1	PETER C. LAGARIAS (SBN 77091)		
2	LAGARIAS LAW OFFICES 1629 Fifth Avenue		
3	San Rafael, California 94901-1828		
4	Telephone: (415) 460-0100 Facsimile: (415) 460-1099		
5	Attorneys for Defendant Sean Kelly		
6			
7			
8	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
9	COUNTY OF MENDOCINO		
10	MARK GOLOB,		
11	Plaintiff,) CASE NO. SUUK CV PO-1463543	
12	,	REPLY DECLARATION OF DEFENDANT SEAN KELLY IN	
13	V.	SUPPORT OF DEFENDANT'S SPECIAL MOTION TO STRIKE	
14	SEAN KELLY,		
15	Defendant.	Date: April 11, 2014 Time: 9:30 a.m. Dept.: E (Hon. Richard Henderson)	
16		Complaint Filed: Feb. 5, 2014	
17))	
18		anticonomica del transconomica del como de la como de la como del como del como del como del como del como del	
19	I, Sean Kelly, declare as follows:		
20			
21	1. I am a defendant in this action and	d I have personal knowledge of the facts and	
22	information set forth herein. If called as a witness I would testify as to the same.		
23	2. I have reviewed the Declaration of Mark Golob in Support of Opposition to Defendant's		
24	Special Motion to Strike dated March 24, 2014 and his memorandum in opposition. I reply to this		
25	declaration including statements and assertions not previously made by Mr. Golob.		
26	///		
27			
28	///		
20		1	
	Declaration of Sean Kelly	in Support of Special Motion to Strike	

<u>Misstatements by Mark Golob about the Golob Attorney Communications and My Responses</u>

- 3. Mr. Golob states in paragraph 3 of his declaration: "In 2008 Mr. Kelly first published the statement that I had a 'checkered past.' The statement was in an interview with Jeff Marks. The interview was embedded in Mr. Kelly's website in the body of his blog, and not as a headline." Mr. Golob next states in Paragraph 4 of the declaration: "In February 2011 I had my attorney write a demand letter to Mr. Sean Kelly. The letter requested that he take down the defamatory statements and all information pertaining to myself and my son."
- 4. Contrary to the above two juxtaposed statements of Mr. Golob, his attorney Scott Hammel, Esq. did not write to me about the posted statements regarding a "checkered past" and a "history of litigation" although those statements were both visible at the very front of the post. Instead in his February, 2011 letter, Scott Hammel objected to a comment that was posted by a blog visitor on the Jeff Marks Butterfly Life interview page, and that letter is attached as Exhibit H to my prior declaration dated March 13, 2014. The blog visitor's comment warned would-be investors and customers that Mr. Golob was actively involved in a new venture called Top Doc America. Attorney Scott Hammel's threats of legal action were predicated on "references to Top Doc America and its association with Mark Golob" and did not refer to the statements regarding Mr. Golob's "checkered past" or "history of litigation."
- 5. In Paragraph 5 of his Declaration, Mr. Golob states "On February 16, 2011 Mr. Kelly wrote my attorney back stating that he would take down the statement and related materials. Attached hereto as Exhibit 1 is a true and correct copy of Mr. Kelly's letter agreeing to take down the statement."
- 6. The sole subject addressed in my email included as Golob's Exhibit 1 is that of reader-generated comments regarding Mr. Golob's association with the company Top Doc America. There was no reference made to the "checkered past" statement. In my above email I nonetheless state "we have taken the comments you objected to offline, and posted your statement that Mark Golob is in no way affiliated with Top Doc America." During this entire exchange between Mr. Golob's attorney and me in 2011, there was no stated reference to or objection to the "checkered past" or "history of litigation" statements by either Mr. Golob or his attorney.

7. The statements regarding "checkered pasts" and "history of litigation" that Mr. Golob claims were defamatory were made in the 2008 blog posts about the health club chain Butterfly Life. The exchange between attorney Scott Hammel and myself in 2011 addressed comments about Mr. Golob and an unrelated company called Top Doc America, and had nothing to do with Butterfly Life or the statements regarding "checkered pasts" and "history of litigation."

False Statement by Mark Golob that I Took Down the "Checkered Past" or "History of Litigation" Statements from the Blog

- 8. In Paragraph 6 of his declaration, Mr. Golob states "After that letter, Sean Kelly did in fact take down the content related to me from his websites including the statements that I had a 'checkered past.'"
- 9. Mr. Golob's contention that I acquiesced to his attorney's threats by removing the "checkered past" and "history of litigation" content related to him from February, 2011 to January, 2014 is untrue.
- 10. The only content about Mr. Golob taken down related only to blog statements about him and Top Doc America, and even these Top Doc America comments were taken offline only temporarily and were almost immediately restored by me. The comments regarding Mr. Golob's "checkered past" and "history of litigation" were never taken down and have continuously been online since first posted by me in 2008.
- 11. Another email from Mr. Golob's attorney, Scott Hammel, to me dated February 18, 2011 states that I had "failed to comply with our request to retract and remove the defamatory statements published on your websites." A true and complete copy of this February 18, 2011 email I received from attorney Scott Hammel is attached hereto as Exhibit M and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 12. On February 21, 2011, I forwarded a letter to attorney Scott Hammel in response to the above February 18, 2011 letter from attorney Scott Hammel. A true and complete copy of my February 21, 2011 letter response to attorney Scott Hammel is attached hereto as Exhibit N and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
- 13. In my February 21, 2011 letter, Exhibit N, I informed Mr. Hammel that I had extended the courtesy of posting his statement on the Jeff Marks Butterfly Life interview page that Mr.

