

Hubby sued on aided suicide

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A right-to-die advocate who went to jail for helping his invalid wife commit suicide was hit yesterday with a \$10 million wrongful-death suit by her family.

The legal action also seeks to bar George Delury, a freelance editor, from profiting from a book he has written about the suicide.

In the book "But What if She Wants to Die?" Delury, 64, admits suffocating his sleeping wife, Myrna Lebov, with plastic bags to insure her death — a fact he kept from police and prosecutors.

"It was not an assisted suicide. It was murder, plain and simple," said attorney Steven Mintz, who filed the

suit in Manhattan Supreme Court on behalf of Lebov's sister, Beverly Sloane, and other relatives.

Lebov, 52, a writer crippled by multiple sclerosis, died from a drug overdose after drinking a lethal cocktail of honey, water and anti-depressants that Delury prepared last July 4.

Yesterday, Delury said the lawsuit was "primarily motivated by vengeance."

"There isn't going to be any money," he added. "I'm flat broke, bankrupt and out of a job."

In a diary that formed the basis for his book, Delury chronicled his efforts over a period of months to persuade his wife to take her own life because she was failing men-

tally and physically.

He later pleaded guilty to attempted manslaughter and was sentenced to four months in prison.

Sloane said her sister did not want to die but succumbed to pressure from Delury.

"There was a gross miscarriage of justice," she said. "Four months in prison in exchange for Myrna's life is an abomination."

Mintz said the family wants the book profits seized under the state's Son of Sam law, which prevents convicted criminals from profiting from their crimes.

The suit also names Delury's publisher, Carol Publishing, and his literary agent Bill Adler as defendants.



ANGRY: Beverly Sloane, sister of Myrna Lebov, discusses filing \$10 million suit against Lebov's hubby, George Delury.