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*****UPDATE*****

**HARVARD PROFESSOR & STUDENTS FIGHT THE RIAA:
COME TO RHODE ISLAND FEDERAL COURT
TO PROTECT DEFENDANT'S FAMILY**

Now it's his parents. Who's next?

Cambridge, MA (December 2008) – At a Dec. 15 hearing in Rhode Island federal court, Harvard Law School Professor Charles Nesson and his team of students will defend Rhode Island residents Arthur and Judie Tenenbaum from the full might of the U.S. recording industry's combined lobbying and litigating power. The Tenenbaums face legal pressure from the industry's lawsuit against their son, Joel, a graduate student at Boston University accused of sharing music files online.

****UPDATE:** Today's hearing was rescheduled for Jan 6 due to the fact that Nesson, lead counsel, is not admitted to legally argue in a RI court. "This just further underscores how deeply unfair it is to pit the powerful Goliath RIAA legal infrastructure against the small David, or Joel, defendants," said Nesson. The Judge also denied a motion they made to prohibit any activity on Joel's parent's computer until Jan 6.**

Nesson and his team allege that the Recording Industry Association of America and a coalition of record companies are abusing the federal court system with their litigation tactics, which attempt to make an example out of Joel and his family in the name of "deterrence." Joel faces possible damages of more than \$1 million for allegedly sharing seven songs on the Kazaa file-sharing network.

The Dec. 15 hearing will address the recording industry's motion to force Arthur and Judie to produce their home computer so that it can be inspected for evidence of copyright infringement. The computer is not the device on which the alleged downloading took place, and Arthur and Judie did not own the computer when Joel lived with them.

"The basic rules of evidence suggest that this invasion of privacy is both unnecessary and absurd," said Matt Sanchez, one of Nesson's students working on the case. "This hearing isn't only about Joel's parents. It's also about finally putting up a fight against the recording industry's intimidation practices."

For more information, please visit: <http://blogs.law.harvard.edu/cyberone/riaa/>.

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CyberOne is a course that teaches Harvard Law School students to use the tools of cyberspace to improve society, guide development of the law, and connect in creativity and peace. Professor Charles Nesson is the William F. Weld Professor of Law at Harvard Law School and Founder of the Berkman Center for Internet & Society.