

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF FULTON COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

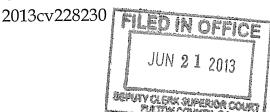
SOUL CIRCUS, INC. Plaintiff,

VS.

PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL TREATMENT OF ANIMALS, a/k/a, PETA, AND RUSSELL SIMMONS,

Defendants.

Civil Action File No.



ORDER

THIS MATTER came before the Court on June 10, 2013 upon a Motion by defendant People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Inc. ("PeTA") to Dismiss Pursuant to OCGA Section 9-11-11.1, and a Motion to Dismiss Soul Circus Complaint With Prejudice Under OCGA Section 9-11-11.1 by defendant Russell Simmons. And the Court having considered the Motions to Dismiss, the Memoranda of Law in support thereof, and argument of counsel finds as follows:

- 1. On March 18 and March 21, 2013, defendant PeTA wrote to plaintiff Soul Circus, Inc. ("Soul Circus") requesting that Soul Circus file a verification of the Complaint, filed March 6, 2013, in accordance with OCGA Section 9-11-11.1.
- 2. On March 21, 2013, Simmons wrote to Soul Circus, also requesting verification of the Complaint under OCGA Section 9-11-11.1.
- 3. Soul Circus declined and failed to file any verification of the Complaint as set forth in OCGA Section 9-11-11.1.
- 4. PeTA filed its Motion to Dismiss on April 3, 2013. Defendant Simmons filed his Motion to Dismiss on April 23, 2013. The Court issued its Rule NISI on April 25, 2013 setting a hearing date of June 10, 2013 on PeTA's and Simmons' Motions to Dismiss. Soul Circus filed a response to the Motions to Dismiss on June 5, 2013.
- 5. At the June 10, 2013 hearing on the Motions to Dismiss, PeTA and Simmons moved to strike and for the Court to not consider Soul Circus's response as not being

timely filed or served. The Court, having heard argument, found that the response was not timely filed and without adequate reason for the late filing and service, and granted the motion, but permitted Soul Circus's counsel to fully argue its opposition to the Motions to Dismiss.

6. On the basis of the argument and evidence submitted by the parties, the Court finds that the Georgia anti-SLAPP statute, OCGA Section 9-11-11.1, does apply to the conduct of PeTA and Simmons as alleged by Soul Circus in the Complaint and that the Complaint has not been verified as required by the statute, either at the time of the filing of the Complaint or within ten (10) days after PeTA's and Simmons's respective requests for verification.

WHEREFORE, the Court ORDERS that each of PeTA's and Simmons's Motions to Dismiss are GRANTED and Soul Circus's Complaint filed March 6, 2013 be, and hereby is, DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE.

ENTERED this 2 day of June, 2013.

Judge Henry M. Newkirk Fulton County Superior Court

Prepared by:

Philip Jay Hirschkop Attorney for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals

COPY



General Civil Case Final Disposition Form (Non-Domestic)

Court County <u>Helton</u> Superior State Docket# <u>10/3C/2</u>	
Reporting Party <u>Newkuk</u> , <u>Henri</u> Last First Middle I. Suffix F	fefix Maiden Judge Title
Name of Plaintiff/Petitioner(s) Soul Chaus, M. Last First Middle I. Suffix Prefix Maiden Plaintiff/Petitioner's Attorney Pro Se Blackwill Jacy First Middle I. Suffix	Name of Defendant/Respondent(s) Plople For The Ethical Last First Middle I. Suffix Prefix Maiden Medtment of Animals, et al. Defendant/Respondent's Attorney Pro Se April Pro Se April Pro Se April Pro Se April Middle I. Suffix
Bar#_744161	Bar # 670112
Type of Disposition (Check all that apply) 1. Pre-Trial Dismissal (specify which type) A. Linvoluntary B. Voluntary (without prejudice) C. Voluntary (with prejudice) 2. Pre-Trial Settlement 3. Default Judgment 4. Summary Judgment 5. Transferred/Consolidated 6. Bench Trial 7. Jury Trial (specify outcome further) A. Dismissal after jury selected B. Settlement during trial	AWARD 1. If verdict for Plaintiff, how much was awarded? \$ Compensatory \$ Punative 2. If verdict on cross or counter claims, how much was awarded? \$ Compensatory \$ Punative 3. Did the court modify the award? \$ Yes No 4. Were Attorneys fees awarded? \$ Yes No
C. ☐ Judgment on Verdict D. ☐ Directed Verdict or JNOV	ADR
1. Judgment on Verdict. Was the verdict: A.	 Was ADR utilized? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, was it (check if applicable) ☐ court annexed? ☐ court mandated? Did the matter settle after trial for other than judgment? (If known at the time of this submission) ☐ Yes ☐ No