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13

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
14 **FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

15

16 WPENGINE, INC., a Delaware corporation,	Case No.: 3:24-cv-06917-AMO
17 Plaintiff,	**DECLARATION OF RAMADASS PRABHAKAR IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFF WPENGINE, INC.'S MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**
18 vs.	
19 AUTOMATTIC INC., a Delaware corporation; and MATTHEW CHARLES MULLENWEG, an individual,	
20	Judge: Honorable Araceli Martínez-Olguín
21 Defendants.	Courtroom: 10
22	Hearing Date: March 6, 2025
	Hearing Time: 2:00 p.m.

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DECLARATION OF RAMADASS PRABHAKAR IN SUPPORT OF

WPENGINE, INC.'S MOTION FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

I, Ramadass Prabhakar, declare as follows:

1.   I am Senior Vice President and Chief Technology Officer at WPEngine, Inc ("WPE"). WPE is a technology company that offers a hosting platform, plugins, themes, support and other tools for websites built using WordPress. WPE also develops support, training, and advocacy resources for the WordPress community. WPE employs more than 1,100 people and is considered one of the most trusted hosting platforms for WordPress in the world. My duties at WPE include overseeing its global engineering team. I have a Master of Science Degree from Vanderbilt University and a Masters of Business Administration Degree from Duke University. I have personal knowledge of all the facts set forth in this declaration, and if called upon to do so by the Court, I could and would testify competently thereto.

2.   I am familiar with the WordPress ecosystem (and the open source ecosystem more broadly) and I have been working with WordPress in a professional capacity for more than four years. WordPress is a software program that allows users to build and maintain their websites.   I understand that WordPress was originally developed by Mike Little and Matt Mullenweg when they created a fork of another open source project called b2/cafelog. WordPress is open source, which means that the source code for WordPress is made freely available to anyone in the world to copy and modify the software, as long as software developers who improve the software, share those improvements back with everyone.

3.   WordPress architecture allows third-party software developers to create "plugins" that can interact with a WordPress website. In simple terms, a plugin is a piece of software that can be added to a WordPress website to enhance its capabilities. For instance, if a user wants to add a "voting" button or a "sign up form" field to their website, a plugin can be created to offer those features. WordPress plugins enhance and add to the functionality of WordPress websites. In my experience, the WordPress community strongly encourages software developers to develop plugins and themes that enhance the capabilities of websites and share these plugins and themes with other members of the WordPress community by making them available through wordpress.org. WPE and

1 the vast majority of plugin developers use wordpress.org to make plugins and themes available to

2 other members of the WordPress community.

3   4.   WPE is the current developer of several popular plugins that can be used with

4 WordPress websites, including Advanced Custom Fields (ACF), WP Migrate, NitroPack, and many

5 others. Millions of WordPress users have downloaded and currently use these plugins to enhance

6 and operate their websites. For example, the Advanced Custom Fields (ACF) plugin, which WPE

7 acquired in 2022 and has continued to develop and support, is running on over two million websites,

8 making it the one of the most popular plugins in the WordPress ecosystem. There is a free version

9 and a "PRO" version of the plugin. WPE has invested thousands of engineering hours and millions

10 of dollars into the development of its WordPress plugins and themes, and the vast majority of its

11 users use these at no cost to themselves.

12   5.   Most users who use WPE's plugins access those plugins from wordpress.org.

13 Wordpress.org serves as a gateway to the WordPress software and community; it hosts the

14 WordPress software as well as the WordPress plugins created by members of the WordPress

15 community. WordPress users either go to wordpress.org to download those plugins directly, or they

16 download those plugins from wordpress.org through their administrative panel on their WordPress

17 websites. The administrative panel is where many website settings are controlled and where users

18 create their website content. As with nearly all plugin developers, WPE regularly updates its plugins

19 to create new functionality, to fix bugs, or to address security vulnerabilities, which is common in

20 this industry. WPE publishes updates for its plugins to wordpress.org. Once WPE publishes these

21 updated plugins to wordpress.org, users of WPE plugins get notified of these updates, and then can

22 easily update their plugins. Without access to these updates, users' websites with WPE's plugins

23 may break, stop functioning, or become insecure. Without access to wordpress.org, most WPE

24 plugin users will likely not even know there are updates available for WPE plugins. This is because

25 the standard WordPress GPL core software "hard codes" the wordpress.org update site into every

26 WordPress website, rather than making the update site a configurable option for each user.

27 Furthermore, while there may be other ways for WPE plugin users to update their plugins without

28 access to wordpress.org from within the administrative panel, a meaningful number of WPE plugin

1   users do not have the technological skills or knowledge to do this without risking the security and/or

2   stability of their websites. For example, if WPE identified a security issue on one of the plugins it

3   developed, such as ACF, and WPE did not have access to wordpress.org, it would no longer be able

4   to post an update to that plugin on wordpress.org to address or fix the issue.

5   6.   In addition to developing plugins, WPE also operates a managed hosting service for

6   WordPress websites. This means that customers of WPE can set up their websites using the

7   WordPress software on WPE's hosting service. WPE handles many of the technical details for these

8   users, including ongoing technical management. WPE's managed hosting service users have

9   historically been able to install themes and plugins from wordpress.org directly through the

10 administrative panel. WPE's managed hosting service competes with Automattic's offerings,

11 including wordpress.com, Pressable, and WordPress VIP.

**Mr. Mullenweg, CEO of Automattic, Blocks WPE and Its Customers From
Accessing Plugins On wordpress.org**

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13   7.   On September 24, 2024, I became aware that WPE no longer was able to update the

14 plugins that it makes available through wordpress.org. This means that if WPE identified that one

15 of the plugins it created had a bug or a security issue, it would no longer be able to publish an update

16 for that plugin on wordpress.org. This could cause the websites of WPE plugin users to stop working

17 without any easy way to rectify the issue. Initially we did not know why this had happened. But

18 later we realized that this had been done intentionally by someone with administrative access to

19 wordpress.org.

20   8.   On September 25, 2024, I became aware that Matt Mullenweg, CEO of our

21 competitor Automattic, had banned WPE customers who host their WordPress installations on WPE

22 servers from accessing wordpress.org resources through the administration panel, which includes

23 downloading WordPress themes and plugins, including themes and plugins developed by WPE.

24 This means that WPE customers and users would no longer be able to install new plugins and themes

25 from wordpress.org. This also means that WPE's customers and users would no longer be able to

26 update their existing plugins (whether WPE plugins, or any other of the >50,000 plugins hosted at

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DECLARATION OF RAMADASS PRABHAKAR

1 the wordpress.org repository) and themes to address bugs and security vulnerabilities from the

2 administrative panel.

3   9.   Mr. Mullenweg later publicly took credit for carrying out these actions against WPE

4 and its customers.

5   10.   In a blog post on wordpress.org that Mr. Mullenweg posted on September 25, 2024,

6 Mr. Mullenweg wrote, "WP Engine is free to offer their hacked up, bastardized simulacra of

7 WordPress's GPL code to their customers." This statement is false. WPE uses the standard

8 WordPress GPL core code.

9   11.   On September 27, 2024, in reaction to public outcry, Mullenweg announced that he

10 was temporarily restoring access—but not permanently. Instead, he stated that he would be blocking

11 access again on October 1, 2024.[1] He blocked WPE's access to wordpress.org again on October 1,

12 2024.

<div align="center"><u>Mr. Mullenweg Threatens More Actions to Damage WPE</u></div>

14   12.   After Mr. Mullenweg reinstated the wordpress.org ban, he posted a message on X on

15 October 5, 2024, stating that he "suspect[s] there are going to be millions of sites moving away from

16 [ACF] in the coming weeks." This message is attached as Exhibit 17 to the Declaration of Sara

17 Jenkins in Support of Plaintiff WPEngine, Inc.'s Motion for a Preliminary Injunction ("Jenkins

18 Decl."), filed concurrently herewith, and is displayed below:

Jenkins Decl. Ex. 11 at 1 (https://x.com/photomatt/status/1842500184825090060).

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[1]   https://wordpress.org/news/2024/09/wp-engine-reprieve/.

