

Statement by Stephen Laufer
In response to testimony at the Commission of Inquiry into State
Capture by Mr Angelo Agrizzi

Bosasa approached me to assist them with media relations in late 2006. As is the case with the many dozens of other companies and institutions I have supported with communications advice since 2001, I drafted a media strategy aimed at showcasing the company's activities and successes.

I was clear from day one in my discussions with senior Bosasa executives, including particularly Angelo Agrizzi, that I was not available for any work which was either illegitimate, illegal, or underhand. I would only assist the company for as long as the task was to portray it in as positive a light as possible based on the facts of its work.

I was open to all of my many journalistic contacts that Bosasa was a client in the same way as I have never hidden the names of other clients from any media representative.

The relationship with Bosasa ended in late 2007. I drew the line when I was asked to undertake what for me were clearly unethical activities directed against specific journalists named by Mr Agrizzi.

I fired Mr Agrizzi and his company immediately as clients. Mr Agrizzi is well aware of all of this.

I would be very happy to make myself available to the Zondo Commission if required.

Issued by
Stephen Laufer
slaufer@laufer-tsi.co.za