1 2 3 4 5 6 7	David A. Tashroudian [SBN 266718]  Mona Tashroudian [SBN 272387]  TASHROUDIAN LAW GROUP, APC 12400 Ventura Blvd., Suite 300  Studio City, California 91604  Telephone: (818) 561-7381  Facsimile: (818) 561-7381  Email: david@tashlawgroup.com mona@tashlawgroup.com Mona@tashlawgroup.com	Electronically FILED by Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles 5/16/2024 9:26 PM David W. Slayton, Executive Officer/Clerk of Court, By S. Bolden, Deputy Clerk
8	SUPERIOR COURT OF TH	E STATE OF CALIFORNIA
9	COUNTY OF I	LOS ANGELES
10		
11	WILLIAM JAMES MITCHELL,	Case No. 19STCV12592
12	Plaintiff,	Assigned to: Hon. Wendy Chang [Dept. 36]
13	v.	DECLARATION OF JASON HALL IN
14	TWIN GALAXIES, LLC; and Does 1-10,	OPPOSITION TO MOTION TO ENFORCE SETTLEMENT OF WILLIAM JAMES
15	Defendants.	MITCHELL
16 17	Detendants.	[Filed concurrently with: (1) Opposition to
18		Motion; and (2) Declaration of David A.  Tashroudian]
19	AND RELATED CROSS-ACTION	PUBLIC-REDACTS MATERIALS FROM
20		CONDITIONALLY SEALED RECORD
21		<u>Hearing</u>
22		Date: May 30, 2024 Time: 8:30 a.m.
23		Place: Department 36
24		Reservation ID: 184998743012
25		Action Filed: 4/11/2019
26		
27		
28		1 HALL DEGLARATION
		1 HALL DECLARATION

#### **DECLARATION OF JASON HALL**

I, Jason Hall, declare that:

- 1. I am an individual over the age of 18 and I make this declaration in support of the opposition to motion to enforce settlement agreement of Twin Galaxies, LLC ("<u>Twin Galaxies</u>" or "<u>TG</u>"). I make this declaration based on facts known to me personally to be true, and if called as a witness to testify to them, I could and would do so.
- 2. I am the Head Custodian of Records for Twin Galaxies, and have held that position since I purchased the organization from Walter Day in 2014. In my position as Head Custodian of Records, I am responsible for maintaining the integrity of all scores that appear on Twin Galaxies' records of videogame achievements. As the Head Custodian of Records, I responsible for all of the scores that appear on any of the Twin Galaxies videogame score leaderboards.
- 3. I write to address the claim made by Plaintiff in his motion to enforce the terms of the settlement agreement with facts that I know personally to be true.

#### Item #1

Twin Galaxies' involvement with Karl Jobst's videos.

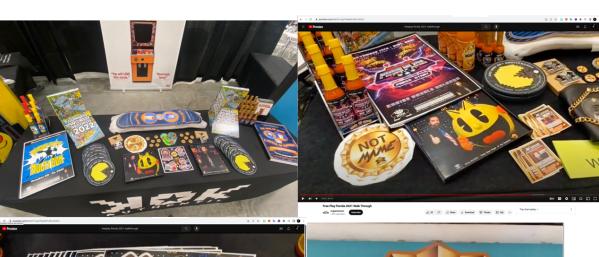
- 4. I am not involved with Karl Jobst videos. The reason that he had a video so quick on Tuesday Jan 16th was because on Jan 11th Courthouse News reported on the settlement with a lengthy article. So, he, and everyone else, knew a settlement had happened and that an announcement would likely be forthcoming. The announcement came on Jan 16th, so this gave Karl 5 days to get his video together, leaving just a few empty slots for insertion for whatever specific info he may have been able to pull whenever a TG statement would take place. This information is known because Karl has publicly posted a detailed video explaining and providing testimony in regard to the circumstances surrounding the creation of his Tuesday Jan 16th video publication. ( <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fxK7fERBH\_8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fxK7fERBH\_8</a>)
- 5. Additionally, in Plaintiff's filing he says "Barely an hour after this exchange, Mr. Jobst published a 10 minute polished video" this is an exaggeration. From what I can tell from my review of the video, Karl published his video more than 2 hours later.

#### Item #2

Plaintiff's reference to merchandise in Twin Galaxies' online store.

