

CTOS Conducted Business Illegally, Maintains Kayveas
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KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 9 (Bernama) -- Former deputy minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri M.Kayveas Thursday maintained that credit-reporting agency Credit Tip Off Sdn Bhd (CTOS) had conducted its business illegally.

He said this was because CTOS had not obtained consent from consumers over data collection, sharing or display.

Consumers had the right to check their personal data and give their consent for the data to be displayed, he said when testifying in a defamation suit filed by CTOS against him at the High Court here.

Cross-examined by counsel Ashok Kandiah, who represented CTOS, Kayveas said that CTOS had violated his constitutional rights.

Noting that he had not verified information about CTOS before making his statements on the company to the media, Kayveas said he had received many complaints on CTOS.

In September 2007, CTOS together with CTOS Data Systems Sdn Bhd, CTOS-EMR Sendirian Berhad and CTOS Business Systems Sdn Bhd had filed the suit against Kayveas for alleged defamatory statements made by him about the companies which were reported in local newspapers between June 25 2007 and July 15 2007.

CTOS is seeking general, aggravated and exemplary damages, costs and other relief deemed fit by the court.

The defendant, in his affidavit-in-reply filed by his lawyer Senior Federal Counsel Datuk Kamaludin Md Said, had said the statements were fair comment done in his capacity as Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department then and that he was doing it in the public interest.

The hearing before Judge Rosilah Yop continues on Feb 13.

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