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19 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
20 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

21 ROBERT HUNTER BIDEN,
22 Plaintiff,

23 vs.

24 GARRETT ZIEGLER, an individual,
ICU, LLC, a Wyoming limited liability
25 company d/b/a Marco Polo, and DOES 1
through 10, inclusive,
26 Defendants.

Case No. 2:23-cv-07593-HVD-KS
Honorable Hernan D. Vera

**PLAINTIFF’S NOTICE OF MOTION AND
MOTION FOR ATTORNEY’S FEES INCURRED IN
OPPOSITION TO ANTI-SLAPP MOTION;
MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES**

*[Filed concurrently with Declaration of Gregory A. Ellis
and [Proposed] Order]*

Hearing Date: August 22, 2024
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Courtroom: 5B

NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION

TO THE COURT, ALL PARTIES, AND COUNSEL OF RECORD FOR ALL PARTIES:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on August 22, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, in Courtroom 5B of this Court, located at 350 W. First Street, 5th Floor, Los Angeles, California, 90012, plaintiff Robert Hunter Biden (“Plaintiff”) will and hereby does move this Court for an order awarding him his attorney’s fees in the amount of \$17,929.40 pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure Section 425.16, subdivision (c) and the Court’s Order of June 20, 2024 denying Defendants’ motion to dismiss and to strike (“Defendants’ Motion”). This motion is brought on the ground that the portion of Defendants’ Motion seeking to strike Plaintiff’s claims pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 425.16 was frivolous, and that \$17,929.40 represents a reasonable fee incurred by Plaintiff to defeat the arguments raised in conjunction with the motion to strike.

This motion is based on this Notice of Motion and Motion; the attached Memorandum of Points and Authorities; the declaration of Gregory A. Ellis filed concurrently herewith; the record in this action; and any additional arguments that may be asserted in subsequent briefing of this motion.

This motion is made following the conference of counsel pursuant to L.R. 7-3 which took place on June 28, 2024.

Dated: July 5, 2024

WINSTON & STRAWN LLP

By: /s/ Gregory A. Ellis
Abbe David Lowell
Paul B. Salvaty
Gregory A. Ellis
Attorneys for Plaintiff
ROBERT HUNTER BIDEN

1 **I. INTRODUCTION**

2 Plaintiff Robert Hunter Biden (“Plaintiff”)’s complaint makes clear from the first paragraph that
3 Plaintiff sued Defendants for illegally accessing and manipulating data, *not* for any speech-related
4 activities either pertaining to that data or otherwise. (Compl. ¶ 1 (“While Defendant Ziegler is entitled
5 to his extremist and counterfactual opinions, he has no right to engage in illegal activities to advance his
6 right-wing agenda.”).) Nevertheless, Defendants responded to the complaint by filing a frivolous anti-
7 SLAPP motion to strike along with their Rule 12 motion to dismiss.

8 In their moving papers, Defendants ignored the plain language of the complaint, insisting in the
9 first sentence of their brief that Plaintiff filed this action “in retaliation for publishing information, media
10 and emails originating from the files of the infamous ‘Biden Laptop’.” *See* Dkt. No. 23 at 1.
11 Defendants also argued that Plaintiffs’ entire lawsuit, including Plaintiff’s federal claim for violation of
12 the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (“CFAA”) “is, quintessentially, a SLAPP action.” *Id.* at 19. Even
13 after Plaintiff identified controlling case law showing the anti-SLAPP statute does not apply to federal
14 claims, Defendants continued to pursue their anti-SLAPP motion as to all causes of action, including the
15 CFAA claim, forcing Plaintiff to waste time and resources addressing anti-SLAPP arguments that were
16 completely baseless. Dkt No. 32 at 1, 9-10.

17 Because Defendants’ anti-SLAPP arguments were contrary both to the allegations of Plaintiff’s
18 complaint and settled Ninth Circuit law, the Court should find their anti-SLAPP motion to be “frivolous
19 and/or “solely intended to cause unnecessary delay.” *See* Cal. Civ. Proc. Code § 425.16(c)(1). By filing
20 and continuing to pursue a groundless anti-SLAPP motion to the bitter end, Defendants forced Plaintiff
21 to incur attorneys’ fees in the amount of \$17,929.40. Accordingly, Plaintiff respectfully requests an
22 award of attorneys’ fees against Defendants in that amount.

