



"Green Bay Packers, others seek bankruptcy for West Palm firm that collected race fees"

Alan Burger and Peter Bernhardt for the Palm Beach Post

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Saying they're owed nearly \$1.4 million by Forte Interactive of West Palm Beach, six race organizers in Maryland and Wisconsin on Tuesday filed a petition to push the company into involuntary bankruptcy.

That's in addition to three Major League Baseball teams and a California chamber of commerce that have sued the West Palm internet marketing firm. In all, the 10 organizers of 5Ks, bike rides and triathlons across the country say more than \$2.5 million in entry fees collected by Forte Interactive have disappeared.

Forte Interactive's RacePartner.com site collected entry fees and never turned them over, according to a blue-chip list of litigants that includes the NFL's Green Bay Packers and Major League Baseball's Chicago Cubs, San Francisco Giants and Milwaukee Brewers.

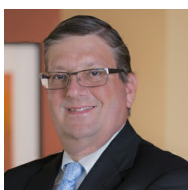
The largest creditor in Tuesday's filing in U.S. Bankruptcy Court in West Palm Beach is Corrigan Sports Enterprises of Elkridge, Md. The company says in the filing that it's owed \$943,000 by Forte Interactive.

Bellin Memorial Hospital and Bellin Health Foundation of Green Bay, Wis., say they're owed a combined \$250,000, while the Green Bay Packers are seeking the return of \$90,220 in missing race fees. Door County Triathlon and Fall 50, both of DePere, Wis., are seeking a combined \$100,000.

The creditors seek to force Forte Interactive into a bankruptcy litigation, which would place the settlement of the company's debts under the supervision of a federal bankruptcy judge and trustee.

The creditors are represented by attorneys Alan Burger and Peter Bernhardt of McDonald Hopkins in West Palm Beach.

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