
National INNquirer

GWYNETH PALTROW THE NEW ASTRONOMER SPOKESPERSON?

Looks Like a Sky Full of Stars for Astronomer, but Are Sparks Flying for
Paltrow in the Midst of a Lawsuit?

The Scoop

Florida Attorney General's consumer protection division brought suit against Gwyneth Paltrow and her company GOOP for false medical claims regarding its "Inner Judge Flower Essence Blend," essential oils purported to help depression when taken orally or added to bathwater.



Lily Lawyer, a newly licensed attorney with no consumer protection experience and a Gwyneth Paltrow mega-fan, offered to take Paltrow's case pro-bono without permission from her firm. While GOOP's case is pending, Paltrow becomes a spokesperson for Astronomer after ex-husband Chris Martin's band Coldplay kiss-cam scandal, despite being told to stay out of the public eye pending litigation.

Legal and Ethical Considerations

Lily Lawyer's firm is upset that Lily offered to take the case pro bono since Paltrow does not seem to be in financial need and also that Lily does not appear able to keep Gwyneth out of the public eye. Consider FDUPTA/FLA. STAT. 501.202(2), Florida Rules Regulating the Florida Bar 4-1.1 – Competence, and Florida Rules of Professional Conduct - 4-6.1 - Pro Bono Public Service.



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THROWN UNDER THE BUS: DAVE MATTHEWS BAND DRIVER TO BLAME FOR SEWAGE DUMPED ON BOAT TOUR

What Would You Say if it Crashed Into You?

The Scoop

Dave Matthews Band was returning to the Breakers from iThink Amphitheater when it got stuck in traffic on Flagler Memorial Bridge. The bus driver seized the opportunity to empty the bus's sewage into the intracoastal. At that moment, a boat full of unsuspecting tourists passing below



were soaked by the foul smelling brew-- a brownish-yellow slurry that caused nausea, vomiting, e-coli related illness, and mental anguish. The band denied knowledge and blamed the driver, who is charged with reckless conduct and discharging pollutants into the waterway. Meanwhile, the band is being sued for negligence and negligent infliction of emotional distress. Attorney Carter hears about the pending suit and calls their manager offering his services.

Legal and Ethical Considerations

Consider section 403.413 and Florida negligence law including the impact rule, as well as Rule 4-7.18 regarding client solicitation.

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DID VANILLA ICE SAMPLE “UNDER PRESSURE”?

Apparently he collaborated before he stopped and listened...

The Scoop

Queen and David Bowie filed suit against Lake Worth, FL resident Robert Van Winkle, aka Vanilla Ice, after he released his 1991 track, “Ice Ice Baby,” which features a sample only one note different from the rockers’ hook from their 1981 collaboration, “Under Pressure.” Bowie and Queen won the lawsuit, and both were awarded writing credits on the track. Bowie suggested he, Vanilla Ice, and Queen all collaborate on one track together, and they get it mostly written, but then Queen pulls out when Bowie won’t agree to list Queen first on the writing credits for Ice Ice Baby or the new song. A subsequent lawsuit ensues as to whether Vanilla Ice and Bowie can release the new song without Queen’s permission, and as to who will be listed first on Ice Ice Baby’s writing credits.



Legal and Ethical Considerations

David Bowie and Queen have been jointly represented by Rock N Roll Law Firm, but now they disagree on whether to collaborate with Vanilla Ice and on who gets first credits. Consider federal copyright law, section 501.93, Florida Statutes, and Rule 4-1.7, Rules Regulating the Florida Bar (Conflict of Interest – Current Clients).



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TÚ TIENES BUENA PUNTERÍA

Objection! Hold On To Your Wig!

The Scoop

Cardi B was sued by Emani Ellis for assault and battery. Ellis claims that during Cardi B's visit to the OB/GYN where Ellis acts as a security guard in 2018, Cardi B assaulted Ellis causing harm. Cardi B claims that Ellis took out her phone and started recording her invading her privacy during a medical visit and the two got into a yelling match but Cardi B did not touch Ellis. Ellis's attorney has two practice areas listed on the website: hotel injury law (bed bug claims) and personal injury law, more specifically



"accidents/slip and falls." During the trial, Ellis's attorney asked inappropriate and irrelevant questions to Cari B which endeared Cardi B to the jury with her responses. Cardi B's attorney made an improper closing argument to which Ellis' attorney failed to object. After the jury found in Cardi B's favor, Ellis fired her attorney and filed a bar complaint on the basis of incompetence. Ellis's former attorney has threatened to disclose everything Ellis said to him if Ellis does not drop the bar complaint. Ellis also hired an appellate attorney to appeal the loss of her case and plans to raise the issue of the improper closing argument for the first time on appeal.

Legal and Ethical Considerations

Consider *Murphy v. Int'l Robotic Systems, Inc.*, 766 So.2d 1010, (Fla. 2000) and Rules 4-1.1 and 4-1.6 of the Rules Regulating the Florida Bar.

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THEY NOT LIKE US
...But You Gon' Learn Today

The Scoop

Aubrey Drake Graham and Kendrick Lamar Duckworth have been exchanging “diss tracks” with the feud between them culminating in the wildly successful song, “They Not Like Us,” by Kendrick Lamar. Drake sued Universal Music Group, the label shared by him and Lamar, for defamation, second degree harassment, and violation of N.Y. G.B.L. § 349. Upset with the speed of his civil case, Drake decides while on vacation in Florida that it’s God’s plan for him to file a complaint with the Palm Beach County State Attorney’s Office against Kendrick Lamar for stalking. Lamar’s attorney decides to conduct a press conference to preempt the effect of the criminal charges and makes statement about Drake and the assigned prosecutor during the conference. The prosecutor assigned to the case is offended and responds in a press release of his/her own.



Legal and Ethical Considerations

Drake wants to leverage the criminal case to move along his civil case and now the attorneys are promulgating “diss tracks” of their own in the press. Consider Florida Statutes § 784.048 and Rules 4-3.4, 4-3.6, and 4-3.8 of the Rules Regulating the Florida Bar.



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IN DEPTH COVERAGE: AMBER AND JOHNNY SQUARE OFF IN EPIC HE SAID, SHE SAID

Is it all over sour grapes after Heard tossed out onto 21 dump street?

The Scoop

When their relationship was on its last legs, Johnny Depp and Amber Heard moved to Florida in an attempt to save their marriage. The move did not improve anything. Heard eventually detailed alleged abuse at Depp's hands to the Palm Beach Post. Depp sued Heard for defamation.

Not to be outdone,

Heard countersued for defamation. Both sides reveal a host of unsavory facts designed to embarrass the other but not necessarily relevant to their respective defamation claims. Depp's attorney, Taylor Swift, unilaterally makes decisions on how the case should proceed and unilaterally negotiates terms of settlement. After the case is resolved, Heard sues Depp's attorney for statements he made about her at trial.



Legal and Ethical Considerations

Consider common law defamation, Chapter 836 of the Florida Statutes, litigation privilege, *Spagnuolo v. Ins. Office of Am., Inc.*, 356 So. 3d 908 (Fla. 5th DCA 2023), and Rule Regulating the Florida Bar 4-1.4.