

Case Summary

Ranta v. Ranta

2004 WL 504588 (Conn. Super. Feb. 25, 2004)

Party Ordered to Stop Using Laptop and Turn It Over to the Court

In a divorce proceeding, the judge ordered the plaintiff “to stop using, accessing, turning on, powering, copying, deleting, removing or uninstalling any programs, files and or folders, or booting up her laptop computer.”

Decision

The court order required the plaintiff to turn in her laptop to the court clerk’s office and to produce all floppy disks, CDs, and other similar storage devices. The cost of hiring a computer forensics expert would be split equally between the parties, and the forensics expert would be required to sign a confidentiality agreement. If the parties could not agree on a computer forensics expert, the court would make the selection from a list comprised of two recommendations by each party. The defendant was also ordered to purchase a replacement laptop for the plaintiff.

Production of Electronic Documents