

MACFACTS

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'One More Thing...'

A MESSAGE FROM DRU

Snow Leopard, Apple's new est iteration of it's OS X franchise, is set to go on sale on Friday August 28. See Page 3 for more info and see Page 2 for system requirements to see if your Mac can run in the Snow.

The Apple Corps of Dallas will be holding it's next meeting on Saturday September 12th at the Richardson Civic Center (Central Expy and Arapaho). Discussion topic will be, you guessed it, Snow Leopard! If you want to get a 'hands-on' experience with the big cat before you buy, or just want to find out some more about it, be there at 10 am. Kid safe and FREE!

I guess its time, once again, to remind y'all that my regular business hours are Sunday through Friday, 8:30 am - 5:30 pm. We're closed on Saturday. Sunday is a regular work day (for me) so there's no extra charge for my coming to your place to work on Sundays.

Thanks to y'all I've been selling 'Pre-Loved' Macs like crazy these past few months. But we still have a few in stock. Prices start at \$325...for a G4 Tower with a LCD flat panel display...and go up from there. Now is the time to get that extra computer you know you need.

Now that singing partner, Dianne, has successfully completed her 500-hour course to become a yoga instructor, I guess we can start playing gigs again. And it just so happens, that we have a new venue to play at. And you're all invited to join us at:

neuhaus chocolates

626 Preston Royal Shopping Center

(NW corner of Preston & Royal)

Saturday, September 26th

6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

NO COVER CHARGE!

Food and Beverages available

*Come enjoy great food, dazzling beverages,
and then there's the chocolate. Oh yeah...
Lotsa chocolate!*

For all our Muslim client/friends, Happy Ramadan! May forgiveness for past sins, guidance and help in refraining from everyday evils, and purification through self-restraint and good deeds be yours.

More about Ramadan here - <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ramadan>

PAGE 2 - FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Snow Leopard system requirements

Apple has announced Snow Leopard's availability, and have links to it from their website's home page. Since this announcement, there have been many inquiries about whether or not a certain system will run the new operating system.

The basic requirements for Snow Leopard are as follows:

An Apple computer with an Intel Processor

1GB of Memory (RAM)

5GB of hard drive space (Storage)

DVD drive for installation

The full set of system requirements can be found at Apple's website at the following page: <http://www.apple.com/macosx/specs.html>.

While the DVD drive is mentioned, it is not actually required to install Leopard though will make things easier. You can use another computer's drive or a disk image to install Snow Leopard. While previous versions of OS X have required you to boot from the installation media, Snow Leopard copies the installer files from the media to the hard drive and then installs from there.

PowerPC Support: NONE!

Snow Leopard will not run on any PowerPC system, even PowerPC G5 systems that are 64-bit capable. If you have a PowerBook G4, iBook G4, PowerMac G4, Mac Mini (G4), iMac G4, iMac G5, or PowerMac G5, do not buy Snow Leopard since you will not be able to install it. Apple has split away from PowerPC, and while there

are technical reasons for why the 64-bit architecture in the PowerPC will not work with the latest OS, the fact that Apple has switched architectures is the primary reason for the drop in support.

PowerPC machines will still run Leopard and have most of the features (user experience enhancements) of Snow Leopard, but will not be able to run the optimized code that Apple has put into Snow Leopard. The main differences between Snow Leopard and Leopard are under the hood, so in terms of the operating environment you will not miss much by still running Leopard on your PowerPC system.

You can check to see what kind of processor you have by opening "System Profiler" in your "Utilities" folder and highlighting the "Hardware" section. The processor should be identified in there. Alternatively you can enter the command "machine" in the terminal to see what kind of processor you have. If the output contains "PPC" in the name, then you have a PowerPC processor:

PowerPC system:

```
Tophers-Computer:~tkessler
$ machine PPC970
```

Intel system:

```
Tophers-Laptop:~tkessler$
machine i486
```

My desktop computer (PPC970) will not run Snow Leopard, but I will be able to install it on my laptop (i486).

UPDATE: An additional and quick way to check what kind of processor you have is to go to the Apple menu and select "About this Mac", then

check the processor type in the resulting window.

