Case 3:08-cv-02050-D Document 278 Filed 10/16/13 Page 1 of 17 PageID 12035

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS DALLAS DIVISION

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
FILED

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XAS

CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT

By

Deputy

U.S. DISTRICT COURT

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION,

Plaintiff,

VS.

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MARK CUBAN,

Defendant.

COURT'S CHARGE TO THE JURY

MEMBERS OF THE JURY:

Now that you have heard all of the evidence and the argument of counsel, it becomes my duty to give you the instructions of the court concerning the law applicable to this case.

It is your duty as jurors to follow the law as I shall state it to you and to apply that law to the facts as you find them from the evidence in the case. You are not to single out one instruction as stating the law, but must consider the instructions as a whole. Neither are you to be concerned with the wisdom of any rule of law stated by me.

Regardless of any opinion you may have as to what the law is or ought to be, it would be a violation of your sworn duty to base a verdict upon any view of the law other than that given in these instructions, just as it would also be a violation of your sworn duty, as judges of the facts, to base a verdict upon anything other than the evidence in the case.

In deciding the facts of this case, you must not be swayed by bias or prejudice or favor as to any party. Our system of law does not permit jurors to be governed by prejudice or sympathy or public opinion. The parties and the public expect that you will carefully and impartially consider

all of the evidence in the case, follow the law as stated in these instructions, and reach a just verdict regardless of the consequences.

This case should be considered and decided by you as an action between persons of equal standing in the community and holding the same or similar stations in life. The law is no respecter of persons, and all persons, including government agencies, stand equal before the law and are to be dealt with as equals in a court of justice.

As stated earlier, it is your duty to determine the facts, and in so doing you must consider only the evidence I have admitted in the case. The term "evidence" includes the sworn testimony of the witnesses, including deposition witnesses, the exhibits admitted in the record, and the stipulated facts.

The parties have agreed, or stipulated, to certain facts. This means that both sides agree that something is a fact. You must therefore treat each stipulated fact as having been proved. The stipulated facts are contained in a document that you will be given during your deliberations entitled, "Stipulated Facts." Please refer to that document for the stipulated facts in this case.

The term "evidence" does not include anything that I have instructed you to disregard.

Evidence admitted before you for a limited purpose may not be considered for any purpose other than the limited purpose for which it was admitted.

Remember that any statements, objections, or arguments made by the lawyers are not evidence in the case. The function of the lawyers is to point out those things that are most significant or most helpful to their side of the case and, in so doing, to call your attention to certain facts or inferences that might otherwise escape your notice. In the final analysis, however, it is your own recollection and interpretation of the evidence that controls in the case. What the lawyers say

is not binding upon you. If an attorney's question contained an assertion of fact that the witness did not adopt, the assertion is not evidence of that fact.

You are not bound by any opinion that you might think I have concerning the facts of this case, and if I have in any way said or done anything that leads you to believe that I have any opinion about the facts in this case, you are instructed to disregard it. Further, nothing in these instructions to you is made for the purpose of suggesting or conveying to you an intimation as to what verdict I think you should find.

Although you should consider only the evidence in the case, you are permitted to draw such reasonable inferences from the testimony and exhibits as you feel are justified in the light of common experience. In other words, you may make deductions and reach conclusions that reason and common sense lead you to draw from the facts established by the evidence in the case.

You should not be concerned about whether the evidence is direct or circumstantial. "Direct evidence" exists when the evidence directly establishes the facts that a party asserts to be true, such as by an eyewitness or in a document. "Circumstantial evidence" is proof of a chain of facts and circumstances that, without going directly to prove the existence of an essential fact, gives rise to a logical inference that such fact does actually exist. The law makes no distinction between the weight you may give to either direct or circumstantial evidence.

Now, I have said that you must consider all of the evidence. This does not mean, however, that you must accept all of the evidence as true or accurate.

You are the sole judges of the "credibility" or believability of each witness and the weight to be given to the witness' testimony. In weighing the testimony of a witness, you should consider the witness' relationship to a particular party; the witness' interest, if any, in the outcome of the

case; the witness' manner of testifying; the witness' opportunity to observe or acquire knowledge concerning the facts about which the witness testified; the witness' candor, fairness, and intelligence; and the extent to which the witness' testimony has been supported or contradicted by other credible evidence. You may, in short, accept or reject the testimony of any witness, in whole or in part.

