1	Matthew Shayefar (Cal. SBN. 289685) matt@shayefar.com	
2	Law Office of Matthew Shayefar, PC 750 N. San Vicente Blvd, 800 West	
3	West Hollywood, California 90069 Tel: 323-948-8101	
4		
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7	Boston Law Group, PC 825 Beacon Street, Suite 20	
8	Newton Centre, Massachusetts 02459	
9	Attorneys for Plaintiff CreativeCode Ltd	
10	NORTHERN DISTRI	DISTRICT COURT CT OF CALIFORNIA
11	SAN JOSE	DIVISION
12	CREATIVECODE LTD.	CASE NO. 5:23-cv-3832
13	Plaintiff,	COMPLAINT
14	v.	AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
15	DOES 1-20	
16	Defendants.	
17	COMP	<u>LAINT</u>
18	This is an action for violation of 17 U.S.	
19		
20	Prospective Economic Advantage, and violation	_
21	wherein Plaintiff CreativeCode Ltd. ("Plaintiff")	seeks damages and other relief for the actions
22	committed and/or omitted by the above listed Do	efendants. Defendants have been sending
23	fraudulent Digital Millenium Copyright Act ("D	MCA") takedown notices to Google LLC and/or
24	its affiliates ("Google"), wherein Defendants fal	sely allege that they own the copyrights at issue
-		

(or are authorized by the owner), that Plaintiff's websites infringe on the referenced work, and that Plaintiff's website utilized anti-circumvention technology prohibited by the DMCA, when that is not the case and Defendants know well that this is not the case. This has caused Google to either delist or downgrade Plaintiff's websites' search results on its search engine, resulting in greatly reduced traffic to Plaintiff's websites and causing Plaintiff significant damages.

All allegations made herein are upon personal information as to Plaintiff's own activities, and upon information and belief as to the activities of all others referenced.

#### **PARTIES**

- Plaintiff CreativeCode Ltd. is an Anguilla limited company with a registered
  office address of Anguilla, Hansa Bank Building 1st Floor Landsome Road, The Valley,
  Anguilla, British West Indies. Plaintiff has no shareholders, officers, or employees in the United
  States.
- 2. Defendants Does 1-20 are yet-to-be-identified individuals who are the owners and operators of several websites that have been sending fraudulent DMCA notices to Google falsely alleging that Plaintiff's websites contain prohibited anti-circumvention technology and are infringing on Defendants' copyrights.
- 3. Plaintiff is ignorant of the true names and capacities of the defendants sued herein as Does 1 through 20, and therefore sues these defendants by fictitious names. Plaintiff will amend this Complaint to allege their true names and capacities when ascertained. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that at all times mentioned herein, each of the fictitiously named defendants is negligently or otherwise responsible in some manner for the occurrences herein alleged, and Plaintiff's damages as herein alleged were legally and proximately caused by the acts and/or omissions of the fictitiously named defendants. As used

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herein, "Defendants" means all the fictitiously named defendants, and any defendants that may be later named.

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 4. Jurisdiction is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1331, federal question jurisdiction, because Plaintiff alleges Defendants violated 17 U.S.C. § 512(f).
- 5. Venue is proper in the Northern District of California pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2) because the fraudulent DMCA take down notices were sent to Google, which is headquartered in Mountain View, Santa Clara County, California, which is within this District.
- 6. Divisional Assignment. Pursuant to L.R. 3-2(d) and 3-5(b), this case should be assigned to the San Jose Division because Defendants committed their wrongful actions by sending fraudulent takedown notices to Google in Santa Clara County which is within the San Jose Division.

#### **FACTS**

- 7. Plaintiff owns and operates certain websites with the URLs of "y2mate.nu" and "ytmp3.nu" (the "Websites").
- 8. The Websites allow users to save the audio tracks from online videos to their computers without necessarily saving the video content as well.
- 9. The functionality of the Websites is content neutral and there are substantial noninfringing reasons why users want to use the Websites, such as the fact that many publishers put out videos free from copyright and invite users to freely download and copy their work. There are other examples, such as professors or students who might choose to download the audio portions of lectures for later reference and playback; bands that may want to capture the audio tracks from their live performances that they have captured on video; parents that may want the audio portion of a school concert that they recorded; or any other number of other non-infringing

uses and fair uses.

