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PRINCIPAL

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March 25, 2022

Via Email

Brandon Fernald, Esq. <brandon@fernaldlawgroup.com>

Adam P. Zaffos, Esq. <adam@fernaldlawgroup.com>

Clay R. Wilkinson, Esq. <clay@fernaldlawgroup.com>

Sasha Brower, Esq. <sasha@fernaldlawgroup.com>

Fernald Law Group APC

15910 Ventura Blvd., Suite 1702

Los Angeles, CA 91436

CEASE AND DESIST LETTER

Dear Messrs. Fernald, Zaffos, and Wilkinson, and Ms. Brower:

Please see the attached email from a “kungzhou@protonmail.com” of today’s date, which attaches the entire USC production with the redactions made by my office, and which my office designated as “Attorney’s Eyes Only Pursuant to Stipulation and Order.” The documents are now publicly available throughout the internet and the designation has been removed. The email was sent to numerous individuals in the press, as well as Dr. Li and Dr. Sadeghi.

The Stipulation and Order dated February 3, 2021 (copy attached) states the following:

(1) Pinscreen will produce to Plaintiff’s counsel no later than 3 weeks from today’s date, all documents produced by USC pursuant to subpoena in unredacted form other than any redactions made by USC and any redactions in connection with any personnel matters outside the scope of the subpoena without, however, restricting Plaintiff’s right to challenge the redactions; **the documents will be produced and maintained as Attorney’s Eyes Only and Plaintiff shall not review such documents nor shall the content of such documents be read, summarized, or transmitted to Plaintiff.** Plaintiff agrees not to challenge the Attorney’s Eyes Only designation; the designation of these USC subpoena produced documents will have no bearing on the confidentiality designation or lack thereof of any duplicative documents Plaintiff already had or obtains outside of the USC subpoena;

Brandon Fernald, et al.

Re: *Cease & Desist*

March 25, 2022

Page 2 of 3

Moreover, the documents would be subject to all of the restrictions that apply to Highly Confidential documents under the original protective order, as well as the broader restrictions precluding such disclosure of *any* discovery documents except under specific circumstances clearly not applicable here:

The Parties recognize that documents not designated “Confidential” or “Highly Confidential” may nonetheless contain information or material that is private or privileged. The Parties therefore agree that any and all Discovery Materials, whether non-designated or designated as “Confidential” or “Highly Confidential,” shall not be made publicly available on the Internet, or through any form of mass distribution or mailing, unless those Discovery Materials are contained in support of or as part of an unsealed pleading filed with the Court.

The **only** potential source of these documents is your office or any person that your office provided them to. Since they bear my office’s redactions, they could not have originated anywhere else.

We believe that the email address kungzhou@protonmail.com is an alias for your client. However, even if it is not, the only means by which this person could have obtained the documents is through your office.

The website https://medium.com/@USC_Report_re_Hao_Li_Pinscreen/usc-office-of-research-integrity-investigation-report-re-hao-li-and-pinscreens-scientific-ff875060d01e, all links on that website, <https://www.dropbox.com/s/9429z0rx1em0au2>, and locations of any and all copies thereof, must be immediately removed. These include but may not be limited to the following:

- <https://pdfhost.io/v/n9GuGETbV>
- <https://www.dropbox.com/s/o22lb68vomzzbkf>
- <https://www.dropbox.com/s/9429z0rx1em0au2>
- [Download Full Report as PDF](#)
- <https://filelink.org/fS497IOJoaVpMrF>
- <https://filepost.io/d/zgKt8aABqs>
- <https://filepost.io/d/Njovg13tif>

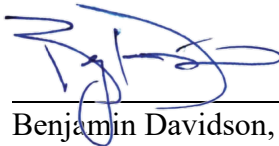
Please confirm Plaintiff will immediately take all steps necessary to ensure that the emails received by all recipients are recalled and destroyed, and that all subpoenaed documents are deleted from any link or Dropbox (or other means of distribution).

Brandon Fernald, et al.
Re: *Cease & Desist*
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Page 3 of 3

Pinscreen and Dr. Li reserve the right to pursue all available remedies.

Very truly yours,

LAW OFFICES OF BENJAMIN DAVIDSON, P.C.



Benjamin Davidson, Esq.