13.   Mr. Mullenweg also stated in a Slack post on October 7, 2024, that he had more "surprises for you all on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday" in connection with the "fight[] . . . against evil private equity."   This post is attached as Exhibit J to the Declaration of Heather Brunner in Support of Plaintiff WPEngine, Inc.'s Motion for a Preliminary Injunction ("Brunner Decl."), filed concurrently herewith, and is shown below:
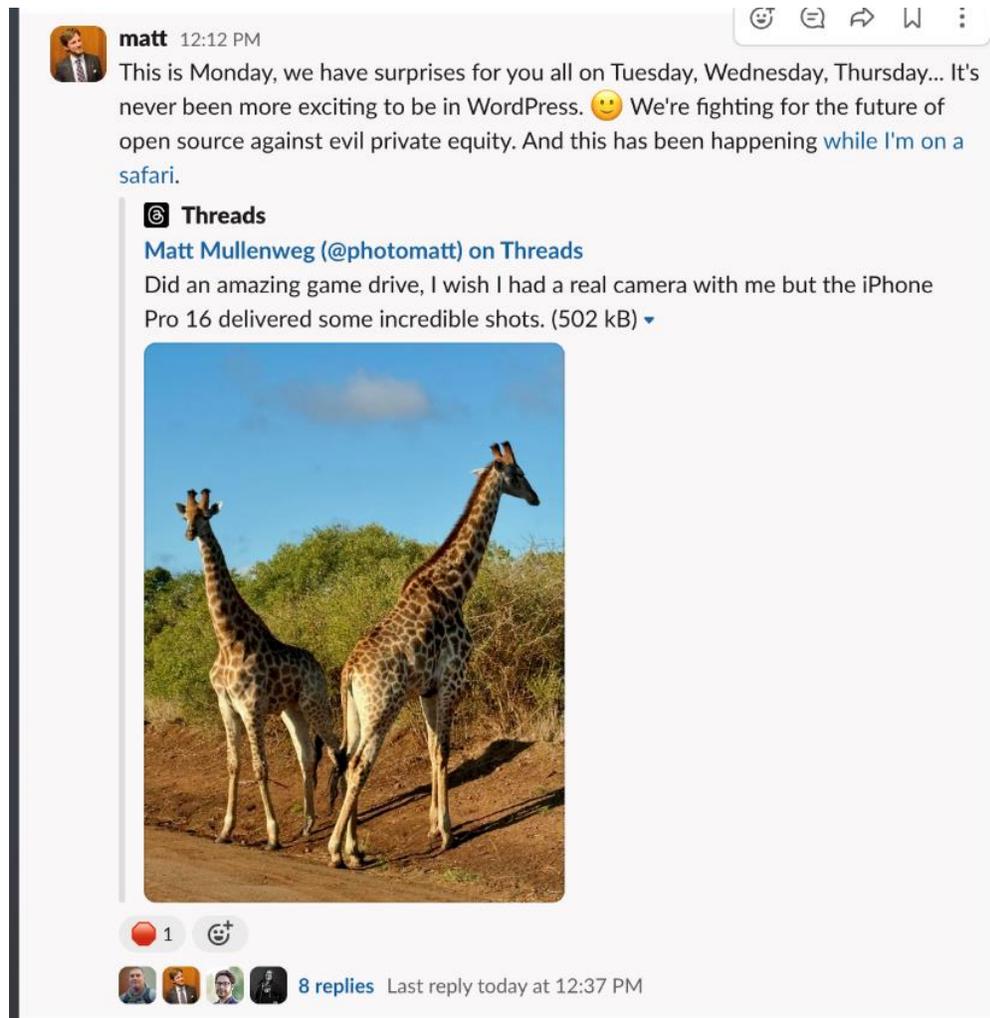
Brunner Decl. Ex. J.

14.   On October 4, 2024, Automattic sent an email notification about a security vulnerability with the ACF plugin to WPE and copied Mr. Mullenweg and WPE's CEO, Heather Brunner.   *See* Brunner Decl. Ex. H at 1.   Automattic occasionally sends such notifications to developers to fix plugins with identified issues, and this is a routine process.   For example, users

DECLARATION OF RAMADASS PRABHAKAR

1   regularly identify security vulnerabilities with Automattic's own plugins, such as JetPack. Like

2   most other plugin developers, Automattic fixes those security issues and uploads security patches

3   to wordpress.org for distribution to WordPress users around the world. The email notification from

4   Automattic disclosed a security vulnerability whereby, in some unlikely scenarios, one WordPress

5   administrator could potentially attack another administrative user within a WordPress installation.

6   WPE occasionally receives these types of notifications and promptly reviews the alleged security

7   issue and promptly works to remediate it. Never before had Automattic copied WPE's CEO (or

8   WPE's CEO and Automattic's CEO together) on such a security notification.   The security

9   notification referenced a "disclosure policy"[2] that gave WPE 30 days before public disclosure of the

10   alleged security vulnerability. *See* Brunner Decl. Ex. H at 2. It also indicated that "[i]f we don't

11   receive a response from you within the next 5 business days, we may need to reach out to the

12   Marketplace where your extension is published for further assistance in fixing the issues we have

13   found." *Id*. The next 5 business days from October 4, 2024 would have been October 11, 2024.

14   15.   The supposed vulnerability was minor and WPE released a security update on

15   October 7, 2024, within 72 hours of receiving the security notification. That update was then

16   distributed to WordPress users through wordpress.org, as described below.

17   16.   Surprisingly, Automattic made public disclosures about this security issue on

18   October 5, 2024, within 24 hours of notifying WPE about the issue, and before WPE had the

19   opportunity to submit a security patch for the plugin, even though the public "disclosure policy"

20   called for 30 days before public disclosure. In my experience, an early disclosure to the public was

21   unprecedented, inconsistent with good practices across the industry, and dangerous to WordPress

22   users around the globe, because hackers can take advantage of this information to attempt to hack

23   websites before the patch is released. I have been in the software industry for decades, and I have

24   never heard of a situation where a company or developer publicly disclosed such a security

25

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26   [2] *See* https://wpscan.com/vulnerability-disclosure-policy/ ("Vendors are given 30 (thirty) days to
27   resolve the vulnerability with a security patch or other appropriate remedial measure, this is
     extendable in cases of high complexity, limited to 120 (one hundred and twenty) days after
28   first contact.").

vulnerability before allowing the developer of the plugin at least 30 days – if not 60 or even 90 days – to apply a security patch. In my experience, a notice period of at least 30 days, and often 60 or even 90 days, is the generally accepted industry standard. Furthermore, WPE could not submit a security patch for ACF directly to wordpress.org because Mr. Mullenweg blocked WPE's access to wordpress.org. This limited WPE's ability to distribute the security fix. Approximately 72 hours after WPE was made aware of the security vulnerability, WPE sent a security patch to address the vulnerability to an Automattic employee, who uploaded the security patch to wordpress.org. After submitting this security patch, we never heard from Automattic or Mr. Mullenweg again about this security vulnerability.

17.   On October 8, 2024, Mr. Mullenweg then added a checkbox to the wordpress.org login page, which is attached as Exhibit L to the Brunner Decl. and displayed below. The box requires all WordPress users to agree that "I am not affiliated with WP Engine in any way, financially or otherwise."

DECLARATION OF RAMADASS PRABHAKAR

Brunner Decl. Ex. L (https://login.wordpress.org/),
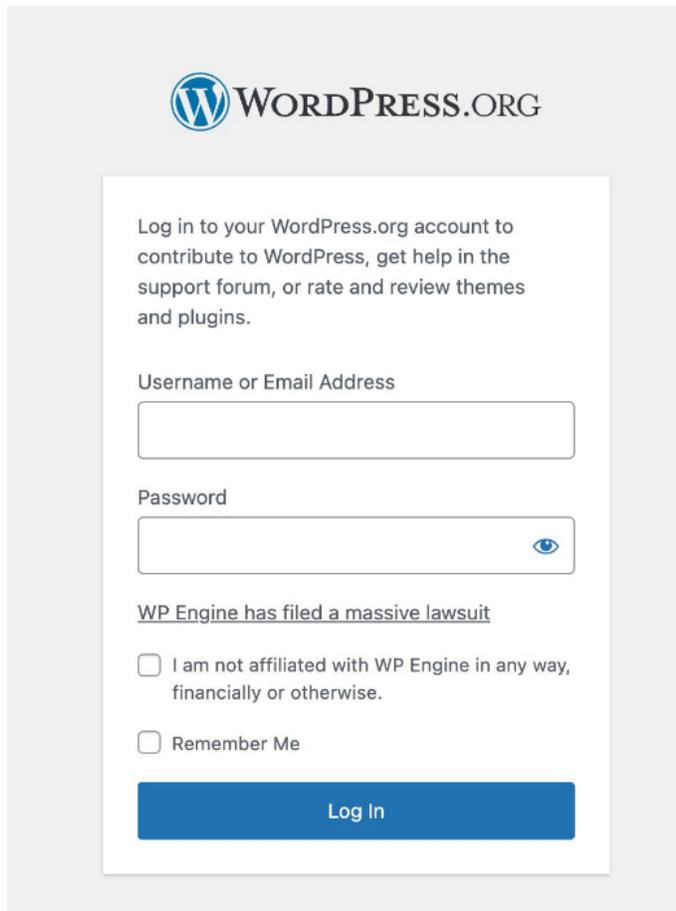
18.   Mr. Mullenweg explained the purpose of the checkbox in a Slack post that same day: it is part of Mr. Mullenweg's ban of WPE from accessing wordpress.org. This Slack post is shown below:

