

On September 27th, we had just started the civil Truancy and Youth At Risk hearings in front of Commissioner Thomas. Shortly after court began, Officer Marquez with Security informed me that a "Mr. Smith" had quite a bit of recording equipment and a camera on him. I knew when that case started I would need to inform Commissioner Thomas. I thanked her for the heads up and continued the job I was doing.

I ended up leaving the courtroom for a few minutes to meet with another case so I was not present when Commissioner Thomas announced the matter of C. C.'s emancipation would be continued to October 18th. I saw the young lady come out of the courtroom in tears followed by several other people. I asked the young woman to meet me in my office for a minute. We sat in my office for about ten minutes so that she could regain her composure. She was upset about the fact that the hearing had to be continued rather than being heard that day. We talked about the pros and cons of the continuance and, when she was ready, I escorted her to the door.

As I was standing at the door, Mr. Smith asked if I was Ms. Dobson; I introduced myself as Ms. Dotson. I then asked to speak with the young lady's mom. Mr. Smith got up to come with her and I informed him that I just wanted to talk to Ms. Cunningham. He tried to bully me into letting him come into my office with her but I told him again that I just wanted to speak with her. Mr. Smith offered her his recorder but I told him I would not allow our discussion to be recorded and that I just wanted to meet her to explain the process and answer any questions she might have. Mr. Smith then informed me that Ms. Cunningham had short term memory problems and needed him with her. I told him I wasn't going to ask her to remember anything; we would just talk.

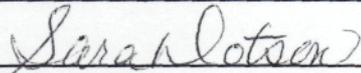
At that time, Mr. Smith moved forward and put his foot in the door that protects our offices, demanding to come in. **There is a sign on the door that very** Attachment "A" **clearly states "Authorized Personnel Only"** and there is a peep hole in the door – it is in no way a public area. Not only did he have his foot in the door, he was blocking me from the exit due to his stature. Mr. Smith puffed his chest up and I told him he needed to get his foot out of the door and back up. He not only refused to move, he stepped forward in an intimidating manner. I asked him again to back up and this time he moved forward within about 8 inches of my chest. I did not back up but I told him one more time in a firm voice to remove himself from my office. He started fumbling in his pocket for his camera and video camera and tried to take my picture. I turned away and ducked around him to get out into the main hall.

I went to the top of the stairs and asked for Security to assist me. Mr. Smith had followed me to the top of the stairs and was trying to take a picture of my face by reaching around from behind me and sticking his camera in my face. I kept turning my head so that all he could get was my hair swinging. At that time, Security intervened and escorted Mr. Smith down the stairs. Security and witnesses have all told me different pieces of what happened afterwards but this was the extent of my interaction with him.

Because of past incidents that have happened to employees in our building, I left a few minutes earlier than I normally do to walk out to my car with other employees around. I was concerned that I may run into Mr. Smith in the parking lot.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the information contained in this report is true and correct.

Signed at Tumwater, WA on October 12, 2011.


Sara Dotson

On September 30th, 2011, I filed an anti-harassment petition against John P. Smith and a temporary order for protection was entered. The return date was set for October 11, 2011.

During the two week time period, Mr. Smith was informed of the pending anti-harassment order and presumably, obtained copies on his own. This is evident in his extensive knowledge of the contents of the petition and documented in his numerous emails that he has sent throughout both County courthouses. Additionally, he has spent the better part of two weeks calling anyone and everyone in the courts that happens to answer their phone. This includes employees in both courthouses, my boss, my co-workers and employees who don't even know me! Attachment "B"

Despite the fact that Mr. Smith has avoided service in Mason County, we was well aware of the hearing and informed my boss as well as Amy Cunningham and Detective Roland Weiss that he would not be attending the hearing because he was not allowed within 500 ft of me and that he had been banned from the Thurston County Courthouse facility. Anyone who professes to know the law as well as Mr. Smith would know that while protection orders are honored in the Courthouse, it doesn't prevent him from attending a court hearing. At no time was Mr. Smith ever banned from the buildings. The only instruction given to him was that if he was going to act as an advocate for someone, there was proper paperwork to be filled out and submitted. Though I want Mr. Smith to stay away from me and stop his harassment, I would expect that he be allowed to enter either Courthouse if he had legitimate business there.

Mr. Smith indicates that I have not shown a "pattern of conduct", however, Mr. Smith has created his own pattern of conduct by continuing his harassment throughout this time period. He has obviously done quite a bit of research on me including, but not limited to: accessing the address of one of my residences including the phone number for my children and grandchildren's use, researching an article written about me and my daughter **15 years ago** that came about after I testified in some Senate Hearings. Mr. Smith alleges that I am friends with all of Thurston County because some employees chose to donate their leave time to me and therefore, he cannot get a fair hearing in this County. What he fails to recognize is that the leave time donations occurred many years ago and a great deal of those employees are no longer with the county. We have also had a recent turnover of several judges due to retirements.

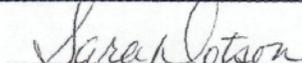
I recognize that Mr. Smith is trying to intimidate me by showing that he can dig up personal information on me but all it does is show the Court that he is intent on continuing to harass me and my co-workers. He has spent a lot of time and energy on his campaign in an attempt to malign, discredit and disparage me and my professional reputation in this county.

This behavior of Mr. Smith's goes above and beyond any sort of normal reasoning – especially since he was not even a party to the case in question! I have dealt with difficult people for many, many years and never had any type of interaction like this before. I am often the employee who is called upon to calm a situation down. I have a right to feel safe in my work environment without being subject to harassment or "photojournalism" outside of the public areas or security that can be photo-shopped .

I respectfully request that the Court accept my petition on harassment and grant the relief I am seeking as documented in the petition itself.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the information contained in this report is true and correct.

Signed at Tumwater, WA on October 12, 2011 .



Sara Dotson