

KLAYMAN LAW GROUP

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Via Email and Federal Express

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Benjamin Crump, Esq.
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HarperCollins US
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New York, NY 10007
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Dear Mr. Crump and Harper Collins:

I represent George Zimmerman. In your new book just released on October 15, 2019 titled *Open Season: Legalized Genocide of Colored People* and published by HarperCollins, I note with alarm that you are continuing to try to build a career as a race hustler by defaming my client. Ironically, it is you who are once again declaring "Open Season" on George Zimmerman, this time to try to sell books by again damaging my client's reputation with untrue and defamatory statements, depicting him as attempting to commit genocide. This amounts to defamation per se for which damages under Florida law are presumed. You also are trying to use my client to divide our country using George for your own personal promotion.

You will recall that on March 12, 2012, Sanford Florida Police Chief Bill Lee announced the results of the Sanford police investigation into the Trayvon Martin shooting at a press conference. As you well know, Lee explained that the police investigation had included extensive interviews with eye-witnesses, including Johnathon Good, numerous Retreat at Twin Lakes residents, reviews of 911 calls, examination of the physical evidence including Zimmerman's broken nose and head lacerations and Trayvon's bruised knuckles, and the location of the altercation. You are also aware that your own client, Tracy Martin, had told police that the voice on the 911 tapes screaming for help was not his son. Police Chief Lee declared the shooting was found to be self-defense and there were no grounds to arrest Zimmerman. It was not even a stand your ground case.

Despite this, you not only violated a myriad of ethics rules that govern the behavior of a Florida attorney, but also the law when you began an illegal campaign to defame Zimmerman, incite the

public against him, and influence his girlfriend Brittany Diamond Eugene whom you knew had been on the phone with Trayvon up to the minute of his death. You began your campaign by disseminating into the media a knowingly false narrative that Trayvon was "just buying candy for his little brother" and was "just trying to get home" when he was stalked and attacked by Zimmerman because of his skin color. To further your false narrative, you disseminated a photo to the media of Trayvon when he was only about 10 years old and 5 feet tall, rather than providing recent photos of the 17-year old who stood over six feet tall. You repeated your false narrative in the media often and daily and, in doing so, successfully defrauded and coerced the media, the president, celebrities, and fair-minded people into demanding the arrest of my client with no evidence. Also I'm sure you recall that you recruited others to personally join your defamation and incitement campaign against Zimmerman, such as Reverend Al Sharpton. At a Florida rally with Sharpton in tow, you shouted to the crowd, "we called up to New York City and got someone with a track record!" referring to Sharpton whom you knew was instrumental in spreading the Tawana Brawley race hoax in 1987, had incited violence that led to the Crown Heights riots in 1991, and who had incited anti-Semitic hatred that fueled the Freddie's Fashion Mart massacre in 1995.

With Sharpton's help, your defamation and incitement efforts escalated into massive public protests demanding Zimmerman's arrest, death threats against Zimmerman, and was so "effective" that it even outraged celebrities like Rosanne Barr and Spike Lee such that they tweeted the home address of Zimmerman's parents and invited mob action against Zimmerman's family who were forced into hiding.

Your defamation and incitement campaign against Zimmerman also managed apparently to influence Trayvon's girlfriend, Brittany Diamond Eugene, whom you and your colleagues unethically and illegally coerced into making a recorded phone call repeating your false narrative in order to incriminate Zimmerman. As you know, Brittany Diamond Eugene then refused to speak to prosecutors, and on information and belief, you then helped to prepare the imposter and fake witness, Rachel Jeantel, who told your "made to order" false storyline to prosecutors in order that my client be arrested, tried, and convicted for murder and sentenced to life in prison (or the death penalty), in a case that had already been investigated and closed by the Sanford police department as self-defense.

Mr. Crump, at this time you will be held accountable for your defamatory language in your book titled, *Open Season: Legalized Genocide of Colored People*. On behalf of my client, I therefore demand that you and your publisher Harper Collins retract the defamatory language by noon, December 4, 2019:

- 1) cease and desist sales of your race hoax book *Open Season: Legalized Genocide of Colored People*, in all forms: hardcover, eBook, audiobook, and MP3 CD until new versions are produced that does not contain the defamatory material below.
- 2) recall all books currently on any bookstore shelves or in any warehouses of distributors like Amazon and provide an accounting of all sales in all forms to date.
- 3) publicly retract the false and defamatory statements in your book which are defamatory. These include but are not limited to:

"Testimony at the trial revealed that law enforcement ordered Zimmerman not to pursue the teen and to stand down until police arrived. Zimmerman continued to pursue Trayvon."

FACTS:

1 – "law enforcement ordered Zimmerman not to pursue the teen"

a) This is false. "Law enforcement" did not order anything. The non-emergency dispatcher Zimmerman was speaking with was not "law enforcement". Your statement falsely implies Zimmerman disregarded instructions of a police officer, implying that Zimmerman did something wrong that led to the death of Trayvon Martin.

b) Zimmerman was not "ordered not to pursue the teen". After the non-emergency dispatcher repeatedly requested help from Zimmerman in determining where the individual who had circled his car had gone, Zimmerman left his car only to assist the dispatcher. As you know, when the dispatcher asked George if he was following him, Zimmerman said "yeah", and dispatcher stated in response "We don't need you to do that" and Zimmerman said, "okay". He then asked the dispatcher to have an officer meet him near back his vehicle. As Zimmerman was approaching his vehicle was when he was attacked by Trayvon Martin, as all the evidence proved in court where Zimmerman was acquitted in 2013.

2 – "ordered Zimmerman...to stand down until police arrived"

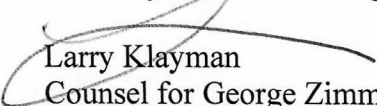
False! No police officer nor any dispatcher ordered Zimmerman "to stand down until police arrived". This statement defames my client and leads the public to believe he acted against instructions of law enforcement.

3 – "Zimmerman continued to pursue Trayvon"

This is totally false. The 911 recording and all testimony and evidence at trial proves this statement to be false and yet another attempt to defame and incriminate my client for a charge that he was acquitted of. All evidence presented at trial indicated that Zimmerman told the non-emergency dispatcher he was walking back to his car to meet the officer, and was approached and attacked by Trayvon Martin, the location of the incident was near Zimmerman's car.

On behalf of my client, George Zimmerman, we expect an affirmative response by noon, Wednesday, December 4, 2019 to all of our demands; otherwise we will be compelled to file suit.

Govern yourself accordingly,


Larry Klayman
Counsel for George Zimmerman

cc: Mr. George Zimmerman