

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF RAMSEY

DISTRICT COURT
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT
CASE TYPE: HARASSMENT

In Re the Matter of:

Court File No. 62-HR-CV-21-362

Brittany Marie Anderson,

Petitioner.

Vs.

**Affidavit in Support Motion for Extension
of Harassment Restraining Order**

Timothy Allyn Hutchinson,

Respondent.

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

Brittany Anderson, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I am the Petitioner in the above-entitled matter, and I submit this affidavit in support of my motion to modify and extend the terms of the May 27, 2021 Harassment Restraining Order ("HRO") against the Respondent, Timothy Hutchinson based on his violations of the terms of the HRO, threatening and harassing communication sent to my husband and I, as well as my husband's employer.
2. I am the Respondent's daughter, and am married to Steven Anderson, who also has an HRO against my father arising out of the same acts of harassment, largely targeted by my father towards him, but directed through and to me as well. While many of the acts are separately directed towards Steven and I individually, the harassment has affected both Steven and I collectively.
3. I am employed part-time as a nurse at the University of Minnesota Medical Center – East Bank. I am also a full-time student at the University of Minnesota.

**BACKGROUND--INCIDENTS GIVING RISE TO MAY 27, 2021 HARASSMENT
RESTRAINING ORDER.**

4. By way of background, my father's previous harassment gives context to my present fear of communicated threats to resume harassment once the current HRO expires. Previous incidents of harassment outlined in my original Petition for HRO include:

- a. My father reminded both my husband (Steven, then fiancé) and I on several occasions of a story where he insinuated that in a dating previous relationship involving one of my sisters ended with him shoving the boyfriends head through the drywall of his apartment. My father subsequently gave Steven two books, including an autobiographical work, *Painful Secrets*, wherein he claims to have almost committed a mass shooting as a teenager.
- b. My father was excessively controlling and intrusive to my wedding planning where he would make multiple calls interrogating us (usually Steven) on various wedding planning issues. Although we asked him to stop calling, the calls only increased.
- c. I moved out of my father's home in February 2021 after he got excessively angry when he realized I had done Steven's laundry at the house and told me that he was banned from the property. His response was noticeably heightened compared to his previous rages and he even left the house to collect his firearm and returned inside still visibly angry. I felt unsafe to stay at the house any longer, so I left to stay at a friend's house for a few nights before I moved into an apartment which we tried to keep the address a secret from the respondent for fear of our safety.
- d. My father commenced an intentional and intense campaign of defamation and threats against Steven and his employer, Calvary Church in Roseville, MN. (Calvary Church has a congregation of 1,000+ with two campuses, one in Roseville and one in White Bear Township.) On March 1, 2021, the respondent appeared unannounced and uninvited at Calvary Church, 2120 Lexington Ave., Roseville, MN 55112, to deliver a defamatory letter addressed to the elder board and senior pastor of the church, Dr. Shawn Winters. The letter made false and defamatory claims about Steven's character with the intent to have Calvary terminate his employment. I also attend services at Calvary Church where Steven works.
- e. Based on the insinuated threats and potential endangerment of church staff and parishioners, Calvary Church increased security at both campuses to protect against any physical harm based on the respondent's threats to Steven and potential threats to the staff and congregation, including me. Due to the potential threat to the property, pastoral staff and potential attendees, Steven and I were unable to have our wedding ceremony at the church as we had planned and had to find a different officiant to perform the ceremony not employed by the church.
- f. Respondent hand-delivered a 15-page letter (**Exhibit A**) making false and slanderous reports about Steven to Calvary Church.
- g. On April 28, 2021, Respondent appeared at Steven's then residence uninvited at 7:50am while Steven and his roommates were all sleeping. After gaining access to Steven's building, Respondent knocked on Steven's apartment door repeatedly, but Steven did not answer. The respondent eventually left, and appeared at my apartment at 8:22am, standing outside the door. After buzzing a few times, he left, asking my sister to tell me that he had visited and left flowers on top of my car.