23 **II. STATEMENT OF FACTS**

24 On September 13, 2023, Plaintiff filed his complaint, seeking damages against Defendants for
25 violations of the federal CFAA, the California Computer Data Access and Fraud Act (“CCDAFA”); and
26 California’s Unfair Competition Law (“UCL”). (Dkt. No. 1.) As noted above, Plaintiff made clear at
27 the outset that he did not challenge Defendants’ free speech activities, but rather based his complaint on
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1 his allegations that “Defendants have accessed, tampered with, manipulated, damaged and copied” his
2 data without consent. (*Id.* ¶ 27; *see also id.* ¶¶ 1, 15-30.)

3 Notwithstanding the express, unqualified and unambiguous allegations in the complaint making
4 clear this case is not about free speech, Defendants filed a motion to strike Plaintiff’s complaint under
5 California’s anti-SLAPP statute, Cal. Civ. Proc. Code § 425.16. (Dkt. No. 23 at 19-23.) Defendants’
6 anti-SLAPP arguments did not meaningfully address Plaintiff’s allegations of unlawful data access.
7 And Defendants did not acknowledge the allegations making clear that Plaintiff’s claims arose from
8 Defendants’ unlawful data access, not from any speech about Plaintiff or his family. For the most part,
9 Defendants spent their anti-SLAPP arguments mischaracterizing Plaintiff’s lawsuit as an illegitimate
10 attack on the free press and arguing at length that their website is a “public forum” that addresses “issues
11 of public interest” because Plaintiff’s father is the President of the United States. (*Id.*)

12 Plaintiff opposed Defendants’ anti-SLAPP arguments on multiple grounds, including responding
13 to Defendants’ many baseless claims. (Dkt. No. 30.) Plaintiff pointed out that, under settled Ninth
14 Circuit precedent, California’s anti-SLAPP statute does not apply to federal claims as a matter of law.
15 (*Id.* at 23, citing *Hilton v. Hallmark Cards*, 599 F.3d 894, 901 (9th Cir. 2010).) Therefore, to the extent
16 Defendants’ motion sought dismissal of the CFAA claim on anti-SLAPP grounds, it was dead on arrival.
17 Plaintiff also showed that his state law claims under the CCDAFA and UCL could not possibly “arise
18 from” protected First Amendment activity because Plaintiff’s claims were explicitly not “based on”
19 Defendants’ speech. As Plaintiff explained,

20 Plaintiff did not sue Defendants for creating a website, for publishing their “Report,” or
21 for any of the many false, defamatory, and malicious statements they have made about
22 Plaintiff over the past two-plus years. Plaintiff carefully pleaded his claims to ensure that
23 they are based solely on Defendants’ “accessing, tampering with, manipulating, altering,
copying and damaging” of Plaintiff’s computer data,” and not on Defendants’ free
speech.

24 (*Id.* 24:7-12.)

25 On reply, Defendants pretended that Plaintiff had not addressed their anti-SLAPP arguments at
26 all. They simply insisted again that “Plaintiff’s lawsuit is a quintessential SLAPP action” and that
27 Plaintiff’s entire lawsuit is “subject to dismissal” under the anti-SLAPP statute because “Defendants’
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1 investigatory reporting was in furtherance of matters of significant public interest.” *See* Dkt. No. 32 at
2 1. Defendants never acknowledged that Plaintiff did not sue them for speech-related activity; never
3 admitted that their anti-SLAPP arguments were inapplicable to the CFAA claim; and never conceded
4 that their request for dismissal of the entire lawsuit was inconsistent with Ninth Circuit law. Although
5 they attempted to distinguish some of Plaintiff’s anti-SLAPP authorities, they made no mention of the
6 *Hilton* case, which was directly on point and precluded a central aspect of their anti-SLAPP argument.

7 Hearing on the motion took place on May 16, 2024. (Declaration of Gregory A. Ellis, ¶ 10.) At
8 the hearing, Defendants’ counsel did not address the anti-SLAPP issues at all. (*Id.*)

9 On June 20, 2024, the Court denied Defendants’ motion to dismiss in its entirety, including anti-
10 SLAPP grounds. (Dkt. No. 50.) Citing *Hilton*, the Court noted that “the anti-SLAPP statute does not
11 apply to federal claims,” and thus Defendants had no basis for seeking to dismiss Plaintiff’s CFAA
12 claim under the anti-SLAPP statute. (*Id.* at 17:4-6.) The Court further held that Defendants failed to
13 show that Plaintiff’s claims “arise from” protected conduct because the case arises from Defendants’
14 alleged data manipulation, not from the creation of a website. Because “the gravamen of the lawsuit is
15 not predicated on protected speech and certainly does not arise from or rely on Defendants’ free speech,
16 the Court concluded, “*The anti-SLAPP statute simply does not apply.*” (*Id.* at 18:5-7, emphasis added.)

