



December 5, 2023

1. **MR. KOFI TONTO**
ACCRA

2. **THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**
MEDIA GENERAL LTD
ACCRA

Gentlemen

DEMAND FOR RETRACTION AND APOLOGY

We act as solicitors for Mrs. Lordina Mahama, the wife of Former President John Dramani Mahama.

Our client's attention has been drawn to certain defamatory statements made on TV3 on Monday December 4, 2023 during the political discussion segment of the program dubbed "New Day". The host was Roland Walker, who at all material times hosted the program in the ordinary course of his employment with Media General Ltd. The particular topic and discussion centred on Ghana's rather large list of attendees at the Climate Conference in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Mrs. Samira Bawumia, wife of the Vice President and flagbearer of the New Patriotic Party, was among the list of attendees. In trying to justify her attendance at the conference, Mr. Kofi Tonto made the following defamatory statements:

"If you want to go there, we will go there. Because you remember President Mahama's wife? She took US\$500,000.00 in her bag to the USA. What was she doing there with the money.....It was here in Ghana.....We are not talking about somebody who takes US\$500,000.00 outside the country....."

Mr. Tonto repeated the allegation over and over again, despite being challenged that it was untrue.

Our client has instructed us to say that she did not at any time take cash amount of US\$500,000.00 either in her bag or elsewhere to the United States of America. The allegation is simply false and malicious.

Our client was not a subject of discussion on the television program. She has never met or spoken to Mr. Tonto. Prior to the incident she complains of, she did not even know of him. It therefore beats her mind where he obtained the information from and the reason he may have had for dragging her name into the panel discussion. Clearly, his intent and

purpose were malicious: to equalise, to our client's detriment and for the benefit of Mrs. Samira Bawumia, and thereby gain some obscure political advantage by casting a slur on her character and disparage her in order to score political points. In the process, he greatly embarrassed our client, injured her reputation and has brought her name into public ridicule, scandal, odium, contempt and hatred.

Unfortunately, TV3 (Media General Ltd.) gave Mr. Tonto the audio-visual and electronic platforms to defame our client. His defamatory words have been transmitted and published and continue to be circulated on social media including, but not limited to, "WhatsApp". At all relevant times, the internet has millions of users all of whom have free access to the defamatory words our client complains of. The broadcast is still accessible on "YouTube" and on TV3's website. It can therefore be inferred that a large number of unquantifiable users listened to the broadcast and continue to access its contents.

Further, or in alternative, to the knowledge of TV3, once the publication was made on the internet, it could be accessed, stored and republished by a substantial and unquantifiable number of persons worldwide, particularly the millions of Ghanaians living in Ghana and abroad. At all material times, TV3 knew and intended that its broadcast would be so stored, circulated and published.

By this letter, we have our client's firm instructions to demand from you (Mr. Kofi Tonto and Media General Ltd.) forthwith, anyhow not later than seven (7) days from the date of this letter, a written retraction and apology for your defamatory words. We do not intend to notify you before taking any further action on behalf of our client.

Yours faithfully


Tony Lithur

- Cc
1. Mrs. Lordina Mahama
 2. Roland Walker
Media General
Accra