

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Washington, D.C., April 9, 2004 The Law Firm of Andrew Grosso & Associates announced this morning that it has filed a lawsuit on behalf of Doug Armentrout against NeuStar, Inc. and NeuLevel, Inc., the Internet registries for the .us and .biz domain names, and NeuStar's CEO, Jeffrey E. Ganek. The suit claims that NeuLevel and NeuStar manipulated their accounting records to defraud one of the initial partners in NeuLevel - Melbourne IT of Melbourne, Australia. Mr. Armentrout, the former CEO of NeuLevel and a former Vice President of NeuStar, also charges that, as part of their scheme, the Defendants defrauded him of over \$3 million and used his reputation and expertise to deceive Melbourne IT as well as to mislead ICANN and the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Mr. Armentrout is a renowned and highly respected professional in Internet development and commerce. He served as Verio, Inc.'s Vice President of Marketing for its Web Hosting Division, and was of the management team of Network Solutions, Inc. (NSI), now known as VeriSign, where he helped take that company public.

Mr. Armentrout's complaint alleges that NeuStar, NeuLevel, and Mr. Ganek, defrauded Melbourne IT, and misled the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) and the United States Department of Commerce in their administration of the .biz and .us domain names. It alleges that the Defendants, through fraud and misrepresentation of their relationship with Melbourne IT, persuaded ICANN to award NeuLevel the ".biz" domain name registry and, thereafter, convinced the U.S. Department of Commerce to award NeuStar the ".us" registry. Once NeuStar won the .us registry, it effectively merged the operation of NeuLevel into NeuStar, again ignoring Melbourne IT.

According to the complaint, Mr. Armentrout was convinced NeuStar was "cost dumping" expenses for its other lines of business (including the .us registry) into the accounting books of NeuLevel. He arranged for an outside audit of NeuLevel's computer equipment and financial records, and informed NeuStar of his plans. On the morning that this audit was to take place NeuStar locked him of his offices, refusing to allow the auditors or Mr. Armentrout access.

The case has been filed in Superior Court for the District of Columbia in Washington, D.C. Mr. Armentrout is represented in this case by Andrew Grosso, Esq. and Saul J. Singer, Esq. of the Washington, D.C. law firm of Andrew Grosso & Associates.

Mr. Grosso explained that "This case is about more than just another example of the lack of corporate ethics. It goes to the integrity of Internet governance and the players who run that system."

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