

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

DR. SHIVA AYYADURAI,

Plaintiff,

v.

ERIN ELIZABETH FINN,

Defendant.

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) Civ. No.

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) **JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**

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COMPLAINT FOR DECLARATORY AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

Plaintiff Dr. Shiva Ayyadurai, through counsel, seeks judgment and injunctive relief against Erin Elizabeth Finn for her defamation of the Plaintiff, and alleges as follows:

Introduction

1. For his entire life, Dr. Ayyadurai has been a pioneer and outspoken champion in the field of natural medicine. His love of natural medicine began in India, when as a five-year-old, he observed his grandmother, a farmer and healer in the small village of Muhavur in South India, practice Siddha - India's oldest system of indigenous medicine that employed natural methods such as yoga, combination of herbs and minerals, marma therapy (similar to acupuncture), meditation, prayer, oils, and massage to heal and support local villagers. These

early experiences inspired him to pursue the study of chemistry, biology, modern systems science, information technology, and indigenous medicines towards one day unraveling the science behind eastern and indigenous systems of natural medicine.

2. Dr. Ayyadurai went on to receive four degrees from MIT, and embarked on a career aimed at gaining a better understanding of the effects of combinations of molecular compounds, food, herbs, therapeutics, on diseases and biomolecular functions, without the need for animal testing.

3. His studies and research led him to realize the need for a personalized and precision medicine; that mandating vaccines can do profound harm to the body, given the unique nature of each of our biological systems. His stance against mandated vaccines, and against “one-size-fits-all” medicine is a centerpiece of his campaign for the Republican Party’s nomination to the United States Senate in Massachusetts, while Joseph P. Kennedy III runs for the Democratic Party’s nomination.

4. In April 2019, various groups and families skeptical of government mandates on vaccines, after learning about Dr. Ayyadurai’s background and expertise, invited him to join with them in their activism. At his own expense, Dr. Ayyadurai began providing them educational content through lectures and workshops he hosted, as well as online through videos, on the nature of the

immune system, and supporting evidence why a standardized government mandated schedule of vaccines could be harmful to individual's immune system. His content emphasized the need to boost the immune system as the method to protect the human body against pathogens. His videos and lectures went viral across the world, projecting him into the leadership role in this movement.

5. Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. founded Children's Health Defense. Mr. Kennedy and Dr. Ayyadurai have a significant difference on this issue. Mr. Kennedy has made it clear that he has "always been fiercely pro-vaccine" and supports "policies that encourage full vaccination for all Americans." In contrast, Dr. Ayyadurai, as an expert on the immune system, believes that the government should not be involved in any manner in mandating any aspect of an individual's decision on, if and what vaccines, they should receive.

6. Elizabeth Erin Finn, a supporter of Mr. Kennedy, runs the website www.healthnutnews.com and various Facebook pages.

7. On April 28, 2020, Ms. Finn published an article (Ex. A, Finn article), avail. at <https://www.healthnutnews.com/breaking-rfk-jr-asks-if-dr-shiva-owning-a-vaccine-company-partnering-with-microsoft-is-why-hes-splintering-the-movement/> (retrieved May 11, 2020) that began with her own original commentary and contained numerous false and defamatory statements. She also embedded within her article, an article written by Mr. Kennedy from the Childrens Health

Defense website that itself contains at least seven verifiably false and defamatory statements. (Ex. B, Kennedy article)

8. On April 29, 2020, Ms. Finn discussed Mr. Kennedy's article for more than an hour on a video she published on her Facebook page. (avail. at <https://www.facebook.com/HealthNutNews/videos/3001781266569384>)(retrieved May 12, 2020) In that video, she falsely stated that Dr. Ayyadurai had a vaccine company, that he made his money from President Bill Clinton and Hillary Clinton, and that Dr. Ayyadurai had lost his lawsuit against TechDirt, and other defamatory statements.

9. After April 28, 2020, Ms. Finn continued her defamation on comments under her original April 28, 2020 Facebook posts (Ex. C, Finn posts), falsely stating Dr. Ayyadurai had a history and record of abusing and beating women.

10. Because of the damage Finn's article caused – and will continue to cause – Dr. Ayyadurai, the plaintiff must now resort to this action.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

11. This Court's jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332 because Plaintiff Dr. Ayyadurai is a resident of Massachusetts and Defendant Finn is a resident of Florida, and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.

12. Venue is appropriate under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1),(2) because Dr. Ayyadurai resides in the District, and the defamation at issue was intended to harm Dr. Ayyadurai in this District and did so harm him.

