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## **Brothers Sue Beverly Hills Hotel and Beverly Hills Police Department For False Arrest and Brutality**

This morning Gary and Michael Snyder filed suit in federal court in Los Angeles against the Beverly Hills Hotel and the Beverly Hills Police Department ("BHPD") and their officers and employees for violating their rights in a July 23, 2005, incident at the Hotel. The suit arises out of an unprovoked attack on Gary Snyder by Hotel security guards.

"This lawsuit addresses the increasingly serious problem of private security firms violating people's rights with impunity," said Paul Hoffman, the lead attorney for the Snyder brothers in this federal civil rights action." "The federal courts have an important role to play in ensuring that private security officers treat people with respect and ensure that their basic civil rights are respected."

The suit is based on the following allegations concerning what happened on July 23, 2005: The incident began when the Snyder brothers and a friend spent several hours at the Hotel visiting with friends. Employees of the Hotel invited them to join them at the Hotel's famed Polo Lounge. While the Snyders were relaxing with friends at the Polo Lounge bar they were surrounded by menacing security guards and asked to leave the Hotel. No reason was given and a request to speak to a manager was denied.

On the way out of the Polo Lounge Gary Snyder turned to say something to his brother and was suddenly thrown against a door by Ryan Randall, the Hotel's Head of Security, and beaten. When Michael went to the scene he was tackled by security guard, Dexter Tennie, and his finger was broken. Both brothers were handcuffed in extremely tight cuffs that restricted the circulation of blood to their hands and caused them great pain. The Snyder brothers were treated with a callous indifference to their rights and in a manner designed to humiliate them in front of other customers of the Hotel and their friends.

The BHPD arrived at the scene and instead of investigating these unprovoked attacks or speaking with the Snyders or witnesses who saw what happened to them, arrested the Snyders at the behest of the Hotel and refused to loosen their overtight handcuffs. Subsequently, false police reports were prepared about the incident by BHPD officers. Charges against Gary Snyder were later dropped and no charges were ever filed against Michael Snyder.

The Snyders allege that their constitutional rights were violated based on their false arrest and detention and the pain imposed by the overtight handcuffing. They have also brought claims based on California statutory and common tort law against the Hotel, the BHPD and the individual defendants responsible for their mistreatment.

The complaint as filed will be posted on the SDSHH website: [www.sdshh.com](http://www.sdshh.com) and may be obtained from Paul Hoffman at [hoffpaul@aol.com](mailto:hoffpaul@aol.com).