Golob claims to have no association with Top Doc America. I did not agree to remove anything, nor did I remove the references to Mr. Golob and "checkered past" and "history of litigation

- 14. In my February 21, 2011 letter, Exhibit N, I informed Mr. Golob's lawyer that I have been an active blogger and web publisher on controversial issues for the past five years. In addition in the letter I also informed Mr. Golob's attorney that filing meritless lawsuits with the intent of chilling free speech was subject to proscription via California's anti-SLAPP laws.
- 15. At the conclusion my February 21, 2011, letter, I state "On a final note, we provide a forum for the open exchange of ideas, opinions, and information. I invite you and your client to exercise your First Amendment rights by participating in this forum, and to provide any clarifications or viewpoints you care to share."
- Despite this invitation, neither Mr. Golob nor his attorney mentioned the "checkered past" or "history of litigation" statements that were clearly visible on two blog pages in and since 2008.
- 17. Mr. Golob's contention that the statements regarding Mr. Golob's "checkered past" and "history of litigation" had been removed and were not visible on the Internet between February, 2011, to January, 2014 is untrue.
- 18. Contrary to Mr. Golob's contention, the Jeff Marks Butterfly Life interview page, attached as Exhibit F to my March 13, 2014 Declaration, was continuously published and publicly visible since 2008. I know this as the publisher of this website including because I never took the Jeff Marks Butterfly Life interview page down and it is still up. This fact is substantiated through records compiled by the digital archive known as the Wayback Machine, located at Archive.Org.
- 19. The continuous publication of the Jeff Marks Butterfly Life interview page, Exhibit F to my first declaration, which contains the "checkered past" and "history of litigation" remarks about Mr. Golob, is confirmed by pages from the Wayback Machine archive for different years of this web page. The Wayback machine archive, which I am familiar as a blogger contains historic records of website images. Wikipedia defined the entity as follows: "The Wayback Machine is a digital archive of the World Wide Web and other information on the Internet created by the Internet Archive, a non-profit organization, based in San Francisco, California... The service enables users to see archived versions of web pages across time, which the Archive calls a 'three

dimensional index."

- 20. During the past week, I went to the Wayback Machine archive on the internet to confirm images of the Jeff Marks Butterfly Life page, Exhibit F to my first declaration, at various times when Mr. Golob swears it was not visible. Attached hereto as Exhibit O are archived snapshots from The Wayback Machine showing how the Jeff Marks Butterfly Life interview page appeared to the public on three dates during the period Mr. Golob claims they were not visible: December 27, 2011, September 3, 2012, and February 27, 2013.
- 21. Each of the above Wayback Machine archive snapshots included in Exhibit O show the date they were archived by the Wayback Machine in the upper right corner. Each of the first three snapshots in Exhibit O show that the Jeff Marks Butterfly Life interview page containing the statements regarding "checkered past" and "history of litigation" were clearly readable on each of the recorded dates, which were within the time frame in which Mr. Golob falsely claims they did not exist.
- 22. The above Wayback Machine archive, Exhibit O, at page 4 contains a snapshot of the comment section of the Jeff Marks Butterfly Life interview page as it appeared on February 27, 2013. This snapshot displays a comment that had been posted to the Jeff Marks Butterfly Life interview page on January 31, 2012 by commenter "John Blaze." The snapshot of this comment further indicates that the site was publicly viewable during the time Mr. Golob claims it was not.

False Statement by Mark Golob that I Published a New Article in about January, 2014

- 23. In Paragraph 8 of his declaration, Mr. Golob states: "In about January, 2014 Mr. Kelly posted that I had a 'checkered past and history of litigation in the health club industry' on his website. This time he took the statements that I had a checkered past and a history of litigation out of the body of the article and made it a headline. I was in my home in Mendocino County California when I discovered this new posting."
- 24. This statement is untrue. I neither wrote nor published any blog post about Mr. Golob in January, 2014. Mr. Golob fails to provide a copy, screenshot or print-out of the purported January blog post, which does not exist. Instead I posted the two articles, Exhibits F and G to my original declaration, in August of 2008 as stated in my original declaration. I did not repost those

two articles through January of 2014 and the filing of the complaint by Mark Golob in this action, rather those articles were posted as written in 2008 with subsequent comments by blog posters other than me.

- 25. I have attached as Exhibit P a true and correct listing of all new posts published on UnhappyFranchisee.Com during the month of January, 2014. The list also includes any existing posts that were updated and republished on UnhappyFranchisee.Com during the month of January, 2014. A total of sixteen blog posts were published regarding seven different franchise companies and one franchisee association.
- 26. Neither Mr. Golob nor his companies were a subject of a blog post January, 2014, and had not been since March, 2009. Mr. Golob's statement that he discovered this, or any other, new posting in January, 2014 in his home in Mendocino County, CA is not true.

Misstatements that I was Provided Prior Notice of this Lawsuit

- 27. Mark Golob's Points and Authorities in Opposition to Defendant's Special Motion to Strike states "Plaintiff, after politely asking Defendant to remove the statements and providing notice that the statements were untrue, brought suit in February 2014." MPA in Opp., at page 7, lines 1-3. This claim does not appear in Mr. Golob's Declaration and no supporting document is supplied as an exhibit.
- 28. This claim is untrue. Neither Mark Golob nor any attorney representing him contacted me to ask me to remove the purported January, 2014 statements and did not provide "notice that the statements were untrue" prior to bringing suit in February, 2014.
- 29. I had no warning or notice of Mr. Golob's contentions or intention to sue until I was served with the summons on February 21, 2014. The lawsuit was a complete surprise to me.

My Opinions Were Justified

- 30. In Paragraph 10 of his Declaration, Mr. Golob cites a definition of "checkered" to mean "marked by dubious episodes; suspect in character or quality."
- 31. Without agreeing with Mr. Golob's definition, I expressed my opinion using the term

checkered past. I have reported on franchising for years, and been involved in franchising for decades during which I have met with and had discussions with hundreds of franchisors and observed their business activities. After receiving hundreds of comments from Mr. Golob's franchisees, having spoken and interviewed many of them, and having read numerous lawsuit allegations concerning Mr. Golob's past business dealings and disputes, I formed the opinion that Mr. Golob had a checkered past. I expressed this, which was shared by many franchisees of Mr. Golob's companies, as an opinion.

