#### THE HONORABLE LAUREN KING

1 2

3

5

4

6

7

8 9

10

11

12

13

14 15

16

17

19

20

18

21

22

23 24

25

26 27

28

SUPPLEMENTAL BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF REQUEST FOR ENTRY OF DEFAULT Case No.2:24-CV-00960-LK

NINTENDO OF AMERICA INC., a

Plaintiff,

JAMES C. WILLIAMS a/k/a ARCHBOX, an

Defendant.

Washington Corporation,

v.

individual,

CASE NO. 2:24-CV-00960-LK

PLAINTIFF'S SUPPLEMENTAL BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF REQUEST FOR **CLERK'S ENTRY OF DEFAULT** 

Nintendo of America Inc. ("Plaintiff" or "Nintendo") hereby submits this Supplemental Brief in response to this Court's October 24, 2024 Order Requesting Supplemental Briefing. Dkt. 14 (the "Order"). The Order follows Plaintiff's Proof of Service of summons on Defendant James C. Williams a/k/a Archbox ("Defendant") (Dkt. 9), Defendant's failure to appear in this action, and Plaintiff's Request for Clerk's Entry of Default (Dkt. 12, the "Request"). In support of Plaintiff's Request, Plaintiff submitted a declaration, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 55(a) and Local Civil Rule 55(a), demonstrating that Defendant was served in a manner authorized by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4. Dkt. 13. However, the Court requested supplemental briefing to confirm that the service address -i.e., 17557 West Villa Chula Lane -is Williams' "dwelling or usual place of abode." Order at 4.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE

LOWE GRAHAM JONES PLLO

1325 Fourth Avenue, Ste. 1130 Seattle, Washington 98101 206.381.3300 • F: 206.381.3301 As noted by the Court's Order, "[a]lthough a person can have more than one dwelling house or usual place of abode for purposes of Rule 4, a dwelling or usual place of abode must be a place where that person lives or resides." *Bank of N.Y. Mellon as Tr. for Reg. Holders of CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certs., Series 2005-13 v. Loyo-Morales*, No. 21-16041, 2022 WL 1616980, at \*2 (9th Cir. May 23, 2022). As detailed below, Plaintiff conducted a thorough investigation in advance of its Complaint both to identify Defendant and to determine that Defendant did live or reside at 17557 W Villa Chula Lane, Surprise, Arizona 85387 (the "Surprise Address"). Moreover, following the Court's Order, Plaintiff conducted additional research, both of public and internal information, to confirm that the Surprise Address was indeed Defendant's residence at the time of service.

# **Plaintiff's Pre-Complaint Investigation**

Prior to 2024, Plaintiff determined that the individual acting under the pseudonym "archbox" in connection with the Infringing Shops likely lived in or around Phoenix, Arizona. *See* Declaration of James Berkley ("Berkley Decl.") at ¶¶ 1-3 & Ex. 1. In or about February of 2024, Plaintiff succeeded at linking "archbox" with at least two Nintendo accounts for an individual named James Williams. Public records and Nintendo account information confirmed this individual as James Williams, residing at the Surprise Address. *See* Declaration of Ivan Avila Campillo ("IAC Decl.") at ¶¶ 1-3; *see also* Berkley Decl., ¶ 4.

### The March 26, 2024 Cease-and-Desist Letter and Follow-Up

On or about March 26, 2024, Plaintiff simultaneously sent Williams a cease and desist letter via email and by FedEx Priority Overnight shipping to the Surprise Address, with signature for delivery requested (the "March 26, 2024 C&D Letter"). Berkley Decl., ¶¶ 5-6 & Ex. 2. A FedEx proof of delivery, dated March 27, was signed for by "J. Williams." *Id.* On March 31, 2024, Defendant emailed Plaintiff's counsel, stating he was in receipt of the March 26, 2024 C&D Letter, claiming (with caveats) that he would "comply and cooperate with any demands or requests . . . within [his] control" but denying any infringement of Nintendo's intellectual property. Berkley Decl. ¶ 7 & Ex. 3.

Nintendo counsel thereafter engaged in an extended email exchange with Defendant regarding the infringing activities alleged in the Complaint. Berkley Decl.,  $\P$  8. This exchange took place between April 4, 2024 and May 10, 2024. However, Williams ultimately would not agree to cooperate or comply with Nintendo's demands. *Id*.

# **Confirmation Following the October 24, 2024 Order**

Following the Court's Order, Plaintiff conducted additional research to again confirm that Defendant does in fact currently reside at the Surprise Address, or at minimum did reside there at the time of service. Specifically, Plaintiff's counsel conducted a public record search on fastpeoplesearch.com, the results of which indicated that James C. Williams, aged 33, resided at the Surprise Address. Berkley Decl., ¶ 10 & Ex. 4. Counsel also obtained a report via Westlaw, the results of which indicated that through September of 2024, the last known address of James C. Williams, born in 1991, was the Surprise Address. *Id.*, ¶ 11 & Ex. 5. Plaintiff further confirmed the existence multiple repair orders, or partial orders, in Defendant Williams' name which listed his address as the Surprise Address, including a shipment to him at the Surprise Address as recently as March 25, 2024, two days prior to his receipt of the March 26, 2024 C&D Letter. IAC Decl., ¶ 4 & Ex. 1; *see also* Berkley Decl., ¶ 9. One of the accounts at issue used the same e-mail address to which the March 26, 2024 C&D Letter was sent (in addition to being signed for at the Surprise Address). *Id.* 

Plaintiff respectfully submits that it has conducted ample investigation supporting the fact that Defendant resides, or at the time of service did reside, at the Surprise Address. The foregoing sufficiently demonstrates that the Surprise Address is Defendants "dwelling or usual place of abode" for the purposes of Rule 4. *Compare Green Trading Co., LLC v. Shy*, No. 1:20-CV-01787-CL, 2021 WL 3135944 at \*4 (D. Or. June 16, 2021), *report and recommendation adopted*, No. 1:20-CV-01787-CL, 2021 WL 3131309 (D. Or. July 14, 2021) (finding plaintiff satisfied Rule 4(e)(2)(B) when counsel "stated on the record that she discovered the defendant's address using a Lexis Nex[i]s public records search, and she verified it by finding local news reports mentioning the defendant's business dealings in the Los Ang[e]les, California area").

# Case 2:24-cv-00960-LK Document 15 Filed 11/07/24 Page 4 of 4

The Court should find Nintendo has sufficiently demonstrated that Defendant resides at the 1 2 Surprise Address and direct the Clerk to enter default. 3 Dated: November 7, 2024 4 Mark P. Walters (Bar No. 30819) 5 LOWE GRAHAM JONES 1325 Fourth Avenue, Suite 1130 6 Seattle, WA 98101 7 Telephone: (206) 381-3300 Fax: (206) 381-3301 8 Email: walters@lowegrahamjones.com 9 Marc E. Mayer (pro hac vice) Mark C. Humphrey (pro hac vice) 10 MITCHELL SILBERBERG & KNUPP LLP 11 2049 Century Park East, 18th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90067 12 Telephone: (310) 312-3154 Email: marc.mayer@msk.com 13 mxh@msk.com 14 Attorneys for Plaintiff Nintendo of America Inc. 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

> 1325 Fourth Avenue, Ste. 1130 Seattle, Washington 98101

206.381.3300 • F: 206.381.3301

28