## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

Case No. 19-cv-22619-BB

MARIO DEL VALLE, ENRIQUE FALLA, MARIO ECHEVARRIA, as individuals and on behalf of all others similarly situated,

v.

TRIVAGO GmbH, a German limited liability company, BOOKING.COM B.V., a Dutch limited liability company, GRUPO HOTELERO GRAN CARIBE, CORPORACIÓN DE COMERCIO Y TURISMO INTERNACIONAL CUBANACÁN S.A., GRUPO DE TURISMO GAVIOTA S.A., RAÚL DOE 1-5, MARIELA ROE 1-5,

defendants.	
	/

#### STATUS REPORT REGARDING SERVICE ON FOREIGN DEFENDANTS

Plaintiffs Mario Del Valle, Enrique Falla and Mario Echevarria, individually and on behalf of a Class of similarly situated persons (the "Owners"), hereby respond to the Court's July 25th order requiring an update on service of process on the defendants, all of which are foreign entities.

Plaintiffs filed this class action on June 24, 2019, and immediately began translating the complaint and serving the defendants according to the Hague Convention and other applicable law. By July 26th, process was out for service as to every defendant, and is now complete as to one of them.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The named defendants are Trivago GmbH ("Trivago"), Booking.com B.V. ("Booking.com"), Grupo Hotelero Gran Caribe ("Gran Caribe"), Corporación de Comercio y Turismo Internacional Cubanacán S.A. ("Cubanacan"), and Grupo de Turismo Gaviota S.A. ("Gaviota"). The complaint also names Raul Doe 1-5 and Mariela Roe 1-5 as defendants, and we are making diligent efforts to identify them. As soon as we do, we will move to amend the complaint and promptly serve them.

As noted above, the defendants all are foreign entities or Cuban government agencies.

Service on them required translating the complaint and summonses into Spanish, German, and Dutch, as well as complying with the Hague Convention on the Service Abroad of Judicial and Extrajudicial Documents in Civil or Commercial Matters (the "Hague Convention") as to the foreign entities, and 28 U.S.C. § 1608 as to the Cuban agency defendants. As of now, service is complete as to Booking.com, one of the five foreign entity defendants. Service on the Cuban government agency defendants was made through the Court under 28 U.S.C. § 1608, and we are awaiting confirmation.

As to each of the defendants, the Owners' efforts to make service are set forth below:

- Trivago: Service under the Hague Convention through Germany's Central Authority is in process.<sup>2</sup> The Hague Convention required translating the complaint and summons into German. The Owners arranged for expedited translations and submitted the translated complaint and summons to the German Central Authority on July 26, 2019, and it was received on July 29, 2019. *See* Confirmation of Receipt, attached as Exhibit A.
- **Booking.com:** Service was made under the Hague Convention through Federal Express on July 31, 2019.<sup>3</sup> The Hague Convention required translating the complaint and summons into Dutch. Upon receiving the expedited translations, the Owners served process on Booking.com. *See* Confirmation of Receipt, attached as **Exhibit B**. Service on Booking.com is complete.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Germany does not allow Hague Convention service through postal channels. *See* Hague Conference on Private Int'l Law, *Germany-Central Authority & Practical Information* (July 19, 2018), <a href="https://www.hcch.net/en/states/authorities/details3/?aid=257">https://www.hcch.net/en/states/authorities/details3/?aid=257</a> (noting opposition to Article 10 of the Hague Convention).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Netherlands allows service Hague Convention service through postal channels. *See* Hague Conference on Private Int'l Law, *Netherlands-Central Authority & Practical Information* (July 19, 2018), <a href="https://www.hcch.net/en/states/authorities/details3/?aid=37">https://www.hcch.net/en/states/authorities/details3/?aid=37</a> (noting no opposition to Article 10 of the Hague Convention)

• Gran Caribe, Cubanacán, and Gaviota: Service was commenced under 28 U.S.C. § 1608 (b)(3) on July 26, 2019, after the Owners completed translating the complaint and summons into Spanish. *See* Clerks' Notices of International Services as to Gran Caribe, Cubanacán, and Gaviota [D.E. 9]. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1608 (b)(3), the Court has transmitted the translated complaints and summonses to these Cuban government agency defendants by registered mail. We await confirmation of delivery and receipt and expect to receive it shortly.

Although the 90-day time limit for service under Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(m) is inapplicable to service on foreign defendants, the Owners understand, and are performing, their duty of making reasonably diligent efforts to serve the defendants in this action. Service on Booking.com is complete, and service is underway as to Trivago, Gran Caribe, Cubanacán, and Gaviota. The Owners will keep the court apprised of all pertinent developments.

Respectfully submitted,

#### RIVERO MESTRE LLP

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By: /s Manuel Vazquez

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on August 1, 2019, I electronically filed this document with the Clerk of the Court using CM/ECF.

