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25 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
26 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

28 COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY - 1

1 VERONICA BRILL; KASEY LYN MILLS;  
2 MARC GOONE; NAVROOP SHERGILL;  
3 JASON SCOTT; AZAAN NAGRA; ELI  
4 JAMES; PHUONG PHAN; JEFFREY  
5 SLUZINSKI; HARLAN KARNOFSKY;  
6 NATHAN PELKEY; MATT HOLTZCLAW;  
7 JON TUROVITZ; ROBERT YOUNG; BLAKE  
8 ALEXANDER KRAFT; JAMAN YONN  
9 BURTON; MICHAEL ROJAS; HAWNLAY  
10 SWEN; THOMAS MORRIS III; PAUL  
11 LOPEZ; ROLANDO CAO; BENJAMIN  
12 JACKSON; HUNG SAM; COREY CASPERS;  
13 ADAM DUONG

14 Plaintiffs,

15 vs.

16 MICHAEL L. POSTLE; KING'S CASINO,  
17 LLC D/B/A STONES GAMBLING HALL;  
18 JUSTIN F. KURAITIS; JOHN DOES 1-10;  
19 JANE DOES 1-10

Case No.:

COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR TRIAL  
BY JURY

CAUSES OF ACTION:

1. VIOLATION OF THE RACKETEER INFLUENCED CORRUPT ORGANIZATION ACT AS CODIFIED AT SECTION 1962(C) OF TITLE 18 OF THE UNITED STATES CODE
2. FRAUD
3. NEGLIGENT MISREPRESENTATION
4. NEGLIGENCE PER SE
5. UNJUST ENRICHMENT
6. NEGLIGENCE
7. CONSTRUCTIVE FRAUD
8. FRAUD
9. LIBEL

16 Come now Veronica Brill (“Ms. Brill”), Kasey Lyn Mills (“Ms. Mills”); Marc Goone  
17 (“Mr. Goone”), Navroop Shergill (“Mr. Shergill”); Jason Scott (“Mr. Scott”); Azaan Nagra (“Mr.  
18 Nagra”); Eli James (“Mr. James”); Phuong Phan (“Mr. Phan”); Jeffrey Sluzinski (“Mr.  
19 Sluzinski”), Harlan Karnofsky (“Mr. Karnofsky”); Nathan Pelkey (“Mr. Pelkey”); Matt  
20 Holtzclaw (“Mr. Holtzclaw”); Jon Turovitz (“Mr. Turovitz”); Robert Young (“Mr. Young”);  
21 Blake Alexander Kraft (“Mr. Kraft”); Jaman Yonn Burton (“Mr. Burton”); Michael Rojas (“Mr.  
22 Rojas”); Hawnlay Swen (“Mr. Swen”); Thomas Morris III (“Mr. Morris”); Paul Lopez (“Mr.  
23 Lopez”); Rolando Cao (“Mr. Cao”); Benjamin Jackson (“Mr. Jackson”); Hung Sam (“Mr.  
24 Sam”); Corey Caspers (“Mr. Caspers”); and Adam Duong (“Mr. Duong”) (collectively, the  
25 “Plaintiffs,” with each sometimes being known as a “Plaintiff”), by and through counsel, The  
26 VerStandig Law Firm, LLC, and as and for their complaint (the “Complaint”) against Michael L.  
27  
28

1 Postle (“Mr. Postle”), King’s Casino, LLC d/b/a Stones Gambling Hall (“Stones”), Justin F.  
2 Kuraitis (“Mr. Kuraitis”), John Does 1-10 and Jane Does 1-10 (Mr. Postle, Stones, Mr. Kuraitis,  
3 John Does 1-10, and Jane Does 1-10 being collectively known as the “Defendants,” and each  
4 sometimes being known as a “Defendant”) state as follows:  
5

6 **Introduction**

7 1. This case concerns Mr. Postle’s systematic use of one or more electronic devices,  
8 for purposes of cheating, while playing in broadcast games of poker, to steal hundreds of  
9 thousands of dollars from fellow players.  
10

11 2. All poker games at issue herein occurred at Stones’ eponymous facility in Citrus  
12 Heights, California; as concerns and suspicions about Mr. Postle’s cheating were repeatedly  
13 brought to Stones’ management, the casino operator habitually sought to downplay such  
14 concerns while simultaneously promoting Mr. Postle as an idiosyncratically gifted individual  
15 imbued with poker skills so immense as to be incomprehensible to the average person.  
16

17 3. When Ms. Brill made public her concerns of cheating, in late September 2019,  
18 Stones initially responded by indicating her observations to be “completely fabricated;” only  
19 after the *ad hoc* poker community proceeded to investigate such allegations in myriad public  
20 forums, and confirmed Mr. Postle to be engaged in demonstrative cheating, did Stones announce  
21 a new investigation to be underway by an “independent” third party who, in actuality, is Stones’  
22 own legal counsel.  
23

24 4. As extrapolated upon *infra*, this case represents the single largest known cheating  
25 scandal in the history of broadcast poker, emanates from a series of events that have rocked the  
26 poker community, is brought with hopes the discovery process will reveal why Stones appears to  
27  
28

1 have perpetually covered up for Mr. Postle, and is filed with the aim of bringing redress to the  
2 numerous individuals victimized by Mr. Postle and his confederate(s).

3  
4 **Parties**

5 5. Ms. Brill is a natural person who is a citizen of Canada and domiciliary of the  
6 State of California, in which she legally resides.

7 6. Ms. Mills is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of Texas by virtue of her  
8 ongoing domicile therein.

9 7. Mr. Goone is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of California by virtue  
10 of his ongoing domicile therein.

