

1 KING, HOLMES, PATERNO & SORIANO, LLP
HOWARD E. KING, ESQ., STATE BAR NO. 77012
2 JOHN G. SNOW, ESQ., STATE BAR NO. 280790
JACKSON S. TRUGMAN, ESQ., STATE BAR NO. 295145
3 JTRUGMAN@KHPSLAW.COM
1900 AVENUE OF THE STARS, TWENTY-FIFTH FLOOR
4 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90067-4506
TELEPHONE: (310) 282-8989
5 FACSIMILE: (310) 282-8903

6 Attorneys for Plaintiff Brian Warner p/k/a
Marilyn Manson
7

8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
9 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CENTRAL DISTRICT
10

11 BRIAN WARNER p/k/a MARILYN
MANSON,

12 Plaintiff,

13 vs.
14

15 EVAN RACHEL WOOD; ASHLEY GORE
a/k/a/ ILLMA GORE,

16 Defendants.
17
18

CASE NO. 22STCV07568

DECLARATION OF BRIAN WARNER

[Filed concurrently with: Opposition to Gore’s anti-SLAPP Motion; Opposition to Wood’s anti-SLAPP Motion; King Declaration; Supplemental King Declaration; Berk Declaration; Balog Declaration; Weiss Declaration; Meyer Declaration; Kunkel Declaration; B. Gore Declaration; Opposition to Gore’s RJN; Objections to Defendants’ Evidence; Notice of Lodging; Application to Seal; [Proposed] Order Granting Sealing Application]

Date: December 1, 2022
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Dept.: 50

The Hon. Teresa A. Beaudet, Dept. 50

Action Filed: March 2, 2022
Trial Date: Not Set

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DECLARATION OF BRIAN WARNER

I, Brian Warner, declare as follows:

1. The following facts are within my personal knowledge and, if called as a witness herein, I can and will competently testify thereto.

2. I met Evan Rachel Wood in 2006, and we had a romantic relationship until approximately 2010. During that time we were engaged to be married and carried on a loving and consensual relationship. Eventually, like many couples, we broke up. I never abused, assaulted, raped, or threatened Wood or her family as she has since contended. *See, e.g.,* Wood Decl. ¶¶ 6-7, 9, 12, 15, 23. Her accusations against me of abuse, assault, rape, threats, and the like are unequivocally false.

3. I understand that on or around February 1, 2021, Wood posted to Instagram that I was her “abuser,” and shortly thereafter a number of other women simultaneously emerged with false public accusations against me of abuse, assault, rape, threats, “trafficking,” and the like. These women include Ashley Morgan Smithline, Ashley Walters, Jane Doe, and Esme Bianco. *See, e.g.,* Kump Decl. Exs. 6-10. To the extent I had relationships with these women, those relationships were consensual. I never abused, assaulted, raped, threatened, or “trafficked” any of these women, as they contend. Their accusations against me of abuse, assault, rape, threats, and the like are unequivocally false.

4. Wood and her one-time girlfriend Illma Gore have also accused me of abusing and/or threatening to abuse children. *See, e.g.,* Wood Decl. ¶¶ 7, 16, 20; Gore Mot. at 11-12. I am not a child abuser and have never abused, or threatened to abuse, any child.

5. My film “Groupie” was not “child pornography.” It was a professional art/horror film I created and wrote, and which was filmed by director Joseph Cultice. The actress, Pola Weiss, was over 21, and there was no sex in the film. Prior to filming, Weiss and I went through film’s concept, plot, and some high-level dialogue. When I screened “Groupie” for Wood in about 2009, I told her the actress was Weiss, an ex-girlfriend. After watching the film, Wood told me she was very impressed with it—her only criticism was that she (Wood) had not been able to star in the film.

1 6. I understand that Wood and Gore continue to promulgate the falsehood that I am a
2 child abuser, and that “Groupie” is child pornography, as somehow lending credence to Wood’s
3 false accusations and enhancing their perceived influence with prospective accusers. For example,
4 in the 1990s, I was introduced to, and became friendly with, Kathryn McGaffigan and her friends
5 Jeanette Polard and Alison Duffy. McGaffigan, Polard, and Duffy appeared in my tour
6 documentary “Dead to the World” and have been credited as “cast” of that film on the website
7 IMDb. I understand from documents given to me by McGaffigan comprising conversations
8 between her and Gore, that in September 2020 Gore attempted to recruit McGaffigan for a “group
9 of survivors of violence with similar experiences,” specifically “abuse suffered from other
10 teenagers” allegedly by me. In support of that proposition, Gore stated “Groupie” was “not
11 released because the girl was underage,” the “content . . . horrifies people,” and the “FBI got
12 involved.” None of McGaffigan, Polard, or Duffy appeared in “Groupie,” and I never abused, or
13 threatened to abuse, McGaffigan, Polard, or Duffy.

