

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS
EASTERN DIVISION**

Ford Motor Company,

Plaintiff,

v.

The Individuals, Business Entities, and
Unincorporated Associations Identified in
Exhibit “A,”

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 1:24-cv-4076

Judge Sharon Johnson Coleman

Magistrate Judge M. David Weisman

EX PARTE MOTION TO EXTEND TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER

Pursuant to Rule 65(b)(2) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiff Ford Motor Company (“Ford” or “Plaintiff”) hereby requests a fourteen (14) day extension of the Temporary Restraining Order (Dkt. No. 35) (the “TRO”) until July 16, 2024.

Under Rule 65(b)(2), a temporary restraining order entered without notice may be extended prior to the expiration of the order for good cause shown. Here, the Court entered the TRO on June 18, 2024 and it is currently set to expire on July 2, 2024. As a result, this Motion for Extension is timely. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(b)(2).

Moreover, there is good cause to extend the TRO because third party eBay has not completed effecting the TRO. Under the terms of the TRO, eBay is required to, among other things, identify and provide all account, registration and contact information associated with the Defendants and their eBay stores, and to restrain any associated financial accounts and funds. In addition, eBay is prohibited from notifying account holders “of the restraining of the funds in the accounts and disclosure of account information until after the accounts are restrained.” (TRO, pg. 7).

Ford is in the process of serving and notifying eBay's registered agents with the TRO, and pursuant to the TRO, eBay has five (5) business days from the date of that notice to comply, and Ford requested eBay's compliance by July 1, 2024, which is one day before expiration of the TRO. However, given the upcoming 4th of July holiday, eBay may require additional time to fully comply with the terms of the TRO. More importantly, Ford requires information from eBay regarding complete contact information of the Defendants, such as names and email addresses in order to effect service of process, as well as eBay's confirmation that the relevant financial accounts and funds have been frozen/restrained. Not only is Ford unable to serve Defendants without this required information, if Ford were required to serve Defendants without the TRO in place, Defendants are likely to destroy relevant evidence, deplete, hide or transfer assets to foreign accounts outside the jurisdiction of this Court, change their current online identities, and engage in other acts that would frustrate Ford's ability to obtain its requested relief. Accordingly, an extension of the TRO would give Ford (and eBay) time to implement the terms of the TRO, including obtaining information necessary to complete service on Defendants and ensuring that Defendants' financial accounts are frozen to preserve the status quo.

In view of the foregoing, Ford respectfully requests that the TRO be extended for a period of fourteen (14) days until July 16, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

FORD MOTOR COMPANY

Dated: June 24, 2024

By: /s/ Christian S. Morgan

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