Enclosures: (1) Email from kungzhou@protonmail.com dated March 25, 2022 at 3:51 pm
PDT
(2) Stipulation and Order dated 2/3/2021
(3) Stipulation and Protective Order dated 3/11/2020

Cc: C. Griffith Towle, Esq.
Ronnie Shou, Esq.
Leonard Grayver, Esq.

EXHIBIT 1

REDACTED

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kung Zhou <kungzhou@protonmail.com>
Subject: Your Article Related to USC Investigation Report on Hao Li and Pinscreen
Date: March 25, 2022 at 3:51:43 PM PDT
To: "david.pierson@latimes.com" <david.pierson@latimes.com>, "kquach@theregister.com" <kquach@theregister.com>, "csfrance@usc.edu" <csfrance@usc.edu>, "bellanto@usc.edu" <bellanto@usc.edu>, "hahmd@usc.edu" <hahmd@usc.edu>, "nvenkat@usc.edu" <nvenkat@usc.edu>, "cwilliams@theregister.com" <cwilliams@theregister.com>, "nicole.hemsoth@theregister.com" <nicole.hemsoth@theregister.com>, "ithomson@theregister.com" <ithomson@theregister.com>, "tclaburn@theregister.com" <tclaburn@theregister.com>, "brandon.vigliarolo@theregister.com" <brandon.vigliarolo@theregister.com>, "ben.muessig@latimes.com" <ben.muessig@latimes.com>, "tips@latimes.com" <tips@latimes.com>, "brian.contreras@latimes.com" <brian.contreras@latimes.com>, "sam.dean@latimes.com" <sam.dean@latimes.com>, "iman@sadeghi.com" <iman@sadeghi.com>, "sadeghi@gmail.com" <sadeghi@gmail.com>, "hao@hao-li.com" <hao@hao-li.com>, "hao@pinscreen.com" <hao@pinscreen.com>, "info@pinscreen.com" <info@pinscreen.com>
Cc: "kungzhou@protonmail.com" <kungzhou@protonmail.com>
Reply-To: Kung Zhou <kungzhou@protonmail.com>

Hello madams/sirs.

In connection your articles listed below as coverage of lawsuit between Dr. Hao Li and Dr. Iman Sadehi would you please have done due diligence about USC investigation report of Dr. Hao Li's fraud and misrepresentations.

USC Office of Research Integrity Investigation Report re Hao Li and Pinscreen's Scientific Misconduct at ACM SIGGRAPH RTL2017:

- <https://www.dropbox.com/s/9429z0rx1em0au2>
- <https://medium.com/@USC Report re Hao Li Pinscreen/ff875060d01e>

Article on LA Times by David Pierson:

- <https://www.latimes.com/business/technology/la-fi-pinscreen-lawsuit-20180620-story.html>

Article on The Register by Katyanna Quach:

- https://www.theregister.com/2018/07/18/pinscreen_fraud_claims/

Article on USC Annenberg Media by Chandler France:

- <https://www.uscannenbergmedia.com/2018/10/30/viterbi-professor-embattled-in-lawsuit-with-his-former-employee/>

Dr. Hao Li and Pinscreen website:

- <https://www.hao-li.com>
- <http://www.pinscreen.com>

Thank you very much and your time and attention. Appreciated.

--

Kung Zhou

[CEASE AND DESIST] Your Article Related to USC Investigation Report on Hao Li and Pinscreen

From: Benjamin Davidson <bdavidson@bendavidsonlaw.com>

Sent: Friday, March 25, 2022 8:12:21 PM

To: kungzhou@protonmail.com <kungzhou@protonmail.com>

Cc: Adam Zaffos <adam@fernaldlawgroup.com>; Brandon Fernald <brandon.fernald@fernaldlawgroup.com>; Clay Wilkinson <clay@fernaldlawgroup.com>; Sasha Brower <sasha@fernaldlawgroup.com>; Pinscreen-Sadeghi <Pinscreen-Sadeghi@BZBM.com>; 'Leonard Grayver' <leonard@grayverlaw.com>

Subject: [CEASE AND DESIST] Your Article Related to USC Investigation Report on Hao Li and Pinscreen

Dear Kung Zhou:

