

NY Facebook plaintiff seeks halt to criminal case

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(AP)—A New York man who was charged with fraud after filing a lawsuit claiming part ownership of Facebook wants a judge to stop the criminal case from moving forward.

Paul Ceglia of Wellsville said Friday he believes Facebook is behind the criminal charges. Menlo Park, Calif.-based Facebook declined to respond to the allegations.

[Federal prosecutors](#) in Manhattan charged Ceglia last fall, saying he tried to swindle [Facebook](#) and founder Mark Zuckerberg out of part of the company by doctoring a 2003 contract. That contract is the basis of Ceglia's 2010 civil suit.

Ceglia's lawyer, Joseph Alioto, asked a judge in Buffalo on Friday to suspend the [criminal case](#) until the civil action is over, arguing it's interfering with the suit. The judge reserved decision.

A magistrate judge's recommendation that the civil case should be dismissed is pending.

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