
Subject: OT: 3 Quadrillion

Posted by [Dedric Terry](#) on Fri, 11 Jan 2008 05:15:28 GMT

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http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080109/ap_on_re_us/katrina_flood_lawsuits

The ultimate in lawsuit insanity.

The people of the US should sue these individuals and their lawyers for the cost of our tax dollars wasted in these ridiculous lawsuits. That amount alone could likely have built them all nice homes wherever they want to live.

Subject: Re: 3 Quadrillion

Posted by [Aaron Allen](#) on Fri, 11 Jan 2008 05:33:10 GMT

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More entitlement welfare system thinking. This is what happens when a handout becomes a standard, rather than a hand up with a time limit and stipulations attached to it (like say, drug testing and actually looking for work?)

I wonder too, could we as a people of the US claim a countersuit based on greed, stupidity and wrongful suit - you know, since it's actually money paid in taxes by the working class. Perhaps wrongful death since they'd kill the economy in shortsightedness, blinded by the 'me me' thinking.

Well, the illegal aliens would likely find a politician to trade that fund for votes anyway, so it's probably a moot point.

Hang the lawyers.

(grrr....)

AA

"Dedric Terry" <dterry@keyofd.net> wrote in message

news:C3AC4980.10592%dterry@keyofd.net...

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Subject: Re: OT: 3 Quadrillion
Posted by [Dedric Terry](#) on Sat, 12 Jan 2008 01:19:13 GMT
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Justice? 3 quad isn't justice, it's spiteful vengeance.

There is a lot that happens in life that isn't fair and no human being has any control over.

We can't sue everytime there isn't someone there to make everything okay for us. Sure, there were bad situations, in New Orleans but there have been a lot of similar or worse situations in smaller scales that no one even blinks an eye at, or files a lawsuit for.

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"mike r" <emarenot@yahoo.com> wrote in message news:47880f7f\$1@linux...
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Subject: Re: OT: 3 Quadrillion
Posted by [emarenot](#) on Sat, 12 Jan 2008 01:53:19 GMT
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Subject: Re: OT: 3 Quadrillion

Posted by [Dedric Terry](#) on Sat, 12 Jan 2008 02:14:32 GMT

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But Don - they didn't arrive 3 hours after. And if they did, they wouldn't have arrived 3 minutes after, and if they did, the coffee would have been too hot and people would have burned their tongues and sued anyway.

"DC" <dc@spammersinhell.com> wrote in message news:47881cee\$1@linux...

>

> Here's an example from the site;

>

>

> MYTH: "The aftermath of Katrina will go down as one of the worst

> abandonments

> of Americans on American soil ever in U.S. history."--Aaron Broussard,

> president,

> Jefferson Parish, La., Meet the Press, NBC, Sept. 4, 2005

>

> REALITY: Bumbling by top disaster-management officials fueled a perception

> of general inaction, one that was compounded by impassioned news anchors.

> In fact, the response to Hurricane Katrina was by far the largest--and

> fastest-rescue

> effort in U.S. history, with nearly 100,000 emergency personnel arriving

> on the scene within three days of the storm's landfall.

Subject: Re: OT: 3 Quadrillion

Posted by [DC](#) on Sat, 12 Jan 2008 02:48:38 GMT

The level of bulls*it about Katrina is simply breathtaking.

Not one nickel...

<http://www.popularmechanics.com/science/earth/2315076.html>

DC

Subject: Re: OT: 3 Quadrillion
Posted by [DC](#) on Sat, 12 Jan 2008 02:50:38 GMT
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Subject: Re: OT: 3 Quadrillion
Posted by [DC](#) on Sat, 12 Jan 2008 03:25:36 GMT
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What just angered me to the point of popping a fuse was the blatant racism of the media.

When it all was said and done, there was no "holocaust" in the Superdome or the Convention Center. It was all bulsh*t.

Those black Americans behaved, in the main, as the good people they are, and the crime rate in those facilities matched a normal city of that size. All the fears of rape and murder and God knows what else, were straight out of the racist minds of the media...