My law firm, in conjunction with Bartko Zankel Bunzel & Miller, represents Pinscreen, Inc. and Dr. Hao Li. I am in receipt of the email below that was sent to Dr. Hao Li from the email address kungzhou@protonmail.com, and which contained links to a website and Dropbox account in which various documents from USC are housed. Those documents are related to an ongoing litigation and many of them were designated as "Attorney's Eyes Only Pursuant to Stipulation and Order." That designation has been manually removed. Your knowledge of and possession of these documents is a potential violation of the protective order in that case. You are instructed to immediately destroy any and all copies of such documents, to deactivate and remove all documents from https://medium.com/@USC_Report_re_Hao_Li_Pinscreen/usc-office-of-research-integrity-investigation-report-re-hao-li-and-pinscreens-scientific-ff875060d01e, <https://www.dropbox.com/s/9429z0rx1em0au2>, and anywhere else that they are housed. You are further instructed to recall your email from any and all individuals to whom it has been sent and take all actions to prevent any disclosure of these documents, which would be in further violation of a court order.

You are further instructed to respond advising us how you obtained or were made aware of these documents. I am cc'ing Adam Zaffos and other attorneys from the Fernald Law Group, counsel for Dr. Iman Sadeghi, the other party in the case that is being referenced.

Pinscreen and Dr. Li reserve the right to pursue all available remedies.

Sincerely,



Benjamin Davidson, Esq.
Law Offices of Benjamin Davidson, P.C.

Office 323.713.0010 | Cell 213.531.7010 | bdavidson@bendavidsonlaw.com

www.BenDavidsonLaw.com

116 S. Catalina Ave., Suite 101, Redondo Beach, CA 90277

IMPORTANT: The contents of this email and any attachments may contain information that is confidential or privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, do not read, copy or distribute the email or any attachments. Instead, please notify the sender and delete the email and any attachments. Emails exchanged in response to an online or telephonic request for services do not constitute an attorney-client relationship. An attorney-client relationship is created by executing a written retainer agreement. Responding to inquiries is for purposes of case evaluation, and there is no agreement to accept any case or any client unless and until a written retainer agreement has been agreed to and signed by both parties.

From: Hao Li <hao@hao-li.com>

Sent: Friday, March 25, 2022 3:56 PM

To: Benjamin Davidson <bdavidson@bendavidsonlaw.com>; Griff Towle <GTOWLE@bzbm.com>; Jeff Ames <jeff@ameskaranjia.com>; Leonard Grayver <leonard@grayverlaw.com>; Frances Chen <frances@pinscreen.com>

Subject: Fwd: Your Article Related to USC Investigation Report on Hao Li and Pinscreen

goodness it never ends.

Iman just created a fake account and is reaching out to all the news people.

is there anything we can do?

don't tell me the law allows an idiot to go around like that?

Hao

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kung Zhou <kungzhou@protonmail.com>

Subject: Your Article Related to USC Investigation Report on Hao Li and Pinscreen

Date: March 25, 2022 at 3:51:43 PM PDT

To: "david.pierson@latimes.com" <david.pierson@latimes.com>, "kquach@theregister.com" <kquach@theregister.com>, "csfrance@usc.edu" <csfrance@usc.edu>, "bellanto@usc.edu" <bellanto@usc.edu>, "hahmd@usc.edu" <hahmd@usc.edu>, "nvenkat@usc.edu" <nvenkat@usc.edu>, "cwilliams@theregister.com" <cwilliams@theregister.com>, "nicole.hemsoth@theregister.com" <nicole.hemsoth@theregister.com>, "ithomson@theregister.com" <ithomson@theregister.com>, "tclaburn@theregister.com" <tclaburn@theregister.com>, "brandon.vigliarolo@theregister.com" <brandon.vigliarolo@theregister.com>, "ben.muessig@latimes.com" <ben.muessig@latimes.com>, "tips@latimes.com" <tips@latimes.com>, "brian.contreras@latimes.com" <brian.contreras@latimes.com>, "sam.dean@latimes.com" <sam.dean@latimes.com>, "iman@sadeghi.com" <iman@sadeghi.com>, "sadeghi@gmail.com" <sadeghi@gmail.com>, "hao@hao-li.com" <hao@hao-li.com>, "hao@pinscreen.com" <hao@pinscreen.com>, "info@pinscreen.com" <info@pinscreen.com>

Cc: "kungzhou@protonmail.com" <kungzhou@protonmail.com>

Reply-To: Kung Zhou <kungzhou@protonmail.com>

Hello madams/sirs.

