

ELECTRONICALLY FILED
Pulaski County Circuit Court
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60CV-18-3121
SC06D02 : 3 Pages

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF PULASKI COUNTY, ARKANSAS
SECOND DIVISION

COURTNEY GOODSON and
COURTNEY GOODSON CAMPAIGN

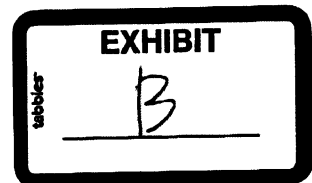
v. NO. 60CV-18-3121

KATV, LLC, NEXSTAR BROADCASTING, INC.,
MISSION BROADCASTING, INC., TEGNA, INC.,
COMCAST OF ARKANSAS, INC., and
COX MEDIA, LLC

PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

On the 18th day of May, 2018, Plaintiffs' *Verified Emergency Motion for Ex Parte Temporary Restraining Order; Request for Emergency Hearing, or, in the alternative, Preliminary Injunction and Incorporated Brief in Support* came on for hearing. Based on the pleadings, testimony, evidence, and all other matters properly before the Court, the Court finds and orders as follows:

1. This Court has jurisdiction and venue is proper herein.
2. The Plaintiff, Courtney Goodson, appeared in person and through her attorneys, LACERRA, DICKSON, HOOVER, & ROGERS, PLLC. Separate Defendant TEGNA, Inc. ("TEGNA") appeared and was represented by QUATTLEBAUM, GROOMS & TULL PLLC. Separate Defendant Comcast of Arkansas, Inc. ("Comcast") appeared through its counsel, WILLIAMS & ANDERSON PLC.
3. Separate Defendants Mission Broadcasting, Inc. and Nexstar Broadcasting, Inc. did not appear despite being properly served.
4. Separate Defendant Cox Media, LLC was dismissed without prejudice prior to the hearing and by separate Order.



5. The Plaintiff's request for preliminary injunction is granted. The Defendants and their stations are hereby enjoined from airing the ad from Judicial Crisis Network played in open Court and labeled "Insider" according to Comcast's Exhibit 5. Such order as announced from the bench is effective immediately and through midnight on May 22, 2018.

6. Separate Defendant Comcast did not air the advertisements by the Judicial Crisis Network after May 13th, 2018.

7. The Arkansas Judicial Campaign Conduct & Education Committee, Inc. was formed by the Arkansas Bar Association in response to advertisements being used in nonpartisan judicial races. A Rapid Response Team was charged by the committee to investigate a complaint about the advertisements sponsored by the Judicial Crisis Network. The Rapid Response Team found that Justice Goodson did not request a pay raise and did not hear cases that were filed on behalf of donors of gifts to her.

The Judicial Crisis Network did not respond to this letter and the Rapid Response Team issued a cease and desist letter to the Judicial Crisis Network.

The Judicial Crisis Network responded with a letter to the stations broadcasting this advertisement, which was introduced into evidence by the defendants. In part, the letter says:

"The Rapid Response Team and the Arkansas Judicial Campaign Conduct & Education Committee, Inc., are not a government agency and neither has any authority to act on behalf of any government agency. This Committee has no authority to demand that any party take any action, and it has no enforcement authority whatsoever. This Committee is a self-appointed, self-professed "watchdog" which is a non-profit organization that appears to exist to protect judges like Justice Goodson from criticism."


After being placed on notice that the advertisements are factually incorrect, counsel for the Judicial Crisis Network asked the defendants to recklessly disregard the Rapid Response Teams warning.

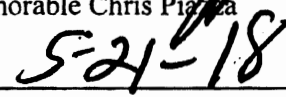
8. The defamatory advertisements will cause irreparable harm to Justice Goodson's campaign, and there is a likelihood of success on the merits including the likelihood of proving actual malice.

9. A bond in the amount of \$5,000.00 is sufficient to protect the interest of the Defendants and such is the Order of the Court.

10. The Plaintiffs are granted to leave to amend this cause of action.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Honorable Chris Piazza


Date