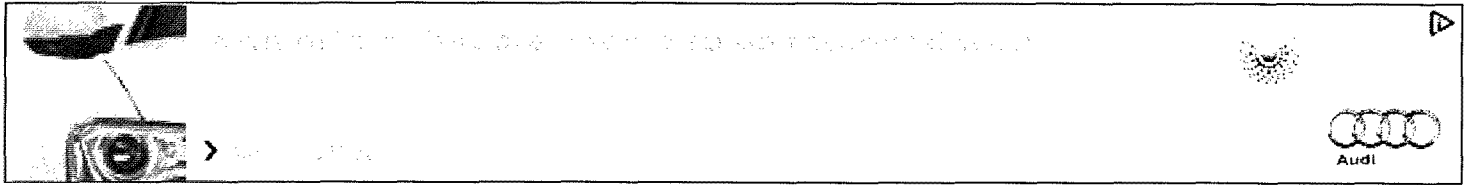


**EXHIBIT A**

**TO BOLLEA'S OBJECTION TO DAULERIO'S CLAIM OF  
EXEMPTION AND REQUEST FOR HEARING**



Tech / #HulkVsGawk

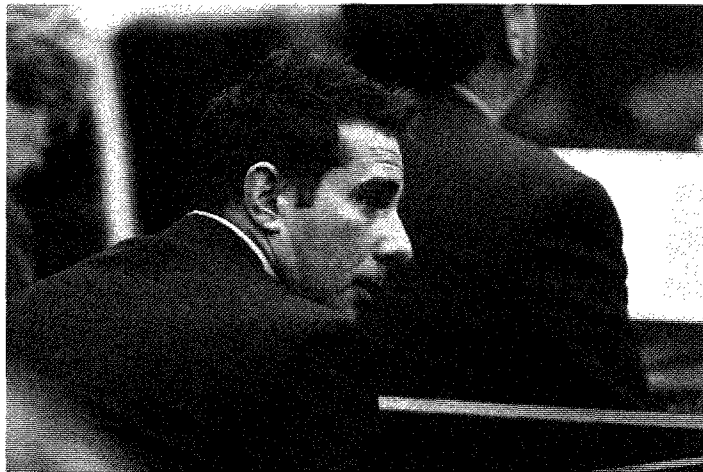
AUG 18, 2016 @ 08:08 PM 65,509 VIEWS

# Former Gawker Editor Lashes Out At Peter Thiel, Calls Freeze On His Checking Account 'Ludicrous'



**Matt Drange**, FORBES STAFF ✓

*I write about technology and money + power in Silicon Valley.* **FULL BIO** ✓



Former Gawker editor A.J. Daulerio sits in a Florida courtroom earlier this year during a trial against Terry Bollea, aka Hulk Hogan, over a story Daulerio wrote that included an excerpt of a sex tape featuring Hogan and his friend's wife. (Photo by John Pendygraft/Getty Images)

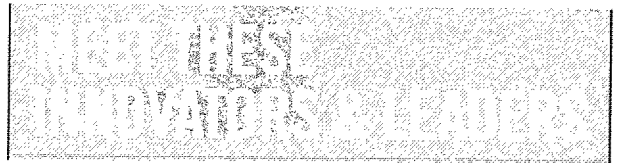
**By Matt Drange and Ryan Mac**



A.J. Daulerio, the ex-Gawker editor who wrote the 2012 story that originally included an excerpt of the Hulk Hogan sex tape he and his employer were successfully sued over, lashed out at Peter Thiel on Thursday. Daulerio questioned the motives of going after his personal assets to satisfy a portion of the \$140.1 million judgement in the case.

“It’s ludicrous that a billionaire like Peter Thiel is spending his wealth on lawyers to freeze my \$1,500 bank account and figure out the value of my rice cooker and old furniture,” Daulerio told FORBES in a statement. “If Mr. Thiel really believed in the First Amendment, he would not be funding lawyers to chase my meager assets and instead would try to justify the \$115.1 million verdict in front of an appeals court. Instead, he’s using his fortune to hold me hostage to settle a decade-long grudge that has nothing to do with me or Hulk Hogan.”

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As FORBES first revealed in May, Thiel financed Hogan's lawsuit as part of an effort to bring down the media company. Daulerio's comments are his first public statements about case since the jury awarded its verdict in March.

