

The short version is this. You also need to look up the word “professional” and apply its definition to your vocation. Taking care to do what is right also entails the responsibility to do no “legally actionable” harm. You should employ the services of a lawyer to help you see the difference.

One last word of warning. It took me two years out of law school to learn how to say this: “It doesn’t make any difference whether you are right or wrong. If you are in court, you’re in court.”

Maliciousness is a central issue which juries must consider. That is why we always see public apologies made in hopes that a lawsuit would be averted. Therefore, Dr. Tom wants an apology published on your website which appropriately shows your contrition and your willingness to heed these admonitions in the future. This apology must be on your website before 12:00 P.M. on 27 June 2008. Any other libelous remarks must also be immediately deleted.

After all the above-stated conditions are met, Dr. Tom will consider all of his options at that time.

Sincerely,



Russell F. Ferree