6. There are no direct references in the store to the dispute. There are no references of any kind to any allegations made by Twin Galaxies against Mr. Mitchell. There are no references of any kind to Mr. Mitchell. In fact, the store provides language and goes out of its way to make clear that there are no references to any person, company, entity, etc. in relation to any of the products offered. Billy Mitchell does not own or control any of the intellectual property used on the products that are sold. There are over 60 different products in the online store. He has no legitimate claim here, and this is why they provide ZERO evidence of this in his filing.

7. To go even farther, BILLY HIMSELF sells "NOT MAME" merchandise and has been doing so for years. So somehow, he can sell "NOT MAME" stuff but Twin Galaxies can't sell "NOT ARCADE" stuff? You can see some of his merchandise below:







1	
2	
3	
4	10.
5	
6	
7	
8	11. The original ban was imposed due to a breach of trust—cheating. The integrity of
9	Twin Galaxies' leaderboards and the fairness to other users are at the heart of their decision to ban
10	the Plaintiff. To ensure the maintenance of this integrity and fairness, any consideration for lifting
11	such a ban would naturally require a thorough process of reassessment and verification that the
12	reasons for the initial ban have been addressed and rectified.
13	12. Moreover, it is a fundamental aspect of any user-based platform to communicate
14	the status of its participants; such transparency is vital for the community's functionality. The
15	Plaintiff's claim that Twin Galaxies violates the settlement agreement by disclosing the status of
16	Billy's membership is in direct conflict with the platform's operational requirements and would
17	never and can never be agreed to. Twin Galaxies always retains the right to inform its community
18	about the standing of any member.
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	

Why Twin Galaxies was required to clarify in the TG thread.

3 4 5

6 7

8 9

10 11

12

13 14

15

16

17 18

19

20 21

22 23 24

26

28

25

Some Examples below: 27

13. In a carefully orchestrated move following Twin Galaxies' announcement, Billy Mitchell actively engaged in a campaign of deliberate misrepresentation. His emphatic assertion and PR campaign on social media platforms, and in the press, was strategically worded to leave out important context for the purposes of misrepresenting the nature of Twin Galaxies' statement.



- 14. Mr. Mitchell's announcement, which was made within minutes of the Twin Galaxies statement release, implied a comprehensive reinstatement of his records, which sparked a wave of media coverage echoing this inaccurate sentiment. This not only caused significant damage to Twin Galaxies' standing as a trusted authority but also sowed confusion among Twin Galaxies' user base, and outrage among the public, who were familiar with the detailed evidence that questioned the validity of Mr. Mitchell's historical scores.
- 15. Numerous articles were immediately published with misleading or flat-out false titles, containing inaccurate information that was provided by Mr. Mitchell's campaign, creating confusion and public concern. Many of the article titles have been modified now, to reflect more accurate information, however you can use the Internet Archive to see what the titles were at the time of publication.

#### Ars Technica -

https://web.archive.org/web/20240116184750/https://arstechnica.com/gaming/2024/01/twingalaxies-billy-mitchell-settle-donkey-kong-score-case-before-trial/

ars TECHNICA

BIZ & IT TECH SCIENCE POLICY CARS GAMING & CULTURE STORE

# Twin Galaxies restores Billy Mitchell's scores following legal settlement

Scoreboard cites new expert video analysis; "I am relieved and satisfied," says Mitchell.

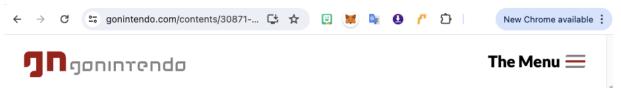
KYLE ORLAND - UPDATED 1/16/2024, 9:51 AM



Enlarge / Billy Mitchell (left) and Twin Galaxies owner Jace Hall (center) attend an event at the Arcade Expo 2015 in Banning, California.

#### **GONINTENDO.COM -**

https://www.gonintendo.com/contents/30871-billy-mitchell-s-donkey-kong-records-officially-reinstated-by-twin-galaxies



# Billy Mitchell's Donkey Kong records officially reinstated by Twin Galaxies

Everything's coming up Mitchell

16 January 2024 by quence 💬 6



Billy Mitchell has been a controversial figure in the arcade world for years. Having held multiple records for the original Donkey Kong arcade game, his process was made famous in the 2007 documentary *King of Kong*. His records were later revoked however, after claims that he cheated using tricks such as emulation and unsanctioned joysticks. Now, official record keeper Twin Galaxies has decided that his records were legitimate after all.

