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SONYA KRASKI
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18-2-08293-31
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AFPT
Affidavit of Plaintiff Petitioner
3938903



SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON
FOR SNOHOMISH COUNTY

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In re the Marriage of:

SONYA DELANCE,

and

MICHAEL ANGELO DELANCE,

Petitioner,

Respondent.

NO. 18-2-08293-31

DECLARATION OF SONYA DELANCE
IN SUPPORT OF THE DVPO

SONYA DELANCE declares:

I ask the court to grant the permanent DVPO. I filed for divorce in King County on September 21, 2018 as that is where my husband lives. My lawyer is drafting a motion for temporary orders addressing finances, restraining orders, appointing a parenting evaluator and a temporary Parenting Plan. I expect to file it on Friday or Monday. Now that my husband has an attorney, they are working on an agreed date for the hearing.

Michael refused to have any visitation with his children – even though he could have had visitation. I think that speaks volumes.

Michael’s behavior meets the definition of “domestic violence” and criminal “assault” and criminal “harassment.”

I am not surprised at my husband’s response. He either denies my allegations or claims he has no memory of the event. And he claims that since I never called the police, I had no

DECLARATION OF SONYA DELANCE IN SUPPORT OF THE DVPO

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concerns and I must be making it all up. He dismisses his texts by saying "I am not proud of them." My attorney tells me this is typical of DV abusers.

RCW 26.50.010 – "Domestic Violence Prevention – Definitions"

(3) "Domestic violence" means: (a) Physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault, between family or household members;

RCW 9A.04.110 "Criminal code - Definitions"

...

(28) "Threat" means to communicate, directly or indirectly the intent:
(a) To cause bodily injury in the future to the person threatened or to any other person; or
(b) To cause physical damage to the property of a person other than the actor;

...

RCW 9A.36.021 "Assault in the second degree"

(1) A person is guilty of assault in the second degree if he or she, under circumstances not amounting to assault in the first degree:
(g) Assaults another by strangulation or suffocation.

RCW 9A.46.020 "Harassment – definitions"

(1) A person is guilty of harassment if:
(a) Without lawful authority, the person knowingly threatens:
(i) To cause bodily injury immediately or in the future to the person threatened or to any other person; or HE THREATENED TO KILL EVERYONE
(ii) To cause physical damage to the property of a person other than the actor; HE THREATENED TO BURN THE HOUSE
or
(iii) To subject the person threatened or any other person to physical confinement or restraint; or
(iv) Maliciously to do any other act which is intended to substantially harm the person threatened or another with respect to his or her physical or mental health or safety; and
(b) The person by words or conduct places the person threatened in reasonable fear that the threat will be carried out. "Words or conduct" includes, in addition to any other form of communication or conduct, the sending of an electronic communication.

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1 Michael has hit me, shoved me, pushed me, strangled me, blocked my way out, grabbed
2 me, bruised me, scared me to death, intimidated me, threatened me, hit my son and threatened
3 my son.

4 Some examples of his text messages:

5
6 "Tell my children I am dismissed.
7 Don't bring another [man] in my house.
8 **I'll burn it down.**"

9 Then he sends her a picture of "fire."

10 "I've called my allies in Tarukino and this is bullshit.
11 **So now I am going to kill everyone.**"

12 [Tarukino is a company making cannabis products.]

13 **What he does not deny.**

14 I find it very telling that Michael does not deny that he has ever hit me, pushed me,
15 slapped me or been violent with me. He only denies the specific incidents I described.

16 He does not deny that he is currently drinking. He does not deny that he didn't drink
17 while he had the kids. He does not deny that he drove the kids while he was drunk.

18 **My children need protection.**

19 My children have been in the house when many of these events have happened. They
20 have heard us arguing. I really do hope they have not seen Michael physically harm me, but I
21 can't say for sure. My concern is that if Michael's drinking continues that it's possible he may
22 drive the children drunk. He has had a DUI in the past. Michael has threatened to burn their
23 house down and to kill us all. These threats are criminal.

24
25 Michael has repeatedly and routinely bad mouthed me to them. Telling them I am
26 getting them a new daddy, that he won't see them for a year, and saying sexually inappropriate
27

1 things about me in front the children. He's told me that I am an awful mother and threatened
2 that he will tell the children I am breaking up the family. Such behavior puts the children under
3 enormous stress. He threatened me that if I filed he would tell the kids all sorts of things about
4 me. I am concerned that his drinking escalates in times of stress and this is stressful to him. I
5 want to protect them from that – it is very harmful to them.
6

7 As the court knows, children witnessing or hearing domestic violence or seeing my
8 bruises is as damaging, as harmful and as frightening as if Michael were hitting them directly.

