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7 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON  
8 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF YAKIMA

9 In re the Guardianship of:  
10 DOROTHY HELM O'DELL,  
11 An Alleged Incapacitated Person.  
12

NO. 18-4-00054-39  
DECLARATION OF  
TERESA OWEN

13 I, Teresa Owen, declare to be true under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of  
14 Washington as follows:

15 1. I am an investigator and journalist for the Guardianship Focus website. I have  
16 advocated guardianship reform since 2017 when I encountered the troubling practices of Certified  
17 Professional Guardian (“CPG”) Kristyan Calhoun, and her company Senior Avenues. My  
18 husband Jeff Owen and I filed a grievance with the CPG Board of Washington, citing more than  
19 13 violations of Standards of Practice by Ms. Calhoun (Case no. 2017-066) as guardian and  
20 temporary guardian of my husband’s parents. My purpose is to increase public awareness of the  
21 unfair practices of Kristyan Calhoun that I have personally experienced or have learned of from  
22 researching court case files.

23 2. In my advocacy for guardianship reform, I have been in contact with numerous  
24 guardianship reform groups and other activists such as Dr. Sam Sugar, author of *Guardians and*  
25 *the Elderly: The Perfect Crime*, and Rick Black, a representative from Americans Against Abusive  
26 Probate Guardianships. My husband and I have also testified before the Washington State

1 Legislature, reached out to news media, and are members of the National Association to Stop  
2 Guardianship Abuse. We are also members of several guardianship reform news lists and abuse  
3 groups.

4 3. I have posted reviews about Ms. Calhoun's business on social media websites and have  
5 reached out to others who have left negative reviews, which I have been doing so for quite some  
6 time. I also frequently review court cases online involving guardianship and reach out to family  
7 members named in those cases. This has been an important part of my guardianship reform work  
8 to identify patterns of abuse.

9 4. It was in my review of the court dockets of the Yakima Superior Court where I learned  
10 of Dorothy Helm's case and found her attorney's contact information. I contacted her attorney,  
11 Dan Young, to ask him whether I could attend the upcoming hearings in Ms. Helm's case. He told  
12 me that court hearings are open to the public and I was welcome to attend. I extended the invitation  
13 to the others on my contact list. The first time I met Mr. Young and the AIP in person was after  
14 the court hearing on January 10, 2019. The status of Ms. Helm's case has been a regular feature  
15 on my blog.

16 5. Ms. Calhoun and her counsel speculate that "AIP or Mr. Young has contacted other  
17 individuals that have left poor review on social media." Mot. for Dismissal, ¶ 40. Actually, it was  
18 I who contacted these other people, whom I located by using social media and/or searching through  
19 court files. I then invited them to Ms. Helm's court hearing on January 10, 2019, where they, like  
20 me, met Mr. Young and Ms. Helm for the first time.

21 6. I notify my contacts of upcoming court cases and proceedings, legislation, and news. I  
22 get this information via subscriptions to the court notification system to receive daily updates of  
23 court cases on the dockets (subscribed 12/12/18 to notifications for Pre-Trial, Superior Court,  
24 District Court, Clerk, Daily Court Calendar) as is one of the services offered by the courts. It is  
25 available publicly.

1           7. Ms. Calhoun states that one of the individuals that attended Ms. Helm’s hearing on  
2 January 10, 2019 has begun posting statements online regarding this case. Dec. of Kristyan  
3 Calhoun, ¶ 13. She claims that these posts misconstrue events and proceedings, and states that  
4 they contain clear fabrications intended to injure her and her company. Dec. of Kristyan Calhoun,  
5 ¶ 13. She provided a copy of one of my recent Guardianship Focus blog posts to support her claims,  
6 but she did not specify what events are misconstrued or what statements are fabrications.  
7 Attachment G of Dec. of Kristyan Calhoun. The statements contained in this blog post came  
8 directly from public court records. I did not obtain this information from the AIP or from Mr.  
9 Young as she asserts in her declaration. Dec. of Kristyan Calhoun, ¶ 13.

10           8. Ms. Calhoun infers from my blog post that I must have reviewed the AIP’s accountings,  
11 but then confusingly asserts that my statement about her fees is not true. Dec. of Kristyan Calhoun,  
12 ¶ 13. I did not review the AIP’s accountings as I have no access to them. The fees were discussed  
13 in court proceedings, including Ms. Calhoun’s fees generated from hand-delivering a check to Ms.  
14 Helm.

15           9. Ms. Calhoun appears to be blaming Ms. Helm for “attempts at intimidation and  
16 defamation of [Ms. Calhoun’s] character and business.” Dec. of Kristyan Calhoun, ¶ 14.  
17 Ms. Helm had no part whatsoever in the production of any of my Guardianship Focus blog posts.

18           10. In fact, Ms. Calhoun is no stranger to using tactics of intimidation and defamation. My  
19 husband and I attempted to obtain accounting records from Ms. Calhoun, who is acting as the  
20 power of attorney for my mother-in-law, Kathryn Owen. When we requested Ms. Calhoun to  
21 provide accounting statements of the money she is spending from Kathryn Owen’s estate, she  
22 responded through her attorney in a letter, stating we would have to sue her in court and risk the  
23 loss of attorney’s fees. See Ex. A. Her letter contained a veiled threat that she will attempt to go  
24 after my husband for breach of fiduciary duty, a claim that is completely trumped up and  
25 defamatory per se to the extent that she is telling this narrative to people in the community.  
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1 11. Prior to Ms. Calhoun become Kathryn's attorney-in-fact, she had the role of Guardian  
2 and/or Temporary Guardian of my husband's parents, Keith and Kathryn Owen, she violated at  
3 least 13 Standards of Practice. These include:

4 • Making false statements to Kathryn Owen and other family members and  
5 professionals about the character and integrity of my husband, Jeff Owen, creating a hostile  
6 situation in which he was not safe to visit his parents without threat of a VAPO.

7 • Allowing commercial liability insurance of Keith and Kathryn Owen's commercial  
8 rental property to lapse due to non-payment. (December 2016 and again in July 2017)

9 • Allowing utility bills to go unpaid, utilities to be disconnected, and Kathryn's  
10 account to be sent to collections due to non-payment. (July 2017)

11 • Bouncing a check to the Assisted Living facility in the amount of \$5890.00, drafted  
12 from the joint account of Jeff Owen, Keith Owen, and Kathryn Owen.

13 • Frequent disconnect notices for AT&T due to non-payment.

14 • Not providing Keith with the prescription glasses he needed in order to perform his  
15 daily activities and enjoy himself, stating she was "too busy".

16 • Not providing Keith with his regular pneumonia shot, nor updating the family on  
17 the status of the shot. Keith died of pneumonia in June of 2017.

18 • Entering Keith's hospital room without a mask when she stated she had a bronchial  
19 infection and was contagious.

20 Dated: April \_\_, 2019 at \_\_\_\_\_, Washington.

21 \_\_\_\_\_  
22 Teresa Owen