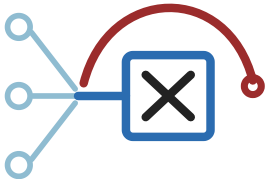


Principal Brief // two-minute read

PEOPLE-SEARCH

DATA REMOVAL

LITIGATION



Radaris.com Changed Hands. Not Your File.

A court took the websites from one of the best known people-search operations. What it ordered stopped applies only to a class of public officials. Everyone else's record was left where it was.

WHAT HAPPENED

On 27 August 2026 a New Jersey court entered final judgment by default against Radaris.com and two sister sites under Daniel's Law, which protects police, judges, prosecutors and their households. Fourteen domains have been transferred. The defendants have moved to vacate.

WHY IT REACHES YOU

If you have ever paid to be removed from people-search sites, radaris.com was on the list, and it is now a notice page. That looks like a win. The operation behind it is intact: other properties, resale partners, and records any of them can rebuild a listing from.

THREE THINGS TO TAKE FROM THIS

1

The order is scoped to officials

It transfers domains and bars further publication of covered officials' addresses. Unless you are one of them, it requires nobody to delete anything about you.

2

Litigation is not a privacy control

The plaintiff outlasted a decade-old attrition strategy. That works in a courtroom. It does not scale to hundreds of brokers, which is your actual problem.

3

Ask who your removal vendor is paid by

Money has been alleged to move between this broker network and a removal service. Whether yours has such ties is a question worth putting in writing.

DO THIS

- ☐ **YOU, THIS MONTH**
Search your own name again and read what returns. A dead domain is a channel closing, not a record deleted.
- ☐ **YOU, WITH YOUR SECURITY LEAD**
Ask your removal vendor to disclose, in writing, any commercial ties to people-search operators and its founders' prior businesses.
- ☐ **YOU, WITH YOUR FAMILY OFFICE**
Fund removal as a recurring, checked control. Court outcomes are not a substitute for one.

NOT THE STORY YOU MAY HAVE HEARD

Radaris has not been shut down, this was not the first order of its kind, and nothing here removed your information. The judgment came by default, the merits were never tried, and a motion to vacate is filed.

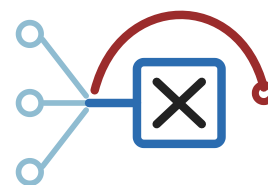
HOW SURE WE ARE

High on the judgment, its terms and its scope, which are public record. Lower on the revenue and ownership detail, which comes from one litigating party and from reporting the operators disputed.

THE FULL COMMAND BRIEF FOLLOWS: THE INJUNCTION'S REAL REACH, THE STEELMAN, AND ACTIONS FOR FAMILY OFFICES AND SECURITY TEAMS.

CB-253

Radaris lost the domains, not the file: judge a remedy by what it binds



"A court closed a retail channel and enjoined a class of records. Neither of those is the corpus, and the corpus is the product."

For a decade Radaris beat the people who sued it by outlasting them. In August a New Jersey court took its domains and enjoined further publication of covered officials' addresses. Both are real. Neither reaches the assembled file on everyone else, which sits with an operating group the order named only by the domains it ran.

BLUF. On 27 August 2026 the Superior Court of New Jersey entered final judgment by default against Radaris.com, Rehold.com and Trustoria.com in Atlas Data Privacy Corporation's Daniel's Law action, awarded seizure of the domains, and permanently enjoined the defendants and anyone acting in concert with them from further disclosing covered persons' protected information through affiliated sites, databases, systems or records however stored. Fourteen domains have been transferred. The defendants have moved to vacate on the theory that a domain name is not a legal entity and cannot be sued.

Two corrections to how this is being read. It is not the first order of its kind: a New Jersey court ordered a different Atlas defendant's domain transferred in September 2025, so transfer by default is an established ask in this litigation rather than a breakthrough. And the injunction, which is the part with real bite, is scoped to the protected information of Daniel's Law covered persons. For a principal outside that class, no part of this order requires anyone to delete anything. The statute behind it is contested but not failing: every court to test it has upheld it, and the open question is the federal facial challenge now before the Third Circuit.

The governing frame: judge a remedy by the layer of the information system it actually reaches. Source records, assembled corpus, operating entities, domains, resale partners, search residue. This order reached the domains, and reached into the corpus only for one protected class. The domain was the counter. The file was always the product.

