

April 24, 2014

*Via First Class U.S. Mail*

Oregonian Media Group  
1320 S.W. Broadway  
Portland, OR 97201  
Yuxing Zheng  
yzheng@oregonian.com

RE: DEMAND FOR IMMEDIATE RETRACTION AND CORRECTION OF  
FALSE STATEMENTS IN WEB ARTICLE

Dear Ms. Zheng:

This is a follow up letter to the demand we made yesterday April 23. While we appreciate the fact that you corrected two bits of the false content in the article, you have failed to correct the entire false underlying premise. Your caption, and opening sentence to the article are demonstrably false and you now must realize that you had a mistaken understanding of business ownership so you must correct it. Your caption says, “GOP House candidate cites business ownership, but records indicate otherwise”. No, they don’t. First, the records prove that he has been a business owner. Second, the records you refer to don’t track sole proprietorships at all so the “records” would not and could not indicate anything with respect to a sole proprietorship. No matter which way you could try to explain away the falsity of the headline and opening sentence, it remains blatantly false and misleading.

The opening sentence of the article places this entire story in a false context and places Mr. Darnell in a false light. You compare and juxtapose him to criminals, when he is a hard working entrepreneur, and it was your lack of knowledge about the business registry that was the mistake. IT DOES NOT MATTER what the secretary of state website says with respect to sole proprietors, or as a partial owner in a business of any type because ownership in those types of businesses is not normally listed on the registry. Your premise is like saying that someone who isn’t in the NBA doesn’t play basketball.

Therefore, we repeat our demand that you remove or correct your entire article immediately and if any version of this has gone to print, that a retraction be printed as well.

Best wishes,

Tyler Smith