

**United States District Court
Southern District of New York**

Virginia L. Giuffre,

Plaintiff,

Case No.: 15-cv-07433-RWS

v.

Ghislaine Maxwell,

Defendant.

**PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO COMPEL DATA FROM DEFENDANT'S UNDISCLOSED
EMAIL ACCOUNT AND FOR AN ADVERSE INFERENCE INSTRUCTION**

Plaintiff, Virginia Giuffre, by and through her undersigned counsel, files this Motion to Compel Data from Defendant's Undisclosed Email Account and for An Adverse Inference Instruction regarding the data from that account, and states as follows. Defendant has not disclosed, nor produced data from, the email account she used while abusing Ms. Giuffre from 2000-2002 in violation of this Court's Order [DE 352]. Ms. Giuffre hereby moves to compel Defendant to produce this data, and requests that this Court enter an adverse inference jury instruction for this willful violation of this Court's orders.

I. BACKGROUND

The earliest-dated email Defendant has produced in this litigation is from [REDACTED]. Ms. Giuffre is aware of two email addresses that appear to be the email addresses Defendant used while Ms. Giuffre was with Defendant and Epstein, namely, from 2000 - 2002. Defendant has denied that she used those accounts to communicate, but she has not disclosed the account she did use to communicate during that time, nor produce documents from it.

Importantly, Defendant has never denied using an email account for communication from 1999-2009, and the facts and circumstances show that it is exceedingly unlikely that Defendant did not use an email account to communicate those years.¹

For example, according to United States Department of Commerce, “eighty-eight percent of adult Internet users sent or received e-mail” in 2000. *See* Eric C. Newburger, “Home Computers and Internet Use in the United States: August 2000,” U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS ADMINISTRATION, U.S. CENSUS BUREAU, September 2001. Additionally, the Pew Research Center published findings that certain demographics have higher internet usage, including many demographics to which Defendant belongs. For example, higher rates of internet usage are found among younger adults (Defendant was 38 in 1999); those with college educations (Defendant has a master’s degree); those in households earning more than \$75,000 (Defendant was in a household headed by a billionaire during that time, [REDACTED]; whites or English-speaking Asian-Americans (Defendant is white); and those who live in urban areas (Defendant lived in Palm Beach and Manhattan). *See* Andres Perrin and Maeve Duggan, ‘Americans’ Internet Access: 2000-2015,” PEW RESEARCH CENTER, June 26, 2015.

Additionally, her boyfriend, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Accordingly, given Defendant’s extraordinary economic resources, her high-level social connections, and her elaborate residential email/internet configuration she had during that time, it is extraordinarily unlikely that she would not employ an almost ubiquitous communication tool, [REDACTED]

¹ On Friday, September 23, 2016, counsel for Ms. Giuffre sent a letter to Defendant inquiring about the undisclosed account. As of the date of this motion, Defendant has made no response.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

B. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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C. Defendant's Non-Disclosed Email Account

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Despite the Court's orders that Defendant produce responsive documents from *all* her email accounts from 1999 to the present, Defendant has neither disclosed nor produced from the email account that she actually used to communicate from 2000-2002. This refusal violates this Court's orders. Ms. Giuffre issued requests to Defendant on October 27, 2015. Nearly a year later, after this Court has specifically ordered Defendant to produce her responsive email from *all* her accounts, Defendant has produced none from this account. Not only has Defendant failed to produce emails from the account she actually used from 1999-2002, and she has not even disclosed what account it is.

II. ARGUMENT

A. An Adverse Inference Instruction is Appropriate

An adverse inference instruction is appropriate regarding documents from the email account Defendant actually used from 1999-2002. In light of this clear and persistent pattern of recalcitrance, the Court should instruct the jury that it can draw an adverse inference that the Defendant has concealed relevant evidence. Even if Defendant were, at this late date, to run Ms. Giuffre's proposed search terms over the data from the email account she used from 1999 - 2002 (which she refuses to disclose), such a production would be both untimely and prejudicial. Fact discovery has closed. Numerous depositions have already been taken by Ms. Giuffre without the benefit of these documents. The window for authenticating the documents through depositions

has shut. Expert reports have been exchanged, so Ms. Giuffre's experts did not have the benefit of reviewing these documents. Late production of this information robs Ms. Giuffre of any practical ability to use the discovery, and, importantly, it was incumbent on Defendant to identify this account.