WHAT THE COURT ACTUALLY DECIDED // THE ORDER, ITS REACH, AND ITS SCOPE

The order is broader than a domain transfer and narrower than a deletion order, and it decides nothing about whether the statute behind it survives constitutional review. Daniel's Law covers active, formerly active and retired judicial officers, law enforcement officers, prosecutors and child protective investigators in the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, plus immediate family members in the same household. It gives them a right to demand removal of home addresses and unpublished home telephone numbers, allows those claims to be assigned, and provides damages of \$1,000 per violation.

ATLAS DATA PRIVACY CORP. ET AL. V. RADARIS.COM ET AL., MID-L-000847-24 • 08 FEB 2024

Atlas and five individual plaintiffs filed in New Jersey Superior Court. The caption names domain names as defendants, which is the fact the pending motion to vacate is built on. An amended complaint followed on 27 May 2025 asserting claims assigned by approximately 21,760 covered persons.

The court found violations of Daniel's Law by Radaris.com, Rehold.com and Trustoria.com, awarded seizure of the domains to effectuate the statute's purposes, and entered permanent injunctive relief. Fourteen domains from the group have been transferred to date.

SCOPE OF THE INJUNCTION • JUDGMENT TEXT AS PUBLISHED BY ATLAS

The restraint runs to the defendants and all persons in concert with them, and extends beyond the three named sites to subdomains, affiliated domains, and any databases, computer systems, records or materials however stored. What it protects is the protected information of the individual plaintiffs and covered persons, not personal data generally.

COUNSEL STATEMENT TO KREBSONSECURITY • SEP 2026

Radaris's counsel has moved to vacate, arguing the judgment is void because a non-entity cannot sue or be sued, and has signaled appeals on the theory that the transfer is an unconstitutional forfeiture.

SO WHAT Read the injunction before the headline: it reaches records, but only records about a defined class of public officials, and only for as long as the judgment stands.

THE OVERSTATEMENTS ALREADY CIRCULATING // LOOSE READINGS AND WHAT HOLDS

The coverage is compressing a default judgment against three domain names into a verdict on an industry. Each of the loose readings below is close enough to true to travel, and each fails at the point where a principal would act on it.

FIGURE 1 // THE LOOSE READING AND THE NARROW ONE	
RADARIS WAS SHUT DOWN	Three domain names were adjudicated and fourteen transferred. The operating group, the assembled records, the remaining properties and the resale partnerships continue.
A COURT SEIZED A DATA BROKER	A court entered default after the defendants declined to appear. The merits were never tried, and a motion to vacate on entity-capacity grounds is pending.
THE COURT ORDERED THE DATA DELETED	The injunction bars further disclosure of covered persons' protected information across affiliated systems and records. It says nothing about anyone outside that statutory class.
THIS IS UNPRECEDENTED	A New Jersey court ordered a different Atlas defendant's domain transferred in September 2025. What is new here is scale and brand recognition, not the remedy.
DANIEL'S LAW WORKS	It produced leverage against defendants who abandoned the field. Its constitutionality has been upheld every time it has been tested and is still pending before the Third Circuit.
THE LAW IS ABOUT TO FALL	No court has struck down the New Jersey statute. A federal court held West Virginia's analogue facially unconstitutional in August 2025, which is a different statute in a different circuit.

Every court to reach the question has upheld Daniel's Law, which is the part of the story the industry's filings leave out. The statute has been tested at least four times since 2024, including once in the state's highest court, and has not lost.

FIGURE 2 // EVERY CONSTITUTIONAL TEST SO FAR, AND HOW IT CAME OUT

WHEN	COURT	WHAT IT HELD
NOV 2024	D.N.J.	Denied 37 data brokers' consolidated facial First Amendment challenge, reading a negligence standard into the statute rather than strict liability. Certified for immediate appeal days later.
JUN 2025	N.J. Supreme Court	Unanimously rejected a journalist's as-applied challenge in Kratovil, holding the official's address was a matter of public concern but the law narrowly tailored to a state interest of the highest order.
AUG 2025	D.N.J.	Rejected preemption under the National Voter Registration Act, and held it largely premature to resolve preemption under Section 230 and the Fair Credit Reporting Act.
APR 2026	D.N.J.	Denied a further Rule 12 challenge to constitutionality, which prevailing counsel reported as an application of strict scrutiny that the statute survived.
AUG 2026	N.J. Supreme Court	Answering a certified question, held that no mental state is required for actual-damages liability, removing the fault construction the 2024 ruling had relied on.
PENDING	Third Circuit	The consolidated facial challenge, argued July 2025, undecided.

