JUN 3 ( 2006

TARENOE MADDOX

UNDER / SDEL / MILE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 176
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

CIVIL ACTION NO.

UNITED STATES EQUAL EMPLOYMENT	NEZ
OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION,	) MAGGORGAN
	MAGIOTONE JUNIONE
Plaintiff,	)
	) <u>COMPLAINT</u>
V.	) JURY TRIAL DEMAND
	)
AWARENESS TECHNOLOGY, INC.	) INJUNCTIVE RELIEF REQUESTED
	)
	)
Defendant.	)
	)

# NATURE OF THE ACTION

This is an action under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 ("Title VII") and Title I of the Civil Rights Act of 1991 ("Title I"), to correct unlawful employment practices on the basis of sex, female, pregnancy, and retaliation, and to provide appropriate relief due to Suzanne Roberts ("Ms. Roberts"), who was adversely affected by such practices. As stated with greater particularity in paragraph seven below, the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC") alleges that Defendant Awareness Technology, Inc. ("Awareness Technology" or "Defendant") terminated Ms. Roberts because of her sex, female, and pregnancy. EEOC also alleges that Defendant retaliated against Ms. Roberts for complaining of being discriminated against because of her sex, female, and pregnancy by terminating her employment.

## JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 1. Jurisdiction of this Court is invoked pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 451, 1331, 1337, 1343, and 1345. This action is authorized and instituted pursuant to Section 706 (f)(1) and (3) of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §2000e-5(f)(1) and (3) and Section 102 of the Civil Rights Act of 1991, 42 U.S.C. § 1981a.
- 2. The employment practices alleged to be unlawful were committed within the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida.

#### **PARTIES**

- 3. Plaintiff EEOC is the agency of the United States of America charged with the administration, interpretation, and enforcement of Title VII, and is expressly authorized to bring this action by Section 706(f)(1) and (3) of Title VII, 42 U.S.C. §2000e-5(f)(1) and (3).
- 4. At all relevant times, Defendant has been a Florida corporation continuously doing business in the City of Palm City, Florida, and has continuously had at least 15 employees.
- 5. At all relevant times, Defendant has continuously been an employer engaged in an industry affecting commerce within the meaning of Sections 701(b), (g) and (h) of Title VII, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000e(b), (g), and (h).

## STATEMENT OF CLAIMS

6. More than thirty days prior to the institution of this lawsuit, Ms. Roberts filed a charge with EEOC alleging violations of Title VII by Defendant. This charge was investigated on behalf of Ms. Roberts. All conditions precedent to the institution of this

lawsuit have been fulfilled.

- 7. Since at least May 2005 Defendant has engaged in unlawful employment practices at its location in Palm City, Florida, in violation of Section 703(a)(1) and Section 704 (a) of Title VII, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e-2(a) and 42 U.S.C. § 2000e-3(a);
  - Ms. Roberts began working for Defendant in November 2003. a.
  - In or about March 2005 she was promoted to Key Person. b.
  - In or about March 2005 Ms. Roberts informed her supervisor that she c. was pregnant.
  - d. On or about May 9, 2005 Ms. Roberts' supervisor began making discriminatory comments to Ms. Roberts regarding her pregnancy.
  - On or about May 11, 2005 Ms. Roberts was demoted to Team e. Member.
  - f. On or about May 13, 2005 Ms. Roberts complained to the Department's Manager about being harassed and discriminated against by her supervisor because of her pregnancy.
  - On or about May 16, 2005 Ms. Roberts complained again to the g. Department's Manager about being harassed and discriminated against by her supervisor because of her pregnancy.
  - On May 18, 2005 Defendant unlawfully terminated Ms. Roberts. h.
- 8. The effect of the unlawful employment practices complained of in paragraph seven above has been to deprive Ms. Roberts of equal employment opportunities and otherwise adversely affect her status as an employee because of her sex, female, and pregnancy and because of her opposition to discrimination on the basis of her sex, female, and pregnancy.
  - 9. The unlawful employment practices complained of in paragraph seven above

were intentional.

