No: 1901-12527

(Case ID Number)

CLERK OF THE COURT FILED

JAN 10 2020

JUDICIAL CENTRE OF CALGARY

**PLAINTIFF** 

Ryan Watson

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH OF ALBERTA

- and -

## **Edouard Maurice**

**DEFENDANT** 

Address for Service and

Contact Information of

Party Filing this

Document

**BETWEEN:** 

**NELSON & NELSON** 

Suite 101, 2120

Kensington Road N.W.

Calgary, AB, T2N 3R7

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ATTN: Stephen B. Nelson

## **AFFIDAVIT**

Sworn on this 10th day of January, 2020.

- I, Ryan Watson, of Calgary Alberta, SWEAR AND SAY THAT:
  - 1. I am the Plaintiff in this application and as such have personal knowledge of the matters hereinafter deposed to except where stated to be based on information and belief in which case I believe the same to be true.
  - 2. On February 25, 2018 I was visiting with friends in Okotoks, Alberta. I arrived just past midnight. At approximately 3:30 am, my friend Stephanie Martens and I departed. Instead of driving directly back to Calgary, we decided to drive around Okotoks. Ms. Martens is from Okotoks and she wanted to show me the town.

- 3. At or around 4:00 am to 4:30 am the gas light in our vehicle came on. I realized that I did not have my wallet with me. I asked Ms. Martens if she had money for gas. She too realized that she did not have her wallet or any money on her. We discussed the issue and agreed that it was unlikely that we had enough gas to make it back to Calgary. As both of us grew up in rural areas we knew that people often had jerry cans in unlocked sheds.
- 4. Although we decided to look in sheds for a jerry can and or loose change, at no time did we contemplate breaking into someone's home.
- 5. We drove into a residential area. This was on the outskirts of Okotoks. From the end of Mr. Maurice's driveway, we could see the florescent lights of local businesses in Okotoks. I say this so as to dispute the contention that this incident occurred in a rural area, far from the assistance of the RCMP.
- 6. We parked our vehicle at the end of Mr. Maurice's driveway. At the time, I did not know who Mr. Maurice was. I know his name now due to this lawsuit and the media attention that this matter has attracted.
- 7. It was approximately 100 metres from the main road, to the end of the driveway where Mr. Maurice's vehicles were parked. There were two trucks and one car parked in the driveway. Ms. Martens approached the car. She tried the handle. The car door was unlocked. She successfully opened the car door. She then suggested that I try the truck. We were looking for a jerry can or loose change so that we could get back to Calgary.
- 8. As I opened the door to the truck, I noticed the light to the front porch come on. Mr. Maurice came onto the porch. He was carrying a rifle. I raised my hands and yelled "it's not what it looks like." Mr. Maurice took no notice of my hands being up or what I said to him. He took aim at my head. I instinctively ducked. As I ducked a bullet passed over my head. Had I not ducked; I would have been shot in the head.
- 9. Ms. Martens and I then turned towards the end of the driveway and ran in the opposite direction of the house. As we were running, we were zigzagging to avoid being shot.
- 10. I counted at least five shots fired at us as we fled. The last shot fired connected with my forearm. It was not a ricochet.
- 11. Ms. Martens was also running away from the house, towards the main road. She has told me that she remembers more than five shots being fired at us as we fled. She is prepared to be a witness in this case.
- 12. We ran back to the car. It was an approximate 100 metre sprint. When Ms. Martens and I got back to the car we were out of breath. We got into the car and drove away.
- 13. We returned to the house where we were previously visiting. At this point, I was in excruciating pain. We called 911 and asked for an ambulance. Ambulance and RCMP

offers responded within about 5 minutes. They took me to the hospital. The next day I was arrested for trespassing.

- 14. I have spoken to Ms. Martens. She is prepared to swear an Affidavit of her recollection of the incident. She has told me that she is prepared to tell the Court that she is sure that more than two bullets were fired at us as we were fleeing.
- 15. I am aware that the Crown has declined to pursue a criminal case against Mr. Maurice. From what I have been told, the Crown made a decision not to prosecute, citing insufficient evidence. I have instructed my lawyers to acquire an expert report and present new evidence to the Crown so that they may reconsider their decision. Failing this, I have instructed my lawyers to consider bringing a private prosecution against Mr. Maurice.
- 16. I grew-up in Calgary. However, my Grandparents had a farm outside Stettler, Alberta where I spent summers. On the farm, I had extensive exposure to firearms. Based on my knowledge and experience with firearms, I believe that Mr. Maurice's actions were excessive, disproportionate and criminal. I hope that new evidence will persuade the Crown or the Court that Mr. Maurice should be brought before a criminal court to answer for his actions.

SWORN/AFFIRMED BEFORE ME at the City of Calgary, Alberta, on the 10th day of

January, 2020

Signature

Devin Frank

Student-at-law

A COMMISSIONER FOR OATHS IN AND FOR THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

My Commission expires at the Pleasure of the Lieutenant Governor (Signature)

Ryan Watson

Devin J. Frank, Student-at-Law and
Notary Public in and for the Province of Alberta
My Commission Expires at the
Pleasure of the Lieutenant Governor
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