

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION**

COMMISSIONERS: **Edith Ramirez, Chairwoman**
 Julie Brill
 Maureen K. Ohlhausen
 Joshua D. Wright
 Terrell McSweeney

In the Matter of

**Jerk, LLC, a limited liability company,
 also d/b/a JERK.COM, and**

**John Fanning,
 individually and as a member of
 Jerk, LLC.**

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) **Docket No. 9361**
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ORDER DENYING WITHOUT PREJUDICE

By McSWEENEY, Commissioner:

On November 25, 2014, Complaint Counsel filed a Motion to Supplement the Record on Complaint Counsel’s pending Motion for Summary Decision. Complaint Counsel seeks to add to the factual record for summary decision Respondents’ admissions that resulted from a failure to timely respond to Complaint Counsel’s Second Request for Admissions. On November 26, 2014, Respondent John Fanning filed an objection to Complaint Counsel’s motion.

For the reasons set forth below, Complaint Counsel’s Motion is DENIED WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

Background

On September 29, 2014, Complaint Counsel moved for summary decision, asking for a finding of liability against Respondents Jerk, LLC (“Jerk”) and John Fanning. In support of its motion, Complaint Counsel submitted a Statement of Material Facts as to Which There is No Genuine Issue for Trial. On November 4, 2014, Respondent John Fanning filed his opposition to

Complaint Counsel's Motion for Summary Decision. Respondent Jerk did not respond to the motion.¹ On November 12, Complaint Counsel filed their reply, and Mr. Fanning filed a surreply on November 19.

Following Mr. Fanning's opposition to Complaint Counsel's motion, on November 4, Complaint Counsel served its Second Request for Admissions on Respondents Jerk and Mr. Fanning. Neither Jerk nor Mr. Fanning responded to the Second Request for Admissions within the ten-

Judge may allow.” 16 C.F.R. § 3.32(b). Rule 3.32(c) provides that the ALJ “may permit withdrawal or amendment [of an admission] when the presentation of the merits of the proceeding will be subserved thereby and the party who obtained the admission fails to satisfy the Administrative Law Judge that withdrawal or amendment will prejudice him in maintaining his action or defense on the merits.” 16 C.F.R. § 3.32(c).

In light of the fact that the relevant requests for admissions were served recently and Mr. Fanning’s failure to respond might be due to excusable oversight, we decline to supplement the summary decision record at this time. We will allow Jerk and Mr. Fanning the opportunity to seek relief from the ALJ for their failure to timely respond to Complaint Counsel’s Second Request for Admissions pursuant to Rule 3.32(c). Any such motion must be filed no later than December 12, 2014.

Accordingly, Complaint Counsel’s Motion to Supplement the Record for Summary Decision is hereby DENIED WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

By the Commission.

Donald S. Clark
Secretary

Issued: December 5, 2014