11 8. Mr. Shergill is a natural person who is a citizen of Canada.

12 9. Mr. Scott is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of New Hampshire by  
13 virtue of his ongoing domicile therein.

14 10. Mr. Nagra is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of Nevada by virtue of  
15 his ongoing domicile therein.

16 11. Mr. James is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of Nevada by virtue of  
17 his ongoing domicile therein.

18 12. Mr. Phan is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of California by virtue of  
19 his ongoing domicile therein.

20 13. Mr. Sluzinski is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of Nevada by virtue  
21 of his ongoing domicile therein.

22 14. Mr. Karnofsky is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of California by  
23 virtue of his ongoing domicile therein.

1           15. Mr. Pelkey is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of California by virtue  
2 of his ongoing domicile therein.

3           16. Mr. Holtzclaw is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of California by  
4 virtue of his ongoing domicile therein.

5           17. Mr. Turovitz is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of California by  
6 virtue of his ongoing domicile therein.

7           18. Mr. Young is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of California by virtue  
8 of his ongoing domicile therein.

9           19. Mr. Kraft is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of California by virtue of  
10 his ongoing domicile therein.

11           20. Mr. Burton is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of Missouri by virtue  
12 of his ongoing domicile therein.

13           21. Mr. Rojas is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of California by virtue  
14 of his ongoing domicile therein.

15           22. Mr. Swen is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of California by virtue  
16 of his ongoing domicile therein.

17           23. Mr. Morris is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of California by virtue  
18 of his ongoing domicile therein.

19           24. Mr. Lopez is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of California by virtue  
20 of his ongoing domicile therein.

21           25. Mr. Cao is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of California by virtue of  
22 his ongoing domicile therein.

1           26. Mr. Jackson is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of California by virtue  
2 of his ongoing domicile therein.

3           27. Mr. Sam is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of California by virtue of  
4 his ongoing domicile therein.

5           28. Mr. Caspers is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of California by virtue  
6 of his ongoing domicile therein.

7           29. Mr. Duong is a natural person who is a citizen of the State of California by virtue  
8 of his ongoing domicile therein.

9           30. Mr. Postle is a natural person who, upon information and belief, is a citizen of the  
10 State of California by virtue of his ongoing domicile therein.

11           31. Stones is a limited liability company formed pursuant to the laws of the State of  
12 Delaware, with a principle place of business in the State of California; the membership of Stones  
13 is not known to the Plaintiffs as of the filing of this Complaint but it is anticipated such will be  
14 learned in discovery to the extent relevant to this case.

15           32. Mr. Kuraitis is a natural person who, upon information and belief, is a citizen of  
16 the State of California by virtue of his ongoing domicile therein.

17           33. John Does 1-10 and Jane Does 1-10 are persons, natural and/or legal, who (i)  
18 conspired with Mr. Postle to cheat at the game of poker through one or more electronic  
19 instrumentalities; (ii) aided Mr. Postle in cheating at the game of poker; (iii) worked to conceal  
20 Mr. Postle's cheating from discovery by third parties; (iv) were charged with monitoring Stones'  
21 eponymous card room for cheating activity and failed to do so; (v) suppressed allegations of Mr.  
22 Postle's cheating, leading to the continuation of his tortious conduct; (vi) installed or  
23 implemented electronic devices to be utilized by Mr. Postle while cheating at games of poker;  
24  
25  
26  
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1 (vii) altered broadcast graphics so as to make Mr. Postle's cheating behavior less evident to  
2 viewers and the public at large; and/or (viii) aided Mr. Postle in structuring monetary  
3 transactions so as to avoid tax reporting requirements. The Plaintiffs have a good faith basis upon  
4 which to allege the identity of the person who is John Doe 1, being an individual who directly  
5 aided Mr. Postle in cheating by aiding in the concealment of such behavior with knowledge and  
6 scienter, and have directed a litigation hold letter to such person. The Plaintiffs, however, are  
7 cognizantly refraining from making such allegation against this particular Defendant herein until  
8 greater information can be gleaned through the discovery process, in recognition of the  
9 sensitivity of making such an allegation. If necessary to conform with the pleading standards of  
10 this Honorable Court, however, the Plaintiffs are prepared to amend this Complaint and identify  
11 John Doe 1 by his legal name, without the aid of discovery, and do further note that their pre-  
12 filing investigation of the facts of this case furnishes them with a sufficient basis to do so; their  
13 election to not do so at this time is solely derivative of a desire to be more cautious than required,  
14 given the gravity of this matter.

#### 18 **Jurisdiction and Venue**

19 34. This Honorable Court enjoys jurisdiction over the matter *sub judice* pursuant to  
20 the allowances of Section 1331 of Title 28 of the United States Code, as this case involves a  
21 claim for relief arising under the Racketeer Influenced Corrupt Organization Act codified at  
22 Section 1961, *et seq.* of Title 18 of the United States Code.

24 35. This Honorable Court enjoys supplemental jurisdiction over the state and  
25 common law claims set forth herein, pursuant to the allowances of Section 1367(a) of Title 28 of  
26 the United States Code, as the first cause of action enumerated herein furnishes this Honorable  
27 Court with original jurisdiction as alleged *supra*.





