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Cardi B, Tasha K Fight Returns to South Florida Bankruptcy Court

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Daily Business Review | Lisa Willis

The latest chapter in the long-running legal fight between rapper Cardi B and blogger Tasha K has moved from defamation damages to bankruptcy enforcement, with a South Florida judge finding the blogger in civil contempt and sanctioning her attorney over false legal citations under [Bankruptcy Rule 9011](#).

According to a [transcript](#) of proceedings provided by Cardi B's counsel, the citations contained artificial intelligence-generated hallucinations, though the court did not specifically allude to misuse of AI in its [sanctions order](#).

The dispute stems from Cardi B's nearly \$4 million defamation judgment against Latasha Kebe, known online as Tasha K. Kebe, who later filed for bankruptcy in South Florida, where her confirmed plan included a nondisparagement provision barring her from making certain comments about Cardi B.

Meland Budwick partner [Jim Moon](#), who represents Cardi B, said the issue was less about silencing speech than enforcing a deal Kebe made in bankruptcy court.

The case is also part of Moon's expanding entertainment litigation practice at the Miami firm. Before representing Cardi B, Moon represented Greenteam Studio in a dispute involving rapper Sukihana and obtained sanctions for his client. He has since represented artists and entertainers including Mary J. Blige and Cardi B.

"What my client primarily concerned about with respect to the nondisparagement clause in the confirmation order is just simply making sure that ... Tasha K would



comply with her obligations,” Moon said. “We had to bring back to the court the fact that unfortunately she kept ... breaching the terms of the confirmation order, which was in reality her agreement.”

The bankruptcy court found Kebe in civil contempt, ordered her to remove content referencing Cardi B and others and awarded attorneys’ fees tied to monitoring and enforcing the plan. The court also addressed a separate issue involving Kebe’s lawyer, Fort Lauderdale bankruptcy attorney Chad Van Horn of Van Horn Law Group, whose filing included citations Moon said did not check out.

Moon said he discovered the problem the old-fashioned way: by pulling and reading the cases. “One of the cases that he cited, I couldn’t find anywhere,” Moon said. “It just didn’t exist, so that told me, okay, well, this is probably a hallucination.”

Moon said other cited cases existed, but did not support the propositions for which they were cited. After Moon filed a reply, Van Horn filed a notice correcting the record and withdrew the citations, Moon said.

For lawyers, Moon said, the alleged AI issue is a warning that technology does not replace professional obligations.

“The courts around the country are having to deal with the issue of AI and people using it, and it’s a great tool,” Moon said. “I have nothing against it, but ... it’s kind of like having a first-year associate. You can use it for some things, but you’ve got to make sure you check and verify everything.”

Van Horn said in an emailed statement that he accepted responsibility for the citation errors.

“This issue was addressed in court several weeks ago,” Van Horn said. “I acknowledged citation errors in a filing, apologized to the court and accepted responsibility. The court accepted my apology and imposed a limited sanction tied



to 10% of the fees awarded for the reply addressing those issues. I respect the court's ruling, and my focus remains on representing my client professionally and complying with the court's orders."

For Moon and his client, June 3 is the next deadline to file an affidavit for attorneys' fees.

"What awarded us was for monitoring and dealing with all of the violations of the nondisparagement clause in the confirmation order," Moon said. "He's given us our attorney's fees dealing with that aspect, going back to the confirmation hearing, which was March of last year, and then the second component of the sanctions, the debtor has to pay us our attorneys' fees for researching and dealing with replying to their responses."

Moon said the sanctions ruling also underscores that lawyers' duties to the court are not optional.

"We all have to be reminded to be careful when we use AI," Moon said. "It's not just a matter of professional integrity—we actually have obligations to the court, whether it's under Rule 9011 or under the Florida rules of professional conduct."

The case also raises broader questions about free speech and bankruptcy plans.

Moon said Kebe's references to other celebrity speech disputes, including litigation involving rapper Megan Thee Stallion and blogger Milagro Cooper, miss a key distinction: Kebe agreed to the nondisparagement clause as part of her bankruptcy plan. "It's really important to understand that even your free speech rights ... you can waive that in an agreement," Moon said. "You can contract away from whatever rights you might otherwise have, and that's exactly what she did."

For Moon, the takeaway is twofold: Litigants cannot use bankruptcy to avoid agreed obligations, and lawyers cannot rely on unchecked AI research in court filings.



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“This is a cautionary tale about making sure you check your citations,” said Moon.

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