In connection your articles listed below as coverage of lawsuit between Dr. Hao Li and Dr. Iman Sadehi would you please have done due diligence about USC investigation report of Dr. Hao Li's fraud and misrepresentations.

USC Office of Research Integrity Investigation Report re Hao Li and Pinscreen's Scientific Misconduct at ACM SIGGRAPH RTL2017:

- <https://www.dropbox.com/s/9429z0rx1em0au2>
- https://medium.com/@USC_Report_re_Hao_Li_Pinscreen/ff875060d01e

Article on LA Times by David Pierson:

- <https://www.latimes.com/business/technology/la-fi-pinscreen-lawsuit-20180620-story.html>

Article on The Register by Katyanna Quach:

- https://www.theregister.com/2018/07/18/pinscreen_fraud_claims/

Article on USC Annenberg Media by Chandler France:

- <https://www.uscannenbergmedia.com/2018/10/30/viterbi-professor-embattled-in-lawsuit-with-his-former-employee/>

Dr. Hao Li and Pinscreen website:

- <https://www.hao-li.com>
- <http://www.pinscreen.com>

Thank you very much and your time and attention. Appreciated.

--

Kung Zhou

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adam@fernaldlawgroup.com
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Telephone: (323) 410-0320
Facsimile: (323) 410-0330

March 28, 2022

BY EMAIL

Benjamin Davidson, Esq.
Law Offices of Benjamin Davidson, P.C.
8383 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 830
Beverly Hills, California 90211
bdavidson@bendavidsonlaw.com

Re: Response to Cease and Desist Letter

Dear Mr. Davidson:

I am in receipt of your letter of March 25, 2022 regarding the public disclosure of the USC Investigation Report concerning Dr. Hao Li and Pinscreen's scientific misconduct during ACM SIGGRAPH 2017 Real-Time Live through an email by someone named Kung Zhou kungzhou@protonmail.com to the press and throughout the internet on https://medium.com/@USC_Report_re_Hao_Li_Pinscreen/ff875060d01e and other places including but not limited to:

- <https://www.dropbox.com/s/9429z0rx1em0au2>
- <https://www.dropbox.com/s/o22lb68vomzzbkf>
- <https://filelink.org/fS497IOJoaVpMrF>
- https://pdfhost.io/v/n9GuGETbV_
- <https://filepost.io/d/zgKt8aABqs>
- <https://filepost.io/d/Njovg13tif>

I categorically reject your baseless accusations.

Your cease and desist letter is directed at the wrong party. We have fully complied and continue to comply with the February 3, 2021 Stipulation and the March 11, 2020 Protective Order and are not connected to this public disclosure. If you have any evidence in support of your allegations that the documents somehow came from my office, please bring it to my attention immediately.

Benjamin Davidson, Esq.
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As a reminder, it is you and Pinscreen who exposed the USC Investigation Report by filing portions of it directly into the public record on July 20, 2021. If you recall, it was your actions and public disclosure that caused the Court to deny Pinscreen's Motion to Seal the USC documents on September 17, 2021, as well as the subsequent *ex parte* application seeking the same relief on September 29, 2021.

Besides, although the USC Investigation Report that is now publicly available online contains the same information as the documents obtained from USC through the subpoena, it does not contain any confidentiality designations and the published PDF file is not password protected (which is the version sent to my office). Therefore, the **only** potential source of these documents is actually your office.

Given that your laptop was stolen around the time the USC documents were produced, that would be the most likely source of this public exposure and you would be responsible for any and all resulting damages to your clients and their reputation (if any as everything in the report is true). Please see the attached email correspondence dated March 12, 2021 appended hereto confirming that your car was broken into and your laptop was stolen.

