

Below is the Order of the Court.



Christopher M. Alston
U.S. Bankruptcy Judge

(Dated as of Entered on Docket date above)

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Christopher M. Alston
Bankruptcy Judge
United States Courthouse
700 Stewart Street, Suite 6301
Seattle, WA 98101
206-370-5330

IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE

In re
Northwest Territorial Mint, LLC,

Debtor.

Chapter 11
Case No. 16-11767

ORDER FOLLOWING HEARING ON ORDER
TO SHOW CAUSE WHY SANCTIONS SHOULD
NOT BE IMPOSED AND AMENDED ORDER
TO SHOW CAUSE RE CIVIL CONTEMPT

These two matters came before the Court on (1) the Ex Parte Motion by United States Trustee for Order to Show Cause Re Civil Contempt of Jeffrey Mark McMeel [Dkt. 189], Order to Show Cause [Dkt. 196] and Amended Ex parte Order to Show Cause [Dkt. 213], and the Proof of service [Dkt. 218] showing Amended Order mailed to McMeel on May 10, 2016, and (2) the Court's Order to Show Cause [Dkt. 214] mailed by the Clerk's Office of the Bankruptcy Court to Mr. McMeel on May 9, 2016, in which the Court identified violations of Fed. R. Bankr. P.

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1 9011 by Mr. McMeel and afforded him an opportunity to show cause why sanctions should not
2 be imposed.

3 The Court considered the records and files in this case, including the U.S. Trustee's Ex
4 Parte Motion, the various filings by Mr. McMeel described below, and the Joinder in U.S.
5 Trustee's Show Cause Motion Against McMeel for Contempt filed by the Washington State Tax
6 Agencies. The Court has heard argument from Mr. McMeel and from Martin Smith on behalf of
7 the U.S. Trustee. Based on the above, the Court finds and concludes as follows:

8 1. Jurisdiction. This Court has jurisdiction over the Motion pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157
9 and 1334. This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2), and venue is proper
10 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

11 2. The Initial Power of Attorney. On April 25, Mr. McMeel filed a document titled "By
12 Restricted Appearance 'Statutory Power of Attorney' by Authority of The D.C. Code Sec 21-
13 210" [Dkt. 121] to which is attached a Power of Attorney that appears to be recorded in the
14 Thurston County records on April 12, 2016. Under this Power of Attorney, the Grantors are
15 Jeffrey McMeel and Martha McMeel and the Grantees are: (a) The United States; (b) Office of
16 U.S. Bankruptcy Western District of Washington; (c) United States Government Accountability
17 Office; (d) Office of the United States Trustee Program Region 18; (e) Office of the Sec. of the
18 Treasury; (f) Washington State; (g) Office of the Washington Supreme Court; (h) Office of King
19 County Probate Court; and (i) Mark Calvert Trustee. Under this Power of Attorney, Mr.
20 McMeel demands that all of these entities work in concert to turnover property to him and to
21 preserve and protect all of his rights.

22 Mr. McMeel also filed a "Restricted Appearance Letter to the Court" that poses a number
23 of nonsensical questions that attempt to challenge the legitimacy of the debtor's bankruptcy filing
24 because the filing supposedly does not satisfy the requirements established by the Bankruptcy
25 Act of 1898. He also twice filed certified copies of the Bankruptcy Act of 1898. See Dkt. 122-
26 Dkt. 124.

27 3. The Special Agent Filings. Based on this Power of Attorney at Dkt .121, on May 3, 2016,
28 Mr. McMeel filed numerous documents, including what are purported to be notices of

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1 appearance as “special agent” by various State of Washington and United States of America
2 officials and agencies identified in the Power of Attorney. Dkt. 169- Dkt. 178. For example, in
3 one of these notices, Dkt. 173, Mr. McMeel represents that the United States Trustee is a
4 “Special Agent” for him by stating as follows:

5 COMES NOW, UNITED STATES TRUSTEE, special agent, enters herewith her
6 appearance undersigned, and directs that all future pleadings or papers in the above
7 entitled cause, exclusive of original process, be served upon the said special agent,
8 UNITED STATES TRUSTEE, by leaving a copy with her attorneys by the
9 authority of her principal, jeffrey mark mcmeel, evidenced by his "Power of
10 Attorney" granted to the Office of the United States Trustee Program Region 18
11 docket No. 121 on file with the Court Clerk and included with this filing with the
12 Court Clerk.

