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Our Ref:
Contact:
Direct Tel:
Direct email:

30 August, 2012

The Hon. Marilyn Warren
Supreme Court of Victoria
210 William Street
Melbourne, Victoria 3000

Dear Madam,

Re: Corruption Cover-up

Complaint Mishandled

The Supreme Court's handling of this matter is a disgrace, and I have lost confidence in the Court's ability to fairly and impartially deal with it. Instead of confronting the corruption complained of, the Supreme Court now appears to condone it.

I submitted my complaint in good faith, having taken the extraordinary and difficult decision to draw attention to the laundering of corrupt conduct through Justice Sifris' Court. For two months my letter was ignored, save for an email confirming that it had been received. A response came only after a telephone call from me.

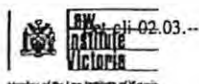
The reply, when it eventually came, was an arrogant dismissal of my complaint.

When I drew attention to the fact that there had been no denial of the content of my complaint, I received a swift and angry rebuke: "*The serious allegations contained in your letter are emphatically denied.*" This was followed by this breathtakingly ridiculous advice: "*Any concerns you may have with respect to your proceeding before the Supreme Court may be pursued by way of avenues of appeal.*" The reference to the seriousness of the allegations was not an acknowledgement; rather, it was an aggressive warning that the making of serious allegations will not be tolerated by the Supreme Court.

As if to emphasise the anger generated by my audacity in seeking justice and a fair hearing, the door of the Supreme Court was slammed in my face with the words, "*Kindly note that no further correspondence will be entered into with respect to this matter.*"

Corrupt Conduct by Justice Sifris

I have been informed that Senior Counsel is convinced that Justice Sifris had already made his decision before the court hearing had commenced, and I concur fully with this view. With his decision having been made in advance, the proceedings conducted by Justice Sifris were a sham.



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I have also been informed by the CEO of the Law Institute of Victoria that it is the view of the Law Institute that Justice Sifris' decision affects no other lawyers or law firms in the State of Victoria. (I and my firm are now the only practitioners among all of the lawyers, incorporated legal practices and licensed conveyancers in Victoria required by Consumer Affairs Victoria to hold an estate agent's licence simply to represent ordinary consumers in negotiations for the purchase or sale of residential real estate.)

There have been no warnings, updates or guidelines issued by any industry stakeholders or regulators to industry participants as a consequence of Justice Sifris' findings. My own observations in the day to day running of my practice confirm that Justice Sifris' decision, and the absurd implications and outcomes that flow from it, are being universally ignored. It is generally regarded as incomprehensible, unworkable and contrary to the interests of consumers and practitioners alike.

Cover-up

I am now firmly of the belief that Justice Sifris had been improperly influenced by factors external to the matter before the court, that the outcome of the trial had been pre-determined, and that the trial itself was a sham.

I also believe that Justice Sifris was fully aware that the proceedings before him were brought in reprisal for my having complained of corrupt conduct, and that his orders relating to misleading and deceptive conduct were calculated to punish me, rather than to rectify any supposed misunderstandings generated by material I had published.

I regard the delay in dealing with my complaint, the off-handed dismissal of my complaint, and the veiled warning against my making "*serious allegations*" are the first stages of what is colloquially known as a cover-up.

Record of Complaint

I advise that it is now my intention to pursue other avenues of redress. I require that this letter be placed on the record of the Supreme Court of Victoria.

Yours faithfully,



Peter Mericka