

Piracy Dealt Another Blow as Court Rules Against Providers of Shava and Cres Streaming TV Services

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In another blow to peddlers of illicit video piracy services, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia ruled to shut down unauthorized digital streaming and distribution by the providers of the Shava and Cres TV set-top boxes and awarded more than \$25 million in damages.

"This decision reinforces the fact that services streaming video without copyright authorization are blatant infringers and will be held accountable by the courts," said Alex Fonoroff, senior corporate counsel at DISH. "Enforcement efforts are underway, and as ISPs terminate service to the Shava and Cres networks we expect to see piracy on these boxes come to an end."

"Perpetrators of pirate TV services think they can get away with it, but as this ruling proves, it's only a matter of time before the law puts an end to illegal streaming schemes," said Jaideep Janakiram, SVP International Business- Head of the Americas at Sony, whose subsidiary MSM Asia Ltd. was a plaintiff in the case. "The defendants deceived customers by illegally using our broadcast feed and logo, making the service look legitimate. Dealers and consumers must educate themselves on legal alternatives, otherwise, they will continue to waste their money on products that will become worthless."

Filed in June 2015, the lawsuit brought claims for copyright infringement, trademark infringement and unfair competition by the makers of the Shava TV and Cres IPTV devices, which retransmitted Arabic and South Asian entertainment. The defendants profited by capturing live broadcast signals of protected channels, then transcoding those signals for Internet streaming. They then retransmitted the channels using a peer-to-peer network, in which users of the box inadvertently send content to other users.

In addition to the unauthorized transmission of video content, the providers of the Shava and Cres streaming services also unlawfully used logos and trademarks of the plaintiffs, giving the false impression that the service was legitimate.

The court awarded a total of \$25,650,000 in damages to plaintiffs for unauthorized distribution of copyrighted works. Plaintiffs in the case include DISH Network L.L.C., Al Jazeera Media Network, Asia TV USA Ltd., B4U U.S., Inc., GEO USA LLC, Impress Telefilm, Inc., MBC FZ LLC, MSM Asia Ltd., Soundview Broadcasting LLC, Soundview ATN LLC, Star India Private Ltd. and Viacom18 Media Private Limited.

Following the ruling, the plaintiffs are working with ISPs, CDN's and others to enforce the injunction.

A copy of the judgement can be found [here](#), and the original complaint can be found [here](#).

DISH Network Corp. (NASDAQ:DISH), through its subsidiaries, provides approximately 13.671 million pay-TV subscribers, as of Dec. 31, 2016, with the highest-quality programming and technology with the most choices at the best value. DISH offers a high definition line-up with more than 200 national HD channels, the most international channels and award-winning HD and DVR technology. DISH Network Corporation is a Fortune 200 company. Visit www.dish.com.

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