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47814 SC 62241

Form 1 (Rule 3-1(1))

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NO.  
KAMLOOPS REGISTRY

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

BETWEEN:

Reid Allen Hamer-Jackson

PLAINTIFF

AND:

Keturah Neustaeter, also known as Katie Neustaeter

DEFENDANT

**NOTICE OF CIVIL CLAIM**

**This action has been started by the plaintiff for the relief set out in Part 2 below.**

If you intend to respond to this action, you or your lawyer must

- (a) file a response to civil claim in Form 2 in the above-named registry of this court within the time for response to civil claim described below, and
- (b) serve a copy of the filed response to civil claim on the plaintiff.

If you intend to make a counterclaim, you or your lawyer must

- (a) file a response to civil claim in Form 2 and a counterclaim in Form 3 in the above-named registry of this court within the time for response to civil claim described below, and
- (b) serve a copy of the filed response to civil claim and counterclaim on the plaintiff and on any new parties named in the counterclaim.

**JUDGMENT MAY BE PRONOUNCED AGAINST YOU IF YOU FAIL to file the response to civil claim within the time for response to civil claim described below.**

**Time for response to civil claim**

A response to civil claim must be filed and served on the plaintiff(s),

(a) if you were served with the notice of civil claim anywhere in Canada, within 21 days after that service,

(b) if you were served with the notice of civil claim anywhere in the United States of America, within 35 days after that service,

(c) if you were served with the notice of civil claim anywhere else, within 49 days after that service, or

(d) if the time for response to civil claim has been set by order of the court, within that time.

### Claim of the Plaintiff

## Part 1: STATEMENT OF FACTS

### THE PLAINTIFF

1. The Plaintiff, Reid Allen Hamer-Jackson, is a businessman and a resident of the City of Kamloops, British Columbia. The Plaintiff is sixty-four (64) years of age, has been married for the past thirty-five (35) years, and has three (3) adult children.

2. On October 15, 2022, the Plaintiff was duly elected as the Mayor of the City of Kamloops.

### THE DEFENDANT

3. The Defendant resides in the City of Kamloops and is an employee of the United Way of Canada.

4. On October 15, 2022, the Defendant was duly elected as a member of the Kamloops City Council.

5. The Defendant is the daughter of Kevin Krueger ("Mr. Krueger"). Mr. Krueger is a former senior employee of the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia and was, for a period of seventeen (17) years, a duly elected member of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia representing the City of Kamloops.

### THE PLAINTIFF'S INTERACTIONS WITH MR. KRUEGER

6. Prior to October, 2022, the Plaintiff had never met Mr. Krueger, and knew of him only by reputation as a respected citizen of the City of Kamloops.

7. During the municipal election campaign and prior to October 15, 2022, Mr. Krueger attended at one or more campaign events, on which occasions he expressed his strong support for the Plaintiff's candidacy for the office of Mayor. Mr. Krueger's endorsement of the Plaintiff was not solicited by the Plaintiff or anyone on his behalf, and his public comments were made voluntarily.

8. On December 15, 2022, the Plaintiff's wife received a text message from a family friend, indicating that Mr. Krueger had approached him with an offer to extend his guidance and support to the Plaintiff in his new role as Mayor of Kamloops. Mr. Krueger provided his personal telephone number and requested that the Plaintiff be asked to make contact with him.

9. The Plaintiff attempted to respond to Mr. Krueger's invitation on December 15, 2022, but did not make verbal contact with him. Later on December 15, 2022, the Plaintiff received a text message from Mr. Krueger, again soliciting a telephone conversation with the Plaintiff. No further contact took place at that time.

10. On January 13, 2023, the Plaintiff received a voice mail message from Mr. Krueger, in which he again solicited a meeting with the Plaintiff. Mr. Krueger also expressed his disapproval of the then-recent behavior of members of Kamloops City Council, and his hope that his daughter (the Defendant) was not involved in such behavior. Prior to his receipt of Mr. Krueger's message, the Plaintiff had no direct knowledge that Mr. Krueger was the Defendant's father. The Plaintiff did not respond immediately to Mr. Krueger's message.

11. On January 15, 2023, while enroute between Vancouver and Kamloops in his vehicle with a companion, the Plaintiff received a telephone call from Mr. Krueger. Mr. Krueger described personal issues that he was experiencing with family members of his, including the Defendant, and requested an in-person meeting with the Plaintiff. The Plaintiff suggested that Mr. Krueger should contact City of Kamloops staff to schedule any meeting regarding municipal business or any official functions of the Plaintiff as Mayor.

