IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA Alexandria Division

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DAVID L. WHITEHEAD, Plaintiff, v. PARAMOUNT PICTURES CORP., *et al.*, Defendants.

No. 1:08cv792 (AJT/TRJ)

<u>ORDER</u>

This matter is before the Court on Plaintiff's Motion for Reconsideration of the Court's Denial of Recusal (Doc. No. 400). Because oral argument will not assist the decisional process, this motion will be resolved on the basis of the papers filed with the Court.

Section 455(a) requires that "[a]ny justice, judge, or magistrate judge of the United States shall disqualify himself in any proceeding in which his impartiality might reasonably be questioned. 28 U.S.C. § 455(a). Section 455(b)(1) provides that "[h]e shall also disqualify himself... [w]here he has personal bias or prejudice concerning a party, or personal knowledge of disputed evidentiary facts concerning the proceeding." *Id.* at § 455(b)(1).

Plaintiff's motion is premised on the fact that the undersigned an "appointee" of former President George W. Bush, who Plaintiff claims "is a current witness on plaintiff's witness list." The Court finds that its impartiality may not reasonably be questioned and it has no personal bias or prejudice against the Plaintiff or personal knowledge of disputed evidentiary facts concerning the proceeding as a result of the fact that the undersigned was nominated by former President George W. Bush. Accordingly, it is hereby ORDERED that Plaintiff's Motion for Reconsideration of the Court's Denial of Recusal

(Doc. No. 400) be, and the same hereby is, DENIED.

The Clerk is directed to forward copies of this Order to all counsel of record and to Plaintiff, pro se.

Anthony J. Trenga United States District Judge

Alexandria, Virginia May 26, 2009