Also, the weight of the evidence is not necessarily determined by the number of witnesses testifying as to the existence or nonexistence of any fact. You may find that the testimony of a smaller number of witnesses as to any fact is more credible than the testimony of a larger number of witnesses to the contrary.

A witness may be "impeached" or discredited by contradictory evidence, by a showing that the witness testified falsely concerning a material matter, or by evidence that at some other time the witness said or did something, or failed to say or do something, that is inconsistent with the witness' present testimony. If you believe that any witness has been so impeached, it is your exclusive province to give the testimony of that witness such credibility or weight, if any, as you think it deserves.

You should keep in mind, of course, that a simple mistake by a witness does not necessarily mean that the witness was not telling the truth as the witness remembers it, because people naturally tend to forget some things or remember other things inaccurately. So, if a witness has made a misstatement, you need to consider whether that misstatement was simply an innocent lapse of memory or an intentional falsehood, and that may depend on whether it has to do with an important fact or with only an unimportant detail.

During the trial, I have instructed you that certain earlier statements of a witness were not admitted in evidence to prove that the contents of those statements are true. You may not consider these earlier statements to prove that the content of an earlier statement is true; you may only use these earlier statements to determine whether you think the earlier statements are consistent or inconsistent with the trial testimony of the witness and therefore whether they affect the credibility of that witness.

Certain testimony has been presented to you through a deposition. A deposition is the sworn, recorded answers to questions asked a witness in advance of the trial. Before this trial, attorneys representing the parties in this case questioned the witness under oath. A court reporter was present and recorded the testimony. This deposition testimony is entitled to the same consideration and is to be judged by you as to credibility, and weighed and otherwise considered by you insofar as possible in the same way, as if the witness had been present and had testified from the witness stand.

Deposition testimony can also be introduced for the purpose of impeaching or discrediting a witness. If, in the deposition, the witness made any statements in conflict with testimony the witness gave in court, you may consider such conflicts and any explanation therefor in determining the witness' credibility.

The rules of evidence provide that if scientific, technical, or other specialized knowledge will assist the jury to understand the evidence or to determine a fact in issue, a witness qualified as an expert by knowledge, skill, experience, training, or education may testify and state an opinion concerning such matters if the testimony is based upon sufficient facts or data, the testimony is the product of reliable principles and methods, and the witness has applied the principles and methods reliably to the facts in the case.

You should consider each expert opinion received in evidence in this case and give it such weight as you may think it deserves. If you should decide that the opinion of an expert witness is not based upon sufficient knowledge, skill, experience, training, or education, or if you should conclude that the reasons given in support of the opinion are not sound, or that the opinion is not based upon sufficient facts or data, or that the opinion is outweighed by other evidence, or that the opinion is not the product of reliable principles and methods, or that the witness has not applied the principles and methods reliably to the facts in the case, then you may disregard the opinion entirely.

Certain exhibits were used during this trial for demonstrative purposes, which means they have not been admitted in evidence and will not be provided to you during your deliberations. You may consider demonstrative exhibits to the extent they help you understand the evidence admitted during the trial, but you are entitled to disregard them entirely if you find that they do not accurately reflect the evidence that they purport to demonstrate. If your recollection of the evidence differs from the exhibit, rely on your recollection.

The plaintiff has the burden of proving each essential element of its claim by a "preponderance of the evidence." A preponderance of the evidence means such evidence as, when considered and compared with that opposed to it, has more convincing force and produces in your minds a belief that what is sought to be proved is more likely true than not true. To establish a claim by a "preponderance of the evidence" merely means to prove that the claim is more likely so than not so.

If the proof fails to establish any essential element of the plaintiff's claim by a preponderance of the evidence, the jury must find against the plaintiff.

In determining whether any fact in issue has been proved by a preponderance of the evidence, the jury may consider the testimony of all the witnesses, including deposition witnesses, regardless of who may have called them, and all the exhibits received in evidence, regardless of who may have produced them.