1           41.     The phenomenon of broadcasting poker games where the public is able to see  
2 players' Hole Cards is neither new nor novel; this has been an emerging trend in the poker  
3 industry for much of the past few decades, and one that has allowed television and internet  
4 content producers to create more dramatic, appealing programs, by satisfying the desire of  
5 viewers to assume an omniscient posture while consuming poker programming.  
6

7           42.     To avoid the precise variety of cheating evidenced in this case, most purveyors of  
8 RFID technology in live poker games feed the information – through one or more encrypted  
9 channels – to a separate control room, away from the physical area in which the poker game is  
10 being played, and then have the control room produce the broadcast on a delay of typically  
11 fifteen (15) to thirty (30) minutes.  
12

13           43.     Other operators of RFID-enabled poker games – such as the World Series of  
14 Poker and the Bicycle Casino in Bell Gardens, California – take extensive steps to ensure the  
15 security of players' Hole Cards, so as to protect the integrity of the poker games being broadcast,  
16 to entice reputable poker players to participate in such games, and to avoid enabling the sort of  
17 rampant criminality alleged in this Complaint.  
18

19           44.     Stones uses its RFID Table to broadcast “live” poker games (typically on a delay,  
20 as discussed *supra*) several nights a week, airing such games on various internet platforms and  
21 publicizing such games as “Stones Live Poker.”  
22

23           45.     When Stones utilizes its RFID Table to broadcast poker games, it has one or more  
24 persons offer live commentary on the subject game from a booth within the Stones poker room  
25 (the “Commentator,” defined in the singular even though it is often embodied in the plural).  
26  
27  
28



1           53.     These winnings and this aura were brought about by Mr. Postle’s peculiar ability  
2 to make a situationally-optimal decision in almost every situation with which he was confronted  
3 while playing on Stones Live Poker from July 2018 onward.

4  
5           54.     This optimal decision making was so precise as to allow Mr. Postle to record net  
6 winnings in more than ninety four percent (94%) of the Stones Live Poker games in which he  
7 played from July 18, 2018 onward, even though such games are of fixed duration and elevated  
8 variance (relative to “normal” poker games); such a winning percentage, under these confined  
9 circumstances in a streamed environment, is not known to have been achieved by any other  
10 poker player – professional or amateur – over such a significant period of time.

11  
12           55.     This optimal decision making was also so precise as to allow Mr. Postle to record  
13 an average profit of more than sixty (60) “big blinds per hour” (a metric used by professional  
14 poker player to track winnings, adjusting for the different stakes of various games); by contrast,  
15 it is generally noted in poker circles five (5) big blinds per hour is a goal for which one should  
16 aspire, ten (10) big blinds per hour is exceptional, and anything more than twenty five (25) big  
17 blinds per hour is stratospherically phenomenal over any appreciable period of time due to the  
18 high presence of chance in games of poker and the inherent skill of other players.

19  
20           56.     A detailed review of Mr. Postle’s play reveals not only statistics unfathomable in  
21 the world of professional poker but, too, situation-specific decision making in which almost  
22 every so-called “guess” to be made by Mr. Postle is done so in a manner that optimally benefits  
23 his monetary interest.

24  
25           57.     Analytical observation reveals Mr. Postle’s exponential winnings cannot be  
26 explained through finely-honed abilities to “read” opponents, as myriad optimal plays made by  
27 Mr. Postle required not merely an analysis of his opponent’s self-perceived strength or weakness  
28

1 in a poker hand but, rather, the precise composition of such hand; while such may be anecdotally  
2 attributed to guess work in a vacuum, Mr. Postle was continuously correct in making such  
3 assessments over a period of time in excess of a full year.

4  
5 58. In short, Mr. Postle's poker winnings – considered in the prism of both metrics  
6 and hand-for-hand decision-making – on Stones Live Poker have been not merely outliers but, in  
7 fact, exponential outliers, representing a quality of play multiple degrees higher than that  
8 achieved by the best poker players in the world.

9  
10 59. Despite these metrics, Mr. Postle has – since commencing his run on Stones Live  
11 Poker – only rarely played cash poker games in other forums, almost never played in any cash  
12 poker games at Stones aside from those broadcast on Stones Live Poker, and habitually stopped  
13 playing on the Stones Live Poker game as soon as the broadcast ends (even though it is common  
14 for players to remain and play “offline” for some time thereafter).

15  
16 60. Similarly, Mr. Postle is not known – since commencing his run on Stones Live  
17 Poker – to have played on any other streamed poker game, even though at least one other stream  
18 (offering higher stakes and, thus, a greater chance for profit) runs regularly in California; nor has  
19 Mr. Postle been known to play with great frequency and regularity in any other cash poker  
20 games (streamed or unstreamed), in any location, during this time (even though higher stake  
21 games – offering, again, a greater chance for profit – regularly run in Las Vegas, Reno, Los  
22 Angeles, Atlantic City, Southern Florida, and other locations to which poker professionals  
23 regularly travel to maximize their earnings).

24  
25 61. Mr. Postle was able to achieve these results by engaging in a pattern and practice  
26 of using one or more wire communication mechanisms to defraud his opponents by gaining  
27 knowledge of their Hole Cards during the play of poker hands.

1           62. To carry out this pattern and practice, Mr. Postle was aided by one or more  
2 confederates – the John Doe 1-10 and Jane Doe 1-10 Defendants herein – who furnished him  
3 with this information, for purposes of carrying out a fraud, through one or more concealed  
4 communicative mechanisms.  
5

6           63. The Plaintiffs have reason to believe the mechanisms through which these myriad  
7 acts of wire fraud were carried out by Mr. Postle, John Does 1-10 and Jane Does 1-10 involved  
8 Mr. Postle’s cellular telephone being grasped by his left hand while concealed under the poker  
9 table and/or Mr. Postle’s baseball cap being imbedded with a communications device creating an  
10 artificial bulge in its lining (that is notably absent in photographs of the same baseball cap on Mr.  
11 Postle when he is not playing on Stones Live Poker).  
12