Two qualifications keep that record from being the whole answer. Every win except Kratovil is district-level, and Kratovil answered an as-applied press question under the Daily Mail and Florida Star line rather than the facial, strict-scrutiny question the Third Circuit now holds. And the August 2026 certified answer removed the negligence construction the November 2024 ruling leaned on, so the statute the appellate court is reviewing imposes liability more strictly than the version the district court originally upheld. The brokers lost every round and still improved their position on appeal, which is what a durable litigation strategy looks like.

THE BEST CASE FOR THE OTHER SIDE

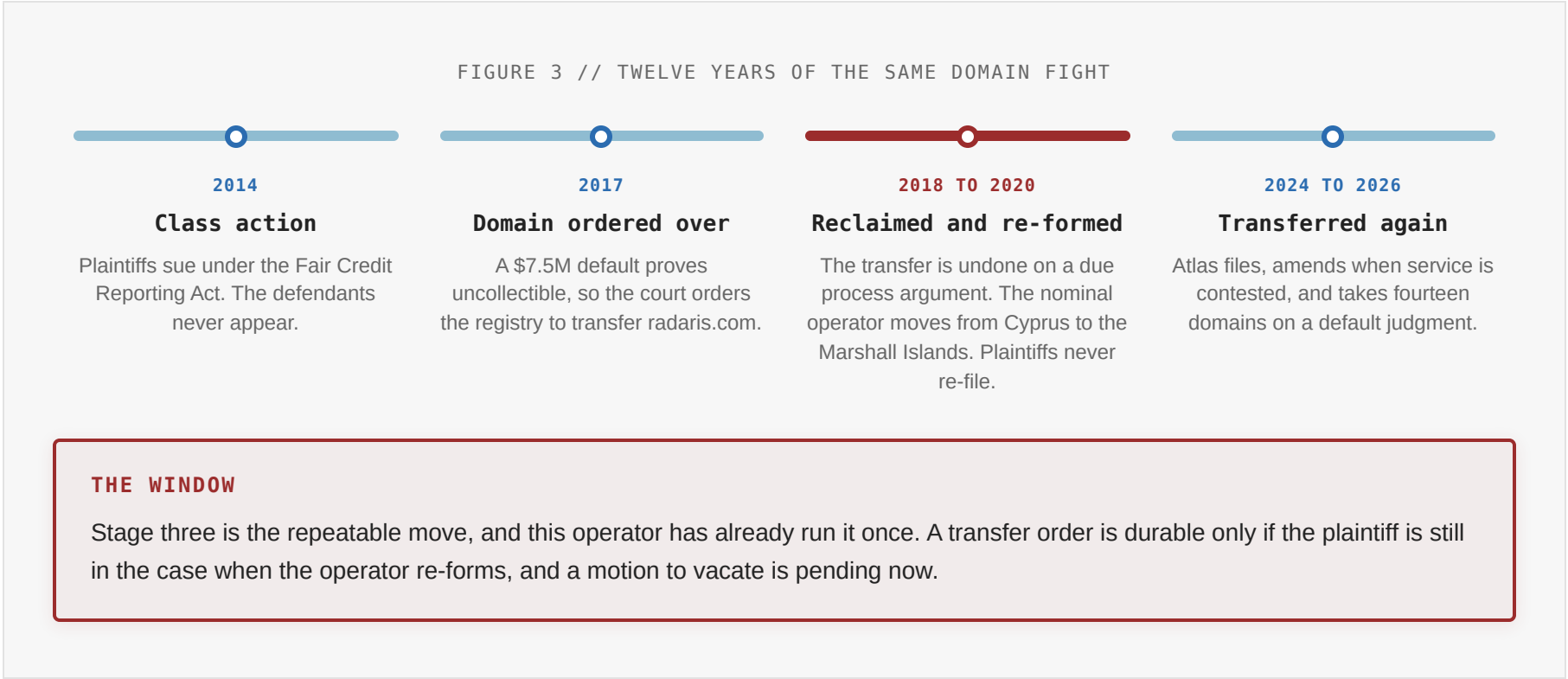
- + Daniel's Law restricts the republication of truthful information that governments themselves publish, which is the classic profile of a content-based speech restriction.
- + The New Jersey Supreme Court held on 12 August 2026 that no mental state is required for actual-damages claims, and the district judge who upheld the law had indicated a strict-liability reading would be far harder to sustain.
- + Claims are assignable and damages are fixed per violation, so a single corporate plaintiff asserting roughly 21,760 assigned claims can convert an unanswered notice into existential exposure.
- + Taking domains by default, in a case captioned against domain names, raises an entity-capacity and due process question independent of the merits.
- + Press-freedom groups warn that state analogues could be turned against reporting built on the same public records, a concern the New Jersey Supreme Court acknowledged in Kratovil even while rejecting the challenge.