12. The Plaintiff resolved to discuss Mr. Krueger's overtures in confidence with the Defendant, in order to assist in determining how to properly address his requests. The Plaintiff sought the participation of Councillor Stephen Karpuk ("Karpuk"), in a discussion for this purpose. On January 19, 20 and 21, 2023, the Plaintiff exchanged text messages with Karpuk, who then advised the Plaintiff that the Defendant was unwilling to discuss the matter.

13. On February 4, 2023, the Plaintiff received another voice mail message from Mr. Krueger, in which Mr. Krueger expressed his frustration with his failed attempts to schedule a meeting with the Plaintiff through City of Kamloops staff. The Plaintiff responded by text message, suggesting that Mr. Krueger direct his request to the Executive Assistant for the Mayor and Council. Mr. Krueger did so, and arranged for a lunch meeting with the Plaintiff to take place on February 8, 2022.

14. On February 7, 2023, Mr. Krueger cancelled the lunch meeting that was to have taken place the following day.

15. The Plaintiff has no knowledge of the facts or circumstances that motivated Mr. Krueger to seek a meeting with him, nor any knowledge of the facts or circumstances that influenced Mr. Krueger's decision to cancel the meeting that he had arranged. The Plaintiff has not sought out or initiated any contact or communication with Mr. Krueger whatsoever, except to endeavor to respond to him in the manner set out above.

#### THE DEFENDANT'S DEFAMATORY STATEMENTS

16. On February 11, 2023, the Defendant addressed the Plaintiff, the other seven (7) members of Kamloops City Council, and City staff verbally. The Defendant purported to forbid the Plaintiff from having any form of communication with Mr. Krueger, and falsely accused the Plaintiff of having pursued interactions with Mr. Krueger for political gain. The Defendant conveyed, and intended to convey, the false impression on every person present that the Plaintiff had conducted himself inappropriately or unlawfully in relation to Mr. Krueger.

17. On February 13, 2023, the Defendant wrote and published to all members of Kamloops City Council an e-mail in which she stated, inter alia, "Mr. Mayor, Never harass, meet with, attempt to meet with, or otherwise involve a member of my family in your dealings again. This includes disclosing confidential information, slandering staff, and violating personal boundaries in the attempt to justify doing so..." The Defendant went on to accuse the Plaintiff of using her family in an attempt to influence her or city business, and stated "the fact that you continue to try and do so against my will, behind my back, and without my knowledge proves nefarious intent"...

18. The Defendant's statements, as set out in paragraph 17 above, were false. They were intended to convey, and did convey, the false impression that the Plaintiff had harassed or solicited contact with family members of the Defendant, that he had violated the Defendant's "personal boundaries", and that in so doing he had conducted himself maliciously with "nefarious intent". The Defendant's statements were intended to attack the Plaintiff's personal integrity and diminish his reputation the eyes of all those to whom her e-mail was directed.

19. On March 5, 2023, the Plaintiff requested that the Defendant provide the e-mails, text dialogues and meeting places that the Defendant relied upon for her accusations. In lieu of a substantive response, the Defendant wrote and published to all members of Kamloops City Council a further e-mail in which she stated, inter alia, "Mayor Reid Hamer-Jackson, Never harass, meet with, attempt to meet with, or otherwise involve a member of my family in your dealings again. This includes disclosing confidential information, slandering staff, and violating personal boundaries in the attempt to justify doing so. Keep colleagues' children, parents, spouses, and other loved ones out of your politicking. There is no excuse for these repeated behaviours". In doing so, the Defendant repeated verbatim the false allegations that she had published in the e-mail referred to in paragraph 17 above, and embellished these statements by falsely alleging

that the Plaintiff had continued or persisted in conduct that was inappropriate, unlawful and malicious. The Defendant's statements were intended to repeat her attack on the Plaintiff's personal integrity and further diminish his reputation in the eyes of all those to whom her e-mail was directed.

20. On March 16, 2023, and into the early morning hours of March 17, the Defendant drafted the text of a public statement that she intended to deliver before the media, the citizens of Kamloops, and the general public the following day (the "March 17 Statement"). In the course of drafting the March 17 Statement, the Defendant adopted and repeated the false allegation contained in her e-mails dated February 13 and March 5, 2023, that the Plaintiff had violated her personal boundaries in relation to the Plaintiff's interactions with Mr. Krueger.