10. Starting on or about June 27, 2023, Defendants began to submit fraudulent DMCA notices to Google, falsely alleging that the Websites were infringing on copyrights held by Defendants (or that Defendants were authorized to act on account of the copyright holders) and that the Websites implemented software that circumvented technologic barriers regarding

- copyright. As of the date hereof, Defendants have sent scores of fraudulent DMCA notices to
- Google regarding the Websites (the "DMCA Notices").
- 11. When a DMCA notice is sent to Google, Google may "delist" or "downrank" the allegedly infringing URL(s) referenced in the DMCA notice. When Google delists or downranks a URL, this means that the URL either will not come up in a Google search (delisting) or comes up significantly further down in the Google search results (downranking), making it far less likely that a user clicks on a link to a website from a Google search result.
- 12. Indeed, one analysis has reported that *less than one percent* of Google searchers clicked on a web link from the second page of Google search results.<sup>1</sup>
- On account of Defendants sending the fraudulent DMCA Notices to Google,
   Google delisted or downranked the Websites.
- 14. Google delisting or downranking the Websites significantly reduced traffic to the Websites. Indeed, Plaintiff has noticed a striking decrease in visits to the Websites, by approximately hundreds of thousands of clicks per day, since Defendants began sending the fraudulent DMCA Notices.
- 15. Plaintiff monetizes the Websites by selling space on its Websites to advertisers to display their advertisements. The amount that advertisers pay Plaintiff to display their ads on the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See https://backlinko.com/google-ctr-stats.

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Websites is directly tied to the volume of traffic that the Websites receive. Therefore, Plaintiff received, or will receive, significantly reduced advertising revenue on account of the fraudulent DMCA Notices.

16. Moreover, given the great volume of fraudulent DMCA Notices sent by Defendants, it is an expensive and time-consuming activity to respond and provide counternotifications under the DMCA for each DMCA Notice, to the extent that Google even considers counter-notifications for the same.

#### The DMCA Notices are Fraudulent

- 17. A proper DMCA notice must contain, inter alia, a signature of the right holder, or the person authorized to act on behalf of the rights holder, an identification of the copyrighted work in question, and a statement made under the pains and penalties of perjury that the submitter has a good faith and reasonable belief that its rights are being infringed, and that the statements made in the notice are accurate. (See, 17 U.S.C. §512(c)(3)).
- 18. The DMCA Notices sent by Defendants were fraudulent for at least three reasons: (a) the Defendants were not copyright holders (or the person authorized by the rights holder to send DMCA notices); (b) the Defendants falsely alleged that the Websites infringed on copyrights and falsely alleged that the Websites implemented anti-circumvention technology barred by the DMCA; and (c) the DMCA Notices otherwise failed to comply with DMCA requirements, such as listing the purported rights holder or the work in question.
- 19. It is obvious that Defendants were not the rights holders of the copyrighted works listed on the DMCA notices. This was clear because on dozens of occasions the DMCA Notices referenced prominent works, but then listed small or obscure entities as the copyright holder (or its authorized representative) for prominent and well-known works. Some DMCA Notices also failed to reference any rights holder at all.

harassing Plaintiffs, as this song is the basis for the long-time internet meme of "Rickrolling." *See* https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rickrolling.

20. For instance, in a DMCA Notice submitted on July 28, 2023 against one of Plaintiff's Websites, the Defendant identified as "End Of YouTube Converter" (from the DMCA Notice posted to the Lumen database) alleged that it was authorized to send a DMCA notice with respect to Rick Astley's 1987 hit, "Never Gonna Give You Up." A copy of this DMCA Notice from the Lumen database is attached hereto as <a href="Exhibit 1">Exhibit 1</a>. It is clear that "End Of YouTube Converter" does not own the copyright to "Never Gonna Give You Up" (and is not otherwise authorized by the actual rights holder). Instead, the copyrights for "Never Gonna Give You Up" are held by All Boys Music, Ltd., for the words and music, and BMG Music for the sound recording of Rick Asley's performance on the 1987 record Whenever You Need Somebody. See copyright registration information attached hereto as Exhibit 2.

- 21. Like the Rick Astley song referenced above, it was clear that most, if not all, of the DMCA Notices were sent from senders who did not hold the rights to the works in question.
- 22. Moreover, the DMCA Notices do not provide full information about the entity that sent the notice (and purportedly owns the work). Rather, the names listed seem to be suspiciously obscure or are redacted entirely.
- 23. Many of the DMCA Notices fail to even identify the copyright holder or the copyrighted material. Rather, many DMCA Notices simply list one of the Websites and provide no additional meaningful information. An example of such a DMCA Notice from the Lumen database is attached hereto as <a href="Exhibit 3">Exhibit 3</a>. A similar example, purportedly sent by an entity identified only as "Because Music" is attached hereto as <a href="Exhibit 4">Exhibit 4</a>. Clearly, these are sent to

<sup>2</sup> The selection of this particular song is more evidence that Defendants are intentionally

harass Plaintiff and encourage Google to delist or downrank the Websites for no legitimate reason.

