IDEA Project

Plaintiff John Wicker Vs. Defendant Maria Larue

John Wicker wants to sue Maria Larue for making several defamatory statements on behalf of himself and his company NM Enterprises Inc.

Statement Summary

Statement (1) “NM Enterprises Inc. is an immoral company” this statement is a defamation statement because an accusation of immorality will be a defamatory as it tends to negatively impact a company's stand in business and its operations as a whole as this might discourage others from dealing with it. Statement (2) “John Wicker is a philanderer and has had several extramarital affairs with staff.” This statement is considered defamation because this can be considered defamatory as it is a form of marital infidelity and might cause big public damage to John and lead to job loss and also affect the lives of many people that will be working with him in the future. Lastly, statement (3) “John Wicker has lost his mind and cannot manage his company.” This is a defamatory statement because it is a false opinion against John Wicker which might result in damaging his reputation as well as his company’s reputation.

Court's Decision

We conclude that the court’s decision Maria Larue did not have enough supporting evidence to back up her argument on why the following statements are not defamatory against John Wicker. The tort calm for defamation for NM Enterprises Inc.’s income per year is 5,000,000. He is projected to lose 10 % of his net income, which will result in a loss of 500,000 dollars per year in Minnesota. John Wicker will lose his salary of approximately 400,000 dollars per year. We can assume he will find another job, but it may only pay 100,000 a year. The mitigated damages would be 300,000 from Maria.

Potential Opinion

There might be mediation that can guide the conflicting parties through these issues. Maria Larue and John Wicker should make amends with an apology from the one who was at fault. Overall minimize the injury to John Wicker for being innocent and doing nothing wrong in this case. If Maria Larue agrees to apologize and wants to make amends for what she has done. Then John Wicker could introduce an offer to her to come work with him at NM Enterprises Inc. They could work together to promote the company in a positive way, using her persuasive and creative writing skills to come up with an eye-catching website for the company.