

31 July 2015

Cameron Slater

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by email

Dear Cameron

COLIN CRAIG: DEFAMATION CLAIM

- 1 We act for Colin Craig and have been instructed by him to prepare defamation proceedings against you.
- 2 The proceedings will largely relate to numerous defamatory statements you have made about Mr Craig on your blog <http://www.whaleoil.co.nz/> and in an interview on 19 June with Larry Williams and Barry Soper on Newstalk ZB.
- 3 The blog publications in question are too numerous to reference or reproduce here, but they include seriously defamatory and constantly repeated statements of "fact" regarding Mr Craig (which you have told the public are supported by "irrefutable" documentary proof (Newstalk ZB interview 19 June)).
- 4 The defamatory allegations include statements that Mr Craig (to list only some of the statements and a few of the occasions of publication):
 - 4.1 sexually harassed Rachel MacGregor, including misusing his position as leader of the Conservative Party and financial issues to pressure her to sleep with him (28 June, 22 June, 20 June);
 - 4.2 by means of that sexual harassment and similar sexual harassment of other women cheated on his wife Helen (28 June, 27 June, 26 June);
 - 4.3 as a reflection of the seriousness of his actions settled Miss MacGregor's sexual harassment claim with a "*large payout*" of a six figure sum (Newstalk ZB interview 19 June, Blog 1 July, 21 June, 20 June, 19 June);
 - 4.4 sent Rachel MacGregor lewd and sexually explicit text messages ("*sex bombs*"), (which were numerous, unsolicited and unwanted) (28 June, 20 June, Newstalk ZB interview 19 June);
 - 4.5 engaged in behaviour with Rachel MacGregor which was so morally reprehensible that the Board of the Conservative Party had to put a chaperone in place to protect her (20 June);

- 4.6 sexually harassed at least one other employee (1 July, 28 June);
 - 4.7 is a calculated and constant liar, who for many months lied to the Board of the Conservative Party and to the public (1 July, 23 June, 21 June);
 - 4.8 consistently used and abused his position of power as leader of the Conservative Party for personal financial and political gain (1 July, 20 June);
 - 4.9 sexually victimised vulnerable women ("*guys like this never have just one victim*" and "*the only difference between him and [Graham] Capill*" is that "*he may not have gone for kids*" (26 June, email: Whaleoil to John Stringer 15 June 2015, 4:32 pm).
- 5 The purpose of the proceedings, which will be filed in the High Court, is to prove that these and other defamatory statements you have published about Mr Craig are untrue and to restore Mr Craig's reputation.
- 6 Mr Craig intends claiming \$650,000 damages, including aggravated damages. You are continuing to publish defamatory allegations about him and he reserves the right to claim more.
- 7 You have chosen to publicly confirm the truth of your defamatory allegations and to threaten Mr Craig (on 29 July) with a "very rough ride" if he tries to mitigate the damage to his reputation by issuing defamation proceedings. In the circumstances, there appears to be little hope that you have a genuine interest in discussing the wording and terms of a full retraction and apology, so we intend filing and serving the proceedings without further notice to you.

Yours faithfully



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