Snow Leopard Discussion

Previously, we have discussed some of the features of Snow Leopard, and what systems will work with these features. This information is in our article series on preparing for Snow Leopard, which we are continuing to write about and update. Here are the current articles in the series so far, so be sure to read up if you are unsure about the features of the new OS:

[Preparing for 10.6 Snow Leopard: Graphics and processor requirements.](#)

[Preparing for 10.6 Snow Leopard: Installation procedure changes?](#)

[Preparing for 10.6 Snow Leopard: Early release? Early installation?](#)

PAGE 3 - NEWSLINE

Adobe dropping PowerPC support for Creative Suite

Adobe announced that future versions of Creative Suite will only run on Intel-based Macs, and not on the older PowerPC systems. The company explains that it is merely following the same path as Apple, after its upcoming Snow Leopard operating system was also revealed to be limited to Intel systems.

“Customers are being notified to provide fair notice of any changes regarding the operating systems and hardware supported by Adobe solutions,” the company said in a statement. “By announcing these changes now, Adobe customers will have time to plan their migration strategy accordingly.”

Current owners of CS3 or CS4 products will still be able to use the software on PowerPC systems. Adobe will only be updating the older software to address critical issues.

Apple to Ship Mac OS X 10.6 “Snow Leopard” on August 28

Apple today announced that Mac OS X v10.6 Snow Leopard will go on sale Friday, August 28 at Apple’s retail stores and Apple Authorized Resellers, and that Apple’s online store is now accepting pre-orders. Snow Leopard builds on a decade of OS X innovation and success with hundreds of refinements, new core technologies and out of the box support for Microsoft Exchange. Snow Leopard will be available as an upgrade for Mac OS X Leopard® users for \$29.

“Snow Leopard builds on our most successful operating system ever and we’re happy to get it to users earlier than expected,” said Bertrand Serlet, Apple’s senior vice president of Software Engineering. “For just \$29,

Leopard users get a smooth upgrade to the world’s most advanced operating system and the only system with built in Exchange support.”

To create Snow Leopard, Apple engineers refined 90 percent of the more than 1,000 projects that make up Mac OS X. Users will notice refinements including a more responsive Finder; Mail that loads messages up to twice as fast; Time Machine with an up to 80 percent faster initial backup; a Dock with Exposé integration; QuickTime X with a redesigned player that allows users to easily view, record, trim and share video; and a 64-bit version of Safari 4 that is up to 50 percent faster and resistant to crashes caused by plug-ins. Snow Leopard is half the size of the previous version and frees up to 7GB of drive space once installed.

For the first time, system applications including Finder, Mail, iCal, iChat and Safari are 64-bit and Snow Leopard’s support for 64-bit processors makes use of large amounts of RAM, increases performance and improves security while remaining compatible with 32-bit applications. Grand Central Dispatch (GCD) provides a revolutionary new way for software developers to write applications that take advantage of multicore processors. OpenCL, a C-based open standard, allows developers to tap the incredible power of the graphics processing unit for tasks that go beyond graphics.

Snow Leopard is the only desktop operating system with built in support for Microsoft Exchange Server 2007, and it allows you to use Mac OS X Mail, Address Book and iCal to send and receive email, create and respond to meeting invitations, and search and manage contacts with global address lists. Exchange information works seamlessly within Snow Leopard so

users can also take advantage of OS X only features such as fast Spotlight searches and Quick Look previews.

Mac OS X Server Snow Leopard, the next major release of the world’s easiest to use server operating system, will also go on sale Friday, August 28. Snow Leopard Server includes innovative new features such as Podcast Producer 2 and Mobile Access Server and is priced more affordably than ever at \$499 with unlimited client licenses. More information and full system requirements for Snow Leopard Server can be found at www.apple.com/server/macosx/.

See Page 2 for more info on Snow Leopard

Psystar Hit with \$5K Fine for Discovery Abuse

Unauthorized Mac clone maker Psystar was slapped with a \$5,000 fine for discovery abuse, indicating the company’s “guns blazin” legal strategy may have misfired. The ruling came as part of Apple’s case against the company for selling PCs with Mac OS X pre-installed.

“The \$5,000.00 penalty means that judge Alsup has found that Psystar has violated the rules of discovery,” an attorney familiar with this type of case told The Mac Observer. “That indicates that Psystar is in trouble with the court. However, it is impossible to determine, because the proceedings are under seal, exactly on what Judge Alsup is focusing.”

The judge overseeing the case in U.S. District Court in Northern California, Judge William Alsup, also ordered supplemental briefs to be filed by Thursday, August 27 -- an indication that he likely isn’t finished dealing with Psystar for its actions in the discovery process.

