

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2003 SESSION

CHAPTER 578

An Act to amend and reenact § 18.2-500 of the Code of Virginia, relating to civil relief, damages, counsel fees and injunctions for damaging the reputation or trade of a business.

[S 1233]

Approved March 18, 2003

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 18.2-500 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 18.2-500. Same; civil relief; damages and counsel fees; injunctions.

(a) A. Any person who shall be injured in his reputation, trade, business or profession by reason of a violation of § 18.2-499, may sue therefor and recover three-fold the damages by him sustained, and the costs of suit, including a reasonable fee to plaintiff's counsel, and without limiting the generality of the term, "damages" shall include loss of profits. ~~Such counsel shall in no case receive any other, further or additional compensation except that allowed by the court and any contract to the contrary shall be null and void.~~

(b) B. Whenever a person shall duly file a bill in chancery in the circuit court of any county or city against any person alleging violations of the provisions of § 18.2-499 and praying that such party defendant be restrained and enjoined from continuing the acts complained of, such court shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine the issues involved, to issue injunctions pendente lite and permanent injunctions and to decree damages and costs of suit, including reasonable counsel fees to complainants' and defendants' counsel.