10. The unlawful employment practices complained of in paragraph seven above were done with malice or with reckless indifference to the federally protected rights of Ms. Roberts.

## PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Wherefore, EEOC requests that this Court:

- A. Grant a permanent injunction enjoining Defendant, its officers, successors, assigns, and all persons in active concert or participation with them, from engaging in sex and pregnancy discrimination in employment practices and any other employment practice which discriminates on the basis of sex.
- B. Grant a permanent injunction enjoining Defendant, its officers, successors, assigns and all persons in active concert or participation with it, from engaging in retaliation or any other employment practice which discriminates against individuals who oppose what they believe to be unlawful discrimination.
- C. Order Defendant to institute and carry out policies, practices, and programs which provide equal employment opportunities for women which eradicate the effects of its past and present unlawful employment practices.
- D. Order Defendant to make whole Ms. Roberts by providing appropriate back pay with prejudgment interest, in amounts to be determined at trial, and other affirmative relief necessary to eradicate the effects of its unlawful employment practices, including but not limited to, reinstatement, rightful-place hiring, and/or front pay.

- E. Order Defendant to make whole Ms. Roberts by providing compensation for past and future pecuniary losses resulting from the employment practices described in paragraph seven above, including but not limited to, out-of-pocket losses, medical expenses, and job search expenses, in amounts to be determined at trial.
- F. Order Defendant to make whole Ms. Roberts by providing compensation for past and future non-pecuniary losses resulting from the employment practices described in paragraph seven above, including but not limited to, emotional pain, suffering, inconvenience, loss of enjoyment of life, and humiliation, in amounts to be determined at trial.
- G. Order Defendant to pay Ms. Roberts for its malicious and reckless conduct described in paragraph seven above, in an amount to be determined at trial.
- H. Grant such further relief as the Court deems necessary and proper in the public interest.
  - I. Award EEOC its costs of this action.

#### JURY TRIAL DEMAND

EEOC requests a jury trial on all questions of fact raised by its Complaint.

Respectfully Submitted.

JAMES L. LEE Deputy General Counsel

**GWENDOLYN YOUNG REAMS** Associate General Counsel

**DELNER FRANKLIN-THOMAS** Regional Attorney

MARITZA I. GOMEZ

Trial Attorney

PR Bar No. 15183

Special Bar No. A5500946

U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT

OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

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The JS 44 Gaseo2:06-cv-141 PHENS O POCUTE ILCOVER SHEET LSD Docket 07/05/2006 Page 7 of 7

