Filed 12 January 27 P6:03 Gary Fitzsimmons District Clerk Dallas District
Dallas District

CAUSE NO.		
STEPHEN PIERCE and STEPHEN PIERCE	§	IN THE DISTRICT COURT
INTERNATIONAL, INC.	§	
	§	
Plaintiffs	§	
	§	OF DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS
V.	§	
	§	
DALE BROWN and COASTAL VACATIONS	§	
	§	
Defendants	§	JUDICIAL DISTRICT

## PLAINTIFFS' ORIGINAL PETITION, JURY DEMAND AND REQUEST FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

### TO THE HONORABLE COURT:

Plaintiffs Stephen Pierce and Stephen Pierce International, Inc. (collectively referred to as

"Pierce" or "Plaintiffs"), complain of Defendants Dale Brown and Coastal Vacations ("Brown"

"Coastal Vacations" or collectively "Defendants") and show as follows:

## I.

## **DISCOVERY CONTROL PLAN**

Plaintiffs intend to conduct discovery under Level 2 in accordance with TEX. R.
CIV. P. 190.3.

## II.

## PARTIES, JURISDICTION, AND VENUE

2. Plaintiff Stephen Pierce is a natural person who resides at 720 Lake Carolyn Parkway, Apt# 127W, Irving, Texas 75039.

3. Plaintiff Stephen Pierce International, Inc. is a Texas corporation authorized to conduct business in the State of Texas with its principal place of business at 321 North Central

Expressway Suite #220, McKinney, Texas 75070. Stephen Pierce is the CEO of Stephen Pierce International, Inc.

4. Defendant Dale Brown is a natural person who resides in

5. Defendant Dale Brown is the administrative contact of Defendant Coastal Vacations. Upon information and belief, Mr. Brown is the individual who is defaming the Plaintiffs on <u>www.stephen-pierce-scam.com</u>, as described below.

6. Defendant Coastal Vacations is a business which is registered as residing in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and may be served with process at

7. The Court has subject-matter jurisdiction over all claims in this action because the amount in controversy exceeds the court's minimum jurisdictional requirements.

8. The Court has personal jurisdiction over the Defendants because Defendants operate a defamatory website specifically directed at the Plaintiffs in Texas, and intended to cause harm in Texas. Defendants are well aware of where Plaintiffs' home forum is; on their website they state, "in Stephen Pierce [sic] home town of Dallas." Additionally, multiple posters reference both "Dallas" and "Texas" activities on Defendants' defamatory website.

9. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to TEX CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE \$15.002(a)(1), as the events giving rise to the claim occurred in Dallas County, Texas.

## III.

## FACTUAL BACKGROUND

10. Plaintiffs Stephen Pierce and Stephen Pierce International, Inc., provide education and training with respect to internet marketing. For example, they provide customers consulting,

seminars, videos, written materials, and other programs which are designed to teach individuals and businesses how to effectively use the internet to market their business.

11. Upon information and belief, Defendants, Dale Brown and Coastal Vacations have created the website <u>www.stephen-pierce-scam.com</u> which attacks and defames Plaintiffs Stephen Pierce and Stephen Pierce International, Inc., and their business. Among other things, Defendants describe Plaintiffs' entire business as a "scam" in each of the following ways:

- <u>"www.steph en -pierce-s c am.com"</u>
- Stephen Pierce Scam"
- "Stephen Pierce Scam discovery"

12. A scam is defined as "a fraudulent business scheme." <u>See</u> Webster's Online Dictionary. Plaintiffs' business is not a scam, nor is it a fraudulent business scheme. Plaintiffs inform potential customers of a price for various programs to educate them on internet marketing. When the customers pay for the programs, Plaintiffs provide legitimate programs, as advertised. Plaintiffs do not guarantee any outcome from their programs, and expressly disclaim any particular result from buying the training programs.

13. Defendants have removed the website from the Internet, but applicable pages that were, at one time, published on the Internet are attached as Exhibits A, B, and C to this Complaint.