13           64. For the avoidance of doubt, the Plaintiffs make their allegation of Mr. Postle  
14 systematically, habitually and regularly cheating at Stones Live Poker games based not on a  
15 hunch or suspicion correlative to any one specific cheating device but, rather, based on a  
16 statistical analysis of his results and analytical review of the manner in which he played.  
17

18           65. For the avoidance of doubt, the Plaintiffs allege Mr. Postle to have used one or  
19 more wire communication facilities, with the aid of a confederate, based on an understanding  
20 that this cheating behavior occurred only at the RFID Table; the RFID Table is equipped to  
21 reveal players’ concealed cards through wire communications; and it would not be possible for  
22 Mr. Postle to have such information relayed to him without the aid of a confederate.  
23

24           66. There exists, too, instance-specific evidence of Mr. Postle being aware of other  
25 players’ precise hidden cards; on one occasion he visited the Commentator after a Stone Live  
26 Poker game to discuss his play, and indicated he was aware that a specific hand had only  
27 displayed “two of our cards” to the viewing public (whereas four cards should have been  
28

1 displayed, based on the type of poker being played), even though he would not have had the  
2 opportunity to view the broadcast – and, thus, become aware of this technical malfunction – prior  
3 to making that comment, unless he had illicitly accessed the information in real time, with the aid  
4 of one or more confederates.  
5

6 67. During this hand, in which only two (2) of each player’s four (4) Hole Cards were  
7 captured by the RFID Table, Mr. Postle can be seen repeatedly looking at his cellular telephone  
8 under the table and endeavoring to spread all four (4) of his Hole Cards over the RFID Table’s  
9 censor, in a deliberate and highly unusual manner; his demeanor throughout the hand is  
10 exceedingly strange, and it is manifest this technical malfunction (which, in turn, denies him the  
11 ability to play the hand with knowledge of his opponents’ Hole Cards) is distressing to Mr.  
12 Postle even though the malfunction it is one of which he would have no real time knowledge if  
13 he was not engaged in fraudulent cheating behavior.  
14

15 68. While there are a handful of Stones Live Poker sessions in which Mr. Postle did  
16 not make money, and in which he played in a sub-optimal manner, the Plaintiffs have  
17 information and a belief that such sessions correlate to the absence of Mr. Postle’s suspected  
18 chief confederate, John Doe 1, and the Plaintiffs further allege Mr. Postle’s participation in  
19 Stones Live Poker games was uncharacteristically rare – in contrast to his normal schedule –  
20 when the person the Plaintiffs believe to be John Doe 1 was absent from the Sacramento area.  
21  
22

23 **General Allegations: Coverup**

24 69. On multiple occasions, when Mr. Postle’s play of a given poker hand could not be  
25 explained through any point of strategy or style, and was instead heavily suggestive of cheating,  
26 one or more agents of Stones would announce his cards, as displayed on viewers’ screens, were  
27  
28

1 errant, and on at least one occasion the image would then “correct” the cards to suggest he was  
2 holding a different hand.

3 70. For various technical reasons, it is not possible for the RFID Table to have  
4 misread Mr. Postle’s cards only when they were dealt to Mr. Postle; if a misread was to occur, it  
5 would chronically follow the same precise cards of the deck when dealt to any player in the  
6 game, in any hand of poker in that given game.

7  
8 71. On every occasion where there was a “misread” of Mr. Postle’s hand in such an  
9 instance, the “corrected” cards served to make more plausible Mr. Postle’s behavior in the given  
10 hand; never did such serve to make Mr. Postle’s play of the hand less plausible.

11  
12 72. These faux corrections were part of a pattern and practice, on the part of Stones  
13 through its agent(s), to conceal Mr. Postle’s cheating from the public.

14 73. Commencing at least as early as March 13, 2019, numerous individuals  
15 approached Mr. Kuraitis to indicate the play of Mr. Postle on Stones Live Poker can only be  
16 attributed to cheating or, at minimum, is strongly indicative of the presence of cheating.

17  
18 74. Mr. Kuraitis repeatedly told multiple persons Mr. Postle was not cheating but, to  
19 the contrary, Mr. Postle’s play is simply “on a different level” or he is “just on a heater” and his  
20 play is not something that can be explained.

21 75. Mr. Kuraitis told multiple persons Stones conducted a thorough investigation into  
22 the matter and such did not reveal the presence of cheating.

23  
24 76. On September 29, 2019, Stones – through its @StonesLivePoker Twitter handle –  
25 responded to allegations of cheating on the part of Mr. Postle by writing, *inter alia*, “We  
26 conducted a full investigation & found no evidence that any cheating had occurred,” going on to  
27

1 write, in response to public allegations then made by Ms. Brill, “The recent allegations are  
2 completely fabricated.”

3  
4 77. It is not clear how a “full investigation” could have been carried out by Stones  
5 prior to September 29, 2019; none of the Plaintiffs herein – all persons who played on Stones  
6 Live Poker with Mr. Postle – were ever approached or interviewed in furtherance of such an  
7 investigation and, upon information and belief, neither was Mr. Postle.

8  
9 78. To the contrary, if an investigation was undertaken (and the Plaintiffs do not  
10 know if one was or one was not), the same would necessarily not have been a “full” investigation  
11 in any normative sense of the term.

12  
13 79. Rather, when suspicions and concerns about Mr. Postle’s play began to be raised,  
14 Stones – through Mr. Kuraitis and others – sought to quell such by giving false assurances a  
15 “full” investigation was undertaken, by playing up Mr. Postle as a deity-like figure through the  
16 introduction of certain graphics on the Stones Live Poker broadcast, and by telling players they  
17 simply did not understand Mr. Postle’s immensely talented play.