Jenkins Ex. 21 at 1 (https://x.com/JavierCasares/status/1843963071183880345).
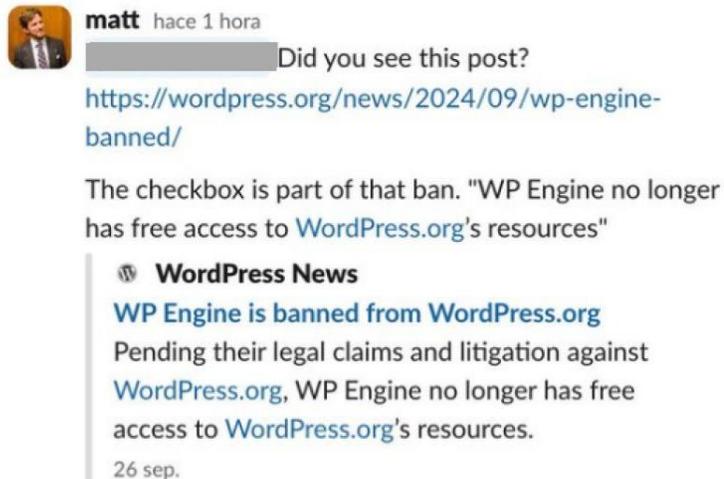
19.   WPE customers used to use wordpress.org to access themes and plugins before he blocked WPE from accessing wordpress.org. They also used wordpress.org to communicate with the authors of plugins and themes (not affiliated with Automattic or wordpress.org) to, for example, place and resolve technical support inquiries for the plugin. By adding the checkbox, Mr. Mullenweg attempted to extend his ban to anyone "affiliated" with WPE.

20.   As noted above, WPE is the developer of one of the most popular WordPress plugins called Advanced Custom Fields (ACF). When installed on a WordPress website, this plugin extends the functionality of WordPress to allow WordPress to collect and store additional types of information and essentially function as a fully-featured content management system. The ACF plugin was hosted at the website https://wordpress.org/plugins/advanced-custom-fields/, and as is required by wordpress.org, the source code regularly submitted to the repository at wordpress.org for approval. This website stated that the plugin was created and developed by "WP Engine". The website also showed the history of the plugin (*e.g.*, changes that were made over time), when it first released, the number of "Active Installations," and reviews of the plugin from members of the

1 WordPress community.   As of October 12, 2024, the ACF plugin had a 4.5 star rating from over

2 1,200 reviews and stated that the ACF plugin has over "2+ million" active installations.

3   21.   On October 12, 2024, Mr. Mullenweg edited the ACF plugin code and listing page

4 in several ways without WPE's authorization.   He did this even though WPE remediated the

5 supposed security vulnerability that Mr. Mullenweg had previously identified. First, he changed the

6 name of the plugin from "Advanced Custom Fields" to "Secure Custom Fields" ("SCF"). Second,

7 Mr. Mullenweg changed the name of the author of the plugin from "WP Engine" to

8 "WordPress.org."   A   true   and   correct   printout   of   the   webpage   located   at

9 https://wordpress.org/plugins/advanced-custom-fields/ where Mr. Mullenweg made these changes

10 is attached as Exhibit A hereto and shown below (relevant portions bracketed in red):

11

12 **SCF**   Secure Custom Fields   Download
    By WordPress.org

13

14 Details   Reviews   Development   Support

15

16 **Description**   Version   6.3.6.2

                                                             Last updated   2 days ago
17 Secure Custom Fields (SCF) turns WordPress sites into a fully-fledged content
    management system by giving you all the tools to do more with your data.   Active installations   2+ million

18 Use the SCF plugin to take full control of your WordPress edit screens, custom field data,   WordPress version   6.0 or higher
    and more.
19   Tested up to   6.6.2

    Add fields on demand.   PHP version   7.4 or higher
20 The SCF field builder allows you to quickly and easily add fields to WP edit screens with
    only the click of a few buttons! Whether it's something simple like adding an "author" field   Languages   See all 32
21 to a book review post, or something more complex like the structured data needs of an   Tags   acf   custom fields   fields
    ecommerce site or marketplace, SCF makes adding fields to your content model easy.
22   meta   repeater

    Add them anywhere.
23 Fields can be added all over WordPress including posts, pages, users, taxonomy terms,   Advanced View
    media, comments and even custom options pages! It couldn't be simpler to bring
24 structure to the WordPress content creation experience.

25 **Show them everywhere.**   **Ratings**   See all
    Load and display your custom field values in any theme template file with our hassle-
26 free, developer friendly functions! Whether you need to display a single value or generate   ★★★★½
    content based on a more complex query, the out-of-the-box functions of SCF make
27   5 stars   1,141
                                                             4 stars   27
28 Ex. A at 1.

                                      -9-   Case No. 3:24-cv-06917-AMO

22.   However, Mr. Mullenweg did not change the number of "Active Installations" of the plugin even though, according to Mr. Mullenweg, this was a "forked" plugin. *Id.* As shown above, the listing page still stated that the plugin had "2+ million" active installations and over 54 million total downloads, even though the plugin was only one day old. *Id.*

23.   The listing page also included the "reviews" from the ACF plugin even though those reviews had been for the ACF plugin and not for the SCF plugin. For instance, a number of these reviews can be seen at the webpage located at https://wordpress.org/support/plugin/advanced-custom-fields/reviews/page/43/, a true and correct printout of which is attached hereto as Exhibit B and an excerpt of which is shown below:

|			
The best custom fields plugin ★★★★★ Started by: MisterR	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago MisterR
Very nice and neat. ★★★★★ Started by: jayarjo	1	1	11 years, 11 months ago jayarjo
Gold! ★★★★★ Started by: dj.cowan	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago dj.cowan
The best ★★★★★ Started by: niekdegreef	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago niekdegreef
First plugin to install with new WP ★★★★★ Started by: Leon Harris	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago Leon Harris
Awesome plugin Started by: bridgetwes	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago bridgetwes
A must for custom UI's ★★★★★ Started by: yopraag	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago yopraag

Ex. B at 3.

24.   Mr. Mullenweg also switched many ACF users to his SCF plugin without the users' consent or knowledge. On October 12, 2024, ACF users began receiving an "update now" prompt on their WordPress administrative dashboards. As shown below, the "update now" prompt was listed below the author of the plugin "WP Engine," which made it appear to users that the update was coming from "WP Engine":

