

Producer Files Lawsuit over Sherman Hemsley's 'Amen'

Written by Forward Times Staff
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Ed Weinberger, the creator of the 1980s sitcom "Amen" starring Sherman Hemsley, has sued his former business managers claiming they failed to account for what he was owed after he sued the show's producer, Carson Productions, in 2011.

Weinberger sued his former business managers Freedman Broder & Company Accountancy Corp.; William Broder; Myers & Associates; and Ronald Myers, in Superior Court, reports *Opposing Views*.

Weinberger claims he's been a writer and executive producer of "legendary network series," including "The Tonight Show," "The Cosby Show," "The Mary Tyler Moore Show," and "Taxi." Weinberger claims he struck a deal with Carson Productions in 1989, for fixed and contingent payments for his work on "Amen," which ran for five seasons, from 1986 to 1991.

William Broder, Weinberger's business manager from 1991-2004, was "aware that Weinberger had received advances against his right to receive contingent compensation and, as time went on, those advances were being recouped by money earned from the exploitation of 'Amen,'" the complaint states.

Weinberger claims that by 1998 the accountant knew he was owed \$1.4 million for "Amen." But Broder stopped accounting for the money Weinberger was owed, then told him it could no longer manage his finances because he wasn't earning enough, according to the complaint.

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Weinberger's next manager, Myers & Associates, also failed to keep tabs on "Amen," the complaint states.

Weinberger says that before he sued Carson Productions in 2011, he was unaware that he had recouped his advances and was entitled to contingent compensation. "Weinberger discovered through the course of the litigation that his advances were recouped sometime in the years 2000-2001," the lawsuit states.

It adds that Carson Productions refused to pay the writer for roughly six years worth of contingent compensation, on the grounds that his claims were barred by the statute of limitations. Those six years were from 2000-2006, Weinberger says, when he was represented by Broder and then by Myers.

Weinberger seeks damages and punitive damages for professional negligence, breach of fiduciary duty, fraud, professional negligence, and breach of fiduciary duty.



50 Cent Ends Bromance with Mayweather; Joins Pacquiao

Not only is it splitsville for BFFs 50 Cent and Floyd Mayweather Jr. when it comes to business, but the rapper has rubbed salt in the wound by sparking a new venture with the boxer's longtime rival. 50 told New York's Power 105.1 that he has partnered with Manny Pacquiao to set up a new sports promotion company.

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In July, 50 and Floyd launched TMT (The Money Team) Promotions to help arrange the athlete's future bouts and boost his profile once he completed a three-month prison term for domestic battery.

But, their working relationship appears to have spiraled downward since the fighter was released from prison in August following two months behind bars, and now 50 Cent is on Team Pacquiao.

50, real name Curtis Jackson, says he had initially envisioned all three of them working together on TMT Promotions, but the idea didn't work out and it was Mayweather, Jr.'s lack of motivation to move ahead with the business, which caused 50 to embark on a new partnership.

During an interview with New York's Power 105.1, he says, "I look at Floyd like he's my younger brother... He earns so much that he just spends it, he just runs around spend it doing what he wants, so there's no urgency to anything."

But 50 Cent is confident his old pal won't be mad at him for taking his business elsewhere: "I think he'll go, 'I wish him luck.' It's not like I wasn't in communication with him, I texted him and told him everything."



Ariana Carey, Nicki Minaj Already Fighting on 'Idol'?

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The speculation that Mariah Carey was not pleased with Fox's decision to bring Nicki Minaj on as another new judge began weeks before the network actually confirmed it, so we're not surprised that there are new rumors suggesting that the two are in the midst of a feud. But according to Carey, a real feud would take much longer to develop than the time she's had with Minaj. The songbird and new "Idol" personality said as much during a press conference in New York on Monday, as she and Minaj laughed at the reports that they're "at each other's throats."

"We're getting along wonderfully, darling," Minaj told press, as Carey responded, "Dearest heart!"

Besides, Carey added with a laugh: "How are we going to feud in two days?! Like, a feud takes a little longer to ... you know, spread out."

Randy Jackson, ever the "Idol" mediator, assured reporters that they're all having a good time.{jcomments on}