



## CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL INTERNET DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTRE

### DOMAIN NAME DISPUTE ADMINISTRATIVE PANEL

#### DECISION

CIIDRC case number:	<b>25375-CDRP</b>	Decision date: August 4, 2025
Domain Names:	<b>&lt;equifax.ca&gt; and &lt;exuifax.ca&gt;</b>	
Panel:	<b>Adam Samuel</b>	
Complainants:	<b>(1) Equifax Inc. and (2) Equifax Canada Co</b>	
Registrant:	<b>Mike Morgan</b>	

#### 1. OVERVIEW

This matter concerns two registered domains, <equifax.ca> (the “first Domain Name”) and <exuifax.ca> (the “second Domain Name”) (both collectively referred to as the “Domain Names”).

This matter is a proceeding under the Canadian Dispute Resolution Policy (“CDRP”) and the Canadian Dispute Resolution Rules (“Rules”) of the Canadian Internet Registry Authority (“CIRA”). The Canadian International Internet Dispute Resolution Centre (“CIIDRC”) is a recognized service provider to the CIRA Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (the “Policy”) of the Canadian Internet Registration Authority (“CIRA”).

#### 2. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On June 27, 2025, the Complainants filed the Complaint pursuant to the CDRP and the Resolution Rules. The required commencement fee was paid on June 30, 2025. The Complaint was in administrative compliance with CIRA’s requirements under Rule 3.2. On June 30, 2025, CIRA was notified of this proceeding, and on July 4, 2025, CIRA transmitted by email to CIIDRC its verification response stating that the registrant of the Disputed Domain Names was Mike Morgan (the “Registrant”). CIRA also confirmed that the disputed domain name had been placed on a Registrar LOCK. Pursuant to Resolution Rule 4.4, CIIDRC notified the Registrant of this administrative proceeding and forwarded a Notice of Complaint along with the Complaint to the Registrant on July 7, 2025. The

Registrant failed to file response to date. The Complainant in this administrative proceeding has elected for a Panel consisting of a single-member. The Complaint deposited the required Panel fee on August 1, 2025.

The Domain Names were registered on May 16, 2018 and May 17, 2018 respectively.

### **3. FACTS**

The first Complainant is headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. The second Complainant is the Canadian subsidiary of the First Complainant. It is located in Toronto, ONTARIO. The second Complainant registered the Canadian trademark EQUIFAX TMA213693 on May 7, 1976. At some point after the registration of the Domain Names, this registration was transferred to the First Complainant. The Complainants' group provides information solutions, human resources business process outsourcing services and offers a credit reporting service that supplies consumers with a summary of their credit history.

The first Complainant registered <equifax.com> on February 21, 1995, and the second Complainant registered <equifax.ca> on September 19, 2000, to market their services worldwide and in Canada respectively.

### **4. CONTENTIONS OF THE PARTIES**

- **Complainant**

The Complainant submits that each of the Domain Names merely replaces one letter in the EQUIFAX trademark with another. In the first Domain Name, the letter "l" is replaced by the letter "a" and in the second, the letter "q" is replaced with the letter "x". A domain name consisting of a common, obvious or intentional misspelling of a trademark is confusingly similar to the relevant mark.

The Registrant is not called "Equafax" or "Equifax" or anything similar.

The Registrant is using the Domain Names to link to a parking page containing affiliate links for goods and services associated with the Complainants' EQUIFAX trademark. This clearly indicates that the Respondent has attempted to attract, for commercial gain, Internet users to the Registrant's website or location or of a product or service on the Registrant's website or location. The Registrant has registered the Domain Names to prevent the Complainants from registering their mark as a domain name. It is not possible to conceive of any plausible active use of the domain name by the Registrant that would not be illegitimate. The Respondent has established MX records for the Domain Names which enables it to send and receive email which suggests an intention to send emails as part of a fraudulent phishing scheme.

- **The Registrant**

The Registrant did not submit a response.

- **Remedy Sought**

The Complainants request the Domain Names be transferred to it without indicating which Complainant they wish to receive the transfer. Since the second Complainant is Canadian, the Panel interprets this as being a request for the transfer of the Domain Names to the second Complainant.

## **5. DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS**

### **5.1 Eligibility**

Each Complainant is an eligible complainant under paragraph 1.4 of the CDRP. The first Complainant is the owner of a trade-mark registered in the Canadian Intellectual Property Office (“**CIPO**”) to which the Complaint relates. The second Complainant is a “corporation under the laws of Canada or any province or territory of Canada”.

### **5.2 Requirements**

In accordance with Paragraph 4.1 of the CDRP, the onus is on the Complainant to prove that:

- (a) the Domain Name is Confusingly Similar to a trademark or service mark in which the Complainant had rights prior to the date of registration of the Domain Name and continues to have such Rights:  
and
- (b) the Registrant registered the Domain Name in bad faith.

and the Complainant must provide some evidence that:

- (c) the Registrant has no legitimate interest in the Domain Name.

The Panel will consider each of these requirements in turn.

### **5.3 Analysis**

#### **5.3.1 Whether the Domain Name is Confusingly Similar to a Mark in which the Complainant has Rights**

The Domain Names consist of the EQUIFAX trademark with single letters replaced with others and the necessary country top-level domain “.ca”. Neither misspelling creates another distinctive word. The “.ca” is irrelevant for the purposes of confusing similarity. The first Complainant currently owns the EQUIFAX trademark which the second Complainant owned at the time of the Domain Names’ registration. They are both part of the same group and have filed this Complaint together. From this, the Panel can assume that whichever Complainant did not own the EQUIFAX trademark at the relevant moment had a license to use it at the relevant time and so had rights in it.

For all these reasons, the Panel concludes that the Domain Names are both confusingly similar to the EQUIFAX trademark in which each Complainant had rights prior to the Domain Names’ registration and continue to have such rights.

### 5.3.2 Whether the Registrant registered the Domain Names in Bad Faith

This is a classic typosquatting case. Since the start of domain name dispute resolution, Panelists have regarded as a strong indication of bad faith registration. The Registrant appears to have registered the Domain Names in order to attract to its website people looking for the Second Complainant's website but mistyping the Second Complainant's name. It must have done so to disrupt the Complainants' business in some way.

For these reasons, the Panel concludes that the Registrant registered the Domain Names in bad faith.

The Registrar may have put up the parking page and supplied the MX records without any Registrant involvement. The registration of the Domain Names had no effect on the Complainants' ability to reflect their trademark in a domain name. They would not have wanted to use a mistyped version of their own name for this purpose.

### 5.3.3 Whether there is Some Evidence that the Registrant has No Legitimate Interest in the Domain Name

The Registrant does not use a name that resembles either of the Domain Names. The use of a domain name to resolve essentially to a parking page is not a non-commercial activity. The mistyping of the Complainants' trademark rules out any possibility that the registration of the Domain Names was done in a good faith association with any wares, services or business.

## 6 DECISION and ORDER

For the above reasons, in accordance with Paragraph 4 of the CDRP, Paragraph 12 of the Resolution Rules, the Panel orders that:

The domain names <equifax.ca> and <exuifax.ca> be transferred to the second Complainant.

Made as of August 4, 2025.

SIGNATURE OF PANEL

