

#0: Detailed Answers to Basis of Claim Form

Because the area to write my answers is so small, I felt it was important to provide an abridged answer on the Basis of Claim Form and provide a more detailed answer here.

2(a) “Have you or your family ever been harmed, mistreated, or threatened by any person or group?”

Rocket Jones

I was hired in August 2014 to work with Rocket Jones on web development projects. Initially, I was hired on a temporary basis but it was later decided to hire me on a permanent basis. I was initially hired at \$16 per hour and given two raises from \$16 to \$18 (on the 19th of September 2014) and from \$18 to \$19 per hour (on the 20th of October 2014).

A discrepancy with the time keeping system was discovered on the 3rd of November 2014. Rocket Jones owner, Jeff Bristol, met with me to discuss the discrepancies. This is due to how time is recorded at Rocket Jones. Rocket Jones uses a system to record what was worked on in 15 minute intervals and naturally, without much precision, there could be a rounding error or two. This is especially true as I worked on the continuing projects team at Rocket Jones and my role was to build in new functionality and fix bugs in existing sites. Bristol had told me that he didn't believe that I had done anything wrong but I would commit to using a third party tool to more accurately draft a record of the time I spent on projects.

On the 10th of November, when I arrived at the office, Jeff Bristol confronted me. He found that I am transgender and fired me for this. Subsequent reference checks have found that he has falsely accused me of fraud to potential employers. This was done in bad faith as he had not made a report to the Fort Collins Police Service in order to justify withholding my last cheque.

I had attempted to sue Rocket Jones to end the defamation and while I was able to obtain a promise for Jeff Bristol to stop defaming me in an out of court settlement, the damage to my reputation had already been done and I am thoroughly blackballed in my industry under the name “Jessica Sideways”. Hence, why I had to change my name.

Cody Wolfe

On the Friday before Memorial Day in 2019, I was threatened with a gun by my roommate, Cody Wolfe. As soon as the scene was safe enough to do so, I went straight to the Colorado State University Police Department (CSUPD) in order to seek safety. The Fort Collins Police Service was immediately called by CSUPD officers in order to take my statement. They determined through testimonies by myself and Cody Wolfe that he did, indeed, commit menacing with a deadly weapon.

The reasons he stated were because I am transgender and he said that I would be a “better person” if I “grew my dick back” and falsely accused me of being a man. He even tried to deadname me. After the arrest, I believe he violated the Mandatory Protection Order several times by stalking me, attending court hearings to intimidate me, and sending e-mails to my new roommate (Katherine Doerner) with links to a post on a white supremacist hate site with my deadname.

People in my situation have experienced such harm, mistreatment and threats. Transgender people are routinely harassed, vilified, and subjected to mistreatment and horrific violence. There is a Transgender Day of Remembranceⁱ where transgender people who have been murdered in the past year are remembered. Murders of transgender women tend to be brutal. In the next county over, Angie Zapata was beaten to death with a fire extinguisherⁱⁱ.

Additionally, the United States has severely lax gun laws that mean that many people can be and are murdered by people who are able to easily and legally acquire firearms^{iii iv v vi}. Political inaction

against this threat to human life and active lobbying by organizations such as the NRA means that policies to try to curb gun ownership in the United States are unlikely to pass.

Furthermore, Cody Wolfe is a veteran of the U.S. Army and statistics have shown that veterans with PTSD are more likely to commit violent acts against others^{vii}. Cody is extremely motivated to get revenge upon me for going to the police with his threats, being a romantic interest of Cody's, and him being a white supremacist. Furthermore, given the fact that the courts refuse to restrain him from contacting or coming near me, I believe that I am a high risk target for violence.

2(b) If you returned to your country, do you believe that you would be harmed, mistreated, or threatened by any person or group?

I believe that Cody Wolfe would murder me or severely beat me. I believe that it is both due to his irrational hatred of transgender people and as a means of retaliating against me for attempting to go to the police and cooperating in vein with the District Attorney in an effort to get him prosecuted for threatening me with a gun. He is currently stalking me and to this date, the Fort Collins Police Service has not told me whether they have returned the gun to him or not.

