Overview of Trademark Infringement

- Actionable use
- Likelihood of confusion
 - Forward confusion
 - Initial interest confusion
 - Post-sale confusion
 - Reverse confusion
 - Section 2(d) confusion
- Likelihood of dilution
 - Dilution by blurring
 - Dilution by tarnishment
- UDRP / cybersquatting
- Contributory infringement

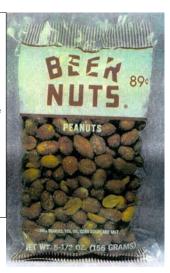
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Likelihood of Confusion HYPO



- strength of the mark
 proximity of the goods
 - similarity of the marks
- evidence of actual confusion
- marketing channels used
- type of goods and the degree of care likely to be exercised by the purchaser
- defendant's intent in selecting the mark
- likelihood of expansion of the product lines



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Types of confusion

- Confusion as to the products
 - · Confusion leading to purchase of infringer's product when trademark ("TM") owner sells the same product
- · Confusion as to source
 - Infringer uses TM owner's mark on products the TM owner does not sell at all
 - Two possible types of harm: (i) potentially inferior quality of infringer's products; (ii) if TM owner expands into product area where infringer sells, very high chance of likelihood of confusion
- Confusion as to sponsorship
 - For example, United States Olympic Committee label on soup
- · Initial interest confusion
 - · Confusion that is dispelled before purchase occurs
- Post-sale confusion
 - Confusion after the sale of a product
- Reverse Confusion
 - · A large company adopts the mark of a smaller TM owner
 - Risk is not junior user trading on goodwill of senior, but that the public comes to associate the mark not with its
 true owner, but with the infringing junior user who may have spent a lot of money to advertise it



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Six aspects of "use in commerce":

- 1. Commerce clause limitation
- 2. Establishing priority [_in the earlier list entitled "Use in commerce modalities", related to "requirement for exclusive rights"]

(actual use for common law rights; actual or constructive use for rights under federal registration)

- 3. Establishing ownership (who is the "user"?) [_in the earlier list entitled "Use in commerce modalities", related to "requirement for exclusive rights"]
- 4. Determining whether a mark has been abandoned (when does "use" stop?)
- 5. Determining types of actionable use
 - Did the defendant "use in commerce any reproduction, counterfeit, copy, or colorable imitation of a registered mark in connection with the sale, offering for sale, distribution, or advertising of any goods or services..." ("...on or in connection with which such use is likely to cause confusion, or to cause mistake, or to deceive")?
- 6. Determining "fair use" [_additional to the earlier list entitled "Use in commerce modalities"_]

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Section 45 Definition of "Use in Commerce"

The term "use in commerce" means the bona fide use of a mark in the ordinary course of trade, and not made merely to reserve a right in a mark. For purposes of this chapter, a mark shall be deemed to be in use in commerce—

(1) on goods when—

(A) it is placed in any manner on the goods or their containers or the displays associated therewith or on the tags or labels affixed thereto, or if the nature of the goods makes such placement impracticable, then on documents associated with the goods or their sale, and

(B) the goods are sold or transported in commerce, and

(2) on services when it is used or displayed in the sale or advertising of services and the services are rendered in commerce, or the services are rendered in more than one State or in the United States and a foreign country and the person rendering the services is engaged in commerce in connection with the services.

(NB: The general view is that this definition was written to establish only what a plaintiff must do to establish trademark rights, not what a defendant must do to infringe those rights.)

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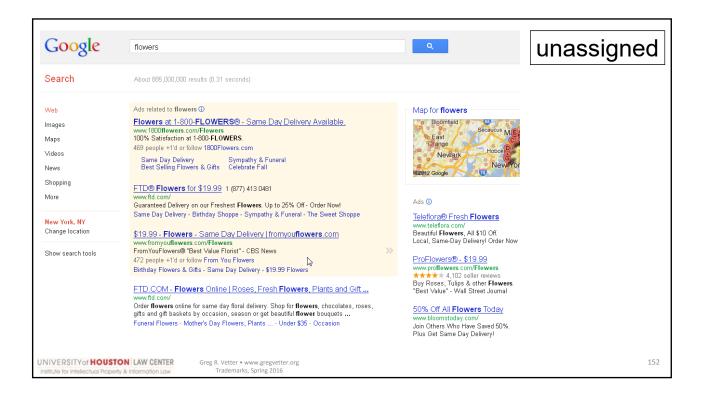
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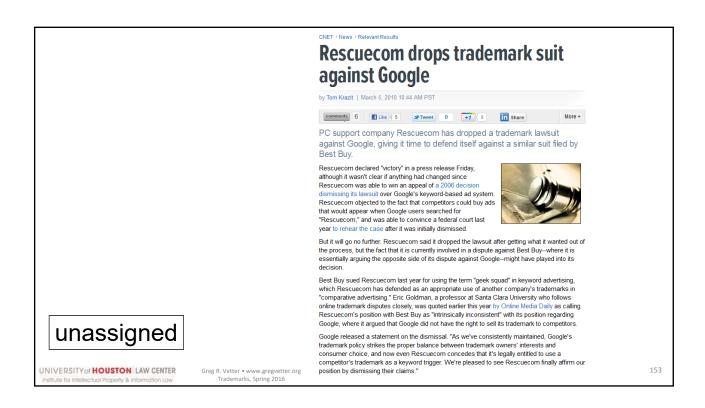
Rescuecom Corp. v. Google Inc., 562 F.3d 123 (2d Cir. 2009)