All of that is live and none of it is frivolous. The narrow point is that it is an argument about the statute, not about this defendant's conduct. Reporting that the operators ran the business behind a chief executive who did not exist, which their own counsel is reported to have acknowledged, and the plaintiff's account of nominal operators moving through offshore jurisdictions as judgment approached, describe identification being evaded rather than speech being chilled. That is why these defendants lost by default rather than on the First Amendment. It is also worth weighing the arguments against the scoreboard: the statute has been upheld at every test, including by the state's highest court.

SO WHAT Build a posture that does not move on the appeal in either direction, because this statute protects officials and never covered your file to begin with.

WHERE THE EXPOSURE ACTUALLY LANDS // THE LAYERS, THE PARTNERS, THE VENDOR YOU PAY

For a principal the relevant unit is not radaris.com. It is the stack that produces a listing: source records, the assembled corpus, the operating entities, the domains, the resale partners, and the search residue that outlives all of them. A remedy is worth what the layers it reaches are worth. The 2017 round of this same fight shows why that is operational rather than academic.



Investigative reporting in March 2024 traced Radaris to two Massachusetts brothers operating behind a chief executive who did not exist, a name carried in investor profiles and in press releases soliciting money; counsel threatened a defamation suit and asserted the real owners were Ukrainians in Ukraine, and a June 2024 follow-up reported that the same counsel acknowledged the pseudonym. Atlas has told KrebsOnSecurity that a litigation corpus of more than 10,000 emails and documents ties radaris.com and at least twenty-five other people-search sites to one small Boston-area group, administered from shared mail domains, one payment card set and a single virtual office address. Read that as the plaintiff's theory of the enterprise, which it has an interest in proving: Atlas is an assignee-aggregator whose model depends on establishing that many nominal defendants are one enterprise.

FIGURE 4 // THE STACK, AND WHICH LAYERS THE ORDER REACHED

LAYER	WHAT THE JUDGMENT REACHED	WHAT SURVIVES IT
SOURCE RECORDS	Nothing.	The government filings and commercial feeds a listing is rebuilt from.
ASSEMBLED CORPUS	Enjoined as to covered persons' protected information only.	The rest of the corpus, unaddressed by the order and unaudited by anyone.
OPERATING ENTITIES	Three domain-name defendants, by default.	The group itself, and new entities on the pattern the litigation documented.
DOMAINS	Fourteen names moved to the plaintiff.	The rest of the estate, and any name registered tomorrow.
RESALE PARTNERS	Bound only if acting in concert with the defendants.	Independent marketing and search partners selling the same output under their own brands.
SEARCH RESIDUE	Nothing.	The name-to-record association persisting in results after the product is gone.

The commercial detail is where this stops being an industry story and becomes a personal one. Atlas's litigation summary, as shared with KrebsOnSecurity, puts radaris.com at roughly \$42,000 a month, sister property Veripages at roughly \$45,000 a month through a marketing partner, and as much as \$25,000 a month reaching the Radaris properties from a partnership with Onerep, a consumer data-removal service. Those are one litigating party's figures in an active case and are not independently confirmed. The category question they raise is older and better evidenced: reporting in March 2024 established that Onerep's founder had himself launched dozens of people-search sites and was still operating one of them. That is a reason to ask your own vendor a direct question, not a finding about your own vendor.

