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### Re: Art Bell Prevails In Defamation Hearing

From: John Pierson <[johnpierson@mindspring.com](mailto:johnpierson@mindspring.com)>  
Date: Mon, 01 May 2000 12:16:57 -0500  
Fwd Date: Mon, 01 May 2000 21:56:38 -0400  
Subject: Re: Art Bell Prevails In Defamation Hearing

>Source: Rowland Network Communications

><http://bbs.rowlandnet.com/cgi-bin/WebX?14@@.ee6c827/69>

>Art Bell Prevails In Defamation Hearing

>Nashville (April 28, 2000) - Late night radio host Art Bell took  
>a significant step forward today in his two-year battle to  
>vindicate his reputation. After lengthy oral argument this  
>morning, Judge Marietta Shipley rejected attempts by local radio  
>stations WWCR and WNQM and radio host Ted Gunderson to dismiss  
>Mr. Bell's lawsuit against them.

>Art Bell filed his defamation lawsuit in the Circuit Court for  
>Davidson County after Mr. Gunderson and David Hinkson accused  
>him of molesting children on a program aired worldwide on WWCR,  
>a Nashville-based short wave radio station. Citing the emotional  
>harm that resulted from the false charges, Mr. Bell announced on  
>March 31, 2000 his retirement from radio broadcasting.

>Art Bell's lead counsel, Gerard P. Fox of Los Angeles, had the  
>following statement:

>"When a person has been defamed, there is no putting the genie  
>entirely back in the bottle. However, the Court's ruling today  
>that Mr. Bell has provided sufficient evidence to allow the case  
>to be decided by a jury goes a long way toward restoring his  
>reputation. This day in Court has reaffirmed Mr. Bell's  
>confidence in our judicial system."

>Additional information about Art Bell's lawsuit may be obtained  
>by calling Gerard P. Fox at (310) 229-9300 or Mr. Bell's  
>Tennessee lawyer, John Wood of Branham & Day, P.C., at (615)  
>742-4880.

Something just doesn't seem right here.

Bell quits his radio program one day before his defamation hearing. He claims to have been harmed (almost) irreparably. It is said in a press release that he will leave all public life, which includes publishing.

Correct me if Im wrong, but doesn't that seem like he is setting it up not only to sue for dafamation but also for 'lost wages'? In other words, he is demonstrating that he has been so affected by this ordeal that he will no longer be able to generate an income from what he loves the most and has done the longest?

Anybody else see that?

Nothing about this latest departure seems quite right.

John

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Operated by Errol Bruce-Knapp - ++ 416-696-0304

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Software by Glenn Campbell. Technical contact: [webmaster@ufomind.com](mailto:webmaster@ufomind.com)

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