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Monrovia - From A Dunbar

EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20011

**RESPONSE TO AN INTERNET ARTICLE ACCUSING MR. ABDULAH K.
DUNBAR OF CONSPIRACY IN A DIPLOMA MILL ALLEGATION**

**By Mr. Abdulah K. Dunbar
Deputy Chief of Mission
Embassy of Liberia
Washington D.C.**

Some time in early July this year, I received a Telephone call from Mr. Novak, who is the head of the St. Regis online University, which he had claimed to be accredited by the Liberian government. But the government had since disclaimed that accreditation. Mr. Novak told me in that telephone conversation that he had some business friends who he wanted to introduce to me, and for me as an Official of Government to explain government's policy on the establishment of Educational Institution in Liberia. He then invited me to have lunch with them at the Mayflower Hotel, down town Washington D.C., on July 5, 2005. I accepted the invitation.

On July 5, 2005, I went over to the Mayflower Hotel to honor the invitation. On my arrival, I met Mr. Novak and he introduced three gentlemen, including one Mr. Greg Roberts, as head of the group I was to meet. They led me into a suite in the hotel where we were to meet and we took our seats. Mr. Novak started the discussion by introducing the men as investors from a Houston, Texas-based Internet Institution, who were interested in establishing an online University in Liberia.

I also informed them that it would be a very difficult process, because Mr. Novak is aware that the procedure he used to register his St. Regis University, and several other online institutions back fired in Monrovia, because the government disclaimed that the accreditations were not proper, because they had only one

signature (Director General of Higher Education), making it questionable, and that two required signatories including those of the Director General for the Commission on Higher Education and the Minister of Education, should have been affixed to the accreditation documents and that they were requested to have the two signatories before they can have the final accreditation. I also informed them that the Liberian Government has requested that all such online institutions are to meet all requirements for their accreditation

But even at that, I informed them that St. Regis has also been black listed in a Diploma mill scandal, and that since the Liberian Government is in the process of developing policies for distant education/ learning, their documents will be referred to experts for evaluation before the accreditation. Mr. Gregg Roberts then informed me that all they wanted was for me to facilitate a means for them to get in contact with officials of the Commission on Higher Education, at the Ministry of Education in Monrovia and other agency heads responsible for the accreditation of Online Universities in Liberia.

Mr. Roberts however offered that they would not go to Monrovia, but would rather sponsor a trip to Monrovia for Mr. Novak and I, and that they will provide our roundtrip air fare, accommodation, and per diem, noting that all other fees for the accreditation will be taken care of when we get to Monrovia, Liberia, after meeting with the Education Minister. And that we will contact them via telephone about the requirements after we have met the minister.

Mr. Roberts offered to give Mr. Novak and I, Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) each, (which I never received), as per diem, excluding our air fare and Hotel expenses in Monrovia. Since they would not be going to Monrovia, I asked them to prepare a proposal for the establishment of the Online University, plus a proposed brochure, which we could present as a blue print for the

Online University to the accreditation authorities on Higher Education and the Minister.

It is completely misleading and unfair for a report on the Internet to mention that I demanded the amount of \$5,000.00 (which I never received) from Mr. Roberts and his colleagues. This amount was a genuine offer and a gentlemen agreement to be provided to facilitate our travel to Liberia. There was no time that I, Abdullah Dunbar, solicit any amount from Mr. Gregg Roberts and his friends, nor from the Randocks and associates in Spokane, as reported on the internet.

From all indications, it is completely baseless and misleading that I demanded bribes to line up accreditation, and to arrange payments to Liberian Professionals to pose as Faculty members for any online University.

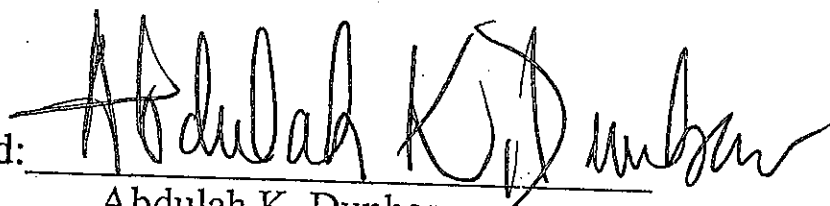
Mr. Roberts and his men then requested that Mr. Novak prepare a quotation to cover the air fare and Hotel expenses in Monrovia, and that they wanted us to go to Monrovia at the soonest possible time.

I participated in this discussion in my capacity as Deputy Chief of Mission for the Liberian Embassy.

I there consider it as a breach of my rights for me to be invited in my official capacity to discuss with prospective investors in order to explain my Government's policies on Education, only to be later secretly video taped without my knowledge, And subsequently posting same on the internet without regards to my diplomatic immunities. I considered them as investors, and dealt with them in my official capacity in seeking investment opportunities for my country

As a Diplomat, we have the responsibility to represent our government and to negotiate on behalf of same, in the areas of Foreign Relations, Economics and Trade, Education and Culture. These responsibilities have been fully met in my capacity now as Deputy Chief of Mission, at the Liberian embassy in Washington D.C., and before when I served as Second Secretary, and later as First secretary and Consul. During these periods, I have represented the Mission at both high and low level meetings and discussions. We also used our good offices to negotiate with investors, and traveled with them to Liberia, to scout out and establish businesses in our country. My intentions were strictly official in the interest of my country, which is striving to end the nightmares of destruction, and there is a dire need for investors to go and help in rebuilding our country in all aspects.

Signed:

 8/22/05

Abdulah K. Dunbar

**DEPUTY CHIEF OF MISSION
EMBASSY OF LIBERIA**