17 **III. ARGUMENT**

18 **A. Defendants’ Anti-SLAPP Motion Was Frivolous.**

19 Under California’s anti-SLAPP statute, a plaintiff may recover its costs and reasonable
20 attorney’s fees “[i]f the court finds that a special motion to strike is frivolous or solely intended to cause
21 unnecessary delay.” Cal. Civ. Proc. Code § 425.16(c)(1). The fee-shifting provision of Section
22 425.16(c) applies in federal court. *See, e.g., Salveson v. Kessler*, 2023 WL 9687873, at *1-2 (C.D. Cal.
23 Oct. 25, 2023) (granting plaintiff’s motion for attorney’s fees); *Kearney v. Foley and Lardner*, 553 F.
24 Supp. 2d 1178, 1182 (S.D. Cal. 2008) (“The fee provision of the anti-SLAPP statute is applied in federal
25 court.”). “The award of attorney’s fees to a plaintiff who prevails against a frivolous anti-SLAPP
26 motion is *mandatory.*” *Salveson*, 2023 WL 9687873, at *2 (emphasis in original, quoting Cal. Civ. Prac.
27 Civil Rights Litigation § 14.40.) A determination of frivolousness requires a showing that the anti-
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1 SLAPP motion was “totally and completely without merit,” *i.e.* “that any reasonable attorney would
2 agree such motion is totally devoid of merit.” *Moore v. Shaw*, 116 Cal. App. 4th 182, 199 (2004)
3 (emphasis removed).

4 Here, Defendants’ anti-SLAPP motion was frivolous. *First*, a simple reading of the complaint
5 makes clear that it does not implicate the anti-SLAPP statute. The very first paragraph notes that
6 Plaintiff is not suing Defendants for their free speech activities. The body of the complaint likewise
7 focuses solely on Defendants’ illegal access of Plaintiff’s data, and the complaint does not base any
8 aspect of any cause of action on Defendants’ protected expressive conduct.

9 *Second*, Defendants sought to strike Plaintiff’s federal claim under the CFAA, even though on-
10 point law plainly states that an anti-SLAPP motion cannot be raised against a federal claim. *See Hilton*,
11 599 F.3d at 901.¹ Even rudimentary research would have revealed this point to Defendants, but they
12 plowed forward with their anti-SLAPP motion anyway, even after Plaintiff brought their omissions to
13 their attention. At least one court has held that bringing an anti-SLAPP against a federal claim is itself
14 sufficient to render the motion frivolous and sanctionable. *See Kailikole v. Palomar Community College*
15 *Dist.*, 2020 WL 6203097 (S.D. Cal. Oct. 22, 2020) (granting fee award pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1927 for
16 failed anti-SLAPP motion). There, the court concluded that, “[g]iven the clarity of the law on this issue,
17 the Court finds that the anti-SLAPP motion against Plaintiff’s federal claims was ‘entirely without
18 merit,’ and that its result was ‘obvious.’” *Id.* at *2. Moreover, the court noted that “a reasonable
19 attorney performing legal research would have readily discovered case law unequivocally contrary to
20 Defendant’s anti-SLAPP arguments on the federal claims,” and that as a result, “Defendant ‘recklessly
21 raised a frivolous argument.’” *Id.* at *3 (quoting *In re Keegan Mgmt. Co. Sec. Litig.*, 78 F.3d 431, 436
22 (9th Cir. 1996).) The same is true here, particularly because neither the federal claim nor any of the
23 state claims had anything to do with Defendants’ free speech.

24 *Third*, as the Court noted, even as to the state law claims, Defendants failed even to meet their
25 initial burden on the first anti-SLAPP prong to show that the claims arose out of protected conduct.

26 _____
27 ¹ Notably, it is unnecessary for published authority to establish that a motion is devoid of merit for an anti-
28 SLAPP motion to be frivolous. *See City of Rocklin v. Legacy Family Adventures – Rocklin LLC*, 86 Cal.
App. 5th 713, 726 n.5 (2022). *Hilton*, however, is published authority rendering Defendants’ attempt to
strike the CFAA claim devoid of merit.

