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Your Ref:
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11 June 2014

Tan Tock Seng Hospital
11 Jalan Tan Tock Seng
Singapore 308433

BY FAX & POST
Fax No. 6252 7282

Ministry of Health
College of Medicine Building
16 College Road, Singapore 169854

BY FAX & POST
Fax No: 6224 1677

Dear Sirs,

PUBLIC STATEMENT ON ROY NGERNG

Mr. Roy Ngerng is being privately sued for defamation by Mr. Lee Hsien Loong arising out of certain statements he published for which he has issued apologies.

Pending a final judgment of the Singapore Courts of the civil proceedings for defamation, that lawsuit is sub judice. Its outcome remains a matter for the Courts to determine. That is the rule of law.

The law of defamation is complex. It may entail analysis of technical issues arising out of the pursuit of proceedings after apology and the assessment of quantum of damages. It includes issues that may give rise to an appeal and the determination of such an appeal.

Mr. Roy Ngerng had been employed as a patient coordinator by the Tan Tock Seng Hospital. On account of his statements his employment has been terminated. The Tan Tock Seng Hospital has issued a public statement in which it cites the defamation as a basis for justifying the termination of his employment

stating that people cannot defame someone else without basis, which essentially means knowingly stating a falsehood to the public.

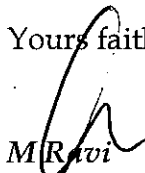
The Ministry of Health is not a party to the contract of employment between Mr. Roy Ngerng and the TTSH which the employer has terminated. The MOH has nonetheless issued a public statement in which it supports TTSH's decision stating that Mr Ngerng's actions show a lack of integrity and are incompatible with the values and standards of behaviour expected of hospital employees.

Neither the TTSH nor the Ministry of Health are parties to the civil litigation, whose final determination awaits the judgment of the Courts.

As Roy Ngerng's Advocate in the defamation proceedings which are before the Court, and in the interests of maintaining respect for the judiciary and public confidence in the rule of law, it would seem appropriate to request that restraint be exercised in relation to issuing public statements about decisions and inferences in relation to matters that are intricately connected to the subject matter of the litigation.

In these circumstances, and while the civil proceedings are before the Court, it is to be regretted that the Ministry of Health has seen fit to issue a public statement that it supports TTSH's decision to terminate Mr Ngerng's employment, at this time.

Yours faithfully,



M Ravi
cc. client