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Our Ref MOK/JN/JT/JM/BE4547.1
Your Ref
Date 8 February 2011
Email mokane@petersandpeters.com
Direct Line 020 7822 7755

By Courier

Dear Sirs

RE: SHAHER TRADING COMPANY ('STC')

We act on behalf of Shaher Abdulhaq as head of the Abdulhaq family, owners of STC and its various subsidiary companies.

Our client has recently been sent from one of his company's long-standing clients, Xerox Corporation, a letter from you dated 4 December 2010 (the '*December Letter*'), a copy of which is enclosed. This does not constitute any authorisation to you to disseminate the December Letter, or any similar letters, to anyone other than your legal advisors in connection with the matters with which this letter deals.

Our clients are utterly appalled by the December Letter, that alleges in the plainest terms, amongst other matters (and we highlight the most serious allegations):

- (1) That Shaher Abdulhaq is "actively shelter[ing]" his son Farouk "in Yemen and beyond";
- (2) That Shaher Abdulhaq assisted Farouk to leave the UK in March 2008; and
- (3) That Shaher Abdulhaq is "linked to corruption and unethical business practise [sic]"

These allegations and innuendos are completely untrue. Indeed they are nothing more than scurrilous and malicious nonsense. Contrary to suggestions in the media, since 2008 Shaher Abdulhaq has publicly supported the investigation in the UK and has urged his son to co-operate with the UK authorities. He has also been proactive and creative in using

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both diplomatic and legal channels to resolve the matter in a way that ensures justice for all sides.

The December Letter is clearly part of an ongoing campaign by the private lobbying group “Martine’s Memorial Foundation for Justice” (*MMFJ*). The entirely illegitimate object of that correspondence and the letters appears to be a blatant attempt by you, acting in concert with MMFJ:

- (a) to destroy our clients’ business and personal reputation with those in positions of authority and influence in the United States, the United Kingdom and a number of other jurisdictions;
- (b) to procure our clients’ business partners to breach their contracts with our clients;
- (c) intentionally to interfere unlawfully in our clients’ economic and other interests by raising unsubstantiated and libellous allegations of serious wrongdoing with our business partners;
- (d) to make false statements concerning our clients calculated to cause economic harm to our clients and their businesses;
- (e) to conspire to injure our clients’ economic and other interests;
- (f) to influence, again quite improperly in the circumstances, our clients’ long-standing business partners, thereby damaging our clients’ economic interests
- (g) generally, to damage our clients’ business and ability to conduct business in these jurisdictions and internationally.

The December Letter demonstrates that you are willing to disseminate misinformation about our client on the pretext of using diplomatic channels. Public servants with your degree of influence are expected to have conducted rather more careful research before embarking upon a course that has such momentous impact for not only our clients, but also for all their thousands of employees and the hundreds of local businesses which their companies support. Your actions are wholly inconsistent with the duties and dignity of your parliamentary office.

Our clients’ business and professional reputations and the economic interests of Shaher Trading Company risk being irreparably damaged by your conduct.

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Our clients' immediate concern is that the enormous damage that you may have caused them should be mitigated as soon as possible.

In those circumstances our clients now require the following immediate steps are taken:

- (1) that you disclose immediately the names of individuals, companies and other recipients of the December Letter and any letters in a similar vein about our clients;
- (2) that you disclose copies of all such correspondence to our clients;
- (3) that you undertake that you will not, whether in this jurisdiction or anywhere else in the world, further publish the contents of the December Letter or any similar allegations defamatory of our clients;
- (4) that once proper disclosure has been given to our clients of those to whom the December Letter, and any similar letters or reports have been sent, you will send an immediate and unqualified retraction and apology to such persons and organisations in terms to be agreed;
- (5) that you confirm to our clients those persons and organisations to whom the retraction has been sent;
- (6) that you will cease and desist from any further attempt to undermine our clients' business or personal reputations by any further purported underhand investigations and/or similar improper means;
- (7) your proposals to compensate our clients for the damage that has been done, and will continue to be done by your conduct as set out above; and
- (8) that you will make payment in full of our clients' legal costs in dealing with this issue.

Please provide an urgent response to the above.

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In the interim our clients' rights are expressly reserved, including their rights to commence proceedings against you without further notice for defamation, malicious falsehood, conspiracy to injure and deliberate and malicious damage to our clients' economic interests.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature consisting of two stylized capital letters 'P' and 'P' with an ampersand '&' between them, all written in a single, fluid stroke.

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Encs