

File No. 2904

July 31, 2017

DELIVERED VIA EMAIL: bkennedy@thestar.ca

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Sara Mojtahedzadeh
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Dear Mr. Kennedy and Ms. Mojtahedzadeh:

Re: Magnus Services and Aleksandr Ostrovsky

I am the lawyer for Magnus Services and Aleksandr Ostrovsky and I am responding to your letter to Mr. Ostrovsky of July 20, 2017.

2021352 Ontario Inc. was incorporated on January 17, 2003. I enclose a copy of the Certificate of Incorporation.

Magnus Services registered and obtained a Master Business Licence effective March 5, 2015. I enclose a copy of the Master Business Licence. It commenced providing part time and full time workers to certain manufacturing facilities shortly thereafter. Magnus does supply temporary workers to Fiera Foods and companies affiliated with Fiera Foods and to other companies in the manufacturing sector.

As you may be aware, other companies supply temporary workers to Fiera Foods.

Magnus Services screens all workers to ensure that they are legally entitled to work in Canada. Magnus services requires a copy of a valid SIN insurance number and government issued identification.

After staff or workers are placed, they are given printed material so as to ensure good manufacturing practices, both for ladies and men.

They are provided with the Ministry of Labour Health and Safety at Work workbook. All written material is explained to them.

Since these workers will be placed at manufacturing facilities, Magnus ensures that the workers are capable of working in manufacturing facilities and follow up and work in conjunction with supervisors at the manufacturing facilities, one of which is Fiera Foods, to ensure that the workers are properly trained and capable of carrying out the duties assigned to them.

Magnus Services inspects the manufacturing facilities for health and safety issues such as clean washroom facilities, clean lunchroom facilities, so as to ensure that there is a proper and safe work environment.

We wish to advise that men and women are placed. Magnus ensures that the tasks employees are placed are not onerous for them.

Magnus understands that the workers will be placed in manufacturing facilities. WSIB has conducted audits of the various facilities that workers are placed in. To date there has never been one legitimate WSIB claim. In fact, the risk premiums for Magnus Services have been reduced.

There have been no legitimate complaints by any workers to the Ministry of Labour. Magnus Services has never been audited or investigated by any Employment Standards Officer.

At least 50% if not more of workers are paid by cheque and deductions are made. These are long term workers who are placed by Magnus and not just the individual that comes for a day or two and then leaves and works sporadically. For the former workers, deductions are made, T4 slips are issued and if a worker leaves, they are provided with a ROE. There is full compliance with all provisions of the Employment Standards Act.

There are certain workers that show up one day and not the next. These workers are paid either on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. These temporary workers, or sporadic workers, are paid through a third party company. A list is supplied to the third party company either on a weekly or bi-weekly basis and these workers are paid in that fashion.

No statutory deductions are made because their work habits are so sporadic that it is impossible to calculate proper deductions. All fees are paid by and collected from the client that is the manufacturing facility. All workers are paid at a minimum, the minimum wage and most workers that are stable and are proved to be reliable are paid in excess of the minimum wage.

There are no deductions from the workers' pay. These workers are paid by the clients to whom the workers are supplied.

It is wrong for you or the Toronto Star to attempt to associate Mr. Ostrovsky with a registered director of Cashmania or the operator of that company. It is also wrong for you to set out that certain individuals who were charged with a number of fraud-related offences, including money laundering, which charges were withdrawn in exchange for a peace bond.

It is wrong for you to refer to the Financial Services Commission of Ontario.

Mr. Ostrovsky was not convicted of stunt driving in 2009.

I have read two newspaper articles published by the Toronto Star regarding temporary work agencies in Toronto. Those articles, the last of which appeared last Saturday, were fair, informed and balanced.

Your letter of July 20, 2017 and the outline of facts which you plan to report about Magnus Services is inappropriate, in part, false and in part, defamatory.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the writer directly.

Yours truly,


Leo Klug
Encl.