- 24. It is obvious that the copyright "owners," as listed in the DMCA Notices, are not actually the owners of the subject copyrights (to the extent that a copyrighted work is even referenced). Rather, it is suspected that many, if not most, of Defendants operate websites that compete with Plaintiff's Websites, and this is simply an attempt to have Google stamp out Defendants' competition.
- 25. On July 15, 2023, Plaintiff's counsel sent a cease-and-desist letter to multiple email addresses through which Plaintiff suspects that one or more of the Defendants submitted the fraudulent DMCA Notices.
- 26. On Monday, July 17, 2023, ostensibly in response to the cease-and-desist demand, a Defendant sent another fraudulent DMCA Notice sent to Google. This Defendant, cheekily, but in complete disregard and violation of United States law, sent a DMCA Notice to Google referencing the YouTube page of Ceelo Green's hit 2010 single, "F\*\*\* You!" A copy of this DMCA Notice from the Lumen database is attached hereto as <a href="Exhibit 5">Exhibit 5</a>. Clearly, the cease-and-desist letter struck its target, receiving an unsubtle and churlish response. This provides even further evidence that the DMCA Notices are fraudulent and meant for no other purpose than to harass.
- 27. In addition to the foregoing deficiencies with the DMCA Notices herein described, the DMCA Notices also misrepresented that the Websites employ circumvention software banned by the DMCA. (For example, see <u>Exhibits 1</u> and <u>5</u>). The Websites do not employ such technology.

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#### **COUNT I**

### VIOLATIONS OF 17 U.S.C. §512(f) – All Defendants

- 28. Plaintiff hereby repeats, realleges, and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in all the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- 29. In the Defendants' DMCA Notices to Google, the Defendants falsely alleged that they own the copyrights, or they are the authorized representatives of the copyright owner, of the works cited in the DMCA Notices.
- 30. In fact, Defendants are not the copyright owners of the works cited in the DMCA Notices, nor are they the authorized representatives of the copyright owner of the works cited in the DMCA Notices.
- 31. The DMCA Notices to Google also falsely allege that the Websites' software implements anti-circumvention technology proscribed by the DMCA.
- 32. In fact, the Websites do not implement anti-circumvention technology proscribed by the DMCA.
- 33. Defendants misrepresented that the Websites violated copyright, despite the many non-infringing and fair uses of the Websites.
- 34. Defendants also knowingly made additional misrepresentations to Google in the DMCA Notices as described herein.
- 35. Google relied on the fraudulent DMCA Notices and delisted or downranked the Websites based on Defendants' misrepresentations, causing Plaintiff damages.
- 36. Defendants' misrepresentations to Google in the DMCA Notices caused Plaintiff to suffer damages and harm for which Defendants are liable.

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#### **COUNT II**

#### **Intentional Interference with Prospective Economic Advantage – All Defendants**

- 37. Plaintiff hereby repeats, realleges, and incorporates by reference the allegations contained in all the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.
- 38. Plaintiff had an economic relationship with the users of the Websites, because the more user traffic to the Websites, the greater the amount of advertising revenue that Plaintiff would receive.
- 39. Plaintiff also had an economic relationship with Google, because the better relationship it has with Google and its search platform, the greater traffic it would receive to its Websites.
- 40. Defendants knew about Plaintiff's economic relationship with the Websites' users and Google.
- 41. Defendants intentionally engaged in wrongful conduct to disrupt these economic relationships as described herein. Specifically, Defendants knowingly sent false and fraudulent DMCA Notices to Google with the intent to cause Google to delist or downrank the Websites.
- 42. This wrongful activity indeed disrupted Plaintiff's economic relationship with its users and with Google because Google downranked or delisted some or all of the Websites. This can be seen by the sudden drop in traffic to the Websites following Defendants sending the fraudulent DMCA Notices.
- 43. This wrongful activity has harmed and damaged Plaintiff and Defendants are liable for these activities. Because of the reduced traffic to the Websites caused by Defendants fraudulent DMCA Notices, Plaintiff has, or will, receive reduced advertising revenue from the Websites.

