# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FIOR ISSUED NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS ABILENE DIVISION CLERK US DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT COURT FIOR ISSUED NORTHERN DISTRICT COURT FIOR ISSUED NORTHERN DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT NORTHERN DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT NORTHERN DISTRICT NORTHERN DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT NORTHERN DISTRICT NORTHERN DISTRICT NORTHERN DISTRICT NORTHERN DISTRICT NORTHERN DISTRICT NORTHERN DISTR

DIEGO'S BURRITOS, INC. OF SAN ANGELO, TEXAS

Plaintiff,

VS.

CHRISTIAN TAYLOR GOMEZ d/b/a DIEGO'S

Defendant.

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CIVIL ACTION NO.:

#### **ORIGINAL COMPLAINT**

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

COMES NOW PLAINTIFF DIEGO'S BURRITOS, INC. OF SAN ANGELO, TEXAS complaining of DEFENDANT CHRISTIAN TAYLOR GOMEZ D/B/A DIEGO'S and complains as follows:

I.

#### **PARTIES**

- 1. Plaintiff, Diego's Burritos, Inc. of San Angelo, Texas ("Plaintiff") is a corporation with its principal place of business in Tom Green County, Texas.
- 2. Defendant, Christian Taylor Gomez is an individual doing business as Diego's in Big Spring, Howard County, Texas ("Gomez") which is in the Northern District of Texas, Abilene Division.

II.

#### **JURISDICTION**

3. Jurisdiction is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1338, and 15 U.S.C. § 1121.

- 4. Venue is proper in this District pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391.
- 5. Plaintiff's claims arise in this Judicial District.
- 6. This Court has pendant jurisdiction over all of the claims asserted herein, these claims being necessarily determinable together with the federal claims.

#### III.

#### **FACTS**

- 7. Plaintiff has made its DIEGO'S BURRITOS trademark known throughout West Texas by continuously using it since as least as early as 1985 to identify its restaurants and associated goods and services.
- 8. Plaintiff's consistent delivery of great restaurant services and quality foods, sustained over many years, has created a positive reputation for its DIEGO'S BURRITOS mark in West Texas and has made the mark into a valuable asset.
- 9. Numerous people drive between towns in West Texas, including the 100 mile radius between San Angelo and Big Spring.
- 10. Plaintiff's trademark, DIEGO'S BURRITOS, and its reputation is known within a West Texas trade area which is at least as large as the area within a 100 mile radius of San Angelo, Texas ("San Angelo Trade Area").
- 11. Upon these facts under Texas trademark law and federal trademark law, Plaintiff's investment of its time and effort to successfully create a good impression and favorable goodwill in the mark has vested in DIEGO'S BURRITOS an exclusive trademark property right in its DIEGO'S BURRITOS mark.

- 12. Plaintiff has become aware of Gomez's use of DIEGO'S to identify a restaurant and associated restaurant goods and services at her business location of 1703 South Gregg Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720-4523.
- 13. Gomez uses DIEGO'S as a trademark to identify the business and not merely as a personal name to identify a person.
- 14. In about 2009 2010, Gomez began using the mark DIEGO'S to identify a restaurant and associated restaurant goods and services at her business located at 1703 South Gregg Street, Big Spring, Texas 79720-4523.
- 15. Before Gomez opened her restaurant in Big Spring, she was aware of Plaintiff's restaurants and their trademark DIEGO'S BURRITOS.
- 16. Before Gomez opened her restaurant in Big Spring, people in Big Spring knew of Plaintiff's DIEGO'S BURRITOS in San Angelo, Texas.
- 17. Both restaurants are in the same line of commerce with both selling Mexican food and with both having sit down capability.
- 18. Gomez uses the mark of DIEGO'S at her restaurant and in advertising to identify her restaurant and associated goods and services.
- 19. Because of the similarity of the marks, Plaintiff's DIEGO'S BURRITOS and Gomez's DIEGO'S and the similarity of the Plaintiff's and Gomez's goods and services and Plaintiff's and Gomez's businesses being within the San Angelo Trade Area, Gomez's use of DIEGO'S as a trademark to identify her restaurant is likely to create confusion or a mental association with Plaintiff's DIEGO'S BURRITOS restaurant business.