18  
19 80. By taking these concerted actions, Stones was able to prolong the period of time  
20 in which Mr. Postle cheated other poker players out of their money, was able to elongate Mr.  
21 Postle’s fraudulent conduct, and was able to allow for the further enrichment of Mr. Postle and  
22 his confederate(s).

23  
24 81. Only after Ms. Brill made public her suspicions, and the poker community at  
25 large responded by carrying out a series of *ad hoc* investigations through utilization of footage of  
26 old Stones Live Poker broadcasts, did Stones suspend the Stones Live Poker broadcast and  
27 announce the launching of an “independent investigation team.”  
28





**General Allegations: Live Stream Security**

1  
2 89. Operating a livestream – using a device like the RFID Table – does not have to  
3 be, and should not be, a security risk.

4  
5 90. Numerous poker rooms have operated RFID-based live streams for several years,  
6 without any known instances of cheating having occurred by reason of manipulation of such  
7 RFID technology.

8 91. By way of anecdote only, one casino in Los Angeles was an early pioneer in  
9 operating an RFID-based live stream and still utilizes it to broadcast widely-viewed cash poker  
10 games, four (4) to five (5) nights per week, through the present; the security and integrity of such  
11 casino’s streaming operation is not readily subject to meaningful or well-reasoned challenge.

12  
13 92. Stones, however, utilized an appreciably more lackadaisical approach to security  
14 with its Stones Like Poker stream, allowing the room in which concealed information is  
15 reviewed in real time (the “Production Room”) to be readily accessibly by numerous people; by  
16 not constructing a proper security perimeter around the Production Room; by allowing the use of  
17 cellular telephones in the Production Room, during Stones Live Poker streams; and otherwise.

18  
19 93. Not only does this case not challenge the permissibility of undertaking a live  
20 poker stream but, to the contrary, this case is premised, in large part, upon the understanding that  
21 such live poker streams can – and should – be carried out in a secure and intelligent fashion, and  
22 that Stones was grossly negligent in not even feigning compliance with prevailing industry  
23 norms and standards for such an operation.  
24

1           **Count I – Violation of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act**  
2                           **As Codified at Section 1962(c) of Title 18 of the United States Code**  
3                                   **As Against Mr. Postle, John Does 1-10, and Jane Does 1-10**

4  
5           94.     The Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each and every foregoing paragraph of this  
6 Complaint, as though fully set forth herein.

7           95.     Mr. Postle, John Does 1-10, and Jane Does 1-10, “devised ... [a] scheme or  
8 artifice to defraud, or for obtaining money ... by means of false or fraudulent pretenses, [and]  
9 representations,” in furtherance of which they did “transmit[] or causes to be transmitted by  
10 means of wire ... communication in interstate or foreign commerce, ... signals, pictures, or  
11 sounds for the purpose of executing such scheme or artifice,” in contravention of Section 1343 of  
12 Title 18 of the United States Code.

13  
14           96.     Specifically, Mr. Postle, John Does 1-10, and Jane Does 1-10 used one or more  
15 instrumentalities of wire transmissions to relay to Mr. Postle, while playing in the Stones Live  
16 Poker games, information concerning the concealed card holdings of other players in the game,  
17 with such being transmitted for the express purpose of aiding Mr. Postle in a scheme to make  
18 money from such other players by fraudulently cheating in such game; Mr. Postle, John Does 1-  
19 10, and Jane Does 1-10, working together, directed the scheme.

20  
21           97.     Based on a review of video footage of several Stones Like Poker games, this  
22 scheme to defraud involved transmitting to Mr. Postle, via his cellular telephone, information  
23 concerning the concealed cards of other players, on multiple occasions.

24  
25           98.     The specific mechanism(s) through which such information was fed to Mr. Postle  
26 by John Does 1-10 and Jane Does 1-10 is known only to them as of the filing of this Complaint,  
27 and will be learned through discovery herein; the Plaintiffs do, however, have information  
28

1 sufficient to specifically allege wire communications to have been sent to Mr. Postle's telephone,  
2 know such transmissions occurred during Stones Live Poker games, to allege such transmissions  
3 were made for purposes of defrauding the Plaintiffs (and others), and to allege such  
4 transmissions contained information concerning the concealed cards of the Plaintiffs (and  
5 others).  
6 others).

7 99. The actions alleged in this Count I all occurred after Mr. Postle, John Does 1-10,  
8 and Jane Does 1-10 devised a scheme to defraud individuals – including the Plaintiffs – by  
9 having Mr. Postle cheat while playing in Stones Live Poker games.  
10

11 100. The fraudulent conduct alleged in this Count I occurred on at least the following  
12 dates:

- 13 i. July 18, 2018
- 14 ii. July 30, 2018
- 15 iii. August 1, 2018
- 16 iv. August 3, 2018
- 17 v. August 6, 2018
- 18 vi. August 10, 2018
- 19 vii. August 15, 2018
- 20 viii. August 22, 2018
- 21 ix. August 29, 2018
- 22 x. September 5, 2018
- 23 xi. September 15, 2018
- 24 xii. September 24, 2018
- 25 xiii. September 26, 2018
- 26
- 27
- 28

- 1       xiv.    October 10, 2018
- 2       xv.     October 17, 2018
- 3       xvi.    October 19, 2018
- 4       xvii.   October 20, 2018
- 5       xviii.   October 24, 2018
- 6       xix.     October 29, 2018
- 7       xx.      November 7, 2018
- 8       xxi.     November 21, 2018
- 9       xxii.    November 26, 2018
- 10      xxiii.   November 28, 2018
- 11      xxiv.    December 5, 2018
- 12      xxv.     December 12, 2018
- 13      xxvi.    December 16, 2018
- 14      xxvii.   December 17, 2018
- 15      xxviii.   January 2, 2019
- 16      xxix.    January 7, 2019
- 17      xxx.     January 9, 2019
- 18      xxxi.    January 12, 2019
- 19      xxxii.   January 14, 2019
- 20      xxxiii.   January 16, 2019
- 21      xxxiv.   January 19, 2019
- 22      xxxv.    January 30, 2019
- 23      xxxvi.   February 9, 2019

