

Scientology Suit

Cult Founder's Son Asks to Be Trustee

Riverside

The oldest son of L. Ron Hubbard, founder of the Church of Scientology, has filed a petition in Superior Court, saying he believes his father is either dead or mentally incompetent.

The Riverside Press-Enterprise reported Saturday that Ronald DeWolf also claims in court papers filed last week that officials in the church have stolen millions of dollars, gems and securities from Hubbard's estate.

DeWolf further claims in the court papers that his father had been ill for decades, suffered from venereal disease among other ailments and was a heavy user of drugs.

DeWolf, 48, of Carson City, Nev., asked the court to appoint him a trustee of his father's affairs to protect the assets.

The court action charges that the worldwide organization is being run by David Miscavage, described in the petition as a "22-year-old with a ninth-grade education." DeWolf further charges that Miscavage and James Isaacson forged Hubbard's signature to loot the accounts.

The Church of Scientology was founded by Hubbard, a former science fiction writer, in the early 1950s. Its techniques have often generated controversy and the church has had frequent court squabbles with government agencies.

DeWolf, a former Scientologist, says he is not attacking his father.



L. RON HUBBARD

He may be dead, said his son

In a telephone interview with the newspaper, he said:

"The only way he can contest all of this is to show up in court. But I expect he may have trouble doing that because I don't think he is alive."

DeWolf said he has not seen his father since 1959, the year he left the religious organization. Since then, he said, he has been subjected to church "harassment," which in 1972 prompted him to change his name from L. Ron Hubbard Jr. to DeWolf.

Allen Hubbard, president of the church in California, declined comment on DeWolf's petition.

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