DOCKET NO. HHD-FA16-6071228-S

SUPERIOR COURT

SAKON, FRANCELIA

J.D. OF HARTFORD

V

:

AT HARTFORD

SAKON, JOHN A

JULY 6, 2021

## **AFFIDAVIT**

The undersigned, Damion Grasso, being duly sworn, hereby deposes and declares:

- 1. I am over the age of eighteen, believe in the obligation of an oath, and understand the implications of an oath.
- 2. I make this affidavit based on my personal knowledge.
- 3. I am an Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Pediatrics at UConn Health and am Odin Sakon's therapist.
- 4. I engage in about weekly psychotherapy sessions with Odin Sakon.
- 5. On June 21, 2021, I met with Odin Sakon and his mother Francelia Sevin for a weekly telehealth psychotherapy session.
- 6. During that session, Odin verbalized that he was upset and that he had a "bad" week. I asked him to explain why he had a bad week and his mother encouraged him to share what he had told her about his recent visit with his father, Mr. Sakon. Odin shared that his father said some things that made him feel very nervous.
- 7. According to Odin, his father told him that a "government agent called" to say that they were investigating somebody who touched Odin's private body parts. According to Odin, his father said that the agent thought the person was an Asian American woman. Odin reported that his father went on to say that his mother, Ms. Sevin, is "not a protective mom" and "fits the profile" of a mother who would "pay someone to abuse him." The quoted phrases were directly verbalized by Odin.

- 8. Odin then indicated that his father told him that if Dennis (Odin's stepfather) ever touched his private body parts that he (Mr. Sakon) would "kill him" (Dennis).
- 9. Odin said that his father once again mentioned that he had a gun. This was also reported by Odin at a previous session.
- 10. Odin presented as confused and distressed by the information his father shared with him. At some point, Odin slid underneath the bed, likely because he was feeling anxious. While under the bed, I asked follow-up questions to assess whether Odin had ever experienced an incident of sexual abuse. I specifically asked if anyone had ever touched his private body parts or made him touch their private body parts. He could not identify a time when this happened.
- 11. When asked what Odin thought about the information that his father had told him, he explained that he knows his father makes things up and that it was probably not true.
- 12. Odin expressed feeling scared by the information and especially about the gun. He also repeatedly stated that he did not want me or his mother to tell anyone what he had shared because his father would "be very mad."
- 13. The information shared by Odin is concerning. Based on Odin's report and my observations, this information invoked fear, served to demean Odin's mother and her capacity to keep him safe, planted the suggestion that Odin had been sexually abused despite reporting no memory of this, and conveyed the means and capacity to mortally harm a member of Odin's household.
- 14. Moreover, the information shared by Odin's father appears to have negatively impacted Odin's psychological well-being, with intensified anxiety and reports by Ms. Sevin and Odin of behaviors that have been associated with his anxiety.
- 15. It is strongly recommended that Odin not be subjected to this type of information in the future.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this 6th day of July 2021.

Damion Grasso, Ph.D.