

Jason Lee Van Dyke
Attorney & Counselor at Law

Licensed to Practice in: Texas, Colorado, Georgia & Washington D.C.

September 6, 2018

The Cornvallis Advocate
Attn: Stevie Beisswanger
Box 2700
Corvallis, OR 97339

via CMRRR No. 7012 3460 0002 3500 8492
and e-mail to editor@cornvallisadvocate.com

Re: Demand to Cease & Desist

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of the Proud Boys, a men's fraternal organization, concerning a publication made by The Cornvallis Advocate on September 5, 2018 entitled "Oregon Hate Groups Exposed" which is available at the following link:

<http://www.corvallisadvocate.com/2018/brawlers-bloggers-state-lawmakers/>

By this letter demand is made for The Cornvallis Advocate to immediately correct the following libelous statements contained in this story and to issue a retraction:

- 1. Any and all statements or insinuations that the Proud Boys are a "hate fraternity" or "hate group" - including any quotes from the Southern Poverty Law Center;**
- 2. Any and all statements or insinuations that the Proud Boys are "neo-fascist";**
- 3. Any and all statements or insinuations that the Proud Boys were present at "Unite the Right"**

Proud Boys was founded by Gavin McInnes in 2016. It is a men's fraternity. It is not now, nor has it ever been, a hate group. The Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), on the other hand, is a discredited and highly disreputable attack dog of the far left. It masquerades as a civil rights organization and conceals the fact that it holds money in offshore accounts for the purpose of avoiding potential defamation judgments. Simply because the SPLC states that the Proud Boys is a hate group does not make it true. Publications such as yours have repeatedly faced liability for the republication of false and defamatory statements made by organizations like the SPLC.

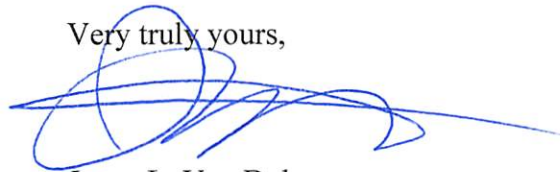
Contrary to popular opinion, Proud Boys had nothing to do with the "Unite the Right" rally in Charlottesville. The rally was specifically condemned by Mr. McInnes and the organization as a whole prior to it taking place. Members were warned of discipline by the

fraternity if they attended. The rally organizer, Jason Kessler, was not a member in good standing of the fraternity at the time the rally took place. He had been permanently expelled months before the event for racist views that are contrary to those held by the fraternity.

The truth about the Proud Boys is simple: They do not now, nor have they ever, espoused white nationalist, white supremacist, anti-Semitic, or alt-right views. They had nothing to do with Charlottesville. Proud Boys is multi-racial fraternity with thousands of members worldwide. The only requirements for membership are that a person must be biologically male and believe that the West is the best. When the Proud Boys state that “the West is the best”, we are referring specifically to western culture and civilization. We recognize as a fraternity the numerous contributions that persons of all races have contributed to the West. We have condemned, and continue to condemn in the strongest possible terms, any sort of denigration of any person on the basis of race. Those who hold white nationalist, white supremacist, anti-Semitic, and similar views are not welcome in the fraternity.

Demand is hereby made that you immediately **cease and desist** all false and defamatory publications concerning the Proud Boys. It is also my expectation that your organization will publish and broadcast a timely retraction of its false and defamatory statements. It would probably be a good idea to remove *all* references to the Proud Boys from this particular publication. I have been instructed to make only one demand for a correction and retraction, and failure to respond to this letter in a timely fashion may result in referral of this matter to our attorneys in Oregon for legal action against you. I trust, however, that this will not be necessary and that I will receive a prompt response to this letter.

Very truly yours,



Jason L. Van Dyke
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