## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA WESTERN DIVISION

Farm-to-Consumer : Case No. 5:10-cv-4018

Legal Defense Fund, et al.

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Plaintiffs : Judge Mark W. Bennett

V.

:

Sebelius, et al.

:

Defendants :

## PLAINTIFFS' BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO ADMIT NEWLY DISCOVERED EVIDENCE

Plaintiffs have come into the possession of new evidence that may be important to the Court when addressing the merits of Defendants' motion to dismiss. Motions to admit newly discovered evidence are normally presented to the Court via a motion for relief from judgment (*see* Fed.R.Civ.P. 60); a motion for a new trial or to amend a judgment (Rule 59); or a motion to amend or make additional findings of fact (Rule 52). Although Plaintiffs' instant motion does not address any of these situations, guidance on the admissibility of newly discovered evidence can be gleaned from cases that interpret one or more of these Rules.

In this case, Plaintiffs can prevail on their motion if they show that their newly discovered evidence (1) was discovered after they filed their Resistance to FDA's motion to dismiss, (2) is material and not cumulative, and (3) could produce a different result if it was not introduced. *See, e.g., O.N. Equity Sales Co. v. Pals*, 551 F.Supp.2d 821 (J. Bennett) (N.D. Iowa 2008). As described below, Plaintiffs' motion satisfies all three criteria.

Plaintiffs filed their Brief in Opposition to Defendants' motion to dismiss on June 14, 2010. The next day, June 15<sup>th</sup>, Plaintiffs' counsel received an <u>unsolicited</u> email from Ms. Sarah McCammon, a reporter who works for the Iowa Public Radio Network. See Exhibit 1 attached hereto. In her email, Ms McCammon explained that she was confused by this case because after questioning FDA by email about this case, FDA had apparently admitted that it would be legal for Ms. McCammon to buy raw milk in Nebraska and bring it back to Iowa. Specifically, Ms. McCammon's email included an email exchange with FDA's press office wherein FDA originally explained that 21 C.F.R. 1240.61 "does not prohibit an individual from purchasing a raw milk product for personal use...."

After receiving Ms. McCammon's email Plaintiffs' counsel sent FDA's counsel an email on June 16<sup>th</sup>, stated that Plaintiffs had come into possession of new evidence that might impact the case, and recommended that all counsel schedule a conference call to discuss the import of this new evidence. See Exhibit 2 attached hereto. A conference call between all counsel was scheduled for June 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss whether this new evidence impacted the case in any way.

On June 24<sup>th</sup>, in anticipation of the conference call, Plaintiffs' counsel forwarded Ms. McCammon's email to counsel for the FDA. See Exhibit 3 attached hereto. Prior to the commencement of the conference call, however, Plaintiffs' counsel received an email from Jennifer Zachary, FDA's Office of General Counsel. See Exhibit 4 attached hereto. Ms. Zachary's email contained a forwarded email from FDA's press office in response to Ms. McCammon, stating that its earlier interpretation of 21 C.F.R. 1240.61 "was totally incorrect."

This new evidence is important for the following reasons:

 FDA considers the conduct described by Plaintiffs in their amended complaint to be a violation of 21 C.F.R. 1240.61, further proving the Hobson's Choice all Plaintiffs face;

forcing Plaintiffs to submit a citizens petition to FDA would be an effort in futility;

 Plaintiffs would need to conduct discovery on the issue of FDA's change of interpretation of 1240.61, indeed FDA's actual interpretation, should the Court deny FDA's motion to dismiss in whole or in part.

Consequently, good cause exists to admit this newly discovered evidence.

Dated: July 24, 2010 Respectfully submitted,

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on July 24, 2010, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of Court using the CM/ECF system that will send notification of such filings(s) to the following:

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