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Carter-Ruck Solicitors

6 St Andrew Street
London EC4A 3AE

T 020 7353 5005
F 020 7353 5553
DX 333 Chancery Lane
www.carter-ruck.com

Philip Turvey settles High Court libel claim against Finders Genealogists and Daniel Curran

Philip Turvey (joint Director of Anglia Research Services Limited), has settled his libel claim against Finders Genealogists Limited and its owner and Managing Director, Daniel Curran.

Mr Turvey's claims related to an anonymous posting made by Mr Curran on the Which? website, which sought to direct readers to a petition that had been published on the website change.org by a third party, and which contained a number of false and highly defamatory references to Mr Turvey. Mr Turvey also complained of comments posted underneath the change.org petition by Mr Curran under a false name.

Finders also sent emails to a number of individuals who both Finders and Anglia were hoping to attract as clients. These emails referred to Mr Turvey and Anglia and directed the recipients to the change.org petition. Mr Curran and Finders also sent the petition link to 37 of their freelance staff. Mr Turvey and Anglia were only able to learn of the extent of these publications following a successful Disclosure Application at the High Court.

Finders and Daniel Curran now accept that the allegations made about Philip Turvey in the change.org petition were completely without foundation and that it was wholly inappropriate for Mr Curran and Finders to have disseminated these false allegations in this way.

Finders and Daniel Curran have apologised unreservedly to Philip Turvey for what happened, for the distress these incidents will have caused him, and for the harm that has been caused to his reputation as a result of the publications. At Mr Turvey's request and in lieu of damages, Finders and Mr Curran have agreed to make a contribution to a charity of Philip Turvey's choosing. They have also agreed to pay his legal costs of bringing this complaint.

Mr Turvey is represented by Adam Tudor and Dominic Garner of Carter-Ruck. All enquiries should be directed to adam.tudor@carter-ruck.com and dominic.garner@carter-ruck.com.

Partners

Alasdair Pepper
Guy Martin
Nigel Tait
Ruth Collard
Cameron Doley
Claire Gill
Adam Tudor
Isabel Martorell

Partnership Secretary

Helen Burluck

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