DC

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Subject: Re: OT: 3 Quadrillion

Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Sat, 12 Jan 2008 04:07:47 GMT

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I don't know who is planning to sue and for what. But we DID have a real national disaster down in Nawlins, at or near the top as disasters go for the USA, and the ball was dropped over and over again before, during and after.

There is plenty of blame to go around at every step. Plenty of points of failure. Finding blame in one place won't excuse other places from blame. For example, you can't excuse the poor reaction of the federal government by blaming local government, nor can you excuse unprepared people by blaming the federal government. It's not so simple that you can wave a vague accusation in any one direction to make it all go away.

I have no doubt there are legitimate lawsuits to be filed. I have no

doubt frivolous lawsuits will also be filed. And for the latter, more blame is due. But any legit cases cannot be dismissed just because of the frivolous ones.

Like the physical cleanup itself, the legal cleanup will be another complex mess that has to be picked through piece by piece.

Cheers,
-Jamie
www.JamieKrutz.com

Dedric Terry wrote:

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Posted by [Dedric Terry](#) on Sat, 12 Jan 2008 05:56:19 GMT
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I haven't researched it fully yet, but based on that article - that's the sum total of 247 plaintiffs filing for \$1B, and one for \$1 Quadrillion. There are 489,000 total lawsuits, but they will be marred by the 248 or so that are beyond reality. Legitimate cases may very well get lost in the noise of greed of these 248. The public outcry over the amounts will surely put the complete legal basis for the suits into question. Not really a smart move - jeopardizing 489,000 for the sake of 1 (plus 247).

I am guessing they would have to prove that the actions, or inaction of government at the local level (if not a defendant) did nothing to hinder or delay the response of the federal government, and the federal government was in fact directly responsible for suffering of these people either by lack of enacting guaranteed services, or by knowingly causing harm - that's a hard sell in any court imho. Since the Army Corps of Engineers has already been found to be in the clear (the levees would have been useless in a direct hit), these people may have a really hard time proving their case. Suing anyone over the aftermath of a natural disaster, that is in itself a complete unknown with no guarantees, is suspect at best.

If this were to win at any level, then the door would be open for people to sue the Coast Guard for not rescuing an overturned vessel's crew fast enough. It will in all likelihood instigate a move for people living in disaster prone areas to sign a federal and state document absolving the government of responsibility for such a habitation choice. Since people have made it about a ridiculous amount of money, now the various authorities will have to protect themselves - same as McDonald's "Coffee may be hot" warning on the side of a cup of coffee that one would be irate if it were not actually hot.

Dedric

On 1/11/08 9:07 PM, in article 47883db0@linux, "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:

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Subject: Re: OT: 3 Quadrillion
Posted by [Martin Harrington](#) on Sat, 12 Jan 2008 06:25:23 GMT
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On 12/1/08 12:53 PM, in article 47880f7f\$1@linux, "mike r"
<emarenot@yahoo.com> wrote:

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This is all very boring guys, for us non US types.
Martin H

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> hit), these people may have a really hard time proving their case. Suing
> anyone over the aftermath of a natural disaster, that is in itself a
> complete unknown with no guarantees, is suspect at best.

I don't know the details of any of the lawsuits but you could be right. It may be the net result of such lawsuits would only be to bring more evidence into view rather than to trigger any large payouts. Evidence which may help with planning for the next disaster.

> If this were to win at any level, then the door would be open for people to
> sue the Coast Guard for not rescuing an overturned vessel's crew fast
> enough.

IANAL but I think there is general government immunity for that sort of thing. But any cases of actual gross incompetence or dereliction ought to at least be examined and learned from, if they happen.

> It will in all likelihood instigate a move for people living in
> disaster prone areas to sign a federal and state document absolving the

> government of responsibility for such a habitation choice.

If that's true, the fed and state govs would be smart to get that signature from everyone. There is no risk free place.

> Since people

> have made it about a ridiculous amount of money, now the various authorities

> will have to protect themselves - same as McDonald's "Coffee may be hot"

> warning on a the side of a cup of coffee that one would be irate if it were

> not actually hot.