- h. On February 26, 2021, Respondent sent Steven a threatening email in German that read:

Kein Konflikt ist vorbei, bis eine Lösung oder eine Seite einräumt. Dies ist die Ruhe vor dem Sturm. Ich werde immer um meine Liebe kämpfen. Ich bin unerbittlich

Translation:

No conflict is over until a solution or a side concedes. This is the calm before the storm. I will always fight for my love. I am Relentless

- i. In April 2021, Respondent created a public defamatory website defaming and threatening Steven. The website referred to Steven as a “narcissistic monster who captured [his] daughter and dragged her away from [respondent] through [Steven’s] web of lies” a “[fake] youth pastor from hell” makes false claims that “Others see the truth but won’t say anything. They are concerned Steven will attack them as he has done to me.”
- j. In March of 2021, my father reported suicide ideation having held a gun to his head, as a result of the deterioration with the relationship with me, something his emails, letters and other communications clearly indicates he believes Steven had a significant role in. He was eventually checked in to a psych ward because of this incident. He seems to be unable to regulate his emotions, is willing to bring a firearm into the mix and is fixated on Steven being the cause of his broken relationship with me. I still fear that he may have another incident with a firearm and that he may attempt to include Steven or the church where Steven works, and I attend service.

VIOLATIONS OF MAY 27, 2021 HARASSMENT RESTRAINING ORDER.

5. With the pending dismissal of the HRO on May 27, 2023, the Respondent has stated his intent to resume the same level of harassment which includes picketing at the place of Steven’s employment any my place of worship, Calvary Church, Roseville and White Bear Township. The Respondent violated **Paragraph 1A of the HRO** by sending threatening emails to Steven’s employer, Calvary Church, a threatening letter to Steven, and by sending a letter threatening Steven to me.
- a. **May 5, 2023—Letter to Calvary Church**: Respondent contacted Steven’s employer, Calvary Church, by way of their legal counsel, David Lutz, via email (see **Exhibit B**). In his emailed letter to Calvary Church, the Respondent threatens that he will be going to both the White Bear Township and Roseville locations of Calvary Church to picket and protest Steven, along with friends and family, despite the church having a trespass notice against the Respondent. This action makes me feel threatened to attend Calvary Church with my husband, causes me to worry about my husband’s safety at this place of employment, and continues the same harassment patterns from the original Harassment Restraining Order.

- b. **May 4, 2023 – Threatening Letter to Steven:** Respondent sent a letter to Steven through my attorney similar to the threatening letter he sent to legal counsel for Calvary Church threatening again to protest Steven at his place of employment (See **Exhibit C**). In his letter, Respondent threatens that the only way to prevent this from occurring is to, “...*Speak up now. Once [respondent]’s plan goes into action, there is no stopping or turning back*” Respondent also accuses Steven of telling, “*bullshit lies*” and ends his letter “*There is one question you need to ask yourself; what do you think will happen to your life when the truth comes out? **Tick-tock.***” [Emphasis Added] His letter to Steven made me fear for my husband and I’s safety, especially at his place of employment, which is also our place of worship.
- c. **December 7, 2021 Letter:** The respondent wrote a letter to me delivered through my attorney (**Exhibit F**). In it, he mentions that he has contracted a heart condition. In the letter, he blames the events of the past year for his bad sleep, eventually becoming the cause of his heart condition. In the letter, he claims that he doesn’t blame me for the events of the past year, but indirectly blaming my husband for his poor mental health and newly acquired heart condition. This letter is in violation of **Paragraph 1f** of the **Harassment Restraining Order**.
- d. **June 4, 2021 Letter:** The week after the May 27, 2021, HRO was granted, the Respondent wrote to me and continued to accuse Steven of lying and blaming him for the broken relationship between my father and I (See **Exhibit D**). This made me feel as though his patterns of harassment would not end, even though the Harassment Restraining Order had just been issued.
- e. **June 2021 YouTube Video.** At some point following the May 27, 2021 HRO, my father created a 90+ minute YouTube video “responding” to the HRO, but specifically speaking out and challenging the allegations in the Petition, even though he agreed to an entry of an HRO voluntarily without the court making findings of the alleged harassment. My father enlisted the help of my sister Vanessa to film it who then forwarded the video to me. The video was originally posted on a password protected webpage on his site, his “ministry” site, not the website he was required to take down after the HRO. He has since taken down his ministry website. Attached are screenshots of the video (**Exhibit E**) which is available in full detail if a contested hearing is necessary.
6. Respondent has resumed and appears to be prepared to intensify the harassment against me and my husband, Steven upon the expiration of the HRO on May 27, 2023. Although directed towards Steven, his threats of harassment involve and endanger 1,000+ congregants, including hundreds of children, at both campuses as well as the full and part time staff of both campuses. I have grown in my concern and uncertainty of what the Respondent may do or say to me, my husband Steven or those around him.
7. Respondent’s threatening letter sent to Calvary’s legal counsel is not only shocking and exhibits his intent and ability to continue his campaign of harassment against Steven. His letters to me demonstrate his intent to relentlessly pursue unwelcome reconciliation for

