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**SWORN STATEMENT**

I, the undersigned Paul O'Sullivan, ID No. 550826 5700 085, state under oath as follows:

1

I am a Certified Fraud Examiner and the owner of Paul O'Sullivan & Associates. Paul O'Sullivan & Associates, 'POAA' are a specialist firm of Forensic and Loss Control Consultants with offices in Sandton, Nairobi and London. I have 40 years of experience in law enforcement and criminal investigations and have served in the police in three different countries.

2

In October 2014, POAA were instructed by Ronald Bobroff 'Bobroff' to establish whom had stolen the proprietary and confidential information from his law firm Ronald Bobroff & Partners Inc 'Bobroffs' and passed that information on to civil litigation opponents of Bobroffs, as well as to a certain journalist Tony Beamish 'Beamish'.

3

Because I had been supplied with copies of e-mails sent to Beamish, I had established that the main suspect at Bobroffs was a candidate attorney, by the name of Cornelia Sophia van der Merwe 'van der Merwe'. I asked Bobroff if I could interview her and had one of my directors, Miss Melissa Naidu, 'Naidu' accompany me on that interview, as is standard practice in such matters.

4

On the 13 October 2014 I, together with Naidu, interviewed Van Der Merwe, at Bobroff's offices, in an attempt to get her to admit and explain why she stole the proprietary information of Bobroffs. Since we were already in possession of evidence of her sending such information to Beamish, the interview was what we describe as an admission seeking interview. Admission seeking interviews are, by their very nature not as easy going as fact finding interviews.

5

After initially denying the allegations I put to her above, she subsequently fully confessed that she had in fact unlawfully stolen and e-mailed the confidential and proprietary information of Bobroffs, to Beamish and that she had done so at the instance of Beamish, with whom she had formed a conspiratorial relationship. She also admitted that the electronic files she had sent to Beamish, a freelance journalist, were the confidential and proprietary information of Bobroffs. She further admitted that her letter of appointment contained a confidentiality clause and that she had wilfully breached this.

6

I made it clear to her that what she had done constituted a criminal offence. However, if she was sincere in the fact that she had been 'persuaded' by Beamish to send him the stolen data files, then I could attempt to negotiate that she would not be pursued criminally or civilly if she undertook to give her full cooperation and make a sworn statement setting out what she had sent to Beamish, thereby implicating Beamish in receiving stolen property. She then said she would do whatever we required, including making a full sworn statement setting out the facts. By this stage it was 12h30 and I was conscious of a work commitment at my offices, and a clinic appointment at 14h30 at Milpark Hospital. I estimated that the process to take a detailed sworn statement from van der Merwe would likely take a couple of hours, and I felt that if we started the process at my offices, Naidu could then complete the process in my absence, with one of my other staff sitting in on the process.

7

I then suggested to van der Merwe that we go to my offices, in Sandton, to complete the sworn statement that she had agreed to give. I said she could travel with us, and that Melissa would drop her back later. She readily agreed to this and said she wanted to first call her fiancé, but that she had no airtime left on her phone. I said she could use Naidu's phone at no cost, so that we could be on our way. Van der Merwe said she would prefer to use the phone at her desk, so I said I would meet her at my car and that Naidu would go with her to fetch her things.

8

I then proceeded towards my car, but stopped to have a quick word with Bobroff, to advise him that I would be taking van der Merwe back to our offices with us and that she would be dropped off after completing the sworn statement. I then went past reception on the way to my car and was joined by Naidu and van der Merwe who walked behind us on the way to my car. At this point I need to make it clear that van der Merwe was coming with us voluntarily. My reason for saying this will become clear later.

9

We drove back to our offices and only engaged in small talk in the car. Naidu was sitting in the front passenger seat and van der Merwe was sitting in the back. After about 15 minutes we were at our offices in Sandton and went inside the boardroom. Before we could get down to business, van der Merwe received a call on her phone. She then walked outside of the boardroom and out of the offices and took the call outside. She shortly came back in and wanted to hand me the phone to speak to someone. I asked her who it was and she told me it was her lawyer. I took the phone and the male voice on the other end started interrogating me, by asking if I was a police officer or what was I. I advised him I did not engage in such discussion at the phone and handed the phone back to van der Merwe.

10

van der Merwe then said that she would rather get legal advice before making any sworn statement. I then advised her that I was terminating the process, which included a termination of the offer to assist her in not being pursued civilly and/or criminally and I instructed Naidu to take her back to her offices, which she did. When Naidu returned from dropping her off, I instructed her to send an e-mail to van der Merwe with the draft format of a sworn statement, that would suffice in terms of her earlier admissions.