1

7

1011

13

12

1415

17

16

18 19

20

21

22

2324

25

26

27

28

( º= web.archive.org/web/20240116202912/https://www.ign.com/articles ☆ https://www.ign.com/articles/billy-mitchells-donkey-kong-records-reinstated-twin-galaxies Go f 💆 18 captures DONKEY KONG PAC-MAN Billy Mitchell's Donkey Kong Records Reinstated After Multi-Year Dispute Q With Twin Galaxies (=) Scores reinstated after expert determined that anomalies could have been caused by aging components. (0)  $\square$ UPDATED: JAN 16, 2024 8:26 PM POSTED: JAN 16, 2024 8:25 PM Nearly six years after the dispute first began, Billy Mitchell's record Donkey Kong scores have been officially restored by Twin Galaxies.

# donkey-kong-records-reinstated-twin-galaxies

- 16. Despite the growing unrest and the clear contextual omissions, Mr. Mitchell remained silent on the issue, never taking steps to correct the widespread misbelief that his competitive scores were restored in the official database and that he still remained banned from the platform. Instead, he messaged the opposite, that Twin Galaxies' statement meant that Twin Galaxies believed his scores to be legitimate which implied that he was no longer banned.
- 17. This resulted in Twin Galaxies witnessing tremendous public confusion and speculation asking for clarity in the numerous comment sections attached to the mainstream media news articles being published. Karl Jobst was one such entity that reached out for clarification to which Twin Galaxies responded.
- 18. Mr. Mitchell's campaign of misrepresenting the statement also spilled over into Twin Galaxies itself, where people then felt the need to express their disgust and misunderstanding that they were given by Mr. Mitchell's media campaign, causing damage to Twin Galaxies reputation. These expressions not only took place in the comment section of the public facing

Twin Galaxies statement article itself, but also inside of the non-public facing Twin Galaxies community platform, where users were posting similar comments.

- 19. The Twin Galaxies user comments and questions from the Twin Galaxies community located directly below the original statement indicated a critical and significant misunderstanding and emotional response to Mr. Mitchell's campaign of misinformation. These comments were not just general queries; they were pointed expressions of disillusionment and frustration from users who believed the integrity of Twin Galaxies was compromised. False information generating such strong reactions from TG's dedicated user base necessitated a limited but direct and clarifying response from the platform's administrators to those comments.
- 20. The clarification information provided was not of confidential nature, nor did it interfere with the Twin Galaxies' public article's stand-alone nature. Every stand-alone public article on Twin Galaxies contains a comment section. There is nothing in the settlement agreement that indicates that Twin Galaxies cannot discuss the items in its clarification and

21.

22. It is critical to understand that the need for this clarification arose solely because of the misleading information campaign pursued by Mr. Mitchell. Had he not deliberately misrepresented the nature of our original announcement, for his own benefit, there would not have been a widespread confusion or user questions to Twin Galaxies necessitating further clarification.

I swear, under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of California, that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024 at Los Angeles California.

s/ Jason Hall

### PROOF OF SERVICE

Case No. 19STCV12592

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

I am a resident of the State of California, over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to the within action. My business address is TASHROUDIAN LAW GROUP, APC, located 12400 Ventura Blvd., Suite 300, Studio City, California 91604. On May 16, 2024, I served the herein described document(s):

## DECLARATION OF JASON HALL IN OPPOSITION TO MOTION TO ENFORCE SETTLEMENT OF WILLIAM JAMES MITCHELL

by transmitting via facsimile the document(s) listed above to the fax number(s) set forth below on this date before 5:00 p.m.

by placing the document(s) listed above in a sealed envelope with postage thereon fully prepaid, in the United States mail at Woodland Hills, California addressed as set forth below.

E-File - by electronically transmitting the document(s) listed above to tony.ellrod@mannigkass.com & rwc@robertwcohenlaw.com pursuant to an agreement of the parties.

Anthony J. Ellrod tony.ellrod@mannigkass.com MANNING & KASS ELLROD, RAMIREZ, TRESTER LLP 801 S. Figueroa St, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor Los Angeles, California 90017-3012

Attorneys for Plaintiff WILLIAM JAMES MITCHELL

Robert W. Cohen rwc@robertwcohenlaw.com Law Offices of Robert W. Cohen, APC 1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1910 Los Angeles, CA 90067

Attorneys for Cross-Defendant WALTER DAY

I am readily familiar with the firm's practice of collection and processing correspondence for mailing. Under that practice it would be deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on that same day with postage thereon fully prepaid in the ordinary course of business. I am aware that on motion of the party served, service is presumed invalid if postal cancellation date or postage meter date is more than one day after date of deposit for mailing in affidavit.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct. Executed on May 16, 2024 at Woodland Hills, California.

Mona Tashroudian

26

27