

11 Forest Avenue
Rockville, MD 20850
June 19, 2015

Lynn Kapiloff
Chief Executive Officer
Sentinel Newspapers
5307 N. Charles St.
Baltimore, MD 21210-2022

Ms. Kapiloff,

I am in receipt of your entirely unsatisfactory June 13, 2015 response to my June 9, 2015 letter. It boils down to “trust us.” This matter centers on a breach of public trust committed by the *Sentinel*. I would not have accepted “trust us” back when I was a reporter, and I sincerely doubt any of your reporters would accept that sort of answer from anyone, either. I do not accept it now.

The attitude your letter takes toward the information I have presented to you is disturbing. Statements like “it is time to move on” lead me to doubt the extent to which the situation is really being addressed.

Let me be clear. I have not expressed to you my “beliefs” about what the *Sentinel* knew, nor have I made “assertions” with which you may simply disagree. I conveyed to you the *fact* that the *Sentinel’s* editor, Brian Karem, knew of the serial plagiarism occurring in his newspaper for six solid months before he did anything about it. I am not relying on any interpretation of facts or statements in relaying this information to you. I absolutely know that Mr. Karem knew of his newspaper’s plagiarism and did nothing about it for six months because I told him, face to face, on Nov. 29, 2014, that his cartoonist was stealing artwork from the Internet, and Mr. Karem chose to continue to publish plagiarized work in the *Sentinel* from the same contributor until at least as late as May 14, 2015. Your letter does not acknowledge this other than to obliquely dismiss it as my “opinion.”

I will publish this correspondence. My June 9 letter asked that your company immediately and publicly account for the actions of the *Sentinel’s* editorial staff. Your reply signals no impending public accountability and is contemptuous of the concerns I had the courtesy to bring to you directly. You cannot simply dismiss my letter and then have any reasonable expectation that I treat yours delicately.

I call upon you to appoint a neutral third party to investigate the actions of *The Montgomery County Sentinel’s* editorial staff in the matter of its serial cartoon plagiarism and release a public report detailing its findings. I am making this call to you personally, and I will make it publicly as well.

The trust your newspaper has earned over 160 years risks destruction from the reckless actions of a few, compounded by an inadequate public accounting of these actions. I ask that you not let this happen.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Moore". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping horizontal line above the name.

Tom Moore