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October 13, 2017

VIA E-MAIL TO MIKEWILSON@DALLASNEWS.COM,
CERTIFIED MAIL -RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED,
AND COPY VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL
Mr. Mike Wilson
Editor
Dallas Morning News
508 Young Street
Dallas, Texas 75202-4808

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I am the city attorney for the City of Cedar Hill, Texas. The purpose of this letter is to express my concern, prior to publication, regarding a series of interactions with members of your investigative reporting team, Miles Moffeit and Sue Ambrose. For the past seven months, elected officials and city staff have spent considerable time and effort responding to wide-ranging questions that are accusatory in nature but, until recently, have not been specific about any allegation of wrongdoing. This week, the reporters made an allegation, based on advice from unnamed "legal experts," that elected officials may have violated state law. We take these allegations very seriously and I have asked for that opinion of the "legal experts" in writing so that the city can specifically respond to the malicious allegation.

On behalf of the City of Cedar Hill, I strongly urge you, prior to publishing any stories, to review the notes, e-mails and questions from your reporters as well as the voluminous answers the city has provided. Our elected officials, commission appointees, and city staff have exhausted themselves responding to a never-ending list of questions that is unprecedented for a community of our size and, more often than not, are based on misinformation or a lack of understanding of basic government processes and relevant statutes, which creates the real possibility of an inaccurate and libelous story.

We look forward to hearing from you or one of your editors concerning these issues.

With best regards, I am

Very truly yours,

Ron G. MacFarlane, Jr.

RGM/dns

cc:	Christine Larkin	*Via First Class Mail*
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