1 (Dkt. 50 at 17-18.) The *Moore* court focused heavily on the defendant’s inability to meet her prong one
2 burden when holding that her anti-SLAPP motion was frivolous and warranted an award of attorney’s
3 fees. *See* 116 Cal. App. 4th at 199-200; *see id.* at 200 (“Because [defendant]’s underlying conduct
4 clearly did not constitute an act in furtherance of the right to petition or free speech in connection with a
5 public issue, as those terms are defined in section 425.16, any reasonable attorney would agree that an
6 anti-SLAPP motion did not lie under these circumstances and that the instant motion was totally devoid
7 of merit.”). *See also Olive Properties, L.P. v. Coolwaters Enterprises, Inc.*, 241 Cal. App. 4th 1169,
8 1175-1177 (2015) (affirming award of attorney’s fees where defendant failed to meet burden on first
9 prong of anti-SLAPP analysis).

10 *Fourth*, the frivolity of Defendants’ anti-SLAPP motion is evidenced by the ease in which the
11 Court disposed of it. The Court needed barely over a page in its June 20 Order to reject the anti-SLAPP
12 arguments. (Dkt. 50 at 17:2-18:11.) Nearly half of the Court’s discussion was its recitation of the legal
13 standards governing the first prong of the anti-SLAPP analysis. (*Id.* at 17:7-22.) Other courts have
14 noted that their ability to deny an anti-SLAPP motion with a similarly “short analysis” supported their
15 conclusions that the motions were frivolous. *See Salveson*, 2023 WL 9687873, at *3 (noting that court’s
16 ability to dispose of motion in a “twenty-two line analysis” supported finding of frivolity; citing
17 *Peterson v. Sutter Med. Found.*, 2023 WL 5181634, at *4 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 10, 2023) (disposing of
18 motion in three pages of order demonstrated that the underlying motion was “legally flimsy.”).)

19 *Finally*, the frivolity of Defendants’ conduct is evidenced by Defendants’ persistence in pursuing
20 their anti-SLAPP arguments, even after they were shown to be baseless. In their reply brief, Defendants
21 completely ignored Plaintiff’s arguments against application of the anti-SLAPP statute, choosing instead
22 simply to repeat the exact same arguments presented in their opening papers. Defendants also ignored
23 the controlling caselaw cited by Plaintiff demonstrating that their position, at least with respect to the
24 CFAA claim, was groundless. Even at the argument, Defendants refused to withdraw or abandon their
25 anti-SLAPP arguments and opted instead simply to remain silent. Their stubbornness created
26 unnecessary work for Plaintiff and for the Court as well.

1 **B. Plaintiff’s Fees Incurred to Oppose the Motion Are Reasonable.**

2 Fees under California’s anti-SLAPP statute are calculated using the lodestar approach, in which
3 the court begins by “multiplying the number of hours reasonably spent on the litigation by a reasonable
4 hourly rate.” *Minichino v. First California Realty*, 2012 WL 6554401, at *3 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 14, 2012)
5 (quoting *McCown v. City of Fontana*, 565 F.3d 1097, 1102 (9th Cir. 2009).) The lodestar may be
6 adjusted based on case-specific considerations, such as the nature of the litigation, its difficulty, the
7 amount involved, the skill required in its handling, the skill employed, the attention given, the success or
8 failure, and other circumstances in the case. *Id.* (citing *PLCM Group v. Drexler*, 22 Cal. 4th 1084, 1096
9 (2000); *see also Pasadena Tournament of Roses Ass’n v. City of Pasadena*, 2022 WL 2189523, at *6
10 (C.D. Cal. March 17, 2022) (same). The fees awarded in connection with an anti-SLAPP motion
11 include the amounts incurred in connection with the fee motion itself. *See, e.g., Mireskandari v. Daily*
12 *Mail and General Trust PLC*, at *4 (“The fees awarded should encompass all proceedings directly
13 related to defendants’ special motion to strike, including those hours expended in obtaining fees”)
14 (citing multiple authorities in support).

15 Here, Plaintiff seeks \$17,929.40, representing 13.28 hours at billing rates of \$1,480.00 and
16 \$1,135.00 per hour, as discussed in more detail below. (Ellis Decl. ¶ 9; *see id.* ¶¶ 10-14.)