1 COUNT III 2 California Unfair Business Competition Law Bus. and Prof. Code, 3 §§ 17200 et seq., – All Defendants 44. 4 Plaintiff hereby repeats, realleges, and incorporates by reference the allegations 5 contained in all the foregoing paragraphs as if fully set forth herein. 6 45. By Defendants conduct as set forth herein, Defendants have willfully or 7 knowingly engaged in fraudulent, deceptive, unlawful, unfair, and/or other wrongful acts and 8 practices. 9 46. Without limitation, Defendants' actions and omissions are, and have been, in 10 violation of California Business and Professional Code §§ 17200, et seq. 11 47. As a result, Plaintiff has suffered harm and damages for which Defendants are 12 liable. 13 14 A JURY TRIAL IS DEMANDED ON ALL COUNTS SO TRIABLE 15 16 REQUESTED RELIEF 17 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays that this Honorable Court award the following: 18 1. Enter judgment for Plaintiff on all Counts of its Complaint; 19 2. Award Plaintiff its damages as determined at trial, at an amount of no less than 20 \$500,000, plus attorneys' fees, punitive damages, interest, and costs as provided by law; 21 3. Award Plaintiff its damages, costs, and attorneys' fees pursuant to 17 U.S.C. §512(f); and 22 4. 23 Grant Plaintiff such other relief as this Court deems just. 24

Respectfully Submitted, Plaintiff CreativeCode Ltd. By its attorney, Matthew Shayefar (SBN 289685) Law Office of Matthew Shayefar, PC Dated: July 31, 2023 

# Exhibit 1

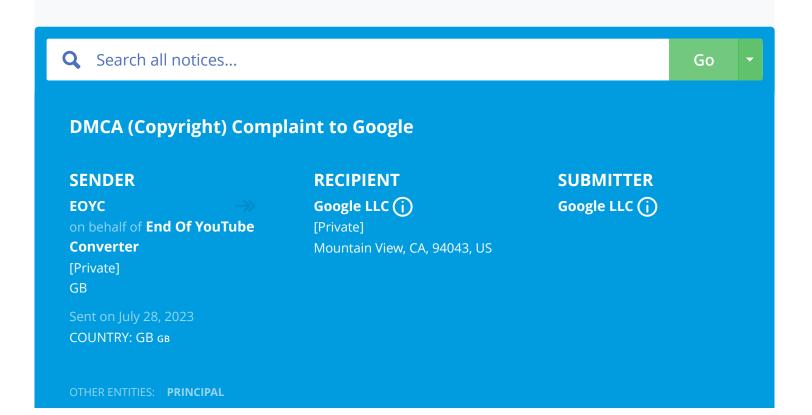


Search

**Topics** 

Research and Media Mentions

About



### Re: Unknown

NOTICE TYPE: DMCA

# Copyright claim 1

KIND OF WORK: Unspecified

**DESCRIPTION** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dQw4w9WgXcQ - Rick Astley - Never

Gonna Give You Up (Official Music Video) circumvention content: This website use a tool to bypass YouTube security measures allowing users to illegally download our copyrighted content. circumvention mechanism:

circumvention software

original urls: 01. www.youtube.com - 1 URL

**ALLEGEDLY** 01. y2tmate.tools - 1 URL

**INFRINGING** 

URLS:

- 02. ytmp3.nu 1 URL
- 03. www.y2mate.com 1 URL
- 04. v37.www-ytmp3.com 1 URL
- 05. v7.www-ytmp4.com 1 URL
- 06. v2.mp3paw.link 1 URL
- 07. yt5s.io 1 URL

<u>Click here</u> to request access and see full URLs.

**JURISDICTIONS** GB

TOPICS
DMCA Notices, Copyright

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Lumen

Spring '22 Research Sprint
Researchers

Sign In

# Exhibit 2



# **Public Catalog**

Copyright Catalog (1978 to present)

Search Request: Left Anchored Name = waterman pete

Search Results: Displaying 61 of 102 entries



Never gonna give you up / [words & music Stock, Aitken & Waterman].

Type of Work: Music

**Registration Number / Date:** PA0000375327 / 1988-06-21

**Title:** Never gonna give you up / [words & music Stock, Aitken & Waterman].

**Imprint:** Nashville: Terrace Entertainment Corp., [19--]

**Description:** 1 sound cassette + lyrics sheet.

Copyright Claimant: All Boys Music, Ltd.

Date of Creation: 1986

Date of Publication: 1986-10-01

**Authorship on Application:** Michael Stock, Matthew James Aitken, Peter Alan Waterman.

Names: Stock, Michael, 1951-

Aitken, Matthew James, 1956-Waterman, Peter Alan, 1947-

All Boys Music, Ltd.