- 20. Additionally, Gomez's use of DIEGO'S to indentify her restaurant is likely to dilute the distinctive quality of the Plaintiff's mark, DIEGO'S BURRITOS, in the minds of at least some of Plaintiff's current and potential customers.
- 21. Instances of actual confusion as between Plaintiff's DIEGO'S BURRITOS mark and Gomez's DIEGO'S mark have already occurred. The confusion will continue to occur unless Gomez's complained of acts are enjoined by this Court.
- 22. Plaintiff is legally entitled to be free of the risks and the loss of distinctiveness in good will caused by Gomez's use of a mark which dilutes and is confusingly similar to Plaintiff's mark, DIEGO'S BURRITOS.
- 23. Plaintiff is legally obligated to stop Gomez's use of DIEGO'S as a trademark or Plaintiff will lose its exclusive trademark right to its DIEGO'S BURRITOS mark.
- 24. On information and belief, Gomez's above described acts of copying Plaintiff's DIEGO'S BURRITOS trademark has been committed knowingly and willfully and will continue unless enjoined by this Court.
- 25. Gomez's acts have injured and are likely to injure the business reputation and to dilute the distinctive quality of Plaintiff's DIEGO'S BURRITOS trademark.
  - 26. Gomez's acts have injured Plaintiff.
- 27. Unless Gomez's acts are enjoined Plaintiff will suffer great incalculable and irreparable harm.

#### IV.

#### **CAUSES OF ACTION**

#### A. Federal Trademark Infringement.

28. Gomez has, without the consent of Plaintiff, used in commerce a reproduction, counterfeit, copy, or colorable imitation of Plaintiff's registered mark in connection with the sale, offering for sale, distribution, or advertising of goods and services in connection with which such use is likely to cause confusion or to cause mistake or to deceive and has reproduced, counterfeited, copied or colorably imitated a registered mark and applied such reproduction, counterfeit, copy, or colorable imitation to labels, signs, prints, packages, wrappers, receptacles, or advertisements intended to be used in commerce upon or in connection with the sale, offering for sale, distribution, or advertising of goods or services on or in connection with which such use is likely to cause confusion, or to cause mistake or to deceive, all in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1115(a).

#### B. Federal Unfair Competition.

29. Gomez has been and is continuing to use a false description of origin, false or misleading description of fact, or false or misleading representation of fact which is likely to cause confusion, or to cause mistake, or to deceive as to the affiliation, connection, or association of such person with another person, or as to the origin, sponsorship, or approval of his or her goods, services, or commercial activities by another person and, in commercial advertising or promotion, has misrepresented and is misrepresenting the nature, characteristics, qualities, or geographic origin of his or her or another person's goods, services, or commercial activities, all in violation of 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a).

#### C. State Unfair Competition.

30. Gomez's acts complained of herein comprise unfair competition against Plaintiff under the laws of the State of Texas.

#### D. State Dilution.

31. Gomez's acts complained of herein dilute the distinctive quality of Plaintiff's trademark in violation of Texas Business & Commerce Code § 16.29.

#### E. <u>State Trademark Infringement</u>.

32. Gomez's acts complained of herein comprise trademark infringement against Plaintiff under the laws of the State of Texas.

#### F. <u>Unjust Enrichment and Misappropriation</u>

33. Gomez's acts complained of herein have unjustly enriched Gomez and have misappropriated Plaintiff's property.

#### G. <u>Declaratory Judgment</u>

- 34. Gomez is irrevocably committed to pursuing in the future the above-described courses of conduct to Plaintiff's great immediate and incalculable harm.
- 35. Plaintiff seeks declaratory judgment that Gomez's above-described courses of conduct are unlawful.
- 36. Plaintiff seeks permanent injunctive relief ordering the Gomez to cease the described unlawful courses of action.

#### V.

#### **CONSOLIDATED ALLEGATIONS**

37. Each of the facts alleged above is alleged with regard to each and every cause of action herein.

#### VI.

#### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

NOW, THEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for the following relief:

- 1. A permanent injunction enjoining Gomez, her agents, servants, employees, attorneys, or anyone acting in concert with Gomez from:
  - a. Representing to anyone or committing any acts calculated to cause members of the public to believe that Gomez's goods or services have any authority, sponsorship, affiliation, or any connection with Plaintiff or Plaintiff's goods and services.
  - b. Using as a trademark identifying a restaurant the mark DIEGO'S or any other words similar thereto that may cause, or may be likely to cause, confusion, mistake, or deception to the public, alone or in combination with any other word or words.
  - c. Diluting the distinctive qualities of Plaintiff's DIEGO'S BURRITOS trademark by using DIEGO'S as a trademark to identify a restaurant.
  - d. Continuing Gomez's unlawful acts as complained of herein.
- 2. Gomez be required to pay the Plaintiff such damages, together with prejudgment interest and post judgment interest as Plaintiff has sustained as a consequence of Gomez's wrongful acts.
- 3. Gomez be required to account for and return to Plaintiff all monies, gains, and profits and advantages obtained by Gomez due to Gomez's wrongful acts.
- 4. Gomez be required to pay to Plaintiff's costs of this action, including, without limitation, Plaintiff's attorney's fees.

