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ORIGINAL FILED
Superior Court of California
County of Los Angeles

FEB 13 2019

6 Plaintiff, In Propria Persona

Sherri R. Carter, Executive Officer/Clerk

By Darian Salisbury, Deputy

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9 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA
10 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – WEST CIVIL

11 HERBERT LESLIE GREENBERG a/k/a
12 LES GREENBERG,

CASE NO. SC 129 203

13 Plaintiff,

~~PROPOSED~~ JUDGMENT

14 v.

Assigned for All Purposes: Hon. Mark A. Young

15 CULVER CITY OBSERVER, INC. ,
16 STEPHEN LAWRENCE HADLAND, and
17 DOES 1 through 20, inclusive ,

Actual Trial Judge: Hon. Lawrence Cho

18 Defendants.

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20 WHEREAS, in the above-entitled action, plaintiff Herbert Leslie Greenberg (Greenberg)
21 alleges that defendants Culver City Observer, Inc. and Stephen Lawrence Hadland (Hadland)
22 committed defamation *per se* against him;

23 WHEREAS, on December 13, 2018, defendant Hadland filed a petition under Chapter 7
24 in the United States Bankruptcy Court;

25 WHEREAS, on December 14, 2018, the above-entitled cause was tried without a jury
26 separately against defendant Culver City Observer, Inc., in Department M of the above-entitled
27 court, with the Honorable Lawrence Cho, Judge presiding;

28 WHEREAS, at the trial, plaintiff Greenberg appeared *in propria persona*, and there was

1 no appearance on behalf of defendant Culver City Observer, Inc.;

2 WHEREAS, oral and documentary evidence was introduced on behalf of plaintiff
3 Greenberg at the trial, and the cause was argued and submitted for decision;

4 WHEREAS, defendant Culver City Observer, Inc. operated as the *Culver City*
5 *Observer*—a community newspaper;

6 WHEREAS, Hadland was the President and a Managing Director of defendant Culver
7 City Observer, Inc. and Publisher of the *Culver City Observer*;

8 WHEREAS, plaintiff Greenberg, in his capacity as an attorney, represented the legal
9 interests of the Ad Hoc Committee for Culver City Residents First, and that representation was
10 known to Hadland;

11 WHEREAS, Hadland caused the *Culver City Observer* to publish that: (1) Greenberg, an
12 attorney, threatened Hadland and another; (2) such threats were in violation of the California
13 Rules of Professional Conduct, and (3) the State Bar of California was investigating plaintiff
14 Greenberg for such alleged unethical conduct;

15 WHEREAS, the published statements were false as plaintiff Greenberg: (1) had not
16 threatened Hadland or the other, and (2) was not under investigation by the State Bar of
17 California for such alleged unethical conduct;

18 WHEREAS, plaintiff Greenberg timely requested a retraction from Hadland and the
19 *Culver City Observer* with regard to the aforesaid false statements;

20 WHEREAS, both Hadland and the *Culver City Observer* ignored plaintiff Greenberg's
21 aforesaid retraction request;

22 WHEREAS, defendant Culver City Observer, Inc. published, via the *Culver City*
23 *Observer*, the aforesaid false statements with malice, acting intentionally and not recklessly, as
24 part of an effort to intimidate the Ad Hoc Committee for Culver City Residents First from
25 exercising its Constitutional right of freedom of speech during a City-Council-election campaign.

26 The Court, having considered the evidence and heard argument and being fully advised,
27 and for good cause appearing, hereby rules as follows:

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IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED THAT:

1. Plaintiff Herbert Leslie Greenberg shall have and recover from defendant Culver City Observer, Inc. compensatory damages of \$5.00;
2. Plaintiff Herbert Leslie Greenberg shall have and recover from defendant Culver City Observer, Inc. punitive damages of \$1,000.00; and,
3. Plaintiff Herbert Leslie Greenberg shall have and recover his costs of \$ _____ from defendant Culver City Observer, Inc. to be determined by a memorandum of costs plaintiff Herbert Leslie Greenberg may hereafter file.

DATED: 2/13/19 
Lawrence Cho
Judge of the Superior Court