

Marvel big seeks to protect personal rolodex, 'security protocol' from rival neighbor in Florida tennis center lawsuit



Marvel Chairman Ike Perlmutter (pictured) is seeking permission from a Florida State Court to keep his personal rolodex private from Canadian businessman Harold Peerenboom in a lawsuit over management of tennis courts in Florida. (Susan Walsh/AP)

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Not even the Avengers could stop this uncivil war.

The reclusive billionaire who heads Marvel Entertainment is seeking to shield his personal rolodex and "security protocol" from a rival neighbor in his Palm Beach gated community — the latest development in a bizarre lawsuit over management of tennis courts.

Canadian businessman Harold Peerenboom sued Marvel Chairman Ike Perlmutter in 2013 in Florida State Court, alleging the superhero honcho had smeared his name following a dispute over management of the tennis center in the posh Sloan's Curve community in Palm Beach.

Peerenboom charged that Perlmutter, 74, had orchestrated an anonymous hate mail campaign labeling him a Nazi and sexual predator.

Marvel staffers had been used to gather information included in the letters, Peerenboom said.

The battle spilled into Manhattan Supreme Court in 2015 as Peerenboom's attorneys sought to enforce a subpoena for information regarding Perlmutter's alleged use of Marvel resources to bash his rival. Marvel is based in Manhattan.

On Wednesday, Perlmutter's attorney — one of eight who appeared before Justice Nancy Bannon — sought permission to redact certain information that would be turned over to Peerenboom's legal team as the scorched earth case continues.

Among the info: a phone number for Bob Iger, the CEO of Walt Disney, as well as a "spybusters report" describing safety protocols for Perlmutter's Florida home. The report was prepared by Robert Grosser, Marvel's security consultant.

"We have the right to assert what we believe is private information," Perlmutter's attorney Jared Lopez said.

Allan Arffa added that floor plans included in the report were "clearly personal information."

Peerenboom's attorney Mike Bowen insisted that Perlmutter recently admitted he'd sent one piece of hate mail.

"They used Marvel personnel to do research, to 'dig up dirt' on my client, Mr. Peerenboom," Bowen said. "They started it, to put it in very simple terms — maybe juvenile terms."