As used in this charge, the term "SEC" means plaintiff Securities and Exchange Commission, the term "Cuban" means defendant Mark Cuban, the term "Mamma.com" means Mamma.com Inc., and the term "PIPE" means a private investment in public equity.

A corporation can act only through natural persons as its agents or employees. In general, any agent or employee of a corporation can bind the corporation by acts and declarations made while acting within the scope of the authority delegated to the agent or employee by the corporation, or within the scope of the person's duties as an employee of the corporation.

SEC'S MISAPPROPRIATION THEORY OF INSIDER TRADING CLAIM

The SEC claims that Cuban engaged in insider trading, in violation of § 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 ("Securities Act"), § 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act"), and SEC Rule 10b-5. Section 17(a) of the Securities Act, § 10(b) of the Exchange Act, and SEC Rule 10b-5 make it unlawful for a person to employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud someone else in connection with the purchase or sale of any security. The SEC bases this claim on what is called the "misappropriation theory" of insider trading. Cuban denies that he engaged in insider trading and denies that he violated any of these laws.

Under the "misappropriation theory" of insider trading, a person is liable for violating § 17(a) of the Securities Act, § 10(b) of the Exchange Act, and Rule 10b-5 when it is proved by a

preponderance of the evidence that, in connection with a securities transaction, he knowingly or with severe recklessness misappropriates material, nonpublic information for securities trading purposes, in breach of a duty owed to the principal who is the source of the information. The person's undisclosed, self-serving use of the principal's information to purchase or sell securities, in breach of a duty to the principal, defrauds the principal of the exclusive use of that information. One way this duty to the principal can arise is when the person expressly or implicitly agrees with the principal that he will keep the material, nonpublic information confidential and that he will not trade on or otherwise use the information for his own benefit.

The "misappropriation theory" bases liability on a person's deception of the principal who entrusted the person with access to material, nonpublic information. The person's deceptive use of the information is "in connection with a securities transaction" because the person's fraud is consummated, not when he gains the material, nonpublic information, but when, without disclosure to his principal, he uses the information to purchase or sell securities. A person who trades on the basis of material, nonpublic information gains his advantageous market position through deception; he deceives the source of the information and simultaneously harms members of the investing public.

Because the duty of non-use of material, nonpublic information flows to the source of the information and not to the shareholders, a person's full disclosure to the source of the information that he intends to use the information forecloses liability under the "misappropriation theory" of insider trading. This is because the deception that is essential to the "misappropriation theory" occurs when a person secretly trades on material, nonpublic information, in violation of the source's legitimate and justifiable expectation that the recipient will not do so. If the person fully discloses

to the source that he plans to trade on the material, nonpublic information, there is no "device, scheme, or artifice to defraud," and thus no violation of § 17(a) of the Securities Act, § 10(b) of the Exchange Act, or SEC Rule 10b-5.

To establish this claim, the SEC must prove each of the following essential elements by a preponderance of the evidence:

<u>First</u>, that Cuban received material, nonpublic information from Mamma.com concerning Mamma.com's impending PIPE transaction;

<u>Second</u>, that Cuban expressly or implicitly agreed with Mamma.com to keep the material, nonpublic information confidential and not to trade on or otherwise use the information for his own benefit;

<u>Third</u>, that Cuban traded on the material, nonpublic information in the sale of his Mamma.com stock;

<u>Fourth</u>, that before trading on the material, nonpublic information, Cuban did not fully disclose to Mamma.com that he planned to trade on the material, nonpublic information;

Fifth, that Cuban acted knowingly or with severe recklessness;

 <u>Sixth</u>, that Cuban's conduct was in connection with the sale of a security; <u>and</u>

<u>Seventh</u>, that Cuban used or caused to be used a means or instrumentality of interstate commerce in connection with the sale of a security.

First Element

The SEC must prove that Cuban received "material, nonpublic information" from
Mamma.com concerning Mamma.com's impending PIPE transaction.

Information is "material" if there is a substantial likelihood that disclosure of the information would be viewed by the reasonable investor as having significantly altered the total mix of

information made available. Materiality depends on the significance the reasonable investor would place on the withheld or misrepresented information. Materiality is not judged in the abstract, but in light of the surrounding circumstances. Information is material if there is a substantial likelihood that, under all the circumstances, the information would have assumed actual significance in the deliberations of the reasonable shareholder.

