

John W. Dean
9496 Rembert Lane
Beverly Hills, CA 90210
jwdmkd@msn.com

VIA UPS EXPRESS

August 13, 2013

Mr. Adam Parfrey
Publisher
Feral House
1240 W Sims Way #124
Port Townsend WA 98368

Re: "The White House Call Girl: The Real Watergate Story"

Dear Mr. Parfrey:

It has come to my attention that you are publishing a book entitled "The White House Call Girl: The Real Watergate Story," claiming that Erika "Heidi" Rikan was a call girl and that she was somehow connected with the events known as Watergate (i.e., the break-in and bugging of the Democratic National Committee (DNC) offices in the Watergate office complex in Washington, DC in May and June, 1972, and the subsequent cover-up of those events). The book is currently being promoted by its author, Phil Stanford, on his website (<http://whitehousecallgirl.com/>), as well as on the Feral House website (<http://feralhouse.com/white-house-call-girl/>) and most recently on the Feral House Channel on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DiWXTiwNCR4>). The publication date is stated as September 2, 2013.

I became aware of this undertaking a few months when ago Mr. Stanford showed up unannounced at the front gate of my home, requesting to speak to my wife about Heidi Rikan in connection the book he was writing. Because my wife was recovering from surgery, Mr. Stanford was advised she was unavailable. There has been no follow up efforts whatsoever by Mr. Stanford to elicit information, but I am very familiar with Mr. Stanford's prior work in pushing earlier versions of this bogus story, so I am sending this letter now that I have retrieved my files on this subject from storage. As you will note, I am copying Mr. Stanford, and your distributor Perseus Books dba Consortium Book Sales & Distribution because if this book is as it appears, I intend to hold all involved accountable for any and all false and defamatory content relating to the Deans. This letter is intended to give notice regarding Mr. Stanford's work because he has for several decades been looking for a publisher/distributor for his always-evolving false and defamatory claims about us. In addition, I must advise you that the Feral House YouTube video by Robin Stein promoting the work contains pictures of my wife and I that falsely suggesting that we have knowledge of, or involvement with, a so-called "White House call girl." This is not true.

Contrary to Mr. Stanford's contention there was no connection whatsoever between Heidi Rikan and Watergate, rather his current undertaking appears to be just another effort to make money based on false claims about the Deans. Mr. Stanford has been pitching false stories about us at least since 1986, when he tried to sell the story to former attorney general John Mitchell, who understandably thought it a fraud. Stanford's key source for his 1986 account was Phillip Mackin Bailey, an attorney who plead guilty in 1972 to prostitution charges (he was involved in blackmailing and forcing young college women into the sex trade until one coed went to the police and ended his despicable activities).

In 1986 Phil Stanford prepared a proposal with Bailey of an earlier concocted version of this story, claiming that in 1972 Bailey set up a branch office of a call girl operation within the DNC, which was allegedly run by Maxine Wells, a secretary (who later would become President Jimmy Carter's personal assistant at the White House and who denies all of Bailey's contentions). According to Bailey and Stanford, this DNC prostitution operation was the true reason for the Watergate break-ins and bugging. In addition, their call girl operation in 1986 involved several women connected to the Nixon Reelection Committee and Nixon White House, including Diane Sawyer (who later would become an ABC News anchor), Debra Sloan (the wife of the Treasurer of the Nixon Reelection committee, who Bailey claimed was the highest priced hooker in his operation commanding \$5,000 per night), and Maureen Biner, the woman I would later marry. Mitchell easily recognized the claims as a bogus because they also included one of Mitchell's former secretaries as part of the call girl operation, which Mitchell knew to be false.

In 1991 *Silent Coup: The Removal of a President* published another version of the Bailey/Stanford material, claiming Heidi Rikan (after she died) was the madam of the call girl operation with ties to the DNC, along with the claim that both my wife and I had knowledge of this operation and it was somehow connected to Watergate. We sued, and after having litigated this matter for some eight years, and resolved the lawsuit to our satisfaction, I am rather surprised that Mr. Stanford is again raising these false and defamatory contentions, apparently in yet another new iteration.