- 1 xxxvii. February 16, 2019
- 2 xxxviii. February 25, 2019
- 3 xxxix. February 27, 2019
- 4 xl. March 9, 2019
- 5 xli. March 13, 2019
- 6 xlii. March 16, 2019
- 7 xliii. March 18, 2019
- 8 xliv. March 23, 2019
- 9 xlv. March 25, 2019
- 10 xlvi. April 8, 2019
- 11 xlvii. April 20, 2019
- 12 xlviii. April 22, 2019
- 13 xlix. April 30, 2019
- 14 i. May 2, 2019
- 15 ii. May 3, 2019
- 16 iii. May 4, 2019
- 17 liii. May 8, 2019
- 18 liv. May 13, 2019
- 19 lv. May 18, 2019
- 20 lvi. May 20, 2019
- 21 lvii. July 20, 2019
- 22 lviii. July 22, 2019
- 23 lix. July 31, 2019
- 24
- 25
- 26
- 27
- 28

1           ix.    August 3, 2019

2           lxi.   August 5, 2019

3           lxii.   August 7, 2019

4           lxiii.   August 14, 2019

5           lxiv.   August 17, 2019

6           lxv.    August 21, 2019

7           lxvi.   September 9, 2019

8           lxvii.   September 18, 2019

9           lxviii.   September 21, 2019

10           101.   Mr. Postle, John Does 1-10, and Jane Does 1-10 did constitute an “enterprise,” as  
11           that term is defined in Section 1961(4) of Title 18 of the United States Code, at all times  
12           relevant.  
13

14           102.   While the Plaintiffs do not know how many persons participated in such  
15           “enterprise,” and will need discovery to learn such information as it is uniquely known to the  
16           Defendants as of present, the Plaintiffs do specifically allege Mr. Postle had at least one  
17           confederate, that such confederate – John Doe 1 – is the individual who caused to be transmitted  
18           to Mr. Postle the information concerning other players’ Hole Cards during Stones Live Poker  
19           games, and that such confederate also took steps to allay suspicions and concerns regarding Mr.  
20           Postle’s cheating so as to allow the same conduct to continue in an unabated manner for a  
21           protracted period of time in excess of one (1) year.  
22

23           103.   The actions of Mr. Postle, John Doe 1, and Mr. Postle’s other confederate(s) did  
24           constitute a “pattern of racketeering activity,” as that term is defined in Section 1961(5) of Title  
25           18 of the United States Code, as individual acts of wire fraud occurred on at least sixty eight (68)  
26  
27  
28

1 separate occasions, correlating to every time Mr. Postle cheated in a Stones Live Poker game  
2 throughout the calendar years 2018 and 2019.

3 104. The Plaintiffs' property interests have been damaged through the racketeering  
4 conduct set forth herein, as each has been deprived of monies – or the opportunity to win monies  
5 in an honest poker game – by reason of the racketeering conduct.  
6

7 105. Specifically, most Plaintiffs have lost money to Mr. Postle, in cheated hands of  
8 poker, that would not have been lost but for Mr. Postle cheating.

9 106. Specifically, most Plaintiffs would have derived winnings from hands of poker  
10 but for their inability to do so as a result of Mr. Postle cheating.  
11

12 WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs respectfully pray this Honorable Court (i) enter judgment in  
13 favor of each Plaintiff, individually, and against Mr. Postle, John Does 1-10, and Jane Does 1-10,  
14 jointly and severally, in an amount equal to three times the damages suffered by each individual  
15 Plaintiff, pursuant to the allowances of Section 1964(c) of Title 18 of the United States Code; (ii)  
16 award each Plaintiff his or her respective attorneys' fees and suit costs incurred in connection  
17 with this action, and reduce the same to judgment in favor of each Plaintiff individually, with  
18 each such judgment being jointly and severally against Mr. Postle, John Does 1-10 and Jane  
19 Does 1-10, pursuant to the allowances of Section 1964(c) of Title 18 of the United States Code;  
20 and (iii) afford such other and further relief as may be just and proper.  
21  
22

23 **Count II – Fraud**

24 **As Against Mr. Postle, John Does 1-10, and Jane Does 1-10**

25 107. The Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each and every foregoing paragraph of this  
26 Complaint, as though fully set forth herein.  
27  
28



1 108. Mr. Postle and his confederate(s) implicitly represented to all players  
2 participating in Stones Live Poker games that Mr. Postle is a fellow honest participant in such  
3 games.

4 109. This representation was false, as Mr. Postle and his confederate(s) were utilizing  
5 various wire communication facilities to permit Mr. Postle to cheat in such games.  
6

7 110. Mr. Postle and his confederate(s) had knowledge of the falsity of these  
8 representations, as their own overt conduct was required to carry out the fraud alleged herein.  
9

10 111. Mr. Postle and his confederate(s) made these implicit representations with the  
11 intent to defraud others by inducing their play in Stones Live Poker games where Mr. Postle  
12 could then take their money.

13 112. The Plaintiffs herein justifiably relied on these fraudulent representations, electing  
14 to wager their own hard-earned money in Stones Live Poker games believing such to be honest  
15 and fair contests.  
16

17 113. The Plaintiffs herein have been damaged both in the form of monies lost to Mr.  
18 Postle in such Stones Live Poker games and, too, the loss of opportunity to earn monies through  
19 honest games of poker broadcast to the viewing public on a stream.