- Two issues in Google keyword advertising litigation:
 - 1. Is Google making a use in commerce? (Rescuecom)
 - 2. Is this use in commerce likely to cause confusion? (Network Automation v. **Advanced Systems** Concepts, 638 F.3d 1137 (9th Cir. 2011))



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Rescuecom Corp. v. Google, 562 F.3d 123 (2d Cir. 2009)



Google

- Google
 - AdWords
 - Keyword Suggestion Tool
- · Upon search, sponsored link or relevant result?
 - Differences from 1-800
 - · Website address, not mark, or descriptive terms
 - Advertisers could not request or purchase keywords
 - Internal use
- · Sufficient allegations that it is "trademark use"



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Bosley Medical Institute, Inc. v. Kremer, 403 F.3d 672 (9th Cir. 2005)



Summary

- Rescuecom established that keyword advertising constitutes a use in commerce.
- Bosley Medical stands for the proposition that noncommercial uses of trademarks are not actionable under the Lanham Act
 - Non-commercial uses are uses that are not made "in connection with the sale, offering for sale, distribution, or advertising of any goods or services"

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Likelihood of Confusion HYPO



- strength of the mark proximity of the
- goods 3. similarity of the
- marks é evidence of actual confusion
- 5. marketing channels used
- 6. type of goods and the degree of care likely to be exercised by the purchaser
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						FACTO		ABLE I SIDERED	BY CIRC	UIT							
	Factor	Circuit (Numbers in parentheses indicate the number of the factor in that circuit) Factor 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 D.C.												Fed.	Total circuits considering the factor	Restatement (First) Torts Factors	Restatement (Third) Unfa Competition Factors
1	Similarity of the marks	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(2)	(1)	13	§ 729(a)	§ 21(a)
2	Proximity of the goods	(2)	(3)	(9)	(3)	(3)	(2)	(2)	(3)	(3)	(4)**	(3)	(3)	(2)	13	§ 731(a),(e)	
3	Evidence of actual confusion	(6)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(7)	(4)	(6)	(5)	(7)	(3)	(7)	(5)	(7)	13		§ 23(1)
4	Strength of plaintiff's mark	(8)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(5)	(1)	(2)	(6)	(1)	(1)	(5)	13	§ 731(f)	§ 21(d)
5	Defendant's intent	(7)	(6)	(5)	(6)	(6)	(7)	(7)	(4)	(6)	(2)	(6)	(6)		12	§§ 729(b). 731(i)	ş 22
6	Sophistication of the consumers	(5)	(8)	(3)		**	(6)	(4)	(6)	(5)	(5)		(8)	(4)	10	§§ 729(d), 731(g)	§ 21(c)
7	Similarity of advertising methods, marketing methods	(4)		(7)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(3)*	**	(4)	(4)**	(5)	***		9	§§ 729(c). 731(d)	§ 21(b)
8	Similarity of sales facilities	(3)			(4)	(4)		(3)*	**	**	**	(4)		(3)	6		**
9	Likelihood of bridging the gap		(4)	(10)			(8)			(8)			(4)		5	§ 731(b)	§ 21(e)
10	Comparative quality of the goods		(7)	**		**							(7)		2		
П	Length of time of concurrent use without evidence of actual confusion			(4)							**			(8)	2	§ 731(h)	§ 23(2)
12	Extent to which targets of parties' sales efforts are the same			(8)					**						1	§ 731(c)	
13	Third-party uses of plaintiff's mark			**	**	**	**	**						(6)	1		
14	Variety of goods on which mark is used													(9)		**	**
15	Market interface between applicant and owner of prior mark			-						**	**	**		(10)	1		
16	Extent of applicant's right to exclude													(11)	1	**	**
17	Extent of potential confusion, i.e., whether de minimis or substantial					-								(12)	1		
18	Any other established fact probative of effect of use			**	**				**		**			(13)	1		
19	Strength of plaintiff's mark in defendant's geographically-distinct market			**			**	**				**					21(f)
	Total factors considered:	8	8	10	7	7	8	7	- 6	8	6	7	8	13		10	9

^{*} The Seventh Circuit tends to consider both the similarity of advertising methods and the similarity of sales facilities under factor three: **The Tenth Circuit considers in factor four the "similarity of products and manner of marketing."

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Virgin Enterprises Ltd. v. Nawab, 335 F.3d 141 (2d Cir. 2003)



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