

Subject: STRICTLY PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL
Date: Friday, 9 January 2009 16:29
From: Edward Elgar <edward@e-elgar.co.uk>
To: "R. Preston McAfee" <preston@mcafee.cc>
Conversation: STRICTLY PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

I write with regard to your recent correspondence with my colleague, Alex Pettifer.

You will recall that in this correspondence you described me as a "leech" and described the operations of my company as a "scam" comparing us to the publishing equivalent of the tobacco industry.

I think that any reasonable person who heard himself or his company described in that way by a total stranger would react with annoyance.

You should also be aware that when a journal grants us permission to reprint an article, they never approach the author for permission. We ourselves go to enormous trouble to contact the author concerned informing him/her of the reprint as we know from long experience that most authors like to list this in their curriculum vitae as it counts towards their academic accreditation. You will appreciate that academics are particularly in the US are very mobile and given the size of our programme, there may be very rare cases where we have not been able to contact the author concerned.

However, I can state definitively that we would not knowingly reprint an article by an academic even if permission were granted by the copyright holder against his/her wishes. Assuming that any co-authors are in agreement, we will not reprint any of your work in the future.

You will appreciate that I was very angry by the way in which you described my company to one of my new employees and equally understand that you have been upset by what you consider to be an implied threat of legal action.

I think that you may agree that it is in our mutual interest to call a halt to this correspondence. I accept the personal apology that you offered and should confirm that it is not the intention of my company to take legal action against you.

Yours sincerely

Edward Elgar

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