5. A judgment that Gomez's courses of conduct set forth hereinabove are unlawful.

#### VII.

#### **JURY DEMAND**

Plaintiff Diego's Burritos, Inc. of San Angelo, Texas respectfully requests a trial by jury.

Respectfully submitted,

JACKSON WALKER L.L.P. 301 W. Beauregard Avenue, Suite 200 San Angelo, Texas 76903 (325) 481-2566 (325) 481-2574 - Facsimile

By: Don W. Griffis

State Bar No. 08476000

Mark H. Miller

State Bar No. 14099200

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFFS

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SS 44 (TXND Rev. 2/10)

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AMOUNT

RECEIPT #

### CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS Diego's Burritos, Inc. of Sa	an Angelo, Texas	DEFENDANTS Christian Taylor	Gomez d/b/a Diego's	NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TE
(E	e of First Listed Plaintiff Tom Green County, EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)  e, Address, and Telephone Number)  Griffis, Jackson Walker LLP, 301 W. an Angelo, TX 76903	NOTE: IN LAND LAND Attorneys (If Known) R. Shane Seaton,	INVOLVED.	use the Location of the ne Seaton, 1301 South Grego
II. BASIS OF JURISI  1 U.S. Government Plaintiff  2 U.S. Government	DICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)  3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)	(For Diversity Cases Only)  Citizen of This State	PTF DEF  1 Incorporated or of Business In  2	nd Principal Place
Defendant	(Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)	Citizen or Subject of a  Foreign Country	of Business	In Another State
IV. NATURE OF SU	IT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)			
CONTRACT  110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgmen 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise  REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability	Slander 330 Federal Employers Liability 1340 Marine Product Liability 2350 Motor Vehicle 1355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 2355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability 385 Property Damage 385	620 Other Food & Drug     625 Drug Related Seizure     625 Drug Related Seizure     630 Liquor Laws     640 R.R. & Truck     650 Airline Regs.     660 Occupational     Safety/Health     690 Other     710 Fair Labor Standards     6	422 Appeal 28 USC 158	Exchange  875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410  890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts
□ 2 F	State Court Appellate Court	Reopened specific	sferred from	tion Judgment
VI. CAUSE OF ACT	Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you a 28 USC Section 1338 and 15 USC Brief description of cause: Trademark infringement	are filing ( <b>Do not cite jurisdictio</b> Section 1121	nal statutes unless diversity	/): <sub></sub>
VII. REQUESTED II COMPLAINT:	N	N DEMAND \$ Permanent Injunction	CHECK YES o  JURY DEMAN	nly if demanded in complaint: ND: Ø Yes □ No
VIII. RELATED CAS PENDING OR CLO	SE(S) (See instructions)	. S. Marioni injuriolion	DOCKET NUMBE	
DATE 11/17/2010		TTORNEY OF RECORD		

JUDGE

APPLYING IFP

MAG. JUDGE

Case 1:10-cv-00275-C Document 1



CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT ORTHERN DISTRICT OF

(325) 481-2566 (Direct Dial) (325) 481-2574 (Direct Fax) dgriffis@jw.com

November 17, 2010

ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS

Ms. Marsha Elliott Deputy-In Charge United States District Court Northern District of Texas Abilene Division 2008 U.S. Post Office Building 341 Pine Street

Abilene, Texas 79604

1-10CV-275-C

Re:

Civil Action No. ; Diego's Burritos, Inc. of San Angelo, Texas v. Christian Taylor Gomez d/b/a Diego's; In the United States District Court for

the Northern District of Texas, Abilene Division

Dear Ms. Elliott:

Enclosed for filing is an original and two copies of the Original Complaint of Diego's Burritos, Inc. of San Angelo, Texas v. Christian Taylor Gomez d/b/a Diego's (a request for a jury trial is included in the complaint). Our firm's check in the amount of \$350.00 is enclosed for the applicable filing fee.

Please affix your file-stamp and civil action number to the extra copies of the complaint provided and return to me in the enclosed, self-addressed, postage paid envelope. Also enclosed is the required Civil Cover Sheet and Certificate of Interested Persons together with a Summons to be served on the Defendant.

Sincerely,

JACKSON WALKER LLP

DWG:dlr **Enclosures**