

1  
2 UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS  
3 FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

4  
5 August Term, 2006  
6  
7

8  
9 (Argued January 25, 2007)

Decided February 15, 2007)

10  
11 Docket No. 06-0435-cv  
12

13 -----x  
14 STARBUCKS CORPORATION, a Washington  
15 corporation and STARBUCKS U.S. BRANDS, L.L.C.,  
16 a Nevada limited liability company  
17

18  
19 Plaintiffs-Counter-Defendants-Appellants,

20  
21 - against -  
22

23 WOLFE'S BOROUGH COFFEE, INC., a New Hampshire  
24 corporation, d/b/a BLACK BEAR MICRO ROASTERY,  
25

26 Defendant-Counterclaimant-Appellee.  
27 -----x

28  
29 B e f o r e: KEARSE and KATZMANN, Circuit Judges,  
30 and TRAGER, District Judge.\*  
31  
32

33 Appeal from an order of the United States District  
34 Court for the Southern District of New York (Swain, J.), which  
35 entered judgment in defendant's favor on all counts on December  
36 28, 2005, following a bench trial.

37 The judgment of the district court is vacated and the  
38 case is remanded for further proceedings.  
39  
40

---

\* The Honorable David G. Trager, District Court Judge,  
Eastern District of New York, sitting by designation.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
  
23  
  
24



MARK N. MUTTERPERL  
Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P.,  
New York, NY  
John C. Rawls (on the brief)  
Sarah Silbert (on the brief)  
Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P.,  
Los Angeles, CA  
for Plaintiffs-Appellants

JOHN-MARK TURNER  
Christopher Cole (on the brief)  
Sheehan, Phinney,  
Bass + Green, P.A.,  
Manchester, N.H.  
for Defendant-Appellee

1 PER CURIAM:

2 Plaintiffs-counter-defendants-appellants Starbucks  
3 Corporation and Starbucks U.S. Brands, L.L.C. (collectively,  
4 "Starbucks") brought suit in the United States District Court for  
5 the Southern District of New York (Swain, J.) against defendant-  
6 counterclaimant-appellee Wolfe's Borough Coffee, Inc.  
7 ("Wolfe's"). Starbucks alleged that Wolfe's current sale of  
8 coffee under the name "Mister Charbucks" or "Mr. Charbucks"  
9 infringes and dilutes the "Starbucks" trademark for coffee.  
10 Following a bench trial, the District Court concluded, in an  
11 Order filed December 23, 2005, that Starbucks had failed to carry  
12 its burden of proving trademark infringement and unfair  
13 competition under the Lanham Act, common law unfair competition,  
14 or trademark dilution under either the Federal Trademark Dilution  
15 Act ("FTDA"), 15 U.S.C. §§ 1125(c), 1127, or New York Gen. Bus.  
16 Law § 360-1. Starbucks Corp. v. Wolfe's Borough Coffee, Inc.,  
17 No. 01-cv-5981, 2005 WL 3527126 (S.D.N.Y. Dec. 23, 2005). From  
18 the ensuing judgment, Starbucks appeals.

19 Subsequent to the district court's order, Congress amended  
20 the FTDA in response to the Supreme Court's decision in Moseley  
21 v. V Secret Catalogue, Inc., 537 U.S. 418, 433 (2003), which had  
22 construed the FTDA to require a showing of actual dilution, as  
23 opposed to a likelihood of dilution. The FTDA, as amended

1 effective October 6, 2006, entitles the owner of a famous,  
2 distinctive mark to an injunction against the user of a mark that  
3 is "likely to cause dilution" of the famous mark. 15 U.S.C.  
4 § 1125(c)(1) (hereinafter, the "amended statute"). The amended  
5 statute applies to this case to the extent that Starbucks has  
6 sought injunctive relief on the issue of dilution. See Havana  
7 Club Holding, S.A. v. Galleon S.A., 203 F.3d 116, 129 (2d Cir.  
8 2000) (applying intervening statute where plaintiff sought  
9 injunctive relief because "when an 'intervening statute  
10 authorizes or affects the propriety of prospective relief,  
11 application of the new provision is not retroactive.'" (quoting  
12 Landgraf v. USI Film Prods., 511 U.S. 244, 273 (1994)); Sporty's  
13 Farm L.L.C. v. Sportsman's Market, Inc., 202 F.3d 489, 502 (2d  
14 Cir. 2000) (finding no retroactivity problem where injunction  
15 would do no more than avoid continuing harm of cybersquatting);  
16 see also Am. Steel Foundries v. Tri-City Cent. Trades Council,  
17 257 U.S. 184, 201 (1921) ("[R]elief by injunction operates in  
18 futuro and the right to it must be determined as of the time of  
19 the hearing.").

20 "Following a bench trial, . . . . we review de novo the  
21 district court's conclusions of law and its resolution of mixed  
22 questions of law and fact." Design Strategy, Inc. v. Davis, 469  
23 F.3d 284, 300 (2d Cir. 2006) (quoting Phansalkar v. Andersen

1 Weinroth & Co., L.P., 344 F.3d 184, 199 (2d Cir. 2003)). Here,  
2 the district court applied the pre-October 6, 2006 version of the  
3 FTDA, as construed by Moseley, and determined that Starbucks had  
4 failed to prove actual dilution. Although the district court  
5 also considered whether Starbucks had shown a likelihood of  
6 dilution under New York Gen. Bus. Law § 360-1, it is not clear  
7 that that statute is coextensive with the amended statute. In  
8 addition, the district court's treatment of the New York statute  
9 does not permit a review of whether the analysis conforms with  
10 the amended statute. Accordingly, the judgment is vacated and  
11 remanded for further proceedings consistent with this opinion and  
12 the FTDA, as amended.

13 We express no opinion as to the merits of Starbucks's  
14 remaining arguments.

### 16 **Conclusion**

17 For the foregoing reasons, the judgment of the district  
18 court is hereby VACATED. We remand for further proceedings  
19 consistent with this opinion. This panel retains jurisdiction to  
20 decide the issues on appeal after the disposition of the remand.