32. In Paragraphs 11- 14 of his declaration, Mr. Golob attempts to refute my factual statement that he has a "history of litigation" by enumerating his alleged victories and dismissals in numerous civil lawsuits. By arguing that he has prevailed in numerous civil lawsuits, Mr. Golob confirms the truth of my statement that he has a "history of litigation." The outcome of Mr. Golob's past litigation was not the subject of my statement, just that such litigation existed.

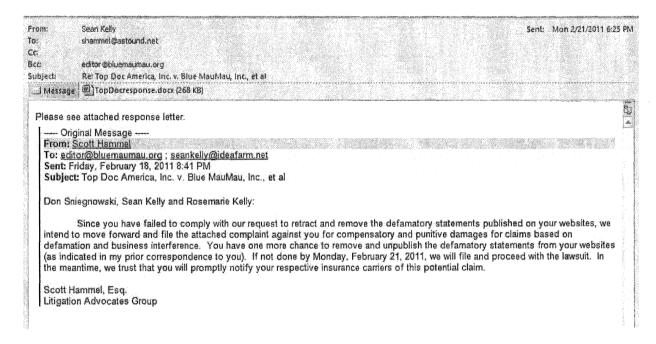
Mr. Golob's New Statements of Non Involvement with Franchising

- 33. In his declaration at paragraph 2, Mr. Golob states: "I have not sold a franchise in at least seven years and am in no way active in the franchise industry. I haven't applied for any renewal to sell franchises from any state in over seven years."
- 34. While I do not have any knowledge of when Mr. Golob stopped selling franchises at this time, his franchise company Butterfly Fitness, Inc. was operating through September 30, 2011, when it filed for bankruptcy as set forth in Exhibit K to my original declaration of March 13, 2014. Nor has Mr. Golob provided sworn testimony when Butterfly Fitness, Inc. ceased operations.
- 35. Mr. Golob does not state in his declaration that he is no longer in business nor what his intentions are for business activities including franchising.
- 36. I went on line this past week and found a website for Mark Golob and have attached as Exhibit Q a true and complete copy of the content of that website. In this website Mr. Golob is providing to the public his business background including references to being the founder of ///

1	///
2	Linda Evans and Butterfly Life fitness chains.
3	
4	I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the
5	foregoing is true and correct, executed at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, on April 1, 2014.
6	
7	By: Sean Kelly
8	Sean Kelly
9	
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Email from Scott Hammel to Sean Kelly February 18, 2011

Sean Kelly's reply to Scott Hammel February 21, 2011





Scott Hammel, Esq.

Litigation Advocates Group

1990 North California Blvd., 8th Floor

Walnut Creek, California 94596

Sent by email to: shammel@astound.net

Mr. Hammel:

I am in receipt of your letter dated February 10th, 2011 ("RE: Defamation Claim Against Franchise Publicity") and your email with attachments dated February 18, 2011 (Subject: Top Doc America, Inc. v. Blue MauMau, Inc., et al").

As I stated in my emailed response of February 16, 2011, I can find no references to your client Top Doc America, Inc. anywhere on the FranchisePublicity.com website. On UnhappyFranchisee.com, I have extended the courtesy of posting your disclaimer (in your own words) that Mark Golob is not associated with your client's organization.

I have been an active business blogger and web publisher on controversial topics for the past 5 years. As such, I am no stranger to the laws pertaining to libel and freedom of speech on the Internet and, specifically, the legal protections afforded bloggers and web publishers. In order to save you further time, expense and potential embarrassment, let me introduce you to Section 230 of Title 47 of the United States Code (47 USC § 230).

In order for us to be liable for defamation, we would have to be the publisher or speaker of the offending information. Section 230 states that "No provider or user of an interactive computer service shall be treated as the publisher or speaker of any information provided by another information content provider." This federal law preempts any state laws to the contrary: "[n]o cause of action may be brought and no liability may be imposed under any State or local law that is inconsistent with this section." The courts have repeatedly rejected attempts to limit the reach of Section 230 to "traditional" Internet service providers, instead treating many diverse entities – including bloggers and blog publishers - as "interactive computer service providers."

Neither IdeaFarm (Relentless, Inc.) nor BlueMauMau.org are publishers of any material in question, and are therefore not liable, under Section 230, for its content or effect.

We are also well aware of the prohibitions against those using lawsuits as a means of bullying and intimidating web publishers into relinquishing their 1st Amendment rights. California has a statute that specifically protects people from "Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation" or SLAPPs.

California's Code of Civil Procedure section 425.16, which took effect in 1993, allows a judge to decide at the outset of the suit whether the SLAPP has a "probability" of winning. If the judge finds that it does not, the SLAPP must be dismissed, and the SLAPP target wins his or her legal defense costs and attorneys' fees. Common sense, our legal advisers and solid precedent all indicate that your attempt at chilling free speech on the Internet is nothing more than a baseless, frivolous threat with no probability of succeeding.

On a final note, we provide a forum for the open exchange of ideas, opinions and information. I invite you and your client to exercise your First Amendment rights by participating in this forum, and to provide any clarifications or viewpoints you care to share.

Please feel free to contact me at 717-656-2107 if you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter any further.

