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**Move to Reverse Decision on Liability
Of Operators of File Sharing Services Gets New Boost,
Distinguished Group of Creators, Businesses and Legal Experts
Weigh In With Court of Appeals**

The effort to reverse the district court decision that held “file sharing” services Grokster and Morpheus not liable for the rampant copyright infringement on their networks received a new boost with the filing of four friend-of-the-court briefs by a distinguished and diverse group of legal academics, members of the creative community, legitimate online entertainment services, and the major international organizations representing rights owners.

The briefs argue that the copyright infringement decision rendered by U.S. District Court Judge Stephen Wilson was wrong and should be overturned by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

The four separate briefs were filed by:

- **Distinguished group of copyright experts and law professors**: Roger Milgrim, professor of law at New York University School of Law; Arthur Miller, the Bruce Bromley Professor of Law at Harvard Law School; Neil Boorstyn, counsel at Bingham McCutcheon LLP and former Special Master in the Napster case; Jay Dougherty, Professor of Law at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles; James Gibson, who teaches intellectual property and computer law at the University of Richmond School of Law; Robert Gorman, the Kenneth W. Gemmill Professor of Law Emeritus, University of Pennsylvania; Hugh Hansen, professor of law at Fordham University School of Law; Douglas Lichtman, professor at the University of Chicago Law School; Eric Schwartz, Adjunct Professor of Law at the Georgetown University Law Center and a partner at the intellectual property law firm Smith & Metalitz LLP.

- **Leading members of copyright community**: American Film Marketing Association, American Society of Media Photographers, Association for Independent Music, Association of American Publishers, Association of American University Presses, Association of Independent Music Publishers, CMPA-Action Fund, Entertainment Software Association, Graphic Artists Guild, Imageline, Inc., Interactive Entertainment Merchants Association, Music Performance Trust Funds, Office of the Commissioner of Baseball (Major League Baseball), Recording Artists Coalition, Rhythm & Blues Foundation, SESAC, Inc., Video Software Dealers Association, National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, National Association of Recording Merchandisers, American Federation of Musicians, American Federation of Television and Radio

Artists, American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers, Authors Guild, The Broadcast Music, Inc., Directors Guild of America, Inc., Producers Guild of America, Screen Actors Guild, Songwriters Guild of America

- **International rights owner organizations**: Bureau International des Sociétés Gérant les Droits d'Enregistrement et de Reproduction Mécanique (BIEM), International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers (CISAC), International Confederation of Music Publishers (ICMP), International Federation of the Phonographic Industry (IFPI), International Federation of Actors (FIA), International Federation of Film Producers Associations (FIAPF), International Federation of Musicians (FIM), International Publishers Association (IPA), International Video Federation (IVF)
- **Legitimate online entertainment distributors**: BuyMusic, Echo, Full Audio, Liquid Audio, MusicNet, MusicRebellion, Pressplay

Last week, the motion picture studios, record companies and music publishers (and the songwriting community they represent) officially appealed the district court's April ruling to the Court of Appeals.

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Contacts: Amy Weiss, Jonathan Lamy, Amanda Collins (RIAA) 202-775-0101
Cary Ramos (NMPA) 212-373-3240
Rich Taylor (MPAA) 202-293-1966
Karen Wright (MPAA) 202-293-1966