13 He signed the document “jeffrey mark mcmeel, The United States Trustee Ex Rel.” Mr.
14 McMeel has no authority to submit any document on behalf of the U.S. Trustee or any of these
15 entities, nor does he have any evidence that any of these entities have agreed to act as his
16 attorney or agent.

17 4. Additional Powers of Attorney. In response to the U.S. Trustee’s Motion and Show
18 Cause Order, Mr. McMeel filed more Powers of Attorney and other papers in which he continues
19 to insist multiple officials and government entities are his agents bound to serve his demands.
20 First, he filed a Declaration and Response [Dkt. 233] in which he states that no one has
21 responded to the Power of Attorney he filed, he demands that all parties appear before the
22 Washington State Bar Disciplinary Council, and gives the Court, U.S. Trustee and Attorney
23 General Office three days to respond to his papers or withdraw as his Agent in Fact. Mr.
24 McMeel then filed another Power of Attorney [Dkt. 234] that appears to have been recorded in
25 the Thurston County Records on December 12, 2015. The Grantor is the State of WA Dept. of
26 Health Certificate Live Birth Number XXXX, which appears to mean Mr. McMeel, and the
27 Grantees are: (a) Congressman Denny Heck; (b) the United States of America; (c) Jack Lew as
28 Sec. of the Treasury; (d) Vincent G. Logan as Special Trustee for American Indians; (e)

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1 Governor Jay Inslee; (f) Attorney General Bob Ferguson; (g) the Queen or King of England; (h)
2 Public Policy; and (i) the WA State Supreme Court. Like the previously-filed Power of
3 Attorney, this document purports to require all of these people to act and serve Mr. McMeel's
4 personal interests.

5 Next, he filed a document [Dkt. 235] in which he accuses the U.S. government employees
6 of being on strike in regards to him and his claim, of not providing honest government services
7 to him, and of warring on the U.S. Constitution and therefore striking against the Federal
8 Government. He then attaches what appears to be a certified but illegible copy of an old act
9 obtained from the National Archives and Records Administration on November 6, 2014,
10 meaning he obtained this document a year and a half ago.

11 Finally, he filed a Declaration of Objection to Show Cause [Dkt. 282] in which he
12 objects to the proceedings and makes a series of bizarre allegations against the Court and other
13 government employees. To this document he attaches another Power of Attorney that he had
14 recorded in the Thurston County records on May 18, 2016 (two days before the hearing). This
15 latest Power of Attorney provides he is the Grantor and the following persons and entities are the
16 Grantees: (a) Public; (b) State of Washington; (c) United States; (d) King County Probate Court;
17 (e) Northwest Territorial Mint; (f) United States Bankruptcy Court Western District Of
18 Washington; (g) United States Government Accountability Office; (h) United States Trustee
19 Program Region 18; (i) Washington State Bar Association; (j) Office Of Disciplinary Counsel; (k)
20 Office of Attorney General Washington State; (l) United States Marshals Service; and (m)
21 Christopher Alston (Bankruptcy Court Case # 16-11767 CMA Chapter 11).

22 To date, Mr. McMeel has filed 18 documents that consist of alleged powers of attorneys,
23 documents filed on behalf of the various agencies and persons, and the documents to which he
24 attaches various statutes in support of his authority. These will be known as the "Special Agent
25 Filings."

26 5. Frivolous Pleadings Filed in a Prior Case. Mr. McMeel is not a stranger to the federal
27 court in this district and has been sanctioned for engaging in similar conduct. The Court takes
28 judicial notice of the pleadings and papers filed in *McMeel v. United States*, U.S. District Court

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1 for Western District of Washington, case no 12-6067, in which Mr. McMeel filed a complaint
2 against the IRS. The district court eventually dismissed the suit for lack of jurisdiction. Over a
3 year after judgment was entered, Mr. McMeel filed a series of documents contesting the Court's
4 ruling. Dkt. 22- Dkt. 24. The district court noted that Plaintiff's filings "contain meritless
5 arguments for reopening this matter," denied the relief requested in the filings, and instructed the
6 Clerk of the Court not to note any subsequent document on the Court's calendar for the Court's
7 consideration. Dkt. 25. Mr. McMeel, however, continued filing motions and documents
8 electronically as allowed under local rules. The district court finally entered an order that
9 concluded Mr. McMeel was "abusing his privilege to file electronically based on his numerous
10 frivolous motions," revoked McMeel's electronic filing rights and directed the Clerk to disable
11 his ECF registration in that case. Dkt. 43.

