


# Blogger Perez Hilton gets \$85,000 in Lohan friend's lawsuit

Updated 1/23/2008 10:25 PM | Comment  | Recommend

E-mail | Print |



 Enlarge

Getty Images

Perez Hilton is one of the Web's most popular celebrity gossip bloggers.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Celebrity blogger Perez Hilton will receive nearly \$85,000 to pay his legal costs in a defamation lawsuit brought by a friend of actress Lindsay Lohan, a judge ruled Wednesday.

Hilton, whose real name is Mario Lavandeira, also can receive an additional \$2,000 if he requests it, Superior Court Judge Elihu M. Berle said.

"Perez Hilton will take steps to make sure every dime is collected," said his lawyer, Bryan J. Freedman. "This should make one careful before filing a lawsuit against him."

Samantha Ronson, who sued Hilton last year, was a passenger in Lohan's car when it crashed into a tree in Beverly Hills last May.

She sued Hilton for repeating on his website a report from CelebrityBabylon.com that stated she planted cocaine that was found in Lohan's car.

The judge removed Hilton from the lawsuit last November after the blogger's attorneys argued he was protected by free speech rights.

Her attorney, David M. Bass, unsuccessfully argued that Hilton's lawyers' fees were excessive and he should get no more than \$13,400 to recover his legal costs.


Bass also said Ronson's previous lawyer abandoned his representation of her before taking Hilton's deposition, which Bass said was important to the defamation suit.

Bass said Wednesday he was considering whether to take further legal action.

"We would like an opportunity for the court to consider all the facts," he said.

Copyright 2008 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.

Share


 Add to Mixx

 Facebook

 Twitter

 More

Subscribe

 myYahoo

 iGoogle

 More