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Witherspoon Can't Nix Insurer Suit Over Likeness Litigation

Law360, Los Angeles (January 22, 2014, 8:44 PM ET) — A California federal judge on Wednesday refused to dismiss a lawsuit brought against actress Reese Witherspoon by Maryland Casualty Co., which claims it has no duty to defend or indemnify a marketing company Witherspoon has sued for unlawful use of her name and likeness, but put the suit on hold for now.

Attorneys for Witherspoon had sought in December to dismiss Maryland Casualty's suit, or else to stay it pending the conclusion of the underlying litigation, saying the property-casualty insurer wanted to force the other parties...