



November 30, 2023

**Hand-Delivered and by Email**

**Poul Weihrauch**

CEO, Mars, Inc.

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WASHINGTON, DC 20008

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cc: **Andrew Clarke**, Global President of Mars Snacking

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**Denise Young**, Global VP of Corporate Communications Mars

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Re: **CEASE AND DESIST LETTER**

Dear Mr. Weihrauch,

As you likely know, CBS Evening News aired a program last evening and this morning exposing Mars' continued use of young children to harvest cocoa in Ghana. The program also revealed that Mars' rehabilitation programs in Ghana are a sham.

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/children-harvesting-cocoa-used-by-major-corporations-ghana/>

Also yesterday, I filed the attached legal complaint against Mars, Cargill and Mondelez, and I represent the children shown in the news clip. Please note this is **not** an attempt at service of process for this new case; I will be amending the complaint to add the new facts described below and then we will serve it on you. If you are represented by counsel in this new matter, please have your counsel contact me.

I am writing to notify you that today two of my clients featured in the CBS piece, Marie Kassim and her daughter S.M.K., were visited by employees of Touton, who informed them they were acting as agents of Mars. They visited Marie at her home and intimidated her because she allowed CBS to film her and her daughter. They also attempted to get her to disown the story. They then visited S.M.K., *a 15 year-old girl*, at her school. They made her watch the CBS video and told her she should recant the story and that CBS and her lawyer were just making up stories to earn big money.

In paragraphs 11 and 12 of the Complaint, we explicitly warn that any contact of our clients or witnesses in an attempt to intimidate them or threaten them is a felony under D.C. law (D.C. Code § 22-722(a)(2)(A-D)) and federal law (18 U.S.C. § 1512). We also noted that our clients have the means to communicate with me immediately if such illegal conduct occurs. They obviously did so this morning.

This **Cease and Desist Letter** is putting you and Mars, Inc. on notice that any further illegal intimidation of or even contact with my clients will result in an immediate criminal complaint being filed against you. While we hope that Mars will devote itself to addressing the horrific child labor issues in its cocoa supply chain rather than spend years and tremendous resources litigating this case, we demand that Mars at least respect the law and does not resort to the illegal intimidation of uneducated cocoa farmers and children.

Sincerely,



Terrence Collingsworth  
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