20 WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs respectfully pray this Honorable Court (i) enter judgment in  
21 favor of each Plaintiff, individually, and against Mr. Postle, John Does 1-10, and Jane Does 1-10,  
22 jointly and severally, in an amount equal to the damages suffered by each individual Plaintiff; (ii)  
23 enter judgment favor of each Plaintiff, individually, and against Mr. Postle, John Does 1-10, and  
24 Jane Does 1-10, jointly and severally, as and for punitive damages, in the sum of Ten Million  
25 Dollars and No Cents (\$10,000,000.00), divided *pari passu* between and amongst the Plaintiffs  
26 in proration to the number of minutes they spent playing on the Stones Like Poker broadcast  
27  
28

1 from July 18, 2018 through the present; and (iii) afford such other and further relief as may be  
2 just and proper.

3 **Count III – Negligent Misrepresentation**

4 **As Against Mr. Postle, Stones, Mr. Kuraitis, John Does 1-10, and Jane Does 1-10**

5  
6 114. The Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each and every foregoing paragraph of this  
7 Complaint, as though fully set forth herein.

8 115. The Defendants implicitly and explicitly herein represented the Stones Live Poker  
9 games to be honest poker games monitored and effectively regulated by a licensed gaming  
10 operator in full compliance with California law.

11  
12 116. Mr. Postle did so through the conduct alleged *supra* in Count II of this Complaint.

13 117. Mr. Kuraitis – individually and as an agent of Stones – did so when he allayed  
14 suspicions of cheating by telling people Mr. Postle’s play of poker was simply on “a different  
15 level,” and that Mr. Postle is “on a heater,” while also telling at least one Plaintiff that Stones  
16 undertakes a quarterly security audit of its Stones Live Poker system and assuring multiple  
17 Plaintiffs that Stones had investigated Mr. Postle’s play and cleared him.

18  
19 118. Stones also made this representation implicitly by conducting Stones Live Poker  
20 games in a licensed casino, wherein there exists an implicit representation players are protected  
21 from the cheating of other players through utilization of adequate and sufficient security  
22 measures and protocols.

23  
24 119. These representations were untrue, as Mr. Postle was cheating in the Stones Live  
25 Poker games from at least July 2018 onward.

26 120. Mr. Postle made this implicit representation without a reasonable basis for  
27 believing it to be true, inasmuch as he personally knew of his own cheating conduct.  
28

1 121. Stones and Mr. Kuraitis made these representations without a reasonable basis for  
2 believing them to be true, as they continuously concealed allegations of cheating on the part of  
3 Mr. Postle, and failed to supervise the Stones Live Poker with adequate and sufficient security.  
4

5 122. Stones also knew this representation to be untrue because at least one agent of  
6 Stones served as a John Doe or Jane Doe confederate of Mr. Postle in aiding him with carrying  
7 out his scheme to defraud other poker players.

8 123. These representations were universally made with an intent to induce reliance on  
9 the part of the Plaintiffs in the form of having the Plaintiffs continue to play in the Stones Live  
10 Poker games.  
11

12 124. The Plaintiffs did detrimentally rely on these representations by continuing to  
13 play in the Stones Live Poker games.

14 125. The Plaintiffs herein have been damaged both in the form of monies lost to Mr.  
15 Postle in such Stones Live Poker games and, too, the loss of opportunity to earn monies through  
16 honest games of poker broadcast to the viewing public on a stream.  
17

18 WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs respectfully pray this Honorable Court (i) enter judgment in  
19 favor of each Plaintiff, individually, and against Mr. Postle, Stones, Mr. Kuraitis, John Does 1-  
20 10, and Jane Does 1-10, jointly and severally, in an amount equal to the damages suffered by  
21 each individual Plaintiff; and (ii) afford such other and further relief as may be just and proper.  
22

23 **Count IV – Negligence Per Se**

24 **As Against Mr. Postle, John Does 1-10, and Jane Does 1-10**

25 126. The Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each and every foregoing paragraph of this  
26 Complaint, as though fully set forth herein.  
27  
28



1 132. A failure on the part of Mr. Postle to return these winnings will result in his being  
2 unjustly enriched to the detriment of the Plaintiffs.

3 WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs respectfully pray this Honorable Court (i) enter judgment in  
4 favor of each Plaintiff, individually, and against Mr. Postle, in an amount equal to the damages  
5 suffered by each individual Plaintiff; and (ii) afford such other and further relief as may be just  
6 and proper.  
7

8 **Count VI – Negligence**

9 **As Against Stones and Mr. Kuraitis**

10 133. The Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each and every foregoing paragraph of this  
11 Complaint, as though fully set forth herein.  
12

13 134. As the director of Stones Live Poker, Mr. Kuraitis – individually and as an agent  
14 of Stones – had a duty to ensure the game was carried out in a manner reasonably free of  
15 cheating, and to take reasonable steps to detect and stop any cheating from occurring.  
16

17 135. Mr. Kuraitis breached this duty by not adequately investigating allegations of  
18 cheating on the part of Mr. Postle, not following such allegations with an objective examination  
19 of Mr. Postle’s play (which would have confirmed the presence of cheating), and allowing Mr.  
20 Postle to remain in the Stones Live Poker games.  
21

22 136. Stones breached this duty by maintaining a control room that did not adhere to  
23 prevailing industry standards for security.

