

Suit vs. psychic says demon murder was hoax

By John Christoffersen
Associated Press Writer

NEW HAVEN — Carl Glatzel Jr. says he's a happily married building contractor. The last thing he wanted was a book reviving a claim that he and his brother were under the spell of demons that led to a murder decades ago by a family acquaintance.

Glatzel is suing famed psychic Lorraine Warren and author Gerald Brittle, who last year reprinted his book "The Devil in Connecticut." The lawsuit, filed in Danbury Superior Court, was announced Monday and seeks unspecified damages. "He thought this whole thing was behind him," said Gregory Nolan, Glatzel's attorney. "He doesn't want everyone to think of him as the guy who was possessed by Satan."

The book focuses on Arne Cheyenne Johnson, who was convicted of manslaughter in the fatal stabbing of Alan Bono, 40, in 1981. Johnson claimed he killed Bono under the devil's spell after challenging the devil to leave 12-year-old David Glatzel.

A judge refused to allow

Johnson's defense of innocent by demonic possession. But the case attracted widespread attention and led to a 1983 NBC television movie, "The Demon Murder Case," that starred Andy Griffith, Cloris Leachman and Kevin Bacon.

Lorraine Warren and her late husband, Ed, worked on the case as demonologists. The couple was challenged in the 1970s over the "Amityville Horror" case, in which Ed Warren said a supposedly haunted house in New York proved the existence of demons.

Carl Glatzel Jr., a 42-year-old Brookfield resident, says the demon claim was a hoax designed to bring the Warrens money and fame. He says his brother David suffered a mental illness as a boy that led to hallucinations and delusions, but has since recovered and now has his own construction business.

"They saw a gold mine," Glatzel said. "We're not going to be ridiculed again."

Glatzel said he and his brother were shunned by friends and classmates and had troubled getting work later because of the notoriety of the case. He said his brother did not want to

comment.

"It was living hell when we were kids," Glatzel said Tuesday. "It was just a nightmare. I'm not going to go through that again. Neither is my brother."

Warren, an 80-year-old Monroe resident, called the lawsuit "ridiculous," saying it came 25 years after the book was first published. She said six Catholic priests attended the exorcisms and she and her husband witnessed some of the behavior.

"You can't even believe the things we witnessed in that home and to that boy who was 11 at the time," Warren said. "He came under hideous attacks."

David Glatzel levitated, Warren claimed.

"He'd go right up off the bed," Warren said. "He had marks all over his body. He could tell things that were going to happen in the future such as the murder."

Warren declined to name the priests, except one who has since died. She said David's parents shared in the book's profits.

Brittle said he stands by the book, saying it was based on statements from David's fami-

ly, including his parents, that he recorded.

"The child was being beaten by unseen hands," Brittle said. "The child was being levitated."

Carl Glatzel said his parents received \$2,000 from the book publisher. His father, Carl Glatzel Sr., denied telling the author that his son was possessed.

Johnson, who was released from prison in 1986, married Glatzel's sister, Deborah. They still contend the account of demons was true and say Carl Glatzel is suing to make money.

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