

Marlboro cable customer suing Cablevision

BY DAVID P. WILLIS • STAFF WRITER • OCTOBER 28, 2010

Red Bank lawyer Justin M. Klein, along with Chatham lawyer Carol L. Forte, on Thursday filed a class-action lawsuit in U.S. District Court on behalf of Marlboro resident Eric Bohn. It seeks a credit or rebate for cable programming customers paid for but did not receive, court papers state.

"People are paying for services and they're not getting what they're paying for and that's a real problem," Klein said. "The consumers shouldn't be used as a bargaining chip for these two megacompanies to continue to reap millions of dollars in profits from them."

Cablevision should give consumers the programming they are paying for or stop charging them for it, Klein said. "It's not fair that they can't watch the programs and that Cablevision's keeping their money."

A Cablevision spokesman said he hasn't seen the lawsuit. "News Corp. is the company that deserves a lawsuit, for blacking out the World Series in three million New York-area homes," the company said in a statement.

The company has not commented on whether customers will be issued a refund.

Fox channels WNYW Fox 5 and WTXF Fox 29, as well as My9, have been blacked out to Cablevision customers since Oct. 16, when Fox cut the cord after both sides failed to reach an agreement. Customers have missed first and second games of the World Series and Sunday football games as well as top shows like "House," "Glee," "The Simpsons" and "Family Guy."

Cablevision customers also lost Fox Business News, Nat Geo Wild and Fox Deportes.

David P. Willis: 732-643-4039; dwillis@app.com, www.twitter.com/dpwillis732