Sincerely,

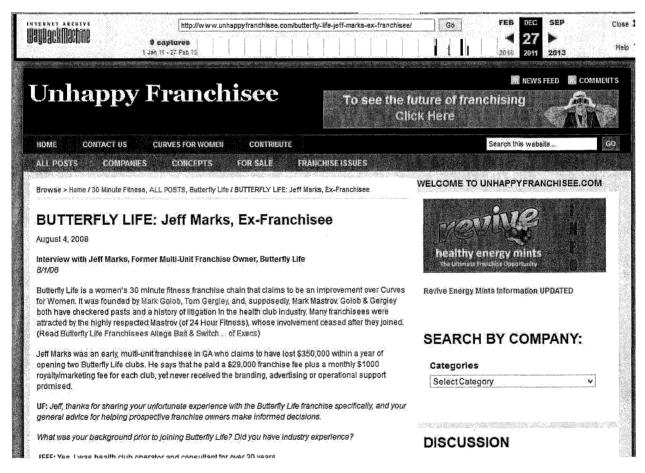
Sean Kelly

President, Relentless, Inc. dba IdeaFarm

BUTTERFLY LIFE: Jeff Marks, Ex-

Franchisee blog post December 27, 2011

The snapshot below was captured and stored by The Wayback Machine Internet Archive on December 27, 2011. It indicates how the Jeff Marks interview page on UnhappyFranchisee.Com appeared to the public on December 27, 2011. The date is indicated in the black box in the upper right corner; the statements regarding "checkered pasts" and "history of litigation" are publicly visible and unchanged.



BUTTERFLY LIFE: Jeff Marks, Ex-

Franchisee blog post September 3, 2012

The snapshot below was captured and stored by The Wayback Machine Internet Archive on September 3, 2012. It indicates how the Jeff Marks interview page on UnhappyFranchisee.Com appeared to the public on September 3, 2012. The date is indicated in the black box in the upper right corner; the statements regarding "checkered pasts" and "history of litigation" are publicly visible and unchanged.

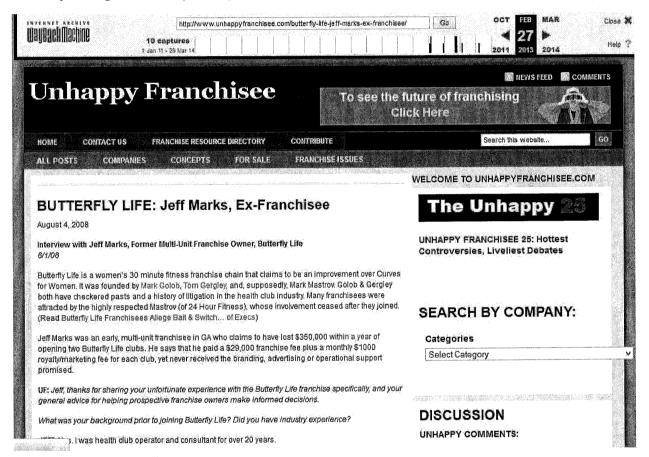


BUTTERFLY LIFE: Jeff Marks, Ex-

Franchisee blog post February 27, 2013

The snapshot below was captured and stored by The Wayback Machine Internet Archive on February 27, 2013. It indicates how the Jeff Marks interview page on

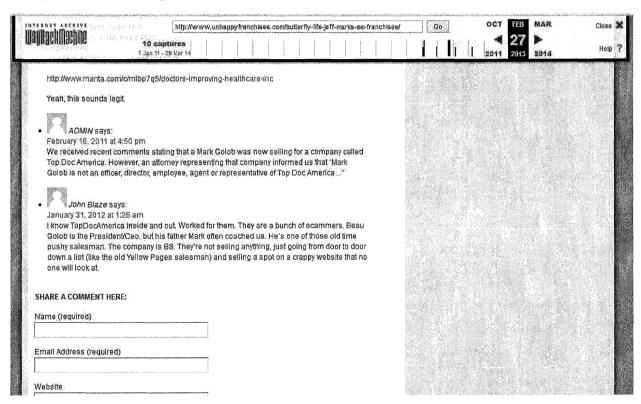
UnhappyFranchisee.Com appeared to the public on February 27, 2013. The date is indicated in the black box in the upper right corner; the statements regarding "checkered pasts" and "history of litigation" are publicly visible and unchanged.



Franchisee blog post February 27, 2013 -

Comments Section

The snapshot below was captured and stored by The Wayback Machine Internet Archive on February 27, 2013. It indicates how the comments section below the Jeff Marks interview page on UnhappyFranchisee.Com appeared to the public on February 27, 2013. The date is indicated in the black box in the upper right corner; the comment left by "John Blaze" had been posted on January 31, 2012 at 1:25 am.



UnhappyFranchisee.Com

All Posts Published – January, 2014

2014/01/02 FRESHBERRY Franchise Closures [UPDATED]	
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2014/01/13 When Franchises Fail: Interview with Former Frozen Yogurt Franchisee Leon Walker

2014/01/13 YoFRESH YOGURT CAFÉ Franchise Watch: How Many Have Closed? How Many Remain?

2014/01/13 YOFRESH YOGURT CAFÉ: Chris Gregoris Responds to Franchisee Allegations

2014/01/22 TERIYAKI MADNESS Franchise Disclosure Document (FDD), CA Impoundment Order

2014/01/23 DICKEY'S BBQ Is Dickey's Overselling its Franchise Opportunity?

2014/01/23 HERBALIFE Is Herbalife a Pyramid Scam?

2014/01/25 LEGACY ACADEMY Invited to Respond to Franchise Complaints

2014/01/25 LEGACY ACADEMY Issues Cease & Desist Letter to UnhappyFranchisee.Com

2014/01/25 LEGACY ACADEMY UnhappyFranchisee.Com Complies With Legal Request/Threat

2014/01/26 7-ELEVEN Protest Over 7-11 Franchise Store Seizure (Pictures)

2014/01/26 7-ELEVEN Stole Our Store – Dev Patel's Story

2014/01/27 LEGACY ACADEMY Are Frank & Melissa Turner "Disreputable"?