FIGURE 5 // THE CASE, TO SCALE

21.8K Covered persons whose assigned claims Atlas asserted in the amended complaint. JUDGMENT NOTICE, RADARIS.COM, SEP 2026	139 Defendants named across the February 2024 Daniel's Law filing wave, reported at the time as 118 suits. OBSCUREIQ DOCKET SET, FEB 2024	14 Domains transferred, against at least 25 people-search sites the plaintiff attributes to the group. KREBSONSECURITY, 16 SEP 2026	\$1K Statutory damages per violation, the lever that makes an unanswered notice existential. DANIEL'S LAW, N.J.S.A. 56:8-166.1
--	--	--	---

SO WHAT The question to put to a removal vendor is not how many sites it covers. It is which of them it pays, and who pays it.

READING IT PRECISELY // WHAT THIS INSTRUMENT IS GOOD FOR

The transferable lesson is about remedy selection, not about Daniel's Law. What worked was taking an asset and enjoining a class of records rather than chasing a money judgment, and it worked because three conditions held at once. The statute supplied per-violation damages and assignable claims, so

aggregated exposure justified the spend. The plaintiff was willing to spend past the point of rational recovery, including engaging an investigator abroad to test a claimed corporate structure. And the defendants' strategy assumed attrition, which had worked for a decade and had beaten this exact remedy once already.

The domain was the counter. The file was always the product.

That combination is a litigation model, not a privacy control. It does not scale to thousands of records held by hundreds of brokers, and no individual or vendor can run it at the cadence exposure actually accrues. What does generalize is the diagnostic: before crediting any remedy, regulatory or contractual, identify which layer of the stack it binds and whether anything downstream of that layer is obliged to change.

For a covered person under Daniel's Law or one of the analogues now in force in other states, the instrument itself is still worth using, and its value does not depend on the constitutional outcome: a properly served nondisclosure request creates a dated record of notice and response, which is what any later claim or negotiation turns on. A principal outside that statutory class has no equivalent notice right here, and should not treat this order as a template for their own exposure.

► THE PRACTICAL TEST

The test is not whether a broker's page returns an error. It is whether you can name *the source of the record, the entity holding it, and the date it was last refreshed*. A domain that stops resolving is a channel closing. A record that stops being refreshed is exposure beginning to decay, which is slower and less complete than deletion: a stale address still establishes history, and a stale number still links identities.

The judgment closes a retail channel and enjoins one protected class of records, leaving the wider corpus, the operating group and its resale partners in place.	STRONG / JUDGMENT TEXT
Domain transfer by default is an established remedy in this litigation rather than a first, having been ordered against another Atlas defendant in September 2025.	STRONG / COURT RECORD
The outcome required defendants who stopped appearing and a plaintiff willing to outspend any rational recovery, so it is a litigation model and not a scalable privacy control.	STRONG / CASE RECORD
A documented commercial relationship exists between at least one large consumer removal service and people-search operations, making vendor conflict a question worth asking.	STRONG / REPORTED 2024
The specific monthly revenue figures attributed to the Radaris properties are accurate.	MODERATE / ONE PARTY'S LITIGATION SUMMARY
Equivalent properties reappear under new registrants, and the judgment is challenged, within the next year.	INFERENCE / PRIOR OPERATOR BEHAVIOR
Every court to reach the question has upheld Daniel's Law, and no court has struck down the New Jersey statute.	STRONG / RULINGS ON THE RECORD
Daniel's Law survives the Third Circuit in substantially its current form.	UNRESOLVED / FACIAL CHALLENGE PENDING
Radaris has been shut down and its data removed from circulation.	REJECTED / NOT WHAT THE ORDER DOES
The order requires deletion of records about the general public.	REJECTED / SCOPED TO COVERED PERSONS

POSTURE

FOR PRINCIPALS

- Re-run your own name this month and read the results rather than the headline. A domain that no longer resolves is a channel closing, not a record deleted.
- Ask your removal vendor, in writing, to disclose any commercial relationship with people-search operators and any prior businesses of its founders or owners. Treat a refusal as the answer.
- If you or a household member is a covered person under Daniel's Law or a state analogue, file the nondisclosure request and keep proof of service. If you are not, do not plan around this statute: it gives you nothing.