12 6. Sanctions are Warranted. The Court concludes the Special Agent Filings are false and
13 misleading. Each of the Special Agent Filings appears to be an intentional and fraudulent effort
14 to confuse, misdirect, and obfuscate the proper notice procedures for the person and agencies
15 involved and to interfere with the administration of this bankruptcy case. The papers are non-
16 sense, have no legitimate purpose, and were submitted in bad faith. The Court finds that by filing
17 numerous specious papers in which he falsely asserts to be either the agent or the principal of
18 various agencies and persons, Mr. McMeel has acted in bad faith, vexatiously, and for oppressive
19 reasons, and has participated in an abuse of process. These are not merely frivolous papers: by
20 falsely asserting (a) he can appear on behalf of various individuals and government agencies, and
21 (b) various individuals and government agencies have been appointed by him to work for him, he
22 is interfering with the rights of those persons and agencies and interfering with the administration
23 of justice.

24 Under its inherent authority, the Court finds the conduct warrants the imposition of sanctions
25 for contempt. And under 11 U.S.C. §105(a), the Court finds it is necessary to exercise its
26 statutory civil contempt power to issue an order to stop these abusive and disruptive filings so
27 that the Court may administer this case and otherwise carry out the provisions of the Bankruptcy
28

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1 Code. Since Mr. McMeel was previously sanctioned before for similar conduct, more severe
2 sanctions are now necessary to deter such behavior.

3 The Court further finds the Special Agent Filings were filed willfully, are frivolous, were
4 intended to harass, were for an improper purpose, and filed in bad faith, all in violation of Fed.
5 R. Bankr. P. 9011(b).

6 Mr. McMeel has been afforded an adequate notice and opportunity to respond to the two
7 show cause orders. His response was to restate his frivolous, abusive, and bad-faith positions,
8 demonstrating that will not comply with the Bankruptcy Code and Rules absent the imposition of
9 sanctions.

10 Based on the above, and the other findings and conclusions states on the record at the
11 May 20, 2016 hearing that are incorporated by this reference, now, therefore,

12 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

13 1. Mr. McMeel shall pay to the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court two thousand five
14 hundred United States Dollars and no cents (\$2,500 U.S.) in sanctions for contempt and two
15 thousand five hundred United States Dollars and no cents (\$2,500 U.S.) in sanctions for
16 violation of Fed. R. Bankr. P. 9011(b);

17 2. Mr. McMeel, his agents, and anyone acting concert with him are prohibited from
18 filing or causing to be filed any documents or papers in this case until he pays the amounts stated
19 in paragraph 1 to the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court, EXCEPT he may file the following prior to
20 paying the sanctions:

- 21 a. A motion for reconsideration of this Order;
- 22 b. A notice of appeal of this Order;
- 23 c. If he files a notice of appeal, then documents filed under that appeal;
- 24 d. A proof of claim and any amendments to the proof of claim;
- 25 e. In the event an objection is filed to his claim, then papers filed in response to the
26 objection and in support of the claim; and

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1 f. In the event any person or entity files a motion, contested matter or adversary
2 proceeding seeking relief from or against him, then papers and documents in defense of
3 claims or matters asserted against him;

4 3. If he pays the amounts stated in paragraph 1 to the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court,
5 Mr. McMeel may then file papers and pleadings in this case that comply with Bankruptcy Rule
6 9011(b) EXCEPT Mr. McMeel is permanently barred from filing or causing to be filed any paper
7 or pleading in this case on behalf of any other person or entity other than himself; and

8 4. The Special Agent Filings (Dkt. Nos. 121–124, 169–178, 233–235, and 282) shall be
9 stricken and sealed such that only members of this Court’s judicial chambers, the Clerk of the
10 Court, Mr. McMeel, counsel for the U. S. Trustee, and the Court’s IT staff shall have access to
11 the sealed documents.

12 /// END OF ORDER ///