the relationship he himself has damaged, but for which he now blames Steven, and which he intends to resume his harassment on May 27, 2023.

8. I am requesting that the court extend the harassment restraining order for another 10 years. In addition, I am requesting that the respondent be prohibited from appearing at my place of employment, but all subsequent places of employment and residences. I also request that the respondent be prohibited from appearing at my current residence at 725 4th Street E., St. Paul, MN 55016 and any future residences.

I declare under penalty of perjury, pursuant to Minn. Stat. §358.116, that everything I have stated in this document is true and correct.

Dated: May 17, 2023

Brittany Anderson

Brittany Anderson, Petitioner

Signed in Ramsey County, MN

EXHIBIT A

Background

My daughter, Brittany Hutchinson began dating Steven Anderson, youth pastor @ Calvary Church. Within a few months Brittany came to me and said she was breaking up with him. The reason is because she felt as though she couldn't be herself around him – almost like he was too controlling. She later said that she had another meeting with him, during which time he “shared his heart” with her. Because of that she decided to again date him.

Shortly thereafter Steven approached myself to help support his ministry – which his full-time job. He says the church cannot afford to pay him a salary, so he fundraises as a substitute. Since then, my wife and I supported his endeavor financially. Along the way I have even worked with him to improve his presentation to find others who would be supportive.

Within months Steven approached me and asked what it would take to have my blessing for him to marry my daughter. One of the things I mentioned was spending more time with our family - we barely knew him. Afterwards he made an effort to be at our house almost on a weekly basis, and things seemed to be going well. When he asked for my blessing on marrying my daughter, I said there were three things he needed to promise me. He agreed and I gave him the blessing. My wife and I even helped with a temporary ring until he could buy one.

Promise #1: Brittany was involved in an accident and we sued on her behalf. She is getting a structured settlement. My wife and I gave up our right to sue for our pain & suffering in exchange for Brittany to receive a larger settlement. Because of that, she ended up with a settlement 4 times larger than she normally would have. I told Steven to not expect Brittany to use the settlement money for typical household needs - that money was given to her so she could do something special (bucket list!) I said he should respect and encourage that. Though she has the right to do as she wishes with this money, let's remember we gave it to her to do something special with - anything other than that is not aligned with our original intentions. *(Brittany later said she had turned control of this money over to Steven by including it in their budget. Then another time said she hadn't. She seemed confused.)*

Promise #2: He would never do anything to interfere in my relationship with Brittany. *(As you'll find out later, this promise was broken many times!)*

Promise #3: He would not be cheap with her. Frugal is OK, cheap is not. We discussed the difference with examples.