9 There can be lifelong effects on children. Some reference material I found:

10
11 witnessing can mean **SEEING** actual incidents of physical/and or sexual abuse. It
12 can mean **HEARING** threats or fighting noises from another room. Children may
13 also **OBSERVE** the aftermath of physical abuse such as blood, bruises, tears, torn
14 clothing, and broken items. Finally children may be **AWARE** of the tension in the
15 home such as their mother's fearfulness when the abuser's car pulls into the
16 driveway.

17 **What are the feelings of children who are exposed to battering?**
18 Children who are exposed to battering become fearful and anxious. They are always
19 on guard, watching and waiting for the next event to occur. They never know what
20 will trigger the abuse, and therefore, they never feel safe. They are always worried
21 for themselves, their mother, and their siblings. They may feel worthless and
22 powerless.

23 **What are the long-term effects on children who witness domestic violence?**
24 Whether or not children are physically abused, they often suffer emotional and
25 psychological trauma from living in homes where their fathers abuse their mothers.
26 Children whose mothers are abused are denied the kind of home life that fosters
27 healthy development. Children who grow up observing their mothers being abused,
especially by their fathers, grow up with a role model of intimate relationships in
which one person uses intimidation and violence over the other person to get their
way. Because children have a natural tendency to identify with strength, they may
ally themselves with the abuser and lose respect for their seemingly helpless
mother. Abusers typically play into this by putting the mother down in front of her
children and telling them that their mother is "crazy" or "stupid" and that they do
not have to listen to her. Seeing their mothers treated with enormous disrespect,
teaches children that they can disrespect women the way their fathers do.

1 Most experts believe that children who are raised in abusive homes learn that
2 violence is an effective way to resolve conflicts and problems. They may replicate
3 the violence they witnessed as children in their teen and adult relationships and
4 parenting experiences. Boys who witness their mothers' abuse are more likely to
5 batter their female partners as adults than boys raised in nonviolent homes. For
6 girls, adolescence may result in the belief that threats and violence are the norm in
7 relationships.

8 Children from violent homes have higher risks of alcohol/drug abuse, post
9 traumatic stress disorder, and juvenile delinquency. Witnessing domestic violence
10 is the single best predictor of juvenile delinquency and adult criminality. It is also
11 the number one reason children run away.

12 <https://www.domesticviolenceroundtable.org/effect-on-children.html>

13 Children and youth who are exposed to domestic violence experience emotional,
14 mental, and social damage that can affect their developmental growth. Some
15 children lose the ability to feel empathy for others. Others feel socially isolated,
16 unable to make friends as easily due to social discomfort or confusion over what is
17 acceptable.

18 <https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/systemwide/domviolence/impact/children-youth/>

19 See also:

20 Unicef report: <https://www.unicef.org/media/files/BehindClosedDoors.pdf>

21 The National Child Traumatic Stress Network: <https://www.nctsn.org/what-is-child-trauma/trauma-types/domestic-violence>

22 CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/nisvs/index.html>

23 In response to his allegations¹ that I use Xanax with alcohol – I have a prescription for
24 a panic attacks that I got last year and I rarely use it. Michael is the one who uses Valium,
25 alcohol and cocaine to excess. I had pain pills for a back injury that happened in January
26 2018 and I only used them for a few days. Over the summer I had my girlfriends and their
27 children over to play in the pool. I have no substance abuse issues. I have made no sexual
solicitations – this is Michael's fantasy – he has accused me of this during our entire marriage.

¹ As the court knows, the hearsay rule does not apply in DV cases.

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There is no question that Michael has committed domestic violence. I stand by my accounts of the many incidents of abuse.

In conclusion, I ask the court to issue a permanent DVPO for a year protecting me, my son and our children. I would like Michael to see his kids. He can have professionally supervised visitation with our two children until the King County Superior Court rules on the temporary Parenting Plan issues.

I have personal knowledge of the above facts and am competent to so testify. I certify under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED this 28th day of September, 2018, at Woodway, Washington.

Authentisign
Sonya DeLance
Sonya DeLance, Petitioner