

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

11 BRIAN WARNER, p/k/a MARILYN
 MANSON,

12 Plaintiff,

13 vs.

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

16 Defendants.

CASE NO. 22STCV07568

DECLARATION OF BLAIR BERK

Date: July 22, 2022

Time: 8:30 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 BLAIR BERK

I, Blair Berk, declare as follows:

1. I am an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of California and serve as counsel for Brian Warner p/k/a Marilyn Manson. The following facts are within my personal knowledge and, if called as a witness herein, I can and will competently testify thereto.

2. On or around November 2021, I became aware of a letter purportedly written and signed by an “Agent Michelle Langer” of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (“FBI”) concerning a purported federal criminal investigation into Warner, and a supposed threat to the safety of Evan Rachel Wood and others. A true and correct copy of that letter is attached as **Exhibit A**.

3. I had immediate concerns about the authenticity of the letter based on my nearly 30 years of experience practicing federal and state criminal law because the letter, purportedly written on behalf of a federal law enforcement agency, was not printed on official letterhead; the correspondence stated the author was from the “Federal Violent Crimes Department,” a “Department” I had no knowledge of and quickly determined did not exist; the correspondence was not addressed to a specific person, had handwritten contact names on it, and also contained glaring typographical errors.

4. On or around January 26, 2022, at my direction, my office undertook efforts to determine if there was an actual Special Agent for the FBI named Michelle Langer. Contemporaneously, my office called the telephone number attached to Agent Langer’s name on the letter. A women named Michele Meyer answered the phone. Meyer told my office she was not a federal agent, and was not Michelle Langer, but was instead an acquaintance of Mr. Warner.

5. After determining that the FBI did employ a Special Agent by the name of Michelle Langer, on or around February 2, 2022, I called the Tampa Bay field office of the FBI. The dispatcher I spoke to located FBI Agent Michelle Langer in that office. I was connected to Agent Langer, who answered the telephone. During this call, I described the letter and emailed Agent Langer a copy of it. Agent Langer told me that she believed the letter was likely a fraud based on my description of the letter. I told Agent Langer I represented Brian Warner p/k/a Marilyn Manson, and asked if she was familiar with this person or had ever been involved in any

1 criminal investigation of Mr. Warner. Agent Langer said she recognized the name, but had never
2 investigated Mr. Warner or any matter related to Mr. Warner. Agent Langer also stated that she
3 had not ever investigated any matter related to Evan Rachel Wood. After receiving and reviewing
4 the letter, Agent Langer confirmed to me that (1) she did not write the letter, (2) she never
5 authorized the contents of the letter; (3) she never authorized any use of her name on the letter;
6 and (4) there is no “Federal Violent Crimes Department” at or associated with the FBI.

7 6. During this call, I also asked Agent Langer whether she recognized the name Illma
8 Gore a/k/a Ashley Gore. Agent Langer stated the name sounded familiar and that she believed
9 that Gore had previously contacted Agent Langer to report a crime unrelated to Mr. Warner.

10 7. On or around February 3, 2022, I spoke to Agent Langer again. During this call,
11 Agent Langer also confirmed that there was in fact no active criminal investigation of Mr. Warner
12 being conducted by the FBI. Discussing the letter again, Agent Langer stated that she had a
13 suspicion of how her name had been wrongfully used: Two individuals, Mitch Emerson and Kelly
14 Blauschild, had previously contacted her office to report a crime unrelated to Mr. Warner.

15 8. Like Gore, Emerson and Blauschild are involved with the Phoenix Act. Emerson is
16 listed on LinkedIn as the Executive Director of the Phoenix Act, and has posted to Twitter that he
17 works with the Phoenix Act. A true and correct copy of those webpages are attached as **Exhibit**
18 **B**. A “Kelly Blaus” believed to be Blauschild is also listed on LinkedIn as the Communications
19 Liason of the Phoenix Act, and has posted to Twitter that she works with the Phoenix Act; another
20 webpage at <https://www.kellyblaus.com/vision>, states that “My name is Kelly Blauschild . . . I
21 have worked . . . with an organization called the Phoenix Act.” A true and correct copy of those
22 webpages are attached as **Exhibit C**.

23 9. I understood from my conversations with Agent Langer that, at that time, she was
24 not authorized to prepare a declaration in a civil action stating the above facts because of the
25 ongoing investigation of the letter by her office and the US Attorney’s Office.

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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.

Executed on this 18th day of July, 2022, at Los Angeles, California.



Blair Berk

EXHIBIT A

To Whom it May Concern,

Please be advised that Ms. Evan Rachel Wood is a key witness in connection to a criminal investigation in Los Angeles, California involving an international and well known public figure. The safety of Ms. Wood, her family, other victims, and of their families are of the utmost concern during this time.

Contact for more information regarding the safety of victims Human and Sex Trafficking crimes.



Federal Violent Crimes Department
Michelle Langer
(949) 202-REDACTED

GUILERMO SANTISO
DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY
gsantiso@da.lacounty.gov
(760) 473-7753

Sergeant Jeffrey Walker
Special Victims Bureau
LOS ANGELES REGIONAL
HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE
(323) 526-6130

EXHIBIT B



- # Explore
- Settings

← **Mitch Emerson**
7,091 Tweets



Follow

Mitch Emerson
@MitchEmerson

Political consultant, communications strategist. Passing laws to protect survivors at [#ThePhoenixAct](#). Views my own. ✉ inquiries: mitch.r.emerson@gmail.com

📍 Orlando, FL 📅 Joined June 2009

343 Following 521 Followers

- Tweets**
- Tweets & replies
- Media
- Likes

📌 Pinned Tweet



Mitch Emerson @MitchEmerson · Jan 19, 2021

Today is Trump's last full day in office.