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# **Public Catalog**

Copyright Catalog (1978 to present)

Search Request: Left Anchored Title = never gonna give you up

Search Results: Displaying 56 of 158 entries



Labeled View

#### Whenever you need somebody / [performed by] Rick Astley.

Type of Work: Sound Recording

**Registration Number / Date:** SR0000089479 / 1988-02-29

**Title:** Whenever you need somebody / [performed by] Rick Astley.

Imprint: c1987.

Publisher Number: RCA Victor 6822-1-R

**Description:** 1 sound disc: 33 1/3 rpm, stereo.; 12 in.

**Notes:** Photography: Paul Cox.

Copyright Claimant: © ® B M G Music

**Date of Creation: 1987** 

**Date of Publication:** 1987-12-08

Authorship on Application: sound recording, front, back & inner photos.: Peter Waterman, Ltd., employer for

Contents: Never gonna give you up -- Whenever you need somebody -- Together forever -- It

would take a strong, strong man -- The Love has gone -- Don't say goodbye -- No

more looking for love -- When I fall in love.

**Other Title:** The Love has gone.

Names: Astley, Rick

Cox, Paul

**BMG Music** 

Peter Waterman, Ltd.





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# Exhibit 3

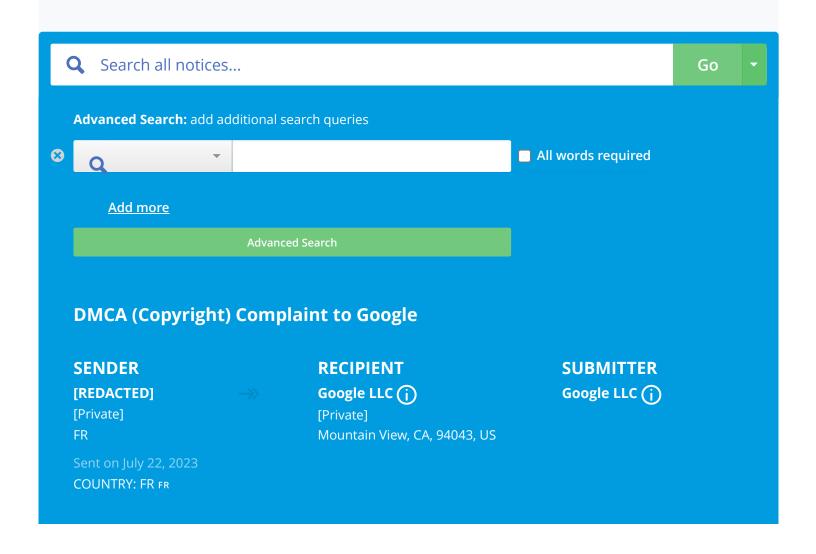


Search

**Topics** 

Research and Media Mentions

About



# Re: Unknown

NOTICE TYPE: DMCA

# **Copyright claim 1**

KIND OF WORK: Unspecified

DESCRIPTION [REDACTED]

**ORIGINAL URLS:** No copyrighted URLs were submitted.

ALLEGEDLY

01. ytmp3.nu - 1 URL

INFRINGING

**URLS**:

<u>Click here</u> to request access and see full URLs.

JURISDICTIONS

FR

<b>TOPICS</b> Anticircumven	tion (DMCA), Copyright				
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Lamen				Researchers	Sign In

