

## **Summary of Tara Walsh's Admissions to Date that She Has Drugged Stephen Russell**

*Ms. Walsh has a long, documented history of serious mental illness, having been diagnosed with borderline personality disorder, bipolar disorder, anxiety disorder, and attention deficit hyperactive disorder. For these illnesses, Ms. Walsh has been prescribed potent antipsychotics, anticonvulsants, antidepressants, and amphetamines. Ms. Walsh has put these drugs into Mr. Russell's drinks on several occasions, without his knowledge or consent, and has admitted to doing so in various documents and to several individuals.*

### **A. Tara Walsh Has Admitted In Numerous Settings, Including Sworn Court Proceedings And Documents And Other Communications, That She Has Drugged Mr. Russell On Various Occasions Without His Knowledge:**

1. Ms. Walsh's Testimony at an August 29, 2018 California Hearing for Stephen Russell's Petition for a Domestic Violence Restraining Order (Stacey Poole, attorney for S. Russell, questioning T. Walsh (See Exhibit 1 at pg 76, beginning at line 7)):

Q: On at least two occasions you gave Mr. Russell the drug Seroquel, correct?

A: Yes

Q: Was he aware that you were giving him this drug?

A: No, he was not.

Q: And were you giving it to him to affect his behavior?

A: I was because I was really concerned.

Q: And how did it affect Mr. Russell?

A: It made him sleepy, and it made him come out of a manic delusional state and calm down.

Q: And who's Dr. Gopal?

A: He's a psychiatrist I saw for two weeks, and who Steve, I think, is seeing on a long-term basis.

Q: Did you text Dr. Gopal and tell him that you had administered Seroquel to Mr. Russell?

A: Yes, I did. And I told a few other people that I had done it, and I actually had the intention to one day

tell Mr. Russell as well, but at the time, like, I did it because I felt like I had no choice. But one day I also intended to tell him.

2. Stacey Poole, attorney for S. Russell, questioning T. Walsh (See Exhibit 1; transcript at pg 79, beginning at line 21):

Q: Do you recall the dates which you administered Seroquel to Mr. Russell?

A: Early, mid May.

Q: So at earliest May?

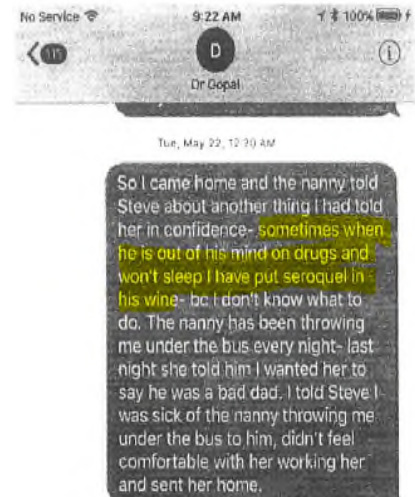
A: Like from, like, the 8th on, so more so mid May. There is a week period where things were really bad.

Q: So the first time you administered Seroquel to Mr. Russell, was anyone else present?

A: Yes. The nanny was present, and I assumed the security person on the first time.

3. May 22, 2018 Text Message from Tara Walsh to her psychiatrist, Dr. Abilash Gopal (See Exhibit 2):

“So I came home and the nanny told Steve about another thing I told her in confidence. Sometimes when he is out of his mind on drugs and won't sleep, I put Seroquel in his wine because I don't know what to do. The nanny has been throwing me under the bus every night. Last night she told him I wanted her to say he was a bad dad. I told Steve I was sick of the nanny throwing me under the bus; didn't feel comfortable with her working here and sent her home.”



4. July 10, 2018 Sworn Declaration of Tara Walsh, at ¶ 22 (See Exhibit 3):

“On two occasions when Steve acted delusional and had psychotic episodes, I was forced to protect myself. **I put Seroquel, a medication regularly taken by him, in his wine.**”

PETITIONER'S CLAIM THAT I HAVE BEEN DRUGGING HIM IS FALSE

22. On two occasions when Steve acted delusional and had psychotic episodes, I was forced to protect myself. I put Seroquel, a medication regularly taken by him, in his wine. (See text message from me to Dr. Gopal confirming this attached hereto as Exhibit I.)

5. August 13, 2018 Sworn Affidavit of Tara Walsh, at ¶¶ 32, 34 (See Exhibit 4):

¶32: “It was only on these occasions, in May 2018, that I put Seroquel in Respondent’s wine.

32. In May 2018, I witnessed Respondent have what can only be best described as psychotic, drug induced episodes. During these episodes, Respondent took high dosages of Adderall and did not sleep for over 24 hours. He was up all night at the apartment where I and Evie were staying with him and was tearing the place apart to search for spying devices. It was only on these two occasions, in May 2018, that I put Seroquel in Respondent’s wine. I did this

¶34: “Moreover, I told Respondent after I put the Seroquel in his wine that I did it to help him calm down from his psychotic episode.”

34. I regularly take prescribed Seroquel to help me fall asleep at night. Respondent has told me on several occasions that he has taken my Seroquel, in the same dosages, to also help him sleep at night. Moreover, I told Respondent after I put the Seroquel in his wine that I did it to help him calm down from his psychotic episode. Respondent understood why I did this and told me it was “ok.”