PARTIES

13. Plaintiff Dr. Shiva Ayyadurai is a renowned scientist, engineer, inventor, and entrepreneur. He is currently a candidate for United States Senate in Massachusetts. His offices are located at 701 Concord Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138.

14. Defendant Erin Elizabeth Finn is a resident of Ormond Beach, Florida.

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Dr. Ayyadurai has a long background in natural medicine

15. Dr. Ayyadurai's interest in the healing power of natural medicines began as a boy. As a five-year-old, he observed his grandmother, a farmer and healer in the small village of Muhavur in South India, practice Siddha - India's oldest system of indigenous medicine. Siddha employed natural methods such as yoga, combination of herbs and minerals, marma therapy (similar to acupuncture), meditation, prayer, oils, and massage to heal and support local villagers. These early experiences inspired him to pursue the study of chemistry, biology, modern systems science, information technology, and indigenous medicines, all aimed toward one day unraveling the science behind eastern and indigenous systems of natural medicine.

16. When he was 14 years old, Dr. Ayyadurai was accepted into a special intensive summer program in computer science at the Courant Institute of Mathematical Science at New York University (NYU) in 1978, where he learned seven programming languages, graduating at the top of the class.

17. In the fall of that year, given his interest in medicine, he was recruited as a full-time Research Fellow at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) located in Newark, NJ – today, part of Rutgers Medical School. At UMDNJ, Dr. Ayyadurai had the opportunity to use his skills in mathematics and computer science on at least two different projects at the medical school.

18. For one, he created a computer-based mathematical model of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (S.I.D.S.) to analyze sleep patterns of babies to predict the onset of an apnea – the temporary cessation of breathing. His research resulted in him presenting a scientific paper on the subject a few years later at a leading international biomedical conference in Espoo, Finland.

19. In another effort at UMDNJ, Dr. Ayyadurai wrote 50,000 lines of software code to create the first electronic emulation of the entire interoffice mail system (Inbox, Outbox, Folders, Address Book, Memo, Cc:, Bcc:, etc.) - which he named “EMAIL,” to invent the world’s first email system, for which he was later awarded the first United States copyright for “Email: Computer Program for Electronic Mail System,” officially recognizing him as the inventor of email. At the time, copyright

was the only method to protect software inventions, since the U.S. Supreme Court was not yet recognizing software as patentable.

20. Dr. Ayyadurai went on to earn four degrees from MIT including his Ph.D. in Biological Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His other degrees include: a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and Computer science, a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering, and a Master of Science in Visual Studies from the MIT Media Laboratory.

21. Following his doctoral work in 2008, Dr. Ayyadurai returned to India on a Fulbright Research Fellowship to uncover the scientific basis of eastern and indigenous systems of medicine such as Ayurveda, Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), Siddha - as a commitment to his grandmother's legacy. His research resulted in a profound discovery of the engineering systems basis of eastern systems of medicine, resulting in Systems Health®, a new educational program that provides a scientific foundation for integrative medicine.

22. Dr. Ayyadurai's conviction that natural medicine is the key to good health led to his starting three enterprises: Systems Health, LLC, CytoSolve, Inc., and the International Center of Integrative Systems, a 501(c) not-for-profit corporation, all of which are devoted to natural health and well-being by applying a whole systems approach to biological systems.

23. Systems Health, LLC, is an educational institute that provides training for healthcare providers, across eastern and western traditions – MDs, surgeons, nurses, chiropractors, acupuncturists, yoga teachers, etc. - committed to understanding the body as a whole system, and the value of natural medicines.

24. CytoSolve, Inc. creates mathematical models of various biological processes to enable the understanding of the efficacy, toxicity, and risks of products, without the need for animal testing.

25. The International Center for Integrative Systems (“the Center”) is the creator of the C.L.E.A.N. Food Certified seal, which labels and certifies products, using a whole systems integrative approach, that require five criteria to be met: use organic ingredients, non-GMO ingredients, safety in production, high-bioavailability, and nutrient density. The Center is also responsible for pioneering research that exposed the deleterious effects of genetically engineered foods (GMOs).

26. As a world-renowned systems scientist, Dr. Ayyadurai has started 11 companies across the fields of arts, artificial intelligence, integrative health, medicine, and information technology. He is regularly invited to present distinguished and keynote lectures on science, medicine, and information technology across the world. EchoMail, Inc., for example, is a company that emerged from his invention of automatic email categorization and routing technologies, for managing high volumes of email in customer service.

