

United Nations  Nations Unies

HEADQUARTERS • SIEGE NEW YORK, NY 10017

TEL.: 1 (212) 963.2912 • FAX: 1 (212) 963.4361

19 February 2016

Dear Mr. Lee,

I write with reference to an incident involving you that occurred on Friday, 29 January 2016, during the United Nations Correspondents Association Annual General Meeting.

After reviewing the facts, the Department of Public Information has determined that your actions were in violation of the United Nations Media Guidelines, which you agreed to by accepting the Media ID and when you received your accreditation.

The Media Guidelines state that the activities of journalists accredited to the United Nations must not “abuse the privileges so extended or put the accreditation to improper use or act in a way not consistent with the principles of the Organization or established journalism ethics and standards.” The Guidelines further state that accredited journalists “are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner in their interaction with other members of the UN press corps, UN officials, and diplomats. Where unexpected circumstances arise, the approach will be to avoid confrontation, maintain civility and find the fastest, safest and most secure acceptable solution. Those correspondents who violate the ground rules on access may have their accreditation withdrawn or suspended.”

In the light of the above, it has been decided to withdraw your Resident Correspondent (White P) accreditation and change your status to non-Resident Correspondent (Green P). This status will be granted for an initial four month period, after which you may apply for renewal. Please be informed that any further incidents inconsistent with the Guidelines for accredited UN correspondents could result in your accreditation being permanently withdrawn.

The Media Accreditation and Liaison Unit will contact you today to vacate the office, return the keys and arrange to issue your new ID. If you do not comply with this request by 5:00 p.m. today, we cannot guarantee further access to the premises.

Yours sincerely,



Cristina Gallach
Under-Secretary-General
for Communications and Public Information

Mr. Mathew Lee
Inner City Press
S-303
United Nations
New York