

Written Testimony from Jane Doe

3/11/2015

Proposed S.B. No. 650 and H.B. 6848 and H.B. 6962

I write this as a citizen that believes in the Constitutional Right to Bear Arms in a COMMON SENSE fashion. I have a healthy respect for how dangerous they can be. They don't belong in a home with domestic violence. They should not be in a home with someone undergoing a criminal investigation or that has been convicted of a violent crime or felony. They don't belong in a home with minors or adults that have behavioral health issues that may pose a threat to harm themselves or others especially ones that are going untreated. If they are in a home with minors they should be securely locked safely away so that there is no way they can be accessed or fired even if the case is broken into.

Most importantly and why I submit testimony family and civil cases should be addressed alongside with criminal matters as standard protocol for all members of the household. To clarify I wish to share a scenario known to me that I feel is not being handled appropriately and offer solutions on how it can be handled better.

There is a Scout Master from Bristol Lauretti that has a restraining order on him in a family matter. This restraining order was originally granted in August 2014 and has been extended twice and the judge granted fire arms and ammo to be turned in. Then in October he was arrested on 3 criminal charges one a felony. Both matters are connected. The matter concerned another family because he lives and dates a parent of one of his scouts that has children with other men and the dads have joint/shared custody with recent visitation and contact orders. The restraining order affidavit names his girlfriend who one of the father's has had several contempt motions filed on her for not following the parenting plan and it is alleged she does not provide a stable environment for their child. The judge is the same on this case and the Lauretti case and Lauretti has been brought into their matter on several occasions. The local police station were called by a concerned citizen because Lauretti was in the middle of a recent divorce as well and now his behaviors were starting to become alarming, unraveling, and from the outside alleged to be spiraling out of control. There are 5 children between him and his girlfriend and 1 of the children has unresolved untreated behavioral health and anger issues and should not be in a home with firearms. When the citizen called they wanted to know that the guns had been turned in per the court order. The local PD had no idea of any family court restraining order and said they were not in charge of enforcing it. They told the concerned citizen to call the family court clerk that issued the restraining order and ask them. When citizen did they said it was not their job to enforce it either. They just file what the judge gives them and notate the case. They were able to pull the file and read the boxes checked off and the judge's orders that was the best they could help. They told citizen to try and call the local police station back and see if there was someone else to ask. Citizen called them back and they told them to call upstairs to family services that also knew nothing of the matter and sent them back downstairs to the supervisor on duty who told them to call the state police to inquire if the weapons were turned in. He also sent citizen down to records to see if they could be of any help. All anyone could see was their own

records the PD could see the criminal records and New Britain Family Court Clerk the restraining order but they could not see each other's matters. There was no cross reporting, oversight, or enforcement. So here we have a court order and no idea if it is being followed or if the weapons and ammo were still in the house. The father a joint custodial parent had no way to know if his son was safe and his ex-wife refused to co-parent or discuss the matter protecting her living arrangement with her boyfriend. Other concerns to this situation are how will a fair trial be had to determine the character of the person who was arrested if they have no knowledge of the family court actions especially restraining orders and confiscation of firearms? They are supposed to be notified under the current rules and laws why weren't they in this case? How many others are there like this? Also the judge who over saw the restraining order is the same judge that presided over the custody and visitation matter involving the child with behavioral health issues he refused to acknowledge this fact when told by one party. So we have 3 active, sensitive, and volatile cases all connected and no connections being made or addressed.

