

San Francisco Superior Courts Information Technology Group

Document Scanning Lead Sheet

Apr-03-2008 2:54 pm

Case Number: CGC-08-473864

Filing Date: Apr-03-2008 2:42

Juke Box: 001 Image: 02078116

COMPLAINT

JESSIE EVANS VS. THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO et al

001C02078116

Instructions:

Please place this sheet on top of the document to be scanned.

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):

THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO, DEBRA GORE-MANN, MICHAEL VARTAIN, and DOES 1 to 15, inclusive

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE):

JESSIE EVANS

FOR COURT USE ONLY (SOLO PARA USO DE LA CORTE)

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association.

Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol/), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California,

(www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol/) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales.

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y dirección de la corte es):

San Francisco County Superior Court

CA 473864

4	0.0	McA	11	i s	ster	Stre	et

San Francsico, CA 94102

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is:

(El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):

Dan Siegel, 56400

499 14th Street, Suite 220

510) 839-1200

(Fecha)

DATE:April 3, 2008

anridoplemark-Li

(Secretario)

Siegel & Yee

Oakland, CA 84612

C. Grandian Deputy
(Adjunto)

(For proof of service of this summons, use Proof of Service of Summons (form POS-010).)

(Para prueba de entrega de esta citatión use el formulario Proof of Service of Summons, (POS-010)).



NU	HICE	E TO THE PERSON SERVED: You are served
1.		as an individual defendant.
2.		as the person sued under the fictitious name of (specify):

3.	on	behalf	of	(sp	ecify,)	:

under: CCP 416.10 (corporation)

CCP 416.20 (defunct corporation)

CCP 416.40 (association or partnership) other (specify):

1		hv	personal	delivery	on (date)
т.	<u> </u>	IJ	personal	delivery	on (date)

Page 1 of 1

CCP 416.60 (minor)

CCP 416.70 (conservatee)

CCP 416.90 (authorized person)

Lattorney or Party Without Attorney (Name, State Dan Siegel Siegel & Yee 499 14th Street, Suite Oakland, CA	56400	Superior Court of California County of San Francisco
ATTORNEY FOR (Name): Plaintiff J	essie Evans	APR 3 - 2008
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF STREET ADDRESS: 400 McAlliste MAILING ADDRESS: CITY AND ZIP CODE: San Francsico BRANCH NAME:	er Street	BY: Deputy Clerk
CASE NAME: Evans v. Unive Debra Gore-Mar	ersity of San Francisco, an, Michael Vartain	
CIVIL CASE COVER SHEET Unlimited Limited (Amount (Amount demanded is exceeds \$25,000) \$25,000 or less)	Complex Case Designation Counter Joinder Filed with first appearance by defendant (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.402)	CASE NUMBER: 273864 JUDGE: DEPT.:
Items 1	-6 below must be completed (see instructions of	n page 2).
1. Check one box below for the case type Auto Tort Auto (22) Uninsured motorist (46) Other PI/PD/WD (Personal Injury/Property Damage/Wrongful Death) Tort Asbestos (04) Product liability (24) Medical malpractice (45) Other PI/PD/WD (23) Non-PI/PD/WD (Other) Tort Business tort/unfair business practice (Civil rights (08) Defamation (13) Fraud (16) Intellectual property (19) Professional negligence (25) Other non-PI/PD/WD tort (35) Employment Wrongful termination (36) X Other employment (15)	Contract Breach of contract/warranty (06) Rule 3.740 collections (09) Other collections (09) Insurance coverage (18) Other contract (37) Real Property Eminent domain/Inverse condemnation (14) Wrongful eviction (33) Other real property (26) Unlawful Detainer Commercial (31) Residential (32) Drugs (38)	Provisionally Complex Civil Litigation (Cal. Rules of Court, rules 3.400-3.403) Antitrust/Trade regulation (03) Construction defect (10) Mass tort (40) Securities litigation (28) Environmental/Toxic tort (30) Insurance coverage claims arising from the above listed provisionally complex case types (41) Enforcement of Judgment Enforcement of judgment (20) Miscellaneous Civil Complaint RICO (27) Other complaint (not specified above) (42) Miscellaneous Civil Petition Partnership and corporate governance (21) Other petition (not specified above) (43)
2. This case is is not factors requiring exceptional judicial material a. Large number of separately replacements. Large number of separately replacements. Extensive motion practice raising issues that will be time-consumated consume consumed as the second separately. Substantial amount of documed substantial amount of documed substantial amount of documed substantial amount of documed substantial s	oresented parties ng difficult or novel ning to resolve ntary evidence d. Large number of e. Coordination wit in other counties Substantial post	witnesses h related actions pending in one or more courts s, states, or countries, or in a federal court sudgment judicial supervision ratory or injunctive relief c. punitive
Date: April 3, 2008 Dan Siegel, 56400 (TYPE OR PRINT NAME)) (SIGNA	URE OF PARTY OR ATTORNEY FOR PARTY)
under the Probate Code, Family Code in sanctions. File this cover sheet in addition to any If this case is complex under rule 3.40 other parties to the action or proceedir	NOTICE the first paper filed in the action or proceeding (converse of the California Rules of Court, you may be cover sheet required by local court rule. Out to see the California Rules of Court, you may be converse of the California Rules of Court, you may be conversed of the California Rules of Court, you may be conversed of the California Rules of Court, you may be conversed of the California Rules of Court, you may be conversed of the California Rules of Court, you may be conversed of the California Rules of Court, you may be conversed of the California Rules of Court, you may be conversed of the California Rules of Court, you ma	of Court, rule 3.220.) Failure to file may result ust serve a copy of this cover sheet on all

