



THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING



Office of the Minister

Date: 13 August 2012

Mr. Patrick J. Talamante,
President & CEO
McClatchy Company

Mr. Talamante:

I should clarify that my comments on August 6 that a McClatchy writer “is in the pay of Khartoum” were intended as a figurative and not literal description of writing that we feel is biased and tends towards political activism.

We hope that McClatchy reporting is not selective or biased toward any agenda, no matter how well intentioned.

Nonetheless, my choice of words was not intended to be inflammatory. For the sake of understanding and harmony, we retract the statement of Mr. Boswell being in the pay of Khartoum.

We value the role of a free press, advocacy and public dialogue in bringing clarity to the many issues we face in South Sudan.

McClatchy and its representatives are always welcome here.

Sincerely,



Barnaba Marial Benjamin
13/08/2012

Hon. Dr. Barnaba Marial Benjamin (MP)
Minister of Information and Broadcasting
Spokesperson of the Republic of South Sudan
RSS, Juba