

PLAINTIFF IN LAWSUIT AGAINST WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION, VINCE MCMAHON AND LINDA MCMAHON RESPONDS TO COMMENTS MADE BY LINDA MCMAHON ABOUT THE LAWSUIT

Boston, Mass., June 27, 2010 — Martha Hart, the widow of professional wrestler Owen Hart and the plaintiff in a lawsuit against the World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE), its chairman and CEO Vince McMahon and its former CEO Linda McMahon, responded today to comments made by Linda McMahon on the WFSB television program, “Face the State” broadcast earlier today.

Owen Hart was killed in a May 1999 stunt orchestrated by the World Wrestling Federation (as WWE was then known) when he fell 78 feet while being lowered into the wrestling ring at the Kemper Arena in Kansas City, Mo. A wrongful death lawsuit filed by Mrs. Hart against the McMahons and the WWF led to a multi-million settlement for Mrs. Hart the following year.

On today’s program, Linda McMahon – who was CEO of WWE until 2009 and who had signed Owen Hart’s final contract with the WWF -- said, “The accident with Owen Hart really happened 11 years ago, and it was a devastating accident that Owen Hart lost his life. And I think Vince (McMahon) and I and WWE and fans of WWE; our hearts and souls went out really to Martha and her two young children. It was our desire to make sure that Martha and those children were cared for for the rest of their lives. And that’s what we were able to do.”

In response to Linda McMahon’s comments, Mrs. Hart said today, “I find Linda McMahon’s comments duplicitous and insulting. It is important to set the record straight: Linda McMahon was in charge for the majority of the unfair and deceptive practices that are at the heart of this lawsuit. Furthermore, Linda McMahon’s expressed desire to take care of me and my family was demonstrated in a rather odd manner, because she and Vince McMahon directed the WWE to sue me because I had the nerve to pursue a wrongful death claim following Owen’s death, which was the result of the reckless stunt orchestrated by the McMahons and the World Wrestling Federation. Linda McMahon aspires to be a compassionate leader. So let’s see Linda demonstrate some compassionate leadership and encourage her husband and WWE to do the right thing.”

Mrs. Hart’s lawsuit seeks to enjoin the WWE from further use of Owen Hart’s name and likeness, and seeks compensation for Owen Hart’s estate for unpaid royalties as well as damages for breach of contract, copyright infringement, unjust enrichment, accounting and unfair and deceptive trade practices.

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