21. On March 17, 2023, the Defendant delivered the March 17 Statement in a staged, public forum, ostensibly to respond to the Plaintiff's proposed changes to standing committees. The occasion was neither a regular nor a special meeting of the Kamloops City Council, and the Plaintiff was not present. Purporting to speak on behalf of all members of Kamloops City Council, the Defendant accused the Plaintiff of lying, belittling members of Council and, again, of "violating personal and professional boundaries". The Defendant delivered the March 17 Statement with the full intent and knowledge that it would be broadcast to the general public through news and social media.

22. The Defendant has, knowingly, willfully and maliciously, allowed and encouraged the public to speculate, and to draw inferences and conclusions, with respect to the specific nature of the misconduct that she alleged the Plaintiff to have inflicted on her and/or others.

23. Since March 17, 2023, on the basis of the innuendo inherent in the March 17 Statement, various members of the public have inferred or concluded that the Plaintiff has physically or sexually harassed, abused or assaulted the Defendant and/or others.

24. The March 17 Statement was false and was defamatory. The allegation that the Plaintiff was guilty of unspecified misconduct of a personal and scandalous nature, involving the violation of the Defendant's "personal boundaries", was made willfully and maliciously. It was intended to damage the Plaintiff's personal reputation in the eyes of the public, and has done so.

25. On March 23, 2023, the Plaintiff again requested that the Defendant provide him with her justification for having made the March 17 Statement. The Plaintiff notified the Defendant, in writing, of the damaging effects that the March 17 Statement was having on him, his family, friends and contacts.

26. On March 31, 2023, the Plaintiff formally demanded that the Defendant provide any factual basis that she had, or believed that she had, for the March 17 Statement. In lieu of a response to the Plaintiff, the Defendant immediately scheduled a special closed meeting

of the Kamloops City Council for the sole purpose of invoking a veil of privilege over any further discussion concerning the March 17 Statement.

27. The Defendant has no factual basis for having made the March 17 Statement. Nonetheless, the Defendant has refused to retract the March 17 Statement, and has willfully permitted the damaging effects of the March 17 Statement to continue to harm the Plaintiff and his family.

**Part 2: RELIEF SOUGHT**

1. General damages.
2. Aggravated and punitive damages.
3. Costs.

**Part 3: LEGAL BASIS**

1. In her written statements dated February 13 and March 5, 2023, the Defendant libeled the Plaintiff.
2. In her oral statements made on February 11 and March 17, 2023, the Defendant slandered the Plaintiff.
3. The Defendant's defamatory statements have caused, and continue to cause, damage to the Plaintiff.
4. The Defendant's conduct is reprehensible and deserving of the rebuke of the Court in the form of punitive damages.

Plaintiff's address for service: 101 Pearse Place, Kamloops, B.C. V2C 4V5

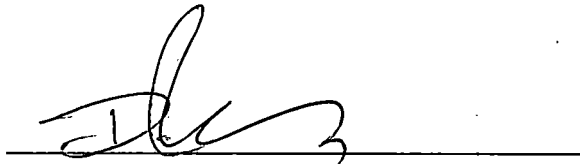
Fax number address for service (if any): n/a

E-mail address for service : dmcmillanlaw@gmail.com

Place of trial: Kamloops, B.C.

The address of the registry is: 455 Columbia Street, Kamloops, B.C.

Dated:

  
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Signature of lawyer for the Plaintiff  
David A. McMillan

Rule 7-1(1) of the Supreme Court Civil Rules states:

(1) Unless all parties of record consent or the court otherwise orders, each party of record to an action must, within 35 days after the end of the pleading period,

- (a) prepare a list of documents in Form 22 that lists
  - (i) all documents that are or have been in the party's possession or control and that could, if available, be used by any party at trial to prove or disprove a material fact, and
  - (ii) all other documents to which the party intends to refer at trial, and
- (b) serve the list on all parties of record.

APPENDIX

**Part 1: CONCISE SUMMARY OF NATURE OF CLAIM:**

1. Defamation

**Part 2: THIS CLAIM ARISES FROM THE FOLLOWING:**

A personal injury arising out of:

- a motor vehicle accident
- medical malpractice
- X Another cause

A dispute concerning:

- contaminated sites

- construction defects
- real property (real estate)
- personal property
- the provision of goods or services or other general commercial matters
- investment losses
- the lending of money
- an employment relationship
- a dispute about a will or other issues concerning the probate of an estate
- a matter not listed here

**Part 3: THIS CLAIM INVOLVES:**

- a class action
- maritime law
- aboriginal law
- constitutional law
- conflict of laws
- none of the above
- do not know

**Part 4:**

*N/A*