Jenkins Decl. Ex. 23 at 1 (https://x.com/Brugman/status/1845195750550143424).
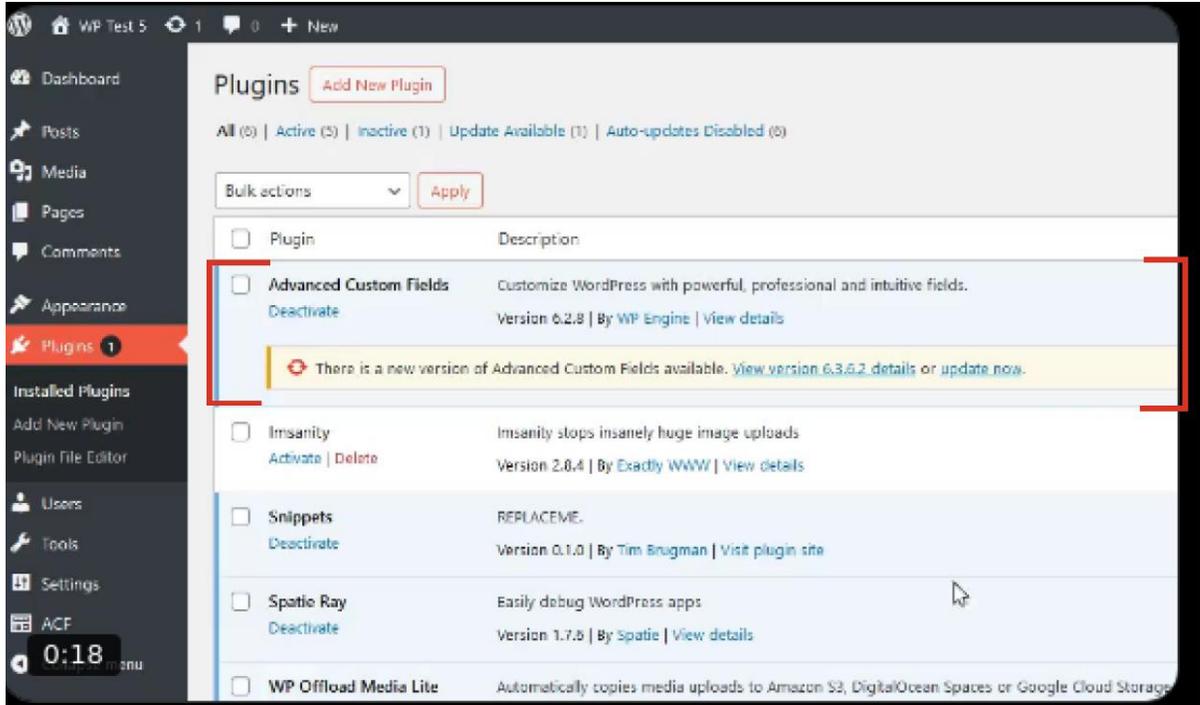
25.   If a user clicks the "update now" button, the plugin updates to Mr. Mullenweg's Secured Custom Fields plugin, and the plugin's name changes to "Secured Custom Fields," as shown below:

Id. at 2 (https://x.com/Brugman/status/1845195750550143424).
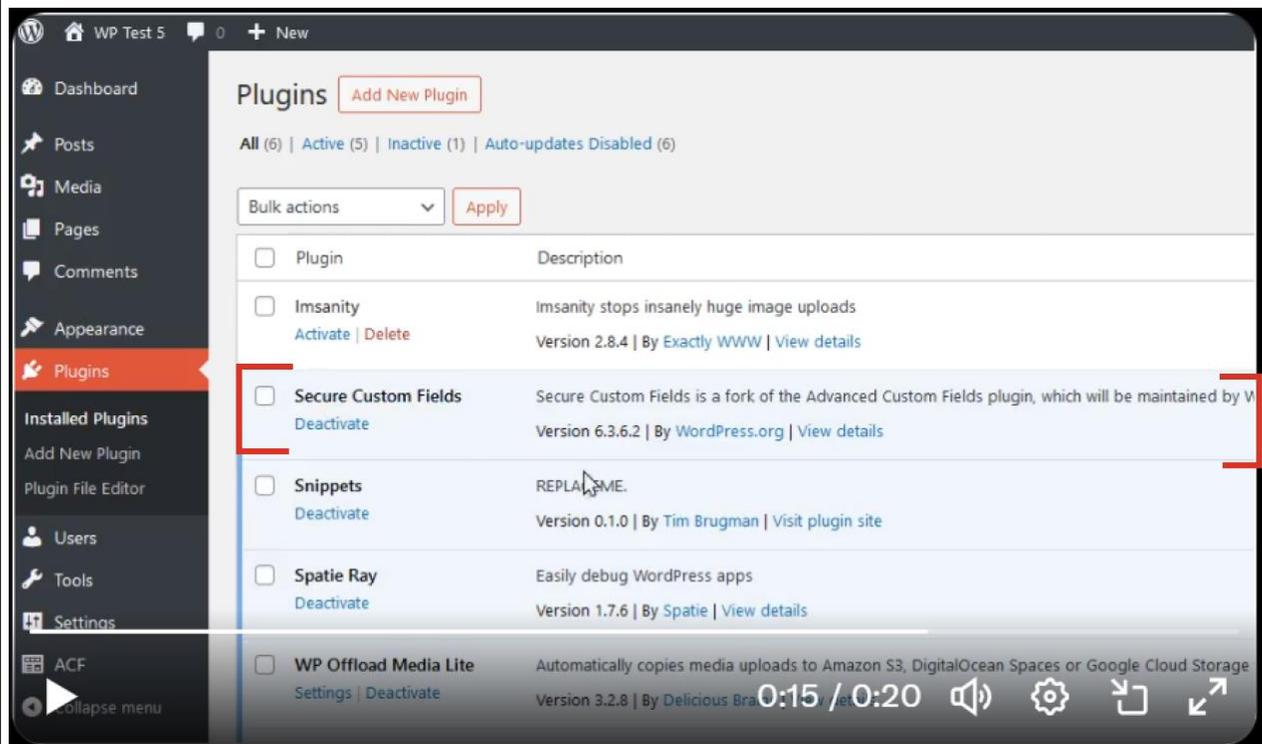
26.   Many WordPress users have settings such that plugins are updated automatically, so these users would have had Secured Custom Fields installed on their servers without even clicking any buttons.

27.   Mr. Mullenweg claims that Secured Custom Fields was a "fork" of ACF. Based on my experience in the software industry, "forks" of open source software are common. But in a "fork," a software developer will create a new copy of the code and host that code on a new website or URL so there is no confusion between the original software and the new "forked" software. This is not what happened here, where Mr. Mullenweg co-opted the ACF listing page, and its users and reviews, and caused many ACF users to download the SCF software without their knowledge or consent.

28.   WPE sells an upgraded "PRO" version of the ACF plugin which allows users to access additional functionality. The ACF free plugin available for download on wordpress.org

1   contained links that allowed users to purchase the "PRO" version of the plugin. The SCF plugin

2   that Mr. Mullenweg pushed to WordPress users removed all these links from the ACF plugin.

3   29.   When searching on the wordpress.org site for "advanced custom fields," the site's

4   search result brings up Defendant's "Secure Custom Fields" directory listing instead. A true and

5   correct   printout   of   a   webpage   showing   such   search   results   (from   the   url

6   https://wordpress.org/plugins/search/advanced+custom+fields/) is attached hereto as Exhibit C, and

7   an excerpt from this printout is shown below:
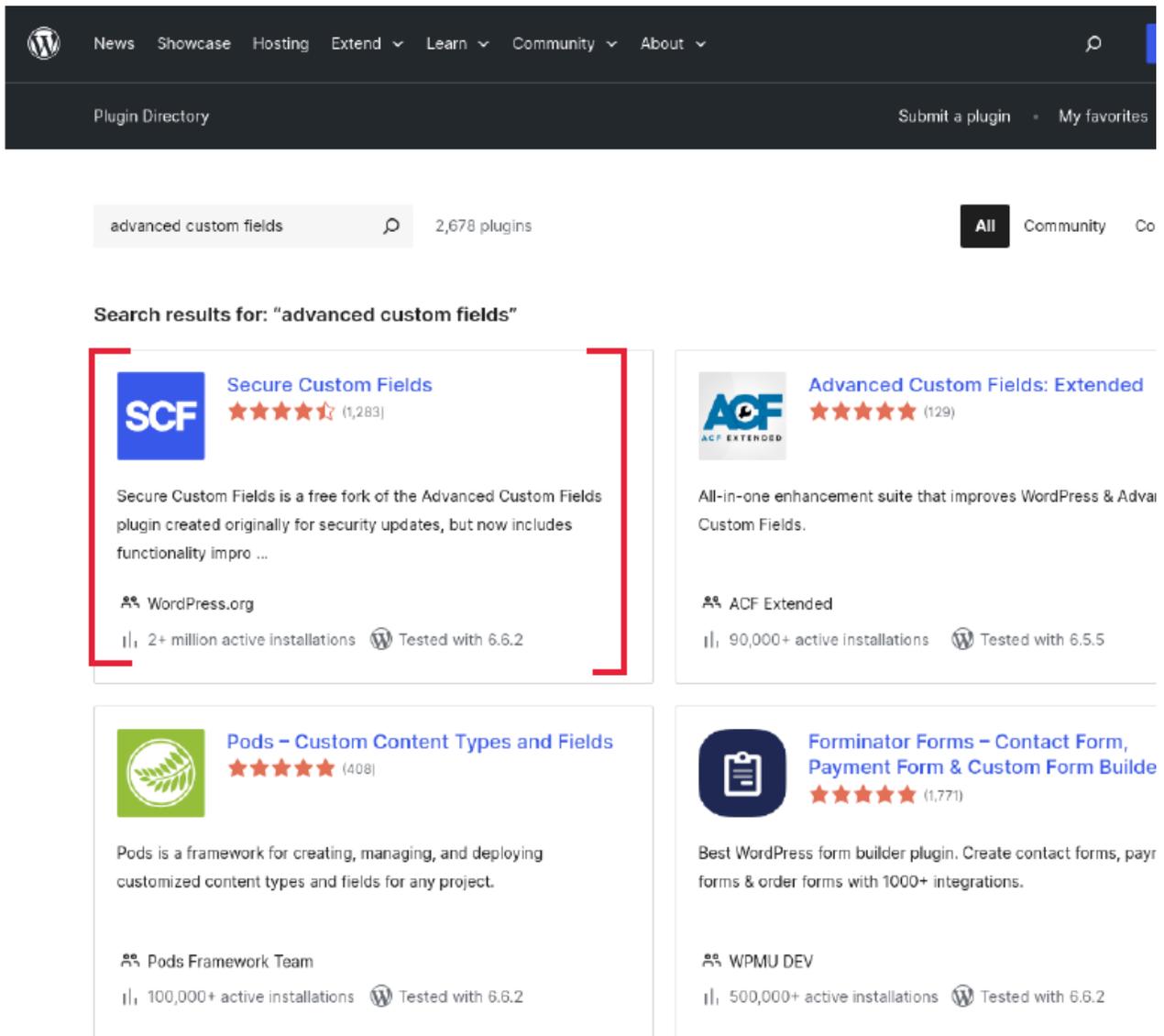
26 Ex. C at 1.