Page 1 of 2

DAN SIEGEL, SBN 56400				
ALAN S. YEE, SBN 091444 DEAN ROYER, SBN 233292				
SIEGEL & YEE 499 14th Street, Suite 220				
Oakland, CA 94612				
Telephone: (510) 839-1200 APR 3 2005 Superior Courtor Courto				
Attorneys for Plaintiff Attorneys for Plaintiff Attorneys for Plaintiff				
JESSIE EVANS GODDON PARKLI CIERK JESSIE EVANS				
BY:				
SUMMORS ISSUED SEP 5 2008 - 922AM				
DEPARTMENT 212				
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA				
IN AND FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO				
JESSIE EVANS, No.				
2308 4/2064				
Plaintiff,				
v. VERIFIED COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES				
THE UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO, DEBRA GORE-MANN, MICHAEL (Employment)				
VARTAIN, and DOES 1 to 15, inclusive,				
Defendants.				
Comes now plaintiff JESSIE EVANS and alleges the following:				
PRELIMINARY STATEMENT				
1. Jessie Evans, the head men's basketball coach at the University of San Francisco				
(USF), brings this action for damages for breach of contract, breach of the covenant of good faith and				
fair dealing, fraud, defamation, interference with contractual rights, and interference with prospective				
ran deaning, tradd, deramation, interference with contractual rights, and interference with prospective				
Evans v. The University of San Francisco, No. Verified Complaint - 1				

1	economic advantage, based upon USF's unlawful termination of his employment contract and related					
2	actions. Although Evans' contract provides for his termination without cause and for USF's payment					
3	of liquidated damages upon such occurrence, defendants falsely claimed that USF had just cause to					
4	terminate his contract in order to avoid making payments required by his contract. Additionally,					
5	defendants made defamatory comments about plaintiff's job performance and alleged violations of					
6	National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) rules, thereby interfering with his ability to obtain					
7	new employment as a college basketball coach.					
8						
	JURISDICTION AND VENUE					
10	2. Plaintiff Evans' claims arise under the statutory and common law of the State of					
11	California.					
12	3. The actions and events giving rise to this lawsuit occurred in the City and County of					
13	San Francisco.					
14 15	PARTIES					
į						
16	4. At times relevant hereto, plaintiff JESSIE EVANS was the Head Basketball Coach of					
17	USF's intercollegiate men's basketball team. Evans is a resident of the City and County of San					
18	Francisco.					
19	 At all times relevant hereto, defendant UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO was an 					
20	is a California non-profit corporation with its principal place of business in the City and County of					
21	San Francisco.					
22						
23	6. Defendant DEBRA GORE-MANN is the Executive Director of Athletics for USF.					
24	Defendant Gore-Mann maintains her principal office for the conduct of her responsibilities on behalf					
25	of USF in the City and County of San Francisco.					
26						
27						

Evans v. The University of San Francisco, No. Verified Complaint - 2

- 7. Defendant MICHAEL VARTAIN is an attorney retained by USF to represent it in connection with plaintiff's contractual disputes with USF. Defendant Vartain maintains his principal place of business within the City and County of San Francisco.
- 8. Plaintiff is unaware of the true names and capacities of the defendants sued herein as DOES 1 through 15, inclusive, and therefore sues said defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff will amend this complaint to allege their true names and capacities when they become known to plaintiff. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that DOES 1 through 8 are agents of USF, acted in concert with USF, and are liable for some or all of the damages suffered by plaintiff. Plaintiff is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that DOES 1 through 15 are residents of the State of California.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

- 9. Jessie Evans is a well-respected college basketball coach who served as an assistant coach for NCAA Division 1 men's basketball programs at University of Minnesota, San Diego State, University of Wyoming, University of Texas, and University of Arizona from 1976 through 1997.
- 10. Evans became the head coach at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette in 1997 and led his team to the NCAA Tournament in 2000 and 2003. Evans left the University of Louisiana-Lafayette voluntarily to accept the position of head men's basketball coach at USF. At the time he left the University of Louisiana-Lafayette Evans was in good standing and had good cause to believe that he could have remained in that position for as long as he wished.
- In 2004, USF Executive Director of Athletics Bill Hogan recruited Evans to be the Head Basketball Coach at USF. In dosing so he falsely assured Evans that he could look forward to a long career at USF and that USF would scrupulously observe all terms of its Employment Agreement with Evans, including the five-year initial period of employment set forth therein.