The Second Circuit has stated, “[w]here documents, witnesses, or information of any kind relevant issues in litigation is or was within the exclusive or primary control of a party and is not provided, an adverse inference can be drawn against the withholding party. Such adverse inferences are appropriate as a consequence for failure to make discovery.” *Bouzo v. Citibank*, N.A., 1993 WL 525114, at *1 (S.D.N.Y. 1993) (internal citations omitted). The Defendant's continued systemic foot-dragging and obstructionism – even following the Court's June 20 Sealed Order and August 10, 2016 Order [DE 352] – makes an adverse inference instruction with regard to Defendant's documents appropriate. An adverse inference instruction is appropriate when a party refuses to turn over documents in defiance of a Court Order. *See Lyondell-Citgo Refining, LP v. Petroleos de Venezuela, S.A.*, 2005 WL 1026461, at *1 (S.D.N.Y. May 2, 2005) (denying application to set aside Magistrate Judge Peck's order entering an adverse inference instruction against defendant for failure to produce documents that the Judge Peck had ordered Defendant to produce). Accordingly, because a “party's failure to produce evidence within its control creates a presumption that evidence would be unfavorable to that party” an adverse inference should be applied with respect to Defendant's failure to produce data from the email account she used from 1999 -2002 “in order to ensure fair hearing for [the] other party seeking evidence.” *Doe v. U.S. Civil Service Commission*, 483 F. Supp. 539, 580 (S.D. N.Y., 1980) (citing *International Union v. NLRB*, 148 U.S. App. D.C. 305, 312-317, 459 F.2d 1329, 1336-41 (D.C.Cir.1972)).

“An adverse inference serves the remedial purpose of restoring the prejudiced party to the same position he would have been in absent the wrongful destruction of [or willful refusal to produce] evidence by the opposing party.” *Chevron Corp. v. Donziger*, 296 F.R.D. 168, 222 (S.D.N.Y. 2013) (granting an adverse inference when defendants refused to produce documents pursuant to the District Court’s order). Where “an adverse inference ... is sought on the basis that the evidence was not produced in time for use at trial, the party seeking the instruction must show (1) that the party having control over the evidence had an obligation to timely produce it; (2) that the party that failed to timely produce the evidence had ‘a culpable state of mind’; and (3) that the missing evidence is ‘relevant’ to the party’s claim or defense such that a reasonable trier of fact could find that it would support that claim or defense.” *Id.* (citing *Residential Funding Corp. v. DeGeorge Financial Corp.*, 306 F.3d 99, 108 (2d Cir. 2002)).

Furthermore, as discussed in detail in Ms. Giuffre’s Motion for an Adverse Inference Instruction (DE 315) and Supplement Motion for Adverse Inference Instruction (DE 338), an adverse inference is appropriate regarding the documents that Defendant is withholding under the Second Circuit’s test set forth in *Residential Funding*. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. An adverse inference is equally appropriate if the non-compliance was due to Defendant’s destruction of evidence. *See Brown v. Coleman*, 2009 WL 2877602, at *2 (S.D.N.Y. Sept. 8, 2009) (“Where a party violates a court order—either by destroying evidence when directed to preserve it or by failing to produce information because relevant data has been destroyed—Rule 37(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure provides that the court may impose a range of sanctions, including dismissal or judgment by default, preclusion of evidence, imposition of an adverse inference, or assessment of attorneys’ fees and costs. Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(b); *see Residential Funding Corp. v. DeGeorge Financial Corp.*, 306

F.3d 99, 106–07 (2d Cir.2002)’’). *See also Essenter v. Cumberland Farms, Inc.*, 2011 WL 124505, at *7 (N.D.N.Y. Jan. 14, 2011); and Rule 37(e), Fed. R. Civ. P. (“If electronically stored information that should have been preserved in the anticipation or conduct of litigation is lost because a party failed to take reasonable steps to preserve it . . . the court: (2) only upon finding that the party acted with the intent to deprive another party of the information’s use in the litigation may: (A) presume that the lost information was unfavorable to the party; (b) instruct the jury that it may or must presume the information was unfavorable to the party; or (C) dismiss the action or enter a default judgment.’’). Failure to disclose the email account Defendant actually used from 1992-2002 warrants an adverse inference instruction.

III. CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, Ms. Giuffre respectfully requests that this Court compel Defendant to disclose what email account she actually used from 2009-1999, and that the court give the jury an adverse inference jury instruction concerning the documents from the undisclosed email account.

October 14, 2016

Respectfully Submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on October 14, 2016, I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of Court by using the CM/ECF system. I also certify that the foregoing document is being served to all parties of record via transmission of the Electronic Court Filing System generated by CM/ECF.

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