

[today's date] 14/11/2011

[title] Mr

[name] Julian Assange

[Postcode]

[Region] England

[Telephone]

[E-mail]

[Email address for anyone you wish to copy this to]

[Newspaper/magazine] People

[Publication Date (DD/MM/YYYY ) 24/02/2011

[headline] Assange must face Sweden sex trial

Please indicate where you saw the article by ticking one (or more) of the boxes below

Hard copy

Online

Both

Readers' Comments

Audio Visual Material

[Internet link to article (if available)] <http://www.people.co.uk/news/uk-world-news/2011/02/24/assange-must-face-sweden-sex-trial-102039-22946496/>

[Please upload any attachments here:]

[Please explain how you believe the Code of Practice has been breached.]

This article is still live on the People's website.

The headline implies my case is ready to go to trial and the article begins: "WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange should be extradited to Sweden to face sex offence charges, a judge has ruled", both of which are false. I have not been charged with any offence and the preliminary investigation has not been completed. No decision to take the matter to trial is

possible under Swedish law until it has been (see Prosecution link). These statements therefore represent a significant and misleading inaccuracy. The facts are not hard to establish – a matter of basic fact-checking – and a correction should be printed with due prominence. This is a good reference tool for these facts:

<http://www.swedenversusassange.com/Problems-with-the-Arrest-Warrant.html>

<http://www.swedenversusassange.com/Allegations.html>

<http://www.swedenversusassange.com/Prosecution.html>

Costs of the libel to me are:

- As a result of re-reportage and the internet readership the harm to my reputation, and to my organisation, is global. WikiLeaks relies entirely on the goodwill of the public, which this article compromises through false means.
- Contribution to a hostile media climate in the UK while the decision to extradite me was before the courts.
- Contribution to a hostile media climate in Sweden, to which I am soon to be extradited and trialled in, in relation to the subject of this misreporting.
- Contribution to a hostile media climate in the United States where a Grand Jury has been empanelled to indict me for espionage.
- Contribution to undermining political support in Australia, discouraging the Australian government from intervening to stop my extradition.
- Contribution to a reduction in my ability to raise revenue for WikiLeaks through loss of reputation.
- Contribution to a reduction in donations to my personal Defence Fund through a loss of reputation.
- Contribution to a reduction in political support for WikiLeaks and myself at a time when we are imperilled by publically declared FBI, Pentagon, CIA and US State Department Task Forces.

[Which specific clause(s) of the Code are you complaining under?]

[Please add the clause(s) you believe to have been breached]

Clause 1 i) The Press must take care not to publish inaccurate, misleading or distorted information, including pictures.

Clause 1 iii) The Press, whilst free to be partisan, must distinguish clearly between comment, conjecture and fact.

[Please check that you have provided as much information as possible before submitting your complaint to us. You might find it helpful to refer to this checklist]

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