- 12. In light of USF's representations and in reasonable reliance upon its assurances that it would honor its contractual commitments to him, Evans resigned from his position at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette, in Lafayette, Louisiana, and relocated to San Francisco with his wife.
- Evans would serve as the Head Coach of USF's men's intercollegiate basketball team for five years, through April 20, 2009. USF agreed to pay Evans a base salary of \$200,000 per year, plus (a) annual increases to be determined by the Executive Director of Athletics; (b) standard USF fringe benefits, including health insurance, life insurance, disability, vacation, and retirement plans; (c) housing assistance and moving expenses; (d) an automobile, including liability and comprehensive insurance; (e) reimbursement for out of pocket expenses; (f) term life insurance in the amount of one million dollars; (g) bonuses for selection to the NCAA tournament and for each victory in that tournament; (h) revenue sharing for men's basketball season ticket sales in excess of 800; (i) opportunities to earn outside income; (j) a guarantee of compensation for radio and television appearances of at least \$25,000 annually; and (k) use of USF's facilities without charge for summer basketball camps and clinics. The total annual value of USF's contract with Evans is over \$300,000.
- 14. Article 8 of the Employment Agreement between USF and Evans provides for USF's right to terminate the agreement under "certain limited circumstances."
- 15. Article 8(b) of the Employment Agreement provides that "just cause" for the termination of Evans' employment means:
- (a) "Deliberate and serious violations of Coach's duties or refusal or unwillingness to perform such duties in good faith and to the best of Coach's ability;
- (b) "Material violations by Coach of any of the other terms and conditions of this Agreement not remedied after thirty (30) days written notice thereof to Coach;

- (c) "Coach's conviction or admission (including a plea of nolo contendere) of any criminal statute (excluding vehicular misdemeanors), Coach's confirmed act of moral turpitude, and/or a confirmed violation by Coach of any rule, regulation, constitutional provision, or bylaw of the NCAA which occurred during the term of this Agreement or prior hereto during any employment by Coach at another NCAA member institution, any of which, in the sole judgment of University would reflect adversely upon the University or its athletic program;
- (d) "A serious and intentional violation by Coach of any law, rule, regulation, constitutional provision, or bylaw of the University, the WCC or the NCAA, which in the sole judgment of University would reflect adversely upon the University or its athletic program, including any serious violations which may result in the University being placed on probation by the WCC or the NCAA and including any violation which may have occurred during prior employment by Coach at another NCAA institution;
- (e) "A serious and intentional violation of any material law, rule, regulation, constitutional provision, or bylaw of the University, the WCC or the NCAA by a member of the coaching staffer (sic) any other person under Coach's supervision and direction, including student-athletes in the intercollegiate men's basketball program which violation(s) are known to Coach, or should have been known to Coach, and Coach fails to report said violation(s) to the University and, in turn said failure of Coach may, in the sole but reasonable judgment of University, reflect adversely upon the University or its athletic program; or
 - (f) "Prolonged unexcused absence from duty."
- 16. Termination of its Employment Agreement with Evans for cause relieves USF of its further obligations to provide him with compensation and related benefits.

- 17. At no time during Evans' employment at USF did he commit acts that would justify his termination "for cause" under his Employment Agreement with USF.
- 18. Article 11 of the Employment Agreement provides that, "University shall have the right to terminate this Agreement prior to its scheduled expiration on April 20, 2009, without cause." In such event, "Coach shall be entitled to liquidated damages" pursuant to Article 12, which provides that USF shall pay Coach "an amount equal to Coach's base salary due under Section 7(a) of this Agreement, as increased under Section 7(b), through the scheduled expiration date of this Agreement, as may be amended from time to time in accordance with the terms hereof."
- 19. During Evans' first season at USF, his team compiled a record of 17 wins, 14 losses, and was selected to the National Invitation Tournament.
- 20. Evans' career record as a head coach at USF and at Louisiana-Lafayette through the 2006-07 season was 159 wins, 129 losses (.552).
- 21. On May 31, 2005, in recognition of Evans' "exemplary" performance of his duties and his "success with the men's basketball team," USF extended his Employment Agreement to April 20, 2010, and increased his compensation by amending the provision on Season Ticket Revenue Sharing to state the following: "In addition to Coach's annual base salary, University agrees to pay Coach twenty five percent (25%) of all revenue on season ticket sales in excess of the 2003-04 season amount (\$110,000)."
- 22. On May 15, 2006, USF Executive Athletic Director Bill Hogan evaluated Evans' job performance. Hogan graded Evans as "Outstanding" or "Exceeds Expectations" on 23 out of 35 performance categories and gave him no "Unsatisfactory" ratings.
- 23. On December 26, 2007, the day after Christmas, defendant Gore-Mann presented

