

NO. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] LLC

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IN THE [REDACTED] COURT

v.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] LLC

[REDACTED] COUNTY, TEXAS

AFFIDAVIT OF [REDACTED]

BEFORE ME, THE UNDERSIGNED AUTHORITY, on this day personally appeared

[REDACTED], who being duly sworn on oath, deposes and says the following:

1. "My name is [REDACTED]. I am over the age of twenty-one, have never been convicted of a crime, and am fully capable of making this affidavit. I have personal knowledge of the facts stated herein, and they are all true and correct.

2. I am testifying in support of Mr. [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] in the case filed against it by Mr. [REDACTED] of [REDACTED]. I have known [REDACTED] since the Spring of 2015 when he began advocating for hemp legalization at the Texas State Capitol. At that time, I was serving as the Legislative Director for State Representative Charles "Doc" Anderson, who served as the Vice Chairman of the Agriculture and Livestock Committee. This committee was tasked with all hemp legislation that came through the legislative process. I provide this background to elucidate the long relationship between myself and Mr. [REDACTED]. During that time, Mr. [REDACTED] made multiple personal advances towards me and my then boss by asking about my romantic status and if I would be available for a date. During 2015-2019, I continued to work with Mr. [REDACTED] on hemp issues to ultimately pass a bill to make it legal to grow hemp in Texas, despite his advances as it was my job as the industry's lobbyist.

3. Fast forward to Spring of 2021, which leads to the controversy launching [REDACTED]'s lawsuit against [REDACTED]. At the time of the events I recount, I was the girlfriend of Mr. [REDACTED], owner of [REDACTED]. In Spring 2021, I created the [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]), which is the non-profit advocacy organization for the hemp industry in Texas. [REDACTED] is a member of the [REDACTED]. My job was and still is, as the [REDACTED]'s lobbyist, to represent the [REDACTED] members on all legislative issues and policies that affect the agriculture industry as a whole.

4. For example, in the 2021 Legislative Session, [REDACTED] presented a piece of legislation called a "clean up bill" that focused on fixing language to improve conditions for hemp farmers and business owners. All was going smoothly until the last few weeks of the legislative session in May 2021, when Mr. [REDACTED] tried to thrust a federally illegal hemp livestock feed amendment onto the clean up bill. Mr. [REDACTED] partnered with a former resident of Uvalde to try to influence the bill's author, State Representative Tracy King, whose district includes Uvalde. Ultimately, Rep. King and the members of the House saw through this

improper attempt and sided with [REDACTED], which opposed the amendment. Mr. [REDACTED] also attempted to add a hemp feed amendment to the Senate version of the clean up bill, which included new and unfavorable language, and as such was opposed by the hemp industry once the bill was referred back to the House of Representatives.

5. Mr. [REDACTED] continued to meddle and tried to go against the entire hemp industry with his desired amendment, which would have greatly affected income generated by many businesses. As our organization became successful towards the end of the session by defeating the Mr. [REDACTED]'s version of the bill, Mr. [REDACTED] started calling and texting me on a regular basis as he quite honestly was not getting his way. I received a series of harassing texts even after the end of the legislative session with comments like, "Ole [REDACTED] sucking up to the Hemp Feed Coalition" or "Is this what it feels like to get your way?"

6. Additionally, Mr. [REDACTED] made it his personal vendetta to have me and [REDACTED] removed as a state affiliate to the national Hemp Feed Coalition. That is when Mr. [REDACTED] took it too far. The removal was completely unprofessional and not approved by me or the [REDACTED]. As Mr. [REDACTED]'s aggravating antics intensified, I decided to confide in Mr. [REDACTED] as my significant other.

7. Mr. [REDACTED] had already purchased some jars that he had to extensively sterilize himself at a commercial facility in Austin. I witnessed him take an entire day or more of his time to clean the jars so they could be used for consumer packaging. Mr. [REDACTED] was taken away from his day to day of work in a growing season to sterilize jars that should have been done by Mr. [REDACTED]. It is important to note that at the time, Mr. [REDACTED] didn't have an issue with Mr. [REDACTED]. However, as Mr. [REDACTED]'s series of offensive texts and harassment continued, Mr. [REDACTED] told me that he would "take care of it" once I shared how Mr. [REDACTED] was treating me.

8. I was sitting next to Mr. [REDACTED] as he made the call to Mr. [REDACTED] on speaker phone telling him that he would not continue to do business with someone that was not a friend of the industry, and who was vindictive and harassing his significant other. Mr. [REDACTED] quickly became defensive and rude on the phone as he would not acknowledge his behavior towards me. Soon after that, Mr. [REDACTED] was served with papers that Mr. [REDACTED] was suing him. All of this happened between Mid May and Mid June of 2021.

9. It was to my knowledge that Mr. [REDACTED] paid for the jars that he had in his possession, not the ones that were not delivered, as he stated that he would no longer be doing business with Mr. [REDACTED] due to his behavior and harassment towards me, and that they didn't have a "contract" requiring Mr. [REDACTED] to buy more jars anyway. It is very clear that Mr. [REDACTED] was motivated solely by personal reasons to sue Mr. [REDACTED]. Moreover, Mr. [REDACTED] was the one that contacted Mr. [REDACTED] asking him to purchase the jars as Mr. [REDACTED] stated that he was running out of options and needed to unload them in a hurry. Mr. [REDACTED] had told Mr. [REDACTED] that he would be willing "to help him out."

10. I hope that this affidavit shows that the lawsuit against [REDACTED] is the immediate result of Mr. [REDACTED] standing up for me as his significant other over Mr. [REDACTED]'s harassment of me. Mr. [REDACTED] is widely known for this sort of behavior and was banned from

certain offices in the Capitol during 2015-2019. As a result of his self-interested and unprofessional behavior, Mr. [REDACTED] is disregarded and untrusted by most in the hemp industry, having burned every bridge. After these events, I proceeded to block him from all of my social media, email and phone so that he would no longer have the ability to contact me.

11. I am happy to answer any further questions by contacting me at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

Further Affiant sayeth not.

[REDACTED]

Sworn to and subscribed before me by Hissa Nolan on June 21, 2022.

April Martinez
Notary Public in and for
the State of Texas
My commission expires: 6-25-2022