2014/01/27 LEGACY ACADEMY Franchise Marketing Representations

2014/01/29 CFA: New Hampshire Fair Franchising Hearing Scheduled for Next Week! 2014/01/29

CFA: Maine Franchisees & Franchise Owners Rally Tomorrow

Mark Golob | Butterfly Franchise, Linda Eva Concerts and

Mark Golob was the past CEO and Founder of Butterfly Life Franchise, Linda Evans Fitness, Mark Golob also owned the Bodyworks Healthclubs, Nightclubs and was a Concert Promoter of Live Music Events in Miami and the South, Mark Golob is a retired Entrepreneur.

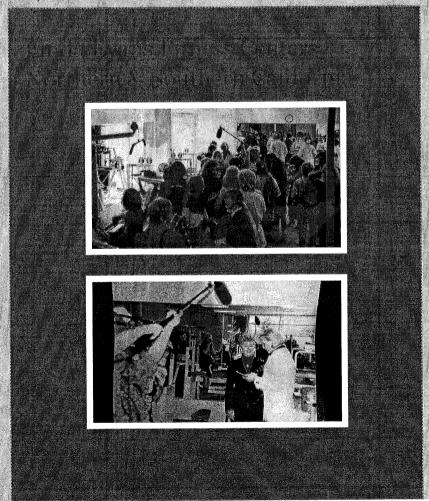


Mark Golob

San Francisco, California, United States

Mark Golob has built a top career in the health & fitness and entertainment industry. Mark Golob is a retired entrepreneur. View my complete profile

Friday, November 22, 2013



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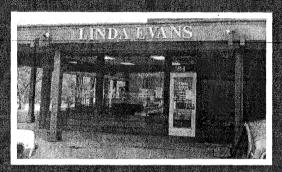
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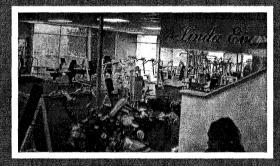


Diversified Health & Fitness, Inc. Acquires Butterfly Life Inc. Diversified Health & Fitness, Inc. Acquires Butterfly Life Diversified Health & Fitness, Inc. of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida











announces i...



About Mark Golob Mark Golob is a Health and fitness expert and a prominent marketer who has promoted bands like Madonna in concert, Fleetwood Mac and Bruce ...



