

Eleanor

MOWERY SHEETS AND ASSOCIATES

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INTERNATIONAL

December 15, 2008

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Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Every day I give thanks to God for my family, friends and associates. Your friendship and comfort have been important through some incredibly difficult times.

I am writing to alert you to a story in the January issue of D Magazine that will outline, in strenuous detail, some financial and personal issues facing our family. As you know, this magazine's tradition and claim for prominence preys on its ability to criticize and humiliate high-profile people in Dallas. You have seen that in numerous articles---so-called profiles---that D has targeted over the years.

This article is exactly the same.

Earlier this year, I canceled my company's D Magazine advertising after its affiliated blog, Dallas Dirt (edited by Candace Evans), challenged the quality and integrity of my client, a builder in the Park Cities. To me, the blog post was hateful, petty and most importantly, completely inaccurate. I told Christine Allison, the editor of D Home and former wife of Wick Allison, the editor of D, that I could not support the magazine in the future with my advertising dollars. I canceled what has amounted to some \$380,000.00 in advertising dollars over the last three years.

In retrospect, that may have been a mistake, because Candace Evans and her cadre of posters, through the Dallas Dirt blog, unleashed on my family, clients, employees and friends a repository of ill-will. Bloggers on this site, who are allowed to remain anonymous, created excessive posts on blog threads that accused me, Nicky, and my company of irresponsible and untrue activities. Those threads, accompanied by our longstanding issues with the IRS, hit the public domain in late July and early August. The effects have been devastating, and I believe they have been exacerbated by the accusations and behind-the-scenes maneuvers by a cast of characters with an insatiable appetite for destruction. All of that produced a devastating and dramatic implosion of our business.

And finally, it has now resulted in D Magazine's article that you will see this week.

The cover story primarily focuses on Nicky's long-standing issues regarding a legal dispute in West Texas from the early '90s, but it also includes a continuing case with the IRS that primarily involves Nicky but includes some issues for me as well. The tax issues are especially complex, and because they are still in progress, I can't speak to the specific questions that are involved.

We are very hopeful that this will be resolved soon, and I am totally committed to making sure that any taxes owed to the government will be repaid.

The most difficult part of D's article relates to Nicky's arrest in 2000, yes, eight years ago. Unnecessarily and probably only to add sensational information to an already hurtful story, the magazine included unsavory details of Nicky's arrest and what led up to it. This incident was unbelievably hurtful, but reviewing the circumstances in written detail in the D Magazine article are excruciating to us and our children.

Here's what I am comfortable saying about that situation.

This has been the most difficult challenge of my adult life. I sought, and we received, some of the most excellent care in America to grapple and understand the situation and how it happened. That was agonizing for me and for both of us. I accepted Nicky's apologies because of his commitment to change. Beyond that, I know you understand that it's painful--and it needs to be private.

We have moved forward.

It's painful to have D-Magazine wanting us to relive the pain as it recounts their salacious, inaccurate interpretation of events in the January issue, which is also mailed to subscribers for a Christmas delivery.

Each one of us faces individual challenges as we conduct our lives. Imagine the concept of having all of your mistakes summarized for the public in a D Magazine article.

I have always been uncomfortable asking for help-----but, that is what I am doing now. I need your patience, understanding, and goodwill. Please call, write or email me with any thoughts you may have.

I want to make this right and to begin a new life embracing my commitment to you and the real estate industry. I pray that you will forgive us for any shortcomings we've had and be assured that we will work hard to do the right thing with God's help.

The uncharted waters ahead are impossible for us to navigate alone. However, we know that God promises: THROUGH HIM all things are possible. With very humble and heavy hearts, we pray for his promise as we also ask for your prayers of support and strength.

Our family has locked hands and hearts to start our new journey with the song in our hearts for us all: "He will lift us up on eagles wings, bare us like the breathe of dawn, make us to shine like the sun, and hold us in the palm of His Hands."

Thank you.

Most Sincerely,



Eleanor Mowery Sheets