

*Good morning your honor. I am here today to make a statement in support of my brother, Tim Hutchinson. I have known him all of my life, which is now more than 50 years. Nothing in these court filings comes even close to who my brother really is.*

*To begin, I will share with you about my only daughter, Jessica. Several months ago she suddenly and unexpectedly passed away. Children should bury their parents, not the other way around. This was one of the most devastating things I've experienced in my life. In that time of enormous grief, my brother Tim rushed to my side and remained there as a steady rock for me to hold onto. Without him I don't even know how I would have made it through all of this.*

*My brother Tim and I are close, and we talk on the phone at least 3 or 4 times a week. At least once a week during our calls, as Tim will be talking about his daughter Brittany, and how much he loves her and wants to see her, he will cry. Not just a little, but actually sobbing. He is truly hurt by these terrible lies about him.*

*I know my brother had contacted several attorneys looking for a way to resolve this matter outside of a court proceeding - he wanted this to be settled peacefully and privately as a family should. His desire was for this family to come together and resolve this using mediators. The attorneys told him that it was unlikely that Steven would voluntarily agree to this, and that going to the church he worked at would be the best solution. Especially since Steven had previously talked with the church about doing mediation.*

*My brother had said that he tried contacting the church several times previously and they wouldn't agree to any mediation or investigation. He said he wasn't sure what the next steps were and that he was going to wait until the restraining order expires and see if they can move forward with coming together as a family and working through this.*

*Because we are family, and especially that he helped me so much when my daughter died, I wanted to find a way to help ease his pain. My thought was to try and get the church to agree to do an investigation or at least mediate this matter. So I contacted family members and friends to see if they would help*

*with a protest at the church. Every person said yes, they absolutely believe Tim is innocent of these outrageous claims.*

*I then called Tim and explained what we were ready to do. He said no, don't do that. Just wait. As he has said all along, we should practice peace and calm - love and forgiveness. I waited a few days and asked him again. He still said no, don't do anything. So I went online and looked up laws concerning peaceful protests. From that I made a list and told others that if we did this that we would only remain on public property, act peacefully 100% of the time, and if approached by anyone we would be polite and courteous. This was always intended to be a peaceful protest to help my brother, not a riot.*

*I called my brother a third time and explained how we would act. He agreed and said that everyone there must promise to act in a calm and peaceful manner. My brother also said that he would not attend these protests, due to the lies about him being a danger to the church. He then sent an email to the church's attorney requesting they do an investigation, stating if they didn't there would be a protest. They declined his request. He also sent an email to Steven, through his attorney letting him know what the plan was. He also offered Steven an opportunity to share what ideas he had about how to resolve this. The response was to file another restraining order against my brother.*

*Tim said he is going to ask for a trial, and that I should call off the protests. So I cancelled them. It's a sad day when a court needs to get involved in order for the truth to come out between family members.*

*Your honor, I have never heard my brother say anything about being violent or do anything illegal. Instead, he has encouraged his family to remain peaceful and calm, and to act with love and forgiveness. I'm not sure if Tim wants me to say anything about this, but Steven had approached my brother asking him to send him money to help with living expenses. My brother said yes, absolutely. And he has been sending this help every month now for the past 2 and a half years. Even though they say horrible lies about him, he still helps. That's who my brother really is - not some demon crawling out of the pit of hell as they want you to believe.*

*Our family looks up to Tim and respects him greatly. And we stand beside him 100% because we know who he really is.*

*Thank you, your honor for the opportunity to come here today and speak this truth on behalf of a great man, husband, father, brother, uncle and American citizen.*