27. In 2012, Dr. Ayyadurai founded CytoSolve, Inc., a software company that provides a computational systems biology platform for scalable integration of molecular pathway models to enable predictive and quantitative understanding of complex biomolecular processes and diseases to determine risk, toxicity, and efficacy in the product development process. This allows supplements, herbs, and foods to be analyzed for their effects on human molecules and cells without the need for animal testing or human trials.

Ms. Finn’s Repeated Defamation of Dr. Ayyadurai

28. On April 28, 2020, Ms. Finn posted a blog post article, <https://www.healthnutnews.com/breaking-rfk-jr-asks-if-dr-shiva-owning-a-vaccine-company-partnering-with-microsoft-is-why-hes-splintering-the-movement/>, titled “Breaking: RFK, Jr. Asks if Dr. Shiva Owing A Vaccine Company and Partnering with Microsoft is Why He’s Splintering the Movement.” attached with this Complaint as Exhibit A. Ms. Finn’s article contained her own original commentary, and then embedded an article written by Mr. Kennedy from the Childrens Health Defense website containing its own series of defamatory statements. (Ex. B)

29. Then on April 29, 2020, Ms. Finn discussed her article for more than an hour on a video she published on her Facebook page. (avail. at <https://www.facebook.com/HealthNutNews/videos/3001781266569384 .>>).

30. After April 28, 2020, Ms. Finn continued writing comments under her original April 28, 2020 Facebook posts. (Ex. C)

31. In her article which contained Mr. Kennedy's article, and on her Facebook posts, Ms. Finn unleashed a stream of defamatory statements, all provably false, intended to cause harm to Dr. Ayyadurai, and with devastating results. These statements are described below.

Defamatory Statement # 1 (in a Facebook post): *"he [Dr. Ayyadurai] beat the heck out of women and was arrested for it... Everybody has a past, but this man beats women, and I have a few news videos on that as well."*

32. This statement is factually false and intended to discredit Dr. Ayyadurai, damaging him. The fact is Dr. Ayyadurai was falsely accused and shortly after, all charges were outright dismissed by the Middlesex County District Attorney's Office, fully exonerating Dr. Ayyadurai. As if that weren't bad enough, Finn also made her statement in the present tense and states that Dr. Ayyadurai beats "women," indicating more than one woman. In itself, this is false and damaging.

Defamatory Statement #2 (in a Facebook post): *"I was just sad to see Shiva on the vaccine company worked with Bill and Hillary Clinton and made hundreds of millions...."*

33. This statement is false and intended to discredit Dr. Ayyadurai. In fact, Dr. Ayyadurai does not run a vaccine company. Dr. Ayyadurai has not now or ever

worked for the Clintons. Dr. Ayyadurai has never received any financial compensation from the Clintons.

Defamatory Statement #3 (in a Facebook post): *“So understandably people have a little bit of a problem with that plus his record of abusing and beating women. Actually just last night he proved it.”*

34. This statement is factually false and intended to discredit Dr. Ayyadurai, damaging him. There is no “record of abusing and beating women.” In fact, the single incident that Ms. Finn is referring to was an incident in which Dr. Ayyadurai was falsely accused and all charges were outright dismissed by the Middlesex County District Attorney’s Office, fully exonerating Dr. Ayyadurai.

Defamatory Statement #4 (in a Facebook post accompanying the video):

“Robert F. Kennedy asked if perhaps it is because Dr. Shiva owns a vaccine company and has partnered with Microsoft and has secretly worked hand-in-hand with Bill and Hillary Clinton.”

35. These statements are false and were intended to discredit Dr. Ayyadurai. In fact, Dr. Ayyadurai does not own a vaccine company, has never owned a vaccine company, and has never made a single vaccine. Dr. Ayyadurai does not collaborate with Microsoft in any manner but rather his company is an end-user of Microsoft software and, as a business user of Microsoft products, received some nominal discount for purchasing multiple end user licenses. Dr. Ayyadurai has not worked

in any way, either overtly or secretly, “hand-in-hand” with Bill and Hillary Clinton.

36. In addition to these statements, Ms. Finn republished with approval Mr. Kennedy’s defamatory article, stating “RFK asks if Dr. Shiva owning a Vaccine Company and Partnering with Microsoft is Why He is Splintering the Movement.” As explained above, these statements are false and defamatory. And as outlined at length in *Ayyadurai v. Kennedy*, 20-cv-10881 (D.Mass.)(WGY), Kennedy’s article contains its own string of defamatory statements. These are described below.

