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October 21, 2026

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Dr. Abdul El-Sayed
Candidate for United States Senate
c/o Sophie Davis Pollock
sophie@abduforsenate.com

**Re: Demand to Cease Repeating and Promoting Defamatory Allegations
Concerning Mike Rogers**

Dr. El-Sayed:

This firm represents Mike Rogers. We write regarding your [X post](#) referencing the October 13, 2026, Drop Site News article titled “Mike Rogers’s Wife Raked in Lucrative Government Security Contracts While Rogers Served as Intel Chair” (the “Article”). The Article contains false statements and conveys defamatory implications about our client. We demand that you cease repeating those falsehoods and immediately remove the X post promoting them.

The Article falsely portrays Mr. Rogers as having used his public office to secure government contracts for his wife’s company and obstructed the Benghazi investigation to protect her. It also misleadingly links Mrs. Rogers and Aegis to the Benghazi attack. These allegations impugn our client’s integrity and professional reputation. We identify the specific falsehoods and the basis for our demands below.

I. THE FALSE STATEMENTS AND IMPLICATIONS

1. That Aegis, under Mrs. Rogers’s leadership, performed U.S. government work in Libya and was connected to the September 2012 attack on the U.S. compound in Benghazi. The Article juxtaposes its discussion of Aegis’s activities in Libya with the Benghazi attack and a subsequent discussion of Mrs. Rogers and her company. The resulting implication is false. Neither Mrs. Rogers, Aegis LLC, nor any Aegis entity has ever entered into a contract with any department of the U.S. government to perform work in Libya, and none was involved in the Benghazi attack.

2. That Mr. Rogers used his position as Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence to obtain government contracts for Mrs. Rogers and Aegis. The Article’s headline and emphasis on the timing of the Kabul Embassy security contract convey that Mr. Rogers caused, influenced, or delivered that award to his wife. That is false. Mr. Rogers had no role in, and no oversight over, the award of that contract, which was made under the Obama Administration’s State Department. As the Article acknowledges, Aegis qualified to compete for that work in 2010, before Mr. Rogers became Chairman. The Intelligence Committee does not award or oversee State

Department security contracts and maintained a strictly enforced policy of no interaction with Mrs. Rogers or any Aegis representative.

3. That Mr. Rogers obstructed the Benghazi investigation to shield his wife's company. The Article repeats accusations that Mr. Rogers obstructed and delayed the Benghazi investigation to protect his wife. Mr. Rogers did not obstruct the investigation. Because Aegis had no U.S. government contract for work in Libya and no involvement in the Benghazi attack, the premise that he obstructed the investigation to shield Aegis from responsibility for that attack is false.

The Judicial Watch reporting on which the Article relies expressly acknowledged that “[t]here is no evidence of wrong-doing by Rep. Rogers or Aegis.” It also included Aegis’s denial that any member of its group had entered into a U.S. government contract for work in Libya. The Article’s acknowledgment of these facts does not cure the contrary implications conveyed by its presentation.

II. DEFAMATION AND FALSE LIGHT

The statements and implications identified above harm our client’s reputation by falsely portraying him as a participant in the misuse of public office for private financial gain and the obstruction of a congressional investigation. Michigan law recognizes defamation by implication where a publication conveys a materially false factual meaning. *See Locricchio v. Evening News Ass’n*, 438 Mich. 84 (1991). These allegations also place Mr. Rogers in a false light that would be highly offensive to a reasonable person.

III. REPETITION AND REPUBLICATION

A speaker’s own defamatory factual assertions do not become immune from liability merely because they accompany a repost or attribute allegations to another source. Section 230 does not protect independently actionable content a speaker creates himself. *See* 47 U.S.C. § 230(c)(1), (f)(3); *Jones v. Dirty World Entertainment Recordings LLC*, 755 F.3d 398 (6th Cir. 2014). In promoting the Article, you added your own assertion that Mr. Rogers’s “deep state gift includes massive contracts for his wife’s firm.” Read in context, that statement conveys the false factual implication that Mr. Rogers improperly used his public position to secure contracts for his wife’s company. As explained above, Mr. Rogers had no role in or oversight over the award of the Kabul Embassy security contract. Your use of a repost to convey that accusation does not shield your own defamatory statement from responsibility.

IV. NOTICE OF FALSITY

This letter provides specific notice of the false statements and implications identified above and the factual grounds for our client’s objections. Any subsequent repetition of those false factual assertions in your own statements must be assessed in light of that information. Evidence that a speaker knowingly publishes falsehoods or purposefully avoids the truth can support a finding of actual malice. *See Harte-Hanks Communications, Inc. v. Connaughton*, 491 U.S. 657 (1989).



V. DEMAND FOR REMOVAL AND CORRECTION

We demand that you promptly:

1. Cease making or repeating the false factual assertions identified above, including in campaign communications, public remarks, and social media commentary;
2. Remove the identified X post and any other posts or campaign materials under your control promoting those falsehoods, and correct any statements you have made conveying them in a manner reasonably calculated to reach the same audience; and
3. Preserve all documents and communications relating to the Article, your post, and the challenged allegations, including drafts, source materials, and communications with Drop Site News or its authors. Preserve copies and associated records of any posts or materials removed in response to this letter.

Please confirm by **5:00 PM Eastern Time on October 21, 2026**, that you have taken these steps. Our client seeks prompt correction of the record and an end to the dissemination of these false allegations. Nothing in this letter waives any rights, claims, or remedies available to Mr. Rogers, all of which are expressly reserved.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jessica Furst Johnson

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