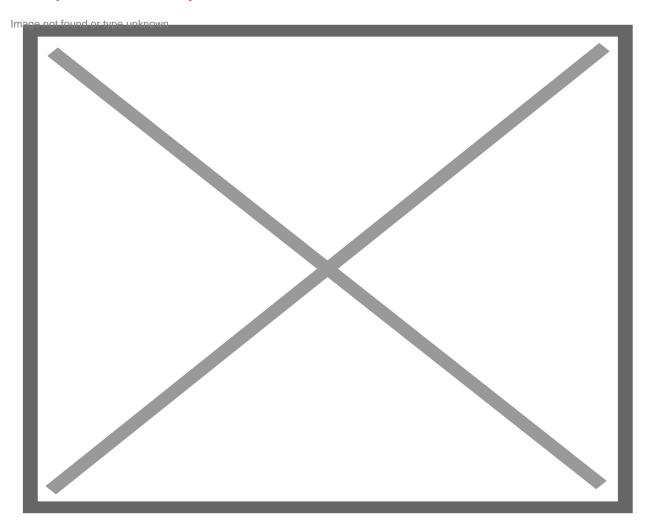
BVI Electoral Hopeful Says Reporting on Criminal Charges Against Him 'Malicious,' 'Partisan'

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Political hopeful Kevon Lettsome. By. 284 MEDIA

Partisan and malicious reporting or acting in the public interest? BVI resident Kevon Lettsome says an article about his recent arrest on charges of uttering a false document is the former.

Mr. Lettsome admits being charged with the offense, and in a statement issued via his social media platforms on Friday morning, provided a definition of the charges he is facing.

"Uttering a forged document is defined as, 'A person who knowingly, with intent to deceive or defraud, utters any forged document, seal or die, commits an offense and is liable on conviction to the same punishment as if he had himself forged the document, seal or die'," Mr. Lettsome wrote.

The electoral hopeful, with aspirations to represent the territory's Seventh District, said that he was "happily at home with [his] family" following Thursday's appearance before a magistrate, and was "looking forward to continuing to meet with the amazing people of the community I call home."

Mr. Lettsome claimed to be innocent of the charges, which according to a post by Guavaberry Media stem from him presenting a recommendation letter to a bank which, when contacted, the signatory denied writing. Mr. Lettsome said he welcomed the "opportunity to clear [his] name" in court.

"I have not knowingly uttered and forged any documents," Mr. Lettsome declared.

He referred to the news outlet's description of his separation from his former employer under which he said were "questionable circumstances" as a partisan attack.

"I find the angle taken by Guavaberry Media to be irresponsible and politically driven as they sought to link this unproven matter to the separation of First Caribbean International Bank and I, and to cast a shadow on my prospective standing for general election," he said.

"There is no link in the two matters that resulted in the separation from where I used to work," Mr. Lettsome insisted, saying that an "official copy of the correspondence from the bank explaining the reason for separation is available for release if necessary."

Mr. Lettsome says he hopes the legal process that he says will result in his vindication will conclude swiftly.

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