



Elkins Kalt Weintraub Reuben Gartside LLP

Jeffrey K. Riffer



April 1, 2020

Mr. Marlow Stern  
*The Daily Beast*  
E-Mail: Marlow.stern@thedailybeast.com

Re: *Mr. Miscavige's Extraordinary Actions to Protect People From the Novel Coronavirus; and your Potential Bogus Story About It*

Dear Mr. Stern:

We represent Mr. David Miscavige, the ecclesiastical leader of the Scientology religion.

Mr. Miscavige has been working tirelessly to protect parishioners and staff from the novel coronavirus, which is threatening the lives of millions. Mr. Miscavige's actions started earlier, and were more aggressive, than virtually any government or organization. Before anyone else, Mr. Miscavige:

- ▶ cancelled all congregations and mass gatherings;
- ▶ mandated social distancing everywhere;

- ▶ required all persons entering Scientology properties to have their temperature taken;
- ▶ required that parishioners and staff who may have come into contact with the virus were isolated and quarantined;
- ▶ made masks, gloves and hand sanitizers available (and they were available *only* because he ordered them before others realized their significance); and
- ▶ purchased the state-of-the-art military-grade anti-viral agent that is regularly used in all rooms and on all surfaces.

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Last week, *The Daily Beast* published that Mr. Miscavige is a “Corona Virus Denier” – which is indisputably false, as evidenced by the six bullet points above. As such, *The Daily Beast* intentionally, or recklessly, published defamatory statements in the midst of a public health crisis.

We have been advised by Church of Scientology International about your upcoming *Daily Beast* article.

Your question regarding Mr. Miscavige is preposterous. The bulletin in question was published *well before* the federal, state and local directives were issued and was the *opposite* of what is being represented; the bulletin, which was widely disseminated to Scientologists world-wide, stated, among other things, that public events were cancelled; daily medical checks were implemented; and masks and gloves were available.

The world would be in a better condition today had governments and other organizations timely followed Mr. Miscavige’s lead.

The undisputed *written evidence, physical evidence and millions of masks and gloves in Scientology evidence* prove that Mr. Miscavige implemented massive proactive state-of-the-art actions before governments and other organizations. So, you have no story.

Now that you are on written notice that your story is *100% false*, any publication exposes you to the end of your career and *The Daily Beast* to the end of its existence (as happened when the jury awarded \$140 million in a defamation lawsuit against Gawker, driving Gawker into bankruptcy). We hope that is not necessary.

Very truly yours,



JEFFREY K. RIFFER

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