

August 18, 2011

Fed Ex to:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

E-mailed to:

[REDACTED]

Re: **Demand to Cease and Desist and Retract Libel against
Jim and Alexis Bellino**

Dear Mr. McNiff:

This office represents Jim and Alexis Bellino. On August 1, 2011 *In Touch Weekly* magazine published an article about Jim and Alexis Bellino, most of which was untrue, defamatory *Per Se* and malicious, causing significant damages and injury to Jim and Alexis Bellino in both their personal and professional lives. As such, pursuant to California Civil Code § 48a, this letter is intended as a demand for an immediate retraction in writing, of these false and Libelous statements, printed in the same manner and location as the original article. Jim and Alexis Bellino further demand that your retraction and correction be accompanied by an editorial in which you specifically repudiate the libelous statements.

Among many causes of action, your magazine's conduct also constitutes: Tortuous Inference with the business and contractual relations, Intentional infliction of emotional distress and Unlawful business practice. As such, they are actionable and expose you to the imposition of compensatory as well as punitive damages.

Below are some of the more patent, malicious, and libelous comments made by you in your magazine that need to be retracted:

1. On the cover of *In Touch Weekly* dated August 1, 2011, you printed the headline "I'M TERRIFIED OF BEING POOR" regarding a cast member of the television series "The Real Housewives of New Jersey"; and at the bottom of the same cover, you printed the words "11 OTHER HOUSEWIVES ARE GOING BROKE!" with our client's picture and word "BANKRUPT!" underneath her picture.

2. Inside the magazine, in the "CONTENTS" section, you printed the words: "And the truth about how other housewives have gotten themselves into major money problems". Referring the readers to page 30 where the article starts.

3. Page 34 of the magazine begins the cover story article titled: "BANKRUPT! EVICTED! FORECLOSED ! HOUSEWIVES ARE GOING BROKE". On page 35 there is a picture of Alexis with the title: "Alexis: Is she in denial?" questioning her mental state regarding the alleged financial problems. The Article then delivered its final blow: "Alexis Bellino still refuses to admit she and her husband Jim have money troubles."

The totality of your printed article is not only devastating, it is simply false. It doesn't just falsely state that our clients are "BANKRUPT," it paints a portrait of people who are in denial of their financial condition. Jim and Alexis Bellino are in great financial health and the grotesque and false image of them you have drawn causes severe damages to them personally and professionally. My clients have seen firsthand the consequences that defamatory tabloid stories can wreak on people's personal and professional lives.

If you do not immediately publish the requested retraction, and cease and desist from further Tortuous interference and making false and malicious comments about the Bellinos, we will have no option but to file suit against you.

Please govern yourself accordingly.

Sincerely,

Maziar Mafi, Esq.

Law office of Maziar Mafi

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TMZ