As Mr. Stanford knows, and presumably he has advised you, we named him as a defendant in our lawsuit against St. Martin's Press, Leonard Colodny, Robert Gettlin, Gordon Liddy, Phillip Bailey and others regarding the publication and promotion of *Silent Coup*. That lawsuit was filed on January 29, 1992 and settled to our satisfaction on June 2, 2000. Because we were unable to serve Mr. Stanford, notwithstanding several efforts, he was dismissed on January 31, 1994, without prejudice to our taking later action. In May and December, 1994, Mr. Stanford again evaded our efforts to subpoena him for a deposition although he remained very involved with *Silent Coup*, and in December, 1996, he provided *Silent Coup* author Leonard Colodny with a sworn affidavit in support of Colodny's motion for a partial summary judgment (which was not granted). Some of *Silent Coup's* most offensively false and defamatory material was built on the information Mr. Stanford developed in collaboration with Phillip Bailey.

We filed our lawsuit to establish that the Bailey/Stanford/*Silent Coup* contentions were false and defamatory. The case never went to trial because we were offered a

satisfactory settlement, after St. Martin's Press had spent some \$15 million (we were advised of the amount by an attorney representing St. Martin's insurance carrier). Because we had gathered clear and convincing evidence showing that the Bailey/Stanford/*Silent Coup* contentions were false, we agreed to settle. Indeed, after extensive discovery there was only one witness who claimed first-hand knowledge (thus admissible for the truth of the matter in court) of the call girl contentions: Phillip Bailey. The *Silent Coup* defendants had absolutely no admissible evidence whatsoever -- because none exists -- establishing a connection between a purported call girl operation and the Watergate break-in, and Bailey is a notorious fabricator and, given his myriad false accounts about Watergate, a conspicuously unbelievable witness. On the other hand we have clear if not overwhelming evidence of the falsity of all these contentions.

Nonetheless, if I read Mr. Stanford's promotional statements about his new book correctly, he now believes Bailey is a reliable source, although for understandable reasons he clearly anticipates others will question Bailey's reliability. Mr. Stanford states: "[T]hey [referring to others who disagree with Bailey's account] can always call you crazy -- which is what happened to a young lawyer named Phillip Bailey, one of the principle witnesses to this roundly ignored bit of American history. When it appeared that he might be foolish enough to blow the whistle on Heidi and her call girl ring, he was locked up at St. Elizabeth's, the District of Columbia's mental hospital. In the ward for the criminally insane, no less." This false statement foreshadows the distortions and dishonesty I anticipate.

Presumably, Mr. Stanford has advised you it was not "they" who called Phillip Bailey crazy, rather it is Mr. Stanford as well as Bailey himself who have openly addressed his mental condition. Mr. Stanford surely knows that Bailey has testified that he has committed himself to one or more mental hospitals; that he falsely claimed to be the "Green River Serial Killer;" that he has testified under oath that he is unable to distinguish between fact and fiction circa 1972; and that he has at times told others (and not as a joke) that he was "waiting for a spaceship to come in from Alpha Centauri" to take him home, and that his real name is "Star Caesar." Mr. Stanford surely knows that Bailey has been under psychiatric care, on and off, his entire adult life; and that one of his psychiatrists testified in our lawsuit that Bailey has a "bipolar disorder," and affirmed that Bailey was unable to distinguish fact from fiction, noting that this situations is not uncommon for those with such disorders, and since there is no cure for bipolar disorders, it is a life-time problem.

Mr. Stanford has admitted that Bailey is crazy, not to mention totally unreliable. For example, during an October 14, 1989 conversation recorded when collaborating with Leonard Colodny on *Silent Coup*, which was produced by Colodny in our lawsuit, Stanford made the following comments about Bailey: "He's, he's so crazy, you know...;" "I have transcripts of like months of interviews. Okay? I mean, I, I recorded them and I transcribed them, that's what I did with my life, that's how stupid I was...;" and he later added regarding Bailey, "He's, he's totally untrustworthy."