Continue on Page 9

PAGE 4 - ASK THE TECH



Q: I used Yahoo to search for something and was sent immediately to the following [redacted] site. I believe my Mac was invaded and don't know what to do!

A: First, relax. Your Mac wasn't invaded, infected, compromised, co-opted, or conquered. If you'd clicked through a few of those dire pop-up warnings you might have been as amused as I was to see a phony Windows Security Alert appear on a Macintosh. What you've encountered is termed "scareware"—a scam that attempts to frighten those confronted with these pages into downloading a hunk of software that will allegedly deal with the problem.

The chain of events goes like this: A perfectly legitimate URL is hijacked by the scammers and you're redirected to the scareware page. That page is designed in such a way that several dialog boxes pop-up, warning you that your computer is infected. Click Cancel and you'll just get more warnings and an interface that makes it appear like your computer is being scanned. If you fall for the trick and click the buttons necessary to download the offered antivirus software, you'll pay for a product that is likely a hunk of malware (and I hate to think what happens to your credit card information). This malware is bad for Windows PCs but has no effect on Macs.



Typical scareware warning.

Regrettably, these pages are sometimes difficult to dismiss because the constant pop-up warnings prevent you from leaving. Clicking OK may get rid of the pop-ups so that you can close the window or tab (and no, doing so won't automatically download the software to your Mac), but I faced a situation with a customer's Mac (who was just concerned as you were) where I had to force-quit Safari to get away from the scareware page.

You can take some comfort in knowing that the search engine folks do their best to weed out this junk and that those who promote it have been—and will continue to be—prosecuted for engaging in such malicious and scammy activities.

Q: I want to insert tables from iWork's Numbers program into Pages documents as static graphics, rather than as live, editable tables. I can do something similar in Microsoft Office. I can copy tabular data from Excel, then use Office's Paste Special command to paste the clipboard contents into Word as a picture. But there is no equivalent to Paste Special in iWork. What do I do?

A: There is a workaround: Copy the table in Numbers, then open Preview and press Command-N to paste the table as a new PDF. Next, copy the table (now a PDF) in Preview and paste it into Pages.

You could also use Shift-Control-Command-4 (which does a screen-grab of a region of the screen) to capture the table in Numbers, then paste it into Pages. While that works, there's a noticeable difference in quality; using Preview as an intermediary yields a much better image, regardless of image format you use for the screen-grab.

Q: I plan to upgrade to Snow Leopard as soon as it comes out. Will it run all my existing programs?

A: I've come across this [useful Wiki page](#) detailing numerous applications, both independently-developed and otherwise, which offers advice as to whether the apps are compatible with Snow Leopard.

While I'm aware the page has existed for a while now, we thought it probably a good time to remind y'all of its existence.

As it is a Wiki, you can contribute to the data on the page should you come across a new app that does/doesn't work, or should you be a developer checking for erroneous information.

Go see. And while you do, it may be worth taking a look at some of the available books detailing how to make the best out of the new OS, scheduled to begin shipping worldwide from this Friday.

PAGE 5 - OPINION

Malware Writers: Will That Be OS X, or Windows?

Security researchers increasingly are finding that sites designed to trick the visitor into installing malicious software will serve different malware depending on whether the visitor arrives at the page using a Microsoft Windows PC or a Mac.

Trend Micro researcher Ivan Macalintal recently found a new variant of the dreaded DNS changer Trojan that checks to see which operating system the visitor's Web browser appears to be riding on, and then offers the appropriate Windows- or Mac-based installer. The malware was masquerading as a pirated version of *Foxit Reader* and several anti-virus applications.

This follows a similar finding last month by McAfee, which spotted the same tactic being used at sites that try to trick the user into installing a browser plug-in supposedly needed to view online videos: The bogus plug-in was offered as a ".exe" file for Windows visitors, and a ".dmg" installer file for those who browsed the site with a Mac.

Meanwhile, Symantec warned last week that it had detected several blogs that were advertising free, streaming online copies of movies that were just released in the theaters. The lure is once again a fake video plug-in, followed by either a Mac- or Windows-based version of the DNS Changer Trojan.

No doubt, threats to Windows-based systems far, far outnumber those built to run on Mac OS X machines. But these latest attacks are interesting because they show that cyber criminals more often now are thinking of Mac users when crafting their attacks.