27   30.   Defendants' actions have also undermined the integrity and reliability of the plugin,

28 because the plugin can no longer be maintained by WPE.

DECLARATION OF RAMADASS PRABHAKAR

31.   Mullenweg has made various public statements about the reasons for the takeover of the ACF plugin. For instance, on October 12, Mr. Mullenweg wrote and posted an article on wordpress.org referring to the ACF takeover and stating that "[t]his is a rare and unusual situation brought on by WP Engine's legal attacks." A true and correct printout of this article located at https://wordpress.org/news/2024/10/secure-custom-fields/ is attached hereto as Exhibit D.

32.   As shown below, on October 13 Mr. Mullenweg also stated that "if [WPE] dropped its lawsuits, apologized, and got in good standing with its trademark use, [WPE is] welcome to have access to the plugin directory listing":
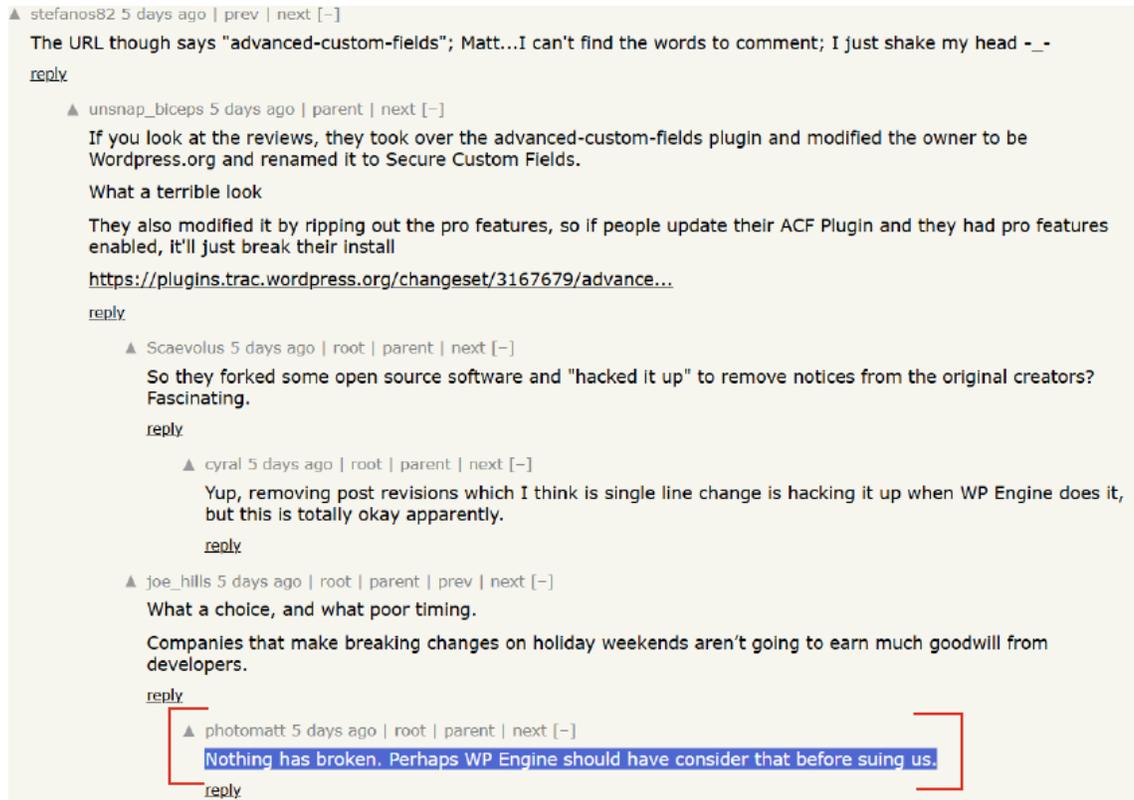

Jenkins Decl. Ex. 26 (https://x.com/WordPress/status/1845663751342883195).
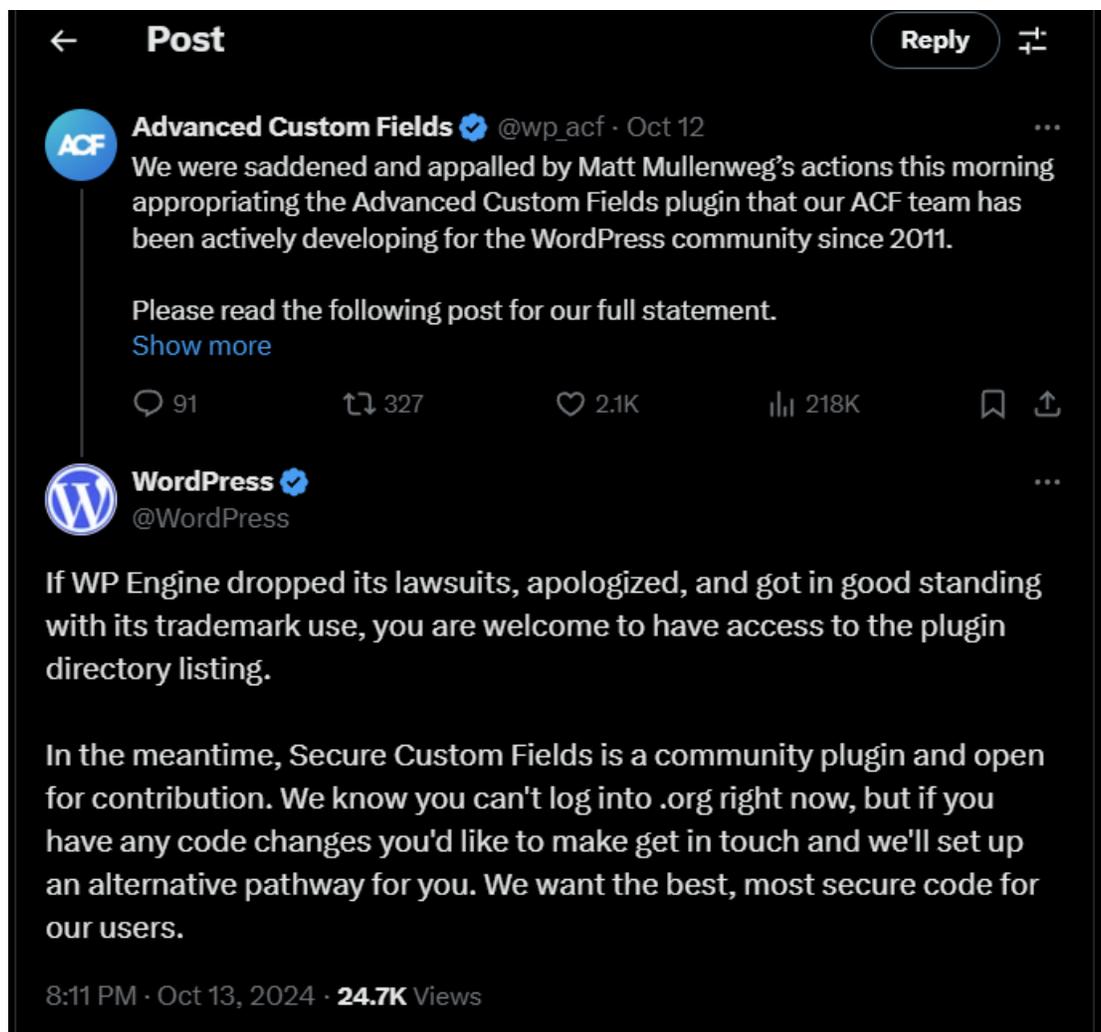
33.   Additionally, when criticized for his actions regarding Advanced Custom Fields on Hacker News, as shown below, Mr. Mullenweg responded (using his known screen name, "photomatt"), "[p]erhaps WP Engine should have consider [sic] that before suing us":

