1 KING, HOLMES, PATERNO & SORIANO, LLP HOWARD E. KING, ESQ., STATE BAR NO. 77012 JOHN G. SNOW, ESQ., STATE BAR NO. 280790 JACKSON S. TRUGMAN, ESQ., STATE BAR No. 295145 JTRUGMAN@KHPSLAW.COM 1900 AVENUE OF THE STARS, TWENTY-FIFTH FLOOR Los Angeles, California 90067-4506 TELEPHONE: (310) 282-8989 5 FACSIMILE: (310) 282-8903 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 CASE NO. 22STCV07568 MANSON, 12 **DECLARATION OF BLAIR BERK** Plaintiff, 13 Date: July 22, 2022 Time: 8:30 a.m. VS. 14 Dept: 50 EVAN RACHEL WOOD; ASHLEY GORE, 15 a/k/a ILLMA GORE, The Hon. Teresa A. Beaudet, Dept. 50 16 Defendants. Action Filed: March 2, 2022 Trial Date: Not Set 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

DECLARATION OF BLAIR BERK

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- I am an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of California and serve as 1.
- 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.

I, Blair Berk, declare as follows:

- 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

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

- 6. During this call, I also asked Agent Langer whether she recognized the name Illma Gore a/k/a Ashley Gore. Agent Langer stated the name sounded familiar and that she believed that Gore had previously contacted Agent Langer to report a crime unrelated to Mr. Warner.
- 7. On or around February 3, 2022, I spoke to Agent Langer again. During this call, Agent Langer also confirmed that there was in fact no active criminal investigation of Mr. Warner being conducted by the FBI. Discussing the letter again, Agent Langer stated that she had a suspicion of how her name had been wrongfully used: Two individuals, Mitch Emerson and Kelly Blauschild, had previously contacted her office to report a crime unrelated to Mr. Warner.
- 8. Like Gore, Emerson and Blauschild are involved with the Phoenix Act. Emerson is listed on LinkedIn as the Executive Director of the Phoenix Act, and has posted to Twitter that he works with the Phoenix Act. A true and correct copy of those webpages are attached as **Exhibit B**. A "Kelly Blaus" believed to be Blauschild is also listed on LinkedIn as the Communications Liason of the Phoenix Act, and has posted to Twitter that she works with the Phoenix Act; another webpage at https://www.kellyblaus.com/vision, states that "My name is Kelly Blauschild I have worked . . . with an organization called the Phoenix Act." A true and correct copy of those webpages are attached as **Exhibit C**.
- 9. I understood from my conversations with Agent Langer that, at that time, she was not authorized to prepare a declaration in a civil action stating the above facts because of the 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