Each time I write about threats to Mac systems, the comments I receive generally fit into two categories:

Startled: "Yikes! Does this mean I should be using anti-virus software for my Mac??"

Indignant: "Macs are soooo much more secure than Windows!! More sour grapes from a Windows fanboy!"

A couple of responses, up front.

To the Startled: No, I wouldn't recommend rushing out and buying an anti-virus solution for the Mac. Read my preemptive response to the indignant for an explanation.

To the Indignant: It's important to keep in mind that most threats, be they to Windows or Mac systems, no longer leverage security vulnerabilities. Rather, their authors target the desires, whims, and curiosities of the individuals in front the keyboard. According to Symantec's Internet Security Threat Report covering 2008, the percentage of documented malicious code samples that exploit vulnerabilities declined substantially last year, from 13 percent in 2007 to 3 percent in 2008.

Finally, Security Fix's rule of thumb on software comes in handy regardless of the operating system you're using: If you didn't go looking for it, don't install it. Also, if you can't vouch for the source of it, you're asking for trouble: Always download software from the vendor's Web site whenever possible.

PAGE 6 - PRODUCT REVIEWS

FlipVideo Flip UltraHD

Flip has carved out a substantial slice of the pocket camcorder market and it's not hard to see why: the lightweight but robust FlipVideo Flip UltraHD camcorder fits easily into a pocket and is simplicity itself to use.

The software comes preloaded on the FlipVideo Flip UltraHD camera and you don't need to worry about remembering a memory card as its built in. The Flip UltraHD we review here has 8GB of internal flash memory. There aren't even any cables to remember not to lose: the Flip hallmark is the USB arm that flips out from the lefthand side of the camcorder and that attaches it directly to a desktop or laptop to transfer files.

Easy peasy software allows you to view your video clips on your computer screen and transfer any you want to save to its hard drive. While you're at sorting out your video footage, the FlipVideo Flip UltraHD is recharging itself.

As a convenient video recorder, the Flip is an obvious winner - its makers liken its success to that of the iPod and we can see their point. The Flip range is about to go onsale in the UK through no less than the Apple Store - acknowledgement, perhaps, that Apple would struggle to pull off a better implementation of its straightforward to well executed camcorder for the masses.

There may be more capable video cameras out there, but for one that anyone can pick up and use, it's highly compelling. It's got a red Record button smack in the middle flanked by a play button and one to delete anything you don't like.

In fact, FlipVideo's problem now isn't selling enough of its Flip cameras; it's

selling better versions to existing customers and designing separate models to its two main customer groups. There's the YouTube and Facebook generation that want to record themselves and their mates and their hijinks and share them with the world asap. For them there's the new silver Mino model on which they can check themselves out before putting themselves on YouTube.

Video quality markedly better

The other big customer type for the Flip is the older generation who are more interested in videoing their kids or grandchildren and having some footage to save for posterity. That's the market for the Flip UltraHD.

While there's wasn't too much to criticize about the FlipVideo Flip UltraHD, the addition of 1,280x720p HD (high-definition) video capture is important. The video quality is markedly better and the colors sharper and brighter but the zoom is limited to 1.5x.

FlipVideo has added an HDMI port too, so you can hook up the UltraHD straight to an HD-ready TV and instantly relive the cute antics of little Joe as he stumbled along the beach.

The software that comes with the camcorder now lets you take still photos of any part of your video, send a themed video greeting card, splice together clips to create your own movie or post them straight to the web. The camcorder now outputs to H.264 video - ideal for YouTube and for viewing shared clips on portable devices such as the iPhone.

Even with the increased storage demands of HD video, the 8GB capacity of this camcorder is sufficient for two hour's use. You always know how much more you can record as it's

displayed along the bottom of the screen. The screen itself is larger than previous models too.

We found the switch from 1.5in to 2in made it noticeably more useful and the 960x240 pixel resolution a welcome step up. The UltraHD also has replaceable batteries, so if it's not convenient to recharge the one supplied via USB, you can charge them in an external charging cradle.

MacFacts Buying Advice

It's hard to fault the FlipVideo Flip UltraHD. The cramped screen has been addressed and the quality of video captured improved. This camcorder is a very compelling purchase and its straightforward usability second to none.

Manufacturer: [FlipVideo](#)

Pros: Easy to use, YouTube compatible, previous issues including cramped screen addressed, good video quality, external charging cradle
Cons: Nothing of note.