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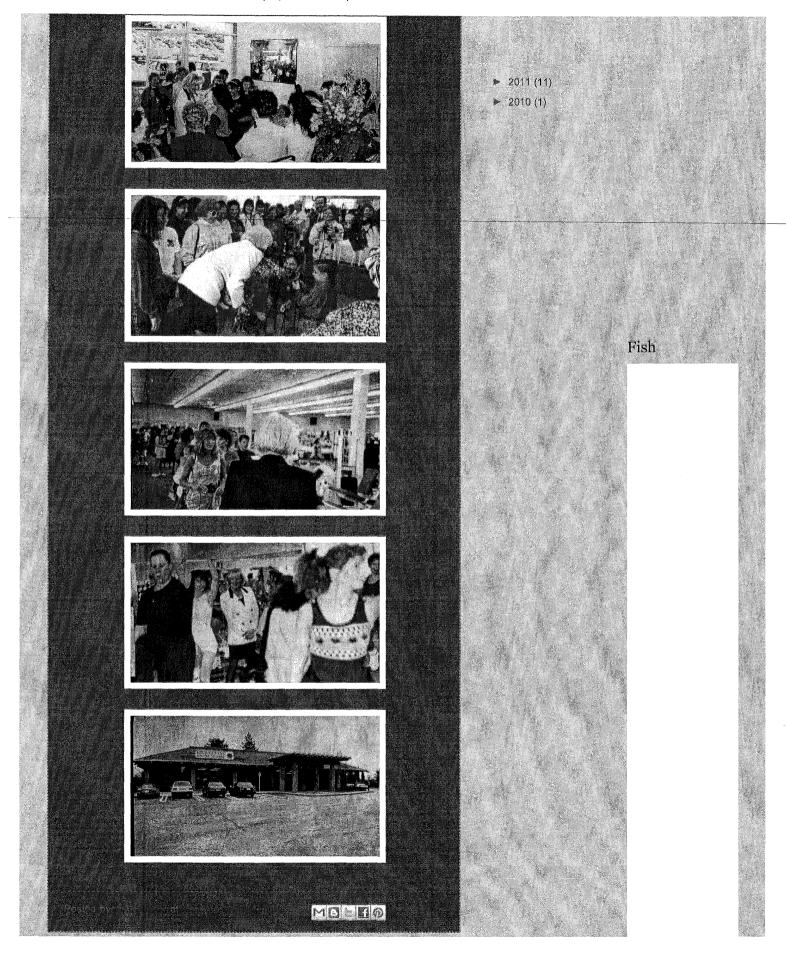
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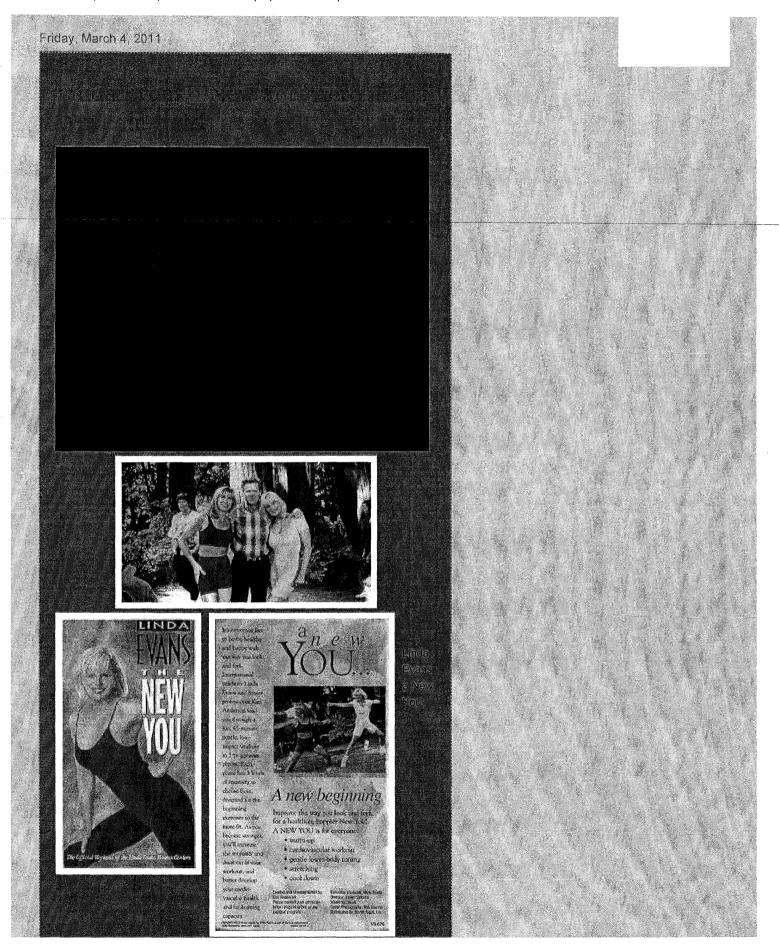
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