It would be extremely dangerous to sugarcoat his legacy or remember his administration as anything less than the disaster it was, but it's easy to lose sight of past catastrophes when new ones continue to occur daily.

💬 1 🔄 110 ❤️ 289 📤

[Show this thread](#)

🔄 Mitch Emerson Retweeted



Chris Murphy @ChrisMurphyCT · 12h

The Uvalde video puts to bed, forever, the question of whether the way to deal with bad guys with guns is to make sure there are more good guys with guns.

We've always known it was a gun industry created lie, designed to sell more guns. Now we just have the gut wrenching proof.

💬 2,067 🔄 17.7K ❤️ 77K 📤

🔄 Mitch Emerson Retweeted



WilliamA33 @WilliamA_33 · Jul 9

SKY KING





Mitch Emerson (He/Him) · 3rd
Executive Director at The Phoenix Act
Greater Orlando · [Contact info](#)

428 connections

[Message](#) [More](#)



About

Organizer at heart, committed to building progressive power and dynamic teams to ensure those elected serve the American people.

Activity

428 followers

[+ Follow](#)

Mitch hasn't posted lately

Mitch's recent posts and comments will be displayed here.

[Show all activity](#) →

Experience

 **Executive Director**
The Phoenix Act · Full-time
Jan 2020 - Present · 2 yrs 7 mos
Orlando, Florida, United States

- Remotely train hundreds of domestic violence survivors and allies in effective legislative tactics resulting in passage of groundbreaking coercive control legislation in states such as California, Connecticut, ar...see more

 **Events Director**
Biden for President · Full-time
Jul 2020 - Nov 2020 · 5 mos
Florida, United States

- Build and execute plans for producing successful campaign events across the state of Florida, including multiple drive-in events featuring President Barack Obama, President Joe Biden, and Vice Presiden...see more

 **National Organizing Director**
Rise
Aug 2018 - Jan 2020 · 1 yr 6 mos
Washington D.C. Metro Area

- Remotely train hundreds of sexual assault survivors and allies in effective legislative tactics resulting in passage of over 20 pieces of legislation at the state and federal level as well as a United Nations re...see more

 **Statewide Field Director**
For Our Future
May 2016 - Aug 2018 · 2 yrs 4 mos
Florida

- Led statewide effort to mobilize voters in support of progressive candidates and issues.
- Wrote and implemented a statewide plan, budget, and political partnership plan that included a Youth

EXHIBIT C



Kelly Blaus (She/Her) · 3rd
M.A. Candidate
Orlando, Florida, United States · [Contact info](#)
500+ connections

[Connect](#) [Message](#) [More](#)

About

I am a recent graduate from the Advertising and Public Relations program at the University of Central Florida. I have consistently held President's List honors throughout all four years of college and I graduated Summa Cum Laude in May 2021. I currently attend grad school in UCF's Sociology department with a focus on domestic violence. I have a passion for social justice and gender equality. I have extensive experience in lobbying and passing domestic violence legislation. ...see more

Activity

1,241 followers

[+ Follow](#)

Kelly hasn't posted lately

Kelly's recent posts and comments will be displayed here.

[Show all activity](#) →

Experience



Communications Liaison + Legislative Affairs

The Phoenix Act
Nov 2019 - Present · 2 yrs 9 mos
Greater Los Angeles Area

Manage social media and draft posts across multiple platforms. Coordinate with influencers and celebrities to get key hashtag and trending topics on design. ...see more



English Curriculum Coach

Valencia College
Nov 2018 - Present · 3 yrs 9 mos
Orlando, Florida Area



Explore

⚙ Settings

← Thread

💬 1 ↻ 15 ❤️ 52 ↗



Kelly
@kellyblaus



I'm honored to work with The Phoenix Act, a domestic violence organization working to establish coercive control and expand legislative rights for survivors.

We are completely survivor-led and survivor-funded.

Please check out [PhoenixAct.com](https://phoenixact.com) to learn more.

	phoenixact.com Phoenix Act
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7:36 PM · Jan 22, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

2 Retweets 8 Likes

💬 ↻ ❤️ ↗

[Home](#)[About Me](#)[Vision Statement](#)[CV/Resume](#)[IDP](#)

My name is Kelly Blauschild and I am a Sociology Master's student at the University of Central Florida. My research interests include domestic and sexual violence in the music and media industries.

My professional background spans multiple fields. As an undergraduate, I pursued my Bachelor's degree in Advertising/Public Relations because I wanted to have a firm understanding of how the media worked before I began to dissect its societal impact. I minored in Sociology, taking courses about gender, domestic violence, and crime victims to develop a well-rounded approach to my goals. Outside of academia, I worked in domestic violence legislation with an organization called the Phoenix Act. I met with domestic violence survivors who had fallen through the cracks of the criminal justice system, and I worked with experts and policymakers to propose solutions. In 2019, my team passed the first coercive control legislation in the country. I learned how the music industry operated by spending two years working in concert promotions at a local radio station, bearing witness to the gender-based inequalities and sexism that pervade this industry.