Jenkins Decl. Ex. 32 (https://news.ycombinator.com/item?id=41821336) (highlighted).

Mr. Mullenweg's Actions Have Caused Significant Harm and Expense to WPE

34.   Mr. Mullenweg's actions on September 24 and September 25 (related to blocking WPE customers access to wordpress.org) and thereafter (relating to the ACF plugin) have harmed WPE in multiple ways, as described above. For instance, in order to address Mr. Mullenweg's blocking of WPE's access to wordpress.org, WPE was forced to try to find workarounds needed to service WPE's customers and update its plugins. Those efforts are ongoing but cannot fully repair the damage Mr. Mullenweg did to our systems.

1   I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on

2 October 17, 2024, in Austin, Texas.

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5   _____

6   Ramadass Prabhakar

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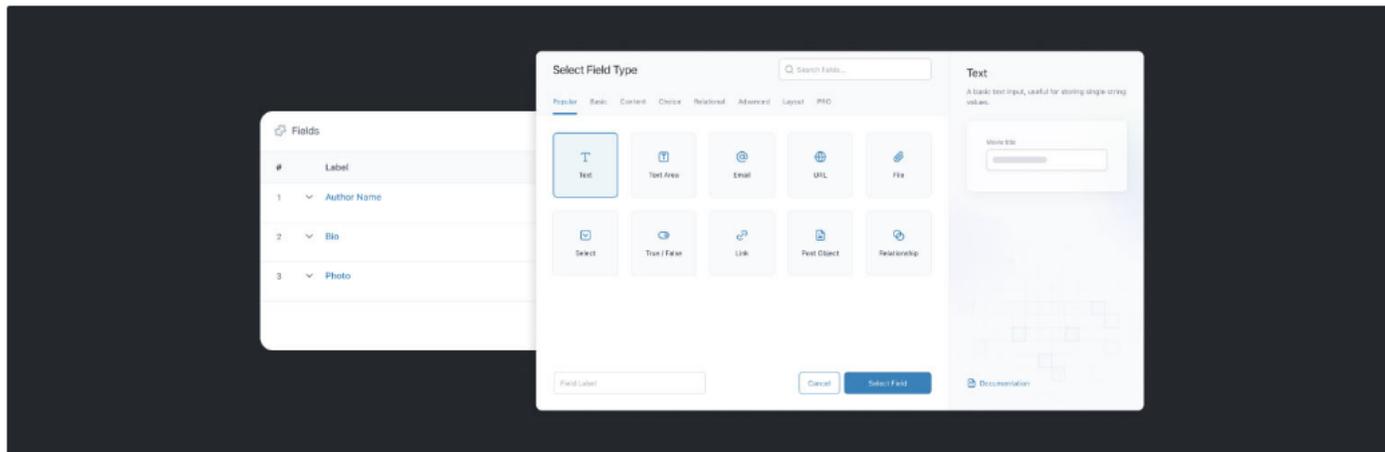
24

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<u>ATTESTATION</u>

I, Rachel Herrick Kassabian, am the ECF user whose ID and password are being used to file the above Declaration. In compliance with Civil L.R. 5-1(i)(3), I hereby attest that Ramadass Prabhakar has concurred in the aforementioned filing.

By */s/ Rachel Herrick Kassabian*
Rachel Herrick Kassabian

EXHIBIT A

News   Showcase   Hosting   Extend ⌄   Learn ⌄   Community ⌄   About ⌄   🔍   **Get WordPress**

Plugin Directory   Submit a plugin   •   My favorites   Log in

Search plugins 🔍

Secure Custom Fields
By [WordPress.org](#)

Download

| Details | Reviews | Development | | Support |

Description

Secure Custom Fields (SCF) turns WordPress sites into a fully-fledged content management system by giving you all the tools to do more with your data.

Use the SCF plugin to take full control of your WordPress edit screens, custom field data, and more.

Add fields on demand.
The SCF field builder allows you to quickly and easily add fields to WP edit screens with only the click of a few buttons! Whether it's something simple like adding an "author" field to a book review post, or something more complex like the structured data needs of an ecommerce site or marketplace, SCF makes adding fields to your content model easy.

Add them anywhere.
Fields can be added all over WordPress including posts, pages, users, taxonomy terms, media, comments and even custom options pages! It couldn't be simpler to bring structure to the WordPress content creation experience.

Show them everywhere.
Load and display your custom field values in any theme template file with our hassle-free, developer friendly functions! Whether you need to display a single value or generate content based on a more complex query, the out-of-the-box functions of SCF make

Version	6.3.6.2
Last updated	2 days ago
Active installations	2+ million
WordPress version	6.0 or higher
Tested up to	6.6.2
PHP version	7.4 or higher
Languages	See all 32
Tags	acf custom fields fields meta repeater

[Advanced View](#)

Ratings   [See all](#)

★★★★⯪

5 stars	▬▬▬▬▬	1,141
4 stars	▪	27

Show them everywhere.

Load and display your custom field values in any theme template file with our hassle-free, developer friendly functions! Whether you need to display a single value or generate content based on a more complex query, the out-of-the-box functions of SCF make templating a dream for developers of all levels of experience.

Any Content, Fast.

Turning WordPress into a true content management system is not just about custom fields. Creating new custom post types and taxonomies is an essential part of building custom WordPress sites. Registering post types and taxonomies is now possible right in the SCF UI, speeding up the content modeling workflow without the need to touch code or use another plugin.

Simply beautiful and intentionally accessible.

For content creators and those tasked with data entry, the field user experience is as intuitive as they could desire while fitting neatly into the native WordPress experience. Accessibility standards are regularly reviewed and applied, ensuring SCF is able to empower as close to anyone as possible.

Documentation and developer guides.

Over 10 plus years of vibrant community contribution alongside an ongoing commitment to clear documentation means that you'll be able to find the guidance you need to build what you want.

Features

- Simple & Intuitive
- Powerful Functions
- Over 30 Field Types
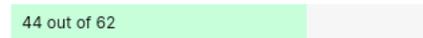- Extensive Documentation
- Millions of Users