 Evans with an ultimatum: either (1) "request a leave of absence for the remainder of season to handle

a pressing personal or family issue, or other reason;" or (2) suffer an immediate, mid-season suspension from employment, and the commencement of proceedings to terminate his employment "for just cause."

- 24. Faced with this coercive and unacceptable choice between falsely stating that he had requested a leave of absence or facing the humiliating and career damaging prospect of a public suspension from his duties in the midst of the basketball season, and following discussions between his agents and defendant Vartain, Evans reluctantly agreed to issuance of the statement: "Coach Jessie Evans has requested a leave for the remainder of the basketball season." This statement is not true.
- 25. On December 26, 2007, defendant Gore-Mann publicly announced in a USF press release to the San Francisco Chronicle and other media that Evans had requested a leave from his duties as head coach of the USF men's basketball program. This statement was false and misleading in that it suggested that Evans had done so voluntarily rather than as a result of coercion.
- 26. Gore-Mann's statements damaged Evans' reputation and harmed him in his career as a college basketball coach because they implied that he either suffered from a severe health problem that interfered with his ability to function as a collegiate basketball coach or that he had committed serious acts of misconduct that rendered him unfit for employment as a collegiate basketball coach. Gore-Mann compounded the harm she inflicted on Evans by publicly claiming that he had engaged in misconduct at his previous place of employment. That statement was false as well.
- 27. On information and belief, Does 9 through 13 urged defendant Gore-Mann to terminate Evans from his position as head basketball coach at USF and to replace him with Eddie Sutton. Does 9 through 13 acted in intentional disregard of Evans' contractual agreement with USF in

Evans v. The University of San Francisco, No. Verified Complaint - 9

1	was terminate	ed from his employment at USF after giving up secure employment at the University of				
2	Louisiana-La	fayette in reliance upon USF's misrepresentations.				
3 4	FOUR	TH CLAIM FOR RELIEF – INTERFERENCE WITH CONTRACT AND WITH PROSPECTIVE ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE (Against defendants Does 9 through 13)				
5	39.	Plaintiff refers to and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1-38 above as though fully				
7	set forth herein.					
8	40.	By virtue of the foregoing, Does 9 through 13 wrongfully interfered with Evans' rights				
9	under his Em	ployment Agreement with USF and with his rights and abilities to receive the economic				
10	advantages of	f that Agreement and of future employment opportunities. Evans was damaged by the				
11	actions of Do	es 9-13 in interfering with his contractual rights at USF.				
12 13		FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF – DEFAMATION (Against defendant Gore-Mann)				
14	41.	Plaintiff refers to and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1-40 above as though fully				
15	set forth here	in.				
16 17	42.	By virtue of the foregoing, defendant Gore-Mann damaged Evans' reputation and				
18	caused him ed	conomic harm.				
19		SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF – DEFAMATION (Against defendant Vartain)				
20						
21	43.	Plaintiff refers to and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1-42 above as though fully				
22	set forth herei	in.				
23	44.	By virtue of the foregoing, defendant Vartain damaged Evans' reputation and caused				
24	him economic	e harm.				
25						
26						
27						

Evans v. The University of San Francisco, No.

Verified Complaint - 11

1	(3) Compensatory damages for humiliation, mental anguish, emotional distress, and damage
2	to reputation;
3	(4) Double damages pursuant to Labor Code Section 972;
4	(5) Punitive damages according to proof;
5	(6) Attorneys' fees;
6	
7	(7) Costs of suit; and
8	(8) Such other and further relief as the Court may deem proper.
9	Dated: April 1, 2008
10	SIEGEL & YEE
11	mal / Fat/
12	By // W / BOD Dan Siegel
13	Attorneys for Plaintiff
14	JESSIE EVANS
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20 21	
21	
23	
23 24	
2 4 25	
26	
27	

1	VERIFICATION
2	
3	I, JESSIE EVANS, declare as follows:
4	I am the plaintiff in the above-entitled case. I have read the foregoing complaint and know the
5	contents thereof. The same is true except where its allegations are stated upon information and belief,
6	and as to such matters I believe it to be true.
7	I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this
8	declaration was executed on the 1st day of April, 2008, at Oakland, California.
9	
10	Jessie Evans
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	