I also believe that if I were able to shake off Cody, I would be continually subjected to abuse and harassment. It is still an open question in the United States whether transgender people can have equal rights. There have been recent federal court rulings that have determined that medical professionals can deny transgender people necessary medical care as a means of "conscience". In all but a few states, a man who murders me can use his "panic" at finding out I am trans in order to justify murdering me^{viii ix x}. Research has demonstrated that one out of every five lesbian, gay and bisexual Americans will experience hate-based violence and that this figure jumps to one out of every four.^{xi} Keep in mind that this is based on statistics that are dramatically underreported. The menacing I suffered from Cody Wolfe wasn't prosecuted as a hate crime nor did the District Attorney's office even make an attempt to prosecute it as such.

2(c) "Did you ask any authorities such as the police, or any other organization, in your country to protect or assist you?"

I went immediately to the Colorado State University Police Department as they were the closest police station within walking distance. From the house I was living at to the CSU Police Department, it was a 20 minute walk. I immediately approached the front desk and told them that my roommate had threatened me with a gun and I needed help. They called the Fort Collins Police Service, who arrived and interviewed me. They then went to the house at 306 Scott Avenue and arrested Cody Wolfe after he admitted to the police that he threatened me with the gun. Attached to this report are Incident Reports that were furnished to me on a disc provided by the District Attorney's office along with pictures of the gun they had confiscated.

I tried to cooperate fully with the District Attorney (the District Attorney being with the 8th Judicial District in Colorado). However, at a meeting set on the 5th of July, I was told that the District Attorney's office would not be prosecuting Cody Wolfe. On that day, I attempted to file a civil restraining order because I knew that once the District Attorney formally dropped the charges on the 22nd of July, the Mandatory Protection Order set as one of Cody's release conditions would no longer be in effect. The magistrate granted the temporary protection order but the judge Kraig Ecton refused to make it permanent at the hearing on the 22nd of July.

The Victims Compensation Fund granted me reimbursement for first month's rent and moving expenses but this did not help me become safe. I believe this is because civil proceedings required me to disclose my address to Nancy Hough, my former landlord, who may have furnished my new address to Cody Wolfe. This may have allowed him to find the e-mail for my new roommate at the

time, Katherine Doerner, and e-mail her a link to the hate site. This action alone clearly demonstrates that he is stalking me. I also am convinced of her hostility as she has filed a false allegation in a Motion to Issue Citation claiming that I had not filed the interrogatories required. This motion was, of course, denied because I had filed interrogatories directly with the Clerk's office.

Once the Mandatory Protection Order was lifted, he was more brazen in following me. He even tracked me down and followed me as I toured a cohousing community just outside Durango called "Heartwood Cohousing". To clarify, this means he stalked me for a 600 km trip from Fort Collins, CO to Bayfield, CO.

Since then, the police have refused to take my claims seriously.

2(d) Did you move to another part of your country to seek safety?

Firstly, there is no place in my country where I can be safe. Without the protection order, Cody Wolfe can still come and threaten me. Not to mention that since he faced no consequences for his actions, he is now emboldened. This fact shows in how he stalks me even to this day. In many states, people can use my status as a transgender woman as a justification for murdering me (also known as "trans panic"). He is still stalking me after two moves and I believe Nancy Hough is supplying my location information to Cody through the victory she received in court and the required interrogatories^{xii} which require me to reveal my location to Nancy (and thus, risk it being leaked to Cody) thus making no location in the United States safe for me.

Secondly, I do not have the financial resources to move to another part of the country. I do not have a car nor people willing to drive me to another part of the country where I could be safe. I do not have the money to put down a damage deposit and first month's rent. Furthermore, given the animus against transgender people in my country, there are few states where I could move to where discrimination is illegal.

Thirdly, widespread discrimination against transgender people occurs nationwide, even in states where it is supposed to be illegal.^{xiii xiv xv xvi xvii xviii xix xx xxi xxii xxiii}

2(f) Why did you leave at that time and not sooner, or at a later time?

I attempted to see the process through and cooperate fully with the District Attorney and other authorities to prosecute Cody for his threats with the gun. However, as soon as I knew the District Attorney was giving up prosecution and any protection order would be nullified, I attempted to file for a civil protection order. This too, was denied. I tried looking up means to appeal this decision but haven't found any thus far.