Defamatory Statement 5: “*Shiva employs a full-time ‘Negative Research’ investigator, Jennifer Bennett, to excavate and invent defamatory gossip about Health Freedom Groups and their leaders in Massachusetts and nationally.*”

37. This is a factually false statement, intended to discredit Dr. Ayyadurai and damaging him. Dr. Ayyadurai does not employ Jennifer Bennett. And since he does not employ her, she could not be serving any purpose in her employment, including to “excavate and invent defamatory gossip.”

Defamatory Statement 6: “*Shiva, the Vaccine Maker Shiva never mentions the fact that he is a vaccine maker.*”

38. This is a factually false statement, intended to discredit Dr. Ayyadurai and damaging him. Dr. Ayyadurai is not a vaccine maker. He has never made a

vaccine, nor, as explained further below, have any of his companies made a single vaccine.

Defamatory Statement 7: “*Shiva owns a pharmaceutical company, CytoSolve, that partners with vaccine and drugmakers to accelerate FDA approvals for vaccines and other pharmaceutical drugs.*”

39. This is a factually false statement, intended to discredit Dr. Ayyadurai, damaging him and harming his company, CytoSolve. CytoSolve is not a pharmaceutical company. CytoSolve is not a vaccine maker. CytoSolve is a software company that makes computer-based mathematical models of biological mechanisms. CytoSolve has not partnered with a single vaccine manufacturer to accelerate FDA approval of a vaccine, in any manner.

40. CytoSolve licenses its mathematical models and processes to understand biological mechanisms and does not make vaccines. CytoSolve has never partnered, and is not partnering with, a single vaccine maker to create vaccines. In fact, given Dr. Ayyadurai’s dedication to uncovering the power of natural medicine, CytoSolve’s technologies are helping to determine the efficacy, risk and toxicity of products – to eliminate the need for animal or human testing. CytoSolve’s mathematical models have been used to uncover biological mechanisms that have been published and cited in eminent peer-reviewed journals such as *Nature*, *CELL*, and *IEEE*.

Defamatory Statement #8: *“His principal business partner is Pfizer, the world’s #4 vaccine maker...upon whose favor his financial success relies.”*

41. This is a factually false statement, intended to discredit Dr. Ayyadurai, causing him damage. Neither he nor CytoSolve have Pfizer as a principal business partner. Rather, several years ago, several scientists in a newly-formed business unit of Pfizer, dedicated to innovation, engaged CytoSolve to employ CytoSolve’s mathematical models. The project ended mid-stream and was never completed, as the key scientists left Pfizer. Because Pfizer is not a principal, or even any, business partner, Dr. Ayyadurai’s financial success cannot rely on Pfizer’s favor.

Defamatory Statement #9: *“Shiva claims to have invented Email (Smithsonian says Shiva’s claim is untrue and a Federal court has agreed).*

42. The Smithsonian has never stated that Dr. Ayyadurai’s statement that he invented email is untrue. In fact, what the Smithsonian said was: “Exchanging messages through computer systems, what most people call ‘email,’ predates the work of Ayyadurai.” Dr. Ayyadurai has never claimed to be the inventor of electronic messaging – the simple exchange of text messages through electrical and electronic devices, but rather the inventor of email – the system as we know it today. Further, no federal court has agreed that Dr. Ayyadurai’s claims are untrue. In *Ayyadurai v. Floor64 et al.*, 270 F.Supp.3d 343 (2017), U.S. District Court Judge Dennis Saylor found that certain statements were matters of opinion. He did

not make any judgment on who invented email. Dr. Ayyadurai did, in fact, invent email.

Defamatory Statement #10: *“Shiva made his fortune running Email operations for President Bill and Hillary Clinton during the White House years.”*

43. This is a factually false statement, intended to discredit Dr. Ayyadurai, harming him. As an MIT PhD Graduate Student in 1992-1993, Dr. Ayyadurai won first place in an industry-wide contest sponsored by the National Institute of Standards (NIST) and the Executive Office of the White House, to automatically categorize email. He did not run the Clinton’s email operations. He did not make a fortune from the Clinton White House. In fact, he did not receive a penny from the Clintons or the Clinton White House. Because Dr. Ayyadurai is currently running for the United States Senate against Mr. Kennedy’s nephew, Joseph P. Kennedy III, the statement is intended to discredit Dr. Ayyadurai among Republicans by falsely stating that Dr. Ayyadurai has run email operations for Hillary Clinton. If anything, unlike Mr. Kennedy, Dr. Ayyadurai has been highly critical of Hillary Clinton, and has written and spoken extensively about his distaste for Hillary Clinton. Moreover, Dr. Ayyadurai has been a global leader in exposing the linkages of Bill Gates, Anthony Fauci, the CDC, the WHO, the government of

China, and Hillary Clinton, documented in videos that have gone viral across the world.

