

Expanding pizza chain wins injunction vs Manalapan shop

Asbury Park Press

Posted on March 31, 2011 by David P. Willis

Florida-based Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza has a problem with Coal Pizza in Manalapan.

The chain, which recently opened up its first New Jersey restaurant in Edison, says Coal Pizza, located on Route 9, copied its menu and various signature dishes and items offered by Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza. It also infringed on its trademarks, including the chain's motto: "Our Pizza is Well Done."

Earlier this week, U.S. District Court Judge Freda Wolfson signed a permanent injunction against Coal Pizza, prohibiting them from infringing on trademarks owned by Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza.

"We encourage competition in this country, but mimicry is a real problem," said Red Bank lawyer Justin M. Klein, who represents Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza, which has more than 25 locations in Florida, Pennsylvania, Delaware, New York and New Jersey.

Additional stores are expected to open in New Jersey in the coming months.

A lawyer for Coal Pizza could not be reached for comment.