IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLORADO

Civil Action No. 26-cv-00532-JLK-CYC

CAPSTONE STUDIOS CORP.,

Plaintiff,

v.

JOHN DOE subscriber assigned IP address 73.95.250.156,

Defendant.

MINUTE ORDER

Entered by Cyrus Y. Chung, United States Magistrate Judge, on February 13, 2026.

For good cause shown, the Court hereby **GRANTS** Plaintiff's Motion for Leave to Take Limited Expedited Discovery of Information Prior to Rule 26(f) Conference, filed February 11, 2026, ECF No. 8, as follows.

Plaintiff's Motion alleges that the Defendant John Doe, identified only by his or her internet protocol ("IP") address, has infringed on Plaintiff's copyrighted work by using the internet and a "BitTorrent" protocol to reproduce, distribute, display, or perform Plaintiff's protected media. Plaintiff requests permission from the Court to serve limited, immediate discovery on Defendant's Internet Service Provider ("ISP") prior to the Rule 26(f) conference. The purpose of this discovery is to obtain additional information concerning Defendant's identity.

Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(d) proscribes seeking discovery before Rule 26(f) conferral, but this prohibition is not absolute. Courts may authorize discovery upon a showing of good cause. *See Malibu Media, LLC v. John Does 1-27*, No. 12-cv-00406-REB-KMT, 2012 WL 629111, at *1 (D. Colo. Feb. 27, 2012) (collecting cases). "Expedited discovery should be limited, however, and narrowly tailored to seek information necessary to support expedited or preliminary relief." *Avaya, Inc. v. Acumen Telecom Corp.*, No. 10-cv-03075-CMA-BNB, 2011 WL 9293, at *2 (D. Colo. Jan. 3, 2011).

The Court finds good cause for limited expedited discovery. Therefore, Plaintiff's Motion is granted as follows. Plaintiff may serve a third-party subpoena pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 45 on the ISP with the limited purpose of ascertaining the identity of Defendant. The subpoena shall be limited to providing Plaintiff with the name and address of the subscriber (Doe Defendant) to whom the ISP has assigned an IP address. With the subpoena, Plaintiff shall also serve a copy of this Order. The ISP shall notify the subscriber that his/her identity has been subpoenaed by Plaintiff. Finally, the Court emphasizes that Plaintiff may use the information disclosed in response to the subpoena only for the purpose of protecting and enforcing its rights as set forth in

its Complaint, ECF No. 1. The Court cautions Plaintiff that improper use of this information may result in sanctions.