17 **1. The Requested Rates Are Reasonable.**

18 To determine the reasonableness of rates charged in the lodestar analysis, courts look to
19 “prevailing market rates in the relevant community,” which generally “is the forum in which the district
20 court sits.” *Yuga Labs, Inc. v. Ripps*, 2024 WL 489248, at *1 (C.D. Cal. Jan. 11, 2024). “A billing rate
21 that is the usual rate an attorney charge for his or her services is evidence that the rate approximates the
22 market rate.” *Id.* at *2. “Affidavits of the plaintiffs’ attorney and other attorneys regarding prevailing
23 fees in the community, and rate determinations in other cases, particularly those setting a rate for the
24 plaintiffs’ attorney, are satisfactory evidence of the prevailing market rate.” *Alghanim v. Alghanim*,
25 2024 WL 3055692, at *1 (C.D. Cal. May 8, 2024).

26 Here, Plaintiff’s legal team at Winston & Strawn responsible for opposing Defendants’ anti-
27 SLAPP arguments consisted of several highly skilled attorneys: partners Abbe Lowell and Paul Salvaty;

1 of counsel Gregory Ellis; and associate Lara Markarian. (Ellis Decl. ¶ 4.) Mr. Lowell has been
2 recognized for decades as one of the nation’s foremost white collar and criminal defense attorneys, and
3 among other accolades, was recently named as one of the “Top 200 Lawyers in America” by *Forbes*.
4 (*Id.* & Ex. A.) Mr. Salvaty has over 30 years of experience and success litigating complex commercial
5 cases in the Los Angeles area in a broad range of contexts and was named the 2021 “Litigation Lawyer
6 of the Year” by the Century City Bar Association. (*Id.* ¶¶ 5-6 & Ex. A.) Mr. Ellis has nearly 25 years
7 of experience litigating complex commercial actions, from the pleading stage through trial and appeal.
8 (*Id.* ¶ 3 & Ex. A.) Ms. Markarian is a skilled litigator with experience in both the complex commercial
9 litigation and white collar contexts. (*Id.* ¶ 7 & Ex. A.) Here, Plaintiff only seeks to recover fees
10 incurred by Mr. Salvaty and Mr. Ellis, as they had primary responsibility for addressing the anti-SLAPP
11 arguments in Defendants’ motion and for preparing the present fee motion. (*Id.* ¶ 9.) Both Mr. Salvaty
12 and Mr. Ellis have extensive experience litigating and winning anti-SLAPP motions. (*Id.* ¶¶ 3, 6.) In
13 the present case, Messrs. Salvaty and Ellis’ hourly rates are \$1,480.00 and \$1,135.00, respectively. (*Id.*
14 ¶ 13.)

15 *Yuga Labs* is particularly useful in establishing that counsel’s rates in this case are reasonable.
16 There, retired District Judge Margaret Morrow, serving as special master, concluded that a large law
17 firm’s hourly rates for 2022 and 2023, ranging up to \$1,410 for the lead partner on the matter, were
18 reasonable in the Central District. 2024 WL 489248, at *3-4. Notably, Judge Morrow approved a 2022
19 billing rate identical to Mr. Ellis’ current rate for an attorney with the same title but less experience. *Id.*
20 at *3 & n.6 (rate of \$1,135 for counsel with “17+” years of experience reasonable). Judge Morrow also
21 cited multiple recent attorney’s fee cases in the Central District, which ruled that rates of up to \$1,600
22 per hour could be reasonable. *Id.* at *3 (citing multiple cases). And Judge Morrow cited news reports
23 and other literature on the billing rates of large law firms, which demonstrated that in many firms,
24 associates with three to five years’ experience bill at rates at or near \$1,000 per hour, further
25 demonstrating the reasonableness of Messrs. Salvaty and Ellis’ rates. *Id.* at *4 & n.10. Additional cases
26 in the Central District, not relied on by *Yuga Labs*, further evidence that the rates of Plaintiff’s counsel
27 here are reasonable. *See, e.g., Zelaya v. City of Los Angeles*, 2024 WL 3183882, at *3 (C.D. Cal. June
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1 25, 2024) (finding \$1,300 hourly rate for plaintiff's civil rights litigator appropriate given his
 2 experience, skill and reputation); *Alghanim*, 2024 WL 3055692, at *2 (finding requested large law firm
 3 rates of up to \$1,270 per hour to be reasonable); *N.T.A.A., Inc. v. Nordstrom, Inc.*, 2024 WL 1723524, at
 4 *4 (C.D. Cal. April 19, 2024) (finding requested large law firm rates of up to \$1,364.70 per hour to be
 5 reasonable).