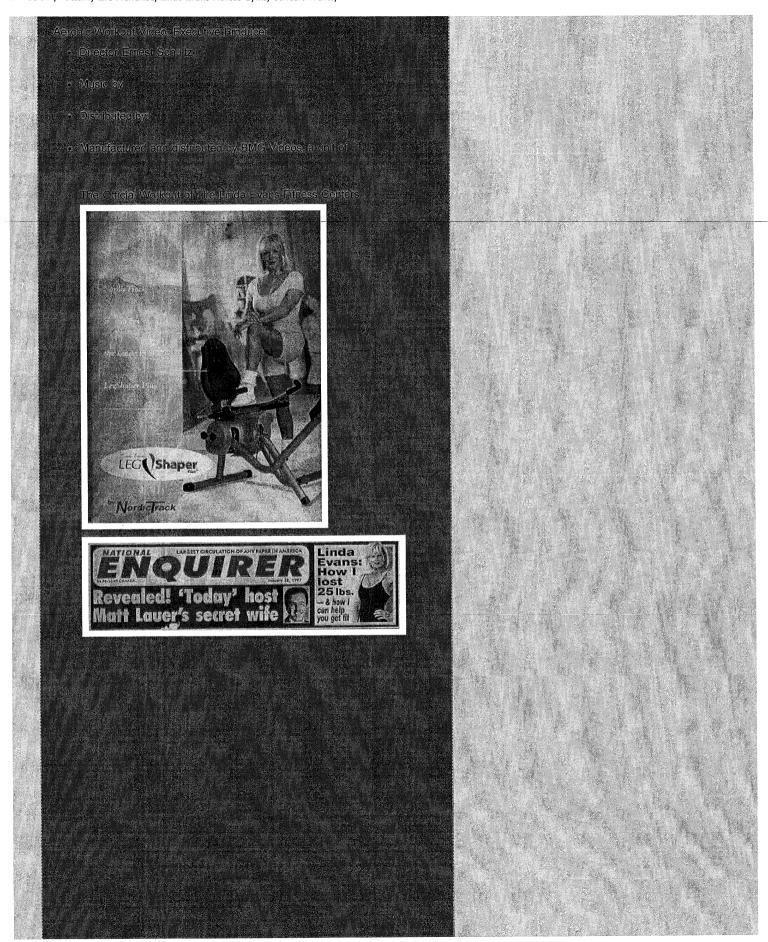
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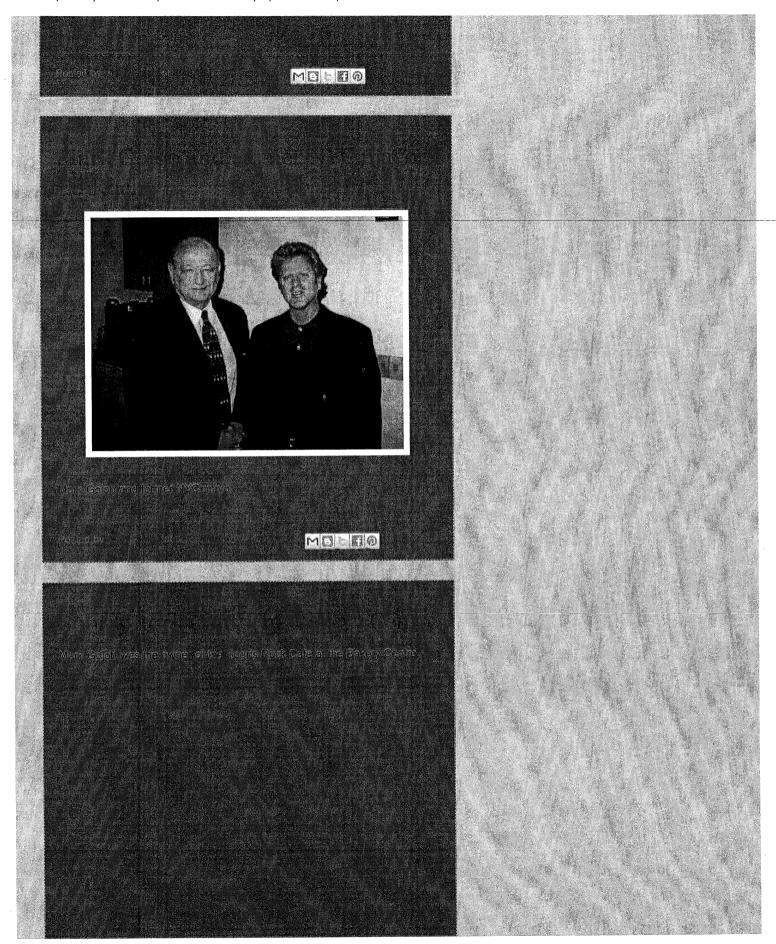
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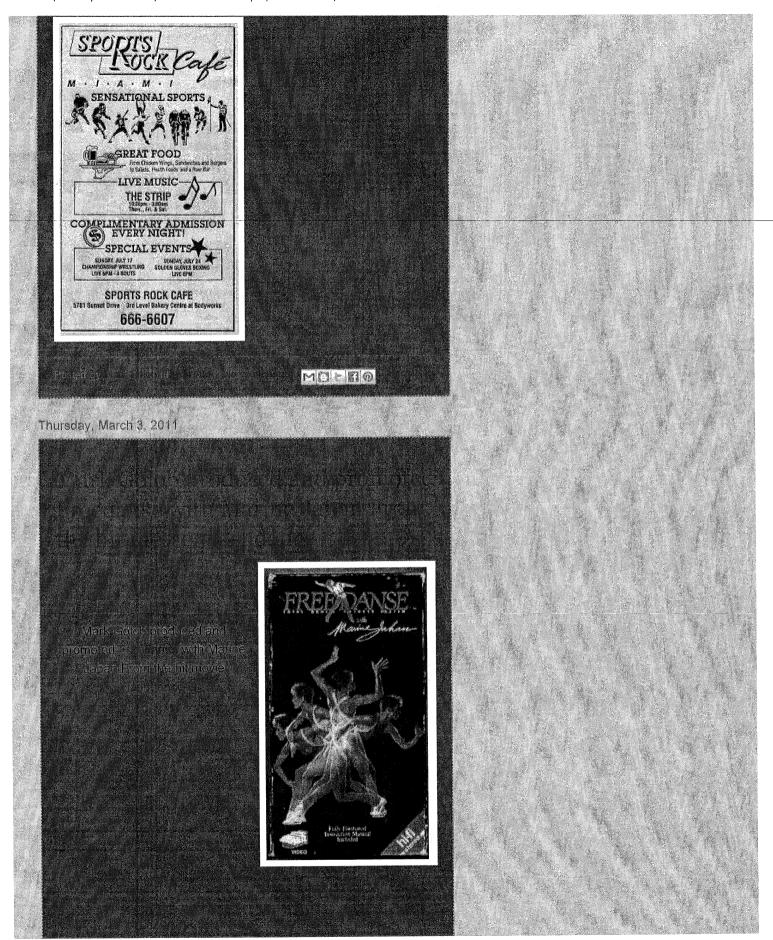


