

Trout Point pair's internet nemesis strikes again

By Andrew Speller

The never-ending Trout Point Lodge legal story continues. On **January 23, 2012**, Trout Point Lodge and owners **Charles Leary** and **Vaughn Perret** filed for an injunction against Louisiana blogger **Douglas Handshoe** and his website **slabbed.org**, in **Yarmouth Supreme Court**.

This salvo in the Trout Point-Handshoe war comes just a year after Chuck and Vaughn celebrated an impressive victory in their defamation suit against Doug and slabbed.org. They were awarded **\$425,000** in a decision handed down on **February 1, 2012** in **Yarmouth Supreme Court**.

The court ruled that Charles, Vaughn and Trout Point were falsely linked to a Louisiana political corruption scandal by Doug and his website.

This time, Charles and Vaughn are claiming blogger Doug swiped copyrighted photographs off of TPL's website, and then proceeded to post them on slabbed.org.

The pictures in question are everyday shots of Charles, Vaughn and Trout Point Lodge itself, but there are also allegations that slabbed.org had comments juxtaposed next to the swiped pics, which may have (or may not have) included derogatory comments directed towards the TPL owners.

"(Douglas Handshoe) is in violation of the **Canadian Copyright Act**, and has knowingly made extensive, worldwide, for-profit publication of works that by the act only (Charles and Vaughn) had the right to publish," the injunction application says.

According to court documents, Charles and Vaughn are seeking a declaration of infringement of their copyright, a permanent injunction, delivery or destruction of all infringing articles and materials, and damages.

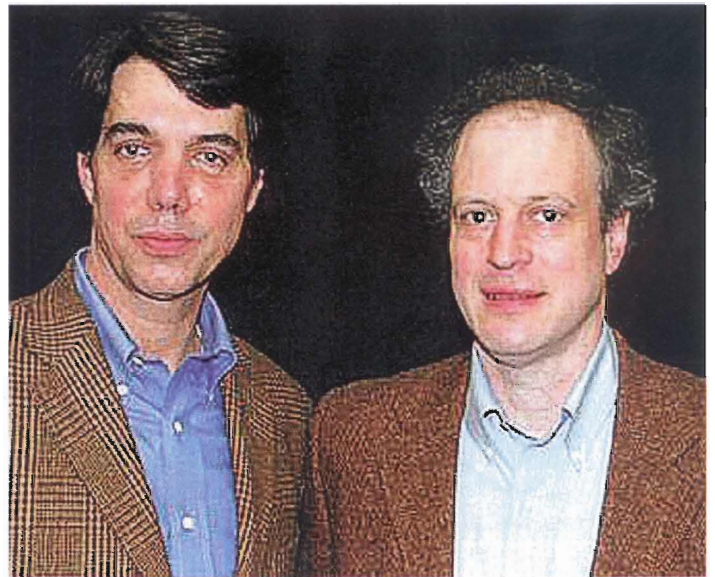
Charles explains that as soon as he and Vaughn feel they are no longer being harassed by Doug, the filings of lawsuits will cease.

"We are doing nothing more than following our right to civil process under the laws of **Canada** and the **United States**," he tells me.

"The better question would be to ask Mr. Handshoe when he will stop his false and defamatory publications about us, his unceasing campaign to harass, damage, & embarrass, and his copyright infringement. When he stops, from that point forward, we will have nothing new to dispute with him."

They already have an injunction stemming from the defamation case.

"It is clear from the evidence before me that Mr. Handshoe will continue to publish the defamatory material," Justice Suzanne



Charles Leary & Vaughn Perret.



Hood's said in her Feb. 1, 2012 decision.

"He says he is protected from foreign defamation judgments such as the default judgment in this proceeding by legislation in the United States. It also may be difficult, if not impossible, for the plaintiffs to recover on their judgment.

"It is not known what assets Mr. Handshoe has or whether enforcement in the U.S. on the monetary judgment will be possible. I, therefore, conclude that an injunction should issue.

"Mr. Handshoe is, therefore, enjoined from dissemination, posting on the internet, distributing or publishing in any manner whatsoever, directly or indirectly, statements or comments about Trout Point Lodge, Charles Leary and Vaughn Perret. This includes statements or comments which refer to the three plaintiffs by name, depiction or description."

Because of the injunction, I can't share Doug's thoughts on all of this, but I can say he's seeking a dismissal of the copyright injunction, again claiming the courts in **Nova Scotia** have no jurisdiction in the U.S.

Allegations are unproven in court.

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