



TIEFENTHALER ATTORNEYS INC

VIA EMAIL: laverne@constructionlaw.co.za

Your ref
Our ref HJB/aj/WA8449
Ext 206/218
Fax 086 518 8059
Email henno@abgross.co.za
Date 18 March 2020

Dear Sirs,

RE: SEALTEK CAPE (PTY) LTD AND MR CHARL JOHNSEN / THEO FITCHAT

1. We write to you on behalf of Sealtek Cape (Pty) Ltd and Mr Charl Johnsen (“our clients”).
2. We are in possession of a letter, drafted by yourselves and addressed to FPS Attorneys, relating to a possible defamation claim against your client. Our clients have asked us to act on their behalf in the defamation matter.
3. It is our instructions that in or about August 2019, your client approached Sealtek Cape (Pty) Ltd in order to attend to certain renovations at his home.
4. It is further our instructions that at some point before completion, your client breached the agreement by refusing our clients access to the premises, and to date are still indebted to our clients, which debt is being pursued by a different firm of attorneys.
5. It has come to our clients’ attention that your client has placed numerous reviews on Hellopeter and social media, in which he defames our clients.
6. On 23 December 2019 your client posted a review on Hellopeter, stating the following about our clients:
 - 5.1 that they are a scam;
 - 5.2 that they are dishonest;
 - 5.3 that they use unskilled subcontractors;

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- 5.4 that they caused damage to your client's home and other equipment belonging to him;
 - 5.5 that they use inadequate techniques in executing the renovations;
 - 5.6 that they are unprofessional, verbally abusive and aggressive;
 - 5.7 that they are arrogant and insolent;
 - 5.8 that they trespassed on your client's property;
 - 5.9 that they have "silver tongues";
 - 5.10 that they are extremely good at lying;
 - 5.11 that they are fraudulent and bad people; and
 - 5.12 that they engage in criminal behaviour in that they do not pay tax.
7. On 29 December 2019, and under the name "Christo S" your client reposted the post on Hellopeter verbatim.
 8. Furthermore, your client posted similar comments on Facebook on 2 January 2020 and 10 March 2020.
 9. The posts were made with the intention to slander and defame our clients. It is clear that by posting under false names, and on numerous platforms, your client intended to do as much damage as possible to our client's reputation.
 10. Due to your client's posts, our clients have suffered reputational damages and loss of income in the amount of R700,000.00 (seven hundred thousand rand), calculated as R400,000.00 (four hundred thousand rand) reputational damage and loss of income on the part of Sealtek Cape (Pty) Ltd and R300,000.00 (three hundred thousand rand) emotional and reputational damages on the part of Mr Charl Johnsen.
 11. It is further our instructions that your client has made similar allegations, and posted similar reviews about numerous other contractors in the past, where your client has seemingly also cancelled the agreements prematurely without paying for their services, namely Cape Industrial Flooring, a Mr John Farrel and Range Roofing & Waterproofing. We attach hereto copies of the reviews for your convenience.



12. Your client's consistent behaviour in this regard constitutes a deliberate effort to defraud the aforementioned parties by leading them to believe that he intends on paying for their services, and then maliciously and fraudulently abruptly cancelling their services without due reasons to do so.

13. We understand that the aforementioned parties are in the process of laying criminal charges against your client in this regard.

14. It is therefore our instructions to demand the following:

14.1 That payment of the R700,000.00 be made into our trust account, the details of which appear hereinbelow, within 7 (seven) days of receipt hereof, failing which we hold instructions to issue summons against your client.

ACCOUNT NAME:	ABRAHAMS & GROSS INC
BANK:	NEDBANK
BRANCH CODE:	123-209
ACCOUNT NUMBER:	1232078573
BRANCH:	SOUTHERN PENINSULA
CODE	NEDSZAJJ
REFERENCE:	HJB/aj/WA8449

14.2 That your client remove all posts about our clients within 48 hours of receipt hereof.

14.3 That your client posts appropriate apologies and retractions on all relevant platforms, within 48 hours of receipt hereof.

15. We look forward to your urgent reply.

Yours faithfully

ABRAHAMS & GROSS INC

H J BOTHMA

[sent electronically and thus unsigned]