

Dr. Nel filed this lawsuit after he was dismissed for his own acts of misconduct regarding matters not in Africa, but largely having to do with his responsibilities in Asia.

The University fully denies the Africa allegations that Dr. Nel includes in his lawsuit. Dr. Nel informed the University on at least two occasions about concerns he had regarding an admission decision by the University. As is university practice, the University evaluated the concerns and responded accordingly. The University found no evidence of wrong doing and Dr. Nel did not provide any. In fact, September 2016 Dr. Nel informed the University that he had no evidence of any violation of a law by anyone at USF having to do with the Africa matter and that he was not making any accusations against anyone, and he never again said otherwise.

All university employees are advised of our policies and procedures, as well as their requirements to abide by the law. We have Ethics Policies and Certifications for all officers to abide by, the letter and spirit of all federal and state laws and regulations, including but not limited federal criminal and civil laws. These are not specific to any one law like FCPA but extend to all laws. We welcome any and all information with concerns that there have been violations of policy, procedure or the law.

We respect Dr. Nel's right to bring concerns forward. Many lawsuits are filed and many are found to be factually incorrect. This is one of them. The University does not plan to engage in a back-and-forth response with Dr. Nel in the press. Instead, we will reserve University proof for the proper legal forum that he and the University have agreed -- that is, California Arbitration.

Again, as is our protocol, the University will defend the claims by Dr. Nel in the proper legal forum and not through the media.