FOR FAMILY OFFICES

- Assume the transfer can be undone. A motion to vacate is pending on entity-capacity grounds, and the same operator reversed an identical order in 2018, so monitoring registrant and entity substitution on these properties is a live control rather than a formality.
- Treat removal as a recurring monitored control with recurrence testing, not as a purchase with a completion date.
- Budget so the appeal does not matter. Every court has upheld the statute so far, but the federal facial challenge is genuinely open, and this lever was never available for anyone outside the covered class in any case.

- Where a principal is a covered person, preserve the nondisclosure request, the delivery proof and the response. Per-violation statutes turn on the notice record, not on demonstrated harm.
- Track three inputs before advising on any state-analogue strategy: the Third Circuit appeal in Atlas Data Privacy Corp. v. We Inform, LLC, the New Jersey Supreme Court's 12 August 2026 holding that the statute requires no mental state, and the disposition of the motion to vacate in this case.
- Verify vendor destruction claims at the record level. A takedown that clears a URL does not establish that a record was destroyed or that it will not be rebuilt. This is intelligence analysis, not legal advice.

CONFIDENCE High confidence on the judgment, its date, the seizure and injunction terms, and the statutory class they protect, all drawn from the judgment text as published and from contemporaneous reporting. High confidence that domain transfer by default preceded this case, and that every constitutional test of the statute to date has been resolved in its favor. Moderate confidence on the revenue attributions and the enterprise network, which rest on one litigating party's account and on investigative reporting the operators publicly disputed. Unresolved: the constitutional challenge and the pending motion to vacate. Rejected: that the operation has been shut down, or that the order requires deletion of records about the general public.

METHOD Built from the judgment text as published at the transferred domain, cross-read against the 16 September 2026 report of the transfer, the March and June 2024 investigations of the operators, the September 2025 Cole Information default opinion establishing the transfer remedy, the record of constitutional rulings from November 2024 through August 2026 including Kratovil and the certified-question opinion, and ObscureIQ's own docket set of the February 2024 filing wave, which supplies the defendant counts and taxonomy. Cross-read against house doctrine on broker-derived records and on verified destruction versus written assurance.

SOURCES Judgment notice and quoted judgment language, [radaris.com](#), retrieved 17 Sep 2026 (published by the plaintiff). Superior Court of New Jersey, [Atlas Data Privacy Corp. v. Cole Information Services](#), ESX-L-7209-24, 19 Sep 2025. KrebsOnSecurity, [Data Broker Radaris Loses Domains in Privacy Fight](#), 16 Sep 2026; [A Close Up Look at the Consumer Data Broker Radaris](#), 08 Mar 2024; [follow-up on the fictitious chief executive](#), Jun 2024. Supreme Court of New Jersey, [Atlas Data Privacy Corp. v. We Inform, LLC \(A-8-25\)](#), decided 12 Aug 2026; [Kratovil v. City of New Brunswick \(A-6-24\)](#), decided 17 Jun 2025. D.N.J. constitutionality and preemption rulings of 26 Nov 2024, Aug 2025 and Apr 2026. Third Circuit appeal No. 25-1555, pending. Covered-person definition, N.J.S.A. 47:1B-1 as amended by P.L. 2023, c.113. ObscureIQ Atlas docket set, 139 defendants, Feb 2024.

Scope note: the judgment language quoted here is as published by the prevailing party at the transferred domain and should be confirmed against the filed order before external reproduction. Defendant counts and taxonomy in Figure 4 are ObscureIQ's own, confirmed against the filed docket captions; the 118 figure reported at the time counts suits, not defendants. Revenue figures and the enterprise-network summary are attributed to Atlas as a litigating party with an interest in proving a single enterprise, and to investigative reporting the operators disputed; they are not asserted as adjudicated fact. The April 2026 ruling is characterized here from prevailing counsel's account and should be read against the opinion itself. Nothing here is legal advice, and no view is offered on the merits of the pending constitutional challenge or the motion to vacate.

OBSCUREIQ INTERNAL ANALYSIS // ARCHIVE COMM-253-RADARIS-DOMAIN-TRANSFER-DANIELS-LAW-2026Q3 // XREF CB-246 CB-247 CB-249 // ACCESS PUBLIC · OPEN TO ALL READERS AT RELEASE