11

On 2015-10-13, I received an SMS from van der Merwe, asking me to forward Naidu's e-mail to her, which I did. I asked her to deal with Naidu going forward, as I was going to be out of town for a few days.

12

On 2014-10-15, I received a detailed e-mail from van der Merwe, containing scandalous and dishonestly constructed allegations. I responded to her false and contrived allegations in detail. And sent a copy of my response to her, to Bobroff. A true copy of the e-mail exchange is attached hereto and marked ANNEXURE 'POS-1'.

13

Notwithstanding the fact that van der Merwe had admitted stealing and sending the stolen documents to a clearly biased and dishonest journalist, she then, in conspiracy with Beamish, commenced a campaign of vilification and defamation against myself, Naidu and Bobroff. She made it clear in my interview with her, that she is penniless, so I have, for the most part ignored her and Beamish's unlawful conduct. However, rather than seeing their unlawful conduct diminish, the opposite seems to be the case.

On 2015-03-05 I received an e-mail from Wynand Grobler, the managing editor at Carte Blanche, with a letter, wherein he put it to me that van der Merwe had alleged that I had 'kldnapped' her. I have attached that letter hereto as ANNEXURE 'POS-2'. On 2015-03-06, I sent a detailed response to Grobler, which included just two of the many patently false and defamatory tweets of van der Merwe. I do not use Twitter and do not know how to use it, so am blissfully unaware of the scandalous tweets being sent out by both van der Merwe and Beamish, but have had many people telling me that they are saying scandalous things about me.

I have brought all of the above to the attention of Bobroff and requested him to institute action against both van der Merwe and Beamish, for their unlawful conduct. I also pointed out to Bobroff that their current conduct is typical of persons caught out in criminal conduct, in that they attempt to divert attention away from their own criminal conduct, by creating false allegations and attacking their accusers. I have no doubt that van der Merwe and Beamish's current conduct and scandalous and false allegations are nothing more than a red-herring, intended to smoke-screen what they have done.

Prior to me signing this statement, I have carefully read through it and am satisfied that the facts are correctly and accurately recorded. The following questions were put to me in person by the commissioner of oaths and I entered the answers thereto in my own handwriting:

'Do you know and understand the contents of this statement?'

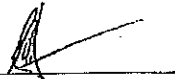
Yes

'Do you have any objection to taking the prescribed oath?'

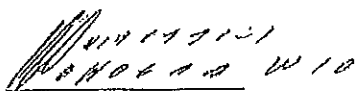
No

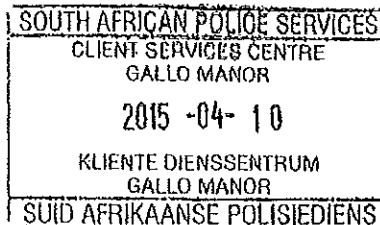
'Do you consider the prescribed oath binding on your conscience?'

Yes

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul O'Sullivan

I certify that the deponent has acknowledged that he knows and understands the contents of this statement which was sworn to before me and the deponents signature was placed thereon in my presence at GALLO MANOR on this TENTH day of APRIL 2015

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner of Oaths  
M.L. M... ..



## ANNEXURE 'POS-1'

**From:** Paul O Sullivan  
**Sent:** 15 October 2014 09:59 AM  
**To:** 'coravdmerwe@gmail.com'  
**Subject:** RE: FW: Investigation i.r.o. theft of Intellectual property & breach of confidence - draft sworn statement

Dear Ms van der Merwe

Your e-mail of even date, obviously drafted with the assistance of a criminal lawyer, whom you hope will get you off the hook by further dishonesty, has reference:

Your wild allegations are denied in their entirety.

For the avoidance of doubt:

1. Our meeting was recorded, which meeting included you admitting that you 'stole' the proprietary property of Ronald Bobroff & Partners and sending private information of clients to persons outside the company. I do not discuss any modus operandi with Ronald Bobroff, other than your modus operandi. Your ability to twist words is noted for the record, as the recording will in due course prove.
2. You are not being truthful when you say I represented that I was a 'prosecutor' and you know it. If you repeat that under oath, you will make yourself guilty of the offence of perjury. For the avoidance of doubt I offered to obtain an undertaking not to prosecute you for theft, if you undertook to assist in the investigation. Against that offer, you then undertook to come clean in writing and under oath. Since you have clearly changed your mind about 'assisting' you can expect that you will face the music for your patently criminal conduct.
3. I note that you now dispute the authenticity of the documents you were shown. The taped record shows you instantly recognised same and admitted you had sent it, save for two mails, which although you did not admit sending, you could not deny sending, feigning memory problems. However, your body language made it clear you were culpable.
4. It is common practice not to offer legal representation during internal investigations. When you asked for it, I suspended further discussions with you and asked Melissa to immediately take you back to your office, as I then saw you as a hostile witness.
5. You are being dishonest when you say you were 'kidnapped'. If you repeat that under oath, you will be guilty of the offence of perjury. For the avoidance of doubt, you were 'invited' to come back to our offices to make a sworn statement. Upon arrival at our offices, you spoke to a male person at the phone, you then handed the phone to me and the person then started screaming down the phone at me. I then instructed Melissa Naidoo to take you back to your offices, as you had by then displayed your intention to be hostile. All of that meeting was recorded as well. Sworn statements of Melissa and staff of Bobroffs, as well as video footage of you leaving under your own steam, will now be secured, to combat your blatant lies.
6. I never 'hacked' your e-mail account, and I find this allegation highly defamatory. I do not have the skills nor inclination to intercept any person's communications. To the best of my



knowledge and belief, the e-mails in question were sent by you to a third party, who then gave the e-mails to your employer and when confronted with same, you admitted to having sent the mails without authority, including admitting the offence of theft of proprietary information and the passing out of the office of strictly private information. We have that admission on tape. The pictures you have sent mean nothing to me. It is however apparent that you have since closed the account, in order to destroy evidence. That is also an offence, but obviously a lesser offence than that of theft, which explains why you did it. However, if you are prepared to bring your i-phone and laptop computer to us, we will be able to arrange for the forensic reconstruction of the evidence. If you decline to do so, this will be seen by us as an admission of the veracity of the allegations you are facing.

7. As a candidate attorney well conversant with constitutional rights, you should also know that as forensic consultants carrying out an investigation, we are not law enforcement officers and are therefore not bound to advise you of your rights, even after you admit to serious offences of theft. You had a draft affidavit e-mailed to you after you requested legal advice, you were not under any lawful obligation to sign it.

8. Your allegations regarding Ms de Costa I cannot comment on, as I was not there. I do however note that you attempted to steal company documents before you left. I also record that you verbally threatened to 'kill' one of your colleagues, details of which will be included in the docket against you.

I note that you have therefore now recanted on your decision to cooperate, in which case you can expect the law to take effect in its normal course.

As for your conveniently chosen assumption on unlawful dismissal, I understand that, were it not for a breakdown of Mr Bobroff's printer, you would have had your letter of suspension already. I have requested that this be sent to you without further delay, and we will arrange to prosecute your disciplinary hearing as soon as reasonable possible

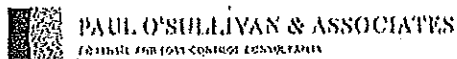
My failure to deal in detail, or at all with any of your dishonestly constructed e-mail under reply, is not to be construed as an admission of the correctness thereof and my rights remain strictly reserved.

Best wishes,

Paul O'Sullivan CFE



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Tel: +44 7784 886 408 (UK)  
Fax: +27 86 689 2315



Co. Registration No. 2012/077700/07  
PO Box 78200  
SANDTON  
2146  
Republic of South Africa

**From:** Cora van der merwe [mailto:coravdmerwe@gmail.com]

**Sent:** 15 October 2014 07:08 AM

**To:** Paul O Sullivan; Ronald Bobroff; Ronald Bobroff

**Subject:** Re: FW: Investigation i.r.o. theft of intellectual property & breach of confidence - draft sworn statement

15.10.2014 @ 07:01

IN RE: THREATS/KIDNAPPING OF A CANDIDATE ATTORNEY ON  
INSTRUCTIONS OF PRINCIPAL RONALD BOBROFF

Mr O'Sullivan

Following our meeting in the Boardroom of Ronald Bobroff and Partners, I wish to put the following on record:

1. That you advised me that you met with Mr Ronald Bobroff at counsel's chambers and that you discussed the *modus operandi* how to deal with the allegations against me. You advised me, that Mr Ronald Bobroff at all relevant times, approved/instructed you to:

- o To access my private gmail account without my authorization or consent
- o To forcefully remove me from the office and kidnap me under the threat that Ronald will charge me criminally if I do not co-operate.

At no relevant times, you advised me that I had the right of a legal representation, and when I requested same, you replied that your instructions are that NO third parties may get involved.

You further advised, that if I get a legal representative involved, all indemnity offered by Ronald Bobroff will fall away. Despite the serious allegations and threats of sending me to jail, based on documentation illegally obtained on instructions of my employer, you never advised me that I had the right to remain silent, and that anything that I say may be used against me.

