Annex A



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By Registered Post and Email

No. of pages (3)

Our Ref: AG/CIV/DM/AGC/2017/1

21 July 2017

Mr Li Shengwu

Dear Sir,

CONTEMPT OF COURT

- 1. On 15 July 2017, you posted on your FaceBook page (url: www.facebook.com/li.shengwu01) the following statement: "Keep in mind, of course, that the Singapore government is very litigious and has a pliant court system. This constrains what the international media can usually report." ("the Post"). The Post was followed by a link to an editorial published by the New York Times in April 2010 entitled "Censored in Singapore" ("the Article").
- 2. The Article, *inter alia*, described the Singapore Government as an authoritarian regime which aggressively uses the Singapore judicial system to silence its critics, even where such criticisms are fair or valid. The Article also described the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew as the designer of "draconian press laws", which have been used to suppress legitimate criticism.
- 3. The clear meaning of the Post, in referring to "a pliant court system", is that the Singapore Judiciary acts on the direction of the Singapore Government, is not independent, and has ruled and will continue to rule in favour of the Singapore Government in any proceedings, regardless of the merits of the case. This assertion is reinforced by your reference to, and clear endorsement of, the Article.
- 4. The Post was republished widely in Singapore shortly after it was posted. This was an entirely foreseeable consequence, in light of various circumstances including the following:
 - (a) that you are the grandson of the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew;

- (b) the highly inflammatory nature of your assertions, in particular against the independence of the Singapore Judiciary. These assertions directly contradict Mr Lee Kuan Yew's values and the judicial system which he spent his entire public life upholding and defending, and would therefore be very topical; and
- (c) the timing of the Post, coming shortly after a highly publicised debate in Singapore, including in the Singapore Parliament, in respect of allegations by members of your family against the Prime Minister of abuse of power, and your postings publicly supporting your family.
- 5. The Post is an egregious and baseless attack on the Singapore Judiciary and constitutes an offence of contempt of court.
- 6. We ask that you purge the contempt, by doing the following:
 - delete and remove the Post from your FaceBook page and any other social/online media and other documents in your possession, custody or control;
 - (b) sign a written apology and undertaking in terms of the draft enclosed; and
 - (c) issue the said signed written apology and undertaking by posting the same prominently on your FaceBook page.
- 7. Please comply with paragraph 6 above by 5.00pm on 28 July 2017.

Yours faithfully,

Francis Ng, SC

Senior State Counsel

Attorney-General's Chambers

Encl: Draft apology and undertaking

To: Attorney-General's Chambers, Singapore

LETTER OF APOLOGY AND UNDERTAKING

I made a FaceBook post on 15 July 2017 where I made false and baseless allegations about the lack of independence of the Singapore Judiciary.

- I accept that the assertions in the post were wrong, and are in contempt of the Singapore Judiciary. I regret my actions and apologise unreservedly for the same.
- I have deleted the post from my FaceBook page and on all other media in my possession or control. I hereby undertake not to repeat the allegations, or make any further similar allegations.

Li Shengwu [DATE]

Annex B

27 July 2017 Francis Ng, SC

Dear Sir,

I refer to your letter dated 21 July 2017, which was received in Singapore on 26 July 2017.

Please let me have till 5 pm on 4 August so that I may seek advice and respond.

Sincerely,

Li Shengwu Junior Fellow

Harvard Society of Fellows





Our Ref: AG/CIV/DM/AGC/2017/1

27 July 2017

Mr Li Shengwu

Dear Sir,

CONTEMPT OF COURT

- 1. We refer to our letter of 21 July 2017 and your letter of 27 July 2017, which we received at approximately 10.15am this morning, acknowledging receipt of our aforesaid letter.
- 2. We agree to your request to extend the time for compliance with paragraph 6 of our letter to 5.00pm on 4 August 2017.
- 3. An email titled "AG/CIV/DM/AGC/2017/1 CONTEMPT OF COURT" with a copy of our letter of 21 July 2017 attached was also sent by these Chambers to you at shengwu_li@fas.harvard.edu at about 4.32pm on 21 July 2017. Please confirm that you have also received the aforesaid email and the attached copy of our letter of 21 July 2017. A copy of this letter is also being sent to the above email address.

Yours faithfully,

Francis Ng, SC

Senior State Counsel

Attorney-General's Chambers