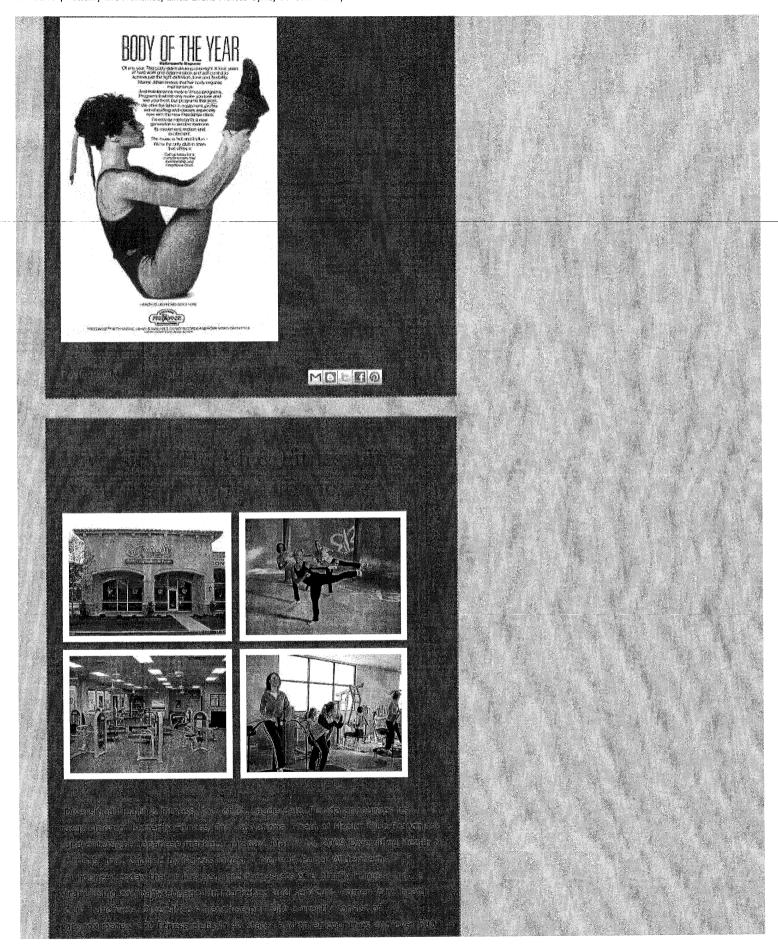


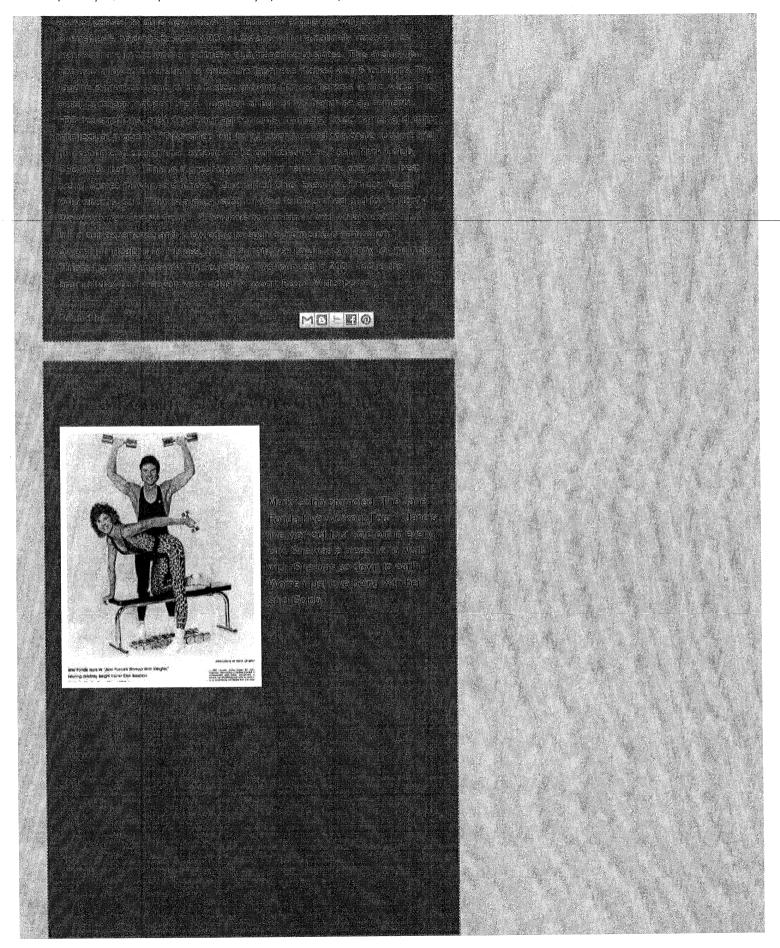


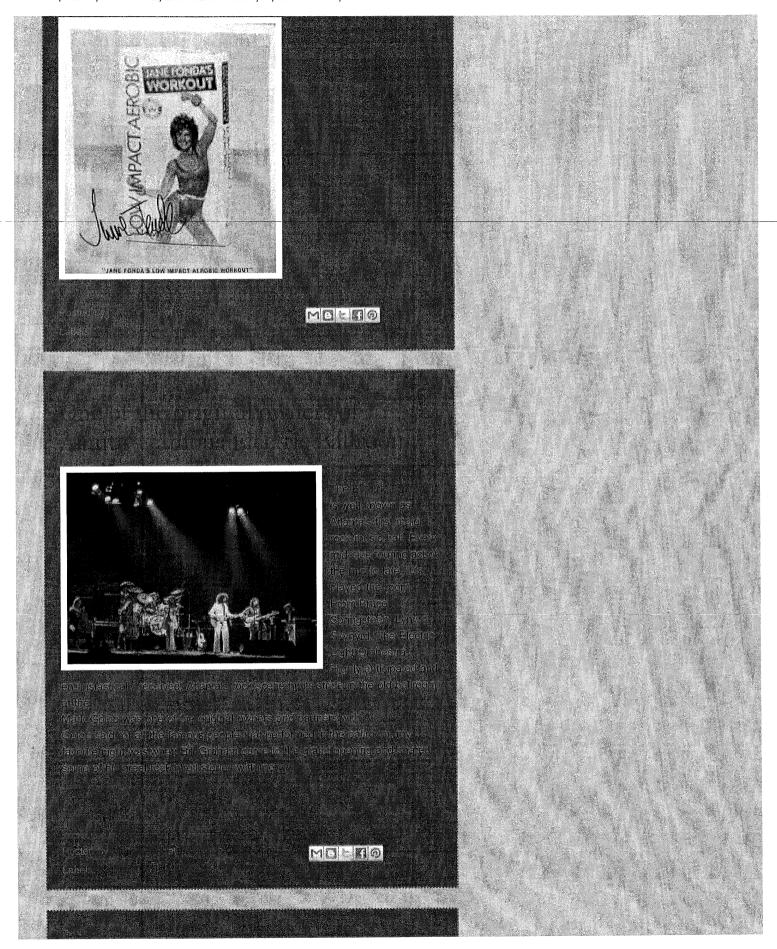












1 PROOF OF SERVICE BY MAIL, FACSIMILE, FEDERAL EXPRESS CCP ' 1013a, 2015.5 2 3 I, Michelle M. Hughes, declare as follows: 4 I am over the age of 18 years, and not a party to the within action; my business address is 1629 Fifth Avenue, San Rafael, California 94901-1828; I am employed in Marin County. On the 5 date set forth below, I served copies of the following documents(s): 6 Reply Memorandum of Points and Authorities of Defendant Sean-Kelly in Support of Special Motion to Strike 7 2. Reply Declaration of Defendant Sean Kelly in Support of Defendant's Special 8 Motion to Strike 9 3. Reply of Defendant Sean Kelly to Plaintiffs' Evidentiary Objections 10 4. Defendant Sean Kelly's Objections to Declaration Evidence of Plaintiff Mark Golob 11 12 Said document(s) were addressed as follows: 13 Nikolaus W. Reed, Esq. Law Offices of Nikolaus W. Reed 14 135 10th Street San Francisco, CA 94103 15 16 The described document(s) were served by the method(s) indicated as following: 17 (BY MAIL) The above-described document(s) will be deposited with the United States \prod Postal Service on this same date in the ordinary course of business, in a sealed envelope(s) 18 with postage thereon fully prepaid and placed for collection in the United States mail at San Rafael, California. 19 (BY FEDERAL EXPRESS) I caused such envelope(s) with postage thereon fully prepaid [X]20 to be placed in the Federal Express office at San Rafael, California. 21 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on April 2, 2014, at San 22 Rafael, California. 23 Michelle M. Hughes 24 Legal Assistant 25 N:\ACTIVE\Kelly, Sean\Proof\Reed 4-2-14.doc 26 27

28