

Lawyer on the Run from Filesharing Fiasco

by Kismo Sunday, Feb 6 2011, 7:59pm

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A scumbag LAWYER that engaged in the morally questionable and dubious practice of **"speculative invoicing" - making accusations and demanding monies WITHOUT PROOF of violation** - has 'thrown his company against the wall' and run from the wrath and legal litigation that his false accusations have created; we are all aware of the outrage experienced when we are falsely accused!



Fearing massive retaliatory litigation, this SCUMBAG LAWYER is attempting to 'throw off' by claiming that his family has been subject to death threats, which is highly unlikely considering the ease with which this arsehole and his associates could be successfully sued.

The BLIND, American-style, dragnet operation this imbecile utilised in his failed attempt to extract monies from the people, is based on the American, 'guilty until proven innocent' concept established by the criminal Bush administration and religiously maintained by the puppet Obama administration, which of course is an INVERSION of STANDARD LEGAL PROCEDURE, assuming 'innocence until proven otherwise,' which continues to apply in most uncorrupted (by America) civilised nations of the WORLD.

There is nothing more satisfying or entertaining than watching a scurrilous scumbag on the run from the wrath of the people. The world is becoming aware that self-important professionals and ruling elites are NOTHING but criminal scum with 'airs' that are very EASY to DISPATCH.

Speaking as an insider (hacker) I can confidently state that the 'code' does not include making death threats to families or other innocents; however, cyber attacks targeting scum, otherwise known as lawyers, who would attempt to intimidate THE good people of the world, are legitimate and effective responses. Though in this instance, pursuing this lying, unscrupulous piece of shit, AND his associates through the Courts, would be a walk in the park.

And for those who may have forgotten or are new to the 'code' -- We are ANONYMOUS (always) -- we are NO ONE therefore EVERYONE. Are you reading this, 'gifted glamour boy,' Julian 'fake hacker' Assange?

Make no mistake, we Own the Wire. [Another one bites the (digital) dust.]

We are MANY-- we are ONE -- we are UNSTOPPABLE!

Report from the Guardian UK follows:

ACS:Law and MediaCAT close their doors, ending filesharing claims

by Charles Arthur

A law firm that sent out hundreds of letters to people it accused of illegally sharing copyrighted files has shut down, days before a key court decision on whether defendants could claim damages.

ACSLaw, which sent out thousands of "speculative invoicing" letters on behalf of its client MediaCAT, accusing people of illegally downloading copyright content -- and threatening court action if they didn't pay -- apparently shutdown on Monday 31 January. MediaCAT is also understood to have 'closed shop' as well.

The closure marks the end of a tumultuous chapter in rows over filesharing and piracy in Britain. Although a number of people have been sued in the past decade by record companies, it appears to have had only minimal impact on levels of piracy and filesharing. The use of "speculative invoicing" - alleging infringement without definitive proof - had looked like a new front in the battle.

But instead it turned into a three-way row between ACS:Law, the alleged infringers and internet service providers from whom user details had been demanded.

The closedown comes ahead of a judgement due on Tuesday afternoon at the patents county court at which 27 people who had received letters were seeking a definitive ruling from the judge on whether they could claim damages after both ACS:Law and MediaCAT declined to put forward any evidence.

MediaCAT had signed up a number of copyright owners who gave it permission to pursue people it accused of file-sharing based on data it had collected. It then sought the names and addresses of those people from internet service providers (ISPs) including BT. That in turn led to a row in which some ISPs said they would not cooperate with requests.

Andrew Crossley, the lead solicitor at ACS:Law who set the firm up, had previously said that he would exit the field following threats to his family.

MediaCAT and ACS:Law tried to drop the cases that came to court, but Judge Birss said that it would not be simple to drop the case because the copyright holders themselves were not in court. That meant in theory that if the MediaCAT case were discontinued, then the copyright holders could still come after those accused.

He also questioned MediaCAT's decision to drop the case: "I want to tell you that I am not happy. I am getting the impression with every twist and turn since I started looking at these cases that there is a desire to avoid any judicial scrutiny," he told its barrister.

Some of the defendants had said they would seek to sue Crossley for harassment, but it is not known whether they can now pursue an individual case against him for actions taken by his former firm.

The letters provoked a huge row because hundreds of the accused claimed that they had been wrongly identified. The Solicitors Regulation Authority was investigating ACS:Law's practices before the company closed down. It is not clear whether the investigation will be carried on against Crossley as an individual following ACS:Law's closure.

The issue was made worse for Crossley and ACS:Law after the personal details - including names, phone numbers and addresses - of thousands of Britons leaked online via an attack on the company's website. Many also saw their names or postcodes linked to pornographic films which MediaCAT was claiming they had illicitly downloaded. The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) was investigating the breach, and could have levied a fine of up to £500,000 if ACS:Law were found to have been holding the information insecurely. It is unclear whether that case can be continued against Crossley as an individual or whether it lapses with the company's closure.

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