"12 O'Clock Boyz" Director Sues Lotfy Nathan and Overbrook Entertainment for Copyright and Trademark Infringement

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BALTIMORE, Dec. 18, 2018 /PRNewswire/ -- Taje Monbo, the Director and Producer of the *12 O'Clock Boyz* film series released in 2001 and 2003, has filed legal action in New York Federal Court against Lotfy Nathan, Oscilloscope Laboratories, and Overbrook Entertainment alleging unauthorized use of his copyrighted works and trademark.

For their roles in the production, distribution, and adaptation of Nathan's *12* O'Clock Boys, Eric Blair, Daniel Berger, Will Smith, Sony Pictures Entertainment, and others are also named as defendants in the lawsuit.



According to the complaint, Nathan's *12 O'Clock Boys* copies the "concept, setting, feel, mood, and approach" of Monbo's *12 O'Clock Boyz* film series. The complaint further alleges that Nathan's *12 O'Clock Boys* includes unauthorized clips from Monbo's films, and uses Monbo's image and voice without permission. Taje Monbo and Deafueh Monbo, who are Baltimore locals, own several trademarks for "12 O'Clock Boyz".

The lawsuit asserts that Nathan's *12 O'Clock Boys* is an unauthorized derivative work of Monbo's *12 O'Clock Boyz*. Hence, Overbrook Entertainment's feature adaptation of Nathan's *12 O'Clock Boys* infringes Monbo's copyrights and trademark, the suit states.

"It's unfortunate that a fellow filmmaker would appropriate my work in an effort to replace me in Baltimore's history as the creator of *12 O'Clock Boyz*," said Monbo.

The case is Monbo et al v. Nathan et al, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York, No. 1:18-CV-05930.

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