We'll see. Can I get you some luke-warm coffee, in the padded sippie cup? :^)

Cheers,

-Jamie

www.JamieKrutz.com

> Dedric

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Posted by [Dedric Terry](#) on Sat, 12 Jan 2008 20:03:44 GMT
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> Dedric Terry wrote:

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Of course - but care to take a guess as to how much tax money will go into 489,000 court cases? \$100M? \$300M? I was referring to public opinion, and to some degree, given the numbers, how much more scrutiny may be put into a defense that would set a precedent for other claims.

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> desperately want to believe revisionist history (slanted in whatever
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Not sure I follow a specific point here (other than public opinion marring - yes, agreed, they've likely already tanked their sympathy card); but if the revisionist history idea is that some plaintiffs may be using selective memory to fuel their vengeance, and the absurdity of the numbers will jade the public into forgetting any valid concerns, then I agree.

I still think suing anyone because your house was flooded in a major flood zone with a near ground level water table, in the midst of a major hurricane borders on a single digit IQ.

I just think personally looking at a levee next to my neighborhood with water flowing above the level of my yard would run up a few common sense red flags - somewhat similar to living below Mt. Kilauea (no one does afaik) and watching lava flow past my house on a daily basis, wondering if I might have chosen a little safer location to inhabit *before* the ground starts shaking, instead of pointing toasty charcoal fingers after it's too late.

On that note, to prevent boring the rest of the ng, back to soldering cables, discussing candidates with only 2 initials, and wondering what NAMM and Mac World will bring. ;-)

Dedric

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Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Sat, 12 Jan 2008 21:50:12 GMT
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> the numbers will jade the public into forgetting any valid concerns,
> then I agree.

No, what I mean is that people like you and me and everyone else who sits in armchair judgment of events like this will take what we hear and filter it through our own confirmation biases.

So some of us hear the news from Nawlins and say, "look, lazy shiftless, stupid people" and others will say "look, a huge failure of government letting down those fine people," and others say other things. None of which will be fully correct. Some of which will be mostly wrong.

I'm not singling us out personally, although we don't escape this human trait. But I'm constantly astounded at how easily people are herded and divided via the hooks of their confirmation biases.

Which is the working basis of deceptive PR, and of politically motivated sleight of hand and obfuscation. By which I mean lying and pandering. And smear campaigns. We are all, to an extent susceptible to those approaches.

> I still think suing anyone because your house was flooded in a major
> flood zone with a near ground level water table, in the midst of a major
> hurricane borders on a single digit IQ.

So naturally these events will reaffirm your notions. But someone else may come to another conclusion based on different knowledge of specifics with a different, and also possibly legitimate, perspective. To me, it depends on each case.

I can imagine specific situations in Nawlins where lawsuits might make

sense. And plenty of cases where they wouldn't. So I'm not ready to make a blanket statement supporting or dismissing lawsuits there.

I do think government planning and preparation was negligent, slow and mired in politics. I do think response was inadequate. I also think individual planning, preparation and response is open to criticism. So like I said earlier, there's plenty of blame to go around, but pointing the finger one way doesn't necessarily excuse other screw ups.

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> afaik) and watching lava flow past my house on a daily basis, wondering
> if I might have chosen a little safer location to inhabit *before* the
> ground starts shaking, instead of pointing toasty charcoal fingers after
> it's too late.

Probably you wouldn't have been buried at Pompei, had you lived back then. :^)

> On that note, to prevent boring the rest of the ng, back to soldering
> cables, discussing candidates with only 2 initials, and wondering what
> NAMM and Mac World will bring. ;-)

I vote for a new laptop for Jamie! :^) And it would be nice if NAMM brings more MIDI/USB keyboard controller choices...

Cheers,
-Jamie
www.JamieKrutz.com

> Dedic

Subject: Re: OT: 3 Quadrillion
Posted by [Dedic Terry](#) on Sat, 12 Jan 2008 22:13:49 GMT
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> No, what I mean is that people like you and me and everyone else who sits
> in armchair judgment of events like this will take what we hear and filter
> it through our own confirmation biases.