Min specs: 8GB flash memory camcorder; 2in (960x240-pixel) LCD display; 1,280x720 video capture; records H.264 Mpeg4 video; built-in microphone; 1.5x digital zoom; FlipShare video editing and sharing software (Mac OS X Tiger or above; 1.66GHz CPU or 3GHz Windows XP SP2 or above PC); HDMI output; thread for tripod mount; c 2.5 hours use between charges; rechargeable, removable battery; external battery charger optional extra; 6oz (without battery); dimensions: 4.3 x 2.2 x 1.17in
MSRP: \$199.99



PAGE 7 - HINTS & TIPS

How to Make Hard-to-Guess Passwords

By Larry Magid

One of the best ways to protect your online security is to have strong passwords that you change periodically. But that's easier said than done. Coming up with hard-to-guess passwords is hard enough, but it's even harder to have separate passwords for different sites and to remember new ones after you change them.

One way to create a password that's hard to guess but easy to remember is to make up a phrase. You could type in the entire phrase (some sites let you use spaces, others don't) or you can use the initials of each word in the phrase, for instance, "lgfLESi85" for "I graduated from Lincoln Elementary School in '85." An even better one would be "MbfihswE&S" for "My best friends in high school were Eric and Steve." You get the idea--upper case numbers, letters, and symbols that are seemingly meaningless to everyone but you. Microsoft has an excellent primer on passwords and a password strength checker.

But even if you do come up with a clever and hard-to-remember password, don't use it for every site. Since lots of people do that, there's the risk that a sleazy site operator--or a sleazy person who works for a legitimate site--could use it to break into your accounts on other sites.

Password managers

One solution is to use a password manager. There are several available programs and Web storage services, but the ones I'm most familiar with are [RoboForm](#) and [Lastpass](#). These programs can generate passwords for you and remember them so you don't have to. Both programs are, themselves, password protected, though you have the option of running RoboForm without a password or having Lastpass remember its own password on your PC. That's OK as long as no one else has access to your machine. I recommend that you manually enter your master password on a laptop that could more easily fall into the wrong hands.

RoboForm has a free trial version that's limited to 10 passwords after the trial ends. Lastpass is free.

RoboForm has been around for a long time, but Lastpass is a relatively new offering. Company CEO Joe Siegrist describes the program as a hybrid because it stores your passwords and usernames both on your machine and on the Web. You can download the browser plug-in to a PC or a Mac to work directly with Firefox on either platform or Internet Explorer on Windows, but there are also ways to use it with Safari and Chrome. Because it has a Web interface, it can work with any Web-enabled device, but the plug-ins for IE and Firefox make it easier to use.

On Firefox and IE, Lastpass records your usernames and passwords when you first enter password-protected sites and then enters them for you automatically for subsequent visits. Passwords are stored in a "vault," which is actually a Web page stored on your PC, as well as the company's servers, so you can access it from any device, including a borrowed machine. The password vault on your machine is automatically synchronized with the server, so you don't have to worry about synchronizing or backing up your data.

Password data, according to Siegrist, is encrypted on the PC and on the servers. He said that no one--himself included--can decrypt them without the master password that only you know. Assuming the encryption is as good as he says it is, this should protect your security even if their servers are compromised. The company provides a lot of security information on its [FAQ](#).

There are also versions for Blackberry, iPhone, Windows Mobile, and Android as well as a Web site for phones and browsers that aren't supported directly.

For a lot more on this password management, see "[Facing the pain of passwords](#)."

PAGE 8 - COMMENTS

Snow Leopard Is a Pale Imitation of Windows 7

Let's wade through Apple's laundry list of borrowed features and derivative works in the new Mac OS.

Randall C. Kennedy, PC World

"Where's the beef?" That's the idiom that jumps to mind as I work my way through Galen Gruman's "The 7 best features in Mac OS X Snow Leopard." I knew the features list would be lean -- Apple has deliberately undersold Snow Leopard by pitching it as a relatively minor release -- but please! Gruman's article reads like a laundry list of borrowed features and derivative works. It's as if someone at Apple grabbed a copy of the Windows 7 beta and simply Xeroxed the release notes.

For example:

64-bitness: Yippee,! Apple finally goes 64-bit -- BFD! As a Windows user, I've been livin' la vida 64-bit for more than three years. Vista was the first mainstream desktop OS to deliver a viable 64-bit experience, and Windows 7 has taken this migration further by making it the preferred flavor for business users.