Information is "nonpublic" if it has not been effectively disclosed in a manner sufficient to insure its availability to the investing public. Information becomes public when disclosed to achieve a broad dissemination to the investing public generally and without favoring any special person or group, or when, although known only by a few persons, their trading on it has caused the information to be fully incorporated into the price of the particular stock.

Information is "nonpublic" if it was not available to the public through such sources as press releases, SEC filings, trade publications, analysts' reports, newspapers, magazines, rumors, word of mouth, or other sources. In assessing whether information is "nonpublic," the key word is "available." If information is available in the public media or in SEC filings, it is public. However, the fact that information has not appeared in a newspaper or other widely available public medium does not alone determine whether the information is "nonpublic." Sometimes a corporation is willing to make information available to securities analysts, prospective investors, or members of the press who ask for it, even though it may never have appeared in any newspaper publication or other publication. Such information would be public. Accordingly, information is not necessarily "nonpublic" simply because there has been no formal announcement or because only a few people have been made aware of it. For example, if Mamma.com's policy was to give out certain

information to people who ask for it, that information is public information. Whether information is nonpublic is an issue of fact for you to decide.

On the other hand, the confirmation by an insider of unconfirmed facts or rumors—even if reported in a newspaper—may itself be inside information. Information from a corporate insider that is more reliable or specific than public rumors is nonpublic information despite the existence of such rumors in the media or investment community. Whether or not the confirmation of a rumor by an insider qualifies as material, nonpublic information is an issue of fact for you to decide.

Second Element

The SEC must prove that Cuban expressly or implicitly agreed with Mamma.com (a) that he would keep the material, nonpublic information confidential and (b) that he would not trade on or otherwise use the information for his own benefit. The express or implied agreement must include both aspects.

The existence of such an agreement can be implied from the parties' conduct and the surrounding circumstances.

Third Element

To prove that Cuban "traded on" the material, nonpublic information in the sale of his Mamma.com stock, the SEC must prove that Cuban used, or was motivated by, the material, nonpublic information in the sale of his Mamma.com stock. The SEC is not required to prove that Cuban sold his Mamma.com stock solely because of the material, nonpublic information.

Fourth Element

The SEC must prove that, before trading on the material, nonpublic information, Cuban did not fully disclose to Mamma.com that he planned to trade on the material, nonpublic information.

You may find that Cuban fully disclosed to Mamma.com that he planned to trade on the material, nonpublic information if he made the full disclosure to an agent of Mamma.com whose authority included receiving such notice, and who was acting within the scope of that authority when Cuban made the full disclosure. An agent is acting within the scope of the agent's authority if the agent is engaged in the performance of duties that were expressly or impliedly assigned to the agent by Mamma.com.

Fifth Element

The SEC must prove that Cuban acted "knowingly" or "with severe recklessness."

To prove that Cuban acted "knowingly," the SEC must prove that Cuban acted with an intent to deceive, manipulate, or defraud Mamma.com.

To prove that Cuban acted with "severe recklessness," the SEC must prove that Cuban engaged in conduct that involved an extreme departure from the standard of ordinary care. A person acts with reckless disregard if he knows of the danger or it is so obvious that an ordinary person under the circumstances would have been aware of it.

To prove that Cuban acted "knowingly" or "with severe recklessness," it is not enough to prove that he acted negligently, mistakenly, inadvertently, or accidentally.

A person's state of mind can be inferred from circumstantial evidence, including the person's words, conduct, acts, and all the surrounding circumstances and the reasonable inferences that may be drawn from them.

Sixth Element

It is undisputed that Mamma.com stock is a "security" within the meaning of § 17(a) of the Securities Act, § 10(b) of the Exchange Act, and SEC Rule 10b-5.

