

October 19, 2007

Via Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

David Copley, Publisher
Union-Tribune Publishing Company
350 Camino de la Reina
San Diego, CA 92108

Via Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested

Harold Fuson, Chief Operating Officer
Copley Press
7776 Ivanhoe Avenue
La Jolla, CA 92037

Re: Robert Kittles's Editorial Entitled "Ethical Breach"

Dear Mr. Copley and Mr. Fuson:

I am writing in regard to Robert Kittle's editorial entitled "Ethical Breach", which appeared in the October 10, 2007 edition of the *San Diego Union-Tribune*. In that editorial, Mr. Kittle defamed me personally by stating and/or implying that I bribed City Attorney Michael Aguirre in order to receive a pay increase. This accusation is patently false.

Fixated by his desire to injure Mr. Aguirre, Mr. Kittle ignored well-established law and did not check the facts with me or any other responsible member of the office. While it is true that I made a campaign contribution to the Re-Elect Mike Aguirre 2008 Campaign on June 6, 2007, I did not receive a pay increase "within days of donating to his re-election campaign" as the editorial claims. I received a merit increase in August which was the 2nd year anniversary of my employment with the Office of the City Attorney. During this same time period, over 100 other attorneys in the Office of the City Attorney also received merit increases – the majority of whom did not make any campaign contributions.

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Pursuant to California Civil Code Section 48(a), demand is hereby made that you take all measures necessary to immediately correct Mr. Kittle's reckless and intentional defamation of me in his editorial of October 10, 2007. This demand applies to all subsequent "News" articles repeating the defamation in print or via internet postings. Should the *Union-Tribune* fail to retract the defamatory statements, I will pursue all legal remedies available.

Sincerely,

Kathryn S. Burton

Cc: Ms. Karin Winner
Mr. Todd Merriman
Mr. Robert Kittle