6 **2. The Requested Number of Hours is Reasonable.**

7 Here, Plaintiff seeks reimbursement for only 13.28 hours, consisting of: (a) 8.28 hours in
 8 opposing the anti-SLAPP arguments in Defendants' motion to dismiss and to prepare for hearing with
 9 respect to the anti-SLAPP arguments; and (b) 5 hours in preparing the present motion. Plaintiff arrived
 10 at these figures as follows.

11 First, Messrs. Salvaty and Ellis divided their work in opposing Defendants' motion to dismiss,
 12 with Mr. Salvaty primarily addressing the Rule 12(b)(1), 12(b)(6) and anti-SLAPP arguments (and the
 13 background sections), and Mr. Ellis focusing primarily on Defendants' personal jurisdiction and venue
 14 arguments. Accordingly, Plaintiff reviewed the relevant billing records in this matter and included only
 15 Mr. Salvaty's time working on the opposition and preparing for hearing – or 52.4 hours – as a baseline
 16 for its present attorney fee request. (Ellis Decl. ¶ 10.)² To be conservative, Plaintiff excluded from
 17 consideration all time spent on the motion by Mr. Lowell, Mr. Ellis and Ms. Markarian.

18 Next, to isolate the time Mr. Salvaty devoted to the anti-SLAPP issues, Plaintiff applied a
 19 discount ratio that the *Kailikole* court derived in awarding fees incurred to oppose a frivolous anti-
 20 SLAPP motion. There, the two attorneys who opposed the motion both worked on the anti-SLAPP
 21 issues. The court applied a discount based on the number of pages the plaintiff used to address the
 22 frivolous anti-SLAPP arguments. *See* 2020 WL 6203097, at *4. There, the plaintiffs devoted three and
 23 a half pages to the frivolous arguments out of twenty-five total pages, so the court awarded 14% (or
 24 3.5/25) of the fees incurred on the motion. *Id.* Here, Mr. Salvaty spent three pages in the opposition
 25

26 ² Courts evaluating anti-SLAPP fee awards have noted that “[i]t is not necessary to provide detailed billing
 27 timesheets to support an award of attorney fees under the lodestar method.” *Youngevity International v.*
 28 *Smith*, 2020 WL 7048672, at *3 (S.D. Cal. Oct. 7, 2020) (quoting *Concepcion v. Amscan Holdings, Inc.*,
 223 Cal. App. 4th 1309, 1324 (2014)); *see also Lunada Biomedical v. Nunez*, 230 Cal. App. 4th 459, 487-
 88 (2014).

1 addressing Plaintiff’s anti-SLAPP arguments (*see* Dkt. 30 at 23:1-25:22), out of nineteen total pages in
2 the opposition he prepared. (*See id.* 1:1-9:9, 15:13-25:22). Applying the *Kailikole* formula to Mr.
3 Salvaty’s time results in a percentage of 15.8 – or 8.28 hours. (Ellis Decl. ¶ 11.)

4 Finally, Mr. Ellis incurred more than five hours in drafting the present motion for fees. (Ellis
5 Decl. ¶ 12.) Mr. Salvaty’s fees thus are \$12,254.40 (8.28 hours x \$1,480.00/hour), and Mr. Ellis’ fees
6 are \$5,675 (5 hours x \$1,135.00/hour), for a total of \$17,929.40. (*Id.* ¶ 14.)

7 The hours here are far fewer than other cases in which courts in the Central District have
8 awarded attorney’s fees in the anti-SLAPP context. *See, e.g., Salvesson*, 2023 WL 9687873, at *5
9 (awarding fees for 106.15 billable hours); *Woulfe v. Universal City Studios LLC*, 2024 WL 1110914, at
10 *9 n.5 (C.D. Cal. Feb. 8, 2024) (collecting cases, noting awards compensating counsel for ranges
11 between 90.1 hours and 384.28 hours to be reasonable).

12 Finally, the lodestar adjustment factors support the requested fee here. Plaintiff obtained a
13 complete victory over Defendants on their anti-SLAPP motion, as well as all other arguments on their
14 motion to dismiss, and reflected a high level of skill in doing so. That said, Plaintiff does not seek to
15 inflate its award, but simply to obtain a conservative calculation of the amount he is due under the law –
16 a reasonable amount that reflects the expenses necessary to defeat Defendants’ frivolous anti-SLAPP
17 arguments.

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