My name is Robbie Schmittner.

Many of you might know me from the cave diving community, cave exploration community. I've been involved with cave exploration and training for now nearly 20 years. All of my professional life has been based in the Yucatán peninsula in Mexico.

I've had the good fortune of being recognized by my peers, such as by the New York Explorers Club and it's illustrious group of members and fellows going back from Teddy Roosevelt to Sir Edmund Hillary those American astronauts who stepped on the moon and many many others.

I've also been fortunate to make the cave connection - now some **four years ago - of what is the largest underwater cave in the world. It took me more than a dozen years working on, exploring, collecting data and trying to make that connection.

Over 20 years I have collected data of the caves that I've explored, built out complex mapping systems, and electronic data. I have built out an extensive network of two dimension electronic Cave mapping project - from throughout the Yucatán peninsula. Primarily focused near and around Tulum.

This represents 20 years of my professional life, 20 years of my knowledge. My lawyer has confirmed I have very specific legal rights in this intellectual property.

That data has helped me through my exploration efforts and I have mapped several hundred kilometers of caves. I have collected the data on those caves and faithfully done so most days as an explorer, including today.

Unfortunately, an American citizen named Kent Stone got unauthorized access to my computer. He stole the data, took the data without my authorization.

I have discussed this with my lawyers who have explained very clearly that it is personal and private property, owned by me, protected not only under the laws of the United States where Mr. Stone has citizenship- but also the laws of Mexico. There are international treaties regarding the protection of intellectual property rights. This cave data and the records I have maintained are legally protected intellectual property rights - which I own.

I did not authorize Mr. Stone to take or in anyway release any of the information. To my chagrin I have learned that he is now trying to sell my property to third parties, of course again illegally since the property was taken illegally, to profit.

My lawyers have confirmed that I need to be clear and to provide notice to all persons who might receive a solicitation to buy this data, that he will take all legal steps necessary to protect the rights in the intellectual property. All of the knowledge in data I've built up over 20 years.

If you have any specific information regarding the data please contact me immediately. In the meantime, my lawyers are taking specific steps to protect my legal rights, pursue all legal remedies and prosecute those who violate the law to the extent permitted by the law. He advised there are many remedies, which they are now undertaking currently. He also referenced these materials for any who would like to have a better understanding of the risks to those involved with the theft of the intellectual property and related intellectual property crimes.

Prosecuting Intellectual Property Crimes (Fourth Edition)

Published by Office of Legal Education Executive Office for United States Attorneys. These materials are published by the United States Department of Justice -

https://www.justice.gov/.../prosecuting ip crimes manual...

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Regards,

Robbie Schmittner

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