

**Khairy to testify in Kalimullah-Chang defamation case**  
**The Malaysian Insider**  
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KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 4 — Khairy Jamaluddin will testify in the hearing of a defamation suit filed by businessman Datuk Seri Kalimullah Masheerul Hassan against lawyer Matthias Chang, Bernama Online reported today.

The news portal reported that High Court Judge Datuk Asmabi Mohamad today dismissed the Umno Youth chief's application to set aside a subpoena requesting that he testify as Chang's witness in the suit.

She also ordered Khairy (picture) to pay RM3,000 in costs to Chang.

Khairy's counsel Rashid Ismail told Bernama later that his client respected the ruling and was prepared to testify in court.

The court in December had allowed applications by Limkokwing University of Creative Technology founder Tan Sri Lim Kok Wing as well as former second finance minister Tan Sri Nor Mohamed Yacop to set aside similar subpoenas.

Former director of South Peninsular Industries Bhd Tan Sri Azman Hashim, meanwhile, will also be testifying after he withdrew his application to do the same.

All were subpoenaed to testify as Chang's witnesses in the ongoing hearing of a suit brought by Kalimullah, who is also the former deputy chairman of New Straits Times Press Bhd.

The trial continues on January 10.

Kalimullah filed the defamation suit on June 29, 2006 on the grounds that Chang had allegedly made slanderous statements against him on June 13 that same year, at a press conference, a report of which was published in the Singapore Straits Times through its Malaysian correspondent, Leslie Lau.

He is seeking RM50 million in damages, costs, interest and an injunction to restrain Chang from publishing similar words in the future.

Chang, previously a political secretary to former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, also filed a counter-claim against Kalimullah on July 14, 2006, seeking RM150 million in damages, among other claims.

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