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The judgement, awarded to Hogan (real name: Terry Bollea) earlier this year after a Florida jury found that Gawker invaded the former wrestler's privacy, triggered a series of events that culminated today in the approval of Gawker Media's sale to media conglomerate Univision. Daulerio is jointly liable, along with Gawker's parent company and Denton, for \$115.1 million of the judgement. Daulerio, however, is the only defendant in the case who hasn't filed for bankruptcy protection. Hogan's lawyers are now going after Daulerio, even though he has told the court he is essentially broke.

In a signed affidavit submitted to the court



Count, all of s attorneys.

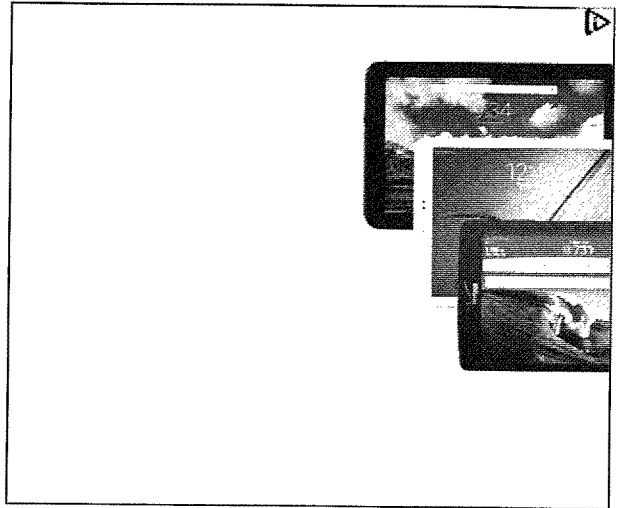
HERE ARE THE INNOVATORS & LEADERS

with student loan debt and credit card debt, Daulerio's net worth is negative, according to his affidavit. Daulerio was deposed for hours on Wednesday afternoon about his assets.

Thiel declined to comment through a spokesman. In an op-ed published by the New York Times in advance of Gawker's auction earlier this week, Thiel said that "cruelty and recklessness were intrinsic parts of Gawker's business model." He condemned the website for blurring the line between an individual's right to privacy and the public interest. "For my part, I am proud to have contributed financial support to his case. I will support him until his final victory — Gawker said it intends to appeal — and I would gladly support someone else in the same position."

Denton announced earlier on Thursday that Gawker's flagship website, Gawker.com, will cease to exist after next week. Denton, who is expected to leave once the sale he negotiated with Univision is completed next month, told staff that he was unable "to find a single media company or investor willing also to take on Gawker.com. The campaign being mounted against its editorial ethos and former writers has made it too risky."

Lawyers for Hogan declined to comment, but are expected to continue pursuing Daulerio in the coming weeks, starting with a review of his bank statements going back four years. Daulerio is living in a short-term apartment in Florida, and hasn't worked since shutting down the startup he founded after leaving



Daulerio is due back in court on Oct. 31, when he will face possible sanctions from the court for allegedly misrepresenting the value of his limited shares in Gawker Media.


Before the company filed for bankruptcy in June, Daulerio and Denton pledged all of their shares as collateral while Gawker's lawyers appeal the verdict in the case.


Daulerio doesn't have his own attorney, and Gawker's request to cover the cost of his continued legal defense is currently pending with a federal judge in New York (Hogan's lawyers objected to the request, arguing that it would constitute a conflict of interest).

Gregg Leslie, the legal defense director for the Reporter's Committee for Freedom of the Press, said the case is exceptional. Leslie's organization represents news outlets around the country, and is unaware of any case where an individual journalist has had to pay the lion's share of a jury verdict. "It's hard to say whether it's a particularly vindictive streak on [Hogan's] part, or is the just the normal way they do business, where you win a verdict and go after anything you can," Leslie said. "It certainly starts to look like an act of harassment if you aren't ever going to recover anything meaningful from the person and you are dragging them through it."

Follow Ryan on Twitter at @rkmac18 or email him at rmac@forbes.com. Follow Matt on Twitter at @MattDrange or email him at mdrange@forbes.com.

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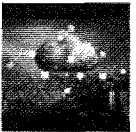


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