

WSJ gets Najib's legal letter
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By Fernando Fong

The publisher of the Wall Street Journal (WSJ) had been asked to state its position on two recent articles which alleged transfer of 1Malaysia Develop Bhd (1MDB)'s funds into the personal accounts of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

Najib had conveyed this to Dow Jones and Company Inc via a letter dated today from his law firm Hafarizam Wan & Aisha Mubarak.

The letter, which has been circulated on social media today, stated:

"We are instructed by our client to seek confirmation as to whether it is your position as taken in the Articles that our client misappropriated nearly US\$700 milion (RM2.6 billion) from 1Malaysia Development Berhad ?"

"We are instructed to procure your position because the articles collectively suggest that you are unsure of 'the original source of the money and what happened to the money' whilst on the other hand, the general gist of the articles create a clear impression that our client had misappropriated about US\$700 million belonging to 1Malaysia Development Berhad," the letter stated, signed by lawyer Datuk Mohd Hafarizam Harun.

The letter said the articles, written by Simon Clark and Tom Wright, titled "Malaysian leader's accounts probed" and "Scandal in Malaysia" carried a "plethora of convoluted, scurrilous and vague allegations against our client."

"We demand a reply within 14 days and please let us know whether you have appointed solicitors in Malaysia to accept service legal proceedings," it said.

In the letter, the law firm also described the WSJ articles dated July 2 and 6 as containing "a plethora of plethora of convoluted, scurrilous and vague allegations against our client."

The letter was for the attention News Corp General Counsel, David Pitofsky, of which Dow Jones is a subsidiary.

It was also addressed to the Board of Directors, Dow Jones and Company Inc, Avenue of the Americas in New York.

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