3310.096/1834567.2

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

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

Sergeant Jeffrey Holker

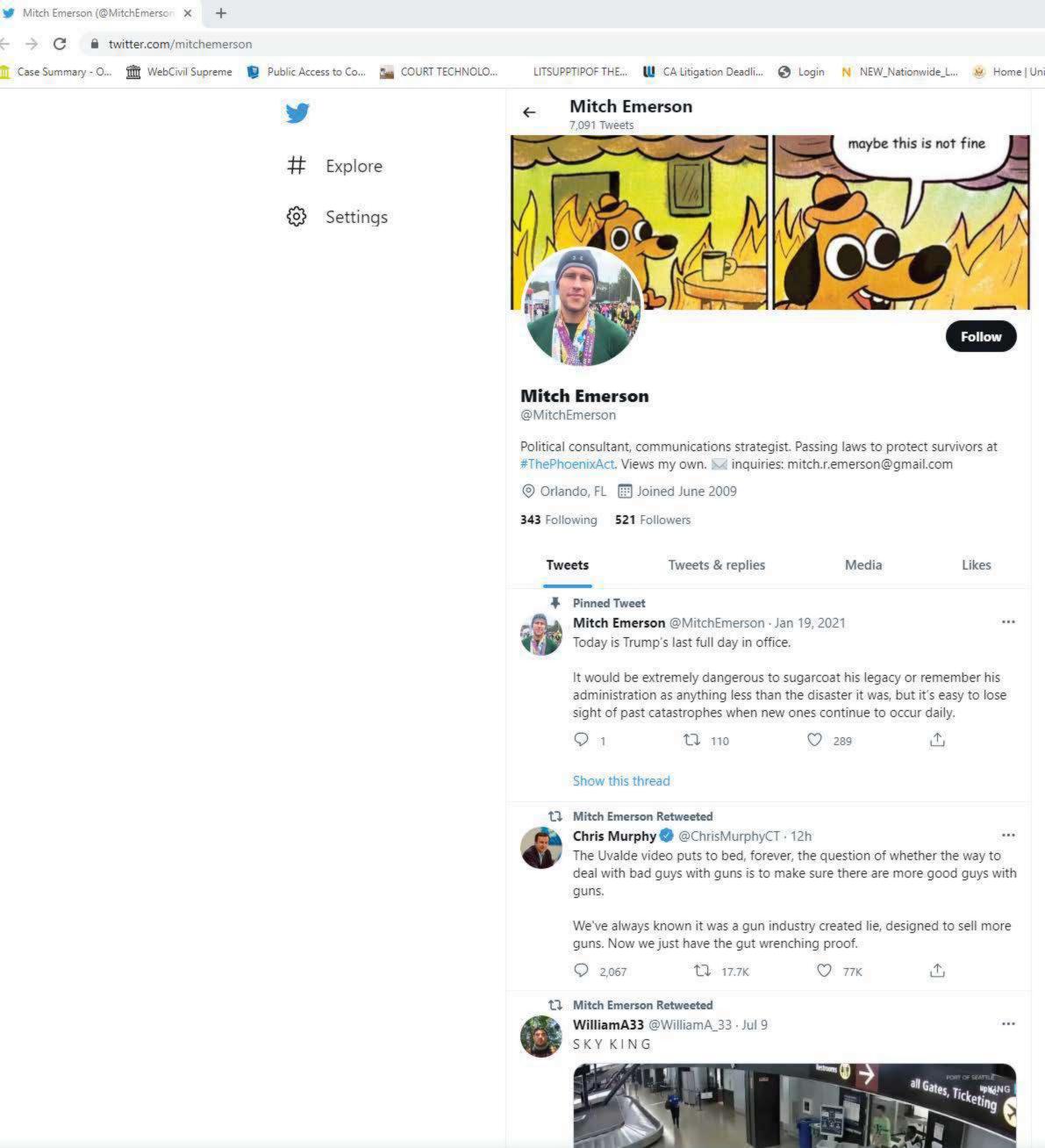
