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Press Statement

April 4, 2025

Re: CR-24-0685; In the Supreme Court of Texas; MRG Medical, LLC v. Texas Tribune, Inc., Pro Publica, Inc., Viana Davila, Jeremy Schwartz, and Lexi Churchill (collectively referred to as “the Media Defendants”).

Client: MRG MEDICAL, LLC. (“MRG”)

On Monday, March 31, 2025, the attorneys representing MRG Medical LLC., filed with the Texas Supreme Court their Motion to Reconsider its denial of its Petition for Review. The Motion is a culmination of over two years of litigation and is MRG’s final chance to seek justice for the false and disparaging implications made about its services in a September 2020 Article published by the Media Defendants. We strongly believe that this case not only affects our client but would have severe adverse consequences to the legal rights of every Texas Business who sells products that were produced, grown or manufactured by another businesses.

On May 3, 2023, the Travis County District Court ruled in MRG’s favor and denied the Motion to Dismiss filed by the Texas Tribune, Inc., Pro Publica, Inc., Viana Davila, Jeremy Schwartz, and Lexi Churchill. The Media Defendants appealed the Court’s decision to the Third Court of Appeals. On May 22, 2024, the Court of Appeals overturned the trial court’s ruling and summarily dismissed MRG’s claims, without oral argument. The Court of Appeals ruled that MRG was unable to assert a business disparagement claim, because it did not “manufacture the covid tests” at issue in the case. The requirement that a Texas Business must directly manufacture the products associated with its services to consumers, to assert a business disparagement claim has never been required. The ruling would create a new hurdle for Texas businesses to seek justice for false and disparaging statements made against them.

For those reasons and others discussed fully in the filings with the Texas Supreme Court, MRG sought relief from the State’s highest civil court, and filed a Petition for Review. The Texas Supreme Court denied MRG’s Petition for Review in March of 2025. In filing its Motion to Reconsider, MRG seeks one last opportunity to present its full legal positions in oral argument and full briefings, in support of its legal positions. A significant amount of evidence has been provided in the trial court to support each element of MRG’s business disparagement claim, should the Texas Supreme Court grant the Petition of Review and allow oral arguments, we confidently believe that the merits and legal justifications for the case to proceed to a jury trial will prevail.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Almanza

Jonathan L. Almanza

Law Office of Jonathan L. Almanza, PLLC.