Mr. Stanford's characterization of Bailey's commitment to St. Elizabeth's as relating to Heidi Rikan is blatantly false. The Assistant U.S. Attorney who had Phillip Bailey briefly committed to St. Elizabeth's in 1972, John Rudy, today practices law

in Florida. He was deposed during our lawsuit, and he explained why Bailey was sent to a mental institution (in June 1972 before the Watergate break-in and arrests on June 17, 1972) and it had absolutely nothing to do with Heidi Rikan. Indeed, Rudy has testified he never met nor knew Heidi Rikan.

It is clear that Mr. Stanford has made something of a career out of exploiting Phillip Bailey; now he is exploiting a dead woman who cannot defend herself; and presumably he has told you as well how he has attempted to manipulate and exploit others into supporting his latest concocted account (at times shouting at them to intimidate them when they did not agree) -- and for all I know he has done so with some success to create his latest bogus story. But please be advised I am not intimidated, nor interested in being exploited, by Mr. Stanford.

Mr. Stanford further protests on his website: "If you're not careful, you might even end up being called [by those knowledgeable about the facts of Watergate like the *Washington Post*] a 'conspiracy theorist.'" Mr. Stanford's statement appears to make clear he is not interested in being careful. And with a little misdirection, he is trying to pretend he is not engaging in exactly the type of motivated thinking typical of the conspiracy theorists, those people who reject all information that does not comport with their predetermined conclusion(s) and who alter, twist or ignore facts that conflict with their thinking.

Bailey's fantasies, the bogus hearsay of others, and motivated thinking and analysis may work for Mr. Stanford's style of journalism and "true crime" writing, but it will not work in a court of law when and if he defames us. Eight years of litigation established that there is absolutely no admissible evidence whatsoever to support his contentions about Watergate, and fortunately today I have far more evidence of that fact than when dealing with the false claims in *Silent Coup*.

It is unnecessary to belabor the matter further because the record from our lawsuit speaks for itself, as does the historical record, yet it appears Mr. Stanford is not only going to ignore that information but also the findings of others who have fully investigated Heidi Rikan's non-involvement in Watergate, and about which he is clearly aware. For example, allow me to mention just one: Anthony Summers, author of *The Arrogance of Power: The Secret World of Richard Nixon* (Viking, 2000) retained Mr. Stanford to assist him when he was researching whether Heidi Rikan had any connection to a call girl ring or Watergate. Summers found no such connections as he explained in an extensive footnote in his book, rather he actually found the women who had operated the alleged call girl operation that was near the Watergate complex, and while the former madam would not identify any of her customers, she did state she did not know Heidi Rikan or any of the women Bailey and Stanford had claimed were involved. Anthony Summers has informed me that Mr. Stanford has made no effort whatsoever to contact him regarding his work on this matter and his findings about Heidi Rikan.

Because the photographs of my wife and me in the Feral House YouTube video by Robin Stein falsely suggest we have knowledge of, or involvement with, a so-called "White House call girl" operation, they are clearly defamatory. For that reason, I respectfully request they be removed immediately. In addition, the address book your

video calls Heidi Rikan's "little black book" was, in fact, her address book which was located during our lawsuit, and it has nothing to do with a White House call girl operation as suggested, yet by using the names of living people for promotion of Mr. Stanford's bogus history you are clearly defaming others as well by innuendo.

Please be advised that the Deans will take appropriate legal action if Mr. Stanford publishes false and defamatory material about us, or if Feral House continues to publish false and defamatory information about the Deans. Because I do not wish to in any way publicize Mr. Stanford's work I must further advise you (or whomever obtains this letter) that it is not for publication by anyone without my express written consent and to do so would violate my common law copyright in this letter.

If you, or your attorney(s), wish to speak with me, or my attorneys, I will make those arrangement if you will give me the name(s) of with whom I, or they, should speak. With the hope we might avoid litigation, and looking forward to your response, I am

Sincerely,



John W. Dean

Copies Via USPS (Priority) To:

Phil Stanford
2940 SE Berkeley Place
Portland, OR 97202

Consortium Book Sales and Distribution
The Keg House
34 13th Ave NE, Suite 101
Minneapolis, MN 55413

David Steinberger
Chief Executive Officer & President
Perseus Books Publishing, LLC
387 Park Avenue South, 12th Floor
New York, NY 10016

Law Firm Representing the Deans