But it's pretty easy to put 3 quadrillion and lawsuit together and reach a rather

objective conclusion, and that was my whole point, not judging each of the 489,000 others. :-)

And, you have to admit, we are a litigation-crazed society, and that speaks to a lack of personal ethics, responsibility in general, simply confirmed at least in one case of a zeros-happy plaintiff. If these people win even far lesser awards, they will be far better off than they were. And the lesson here?....if life deals you a bad lemon, sue, and you could get a Rolls Royce in return. So why work hard, carry your own load, and help those around you? Just look for an excuse to take the easy road - the one through "the system".

Not a good model for building a sense of community where we wouldn't even really need the government to step in and carry the load for disaster aid (but it is there, and more effective than it was, just in case) - in fact, usually volunteer agencies, Red Cross, etc do a significant portion of the aftermath aid in those situations. I've been on a few tornado cleanup crews back east - it's pretty amazing how high average people will rise to such an occasion, but that never makes the news, because it's the boring, basic, truth - no scandal, no hype, just people living like caring human beings. I vote for more of that and fewer lawsuits and news hype in general.

> I vote for a new laptop for Jamie! :^) And it would be nice if NAMM
> brings more MIDI/USB keyboard controller choices...

I vote for that as well. ;-))

Regards,
Dedric

>
> Cheers,
> -Jamie
> www.JamieKrutz.com
>
>
>> Dedric

Subject: Re: OT: 3 Quadrillion

Dedric Terry wrote:

>
> "Jamie K" <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote in message news:478936af@linux...
>> No, what I mean is that people like you and me and everyone else who
>> sits in armchair judgment of events like this will take what we hear
>> and filter it through our own confirmation biases.
>
> But it's pretty easy to put 3 quadrillion and lawsuit together and reach
> a rather
> objective conclusion, and that was my whole point, not judging each of
> the 489,000
> others. :-)

OK.

A number like that sounds to me like an attempt to get publicity.

> And, you have to admit, we are a litigation-crazed society, and that
> speaks to a lack
> of personal ethics, responsibility in general, simply confirmed at least
> in one case of a zeros-happy
> plaintiff. If these people win even far lesser awards, they will be far
> better off than they were.

"Litigation crazed" - what's a normal level?

I agree that ethics and responsibility could be improved, in general, in our fine society.

So consider this: better ethics and responsibility might have improved the government's performance in all phases of planning, preparation and response. Now, after the fact, it's possible that specific lawsuits addressing the failures might improve the ethics and responsibility of government in the future. Just to shine your light in a different direction.

> And the lesson here?....if life deals you a bad lemon, sue, and you
> could get a Rolls Royce in return.

That could be the motivation for some folks.

> So why work hard, carry your own load, and help those around you? Just
> look for an excuse to take the easy road -
> the one through "the system".

Nah, too much work. ;^)

- > Not a good model for building a sense of community where we wouldn't
- > even really need the government
- > to step in and carry the load for disaster aid (but it is there, and
- > more effective than it was, just in case) - in fact, usually volunteer
- > agencies, Red Cross, etc do a significant portion of the aftermath aid
- > in those situations. I've been on a few tornado cleanup
- > crews back east - it's pretty amazing how high average people will rise
- > to such an occasion, but that never
- > makes the news, because it's the boring, basic, truth - no scandal, no
- > hype, just people living like
- > caring human beings. I vote for more of that and fewer lawsuits and
- > news hype in general.

It does make the news, I've seen stories about volunteer efforts in disasters. I specifically remember stories about that after Katrina. Kudos to all involved in those efforts.

But in general I think you're right about fewer lawsuits being better because it would indicate people being more responsible on all ends of the equation, and people getting along better.

Sense of community: Yes. I don't think this idea necessarily excludes government since good government flows from a sense of community, being inclusive of the entire community. But it doesn't have to always include government, people can organize in many ways.

