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## Ex-EBay CEO Taps Heavy Hitters In Couple's Stalking Case - Law360

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By [Brian Dowling](#)

Law360 (September 13, 2021, 2:55 PM EDT) -- Former [eBay](#) chief executive Devin Wenig has hired two prominent white-collar attorneys to defend against a civil suit claiming he's partly responsible for a harassment campaign targeting a blogging couple over their critical reporting on the e-commerce company.

The pair — Abbe David Lowell of [Winston & Strawn LLP](#) and Martin G. Weinberg — convinced U.S. District Judge Douglas P. Woodlock on Monday to grant Wenig extra time to respond to the [racketeering suit](#) "given the length and breadth of the 366-paragraph complaint." He now has until Oct. 28 to respond.

In June 2020, federal prosecutors unveiled [stalking and conspiracy charges](#) against a team of eBay employees who allegedly carried out an online and in-person conspiracy to intimidate and harass David and Ina Steiner, a Natick, Massachusetts, couple who run the EcommerceBytes blog.

Wenig and eBay's former communications chief Steve Wymer were not criminally charged. But the Steiners' civil suit, filed in July, named them as defendants alongside others ensnared in the criminal case: James Baugh, David Harville, Brian Gilbert, Stephanie Popp, Stephanie Stockwell, Veronica Zea and Philip Cooke.

Baugh and Harville have pled not guilty and are fighting the charges, while the others have copped pleas.

The co-chair of Winston Strawn LLP's white collar practice, Lowell has represented a who's who of public figures who found themselves on the wrong end of civil or criminal actions, including [U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez](#) of New Jersey, former U.S. Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina and [lobbyist Jack Abramoff](#).

Lowell, who began his career at the [U.S. Department of Justice](#) in the 1970s, recently represented former [U.S. Army Green Beret Michael Taylor](#) and his son Peter Taylor against Japan's [efforts to extradite them](#) to face charges they helped disgraced former Nissan boss Carlos Ghosn escape the country.

He also was hired by former President Donald Trump's son-in-law [Jared Kushner](#), who was targeted by federal and congressional investigators for alleged dealings with Russians during the 2016 presidential campaign.

Weinberg, based in Boston, represented Insys Therapeutics Inc. founder John Kapoor in a [federal case](#) against him and others at the company over a scheme to bribe doctors to prescribe opioids. He also represented Miami real estate investor [Robert Zangrillo](#) against charges in the "Varsity Blues" college admissions case and defended State Street executive [Ross McLellan](#) against federal wire fraud and securities fraud charges.

Weinberg is currently defending [David DeQuattro](#), an architect, against charges that he paid bribes to a Massachusetts tribal chairman to keep a design contract for a proposed casino.

Weinberg declined to comment on representing Wenig when reached Monday, and Lowell was not immediately available for comment. The Steiners' attorney Rosemary C. Scapicchio also declined to comment when reached Monday.

EBay's internal investigation into the alleged stalking incident unearthed inappropriate communications by Wenig, but "no evidence that he knew in advance or authorized the actions" directed at the Steiners, the company has said. He left the company in September 2019, before the charges were filed.

The civil suit claimed Wenig and Wymer provided the other employees "carte blanche authority to terminate the reporting of the Steiners by whatever means necessary."

The Steiners are represented by Rosemary C. Scapicchio, Jillise McDonough and Laura Panos.

Wenig is represented by Abbe David Lowell of Winston & Strawn LLP and Marting G. Weinberg of [Martin G. Weinberg Law PC](#).

The case is Steiner et al. v. eBay et al., case number [1:21-cv-11181](#), in the [U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts](#).

--Editing by Philip Shea.

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