24 137. These breaches have caused the Plaintiffs to sustain damages, as they each  
25 continued to play in poker games in which criminal fraud was being carried out; they each either  
26 lost money, or lost the opportunity to maximize profit, in such games; and they have each had  
27 their confidence in the fairness of poker games disrupted and disturbed.  
28



1 WHEREFORE, the Plaintiffs respectfully pray this Honorable Court (i) enter judgment in  
2 favor of each Plaintiff, individually, and against Stones, in an amount equal to the damages  
3 suffered by each individual Plaintiff; (ii) enter judgment favor of each Plaintiff, individually, and  
4 against Stones, as and for punitive damages, in the sum of Ten Million Dollars and No Cents  
5 (\$10,000,000.00), divided *pari passu* between and amongst the Plaintiffs in proration to the  
6 number of minutes they spent playing on the Stones Like Poker broadcast from July 18, 2018  
7 through the present; and (iii) afford such other and further relief as may be just and proper.  
8

9 **Count VIII – Fraud**

10 **As Against Stones and Mr. Kuraitis**

11  
12 146. The Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each and every foregoing paragraph of this  
13 Complaint, as though fully set forth herein.

14 147. Mr. Kuraitis, in his capacity as an employee and agent of Stones, expressly told  
15 Ms. Brill, Ms. Mills, and Mr. Goone (the “Stones Fraud Victims”) there was no cheating in the  
16 Stones Live Poker broadcast.  
17

18 148. Mr. Kuraitis further informed the Stoned Fraud Victims a thorough investigation  
19 of such cheating allegations had occurred or would be occurring.

20 149. Mr. Kuraitis knew, or should have known, these representations to be false; had  
21 he reviewed the cumulative footage of Mr. Postle’s play, it would have revealed cheating to be  
22 rampant, and it is not possible for any putative investigation carried out to have been thorough  
23 and such would have revealed the cheating underlying this Complaint.  
24

25 150. The Stones Fraud Victims relied on these counterfactual representations in  
26 continuing to play on Stones Live Poker; had they known the game to be fraudulent, they would  
27 have declined to further participate in the game.  
28

1 151. The Stones Fraud Victims have been damaged by these representations in an  
2 amount equal to their pro rata share of the monies Mr. Postle won, as well as in a sum equal to  
3 other losses they sustained by playing in a fraudulent poker game.  
4

5 152. The fraudulent representation made to the Stones Fraud Victims, by Mr. Kuraitis,  
6 while acting for himself and on behalf of Stones, are particularly outrageous, as they served to  
7 allow the continuation of the largest known fraud in the modern history of live poker.

8 WHEREFORE, the Stones Fraud Victims respectfully pray this Honorable Court (i) enter  
9 judgment in their favor, individually, and against Mr. Kuraitis and Stones, jointly and severally,  
10 in an amount equal to their pro rata share of the monies Mr. Postle won, as well as in a sum equal  
11 to other losses they sustained by playing in a fraudulent poker game; (ii) enter judgment in their  
12 favor, individually, and against Mr. Kuraitis and Stones, jointly and severally, as and for punitive  
13 damages, in the sum of Ten Million Dollars and No Cents (\$10,000,000.00), divided *pari passu*  
14 between and amongst the Stones Fraud Victims in proration to the number of minutes they spent  
15 playing on the Stones Like Poker broadcast from January 1, 2019 through the present; and (iii)  
16 afford such other and further relief as may be just and proper.  
17  
18

19 **Count IX – Libel**

20 **As Against Stones**

21 153. The Plaintiffs repeat and reallege each and every foregoing paragraph of this  
22 Complaint, as though fully set forth herein.  
23

24 154. After Ms. Brill made public her suspicions of Mr. Postle cheating on the Stones  
25 Live Poker broadcast, Stones responded by asserting, on a publicly-available social media  
26 account, *inter alia*, “The recent allegations are completely fabricated.”  
27  
28



1           155. This statement was and is demonstrably counterfactual; the precise allegations  
2 made by Ms. Brill – that there is anecdotal and circumstantial evidence to believe someone has  
3 been cheating on the Stones Live Poker broadcast – were truthful in nature, objective in nature,  
4 and genuine in nature.  
5

6           156. As a direct and proximate result of Stones accusing Ms. Brill of making  
7 “completely fabricated” allegations, Ms. Brill suffered bullying, harassment, and emotionally-  
8 taxing non-physical attacks on social media and elsewhere.  
9

10           157. While Ms. Brill was rapidly acquitted of this libelous statement by third party  
11 members of the poker community who made public their ad hoc investigations, she nonetheless  
12 suffered the emotional duress of having her integrity and reputation sullied for a period of days  
13 before such acquittal could be brought about by the mitigating efforts of third party individuals.  
14

15           158. Ms. Brill brings this Count X solely to seek nominal damages, and in an effort to  
16 highlight Stones’ efforts to coverup the criminal activity alleged *passim* as being so pervasive as  
17 to extend to libeling one of the individuals who played on the Stones Live Poker game; she does  
18 not seek any damages correlative to the mental toll such libelous conduct took on her, nor does  
19 she seek any lost compensation nor any reputational damages, as the mitigation of Stones’  
20 conduct, by the poker community at large, has served to restore Ms. Brill’s good name.  
21

22           WHEREFORE, Ms. Brill respectfully prays this Honorable Court enter judgment against  
23 Stones, and in her favor, in the sum of One Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$1,000.00), and for  
24 such other and further relief as may be just and proper.  
25  
26  
27

28           **[JURY DEMAND AND SIGNATURES ON FOLLOWING PAGE]**

**Jury Demand**

Pursuant to, and in accordance with, the allowances of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 38, the Plaintiffs pray a trial by jury on all matters so triable.


Dated this 8th day of October, 2019.

Respectfully Submitted,

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