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Conduct is "in connection with" the sale of a security if there is some nexus or relation between the conduct and the sale of the security. Conduct may be "in connection with" the sale of a security if you find that the conduct "touched upon" or "coincided with" the sale of the security. Seventh Element To use, or cause to be used, a means or instrumentality of interstate commerce in connection with the sale of a security means to use or cause to be used the mails, telephone, or any facility of a national securities exchange. All that is required is that a means or instrumentality of interstate commerce be used in some phase of Cuban's sale of the security. **QUESTION:** Did the SEC prove each of the essential elements of its "misappropriation theory" of insider trading claim? Instruction: The SEC has the burden of proof. If it has met its burden as to an essential element, answer "Yes;" otherwise, answer "No." Answer separately as to each element. ANSWER: First, that Cuban received material, nonpublic information from Mamma.com concerning Mamma.com's impending PIPE transaction. _____ No __X. Yes Second, that Cuban expressly or implicitly agreed with Mamma.com to keep the material, nonpublic information confidential and not to trade on or otherwise use the information for his own benefit.

_____ No X

Yes

295	Third, that Cuban traded on the material, nonpublic information in
296	the sale of his Mamma.com stock.
297	Yes NoX
298	Fourth, that before trading on the material, nonpublic information,
299	Cuban did not fully disclose to Mamma.com that he planned to trade
300	on the material, nonpublic information.
301	Yes NoX
302	Fifth, that Cuban acted knowingly or with severe recklessness.
303	Yes NoX
304	Sixth, that Cuban's conduct was in connection with the sale of a
305	security.
306	Yes No
307	Seventh, that Cuban used or caused to be used a means or
308	instrumentality of interstate commerce in connection with the sale of
309	a security.
310	Vac / No
311	Yes No
312	Jury Deliberations
313	The fact that I have given you in this charge instructions about a particular claim, or that I
314	have not so instructed you, should not be interpreted in any way as an indication that I believe a
315	particular party should, or should not, win this case.

consult one another and to deliberate with a view towards reaching an agreement. Each of you must

decide the case for yourself, but only after an impartial consideration with each other of all the

evidence in the case. In the course of your deliberations, do not hesitate to reexamine your own

In order to return a verdict your verdict must be unanimous. It is your duty as jurors to

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view and change your opinion if convinced it is erroneous. Do not, however, surrender your honest conviction as to the weight or effect of the evidence solely because of the opinion of other jurors or for the mere purpose of returning a verdict. Remember at all times that you are not partisans. You are judges—judges of the facts. Your sole interest is to seek the truth from the evidence in the case.

After I finish reading this charge, you will retire to the jury room. I will send you the exhibits that have been admitted into evidence. You will first select one member of the jury to act as presiding juror. The presiding juror will preside over your deliberations and will speak on your behalf here in court.

Do not deliberate unless all members of the jury are present in the jury room. In other words, if one or more of you go to lunch together or are together outside the jury room, do not discuss the case.

When you have reached unanimous agreement as to your verdict, the presiding juror shall fill in your answers to the questions on a copy of the charge that I will provide to you for this purpose, shall date and sign the last page of that copy of the charge, and shall notify the court security officer that you have reached a verdict. The court security officer will then deliver the verdict to me.

The court will honor the schedule you set for your deliberations and your requests for breaks during your deliberations. From time to time I may communicate with you concerning your schedule. This is done primarily for the purpose of anticipating the court's staffing needs, and is not in any way intended to suggest that your deliberations should be conducted at a different pace or on a different schedule.

During the trial, the court reporter made a verbatim record of the proceedings. The court rules do not provide for testimony to be produced for the jury in written form, or for testimony to be read back to the jury as a general aid in refreshing the jurors' memories. In limited circumstances, the court may direct the court reporter to read testimony back to the jury in open court. This is done, however, only when the jury certifies that it disagrees as to the testimony of a particular witness, and identifies the specific testimony in dispute.

If, during your deliberations, you desire to communicate with me, your presiding juror will reduce your message or question to writing, sign it, and pass the note to the court security officer, who will bring it to my attention. I will then respond as promptly as possible, either in writing or by asking you to return to the courtroom so that I can address you orally. If you do send a message or ask a question in which you indicate that you are divided, never state or specify your numerical division at the time.

October 15, 2013.

CHIEF JUDGE

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The foregoing is the unanimous verdict of the jury.

Dated: _ (Ctoker 16,20/3

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359 360 Jan Rothman
Presiding Juror