# Exhibit 4

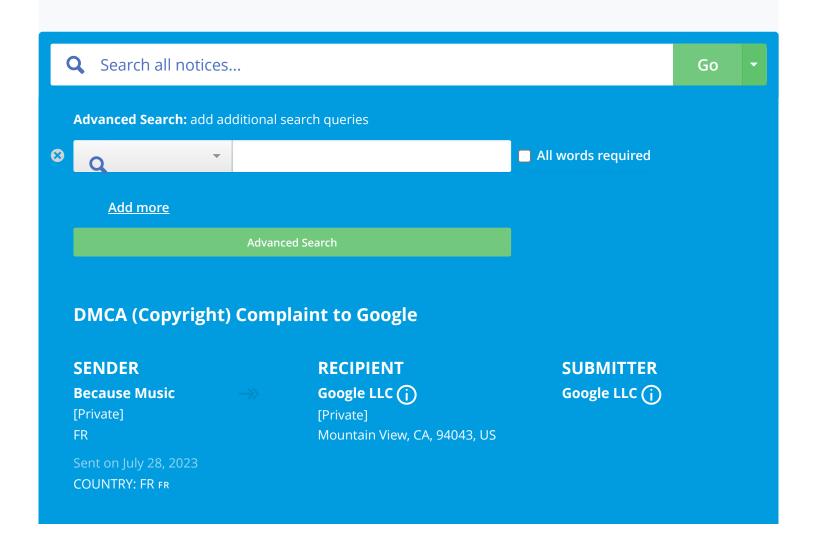


Search

**Topics** 

Research and Media Mentions

About



# Re: Unknown

NOTICE TYPE: DMCA

# **Copyright claim 1**

KIND OF WORK: Unspecified

**DESCRIPTION** [REDACTED]

**ORIGINAL URLS:** No copyrighted URLs were submitted.

7/31/23, 9:46 AM Case 5:23-cv-03832 DMOAKUCOR TITLE Complained @ 7/861/200 cest 23-cv-03832

ALLEGEDLY

01. www.ytbvideoly.com - 2 URLs

INFRINGING

**URLS:** 

Click here to request access and see full URLs.

# **Copyright claim 2**

KIND OF WORK: Unspecified

**DESCRIPTION** [REDACTED]

**ORIGINAL URLS:** No copyrighted URLs were submitted.

**ALLEGEDLY** 

01. www.ytbsaver.com - 2 URLs

**INFRINGING** 

**URLS:** 

<u>Click here</u> to request access and see full URLs.

# **Copyright claim 3**

KIND OF WORK: Unspecified

DESCRIPTION [REDACTED]

**ORIGINAL URLS:** No copyrighted URLs were submitted.

ALLEGEDLY 01. m.freemake.com - 2 URLs INFRINGING 02. www.freemake.com - 2 URLs

**URLS:** 

Click here to request access and see full URLs.

# Copyright claim 4

KIND OF WORK: Unspecified

**DESCRIPTION** [REDACTED]

**ORIGINAL URLS:** No copyrighted URLs were submitted.

**ALLEGEDLY** 01. x2download.app - 3 URLs

INFRINGING

**URLS**:

<u>Click here</u> to request access and see full URLs.

# **Copyright claim 5**

KIND OF WORK: Unspecified

DESCRIPTION [REDACTED]

**ORIGINAL URLS:** No copyrighted URLs were submitted.

ALLEGEDLY 01. es.ytmp3.mobi - 1 URL

INFRINGING

**URLS**:

02. ytmp3.mobi - 1 URL

<u>Click here</u> to request access and see full URLs.

# **Copyright claim 6**

KIND OF WORK: Unspecified

DESCRIPTION [REDACTED]

**ORIGINAL URLS:** No copyrighted URLs were submitted.

**ALLEGEDLY** 01. yoump3.day - 1 URL

INFRINGING

**URLS:** 

<u>Click here</u> to request access and see full URLs.

# Copyright claim 7

KIND OF WORK: Unspecified

DESCRIPTION [REDACTED]

**ORIGINAL URLS:** No copyrighted URLs were submitted.

**ALLEGEDLY** 01. flvto.bz - 2 URLs

**INFRINGING** 

**URLS:** 

<u>Click here</u> to request access and see full URLs.

# **Copyright claim 8**

KIND OF WORK: Unspecified

**DESCRIPTION** [REDACTED]

7/31/23, 9:46 AM Case 5:23-cv-03832 Demonstrated confidence of 6

**ORIGINAL URLS:** No copyrighted URLs were submitted.

ALLEGEDLY

01. ytmp3.nu - 2 URLs

**INFRINGING** 

**URLS**:

<u>Click here</u> to request access and see full URLs.

### **Copyright claim 9**

KIND OF WORK: Unspecified

**DESCRIPTION** [REDACTED]

**ORIGINAL URLS:** No copyrighted URLs were submitted.

ALLEGEDLY

01. ssyoutube.com - 3 URLs

**INFRINGING** 

**URLS:** 

<u>Click here</u> to request access and see full URLs.

### **Copyright claim 10**

KIND OF WORK: Unspecified

DESCRIPTION [REDACTED]

**ORIGINAL URLS:** No copyrighted URLs were submitted.

**ALLEGEDLY** 01. en2.onlinevideoconverter.pro - 1 URL INFRINGING 02. pt.onlinevideoconverter.pro - 1 URL

**URLS**:

Click here to request access and see full URLs.