News hype is an interesting topic in and of itself. Many of the same people who complain about "the media" being biased actively seek out blatantly non-objective sources of news and commentary to reassure their own confirmation biases. It's ironic.

- >> I vote for a new laptop for Jamie! :^) And it would be nice if NAMM
- >> brings more MIDI/USB keyboard controller choices...
- >
- > I vote for that as well. ;-))

Woo! :^)

Cheers,
-Jamie
www.JamieKrutz.com

> Regards,
> Dedric
>
>>
>> Cheers,
>> -Jamie
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>>
>>
>>> Dedric
>

Subject: Re: OT: 3 Quadrillion
Posted by [Dedric Terry](#) on Sun, 13 Jan 2008 00:52:23 GMT
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On 1/12/08 4:50 PM, in article 478952da\$1@linux, "Jamie K"
<Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:

>
> "Litigation crazed" - what's a normal level?
>
Ah, the devil's advocate argument - if there's an opinion, there's a
rebuttal eh? ;-))

> I agree that ethics and responsibility could be improved, in general, in
> our fine society.
>
> So consider this: better ethics and responsibility might have improved
> the government's performance in all phases of planning, preparation and
> response. Now, after the fact, it's possible that specific lawsuits
> addressing the failures might improve the ethics and responsibility of
> government in the future. Just to shine your light in a different direction.
>

I never said I wasn't implying both citizens and the government as an
entity. :-) But consider this...people make up government. It is not a
separate entity of beings called "them" or "they" that reside in a different
dimension playing by different laws of physics and at constant odds with the
beings in this dimension known as our country. Better ethics,
responsibility, integrity, and honesty in general means better people in
office too (it goes a little deeper than just those qualities, but that's
enough for now). New Orleans and Louisiana would do well to consider the
less than stellar performance of their own elected officials - just so we
aren't laying blame anywhere in particular and considering both sides,
without committing to either one.... ;-))

>
> News hype is an interesting topic in and of itself. Many of the same

> people who complain about "the media" being biased actively seek out
> blatantly non-objective sources of news and commentary to reassure their
> own confirmation biases. It's ironic.

>

Sure, but how does that apply to our roles in this conversation? A
generalization perhaps? But isn't that an assumption made without really
knowing both sides of the equation, or any individual's thought process?

The same concept applies as above - better ethics, responsibility,
integrity, honesty, etc... there are people working in the news industry as
well, most with at least some power to decide how to report a story.

Dedric

I'm guessing Korg might be building a new keyboard line on the M3 - since
that's basically what some of their website lit says. Don't know if we'll
see any derivatives at NAMM, but it's possible.

>

>>> I vote for a new laptop for Jamie! :^) And it would be nice if NAMM
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>>>> Dedric

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Subject: Re: OT: 3 Quadrillion

Posted by [Jamie K](#) on Sun, 13 Jan 2008 01:50:15 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Dedric Terry wrote:

> On 1/12/08 4:50 PM, in article 478952da\$1@linux, "Jamie K"

> <Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:

>

>> "Litigation crazed" - what's a normal level?

>>

> Ah, the devil's advocate argument - if there's an opinion, there's a

> rebuttal eh? ;-))

No, you're completely wrong about that. ;^)

But actually, the idea of how much litigation is the right amount is an interesting question. I'd say zero, ideally, but to get there we need some improvements in behaviors that may take litigation to accomplish... :^)

>> I agree that ethics and responsibility could be improved, in general, in
>> our fine society.

>>

>> So consider this: better ethics and responsibility might have improved
>> the government's performance in all phases of planning, preparation and
>> response. Now, after the fact, it's possible that specific lawsuits
>> addressing the failures might improve the ethics and responsibility of
>> government in the future. Just to shine your light in a different direction.
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> I never said I wasn't implying both citizens and the government as an
> entity. :-) But consider this...people make up government. It is not a
> separate entity of beings called "them" or "they" that reside in a different
> dimension playing by different laws of physics and at constant odds with the
> beings in this dimension known as our country.

