



CHURCH OF SCIENTOLOGY INTERNATIONAL

5 August 2010

VIA EMAIL

Mr. Joe Childs
The St. Petersburg Times

Dear Mr. Childs,

Thank you for contacting me regarding United States District Judge, Dale Fischer, having thrown out the lawsuits brought by ex-Scientologists Marc and Claire Headley.

All of the claims of Marc and Claire Headley, who solicited media like you with their salacious allegations, were rejected.

Judge Fischer dismissed the lawsuits of these two defrocked church ministers of senior churches of the Scientology religion, granting summary judgment motions filed by the Church.

The two apostates were members of Scientology's religious order, the Sea Organization, for over fifteen years. Four years after leaving the Church, they sued claiming that they had been deprived of monetary compensation and subjected to church discipline and lifestyle constraints that are part of the commitment of Scientology religious ministers. The District Court emphatically rejected all such claims, holding that the First Amendment prohibits the state or its courts from evaluating the religious life voluntarily undertaken by ministers and members of religious orders, or determining the nature of the relationship between a church and its ministers.

The Court pointedly noted that while serving as Scientology ministers, the two plaintiffs—Marc Headley and Claire Headley—by their admissions were

committed to their vocation and enjoyed their work. The Court found that they cannot later sue on the ground that they changed their minds after having consulted with lawyers or so-called psychological experts. In the case of the *S.P. Times* this might also include after their having talked to you, Joe.

Just a little over six weeks ago your paper placed the Headleys on the front page of the Sunday edition, highlighting their claims as if they warranted something akin to the Warren Commission and granting them a level of legitimacy they clearly never had. I can only assume that this was due purely to your long term and unwavering naked animus towards the Church. The *S.P. Times* clearly misjudged the facts.

I am surprised you are doing a story on the dismissal of the Headleys' claims considering it involves good news regarding the Church. You must be aware that the primary sources for your stories on the Church over the last year, Marty Rathbun, Amy Scobee, Mike Rinder, Steve Hall and various other members of Rathbun's posse, all filed declarations in the case. Clearly the judge did not grant their salacious allegations the same credibility your newspaper has accorded them. As an aside, I was surprised you did not call me when your primary source, Marty Rathbun, was thrown in jail for public drunkenness, disorderly conduct and harassing tourists on Bourbon Street in New Orleans. It takes real talent to stand out of a crowd at Bourbon and Toulouse for being drunk. It was this same talent that filed a declaration in the Headley case.

Since the beginning of 2010, the Church of Scientology has opened seven new churches in Seattle, Washington; Pasadena, California; Mexico City, Mexico; Los Angeles, California; Las Vegas, Nevada; Quebec City, Canada; and Brussels, Belgium. Each is configured to provide the full services of the Scientology religion to parishioners and to the community, housing extensive public information multimedia displays, and ministering religious services in efficient and aesthetic spaces including congregational services in an expansive Chapel. These new Churches have expanded their ministry of religious services many times over, giving more than a million new people an opportunity to find out about Scientology.

Each of these new Churches is active in its community while also providing a strong base for Scientology sponsored social and humanitarian programs. These programs are aimed at curbing drug abuse, illiteracy, immorality and criminality as well as restoring human rights, assisting

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individuals with personal troubles, and helping in times of disaster, both natural and man-made.

For each of the above openings I have sent you a press release. Nothing appeared in the pages of your paper. You might object, "None of them were in the Tampa area, let alone Florida."

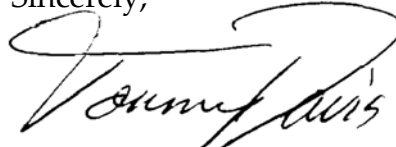
The fact is that a losing case brought by two defrocked ministers who were expelled from Scientology for attempted embezzlement and selling lies to the media about their former religion, who lived and worked in California for fifteen years, is not a Florida story either, yet it found its way onto your front page.

Let's see if you can get the facts right this time. They are simple. Their cases were summarily dismissed.

Scientology wins.

S.P. Times and its anti-Scientology friends and sources lose.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tommy Davis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "T".

Tommy Davis