First Signs of Trouble

I learned that Brittany and Steven went to pre-marital counseling. During that time they took some tests which showed they were compatible. Things seemed OK. But shortly after they were engaged, things changed. He rarely came to the house and almost never made an effort to be a part of our lives. My son shared with me that one time, before their engagement, at a family bonfire he had tried to start a conversation with him, but Steven only said "whatever", and brushed past him. My son said that Steven acted rudely towards him the rest of the evening. This was literally the first time those two had been formally introduced. I had several friends there as well who both tried to start a conversation with Steven, and they said he was very unfriendly, almost to the point of being rude.

One day Brittany was speaking to her mom and I about the guest list. It sounded as if Steven had already invited so many people there was barely any room for our side of the family. At least that was the impression I got from that conversation. At one point I heard the number of guests was already at 376. And that was before I was able to invite anyone from my family or friends. (I ended up being able to invite only 3 family members and no friends.) Brittany seemed stressed by this process, so I called Steven and asked the question: "How does the guest list honor the mother and father of the bride?" His reply was all about his family and never directly answered my question. When I brought this to his attention, he stated he would need some time to think about the answer and would let me know.

This to me really was the beginning of where I noticed things going downhill. Tensions began to run high and he avoided talking to me. I also noticed changes in my daughter - she seemed unusually stressed and was smiling less than normal.

EXHIBIT A

One time at the breakfast table she said that she was expected to take on a new attitude and way of thinking. When I asked her what she meant, she got up from the table and walked away, saying she had somewhere to go. Brittany and I have always enjoyed a very close relationship and could talk about literally anything. Her response to me was completely out of the ordinary. I asked for an answer about the guest list a 2nd time, but he did not have an answer. Then, within days they came up the "Rules of Engagement" which they presented to my wife and I at a meeting. (See attached.) You'll notice in section 3 it says; "Our desire in those disagreements is to maintain, and even deepen our relationships with out stakeholders, in particular our parents." As you read further it will become clearly obvious this is not the truth.

The question about the guest list ended up being asked 3 times. I never received an answer.

During one of my (few) phone conversations with Steven, I offered some friendly advice from future father-in-law to future son-in-law, the same as my father-in-law did 30-years ago. He became agitated and said things such as, "*I don't need to listen to you*", and "*I'm going to tell Brittany what you're doing*", and "*I don't need this advice*". Due to his rude behavior I ended the call.

Another time I called just to ask if he wanted to get together and hang-out. He replied "No", then said he had to go and hung up.

Fast-forward 30-days. During that time, Steven has made no efforts to be a part of our family or join any activities. Since I gave my blessing for him to marry our daughter, it's like a switch was flipped and he became cold towards us. He has spoken rudely to myself, guests at our house and has acted this ways towards my other children. It seems as though he was only being nice to obtain my blessing, then his real personality came out. Had I known any of this I would have never said yes to him marrying our daughter.

I have tried 7 times to make peace and preserve a relationship with my daughter. Each time has been met with either stonewalling (ignoring) and/or false accusations on the part of Steven. This period of time has been and continues to be emotionally traumatizing for myself. The ripple effect for my family has been noticeable. The pain and suffering have taken their toll. I've

gone from being a normally peaceful loving person who has done a tremendous amount of volunteer work (hospice and preventing teen suicides @ schools), to becoming withdrawn and even crying at times.

Dad Tries to Make Peace 7 Times

(ATTEMPT #1) Before being presented with rules of engagement, (which I did not know they were going to do), in an effort to make peace, I offered an apology for any of my wrongdoings. I truly did not feel as though I had actually done anything wrong, but rather have always put my family first, and am willing to swallow my pride and apologize, even when not necessary or when I feel as though I've not done anything wrong, in order for my family to be happy. I grew up in unfortunate situations, devoid of any love. I lived that way for many years until I met an amazing lady. We married and extended our love into having children, whom I love and cherish more than life itself. I have always put my family first. Always. I challenge anyone to tell of a time when I have not done this 100%.