After that failed, I have attempted to hide and obscure my location from Cody. I intentionally delayed the filing of interrogatories^{xxiv} with the Court until the last weekday before I was to leave my residence at 726 S. College Ave. However, he still stalks me around town and it is taking more and more considerable effort to lose him. Nancy Hough continues to make unreasonable demands for my financial records and location using interrogatories from a civil case. She has even attempted to file a Motion to issue a citation for contempt of court because she erroneously believes I have (or have had) accounts at Canvas Credit Union, continued employment with King Soopers (a grocery store chain in Colorado), and/or employment in the marijuana industry due to my licensure by the Marijuana Enforcement Division of the Colorado Department of Revenue.

At any time, she can reissue the interrogatories, giving her access to know my place of residence, any place of employment, and my bank account statements which would give a clue as to my whereabouts. This allows her to furnish Cody Wolfe with enough information to stalk me. While I am not 100% certain that she is actually doing this, the fact that he continues to stalk me to this day and the fact that he came to the court hearing where Nancy lied to the court to receive a judgment shows that he has an unnaturally close relationship with her.

I have tried my level best to try to find safety but I am unable to do so. As a result, I immediately booked a flight to Canada in order to claim asylum at Calgary International Airport.

Endnotes

ⁱ <https://tdor.info/>

ⁱⁱ <http://www.westword.com/2009-05-28/news/who-was-angie-zapata-her-murderer-s-trial-didn-t-tell-the-whole-story>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://criminaldatacheck.com/gun-violence-facts/>

^{iv} <https://www.tc.columbia.edu/articles/2018/february/gun-violence-in-the-united-states-stemming-the-tide-of-a-growing-social-crisis/>

^v <https://www.thetrace.org/2018/12/gun-violence-facts-statistics-2018/>

^{vi} <https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2018/11/09/666209430/deaths-from-gun-violence-how-the-u-s-compares-with-the-rest-of-the-world>

^{vii} <https://slate.com/technology/2014/04/ptsd-and-violence-by-veterans-increased-murder-rates-related-to-war-experience.html>

^{viii} <https://lgbtqexperiment.com/2019/04/22/what-is-the-gay-panic-defense-and-the-trans-panic-defense/>

^{ix} https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/xw8w54/being-freaked-out-by-gay-and-trans-people-is-still-a-legal-murder-defense-in-48-states

^x <http://www.newnownext.com/gay-panic-defense-murder-legal/12/2018/>

^{xi} <https://lgbtbar.org/programs/advocacy/gay-trans-panic-defense/>

^{xii} Interrogatories are required under Colorado Rules of County Court Civil Procedure Rule 369(g).

^{xiii} https://www.huffpost.com/entry/alabama-trans-bathroom-law_n_572130bfe4b0b49df6aa1e5a

^{xiv} <https://www.al.com/news/2019/04/theres-a-backlash-happening-transgender-actress-laverne-cox-speaks-in-boston-on-alabama-upbringing-transphobia.html>

^{xv} <https://nylon.com/alabama-queer-trans-kill-off>

^{xvi} <https://www.dailydot.com/irl/alaska-bathroom-bill-anchorage/>

^{xvii} <http://classifieds.usatoday.com/press/fenway-health-warns-recent-federal-ruling-denies-transgender-people-access-to-health-care/>

^{xviii} <https://www.good.is/articles/how-i-learned-to-hate-transgender-people>

^{xix} <https://splinternews.com/university-will-investigate-professor-who-gave-students-1819789397>

^{xx} <https://petersontoscano.com/once-again-erasing-the-role-of-transphobia-in-hate-crimes/>

^{xxi} <http://www.wipeouttransphobia.com/2013/04/01/kavanagh-back-with-amended-restroom-bill-nothing-has-changed/>

^{xxii} https://www.huffpost.com/entry/michelle-duggar-anti-discrimination-proposal_n_5689840

^{xxiii} <https://www.msn.com/en-us/health/wellness/transgender-boxer-patricio-manuel-talks-transphobia-acceptance-and-happiness/ar-AAIPjmQ>

^{xxiv} <http://www.jdporterlaw.com/285-2/written-interrogatories-civil-lawsuits-colorado/>