



**Monument Office Park,**  
71 Steenbok Ave, 1st Floor,  
Block 3, Monumentpark,  
P O Box 974, Pretoria, 0001,  
Docex 97, Pretoria

**T** (012) 435 9444  
**E** vzlr@vzlr.co.za  
**F** Gen/Alg (012) 435 9555  
Deeds/Aktes (012) 435 9666  
www.vzlr.co.za

## ATTORNEYS PROKUREURS

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**Mr Tony Beamish**

By email

**Our ref: J-P ROBBERTSE**

**Your ref:**

19 January 2023

Dear Sir

### **[URGENT MEDIA REQUEST FOR COMMENT] Double hit for RAF claimant - 2023-01-17**

1. Your emails dated 16 and 17 January 2023, refer.
2. We do not, at this stage, intend to respond to each and every averment in your emails or the so-called draft article referred to therein, and our failure to do so should not be construed as an admission of whatsoever nature. We reserve our rights to take the appropriate steps against you and any publication which may publish the slanderous article, and to respond to the unmeritorious accusations in the appropriate forum.
3. We do however wish to record that we have taken note of the unfortunate and one-sided draft article which you have already prepared, prior to engaging with us. Unfortunately, the allegations of and concerning our firm and our employees as contained in your draft article are unmeritorious, *per se* defamatory and devoid of truth. Their publication will not be reasonable in the circumstances.
4. For the sake of good order, we confirm that we were appointed by Messrs. John B Scott Attorneys to act on their behalf as their correspondent in Pretoria (as their address falls outside of the 15km radius provided for in the Rules). As correspondent, we act on instructions

received from our instructing attorneys. We do not decide where our instructing attorneys issue summons and cannot dictate to them where to do so.

5. At present, the review is *sub judice* where the issues have been ventilated in Court and we do not deem it necessary to comment on your accusations at this stage.
6. Furthermore, issues between the client and our instructing attorneys, should be referred to our instructing attorneys for comment. We decline to do so.
7. We take this opportunity to remind you that accusations against attorneys premised on alleged dishonesty, are the most serious of accusations, and that the false accusations in this regard are treated with equal seriousness. In the words of Mayosi AJ in the matter of *Leonard Charles Katz v Martin Sylvester Welz and Chaucer Publications (Pty) Ltd*:

*Imputations of serious dishonesty may cause greater hurt to dignity and reputation than imputations of private immorality or political unreliability, and may attract greater awards of damages.*

*The statements published by the defendants regarding Mr Katz are highly defamatory. Accusing any person, let alone an attorney, of corruption and/or fraud is about as serious and damaging an allegation as can be made.*

We trust you find the above in order.

Your faithfully  
**VZLR INC**  
Per: **J-P Robbertse**  
Direct tel: (012) 435 9324  
E-mail: [jaun@vzlr.co.za](mailto:jaun@vzlr.co.za)

