

Contact: Gloria Allred
(323) 653-6530
E-mail: gallred@amglaw.com

We are here today to announce an important victory for our clients Amanda Ryncarz and Stacey Blitsch who had been sued by their ex-lover, Mr. Matthew Couloute, Jr., an attorney, over statements which he accused them of posting about him on a website called liarscheatersrus.com.

Stacey lived with Mr. Couloute for three years and they had a son together. She denies posting anything at all about Mr. Couloute on liarscheatersrus.com.

Amanda was in an intimate relationship with Mr. Couloute. She admits to posting certain comments about Mr. Couloute on liarscheatersrus.com.

Amanda's relationship with Mr. Couloute began in approximately April, 2008 and lasted more than two years. During this period of time, they often lived together and she helped raise Mr. Couloute and Stacey's son. Amanda was under the impression that she and Mr. Couloute would be getting

married. However, the relationship with Mr. Couloute ended on October 3, 2010 when Mr. Couloute called Amanda and told her on the telephone that their relationship was not working. Twelve days later, he married another woman.

Specifically Mr. Couloute alleged that Amanda posted on the liars and cheaters website that Mr. Couloute, Jr. "lied and cheated all through his 40 years of life" and that "He is very very manipulating, he's an attorney so he's great at lying and covering it up without batting an eye." Mr. Couloute alleged that Stacey had said "What these ladies have said about his character is very true. I met him and dated briefly and I was taken in with the charm and 'instant connection' he claimed we had...(A)s soon as I started asking questions about other aspects of his life and figured out he wasn't comple(tely) honest he turned cold then disappeared."

Mr. Couloute's lawsuit, which he filed against them in the U.S. District Court Southern District of New York, initially claimed that the comments that our clients had allegedly posted about him improperly interfered with his prospective business relationships. As part of his response to our motion to dismiss his complaint he argued that he should at least be allowed to amend his lawsuit to claim that he had been defamed by our clients on the Liars and Cheaters website.

We argued that his lawsuit should be dismissed and that Mr. Couloute, Jr. should not be permitted to amend his lawsuit to claim that our clients had defamed him.

We believe that women should not be silenced and be afraid to speak out and express their opinions on the internet about those men that they believe have lied to them or cheated on them.

Today we are happy to announce that on February 17, 2012, Matthew Couloute's lawsuit against Stacey and Amanda was dismissed.

The Court indicated that there could be no doubt that individuals reading the comments that Mr. Couloute, Jr. attributed to our clients would understand them to be statements of opinion rather than statements of fact.

The Court pointed out that the fact that the comments were posted on the internet were vitally important to the Court's decision because statements made on the internet on a website that is "specifically intended to provide a forum for people to air their grievances about dishonest,

romantic partners”¹ is likely to be understood as opinion by those reading the comments, and that factor along with others that the court cited means that as a matter of law they are not defamatory.

This decision is vitally important because anti-heart balm statutes that have been enacted throughout the country protect men who cheat and tell lies to their lovers even when their behavior causes not only broken hearts but often financial ruin to those women who believe the lies.

Women should have the right to warn each other about men that they believe have lied and cheated on them and they should be able to do it on websites designed for that purpose. Given the fact that Legislatures and Courts do not protect women against liars and cheaters, women helping women by warning them may be the only means by which women can protect themselves.

We believe U.S. District Court Judge Harold Baer Jr.’s opinion has advanced women's rights by making it clear that women have the right to express their opinions about their former lovers on the internet's liars and cheaters website or similar websites without fear that they will be dragged into Court.

¹ Court quoting from our defense.

We applaud Judge Baer for this important precedent in the evolving body of law concerning the internet.

We also want applaud our outstanding legal team² and our clients for having had the courage to stand up and fight back.

Gloria Allred

Attorney at Law

representing Stacey Blitsch and Amanda Ryncarz

February 20, 2012

² Our legal team consisted of Mariann Wang and Julie Ehrlich of Cuti, Hecker and Wang LLP, Nathan Goldberg and Gloria Allred of Allred, Maroko and Goldberg.