

RONALD BOBROFF

B.A. (LAW, PSYCHOLOGY) L.L.B (UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND)

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My Ref : Ronald Bobroff

Your Ref : Marelise van der Merwe

Date : 17 July 2020

Dear Madam

RE: MEDIA ENQUIRY : FIN 24

I refer to your email received by me shortly after midnight Sydney time last night and requiring a response by 14:00 South African time today – very short notice.

I received a phone call on the 30th June 2020 at approximately 19:30pm Sydney time from Catherine Rice, who requested an interview with me “about your life in Australia as well as the allegations against you in South Africa”.

I note that both you and she work for the same organisation, and would be obliged if you would confirm whether or not you are working together with regards to any article you intend publishing concerning myself.

I am intrigued by the timing of your mail, given that Venter was rightfully found guilty of extensive theft and fraud perpetrated on the Practice, during her employment by attorney Phillipa Farraj aka Leisegang on behalf of Ronald Bobroff and Partners Inc.

Given that Venters conviction was more than four months ago, I would be obliged if you would please indicate what has prompted your sudden need, and presumably that of Ms. Rice to do an article on me concerning Venter.

It has been my experience that every previous article written about my son and I, and the Practice, invariably by Discovery media lackey Mr Anthony Beamish, or others known to be closely associated with him were always linked to an impending event, and quite frankly given the plethora of invariably malicious and defamatory articles churned out by Mr Beamish and his cronies, everything is now old news.

It is important for me to inform you – although if you have read my website as you state you have done, you would by now be aware that the Court appointed curator to our Practice – Mr Johan van Staden has repeatedly stated that:

B.A. (LAW, PSYCHOLOGY) L.L.B (UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND),
LEGAL PRACTITIONERS ADMISSIONS BOARD EXAMINATIONS,
NEW SOUTH WALES COLLEGE OF LAW PRACTICE MANAGEMENT COURSE
ISRAELI BAR ACADEMIC RE-QUALIFICATION EXAMINATIONS
FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE LAW SOCIETY OF THE NORTHERN PROVINCES - SOUTH AFRICA

- The Practices trust account balanced to the cent – i.e. no trust funds whatsoever are missing,
- No claims of misappropriation of trust monies have been lodged against the Legal Practitioners Fidelity Fund by any of the Practices former clients – numbering many thousands of persons.

This fact was again confirmed directly by the Legal Practitioners Fidelity Fund in its email dated 15 June 2020 addressed to our attorney Mr John Cameron that “We confirm that we have no contingent claims registered against your clients” i.e. not a single one of the Practices thousands of former clients have alleged misappropriation.

Being the senior journalist you are, I sincerely hope that you will publish the documented fact that neither my son nor I misappropriated a cent of trust monies from any Practice client.

I do indeed stand by the contents of my website, and I thank you for taking the trouble to have read same.

Likewise everything on my website referring to me, my son, and his wife having to flee South Africa for fear of our lives. Nothing which has occurred subsequently has changed the factual perceptions as to the extent of the power and influence of Discovery and its attorney on senior persons within South Africa’s Law enforcement agencies.

In this regard you will of course be aware of the recent reports in the Daily Maverick, (with which I note you are also involved), concerning Edward Nathans payment to Mr Paul O’Sullivan of an amount of R3.5million.

Although members of attorneys Edward Nathan tried to soft soap the reasons for such payment, Mr. O’Sullivan is quoted in the same report stating that: “It was my contention that ENS’ assistance to Dudu Myeni contributed to my unlawful arrest, detention, torture and malicious prosecution and that this has caused me physical harm and monetary damages”.

As you will have noted on my website my wife’s unlawful arrest on trumped up allegations was likewise brought about by Discovery’s attorney ENS’ George van Niekerk.

With regards to question number 3, I am unable to understand why this is anything other than an invasion of my privacy, given that it is firmly and irrevocably established by the various reports by our Practices Curator, as also the Fidelity Fund itself that: **there was absolutely no misappropriation of client trust funds whatsoever**, and therefore my personal financial circumstances with respect are no one’s business.

However I remain unemployed, have received absolutely no income from my Practice since March 2016, and are most grateful for the generosity of family and friends.

With regards to all your questions relating to Venter, I trust you accept that she is a self-confessed thief and fraudster, and her dishonest attempts to exculpate herself should be regarded as being just that.

However there is a sinister background as to how she came to make these bizarre allegations.

Full details of same as also a comprehensive response to the same questions now being raised by you, will be found in my email to Mr Beamish and which is attached hereto.

You will note his threats to deliberately defame us and cause us as much harm as possible when he states: "The story which I propose to write for a local publication will also hopefully be syndicated abroad, inter alia, in the Sydney Jewish Report and The Daily Telegraph".

You will also note a letter by the Curator dated 11 March 2020 in which he states the following, and which I attach for your convenience:

"I wish to advise that Mr Beamish did not approach me in this regard. I furthermore wish to confirm that I have not made any allegation of either you or Darren having being involved in the alleged fraud perpetrated by Ms Z Venter".

I also attach a copy of the summons which was served upon attorney Farraj aka Leisegang and her secretary Ms Venter by RBP Inc, at the instance of our partner Mr Stephen Bezuidenhout setting out in detail how it is alleged that Venter and Farraj colluded in their joint endeavour to defraud the Practice.

I understand a complaint of serious unprofessional conduct has been made against Ms Farraj/Leisegang by the Curator and Mr Bezuidenhout to the Legal Practice Council.

I also understand, that despite Lt. Colonel Tobias Marais of the Hawks having being furnished by Mr Bezuidenhout and the Curator with the same information and supporting material as that referred to in the particulars of claim against Farraj, no prosecution has been instituted against her, and no reasons have to the best of my knowledge have been provided as to why this is the case.

Given that Venters allegations are obviously engineered fabrications, concocted by for and by her, same are irrelevant.

I do however wish to point out that there is "no case" against me, as was confirmed in a letter by our attorney Mr David Bayliss dated 11 May 2018, and a copy of which is attached.

I trust that I have dealt with all your queries, but would deem it a favour and in the interest of ethical and fair journalism, that you furnish me with a copy of any article you intend publishing **before** same is published for comment.

Finally I suggest you contact Mr Bezuidenhout on 083 737 4183, and the Curator Mr Johan van Staden on 082 494 7440, both of whom are in a much better position than I to tell you about the machinations of Venter and Farraj.

Sincerely,

Ronald Bobroff

Dictated but not checked, emailed therefore unsigned