14. Plaintiffs, have, until the actions of Defendants, had an excellent reputation in the field of internet business marketing. Plaintiffs conduct a large amount of their business on the internet, and therefore their reputation on the internet is critical to their business.

15. However, whenever one of Plaintiffs' potential clients search for the terms "Stephen Pierce," or "Stephen Pierce International, Inc.," on Google or other internet search engines, many find the false and defamatory statements published by Defendants.

16. Plaintiffs have been irreparably damaged and suffered significant monetary damages, in an amount to be proven at trial, because of Defendants' defamatory website and statements.

## IV.

## **CAUSES OF ACTION**

## A. <u>Count One – Defamation</u>

17. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate the allegations set forth in the preceding paragraphs as if set forth in full herein.

18. Defendants published statements by written communication on the Internet at <u>www.stephen-pierce-scam.com</u> asserting as fact that Plaintiffs' business is a "scam."

19. The statements are directed towards Plaintiffs.

20. The statements are false because Plaintiffs' business is not a scam or fraudulent, it is a legitimate internet marketing business.

21. Plaintiffs supply their customers with programs that educate them on how to

effectively market their business on the internet.

22. Defendants' statements are defamatory because they:

- a. Injure Plaintiffs' reputation and thereby expose Plaintiffs to public hatred, contempt, ridicule, or financial injury;
- b. Impeach Plaintiffs' honesty, integrity, virtue, and reputation; and
- c. Injure Plaintiffs in their occupations or professions.

23. The defamatory statements require no proof of their injurious character because they were obviously hurtful to Plaintiffs, as the statements have imputations of criminal conduct.

24. Defendants made the statements either negligently, knowingly, or with reckless disregard for their falsity.

25. Defendants' false statements directly and proximately caused injury to Plaintiffs, which resulted in damages in an amount to be determined by the trier of fact.

26. Defendants' unlawful conduct was wanton, willful, and malicious, warranting the imposition of exemplary damages in an amount to be determined by the trier of fact.

26. Defendants' conduct also constitutes violations of TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 73.001, for which Plaintiffs seek to recover.

## a. <u>Request for Declaratory Judgment</u>

27. Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate the allegations set forth in the preceding paragraphs as if set forth in full herein.

28. As Defendants have placed Plaintiffs' character publicly at issue, Plaintiffs request pursuant to TEX. CIV. PRAC. & REM. CODE § 37.003 (Uniform Declaratory Judgments Act) that the Court determine that Plaintiffs are entitled to a declaratory judgment that Defendants' statements are false.

## b. <u>Request for Permanent Injunctive Relief</u>

29. As Defendants have placed Plaintiffs' character publicly at issue, Plaintiffs request pursuant to

## B. <u>Count Two – Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress</u>

30. Plaintiff Stephen Pierce realleges and incorporates the allegations set forth in the preceding paragraphs as if set forth in full herein.

31. Defendant's conduct, posting false and incredibly derogatory statements regarding Mr. Pierce and his business, was intentional or reckless.

32. Additionally, the posting of the false statements by Defendants was outrageous or intolerable.

33. As a direct result of this conduct by Defendants, Mr. Pierce suffered severe emotional distress.

## V.

#### JURY DEMAND

34. Plaintiffs demand a jury trial for the claims for damages and has tendered the appropriate fee.

#### VI.

#### **PRAYER**

For the foregoing reasons, Plaintiffs ask that the Court issue citation for Defendants to appear and answer, and that Plaintiffs be awarded a judgment against Defendants for the following:

- a. Permanent Injunctive relief that issues the following orders to Defendants, Dale Brown and Coastal Vacations, including their agents, servants, employees, independent contractors, attorneys, representatives, and those persons or entities in active concert or participation with them (collectively, the "Restrained Parties"):
  - i. Remove the website at the address: <u>www.stephen-pierce-scam.com</u>.
  - ii. Prohibiting the Restrained Parties from making any false statements of fact or statements that imply false statements of fact, publicly or to any

person, orally or by written means, including but not limited to email and on the Internet, that defame or disparage Plaintiffs; and

