NYSCEF DOC. NO. 18

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 07/05/2023

COUNTY OF ERIE	HE STATE OF NEW YORK	
AUDIO EYE, INC., - against -	Plaintiff,	Motion Seq Index No. 803054/2023
ADRIAN ROSELLI,	Defendant.	AFFIDAVIT OF Norbert Rum
STATE OF ILLINOIS COUNTY OF COOK))	

Norbert Rum, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

- 1. I am an accessibility specialist with 10 years of experience in the accessibility industry. Though not blind, I established the online disability Reddit community r/blind and have been an active member and advocate of the blind and low-vision community.
- 2. I make this affidavit, having heard that Adrian Roselli is being sued by AudioEye for (among other things) saying it does "not work."
- 3. I have submitted a web accessibility survey with online communities including r/blind that covered questions around disabilities, assistive technology used, as well as overlay tools. The questions included feedback options from using overlay tools, such as AudioEye.
- 4. At the CSUN Assistive Technology Conference 2023, I have presented overarching details of initial feedback from online disability communities that have completed the survey. Mr. Roselli was present at this conference and presentation in March.

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5. Out of the 646 participants in the survey, 65 participants have noted using Audioeye and other overlay tools, have a browsing experience with overlays lower than a 3 out of 5, and answered yes to the question "Has an overlay ever conflicted with your technology?"

- 6. Impacts noted from those 65 participants of the survey noted blocking concerns that do not make websites accessible to them, including:
 - a. "I was unable to move past the overlay to access the main content of the website."
 - b. "Interrupted speech, caused random announcements, changed keyboard nav"
 - c. "freezes the browser"
 - d. "It made the screen reader behave cratically[sic] and made the website unusable.
 When I disabled the overlay, the problem was solved.
 - e. "crashed my browser"
- 7. I also want to explain that knowing Mr. Roselli as an advocate with decades of experience supporting people with disabilities, I understood him to be expressing an opinion based on findings and feedback about how the product does in serving the disability community it is supposedly created for.
- 8. That is, I understood that in saying AudioEye does not work, Mr. Roselli was saying it is his opinion the product does not work *for its intended purpose* for many people in the disability communities. In other words, that it does not make websites accessible for those who need screen readers and the like.
- 9. Finally, I want to say that it seems unfounded to sue an individual for voicing the sentiment of many individuals of the disability communities with documented support. I have seen countless posts from various users as well as the documented research from Mr. Roselli.

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Dated: <u>June 30,</u> 2023

<u>Res Plaines</u>, Illinois

[NAME]

Duly sworn to before me on

the 30 day of Jine, 2023

Notary Public

OFFICIAL SEAL
MARIOLA BOROWCZAK
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF ILLINOIS
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES:07/20/23