. Turning over the Data will not affect RegisterFly's ability to attempt to service its customers. It will not affect RegisterFly's ability to attempt to sell its registration portfolio while it still entitled to do so. It will only fulfill RegisterFly's obligations to ICANN to provide the Data.
- 59. ICANN has a right to obtain this data under the RAA. RegisterFly contractually agreed to the provisions of the RAA, and breached at least four sections of the RAA. RegisterFly's breach of the RAA has caused ICANN to terminate its accreditation effective March 31, 2007.

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60. ICANN also has a right, under Section 3.4.3 of the RAA, to immediately inspect and copy all data at RegisterFly's place of business. ICANN needs immediate access to audit RegisterFly's Data to verify that it has maintained all required data as described at Paragraphs 11-13. Without the ability to immediately inspect RegisterFly's files, ICANN will not be able to verify that RegisterFly is properly and adequately handling all registration-related requests with its customers and the registries and properly maintaining the Data.

WHEREFORE, ICANN prays that this Court enter judgment in its favor on each and every claim for relief set forth above and award it relief including, but not limited to, the following:

- 1. A temporary restraining order, followed by such injunctive relief as becomes necessary, to require RegisterFly to provide to ICANN all of the Data that RegisterFly is obligated to provide under the RAA - immediately and on a recurring 48 hour basis;
- 2. A temporary restraining order, followed by such injunctive relief as becomes necessary, to require RegisterFly to allow ICANN immediate access to inspect and copy all Data, in accordance with Section 3.4.3 of the RAA, and further enjoining RegisterFly from preventing ICANN's audit of RegisterFly's Data;
- 3. Enjoining RegisterFly from engaging in any further breach of the RAA;
- 4. Declaring that RegisterFly's RAA with ICANN is terminated as of March 31, 2007;

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- 5. Awarding ICANN its costs and expenses incurred herein; and
- For such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper. 6.

By:

Dated: March 29, 2007

**JONES DAY** 

Attorneys for Plaintiff
THE INTERNET CORPORATION
FOR ASSIGNED NAMES AND
NUMBERS