You further misrepresented yourself as a prosecutor with the authority to grant me criminal indemnity. You further offered that you will use me as state witness against Mr Tony Beamish. I guess Mr Bobroff was in agreement with this misrepresentation, as he instructed you to offer me that criminal indemnity in exchange for an affidavit myself.

I dispute the authenticity of the documentation shown to me during the consultation. I noted that some of the emails shown to me reflected the name "Cora van der Merwe" which is incorrect. I can therefore only conclude that someone deliberately committed fraud by changing/amending my emails.



Since you/Ronald Bobroff hacked my gmail account, cortjie@gmail.com, I was unable to access it. As at the time of my correspondence to you, I have proof that 112 attempts were made by you and Ronald Bobroff to illegally to access my gmail account. without my consent. Some proof attached.

I confirm the receipt of the affidavit that you prepared for me. It was sent by your employee Melissa Naidu.

In the light of the fact that my gmail address is unresponsive after you/Ronald Bobroff illegally accessed it, I am unable to provide you with any lists, copies or further information that relates to any allegations against me. I am further unable to confirm the authenticity of any documentation that is currently illegally in the possession of Mr Ronald Bobroff and yourself.

I shall not and can not sign the affidavit that you drafted on instructions of Ronald Bobroff.

I confirm that Melissa Naidu from you office requested me to vacate my desk pending further investigations. I confirm that I have not received a suspension letter to this effect.

In fact, Natascha da Costa brought the affidavit that you drafted on the 13 October 2013 to me and informed me that Mr Bobroff requested me to remove all personal belongings and leave the office immediately.

After an half an hour she told me to hurry up, to take my "fuckin stuff" and "fuck off". She instructed one of the employees to call Mr Bobroff's secretary, Rachelle, with the view call the police. I guess she intended to have me forcefully removed from the offices of Ronald Bobroff and Partners

Natascha da Costa instructed me never to return and that she pay the money that Ronald Bobroff and Partners owes me, over into my bank account.

I have no other option then to conclude that I have been unfairly dismissed without a disciplinary hearing, I will therefor make a full disclosure, under oath, to the Law Society regarding my employment with Ronald Bobroff and Partners. I will request condonation to interrupt my articles under special circumstances, which I shall detail in my affidavit.

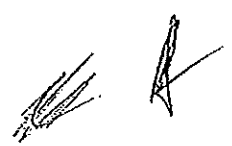
Yours truly

CORA VAN DER MERWE

CORA VAN DER MERWE

TEL: 071 712 9453

FAX: 086 692 7895



On Mon, Oct 13, 2014 at 4:00 PM, Paul O Sullivan <[Paul.osullivan@poaa.za.com](mailto:Paul.osullivan@poaa.za.com)> wrote:

Dear Madam,

As requested per SMS.

Please deal with Melissa going forward, as I will be out of town.

Best wishes,

Paul O'Sullivan CFE

**From:** Melissa Naidu  
**Sent:** 13 October 2014 01:57 PM  
**To:** [cortjie@gmail.com](mailto:cortjie@gmail.com)  
**Cc:** Paul O Sullivan  
**Subject:** investigation I.r.o. theft of intellectual property & breach of confidence - draft sworn statement

Dear Cora,

Further to the admissions you made to us in our meeting this morning, please find our draft sworn statement for your urgent attention.

This is sent to you on a **STRICTLY WITHOUT PREJUDICE** basis and any offer (of indemnity) made to you today, was also made on a without prejudice basis.

Until this matter is resolved, please be so kind as to vacate your desk and stay at home. You are not permitted to contact anyone at work until we have finalised matters.

We hope to hear from you very soon.

Should you have any queries, please telephone me.

Best wishes,

**Melissa Naidu - Director**

[melissa.naidu@poaa.za.com](mailto:melissa.naidu@poaa.za.com)

Tel: +27 84 564 2007

Fax: +27 86 234 5733



**PAUL O'SULLIVAN & ASSOCIATES**  
FOUNDED 1980 AND 2013 CONTINUED EXPANSION

Co. Registration No. 2012/077700/07

P.O. Box 78200

Sandton


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






COMBINED ARTISTIC PRODUCTIONS CC  
Registration no: 2006/179221/23  
Members: Jonathan K Sparkes, Georje Fatsias-Mazaraki  
& Nomahlubi V Sizemane

ANNEXURE 'POS-2'

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369 Oak Avenue  
Randburg 2194 South Africa

 P O Box 1099 Pinegowrie 2123

 Telephone +27 (0) 11 886 8899  
 [www.cartablanca.co.za](http://www.cartablanca.co.za)

Dear Mr O Sullivan

We are doing a story about Ronald Bobroff and Partners. We have interviewed Mrs Cora Van Der Merwe who alleges you kidnapped her.

