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## LOS ANGELES POLICE PROTECTIVE LEAGUE

A PROFESSIONAL POLICE UNION

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March 26, 2009

Mr. Tom Gores  
Founder, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer  
Platinum Equity  
World Headquarters  
360 North Crescent Drive  
Beverly Hills, California 90210

ENRIQUE A. HERNANDEZ, ESQ.  
GENERAL COUNSEL

TIM YARYAN, ESQ.  
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& ADVOCATE

Dear Mr. Gores:

It has come to our attention that your Platinum Equity II fund, of which the Los Angeles Police and Fire Pension system is a limited partner by virtue of a \$30 million investment, has recently purchased the *San Diego Union Tribune*.

Many of your investors in this fund and, in fact, some of the largest, are Pension Systems representing teachers, police officers, firefighters, and other public employees. The Los Angeles Police Protective League, representing 9,000 rank-and-file police officers of the Los Angeles Police Department, are now owners of the *Union-Tribune*, through our pension system investment. While we have no concerns about the investment itself, we do have an issue with the editorial positions of the *Union-Tribune*.

The divide between the editorial and news side of a newspaper has often been likened to a "church-state" separation, allowing the news side to pursue stories that is not ideologically driven. Readers are thus assured they are getting the best and most objective reporting. In contrast, the editorial side of the newspaper does not have the same constraints and, in fact, in virtually all cases, represents the political viewpoints of ownership.

This brings us squarely to the current leadership of the *San Diego Union-Tribune* Editorial Page. It is one of the most virulently anti-public safety employee pages of any newspapers in California, if not the country. They consistently call for the wages and benefits of public employees, including police officers and firefighters, to be frozen and pension benefits to be drastically cut. These editorials appear at least weekly, with one coming just days after Platinum Equity II purchased the paper.

Mr. Tom Gores, Founder, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer  
Platinum Equity  
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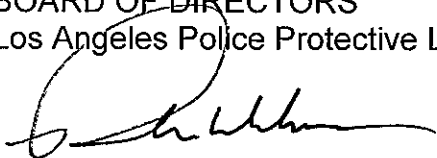
We don't believe you would tolerate the Editorial Page of a newspaper you owned continually attacking you or your firm. The *Union-Tribune* Editorial Page was certainly free to express its hatred of public employees when it was under different ownership. However, since the very public employees they continually criticize are now their owners, we strongly believe that those who currently run the editorial pages should be replaced.

When you went to pension funds seeking their investment dollars, you promised to invest that money for the benefit of those funds and their members. One way you can fulfill that promise is to dismiss the Editorial Staff of the *San Diego-Union Tribune*.

Please feel free to contact me at 213-251-4554, if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Los Angeles Police Protective League



PAUL M. WEBER  
President

PMW:lab

cc: George V. Aliano, Los Angeles Police and Fire Pension system  
Dave Low, California School Employees Association  
Melva S. Vogler, Pennsylvania Public School Employees  
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