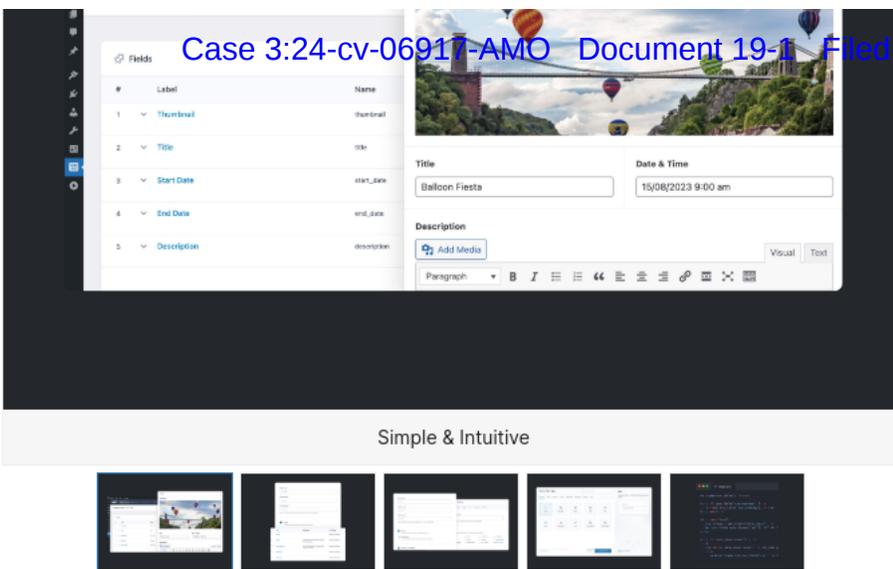## Screenshots

★★★★½

5 stars		1,141
4 stars		27
3 stars		10
2 stars		10
1 star		95
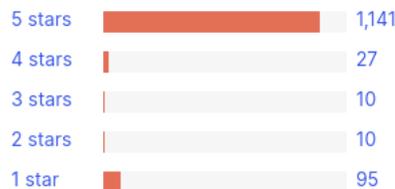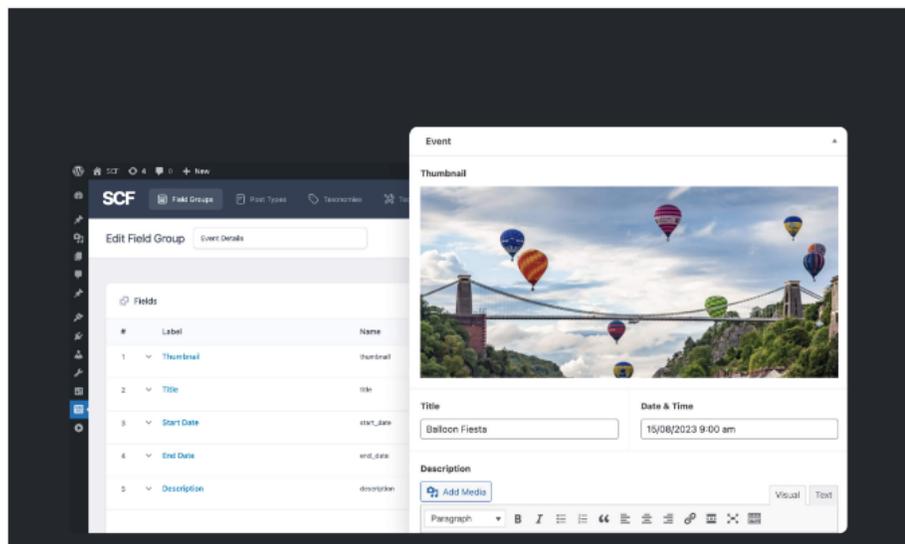
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Support

Issues resolved in last two months:

44 out of 62

View support forum

Simple & Intuitive

Contributors & Developers

"Secure Custom Fields" is open source software. The following people have contributed to this plugin.

WordPress.org

WP Engine

Matt Shaw

Anthony Burchell

Dale Williams

Delicious Brains

Elliot Condon

Liam Gladdy

Phil Johnston

Iain Poulson

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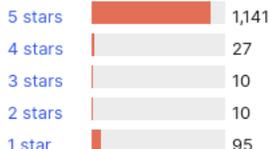
Home / Plugin: Secure Custom Fields / Reviews

[Secure Custom Fields] Reviews

SCF

Average Rating

★★★★⯪   4.6 out of 5 stars

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1,283 reviews		
5 stars	▬▬▬▬▬	1,141
4 stars	▌	27
3 stars	▌	10
2 stars	▌	10
1 star	▌	95

Secure Custom Fields

Support Threads

Active Topics

Unresolved Topics

Reviews

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Topic	Participants	Replies	Last Post
🔒 Super ★★★★★ Started by: art-at-tec	1	0	11 years, 10 months ago art-at-tec
🔒 Newbie Friendly ★★★★★ Started by: the masked cat	1	0	11 years, 10 months ago the masked cat
🔒 A must have for all WP Developers ★★★★★ Started by: castleofbones	1	0	11 years, 10 months ago castleofbones
🔒 Must have ★★★★★ Started by: Vitaliy K	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago Vitaliy K
🔒 A must have for developers ★★★★★ Started by: PiemanP	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago PiemanP
🔒 Essential ★★★★★ Started by: JoshuaDoshua	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago JoshuaDoshua
🔒 Fantastic and getting better ★★★★★ Started by: whax	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago whax
🔒 Try it, you wont belive you managed without it ★★★★★ Started by: Ash	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago Ash
🔒 Extends WordPress beyond a blog into a fully fledged CMS ★★★★★	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago thehobbo

Started by: Ash

🔒 Extends WordPress beyond a blog into a fully fledged CMS ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ Started by: thehobbo	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago thehobbo
🔒 Very Promising ⭐⭐⭐⭐☆ Started by: Aldi	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago Aldi
🔒 This is clean, simple, powerful and does exactly what you want ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ Started by: kythin	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago kythin
🔒 Power plugin ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ Started by: andred75	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago andred75
🔒 A word from plugin developer: this is amazing ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ Started by: aurimus	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago aurimus
🔒 Wish I found it sooner too! ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ Started by: triggame	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago triggame
🔒 Great Plug-in and Support ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ Started by: fancyfiber	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago fancyfiber
🔒 Can't live without it! ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ Started by: manon1165	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago manon1165
🔒 Wouldn't consider building a site without it ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ Started by: stephjuno	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago stephjuno
🔒 Parabéns ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ Started by: samuel.arendt	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago samuel.arendt
🔒 Excellence avec Elegance & High-Tec! ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ Started by: samenezes	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago samenezes
🔒 Great Plugin! ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ Started by: chomachomachoma	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago chomachomachoma
🔒 wish i found it sooner! ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ Started by: pixeloco	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago pixeloco
🔒 Brings WordPress development to a new level ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago

⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
Started by: pixeloco

months ago
pixeloco

🔒 Brings WordPress development to a new level   1   0   11 years, 11 months ago
⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
Started by: Lars Koudal   Lars Koudal

🔒 Fantastic for Crafting Complex UI   1   0   11 years, 11 months ago
⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
Started by: Jamie S   Jamie S

🔒 The best custom fields plugin   1   0   11 years, 11 months ago
⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
Started by: MisterR   MisterR

🔒 Very nice and neat.   1   1   11 years, 11 months ago
⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
Started by: jayarjo   jayarjo

🔒 Gold!   1   0   11 years, 11 months ago
⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
Started by: dj.cowan   dj.cowan

🔒 The best   1   0   11 years, 11 months ago
⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
Started by: niekdegreef   niekdegreef

🔒 First plugin to install with new WP   1   0   11 years, 11 months ago
⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
Started by: Leon Harris   Leon Harris

🔒 Awesome plugin   1   0   11 years, 11 months ago
Started by: bridgetwes   bridgetwes

🔒 A must for custom UI's   1   0   11 years, 11 months ago
⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
Started by: yopraag   yopraag

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	1	0	
🔒 The best custom fields plugin ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ Started by: MisterR	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago MisterR
🔒 Very nice and neat. ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ Started by: jayarjo	1	1	11 years, 11 months ago jayarjo
🔒 Gold! ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ Started by: dj.cowan	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago dj.cowan
🔒 The best ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ Started by: niekdegreef	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago niekdegreef
🔒 First plugin to install with new WP ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ Started by: Leon Harris	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago Leon Harris
🔒 Awesome plugin Started by: bridgetwes	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago bridgetwes
🔒 A must for custom UI's ⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ Started by: yopraag	1	0	11 years, 11 months ago yopraag

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| advanced custom fields   🔍 | 2,678 plugins | | **All**   Community   Commercial |

Search results for: "advanced custom fields"

SCF

Secure Custom Fields
★★★★½ (1,283)

Secure Custom Fields is a free fork of the Advanced Custom Fields plugin created originally for security updates, but now includes functionality impro …

👥 WordPress.org

📊 2+ million active installations   Ⓦ Tested with 6.6.2

ACF EXTENDED

Advanced Custom Fields: Extended
★★★★★ (129)

All-in-one enhancement suite that improves WordPress & Advanced Custom Fields.

👥 ACF Extended

📊 90,000+ active installations   Ⓦ Tested with 6.5.5

Pods – Custom Content Types and Fields
★★★★★ (408)

Pods is a framework for creating, managing, and deploying customized content types and fields for any project.