Defamatory Statement # 11: “*Shiva, of course, lost the law suit [Ayyadurai v. Gawker Media, 2016cv10853 (D-Mass)], but the ruinous costs of the litigation helped bankrupt Gawker, which was always Thiel’s purpose.*”

44. This statement is factually false and intended to discredit Dr. Ayyadurai, damaging him. In fact, Dr. Ayyadurai was victorious in the lawsuit against Gawker on two counts. First, Dr. Ayyadurai settled with Gawker for \$750,000 for falsely stating that Dr. Ayyadurai had not invented email. Second, Univision - the new buyer of Gawker – board voted unanimously to remove the three defamatory posts by Gawker, given the egregious nature of their falsities and libel.

Ms. Finn’s Defamation Caused Damage

45. The results of Ms. Finn’s defamation were as swift as it was predictable and, indeed, intended. The effects of the defamation are described in the recently-filed case *Ayyadurai v. Kennedy*, 20-cv-10881 (D.Mass.)(WGY).

46. The loss here is similar but worse given the additional defamatory statements. Ms. Finn’s article, republication of Mr. Kennedy’s article, along with her own defamatory statements on Facebook posts, had the effect Ms. Finn intended. Since Finn’s statements were published on April 28, 2020, Dr. Ayyadurai has lost thousands of followers on social media, been subjected to virulent attacks

by Ms. Finn and Mr. Kennedy's supporters, and suffered loss of business, donations for his campaign, and political support.

47. After learning of Ms. Finn's defamatory statements, in a live-streamed broadcast on May 6, 2020, which ended in a prayer for Mr. Kennedy, Dr. Ayyadurai warned that this lawsuit would proceed unless other like Ms. Finn did the right thing and retracted her statements. Ms. Finn did not respond.

48. Because of Ms. Finn's defamatory statements, which included ten instances of defamation, Dr. Ayyadurai estimates that the damages exceed \$115 million, which he seeks to recoup through this action. Dr. Ayyadurai plans to use all of the proceeds from this lawsuit to create ten integrative health and wellness centers in economically-depressed neighborhoods across Massachusetts to educate residents on the importance of boosting the immune system to advance health and well-being.

I. DEFAMATION

49. Ms. Finn made the statements described above to third parties, in the form of her own article and republication of Mr. Kennedy's blog post, as well as her own posts on Facebook and in a video.

50. The statements tend to harm the standing of Dr. Ayyadurai in the community or to deter others from dealing with him. Indeed, that was the stated purpose of Ms. Finn's statements.

51. At the time he published the statements, Ms. Finn was aware the statements were false, easily could have determined the truth, or recklessly made the statements without regard for their truth or falsity.

52. The statements have caused Dr. Ayyadurai economic loss. In addition, the statements constitute libel and slander and may prejudice Dr. Ayyadurai both in his business and his campaign for the U.S. Senate. The statements have damaged, and will continue to damage, Dr. Ayyadurai's reputation by more than \$115 million.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

In view of the facts and violations of law described above, Dr. Ayyadurai requests the following relief:

- a. Order, grant and enter temporary, preliminary and permanent injunctive and equitable relief, and specific performance, and finding that the Plaintiff has suffered irreparable harm, has a likelihood of success on the merits, that the balance of hardships favors the Plaintiff and that it is in the public interest to grant such temporary, preliminary and permanent injunctive and equitable relief, and specific performance for the benefit of the Plaintiff in the form of requiring Ms. Finn to remove from public view the article, posts and video discussed in this Complaint and issuing a public retraction of the false statements described here;

- b. Determine that Ms. Finn is liable for all damages, losses, and costs, as alleged here, in an amount of at least \$115 million;
- c. Render a judgment and decision on behalf of Dr. Ayyadurai for defamation and issue findings of fact and rulings of law, as necessary and appropriate, that Ms. Finn is liable, in all respects;
- d. Order, decide, adjudge, and determine that the liability of the Defendant, is for all losses, injuries, and damages, special, consequential, general, punitive, and/or otherwise, and for all interest and costs, as alleged here;
- e. Award Dr. Ayyadurai his costs, including filing fees, costs, expenses and interest, for being required to prosecute this action;
- f. Award Dr. Ayyadurai his actual attorneys' fees, for being required to prosecute this action;
- g. Award Dr. Ayyadurai multiple punitive damages in an amount to be determined;
- h. Award all other relief that this Court deems just and proper.
- i. A trial by jury.

Respectfully submitted,

May 12, 2020
Boston, MA

/s/ Timothy Cornell
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