- iii. Mandating that the Restrained Parties take all action, including, but not limited to, requesting removal from the Internet search engines including Google, Yahoo!, and Bing, to remove all defamatory, disparaging, libelous, and false statements about Plaintiffs that Defendant posted on the Internet, including but not limited to the statements on the Internet at <u>www.stephen-pierce-scam.com</u>.
- iv. Mandating, as it is foreseeable, that the above-referenced URL and the statements contained thereon will be referenced on additional webpages in the future, including but not limited to index, directory, and search results pages, that the Restrained Parties take all actions, including requesting removal from the Internet search engines Google, Yahoo!, and Bing, to remove all such webpages from the Internet;
- b. Declaratory judgment that Defendants' statements about Plaintiffs on the Internet are false;
- c. Actual damages in an amount to be determined by the trier of fact;
- d. Exemplary damages in an amount to be determined by the trier of fact;
- e. Prejudgment and post-judgment interest at the highest rate(s) allowed by law;
- f. Reasonable and necessary attorneys' fees in prosecuting its claims through trial and, if necessary, through appeal;
- g. Costs of court; and;
- h. Such other further relief which this Court may deem just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Kulin

Paul B. Kerlin State Bar No. 24044480 VORYS, SATER, SEYMOUR AND PEASE LLP 700 Louisiana Street, Suite 4100 Houston, TX 77002 Tel: (713) 588-7004 Fax: 713.588.7054 Email: pbkerlin@vorys.com

Counsel for Plaintiffs Stephen Pierce and Stephen Pierce International, Inc.

Of Counsel

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Exhibit A

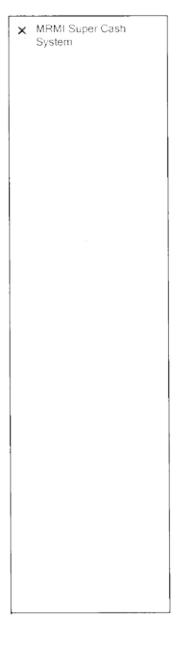
# **Stephen Pierce Scam**

# **Stephen Pierce Scam discovery**

- Home
- <u>About</u>

## About

This is an example of a WordPress page, you could edit this to put information about yourself or your site so readers know where you are coming from. You can create as many pages like this one or sub-pages as you like and manage all of your content inside of WordPress.

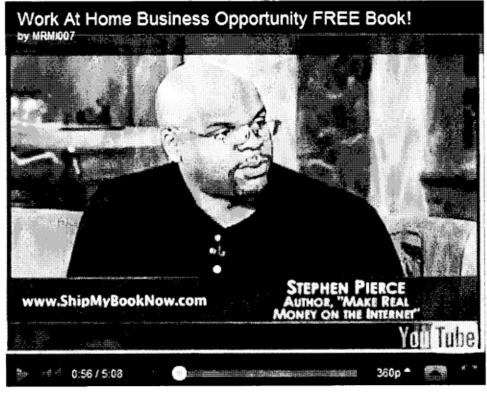


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Exhibit B



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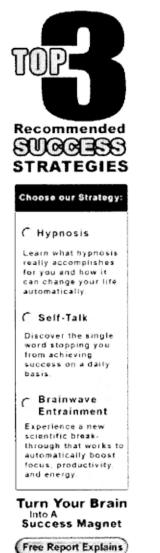
Click below to discover what Mark discovered



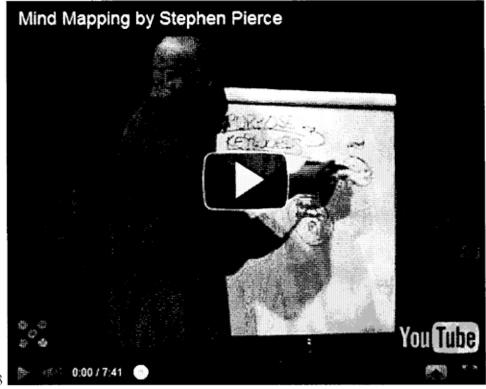
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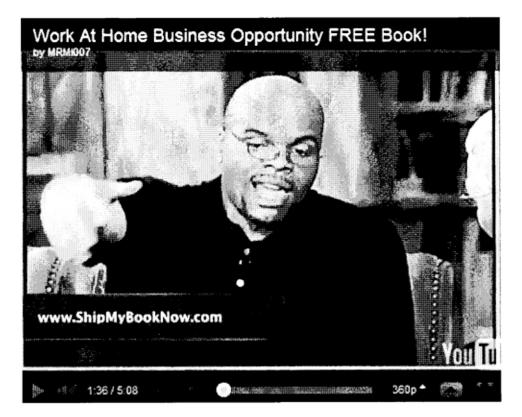
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# **Stephen Pierce Scam**