6. Tara Walsh’s Admission to Sgt. Brendan Caraway that she Drugged Stephen Russell in New York on or About January 30, 2018

On or around January 30, 2018, Mr. Russell was at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in Manhattan with Ms. Walsh when she was giving birth to their daughter Evie. While Ms. Walsh remained at the hospital with Evie, Mr. Russell’s security guard, Joe Prendergast, drove him back to Ms. Walsh’s apartment in Brooklyn, where he was staying while in New York. Mr. Prendergast noted that Mr. Russell was acting extremely paranoid, confused, irrational and delusional.

On January 1, 2019, Mr. Russell’s New York attorney, Brian Waller, spoke to Sgt. Brendan Caraway of the SFPD who was investigating the matter. Sgt. Caraway confirmed to Mr. Waller that when interviewing Ms. Walsh, Ms. Walsh told him that she intentionally drugged Mr. Russell without his knowledge on or about January 30, 2018 while they were at Columbia Presbyterian hospital for the birth of their daughter.

**B. Numerous Third Party Witnesses Further Corroborate The Allegation That Tara Walsh Drugged Stephen Russell On Multiple Occasions**

1. Abrehet Tedla- The Parties' Nanny in California

- a) *7/6/18 Declaration of Abrehet ("Abby") Tedla, parties' nanny in California from March 2018 to June 2018, at ¶¶ 7 & 9 (See Exhibit 5):*

¶7: Ms. Walsh had been putting drugs in his drinks without his knowledge and he had asked me to lie and tell social services that he was a bad dad/person.

7. Ms. Walsh had been putting drugs in his drinks without his knowledge and she had asked me to lie and tell social services that he was a bad dad/person. Once Ms. Walsh

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9. I saw her drug him on at least two occasions; however she told me and Dan Ochoa that she "did it all the time." This caused me to fear for Mr. Russell's safety and I saw the effects on those two occasions after he drank the tainted wine. It appeared to cause him to lose consciousness shortly after. Once, when Tara's friend was visiting, I threw away any open containers of food in case maybe Tara had added it to other food or drink in the house. I also told Bryan to tell Steve not to drink anything. That night I threw away the leftover food. That was the only time I threw away food. I wasn't otherwise concerned for my safety.

¶9: "I saw her drug him on at least two occasions; however she told me and Dan Ochoa that she 'did it all the time.' This caused me to fear for Mr. Russel's safety and I saw the effects on those two occasions after he draft the tainted wine. It appeared to cause him to lose consciousness shortly after."

- b) *Ms. Tedla Testified at August 29, 2018 California Hearing for Stephen Russell's Petition for a Domestic Violence Restraining Order (Stacey Poole, attorney for S. Russell, questioning A. Tedla (see Exhibit 6, p. 112, beginning at line 17)):*

Q: So Ms. Walsh told you that she did this [referring to putting drugs in Mr. Russell's drinks] all the time?

A: Yeah.

2. Dr. Abilash Gopal, M.D. - Tara Walsh's Psychiatrist in California (7/5/18 Declaration of Abilash A. Gopal, M.D. at p. 3 (see Exhibit 7):

"[Mr. Russell's chief of staff] also observed Ms. Walsh to put an unknown substance in Mr. Russell's drink surreptitiously, after which she confessed to him that she had done so."

Specifically, Mr. Russell's mother reported that Ms. Walsh frequently lied, manipulated, and was abusive towards both her and Mr. Russell, and frequently abused alcohol, neglected the baby, and attempted to obtain more money or assistance from Mr. Russell. Mr. Russell's chief of staff reported that Ms. Walsh was volatile, emotionally abusive, and on one occasion, physically violent towards Mr. Russell. He observed Ms. Walsh to constantly lie, e.g. "She would say that Steve had a gun, which wasn't true, or she would accuse me or the nanny of trying to kidnap her child." He also observed Ms. Walsh to put an unknown substance in Mr. Russell's drink surreptitiously, after which she confessed to him that she had done so. He felt additionally that Ms. Walsh was "unnatural" in the way that she cared for her baby and "seemed more interested in caring for herself than the baby."

3. Bryan F. Crutcher – Stephen Russell's Chief of Staff/Security in California (7/6/18 Declaration of Bryan F. Crutcher, Mr. Russell's chief of staff, at ¶ 15 (see Exhibit 8):

"In early May 2018, on one occasion I observed a small white chunk of something floating in a wine glass that Mr. Russell had just consumed. Not knowing what it was at the time, I later learned Tara had put some of her own prescription medications in his drink."

15. In early May 2018, on one occasion I observed a small white chunk of something floating in a wine glass that Mr. Russell had just consumed. Not knowing what it was at the time, I later learned Tara had put some of her own prescription medications in his drink. I advised her not to do that again and it was not acceptable under any circumstances. She seemed to understand.

4. Blog Post by Brienne ("Bri") Walsh – Tara Walsh's Sister, which includes a photograph of Tara Walsh (See Exhibit 9):

"But I also love people who, on an average day, vacillate between shopping for furniture, taking selfies of themselves with a fake automatic handgun and a pregnant belly, and scheming on ways to get their baby daddy committed to a mental institution."<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> Brienne Walsh is specifically referencing Tara Walsh in this post, as countless photos of Ms. Walsh show her with a fake handgun and a pregnant belly as referenced in Brienne's post. (See, e.g., Ex. 22)