

'GALLERY OWNER IS DANGEROUS RACIST' - SUPREME COURT DEFAMATION CASE TOLD

Summary from VCAT judgement available here <http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/cases/vic/VCAT/2012/579.html> is reported by Melbourne Observer . Cripps threatens to sue Melbourne Observer as well as us.

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Melbourne Observer **Court Roundsman**

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'Racist' allegation

■ Judge Bowman, Acting President of the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal, declined the application of Vakras and Raymond to have some matters heard at VCAT.

The matter is to return to the Supreme Court.

The pair are seeking a \$34,500 refund which relates to refund of costs associated with the exhibition staged at Guildford.

The pair supplied a lengthy 23-page affidavit to support their application.

Vakras and Raymond allege that Cripps and Redleg began to make alterations to their exhibition, and refused to sell a publication which formed an integral part of the presentation.



■ Guildford Lane Gallery operator Robert Raymond Cripps is taking Supreme Court action over comments about him which he believes to be defamatory.

Cripps, of Redleg Museum Services Pty Ltd, is taking action against Demetrios Vakras and Lee-Anne Raymond, about the comments posted on a website.

The comments are said to have alleged that Cripps used economic duress, deliberately inhibited the ability of the pair to promote their exhibition at Guildford, and that he is a dangerous racist who has embraced discredited views of national socialism.

Vakras and Raymond are alleged to have commented that Cripps' pattern of behaviour intimidating behaviour had left other artists too fearful to describe to the public their own negative experiences with Cripps.

He was accused of bullying, abuse and general mistreatment.

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Melbourne Observer

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Latest News

Flashes Around Victoria

\$2000 fine for nurse

■ Geelong West nurse Paul Elgas, who kicked a dementia patient in the head, deserves to lose his job and be financially crippled, Magistrate Ann McGarvie said.

Animal cruelty case

■ Rochester woman Anne Giles, facing animal cruelty charges, has been warned by Magistrate William Gibb that she cannot health problems to dodge legal action from the RSPCA.

■ Hoon Genuine Sanduah Kiriama, 21, now of Caroline Springs, has lost his licence for two years after driving at 195-kmh in a 60-kmh zone at Box Hill.