Special victims Burow

LOS ANGGLES REGIONAL

HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASKFORCE

(323) 526-6130

EXHIBIT B



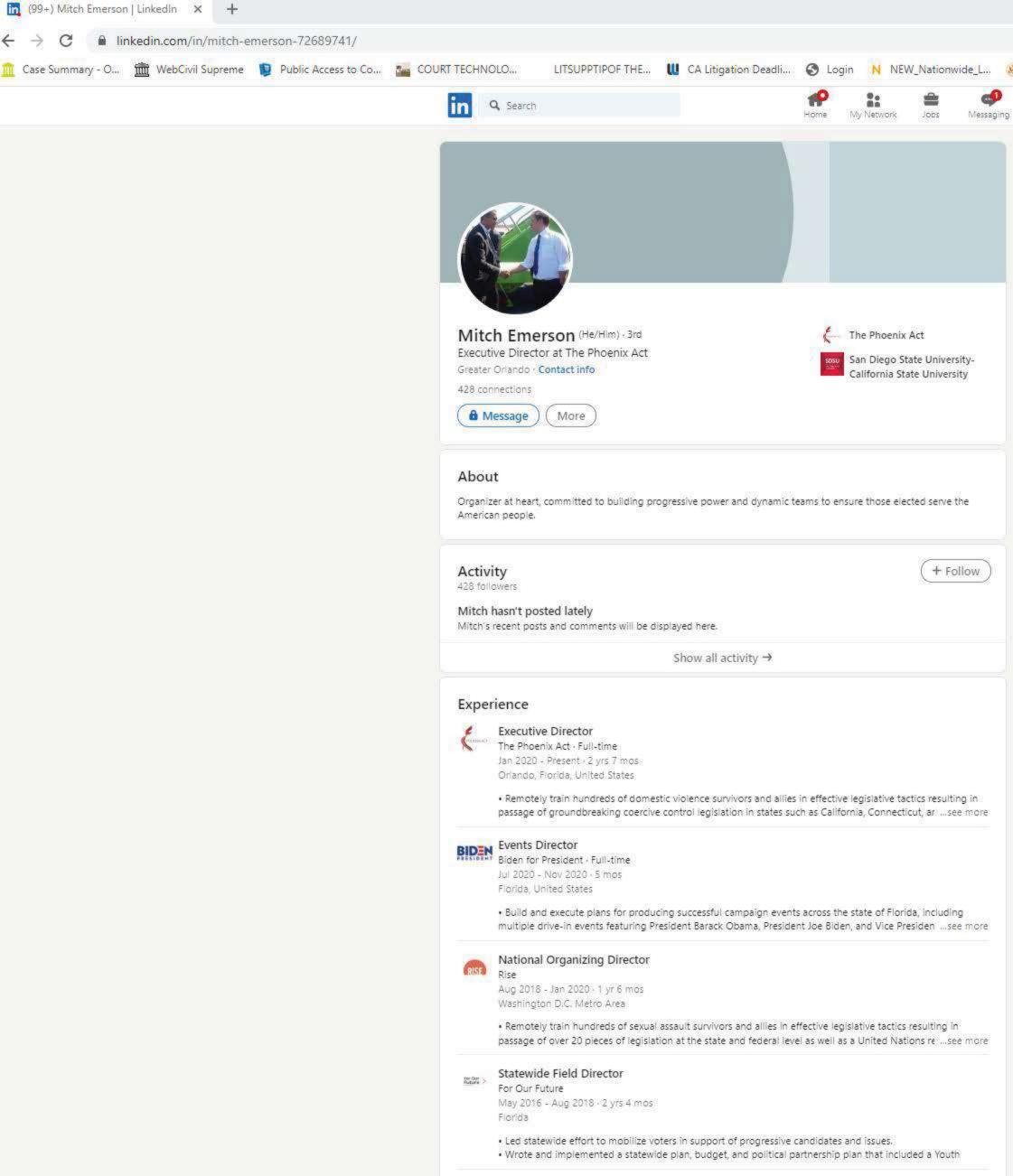