By: /s/ Andrés Rivero\_\_\_\_\_ ANDRÉS RIVERO

# **EXHIBIT A**







## Delivered Monday 7/29/2019 at 11:04 am



#### **DELIVERED**

Signed for by: F.MUELLER

**GET STATUS UPDATES** OBTAIN PROOF OF DELIVERY

**FROM** 

CORAL GABLES, FL US

TO

DUESSELDORF, NW DE

#### **Shipment Facts**

TRACKING NUMBER	SERVICE
775848705233	FedEx International Priorily

WEIGHT 1 lbs / 0.45 kgs

**DELIVERED TO** 

Mailroom

**TOTAL PIECES** 

TOTAL SHIPMENT WEIGHT

1 lbs / 0.45 kgs

**TERMS** Shipper

SHIPPER REFERENCE

1730.01

**PACKAGING** 

FedEx Envelope

SPECIAL HANDLING SECTION

Deliver Weekday

STANDARD TRANSIT

7/29/2019 by 12:00 pm

SHIP DATE

Fri 7/26/2019

**ACTUAL DELIVERY** 

Delivered

On FedEx vehicle for delivery

At local FedEx facility

Local Scan Time



### 8/1/2019 Case 1:19-cv-22619-FAM Document 1/2019 Language 1:19-cv-22619-FAM Document 1/2019 Language 2:19-cv-22619-FAM Document 1/2019 Language 3:19-cv-22619-FAM Document 1/2019-cv-22619-FAM Document 1/2019 Language 3:19-cv-22619-FAM Documen

Shipment information sent to FedEx

8:00 pm KOELN DE Departed FedEx location At local FedEx facility KOELN DE 7:12 am International shipment release -COLOGNE DE 12:19 am Import 12:14 am KOELN DE In transit Package available for clearance Saturday , 7/27/2019 Arrived at FedEx location KOELN DE 8:31 pm MEMPHIS, TN In transit 5:54 am In transit 5:10 am MEMPHIS, TN 5:04 am MEMPHIS, TN Departed FedEx location 1:30 am MEMPHIS, TN In transit Friday, 7/26/2019 Arrived at FedEx location 'MEMPHIS, TN 11:42 pm MIAMI, FL Shipment exception 11:12 pm Delay beyond our control Left FedEx origin facility 8:35 pm MIAMI, FL MIAMI, FL Picked up 5:28 pm

3:22 pm

# **EXHIBIT B**











#### **DELIVERED**

Signed for by: Z.ZENA

GET STATUS UPDATES
OBTAIN PROOF OF DELIVERY

**FROM** 

CORAL GABLES, FL US

TO

AMSTERDAM, NH NL

#### **Shipment Facts**

TRACKING NUMBER

775859755408

SERVICE

FedEx International Priority

WEIGHT

1 lbs / 0.45 kgs

DELIVERED TO

Shipping/Receiving

TOTAL PIECES

1

TOTAL SHIPMENT WEIGHT

1 lbs / 0.45 kgs

**TERMS** 

Shipper

SHIPPER REFERENCE

1730.01

PACKAGING

FedEx Envelope

SPECIAL HANDLING SECTION

Deliver Weekday

STANDARD TRANSIT

(7)

7/31/2019 by 6:00 pm

SHIP DATE

(2)

Mon 7/29/2019

ACTUAL DELIVERY

Delivered

On FedEx vehicle for delivery

At local FedEx facility

International shipment release -

Local Scan Time



### 8/1/2019 Case 1:19-cv-22619-FAM Documental പ്രവേദ മുട്ടു പ്രോഗ വിശ്യാ വ

Import

7:19 am	OUDE MEER NL	In transit Package available for clearance
5:42 am	OUDE MEER NL	At destination sort facility
3:52 am	ROISSY CHARLES DE GAULLE CEDEX FR	In transit
2:49 am	ROISSY CHARLES DE GAULLE CEDEX FR	In transit
1:48 am	ROISSY CHARLES DE GAULLE CEDEX FR	Departed FedEx location
Tuesday , 7/30/2019		
11:46 pm	ROISSY CHARLES DE GAULLE CEDEX FR	In transit
10:53 pm	ROISSY CHARLES DE GAULLE CEDEX FR	In transit
10:36 pm	ROISSY CHARLES DE GAULLE CEDEX FR	In transit
10:34 pm	ROISSY CHARLES DE GAULLE CEDEX FR	In transit
9:37 pm	ROISSY CHARLES DE GAULLE CEDEX FR	In transit
8:56 pm	ROISSY CHARLES DE GAULLE CEDEX FR	Arrived at FedEx location
2:58 pm	ROISSY CHARLES DE GAULLE CEDEX FR	In transit
5:39 am	MEMPHIS, TN	Departed FedEx location
5:25 am	MEMPHIS, TN	In transit
4:38 am	MEMPHIS, TN	In transit
2:28 am	MEMPHIS, TN	In transit
1:50 am	MEMPHIS, TN	Arrived at FedEx location
Monday , 7/29/2019		
11:18 pm	MIAMI, FL	Shipment exception
		Delay beyond our control
7:04 pm	MIAMI, FL	Picked up
1:46 pm		Shipment information sent to FedEx