**JURISDICTIONS** FR

TOPICS TAGS

Anticircumvention (DMCA), Copyright

7/31/23, 9:46 AM

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Spring '22 Research Sprint

Blog Archive

Legal

Licenses

Privacy

Researchers

Sign In

# Exhibit 5

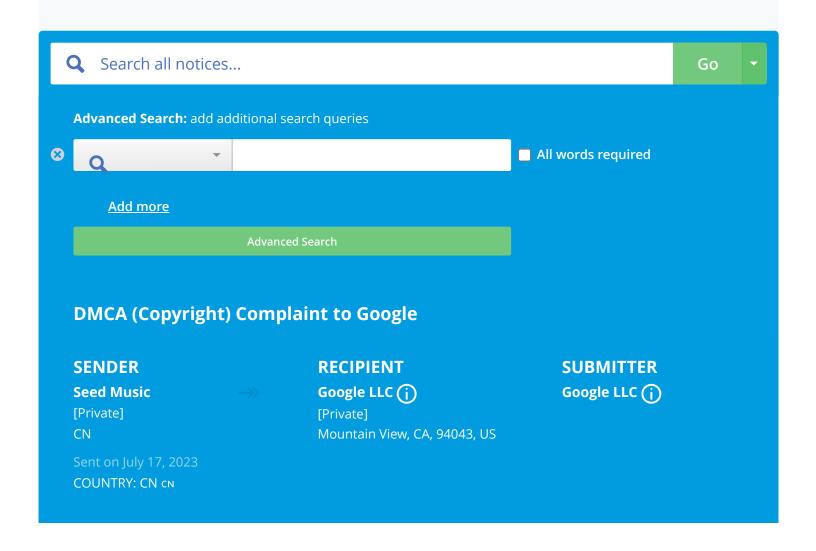


Search

**Topics** 

Research and Media Mentions

**About** 



# Re: Unknown

NOTICE TYPE: DMCA

# **Copyright claim 1**

KIND OF WORK: Unspecified

**DESCRIPTION** https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pc0mxOXbWIU circumvention content:

Tool to bypass YouTube security measures allowing users to illegally download our copyrighted content. circumvention mechanism:

download our copyrighted content. Circumvention mecha

circumvention software

**ORIGINAL URLS:** No copyrighted URLs were submitted.

ALLEGEDLY INFRINGING URLS:

01. en.yt2mp3.link - 1 URL

02. ytmp3.page - 1 URL

03. tomp3.cc - 1 URL04. ytmp3.cc - 1 URL

05. en.onlymp3.to - 1 URL

06. ytmp3.nu - 1 URL

Click here to request access and see full URLs.

**JURISDICTIONS** CN

TOPICS Anticircumve	ntion (DMCA), Copyright		TAGS		
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				Researchers	Sign I

#### Filed 07/31/23 Page 1 of 2 SHEET Case 5:23-cv-03832

The JS-CAND 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved in its original form by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the Clerk of Court to initiate the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I.	(a)	PL	ΑI	NI	TF	FS
	· · · ·			_ , _		_ ~

CreativeCode Ltd.

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Foreign (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)

Matthew Shayefar, Law Office of Matthew Shayefar, PC, 750 N San Vincente Blvd., 800 West, West Hollywood, CA 90069, 323-948-8101, Matt@shayefar.com

#### **DEFENDANTS**

Does 1-20

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

II.	BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)	ш.	CITIZENSHIP OF F (For Diversity Cases Only)	PRINCIP	PAL PA	ARTIES (Place an "X" in One Bo and One Box for Defend		aintiff
				PTF	DEF		PTF	DEF
1	U.S. Government Plaintiff		Citizen of This State	1	1	Incorporated <i>or</i> Principal Place of Business In This State	4	4
2	U.S. Government Defendant  4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Iten	<i>III</i> )	Citizen of Another State	2	2	Incorporated <i>and</i> Principal Place of Business In Another State	5	5
	(mateure Citizenship of Farites in Hen	,	Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3	3	Foreign Nation	6	6