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket meet. (SEE INSTRICTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.) NOTICE: Attorneys MUST Indicate All Re-filed Cases Below. I. (a) PLAINTIFFS **DEFENDANTS** U. S. EQUAL EMPLO MENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION AWARENESS TECHNOLOGY, INC. Miami-Dade Co County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Martin County (b) isted Defendant (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF AINTIFF CASES ONLY) IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT (c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) LAND INVOLVED. U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission 2 South Biscayne Blvd., Suite 2700 Attorneys (If Known) Miami, FL 33131 Tel: (305)808-1783 e (d) Check County Where Action Arose: MIAMI- DADE ☐ MONROE ☐ BROWARD D PALM BEACH OF MARTIN DIST. LUCIE DINDIAN RIVER DIOKEECHOBEE II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION LIL. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff (Place an "X" in One Box Only) (For Diversity Cases Only) and One Box for Defendant) DEF U.S. Government Federal Question PTF DEF PTF Citizen of This State 7 1 Incorporated or Principal Place **17** 4 (U.S. Government Not a Party) Plaintiff ì of Business In This State  $\Box$  2 Incorporated and Principal Place  $\Box$  5  $\bigcirc$  2 U.S. Government Diversity Citizen of Another State 2 of Business In Another State Defendant (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III) Citizen or Subject of a 7 3 Foreign Nation 7 6 Foreign Country NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only) FORFEITURE/PENALTY BANKRUPTCY OTHER STATUTES □ 110 Insurance PERSONAL INJURY PERSONAL INJURY 610 Agriculture 7 422 Appeal 28 USC 158 400 State Reapportionment 620 Other Food & Drug ☐ 423 Withdrawal ☐ 120 Marine 7 310 Airplane 362 Personal Injury -410 Antitrust 28 USC 157 ☐ 130 Miller Act 7 315 Airplane Product Med. Malpractice 625 Drug Related Seizure 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce ☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument Liability  $\Box$ 365 Personal Injury of Property 21 USC 881 150 Recovery of Overpayment 320 Assault, Libel & Product Liability 630 Liquor Laws PROPERTY RIGHTS 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced and & Enforcement of Judgment Slander 368 Asbestos Personal 640 R.R. & Truck ☐ 820 Copyrights 330 Federal Employers Injury Product 650 Airline Regs. O 830 Patent Corrupt Organizations 151 Medicare Act ☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Liability Liability 660 Occupational ☐ 840 Trademark 480 Consumer Credit Student Loans 7 340 Marine PERSONAL PROPERT Safety/Health 490 Cable/Sat TV 370 Other Fraud 690 Other 810 Selective Service (Excl. Veterans) 7 345 Marine Product 371 Truth in Lending LABOR SOCIAL SECURITY 850 Securities/Commodities/ 153 Recovery of Overpayment Liability (7 350 Motor Vehicle 710 Fair Labor Standards of Veteran's Benefits 380 Other Personal 861 HIA (1395ff) Exchange ☐ 355 Motor Vehicle Property Damage ₱ 862 Black Lung (923) 160 Stockholders' Suns 875 Customer Challenge ☐ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 12 USC 3410 Product Liability 385 Property Damage 720 Labor/Mgmt. Relations 190 Other Contract 730 Labor/Mgmt.Reporting J 195 Contract Product Liability 360 Other Personal Product Liability ☐ 864 SSID Title XVI 890 Other Statutory Actions & Disclosure Act ¬ 865 RSI (405(g)) 891 Agricultural Acts 196 Franchise Injury CIVIL RIGHTS REAL PROPERTY PRISONER PETITIONS 740 Railway Labor Act FEDERAL TAX SUITS 892 Economic Stabilization Act ☐ 210 Land Condemnation 790 Other Labor Litigation 1 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff 893 Environmental Matters 441 Voting 510 Motions to Vacate ☐ 220 Foreclosure 3 442 Employment Sentence 791 Empl. Ret. Inc or Defendant) 894 Energy Allocation Act 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 7 443 Housing/ Habeas Corpus: Security Act 871 JRS—Third Party 895 Freedom of Information 240 Torts to Land Accommodations 530 General 26 USC 7609 900Appeal of Fee Determination 1 245 Tort Product Liability 1 444 Welfare 535 Death Penalty 1 445 Amer. w/Disabilities -540 Mandamus & Other Under Equal Access 7 290 All Other Real Property 550 Civil Rights to Justice Employment 950 Constitutionality of 555 Prison Condition 446 Amer. w/Disabilities -Other State Statutes 7 440 Other Civil Rights Appeal to District V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only) Transferred from Judge from O Multidistrict Original Removed from 3 Re-filed-Reinstated or 🏻 **D** 6 2 another district Magistrate State Court (see VI below) Reopened Litigation Proceeding (specify) Judement a) Re-filed Case TYES TNO b) Related Cases TYES TNO VI. RELATED/RE-FILED (See instructions DOCKET CASE(S). econd page) JUDGE NUMBER Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing and Write a Brief Statement of Cause (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless VII. CAUSE OF TITLE VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Title I of the Civil Rights Act of 1991. Employment **ACTION** Discrimination on the basis of sex (female, pregnancy) and retaliation. LENGTH OF TRIAL via 3-5 days estimated (for both sides to try entire case) VIII. REQUESTED IN CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint: **COMPLAINT:** UNDER F.R.C.P. 23 JURY DEMAND: 2 Yes D No ABOVE INFORMATION IS TRUE & CORRECT TO SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD DATE THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE

NATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

DATE

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FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

AMOUNT RECEIPT # 1FP