Meanwhile, Apple can't even deliver a fully 64-bit implementation. Snow Leopard boots into a 32-bit kernel by default -- something about a lack of 64-bit device drivers, which is ironic when you consider how small a hardware ecosystem Apple must govern when compared to Microsoft and its burden of having to run on just about anything with an Intel-compatible CPU.

Exposé Dock Integration: This one's a joke, right? Am I to understand that Apple is just getting around to adding this? Microsoft has been offering this type of functionality (aka thumbnail preview) for years, and Windows 7 has taken the concept further with Aero Peek, Shake, and Snap. It sounds like Apple's Xerox machine suffered a paper jam with this one -- or perhaps it's just stuck in one of those famous Mac OS X infinite loops.

Expanded PDF Preview: If this constitutes a "feature," then Apple must really be grasping! I mean, Windows has supported PDF file preview -- via an installable ifilter module -- ever since Desktop Search debuted pre-Vista. In fact, the ability to seamlessly preview third-party content has been a staple of the Windows experience for years. So while I'm glad to see Apple finally getting on the ball with its PDF handling (I hear the updated viewer lets you basically do away with the piggish Adobe Reader for most common tasks), I'm still utterly stunned by the fact that this is even an issue. Provide a free (i.e. not trialware) XPS document viewer with Mac OS X and then maybe I'll get excited.

QuickTime Pro: Can you believe the Apple folks used to charge for this thing? I guess they saw the writing on the wall, what with Microsoft releasing yet another excellent iteration of its free Movie Maker application. Way to play that reactionary card, Apple!

I could go on, but I think I've made my point. Mac OS X Snow Leopard is truly an underwhelming release, one that borrows most of its "new" ideas from Windows Vista. Meanwhile, Microsoft continues to drive OS evolution forward, introducing a raft of truly innovative features with Windows 7. The new Taskbar puts Apple's clumsy Mac OS X Dock to shame, while its enhanced support for multicore CPUs means that even non-optimized code gets a boost -- no Grand Central Dispatch tweaking required.

I've often referred to Windows 7 as "Vista R2," an incremental follow-up release that was mostly about righting the wrongs of its predecessor. Viewed in these terms, Mac OS X Snow Leopard is more like a service pack: a collection of bug fixes and minor functional enhancements that, quite frankly, should have been in the original release. As such, Snow Leopard is nothing to get all excited about; it's not worth even the modest "upgrade" price Apple is asking.

PAGE 9 - ONE MORE THING...

Paystar, cont.

Apple filed its lawsuit against Psystar claiming the company was violating the Mac OS X end user licensing agreement, and that it was violating the Digital Millennium Copyright Act with the steps it used to install the Mac operating system on PCs. Psystar countered that it is within its rights to build and sell PCs with Mac OS X pre-installed and that Apple is overstepping its bounds by blocking companies from selling Mac clones.

Judge Alsup's ruling comes after Apple filed a brief with the court alleging Psystar intentionally destroyed evidence by deleting the code it uses to install Mac OS X on generic PCs. According to Apple's brief, Psystar CEO Rudy Pedraza admitted that his company deleted the code instead of turning it over to Apple's legal team, violating a requirement to preserve evidence.

Apple asked the court to order Psystar to produce the missing code as part of its brief. It also asked for court-imposed sanctions if Psystar isn't able to produce the requested software, and for a court order requiring the company to admit to destroying the evidence along with sanctions for discovery misconduct.

If Judge Alsup's fine is related to Psystar's alleged destruction of evidence, the company could find itself in a serious legal bind with the court. "Destroying evidence could be referred to the U.S. Attorney as possible obstruction of justice and/or perjury, both of which are federal felonies," TMO's legal contact said.

Should the court follow that path, Psystar's top brass -- namely Mr. Pedraza -- could be facing criminal charges, too, and considering his company's track record in court so far,

that's probably a path he doesn't want to go down.

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Thanks for taking the time to read this month's newsletter.

Hope you enjoyed it. If you have any comments or suggestions for stories (or would even like to write a story ~ hint, hint, hint), please send them to me at: machelpdesk@tx.rr.com

Feel free to share this newsletter with a friend. The newsletter archives are located at: <http://www.machelpdesk.com/page6a.html>

Y'all come back now, y'hear.