

HOLLAND & KNIGHT

ONE EAST BROWARD BLVD.
P.O. Box 14070 (Zip 33302)
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33301
(305) 525-1000
FAX (305) 463-2030

2000 INDEPENDENT SQUARE
P.O. Box 52687 (Zip 32201)
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32202
(904) 353-2000
FAX (904) 358-1872

February 22, 1993
92 LAKE WIRE DRIVE
P.O. Box 32092 (Zip 33802)
LAKELAND, FLORIDA 33801
(813) 682-1161
FAX (813) 688-1186

1200 BRICKELL AVENUE
P.O. Box 015441 (Zip 33101)
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33131
(305) 374-8500
FAX (305) 374-1164

200 SOUTH ORANGE AVENUE
P.O. Box 1526 (Zip 32802)
ORLANDO, FLORIDA 32801
(407) 425-8500
FAX (407) 423-3397

315 SOUTH CALHOUN STREET
P.O. DRAWER 810 (Zip 32302)
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32301
(904) 224-7000
FAX (904) 224-8832

400 NORTH ASHLEY
P.O. Box 1288 (Zip 33601)
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33602
(813) 227-8500
FAX (813) 229-0134

888 SEVENTEENTH STREET, N.W.
SUITE 900
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
(202) 955-5550
FAX (202) 955-5564

777 SOUTH FLAGLER DRIVE
P.O. Box 3208 (Zip 33402)
WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33401
(407) 833-2000
FAX (407) 650-8399

OF COUNSEL
MASTRY, MARGER, DAVIS
JOHNSON, BARTLETT & LYNN, P.A.
360 CENTRAL AVENUE
P.O. Box 3542 (Zip 33731)
ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33701
(813) 896-7171 FAX (813) 822-8048

PLEASE REPLY TO:

Tampa
February 22, 1993

Mark Rodeghier
President
J. Allen Hynek Center for
UFO Studies
2457 West Peterson Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60659

Mr. Jerome Clark
Editor
International UFO Reporter
2457 West Peterson Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60659

Re: Gary P. Posner, M.D.

Dear Mr. Rodeghier and Mr. Clark:

If your interest truly is in avoiding litigation of this matter as you indicated in your letter of November 4, 1992, I find your letter of February 6, 1993, quite disappointing.

The "private correspondence" to which you refer was initiated by my client, in part to determine from you whether or not he was among those being referred to in your defamatory "LHB" charge against CSICOP. Your subsequent letters to him, as well as your correspondence with Mr. Philip Klass, clearly confirm that my client's impression was correct, as I detailed in my previous mailing.

I never received from you a letter dated October 31, 1992. I assume that you are referring rather to your letter dated November 4, 1992. However, neither that letter nor the

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Mr. Jerome Clark
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accompanying attachments (including the newspaper interview) contained any documentation that my client "must depict those with whom he disagrees as loathsome human beings."

Even more disturbing than your misrepresentation of the record is your apparent retraction of your offer of November 4, 1992, which we assumed had been made in good faith, to "insert a paragraph into our next editorial stating Dr. Posner's concerns and making it clear that he does not consider 'pro-paranormal activists,' including ufologists, to be 'loathsome human beings.'" Though you now say that you would be "delighted" to print my client's comments in the "Letters" section, I am concerned that they would be followed by an editorial comment attacking the letter and my client.

My client would be willing to compromise, and to have his comments published as a "Letter," rather than as part of one of your own editorials, providing it not be subjected to an adversarial critique. The letter follows:

Your March/April 1992 editorial highly critical of CSICOP, in which I was named as a member, contained the following charge:

"For CSICOP it is not enough to say that those with whom it disagrees are wrong. It must also depict them as loathsome human beings. . . . [I]t appears convinced those who reject its rigid scientism are not only mistaken but irrational, even evil."

I wish to clarify for the record that despite my fundamental disagreements with many paranormalists, including your editor, I do not believe that those with whom I disagree must be loathsome, evil human beings (nor do my colleagues). Further, as I reminded Mr. Clark in 1985 correspondence, the 1978 "ambulatory schizophrenia" remark attributed to me in the same editorial had actually been made in reference to what I termed the "irrational" and "bizarre" behavior exhibited by a number of paranormalists, not to mere "belief" in UFOs and other anomalous phenomena as the editorial implies. In fact, I was a believer in UFOs well into my 20s, and was even a member of the pro-UFO organization NICAP in my younger "pre-critical thinking" days.

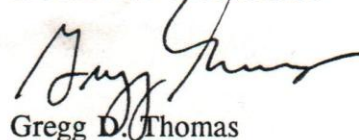
Gary P. Posner, M.D.
Founder, Tampa Bay Skeptics

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Please provide me with a page proof at your earliest convenience. If, however, you are not agreeable to our compromise offer, please have your attorney contact me forthwith, or provide me with his/her name and address, so that I may convey to your counsel the seriousness with which my client and I take this matter.

Sincerely,

HOLLAND & KNIGHT

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gregg D. Thomas".

Gregg D. Thomas

GDT/jk

cc: Dr. Gary Posner
TPA-105866/39185-1