Yep, I think you're restating what I thought I was saying. :^)

> Better ethics,
> responsibility, integrity, and honesty in general means better people in
> office too (it goes a little deeper than just those qualities, but that's
> enough for now). New Orleans and Louisiana would do well to consider the
> less than stellar performance of their own elected officials - just so we
> aren't laying blame anywhere in particular

Right, and the fed government, too. More integrity, honesty, ethics and responsibility for all.

and considering both sides,
> without committing to either one.... ;-))

:^)

There's a difference, though, between commitment and jumping to conclusions that merely support existing outlooks.

Also, there are usually more than two sides to anything.

And even when only two people are involved, there's one side, the other side and the truth.

At any rate, blame will be figured out by the courts. That's what they're for. I'll bet some of these Nawlins lawsuits don't go very far, and some of them do. Then I'll bet that the ones that don't will be heralded by those who think they're all groundless, and the ones that do will be heralded by those who think they're all valid, and no one will have to go through the bother of changing their mind about their initial reaction to lawsuits over Katrina.

>> News hype is an interesting topic in and of itself. Many of the same
>> people who complain about "the media" being biased actively seek out
>> blatantly non-objective sources of news and commentary to reassure their
>> own confirmation biases. It's ironic.

>>

> Sure, but how does that apply to our roles in this conversation? A
> generalization perhaps? But isn't that an assumption made without really
> knowing both sides of the equation, or any individual's thought process?

It wasn't directed at our roles in this conversation, just a general observation.

> The same concept applies as above - better ethics, responsibility,
> integrity, honesty, etc... there are people working in the news industry as
> well, most with at least some power to decide how to report a story.

Sure. Ethics everywhere.

Real journalists take it seriously:

<http://www.spj.org/ethicscode.asp>

> Dedric

>

> I'm guessing Korg might be building a new keyboard line on the M3 - since
> that's basically what some of their website lit says. Don't know if we'll
> see any derivatives at NAMM, but it's possible.

Interesting. There have also been pre-announcements of a couple of new toys I've been looking forward to: a new electronic drum kit from Yamaha and another one coming from the original developers of the DDrum. From what I've seen so far, though, it looks like both are short of the features I had hoped for. But I'll withhold final judgment until I have more of a chance to hear them and hopefully play them.

Three days to laptopville!

Cheers,
-Jamie
www.JamieKrutz.com

>>>> I vote for a new laptop for Jamie! :^) And it would be nice if NAMM
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>>>>> Dedric
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Subject: Re: OT: 3 Quadrillion
Posted by [Dedric Terry](#) on Sun, 13 Jan 2008 03:08:46 GMT
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On 1/12/08 6:50 PM, in article 47896ef5@linux, "Jamie K"
<Meta@Dimensional.com> wrote:

> But actually, the idea of how much litigation is the right amount is an
> interesting question. I'd say zero, ideally, but to get there we need
> some improvements in behaviors that may take litigation to accomplish... :^)

I hear you on that, and ditto. Maybe we should consider something besides litigation to get there... perhaps a little ole fashioned butt kicking? ;-)
Just kidding of course.... then again.... hmmm....

>

>

> Yep, I think you're restating what I thought I was saying. :^)

No actually I think you are restating what I was saying you were saying.
;-)) or something like that. lol

> Interesting. There have also been pre-announcements of a couple of new
> toys I've been looking forward to: a new electronic drum kit from Yamaha
> and another one coming from the original developers of the DDrum. From
> what I've seen so far, though, it looks like both are short of the
> features I had hoped for. But I'll withhold final judgment until I have
> more of a chance to hear them and hopefully play them.

>

> Three days to laptopville!

Nice. I'm hoping it won't be the potential 8-12 months before we see PC
support for the Euphonix. Maybe NAMM will bring more encouraging info along
those lines.

> Cheers,

> -Jamie

> www.JamieKrutz.com

>

>

>

>>>>> I vote for a new laptop for Jamie! :^) And it would be nice if NAMM
>>>>> brings more MIDI/USB keyboard controller choices...

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>>>>> Dedic
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