

U.S. Olympian files suit and challenges International Olympic Committee in Swiss court

LOS ANGELES, Calif., Sept. 15, 2015 (SEND2PRESS NEWSWIRE) – U.S. Olympian Justin Reiter (2014 – Sochi Winter Olympics US Alpine Snowboarding National Team), who rose to national fame in 2013 as the Olympic athlete who had made his pickup truck his home in order to afford top level training, has filed suit in Switzerland against the International Olympic Committee (“IOC”) seeking to modify the schedule for the 2018 and 2022 Winter Olympics. The first hearing in the case will take place this Friday, Sept. 18, 2015, in Lausanne Switzerland.

Following the sudden removal by the IOC, of an Alpine Snowboarding Olympic Event from the 2018 and 2022 Winter Olympics, Reiter filed suit seeking to undo the IOC’s removal. For this legal battle, Reiter has retained two law attorneys: Filippo Marchino, of The X-Law Group PC, a litigation firm based in Los Angeles, CA with a practice emphasis on complex plaintiff litigation and Rocco Taminelli, of Studio Legale Taminelli, a Switzerland based litigation firm specialized in Sporting regulations and international sporting sanctioning bodies.

“This is the first time this has ever happened,” said Reiter. “No Athlete has ever filed suit against the IOC, in the IOC’s own backyard in Lausanne Switzerland, seeking to reinstate an Olympic event,” added Reiter in an interview this morning. A cursory review of past IOC litigation in Switzerland confirms Reiter’s statement: it is a true novelty that a single athlete takes on an entire Olympic Committee for the benefit of an entire discipline.



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“In this litigation, not only on a personal level, Reiter’s professional future is at stake – just like the future of all other athletes with Olympic aspirations,” commented Mr. Taminelli. “This suit is also about the future of an entire winter sport on the world’s center stage, the winter Olympics. We believe that what the IOC did – in removing Parallel Snowboarding Slalom from the roster of the 2018 and 2022 Olympics – was not only not justified, but was further undertaken in violation of established laws and legal principles,” added Taminelli.

“Laws and principles are in place for a very good reason, and we certainly do not take lightly in suing the IOC,” said Marchino. “However, we cannot stand by, and do nothing, while the IOC forgets that it is a sanctioning body that should work for the athletes and not against them,” concluded Marchino.

To afford the otherwise prohibitively expensive litigation fees and costs of such an endeavor, Reiter turned to the snowboarding and sporting community in general, and this morning launched a crowdfunding page on Rallyme.com. “I believe fans, amateurs, and professional athletes alike will all back my efforts to rectify this situation,” concluded Reiter.

The RallyMe page can be found at:

<https://www.rallyme.com/rallies/2137/justin-reiter-challenges-the-ioc>.

Case Number: CC15.032135 vze

Court: TRIBUNAL D’ARRONDISSEMENT DE LAUSANNE, Switzerland.

Video: https://youtu.be/DJuR_7nOVrE.

Follow Justin on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/justin.reiter.96>.

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News issued by: Justin Reiter



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Original Story ID: 2015-0915-08 (10503) :: us-olympian-files-suit-and-challenges-international-olympic-committee-in-swiss-court-2015-0915-08

Original Keywords: Filippo Marchino, Alpine Snowboarding Olympic Event, IOC, Olympic athlete, 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics US Alpine Snowboarding National Team, Rocco Taminelli, of Studio Legale Taminelli Justin Reiter Los Angeles California LOS ANGELES, Calif.

Alternate Headline: The X-Law Group PC announces U.S. Olympian Justin Reiter files suit and challenges International Olympic Committee

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Original Shortcode for Story: <https://i.send2press.com/VXZww>