

# How to React When You Are Attacked On Twitter

“With great power comes great responsibility.” This was a valuable lesson Peter Parker (aka Spiderman) learned from his uncle. Another lesson he learned is that his power and influence created a lot of enemies for him and for the people he loved. This can be a tough pill to swallow online. Eventually EVERYBODY online will be attacked by someone. It isn’t a matter of IF, it is a matter of WHEN. So what do you do about as an individual? And how should we react as a community?

I am writing this blog post in response to a series of online attacks that have been leveled against a number of lawyers through a Twitter account by the name of @asshatlawyer. This unsavory character has used the new list feature on Twitter in a very predatory way. Rather than using the Twitter list function to list his favorite people on Twitter, like I have with my A-list, this individual is using the list to disparage the attorneys he dislikes by labeling them as “asshat lawyers.”

Scott Greenfield points out the problem, now here is the solution. I would encourage everybody reading this blog post to simply block @asshatlawyer. Simply go to his Twitter list and select “block” on the side bar. This will accomplish three goals. First, it will prevent him from including you in his “Asshat Lawyers” list, second, if enough people block him he can no longer use the “list” function, and third- if many people block him then Twitter will simply suspend his account. [CLICK HERE TO BLOCK @asshatlawyer](#)

(UPDATE: AS OF JANUARY 4TH @ASSHATLAYWER’S ACCOUNT ON TWITTER HAS BEEN SUSPENDED MORE DETAILS [HERE](#))

With new tools like Twitter and older tools like blogging we will face myriad types of attacks over then next decade. Rather than try to ignore the new tools, and responding with strongly worded letters, we need to fight fire with fire. If we don’t understand the tools, how can we possibly represent our clients and ourselves in an educated way? With great power comes great responsibility. Its not just for superheroes anymore.