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SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON
COUNTY OF SPOKANE

IN RE :

MEGAN RUTTER
8/3/91

D.O.B:

NO. 24-2-04563-32

DECLARATION OF [REDACTED]

Petitioner,

(DCLR)

vs.

STEVEN EISNER
1/24/91

D.O.B:

Respondent.

Declaration of (name) [REDACTED]

1. I am (age) [REDACTED] years old and I am the (check one): Petitioner Respondent
Other (relationship to the people in this case): WITNESS

2. I declare: I met Steven Eisner and Megan Rutter in the Summer of 2022, but at that time, only knew of them peripherally due to their work in the charity video game space. However, I started working with Steven more closely in the spring of 2023, when I was brought onto the same performance team. In that space, I found Steven to be a fun and collaborative creator, but our relationship was solely as acquaintances at that time. It was not until the next event in person we worked together, AGDQ 2024, that we truly became friends through supporting each other in wildly difficult personal times. Over the past year, that friendship has strengthened and we have become confidantes, talking to each other about anything

1 from business strategy, video games, life, death, the unfortunate and disastrous state of economics in
2 today's world - whatever.

3 Within these talks, one topic that Steven and I would confide in each other about was our relationship
4 difficulties as they arose. As a result of these many conversations, I heard quite a bit about Steven trying to
5 connect with Megan and having an incredibly difficult time doing so due to physical and communication
6 incompatibilities. The overall picture I gleaned was one of a dysfunctional and toxic relationship between
7 the two. A relationship where both members were unhappy and constantly arguing, comprised of one
8 partner who felt unheard being constantly talked over, and becoming aggressive and frustrated as a result;
9 the other partner, one who had an extremely hard time taking accountability, instead constantly pointing
10 fingers at others and deflecting blame for anything they did.
11

12 Still, I saw the work he would put in despite the difficulties they were facing. Megan lost her job due to an
13 incorrect documentation filing, and he took on paying nearly all the bills on his own. Steven religiously had
14 Sundays blocked off on their calendar so the couple could go on weekly dates, even at their worst of times.
15 Steven would regularly have consent conversations with her about their relationship as they opened to
16 exploring polyamory. When Megan's achilles ruptured, he would constantly pause the conversation to get
17 them food or to check and make sure Megan was all right at the drop of a hat during streams, prioritizing
18 her over his work. Steven took on the responsibility of taking care of all the animals in the house while
19 Megan wasn't on her feet. Steven was overwhelmed by the relationship, absolutely, but it was not from a
20 lack of trying to repair it.
21

22 I was contacted on September 18, 2024 by Megan Rutter in a private message. In the message, Megan
23 begged me to check twitter, where I then saw a string of messages that had been published from her about
24 escaping out of state away from the alleged abuse. Megan attached a video of an argument the couple
25 shared, as well as two pictures of a drawer in the kitchen that had been allegedly broken out of place as a
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27

OPTIONAL FORM (05/2016)

FL ALL FAMILY 135

DECLARATION

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Spokane, WA 99201
509-327-1415

1 threat. In the text associated with said message, Megan described Steven as a narcissistic abuser, and
2 presented allegations to me about his violence and neglect over the course of their relationship. Megan
3 expressed that they had been extremely concerned for my well being and didn't want me to go through the
4 same things they had living there.

5 I wanted to do everything I could to hear Megan out because, as a survivor of previous assault and abuse, I
6 know how terrifying it can be escaping a situation like that, and to speak out against a previous abuser if
7 they have public influence. Especially if that person is someone you trusted and cared for for a significant
8 amount of time. However, many of the allegations, to me, felt incredibly uncharacteristic of Steven based on
9 everything I've come to know of them in the last year. As much as I know any person, friend or not, is
10 capable of harm, I also know acquaintances and strangers are capable of lying, and I wanted to be able to
11 draw my own conclusions.

12 After being presented with Megan's messages, I reached out to Steven as well to ask what had happened,
13 and heard out their side of the story. Steven took accountability for a lot of the mistakes he made in the
14 relationship, while also acknowledging the ways he had been harmed, and the ways that Megan had lied or
15 twisted the truth about the nature of said relationship in the restraining order and in the claims she had
16 made to me and others. Steven sat with me on the phone for at least an hour that night, and more time
17 several other nights that week, clarifying any questions I had, and sending me videos and screenshots to
18 share the horrible downs they had endured.

19 The video I was sent by Megan read, to me, as a really bad fight between partners. This other video,
20 however, was entirely different, and watching Megan scream at Steven throughout the duration of the 11-12
21 minutes broke my heart and horrified me simultaneously. I knew that Steven had been begging to be
22 listened to in the relationship and would regularly be cut off, but I had no idea the level of extremes that the
23 ugly side of the relationship could escalate to until witnessing that. At the end of all this, when I went to look
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back at the messages from Megan to compare them with Steven's side of the story, the entire large first chunk of text she sent had been deleted, as well as the entire chain of tweets I had initially been referred to, and when I tried to follow up to see if she was okay, I received no response. _____

After hearing both sides, after seeing how they responded in the aftermath, I truly believe that Steven Eisner is a good person who was in an extremely bad relationship. Megan claimed in her statement presented before the court that she took no actions to reach out to others for the sake of defaming Steven Eisner and claiming her own side of the story first. I can confirm wholly that this is not the case, as I was reached out to directly, as well as made aware of a long chain of public tweets made by her, publicly berating him. After hearing both sides, I feel that reaching out to me to make these claims, and falsifying that fact in the aftermath of her court submission documentation, is an act of manipulation. From my perspective, Megan was not interested in defending my safety. She was just interested in harming Steven's reputation in the minds of those closest to him, and attempting to exonerate herself by lying in the documentation in the process. _____

