One Bermuda Alliance 58 Reid Street, Hamilton, HM11, Bermuda 441-294-3264

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2015

By Email

Re: ONE BERMUDA ALLIANCE Defamatory internet posts and publications

## **WITHOUT PREJUDICE**

Dear Hon. Premier Michael Dunkley, JP, MP

I write today in connection with the identification and pursuit of documented and verifiable instances of libelous statements across the internet.

I have been made aware of various posts which have been confirmed to emanate from The One Bermuda Alliance on forums around the internet, namely Twitter and Facebook. These particular posts make reference Thomas Christopher Famous, Makai Dickerson, and myself, Eron Hill.

I have testable evidence confirming that the One Bermuda Alliance (1bermudaaliance) have used social media to make post and comments that contain spurious, apocryphal and highly defamatory comments towards myself, which contain malicious falsehood. In doing so, defamatory comments are being communicated to countless people throughout the world, posing a serious threat to my reputation.

These abhorrent comments appear to have a political agenda. The intent being to damage my reputation and the reputation of those seen in the photo.

The defamatory threads are as follows:

https://twitter.com/1bermudalliance/status/607162382545059842

https://twitter.com/1bermudalliance/status/607162802248126464

https://twitter.com/1bermudalliance/status/607336479925207041

https://twitter.com/1bermudalliance/status/607292106588028928

https://twitter.com/1bermudalliance/status/607154766859235328

https://twitter.com/1bermudalliance/status/607162382545059842

This small sample of the posts within the aforementioned threads illustrate the defamatory and actionable nature of the content contained. This is not an exhaustive list, but merely a sample exemplifying the nature of the discussion.

The allegations which will be the subject of a possible action are in summary as follows:

On June 6<sup>th</sup> 2015 The One Bermuda Alliance (1bermudaalliance) twitter page posted a tweet which contains a photo of Thomas Christopher Famous, Makai Dickerson, and myself Eron Hill that has been tampered with, altered, and embedded with words that were not included in the original. The photo has been embedded with the wording "Catherine Jenner Support Group". I find this to be extremely juvenile, distasteful, disrespectful and defamatory.

The One Bermuda Alliance (1bermudalliance) twitter account then wrote 'Opposition PLP makes mockery of women & transgendered' above the photo. Notwithstanding that none of the persons identified in the photo are elected PLP officials, the photo purports to insinuate that those in the photo were mocking women and transgendered, nothing could be further from the truth.

On Wednesday June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 a request was made by the group calling themselves 'Bras for a Cause' asking for support by way of silent and peaceful demonstration against the proposed One Bermuda Alliance legislation that would affect early diagnosis for breast cancer.

Bermudians of different ages, races, and social classes gathered on Cabinet grounds to support each other and the greater cause of early and annual mammograms for early detection. Many showed their support by placing remembrance bras on the Cabinet Grounds to signify women who are suffering from or have passed on from breast cancer.

I attended this event in support of the cause. While there I met two good friends; Thomas Christopher Famous and Makai Dickerson who also came to show support. A group of ladies asked us to sport the bras, and in a lighthearted effort to show our unwavering support for a very serious cause, we donned these symbolic items.

From a personal perspective, I have lost my grandparents to cancer; the other gentlemen in the cause also share in that lost as Mr. Famous has lost three grandparents to cancer and Mr. Dickerson lost his sister to Breast Cancer.

The mockery of this tribute to fallen and surviving Bermudians metaphorically elicits the sound of fingernails desperately scraping at the bottom of a barrel. I am simultaneously disgusted and saddened that these altered photos, with such an abominable and cheapening caption have been promulgated into cyber space by the party which you lead.

This is anything but good leadership or good governance by example, but rather a blemishing of a great cause being diminished by gutter politics. I have to perform mental gymnastics of Olympic proportion when I ask myself how the government which you lead Mr. Premier, could suggest that we were making a mockery of women; that suggestion is utterly ludicrous and with

the greatest degree of respect is evidence of the ever-widening chasm that this sitting government has with the people of this country.

## **Legal proceedings**

I am prepared to file civil proceedings against the One Bermuda Alliance. These proceedings would seek remedies including but not limited to the following:

- An order from the court for a public apology to Thomas Christopher Famous, Makai Dickerson and myself, Eron Hill.
- An injunction to restrain you from publishing the same or similar statements in the future; and
- Any legal costs that may be incurred in the process

It can be noted that I personally will not be seeking damages for the defamatory post. This is strictly a matter of principle for me.

As a matter of courtesy I will extend you the opportunity to resolve this matter before it goes any further. I will desist from issuing legal proceedings provided the following conditions are met by Wednesday June 10, 2015 at 5:00pm.

- remove from publication in their entirety the defamatory threads to prevent harm to the aforementioned entities reputations;
- produce a public apology and a declaration that the post are wholly disrespectful and defamatory and cause such apology and declaration to be published in each of the forums which have given or could give reason for our complaint (such apology to be approved by myself prior to publication);
- Newspaper apology
- undertake to actively monitor and delete any newly published defamatory content

If the defamatory threads are not permanently removed and there is noncompliance to the above undertakings by 5:00pm on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> 2015, I will commence taking steps towards the swift issue of court proceedings without further notice.

I await your response. In the meantime I reserve my rights, in particular the right to produce this letter to the Court when it comes to consider costs under CPR 44.3.

Yours faithfully,

## Eron Hill