There is family matter that involves the minor child with unresolved behavioral health issues discussed above. This case has over 100 filings in it that has been going on since 2003. There have been court appointed evaluations, family relations studies, reunification with professionals, a GAL, and judges orders (after receiving reports and information back from the eyes and ears of the court recommending visitation being in the child's best interest and that the child is not in any sort of danger or harm's way with the parent he is to have visits with) that are not being followed to the point the judge says he doesn't know what to do anymore and thinks the child is damaged and suffers from unforgivable anger that he can't understand why it's been allowed to fester and last for so long and now he can't fix it. He fears the child will grow up not respecting authority and not be able to follow rules and there is nothing he can do to help. The child has emailed every one of you (after judges orders that were made based on evaluations and reports from court appointed professionals...) when I say every one of you I mean the child supposedly spent an afternoon after school a week before middle school graduation and summer vacation looking up all of the representatives, legislators, the mayor... and many many others emails (Minnie may remember this case) with super angry untruthful emails. Emails such as these continued until January of this year the most recent was sent to his school Principal and all of his teachers (they have concerns of their own but can't do anything to help they say it's up to the judge (who says he can't help) but the child is on a watch list and people are there for him to talk to if he wants.) The child has used social media to do the same slanderous, defamatory, libelous communication. His mother has said very similar and unforgiving angry things in email to the paternal family. In January 2015 the judge granted a Relief from abuse requesting to cease and desist such communication. There are also voicemails and text messages from this child and the mother who allows the child to act this way under her supervision. In fact she glorifies in the behavior. The father has attempted to co-parent with her and address that he fears the child is a threat of harm to himself or others. Others have agreed. He has gone to the point of no return and is angry to the core. His belief system destroyed and some have said he's a lost cause and give up on him he is too dangerous to be around his little brothers. His grades and attendance are suffering. His mother refuses to give him proper behavioral health treatment if it involves the father who the child expresses the most hatred towards. The only way this child will heal is if given proper treatment in a therapeutic setting with his father. His mom and Lauretti call upon Bikers Against Child Abuse and others to tell a one sided story

and help fuel unjustified and unwarranted anger and animosity. She has even tried to drive him to NYC to get treatment from a doctor without notifying the father of who the doctor was hoping to keep it one sided. Luckily the doctor was on to her and refused to treat without speaking to the joint custodial parent as well. She refused to give the father information on doctor and refused to give the doctor information on father so the doctor was unable to help.

Similar behaviors are being acted out in the Lauretti divorce. If both cases were read side by side along with the girlfriend's history with her family and other romantic partners a definite pattern could be picked out. This information should be important to a judge presiding over a case making fair and unbiased decisions in the best interest of the children and the public.

Guns do not belong in this particular household and the existing laws and rules and procedures are being overlooked. I hope new laws bring better attention and awareness to help families.

I would like to mention that I am sympathetic to victims of false reporting and understand that this may have a negative impact on them. These matters should not be taken lightly and careful consideration by judges should be given when granting these orders. When false reporting happens I feel timely return of firearms, as well as a fine for false reporting, and a notice given out to all parties notified that it was an incident of false reporting to spare any reputations or jobs.

Possible Solutions

- Cross reporting between family, civil, and criminal
- enforcement of orders and a protocol to follow
- Notification to all of the parents of the children in the household when a restraining order is issued in that household
- A means for public transparency and notification of restraining orders
- Notification going to the schools about households with children enrolled in them living in a residence with an active restraining order and confiscated weapons.
- Judges given notice of overlapping cases family, civil, criminal of all parties in the household in order to make fair and unbiased decisions
- Judges being careful and keen to false reporting
- Local Police Officers serve, collect, and give back
- All cases by parties and cohabitants tied together to look for patterns and trends especially for Judges, Police, Shelters.... (example)

York, Lindsey

2004 Restraining order on Mom Granted 1 time 6 months

2004 Restraining order on Sister Denied

2003 Divorce, Man 1 (100 filings)

2011 Divorce, Man 2 (10 filings) Name Change back to maiden

2011 Small Claims wage execution hospital

2011 Small Claims wage execution creditor

All known addresses and cohabitant cases

2012 Doe, Loyd Divorce Woman 1

2013 Roe, Tommy DUI

2013 Smith, Paul Divorce , Woman 1

2013 Smith, Paul Restraining order him 3 times extended

2013 Smith, Paul Arrested 3 charges 1 felony