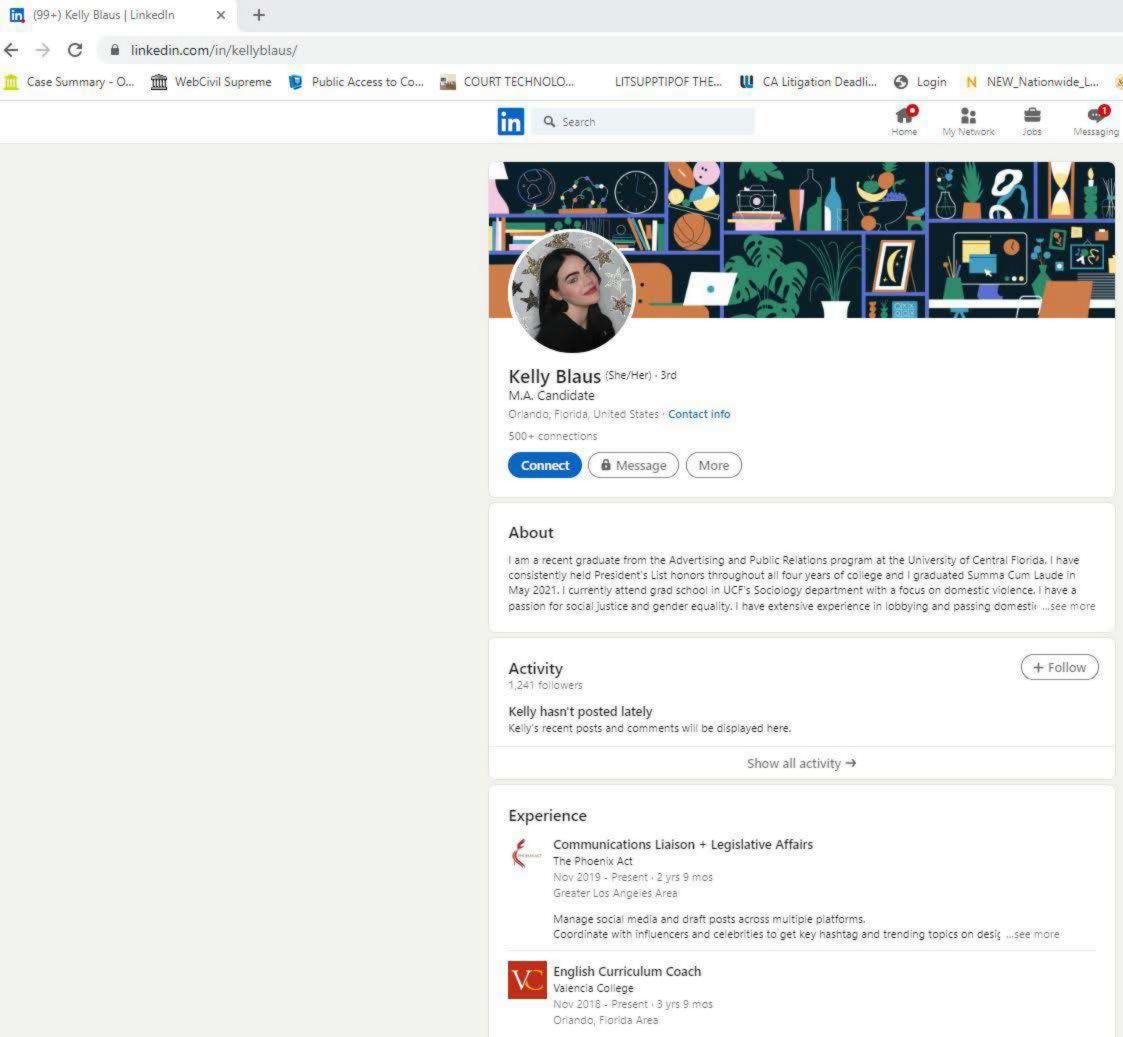
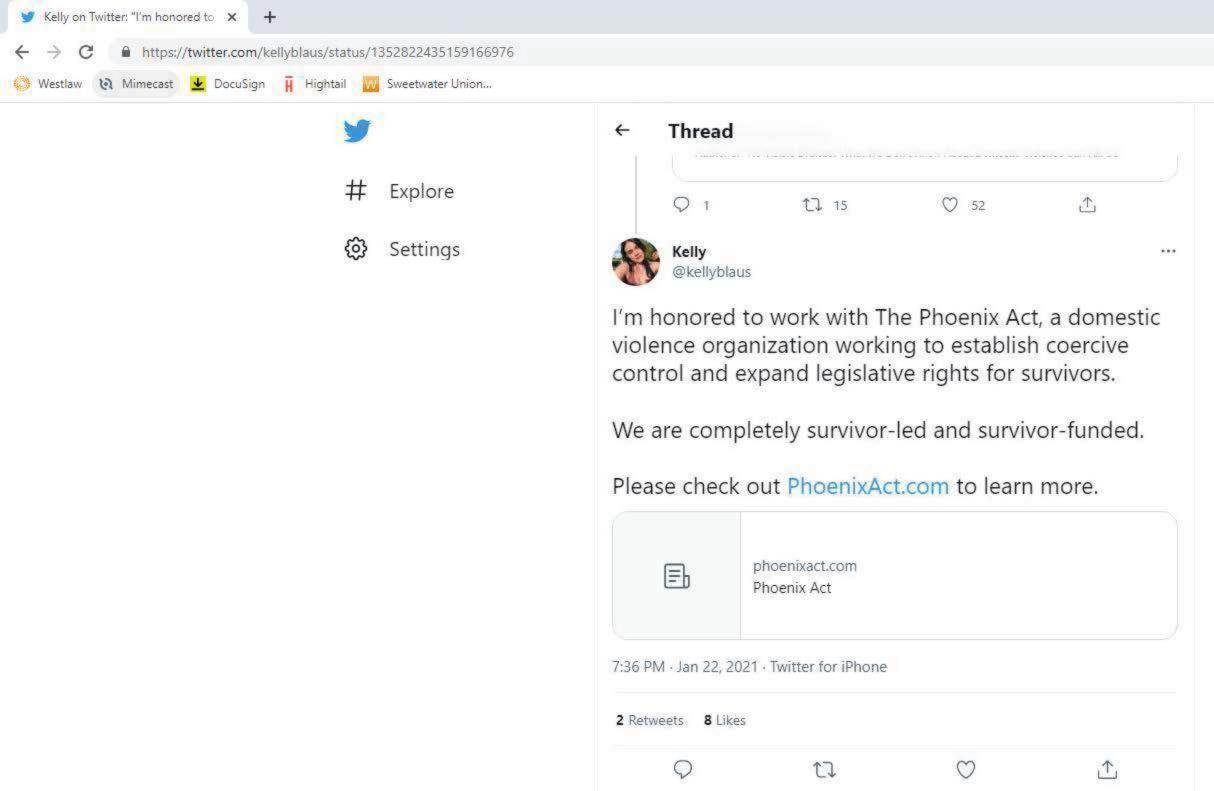


EXHIBIT C









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.