CONTRACT	TOF	RTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
	PERSONAL INJURY 310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel & Slander 330 Federal Employers' Liability 340 Marine 345 Marine Product Liability 350 Motor Vehicle 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 360 Other Personal Injury 362 Personal Injury -Medical		625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC § 881 690 Other  LABOR  710 Fair Labor Standards Act 720 Labor/Management Relations 740 Railway Labor Act 751 Family and Medical Leave Act 790 Other Labor Litigation 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act	BANKRUPTCY  422 Appeal 28 USC § 158  423 Withdrawal 28 USC § 157  PROPERTY RIGHTS  X 820 Copyrights  830 Patent  835 Patent—Abbreviated New Drug Application  840 Trademark  880 Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016  SOCIAL SECURITY  861 HIA (1395ff)	OTHER STATUTES  375 False Claims Act 376 Qui Tam (31 USC § 3729(a))  400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced & Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit 485 Telephone Consumer Protection Act 490 Cable/Sat TV
160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise  REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	Malpractice  CIVIL RIGHTS  440 Other Civil Rights  441 Voting  442 Employment  443 Housing/ Accommodations  445 Amer. w/Disabilities— Employment  446 Amer. w/Disabilities—Other  448 Education	Liability  PRISONER PETITIONS  HABEAS CORPUS  463 Alien Detainee  510 Motions to Vacate Sentence  530 General  535 Death Penalty  OTHER  540 Mandamus & Other  550 Civil Rights  555 Prison Condition  560 Civil Detainee— Conditions of Confinement	IMMIGRATION  462 Naturalization Application  465 Other Immigration Actions	862 Black Lung (923) 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 864 SSID Title XVI 865 RSI (405(g))  FEDERAL TAX SUITS  870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC § 7609	850 Securities/Commodities Exchange 890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts 893 Environmental Matters 895 Freedom of Information Act 896 Arbitration 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of Stat Statutes

V.	<b>ORIGIN</b> (Place an "X" in One Box Only)		
	0 1	2 P 116 4 P 41 5 F 6 16	

Original Removed from Remanded from Reinstated or Transferred from Multidistrict 2 Litigation-Transfer Proceeding State Court Appellate Court Reopened Another District (specify) Litigation-Direct File

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity): 17 U.S.C. 512(f) **CAUSE OF ACTION** 

CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION

**JUDGE** 

Defendants sent fradulent DMCA notices to Google that, inter alia, falsely alleged Plaintiff violated copyright, causing damages

DOCKET NUMBER

**DEMAND \$ 500,000.00** 

UNDER RULE 23, Fed. R. Civ. P. **JURY DEMAND:** × Yes **COMPLAINT:** VIII. RELATED CASE(S),

**DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT (Civil Local Rule 3-2)** 

SAN FRANCISCO/OAKLAND × SAN JOSE **EUREKA-MCKINLEYVILLE** (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

**REQUESTED IN** 

IF ANY (See instructions):

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS-CAND 44

**Authority For Civil Cover Sheet.** The JS-CAND 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved in its original form by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the Clerk of Court to initiate the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- **I. a) Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
  - b) County of Residence. For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the "defendant" is the location of the tract of land involved.)
  - c) Attorneys. Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section "(see attachment)."
- II. Jurisdiction. The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8(a), which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an "X" in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.
  - (1) United States plaintiff. Jurisdiction based on 28 USC §§ 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.
  - (2) <u>United States defendant</u>. When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an "X" in this box.
  - (3) <u>Federal question</u>. This refers to suits under 28 USC § 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.
  - (4) <u>Diversity of citizenship</u>. This refers to suits under 28 USC § 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; **NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.)**
- **III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties.** This section of the JS-CAND 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit. Place an "X" in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerk(s) in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin. Place an "X" in one of the six boxes.
  - (1) Original Proceedings. Cases originating in the United States district courts.
  - (2) Removed from State Court. Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 USC § 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.
  - (3) Remanded from Appellate Court. Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date
  - (4) Reinstated or Reopened. Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.
  - (5) <u>Transferred from Another District</u>. For cases transferred under Title 28 USC § 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.
  - (6) <u>Multidistrict Litigation Transfer</u>. Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 USC § 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.
  - (8) Multidistrict Litigation Direct File. Check this box when a multidistrict litigation case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket.
  - Please note that there is no Origin Code 7. Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statute.
- VI. Cause of Action. Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity. Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC § 553. Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service.
- VII. Requested in Complaint. Class Action. Place an "X" in this box if you are filing a class action under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23.
  - Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction.
  - Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases. This section of the JS-CAND 44 is used to identify related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.
- IX. Divisional Assignment. If the Nature of Suit is under Property Rights or Prisoner Petitions or the matter is a Securities Class Action, leave this section blank. For all other cases, identify the divisional venue according to Civil Local Rule 3-2: "the county in which a substantial part of the events or omissions which give rise to the claim occurred or in which a substantial part of the property that is the subject of the action is situated."

Date and Attorney Signature. Date and sign the civil cover sheet.