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**U.S. BUSINESS NEWS**

# Cravath Protests Tactics of Firm Partly Owned by Boies Family

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By **ROBERT FRANK**  
Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL  
*September 12, 2005; Page A2*

A prominent law firm is protesting the fees and tactics of a document-management company partly owned by the family of famed attorney David Boies.

Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP stated in a letter this week that it was forced to use the document firm, Amici LLC, in a legal battle with Adelphia Communications Corp. Cravath represents Deloitte & Touche LLP in litigation with Adelphia.

Amici is at the center of a controversy surrounding Boies Schiller & Flexner and its well-known head, David Boies, who is a former Cravath partner. Adelphia [asked Boies Schiller to resign](#) as special counsel in August after the company learned that Mr. Boies's children owned part of Amici. Boies Schiller steered several of its corporate clients, including Adelphia, to Amici without disclosing the financial ties. Adelphia paid Amici about \$7 million in fees.

Legal experts say that Boies Schiller had an ethical duty to disclose those financial ties, because clients may have concluded that the law firm was biased in recommending Amici.

In a letter to the judge in Adelphia's bankruptcy case, Cravath partner Max R. Shulman said "using Amici has been a disaster." He stated that Amici was "foisted" on the firm and had an "economic lock-up" on Adelphia documents by making it too costly and time-consuming to move the data to a competing database.

Cravath also said Amici's database is filled with irrelevant documents, such as phone directories, cookbooks, menus, travel brochures and shoe catalogs. Amici charges clients for each page loaded onto a database. Adelphia declined to comment. Mr. Shulman stated that Cravath would have never used Amici if it had known it was enriching the family of the head of an opposing law firm.

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In a written response to the bankruptcy judge, Philip C. Korologos, the lead Adelphia attorney at Boies Schiller, stated that Cravath is trying to gain an advantage in its case against Adelphia. It says that Cravath was free to use any database, and that Amici's pricing and performance is competitive.

Mr. Korologos also stated that the documents in the database were all gathered as part of an evidence sweep of Adelphia's offices in 2002, directed by another law firm. He said the catalogs, phone books and other items were seized from the desks of Adelphia executives. When Deloitte requested documents received by the government from Adelphia, those documents had to be included. He said Boies Schiller "didn't do the selection" of those documents.

--Nathan Koppel contributed to this article.

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