Lastly, the February 3, 2021 Stipulation specifically holds that "the designation of these USC subpoena produced documents will have no bearing on the confidentiality designation or lack thereof of any duplicative documents Plaintiff already had or obtains outside of the USC subpoena." Therefore, the now public USC Investigation Report documents circulating on the internet and referenced in your letter are outside the scope of the Stipulation in any event.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam P. Zaffos', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Adam P. Zaffos, Esq.

cc:

Brandon Fernald, Esq. brandon@fernaldlawgroup.com

Clay Wilkinson, Esq. clay@fernaldlawgroup.com

Sasha Brower, Esq. sasha@fernaldlawgroup.com

Griffith Towle, Esq. gtowle@bzbm.com

Ronnie Shou, Esq. rshou@bzbm.com

Leonard Grayver, Esq. leonard@grayverlaw.com

EXHIBIT A

Pinscreen--various issues

From: bdauidson bendavidsonlaw.com <bdauidson@bendavidsonlaw.com>
Sent: Friday, March 12, 2021 4:22 PM
To: Adam Zaffos <adam@fernaldlawgroup.com>
Subject: RE: Pinscreen--various issues

Thanks Adam.

I confirm the below. Just as to #4, it would be the special interrogatories that I expect we will revise. I think that the RFA and RFP responses should be fine

From: Adam Zaffos <adam@fernaldlawgroup.com>
Sent: Friday, March 12, 2021 4:15 PM
To: bdauidson bendavidsonlaw.com <bdauidson@bendavidsonlaw.com>
Subject: Pinscreen--various issues

Ben,

Nice speaking with you. This will confirm the following:

- (1) Second deposition session of Dr Sadeghi still on for March 16;
- (2) IME still on schedule for March 29 and 30;
- (3) MTC deadline for Plaintiff's FROGs extended to April 9;
- (4) Defendant to provide revised versions of discovery responses provided on March 8 and include verifications; and
- (5) Defendant to provide verifications for Pinscreen's responses to Requests for Admission, Sets 3, 4 and Requests for Production, Sets 3, 4, or 5 (I think that is all of them).

Please confirm.

And sorry about your car being broken into and your laptop being stolen. Sucks.

Regards,
Adam

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Telephone: (323) 410-0320
Facsimile: (323) 410-0330

May 11, 2022

BY EMAIL

Benjamin Davidson
Law Offices of Benjamin Davidson, P.C.
8383 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 830
Beverly Hills, California 90211
bdavidson@bendavidsonlaw.com

Re: Response to 5/2 Cease and Desist Email

Dear Mr. Davidson:

There is nothing more left to discuss. And frankly, I'm tired of your baseless allegations.

In response to your initial 3/25 letter, I responded on 3/28 and demanded "If you have any evidence in support of your allegations that the documents somehow came from my office, please bring it to my attention immediately." It took you more than a month to respond and you still fail to present any evidence in support of your meritless accusations.

Notably, you still fail to address the points I made in my letter indicating that the most likely source of these documents is your stolen laptop. Given that the USC documents, which are now available on the internet, lack the confidentiality designation and password protection of the version sent to my office, and the fact that your laptop was stolen around the time the USC documents were produced, the only possible source is your office, not mine. Moreover, it appears the version on the internet is text searchable and of higher quality than the one sent to me—further confirming the same.

Your mere speculation that "Dr. Sadeghi is the only person who would have any interest or motive in making these documents public" is simply not credible since the USC Investigation Report, outlining Dr. Li's scientific misconduct among other things, has been viewed more than twelve thousand times on PDFHost website alone.¹

¹ <https://pdfhost.io/search?text=USC+Report>

Benjamin Davidson
Page 2

Our experts have signed the protective order and have fully abided by its terms. As to the GitLab production, there was nothing improper except your client's attempt to destroy the evidence just as it did with Dr. Sadeghi's Google workspace emails. As to Dr. Tangen's deposition, Dr. Sadeghi was referring to your improper designation of questions that he had already seen and responded to during the IME sessions. Also, the evaluations were sent directly to our expert and not to my office in any event. So your speculative musings that Dr. Sadeghi was shown "Attorney's Eyes Only" documents is just that—false speculation.

I take my confidentiality obligations very seriously. If you have any proof beyond rank speculation that the public USC documents somehow came from my office—share it immediately, otherwise please knock this off.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam Zaffos', written over a horizontal line.

Adam Zaffos, Esq.

cc:
Brandon Fernald, Esq. brandon@fernaldlawgroup.com
Clay Wilkinson, Esq. clay@fernaldlawgroup.com
Sasha Brower, Esq. sasha@fernaldlawgroup.com

Griffith Towle, Esq. gtowle@bzbm.com
Ronnie Shou, Esq. rshou@bzbm.com
Leonard Grayver, Esq. leonard@grayverlaw.com