Steven never clearly accepted the apology, and never showed any appreciation or gratitude. Basically, he ignored it and stonewalled me.

The "Rules of Engagement" seemed to contradict each other. When I emailed to ask for clarification Steven's response did not clearly answer my question. In that email he referenced "triangulating" without realizing that I studied psychology and know that word infers manipulation. I wasn't sure if he was attempting to insult my intelligence, insinuate I was being manipulative, or he really doesn't understand what the word triangulation means when used in the realm of psychology.

My email response was short and a bit pointed; however, by now I am agitated the guest list question had not been answered and it seems all efforts to resolve things have been met with him stonewalling me, ignoring us and being rude.

(ATTEMPT #2) Phone call; shortly afterwards I called Steven and told him that I do not hate him nor am I trying to stop the wedding. I have a good relationship

with my other daughters' boyfriends and hoped to have the same with him. His only response was; "thank you for sharing that" in a monotone voice. There was no appreciation or gratitude - no saying anything like, wow I'm hoping for that too. Nothing. Just another stonewall.

Later I was talking with Brittany and my frustration boiled over, and I raised my voice about how Steven would not answer this seemingly simple question and has made no effort to be a part of our family. I was also terribly upset that Brittany is showing signs of stress and I haven't seen her smile in days. I am very concerned and even heartbroken that she should have to go through this during a time when she should be celebrating. My being agitated certainly did not help matters and I felt truly awful afterwards.

A few hours later she came to me and we discussed the guest list. I accepted her explanation, apologized for raising my voice, and asked that we move forward.

The following day I went to her and asked if we could do a reset, one where we could together enjoy the journey of her getting married. She agreed and we spent some enjoyable time together.

(ATTEMPT # 3) I knew there was still some healing that needed to take place between Steven and I. Though previous attempts had been met with no response, I decided to try again. I suggested mediation to Brittany and she said she would talk to Steven about it.

(ATTEMPT #4) I saw increased sadness and pain in my daughter's eyes and felt incredibly horrible for her. So, I told Brittany and her mom that I would speak with Steven and offer to let bygones be bygones and to set simple expectations of how we communicate. He refused to meet and asked for mediation, which I had previously suggested. I asked if he was sure he wanted to do that and said we could work things out. He said no, that our next talk should be mediated. I suggested he take a screenshot of that comment as a reminder that he asked for this – meaning that mediation would include going over past hurt and

painful events.

Mediation was set for Saturday, Feb. 20th. Steven insisted we not talk about the past and only focus on how my wife and I were to speak to him and Brittany. I insisted we bring everything out in the open and resolve matters. For that reason, (according to Brittany), Steven canceled mediation.

(ATTEMPT #5) Brittany does Stevens laundry at our house, which I honestly don't mind. He makes it clear that he is concerned about Covid, so when I discovered some information about that virus and fabric, I wanted to share this with him. Soon afterwards as Brittany was leaving the house, she said Stevens laundry was in the dryer and asked that once done I place it outside the front door for him to pick up. I figured this was out of concern for Covid, so decided to write him the following letter, and placed in in the laundry basket along with his clean clothes.

Hi Steven,

I did some research and was surprised to learn the Covid virus can live for up to 48-hours on our clothing. I can understand your concern over this virus, so much so that Brittany asked me to leave your clothes outside the front door for you to pick up. I can fully appreciate that. When one considers how long the virus can live on clothing, and the fact they are inside our house - a place you're concerned about being exposed to, perhaps it would be a safer option for you to wash your own clothes at home. Something to think about.

Would have been nice to see you today - it's been a while. We could have safely visited for a few minutes, especially since I tested Negative just yesterday for Covid. But, we can't be too careful! Well, perhaps another time.

Hope you have a wonderful day.

Mr. Hutchinson

He has never said anything about this letter. Nothing. No thank you for your concern, maybe we can meet up another time, etc.