

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

Claim No: HQ09XO4326

QUEEN'S BENCH DIVISION

BETWEEN :-

PEACHES GELDOF

Claimant

-and -

EXPRESS NEWSPAPERS

Defendant

STATEMENT IN OPEN COURT

Claimant's Solicitor

My Lord I represent the Claimant in this action, Peaches Geldof, who is a well known journalist, television presenter, model and DJ. The Defendant is the publisher of *The Daily Star*, which has a very substantial circulation and readership.

On 29 September 2008 the Defendant published on the front page of *The Daily Star* a picture of the Claimant with an article bearing the following headline;

"PEACHES: SPEND THE NIGHT WITH ME FOR £5K"

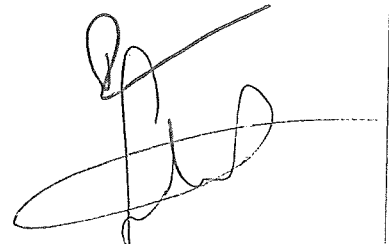
The Defendant thereby alleged that the Claimant was a prostitute who charged £5,000 a night to provide sexual services.

The Claimant initially made a complaint to the Press Complaints Commission. The Defendant acknowledged that the words complained of implied that the Claimant *"provided services of a personal sexual nature for the payment of a fee"*.

The Defendant refused to publish a retraction and apology on its front page but instead published it on page 2. As the publication was substantially smaller, the Claimant considered this to be unacceptable as it was not, in her view, adequately prominent. The Press Complaints Commission adjudicated upon the prominence and found it to be proportionate. It is for this reason that the Claimant now wishes to make this Statement in Open Court to make the falsity of this allegation a matter of public record.

The Defendant is here today by its [Counsel/Solicitor] to withdraw the allegations unreservedly and to apologise publicly to the Claimant for the distress caused to her by publication of the article. The Defendant has also paid the Claimant a substantial sum by way of damages and agreed to pay her legal costs of this action.

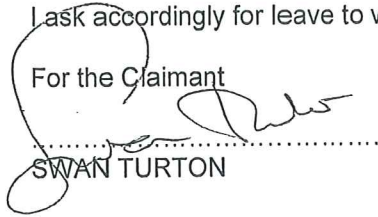
Defendant's Solicitor/Counsel



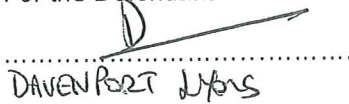
I accept on behalf of the Defendant all that has been said by the Solicitor for the Claimant.
The Defendant accepts that there is no truth in the allegation made in the article, and
apologises to the Claimant for any distress caused by the publication.
Claimant's Counsel

I ask accordingly for leave to withdraw the record.

For the Claimant


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SWAN TURTON

For the Defendant


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DAVENPORT LYONS

Solicitors

swanurton

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