

Student Cleared to Defend Tenenbaum at Appeals Argument Over Filesharing



Boston, MA (March 6, 2011) – Last week, the First Circuit Court of Appeals approved a motion that will allow a student member of Joel Tenenbaum’s defense team to make oral argument on his behalf. Tenenbaum is a graduate student at Boston University who was sued in 2007 for sharing thirty songs. A jury found him liable for \$675,000 and the trial judge reduced the award to \$67,500. Both parties appealed and on April 4th, Tenenbaum will become the first target of the RIAA litigation campaign to make it to the appellate level.

Jason Harrow is a third year student at Harvard Law School and has been a member of Professor Charles Nesson’s cottage industry of law students since 2009. Last November, Harrow won Harvard’s 100th Annual Ames Moot Court Competition judged by Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts. Nesson and Harrow now prepare to faceoff against a high-powered opposition that includes former Solicitor General Paul Clement and the United States Department of Justice.

Of the stakes Harrow says, “It’s clear that the record industry sees the bigger issues present in this case, as they’ve hired one of the most famous and respected lawyers in the country to argue their side. It’s incredibly exciting to go up against him and tell the Court our story.”

Harrow explains that he felt compelled to act, “Joel could have been me or anyone else I knew. When I heard that someone just like me was being sued for hundreds of thousands dollars for just being an average college student, the unfairness was palpable.”



Oral argument is open to the public and takes place at 9:30 a.m. on April 4th at the Moakley Courthouse in Boston. Visit <http://joelfightsback.com> for more information.