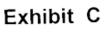
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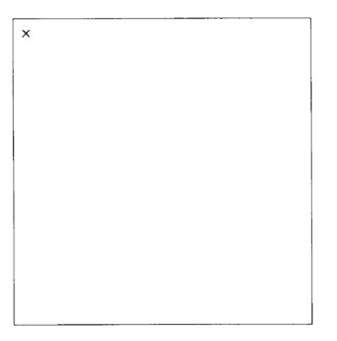
- Home
- About

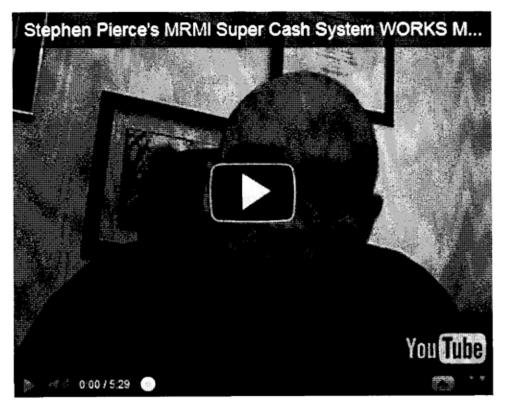
## **Stephen Pierce – Interview**



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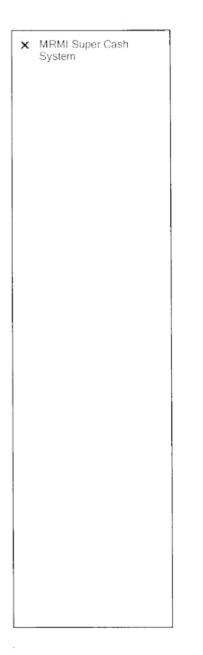




# Stephen Pierce



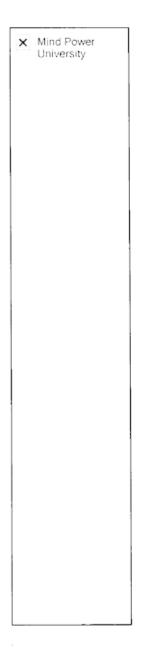
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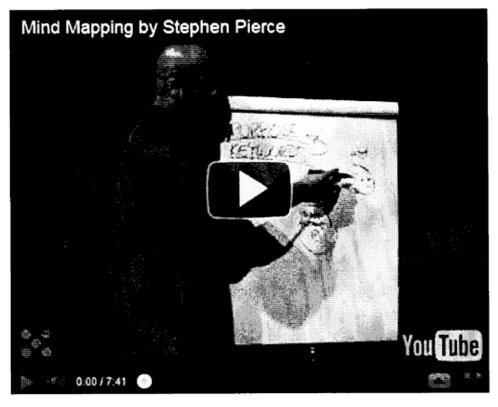
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# Stephen Pierce - On Sales





# **OptiMindZation - Mind Mapping**



# Super Cash System Review and Proof – Positive



Saturday, January 8th, 2011UncategorizedNo Comments



# Make Real Money On the Internet – Review Positive

Saturday, January 8th, 2011UncategorizedNo Comments

# Preview of Super-Cash Review - Negative



# <image>

## Make Real Money On the Internet – Positive review

Saturday, January 8th, 2011UncategorizedNo Comments



Saturday, January 8th, 2011UncategorizedNo Comments

X MRMI Super Cash System

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