

Saturday, 17 January 2015

Our ref: ALK/CEA/SUR/78230241-668453

- (1) Howard Lee
The Online Citizen

- (2) The Opinion Collaborative (Limited) /
The Editorial Team, The Online Citizen
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BY EMAIL
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BY POST & BY EMAIL
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**Attention: Terry Xu, Executive Editor /
Andrew Loh, Editor**

Dear Sirs,

Article titled "Inventor forced by MINDEF to close company over patent rights"

1. We refer to the article authored by Howard Lee titled "*Inventor forced by MINDEF to close company over patent rights*" published on your website, *The Online Citizen*, on or around 15 January 2015 (the "**Article**").
2. We are writing to respond to the false and defamatory statements made against Wong & Leow LLC (the "**Firm**") and require that you take the immediate actions set out in paragraph 7 below.
3. In the Article, the following statements were made:
 - (1) that "...Mindef's representing lawyers from Wong and Leow LLC accidentally faxed him [Dr. Ting] a letter from Syntech, dated March 2009 and addressed to Mindef, outlined the company's clear intent not to pay any heed to Dr Ting's patent;" and
 - (2) that "[a]fter receiving the fax, Dr Ting said Wong and Leow LLC frantically called him to ask him to destroy the letter."
4. In a video embedded in the Article (the "**Video**"), Dr. Ting Choon Meng ("**Dr. Ting**") says (amongst other things), "*In fact, very interestingly, the fax was actually faxed wrongly to us. We know it because, immediately after the fax, the secretary called up and asked us to destroy that letter. The next morning, the lawyer called up from Wong & Leow, and asked us to destroy the letter.*"

5. The above statements mean and are understood to mean that the Firm had acted negligently. This is a false and baseless allegation and constitutes a serious libel against the Firm. The letter from Syntech which had been referred to above was not sent by the Firm to Dr. Ting or Mobilestats Pte Ltd (“**Mobilestats**”), whether accidentally or otherwise. In addition, nobody from the Firm “*frantically called*” Dr. Ting or Mobilestats asking that the letter be destroyed.
6. The Article has been read and continues to appear on your website (at <http://www.theonlinecitizen.com/2015/01/inventor-forced-by-mindef-to-close-company-over-patent-rights/>). It is and continues to be accessible to all. You have also published a link to the Article on your Facebook page (at <https://www.facebook.com/theonlinecitizen>) and the Facebook page of Andrew Loh (<https://www.facebook.com/andrewlohph>). The Video also remains on your website embedded in the Article.
7. We therefore require you to take the following actions:
 - (1) immediately remove the Article and Video from your website, *The Online Citizen* (<http://www.theonlinecitizen.com/>);
 - (2) immediately remove the links to the Article on your Facebook page (at <https://www.facebook.com/theonlinecitizen>) and the Facebook page of Andrew Loh (<https://www.facebook.com/andrewlohph>); and
 - (3) within three (3) days of the date of this letter, publish an apology and an undertaking in terms of the draft which is enclosed. The apology and undertaking is to be published with prominence on the homepage of *The Online Citizen*.
8. Please provide us within three (3) days of the date of this letter your written confirmation that you have complied with and will comply with the above conditions.
9. Separately, amongst other objectionable comments, the Article gave the impression that MINDEF was making unmeritorious claims in relation to the patent in issue and on the costs of legal proceedings that were commenced by Mobilestats. The statements are mischievous in not acknowledging the Court Judgement that the said patent is invalid and the patent is revoked, and further, the findings of the Court on the amount of costs that should reasonably be paid by Mobilestats. It is not our intention to re-litigate the matter in the media. We say only this. It is easy, but wholly inappropriate, to give a slanted and self-serving spin on the dispute without subjecting that to the checks and scrutiny of a judicial process. This is even more egregious given that the comments disregard and disrespect the judicial decisions that have been made on the issues.
10. All our rights are expressly reserved.

Yours faithfully,



WONG & LEOW LLC

Enc.

APOLOGY AND UNDERTAKING

1. On or around 15 January 2015, *The Online Citizen* (<http://www.theonlinecitizen.com/>) (“**TOC**”) published an article authored by Howard Lee entitled “*Inventor forced by MINDEF to close company over patent rights*” (the “**Article**”). A video was also embedded within the Article (the “**Video**”). TOC published links to the Article on its Facebook page (at <https://www.facebook.com/theonlinecitizen>) and on the Facebook page of Andrew Loh (<https://www.facebook.com/andrewlohhp>).
2. TOC recognises that statements made in the Article and Video mean and is understood to mean that Wong & Leow LLC had acted negligently. TOC admits and acknowledges that this allegation is false and without foundation.
3. TOC unreservedly apologises to Wong & Leow LLC for the distress and embarrassment caused by this allegation.
4. TOC has removed the Article and the Video and the links to the Article and undertakes not to make any further allegations to the same or similar effect.

Terry Xu, Executive Editor, *The Online Citizen*
Andrew Loh, Editor, *The Online Citizen*
Howard Lee, Commentaries Editor, *The Online Citizen*