👥 Pods Framework Team

📊 100,000+ active installations   Ⓦ Tested with 6.6.2

Forminator Forms – Contact Form, Payment Form & Custom Form Builder
★★★★★ (1,771)

Best WordPress form builder plugin. Create contact forms, payment forms & order forms with 1000+ integrations.

👥 WPMU DEV

📊 500,000+ active installations   Ⓦ Tested with 6.6.2

ACF FA

Advanced Custom Fields: Font Awesome Field
★★★★★ (35)

Adds a new 'Font Awesome Icon' field to the popular Advanced Custom Fields plugin.

👥 Matt Keys

📊 100,000+ active installations   Ⓦ Tested with 6.5.5

Calculated Fields Form
★★★★★ (923)

The CFF plugin allows you to create both simple and professional forms. Its form builder includes dynamic calculated fields and many other controls.

👥 CodePeople

📊 50,000+ active installations   Ⓦ Tested with 6.6.2

M

Meta Box – WordPress Custom Fields Framework
★★★★★ (159)

Meta Box plugin is a powerful, professional developer toolkit to create

---

Checkout Field Editor (Checkout Manager) for WooCommerce
★★★★★ (989)

Checkout Field Editor (Checkout Manager) for WooCommerce – The

Meta Box – WordPress Custom Fields Framework
★★★★★ (159)

Meta Box plugin is a powerful, professional developer toolkit to create custom meta boxes and custom fields for your custom post types in WordPress.

MetaBox.io

600,000+ active installations   Tested with 6.6.2

Checkout Field Editor (Checkout Manager) for WooCommerce
★★★★★ (989)

Checkout Field Editor (Checkout Manager) for WooCommerce – The best WooCommerce checkout manager plugin to manage WooCommerce checkout fields.

ThemeHigh

400,000+ active installations   Tested with 6.6.2

Formidable Forms – Contact Form Plugin, Survey, Quiz, Payment, Calculator Form ...
★★★★★ (1,242)

The most advanced WordPress forms plugin. Go beyond contact forms with our drag and drop form builder for surveys, quizzes, and more.

Strategy11 Form Builder Team

400,000+ active installations   Tested with 6.6.2

Advanced Woo Search
★★★★★ (230)

Advanced WooCommerce search plugin. Search inside any product field. Support for both AJAX search and search results page.

ILLID

70,000+ active installations   Tested with 6.6.2

Table Field Add-on for SCF and ACF
★★★★★ (56)

A Table Field Add-on for the Secure Custom Fields and Advanced Custom Fields Plugin.

Johann Heyne

60,000+ active installations   Tested with 6.6.2

Advanced Custom Fields: Gravity Forms Add-on
★★★★☆ (13)

Provides an Advanced Custom Field which allows a WordPress user to select a Gravity Form as part of a field group configuration.

Say Hello GmbH

30,000+ active installations   Tested with 6.5.5

Advanced Product Fields (Product Addons) for WooCommerce
★★★★★ (257)

Add options (addons) to your WooCommerce products so your customers can personalize their products. Product forms for everyone!

StudioWombat

40,000+ active installations   Tested with 6.6.2

Yoast SEO
★★★★★ (27,731)

Improve your WordPress SEO: Write better content and have a fully optimized WordPress site using the Yoast SEO plugin.

Team Yoast

10+ million active installations   Tested with 6.6.2

Product Addons for Woocommerce – Product Options with Custom Fields
★★★★★ (420)

Advanced Shipment Tracking for WooCommerce
★★★★☆ (306)

Product Addons for Woocommerce – Product Options with Custom Fields
★★★★★ (420)

WooCommerce Product Addons Add custom fields to your WooCommerce product page. With an easy-to-use Custom Form Builder.

Acowebs

30,000+ active installations   Tested with 6.6.2

Advanced Shipment Tracking for WooCommerce
★★★★⯪ (306)

Advanced Shipment Tracking(AST) streamlines WooCommerce fulfillment, order fulfillment, reducing inquiries, and boosting customer satisfaction.

zorem

60,000+ active installations   Tested with 6.6.2

PPOM – Product Addons & Custom Fields for WooCommerce
★★★★⯪ (270)

Easily add a range of custom fields to WooCommerce products, from text boxes to date selectors, allowing customers to personalize their orders.

Themeisle

20,000+ active installations   Tested with 6.6.2

Advanced Custom Fields: Typography Field
★★★★⯪ (5)

A Typography Add-on for the Advanced Custom Fields Plugin.

Mujahid Ishtiaq

5,000+ active installations   Tested with 6.4.5

WPForms – Easy Form Builder for WordPress – Contact Forms, Payment...
★★★★★ (13,942)

The best WordPress contact form plugin. Drag & Drop form builder to create beautiful contact forms, payment forms, & other custom forms.

WPForms

6+ million active installations   Tested with 6.6.2

Royal Elementor Addons and Templates
★★★★★ (469)

Elementor Post Grid, Portfolio, Woocommerce Grid builder Widgets. Slider, Carousel, Form, Testimonial, Gallery, Nav menu addons, Elementor widgets &am ...

WP Royal

400,000+ active installations   Tested with 6.6.2

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Form Builder.

👥 Acowebs

📊 30,000+ active installations   ⓦ Tested with 6.6.2

customer satisfaction.

👥 zorem

📊 60,000+ active installations   ⓦ Tested with 6.6.2

PPOM – Product Addons & Custom Fields for WooCommerce
⭐⭐⭐⭐ (270)

Easily add a range of custom fields to WooCommerce products, from text boxes to date selectors, allowing customers to personalize their orders.

👥 Themeisle

📊 20,000+ active installations   ⓦ Tested with 6.6.2

Advanced Custom Fields: Typography Field
⭐⭐⭐⭐ (5)

A Typography Add-on for the Advanced Custom Fields Plugin.

👥 Mujahid Ishtiaq

📊 5,000+ active installations   ⓦ Tested with 6.4.5

WPForms – Easy Form Builder for WordPress – Contact Forms, Payment…
⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ (13,942)

The best WordPress contact form plugin. Drag & Drop form builder to create beautiful contact forms, payment forms, & other custom forms.

👥 WPForms

📊 6+ million active installations   ⓦ Tested with 6.6.2

Royal Elementor Addons and Templates
⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐ (469)

Elementor Post Grid, Portfolio, Woocommerce Grid builder Widgets. Slider, Carousel, Form, Testimonial, Gallery, Nav menu addons, Elementor widgets &am …

👥 WP Royal

📊 400,000+ active installations   ⓦ Tested with 6.6.2

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EXHIBIT D

October 12, 2024

By Matt Mullenweg in Security

Secure Custom Fields

On behalf of the WordPress security team, I am announcing that we are invoking point 18 of the plugin directory guidelines and are forking Advanced Custom Fields (ACF) into a new plugin, Secure Custom Fields. SCF has been updated to remove commercial upsells and fix a security problem.

On October 3rd, the ACF team announced ACF plugin updates will come directly from their website. This was also communicated via a support notice in the WordPress.org support forum on Oct 5th. Sites that followed the ACF team's instructions on "How to update ACF" will continue to get updates directly from WP Engine. On October 1st, 2024, WP Engine also deployed its own solution for updates and installations for plugins and themes across their customers' sites in place of WordPress.org's update service.

Sites that continue to use WordPress.org's update service and have not chosen to switch to ACF updates from WP Engine can click to update to switch to Secure Custom Fields. Where sites have chosen to have plugin auto-updates from WordPress.org enabled, this update process will auto-switch them from Advanced Custom Fields to Secure Custom Fields.

This update is as minimal as possible to fix the security issue. Going forward, Secure Custom Fields is now a non-commercial plugin, and if any developers want to get involved in maintaining and improving it, please get in touch.

Similar situations have happened before, but not at this scale. This is a rare and unusual situation brought on by WP Engine's legal attacks, we do not anticipate this happening for other plugins.

WP Engine has posted instructions for how to use their version of Advanced Custom Fields that uses their own update server, so you have that option, though the WordPress Security Team does not recommend it until they fix the security issues. You can uninstall Advanced Custom Fields and activate Secure Custom Fields from the plugin directory and be just fine.

There is separate, but not directly related news that Jason Bahl has left WP Engine to work for Automattic and will be making WPGraphQL a canonical community plugin. We expect others will follow as well.

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in maintaining and improving it, please get in touch.

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