14 7. I understand further that on March 3, 2022, Gore posted to Twitter, calling me a
15 “rapist pedophile,” and on approximately March 15, 2022, Wood appeared on “The Trevor Noah
16 Show,” stating that “there have been allegations and stories that have come out on the internet that
17 involve minors, and you gotta draw the line somewhere, and with children, I have to draw the line
18 there—and—I don’t believe that he will stop until he is stopped.”¹ Again, I am not a child abuser
19 and have never abused, or threatened to abuse, any child—and I never would.

20 8. I have suffered severe emotional distress as a result of Wood’s and Gore’s conduct
21 as alleged in my Complaint. I am not a rapist or abuser, but many people now apparently think
22 that I am.

23 9. The individual acts alleged in my Complaint were not isolated events but rather
24 part of an intertwined and long-running conspiracy and course of conduct to cast me publicly—
25 and falsely—as a rapist and abuser. This conduct included not only pressuring and causing
26 women to emerge with coordinated false allegations of rape and abuse, but also other acts used to
27

28 ¹ The video is available at https://youtu.be/_V0WHjBgfW8?t=275.

1 promulgate and amplify those public falsehoods. For a nearly decade or more, none of these
2 women accused me of rape or abuse as no rape or abuse happened. I have been the target of a fake
3 letter purportedly from a real FBI agent whom I understand has told my counsel that she did not
4 draft, sign, or authorize the letter, and had never investigated me, any matter related to me, or any
5 matter related to Wood.

6 10. In addition, I have been defamed, impersonated, hacked, and “swatted” by Wood
7 and/or Gore. After Wood’s and others’ lies about me became public, the media firestorm was
8 exacerbated when Gore falsely reported that there was an “emergency” at my home, causing low
9 flying police helicopters, spotlights, squad cars, and armed officers to be deployed to my home for
10 hours, on multiple occasions. I have never met or spoken Gore. Her report of an emergency was
11 false. Members of the press appeared to be some of the first on the scene, and this chaos was
12 reported as somehow being connected with the false allegations against me. Photos of my house
13 and my address were published online and in newspapers, and paparazzi and media camped
14 outside for weeks; my wife and I were forced to move out and sell our home.

15 11. After being falsely portrayed as a rapist, abuser, and child pornographer, my career
16 as a musician and recording artist has suffered, including because I have been unable to tour and
17 was dropped by my record label and agency; my film and television career has suffered, including
18 because I was pulled from two television shows, one of which was a reoccurring role; my art
19 career has suffered, including because the release of my book and art shows have been indefinitely
20 postponed, and my paintings have been devalued; I have received countless death threats online; I
21 have been excluded from countless social and business gatherings; and I have constantly felt
22 anxious, distraught, depressed, worried, frantic, sleepless, and fearful for my and my wife’s
23 physical safety.

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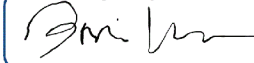
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I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

7/19/2022

Executed on this ___ day of July, 2022, at Los Angeles, California.

DocuSigned by:

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Brian Warner

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PROOF OF SERVICE

**Brian Warner p/k/a Marilyn Manson v. Evelyn Rachel Wood, et al.
Case No. 22STCV07568**

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

At the time of service, I was over 18 years of age and not a party to this action. I am employed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. My business address is 1900 Avenue of the Stars, Twenty-Fifth Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90067-4506.

On November 15, 2022, I served true copies of the following document(s) described as **DECLARATION OF BRIAN WARNER** on the interested parties in this action as follows:

SEE ATTACHED SERVICE LIST

BY E-MAIL OR ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION: I caused a copy of the document(s) to be sent from e-mail address Eweinberger@khpslaw.com to the persons at the e-mail addresses listed in the Service List.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on November 15, 2022, at Los Angeles, California.

/s/ Eniko Weinberger

Eniko Weinberger