We are also aware that you have a recording where she agrees to go with you willingly to your offices. We would appreciate it if you could make this recording available to Carte Blanche so that we can clear up any misunderstanding.

Regards

Wynand Grobler

Managing Editor: Carte Blanche

[t] +27 11 886 8899

[c] +27 83 700 3478

[f] +27 86 508 3204

[www.cartablanca.co.za](http://www.cartablanca.co.za)

ANNEXURE 'POS-3'

**From:** Paul O Sullivan  
**Sent:** 06 March 2015 12:50 PM  
**To:** 'Wynand Grobler'  
**Cc:** Melissa Naidu; Kim Marriott  
**Subject:** RE: media enquiry

Thanks Wynand,

We spoke at the phone.

Naturally, her allegations are patently false and the falseness of same will be proven in due course, when there are no outstanding legal issues. I can prove that she was definitely NOT kidnapped, by me or any of my staff. You could even interview some of the staff of Bobroff to confirm this fact.



**Cora vd Merwe** @coravdmerwe  
@quintindavis @TonyBeamish On the same  
modus operandi Paul O'Sullivan framed a  
woman 4 attempted murder I have no  
sympathy for him #RotInJail

1 Mar

Details

9:54



**Cora vd Merwe** @coravdmerwe  
@Tshikovha\_Envi @TonyBeamish "Vendetta  
and lies in the City" - Starring #Paul O'Sullivan  
and the Bobroffs

1 Mar

Details

9:44

The simple fact is that we were hired to find out who was behind the private information leaks at the premises of the law firm. We discovered it was Cora van der Merwe and she admitted it in an interview with us. We invited her back to our offices to finalise her statement, as I had another meeting that required my attendance there. She walked behind me and Melissa to our car and then went to my office, which was a journey of about ten minutes. Once at my offices, she asked if she could phone her lawyer, we agreed. The person on the other end then started shouting abuse at me down the phone. I then terminated the call and instructed Melissa to take her back to her offices, as she had now become a hostile witness.

She later denied her admissions and her and her boyfriend (Beamish) put this cockamamie story together as a red herring to her and Beamish's patently unlawful conduct.

As you are no doubt aware the van der Merwe lies against me are sub-judice and I have no intention of airing it in public whilst it remains sub-judice. She claims to have opened a case against me, yet no-one has ever been to investigate.

However, once the legal challenges have been removed, I am happy to meet with you, if van der Merwe first of all submits to a polygraph, (within the next week) undertaken by the Polygraph Institute of South Africa, 'PISA' based on the following questions:

To be asked in this order:

1. Are you lying about being forced to travel with Paul O'Sullivan last year on 13 October?
2. Are you lying about being kidnapped on 13 October last year?
3. Did you make up the story about being kidnapped?
4. Have you colluded with anyone to make up a story about being kidnapped?

The polygraph would have to be conducted now, ie within the next week. If she is not prepared to submit to that test within a week, then I believe that proves she knows she will fail the test.

I will gladly pay for the test, (since she is penniless by her own version of events).

In the meantime, I reserve my rights and as to the patently defamatory lies of this woman and her boyfriend Beamish, who have conjured up a story to shift the focus away from their own unlawful conduct. It's no wonder she proposed a deal to resign instead of being found guilty at an enquiry and dismissed. From what I hear, having conjured up the deal, she then recanted on it. It's also no wonder her ex-husband had to obtain an interdict against her for her crazy conduct.

Please give an undertaking NOT to share the sworn statements proving her lies, with her or Beamish, before I send them to you.

Best wishes,

Paul O'Sullivan CFE



paul.osullivan@poaa.za.com  
Tel: +27 82 821 1666 (RSA)  
Tel: + 44 7784 886 408 (UK)  
Fax: +27 86 689 2315

Handwritten signature or initials in black ink, located in the bottom right corner of the page. The signature appears to be a stylized name or set of initials.

**From:** Wynand Grobler [mailto:Wynand@carteblanche.co.za]  
**Sent:** 05 March 2015 05:03 PM  
**To:** Paul O'Sullivan  
**Subject:** media enquiry

Dear Mr O' Sullivan

Please find attached a letter requesting information for a story we are currently working on.

Regards



Wynand Grobler  
Managing Editor, Carte Blanche  
(l) +27 11 886 8899  
(c) +27 83 700 3478  
(f) +27 06 500 3204  
[www.carteblanche.co.za](http://www.carteblanche.co.za)