

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF APPEAL
FIRST DISTRICT, STATE OF FLORIDA

JOHN MOLL and KATHERINE
MOLL,

Appellants,

v.

MARK BLAIR and PAULINE
BLAIR and FLORIDA FREEDOM
NEWSPAPERS, INC.,

Appellees.

NOT FINAL UNTIL TIME EXPIRES TO
FILE MOTION FOR REHEARING AND
DISPOSITION THEREOF IF FILED

CASE NO. 1D07-4153

Opinion filed June 10, 2008.

An appeal from the Circuit Court for Okaloosa County.
William F. Stone, Judge.

J. Stanley Chapman and Judson H. Orrick of Equels Law Firm, Tallahassee, for
Appellants.

John A. Bussian of The Bussian Law Firm, PLLC, and Harry E. Barr of Chesser &
Barr, P.A., Shalimar, for Appellees.

Gregg D. Thomas and James J. McGuire of Thomas & LoCicero PL, Tampa, and
Mark J. Prak and Charles E. Coble of Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey &
Leonard, Raleigh for Amici Curiae Southern Newspaper Publishers Association and
The Florida Press Association.

PER CURIAM.

Appellants, John and Katherine Moll, seek review of a Final Summary

Judgment entered in favor of Appellee, Florida Freedom Newspapers, Inc., that dismissed Appellants' claims for false light invasion of privacy and defamation. Because Appellants' false light claim overlaps defamation, it must be treated the same way. See Gannett Co. v. Anderson, 947 So. 2d 1, 8 (Fla. 1st DCA 2006) ("To the extent that false light invasion of privacy overlaps defamation, it must be treated the same way. Otherwise, the relatively short statute of limitations and other strict requirements in the law of defamation would have no effect at all."), review granted Anderson v. Gannett Co., 954 So. 2d 1155 (Fla. 2007). As such, Appellee's defamation defenses, which preclude the defamation claim, also preclude Appellants' false light claim.

Accordingly, we AFFIRM the Final Summary Judgment.

WEBSTER, DAVIS, and HAWKES, JJ., CONCUR.