

October 24, 2010

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**

My name is Leona Bouchard (Johnston) and I did on January 29, 2006, sign my name to an urgent email addressed to Mr. David Bradley @dbradley@wilderwilder.com. I am the eldest of Lionel Bouchard's children. I did move away from Manitoba in 1968.

The content of my letter to Mr. Bradley had to do with a developing situation surrounding my father Lionel Bouchard of Elie, Manitoba. A situation of which I had no knowledge of until an urgent phone call from my brother Andre Bouchard, of Portage la Prairie, January 29th. My brother Andre Bouchard, who had not until that day initiated a phone call to me in well over 30 years, did inform me of an urgent matter regarding my father. He stated that my father was in danger and my sister Marlene Legare from B.C. had initiated a lawsuit on behalf of my father, had cleaned out my father's account, and numerous other offences against my father, apparently. Andre Bouchard assured me that the rest of my siblings were as concerned about my father's welfare as he was and urged me to get on board as well to prevent Marlene from "hurting" my father further. My brother was very convincing. I had no knowledge of what had transpired in Manitoba for months prior to this incident with my father, and had no reason to suspect anything, and was shocked to hear of my father's recent serious head injury. I heard about my father's fall and stay in the hospital months after he was allowed out of the hospital. My brother's first ever phone call to me and his sense of urgency, played a huge part in my willingness to support his endeavours to "stop" whatever "harm" my sister Marlene might incur on our father without really understanding what was actually transpiring. Andre Bouchard was not truthful with me, I was coached and I now regret penning that letter to Mr. Bradley. I have since gotten some personal insight and lots of clarity on my father's situation then and now, by observing my siblings' actions since that day, and have concluded that my father needed to be protected from his own son and daughters, whose motives, in my mind, have been suspect since 2006 and continue to be suspect, especially now, since our mother's demise, January 2007. Since January, 2006, certain family members living in rural Manitoba have shown themselves to me personally, to be deceitful, selfish and above all, greedy.

The destructive actions of certain siblings was inexcusable and their motives purely self-serving. I believe that my father's rights to continue living in his own home was denied and that he should not have been forced off his property.

It is now my strong belief, that my father was being set up and manipulated by his own children whom he trusted at that time. I am very concerned about my father's physical safety and mental wellbeing once he returns to Elie. It is clear to me, that it will not be a healthy environment for my father. It is also clear to me that Andre Bouchard, Lynda Staub and Claire Demery are not to be trusted to allow their father to live out the remainder of his life in peace and harmony. The protective orders must be put back in order to protect my father from abuse at the hands of his own children.

*Leona Bouchard Johnston*

**Leona Bouchard-Johnston**

*Calgary, Alberta*

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October 25, 2010

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:**

***Doreen's statement:***

"I was very upset when I visited my Father in hospital only 48 hours after his fall, and he was extremely agitated that 'the 3 musketeers, as I call them' had already cleaned out his entire home, thrown out things without his permission and without him being there to supervise, and locking other possessions in sheds on the property, or on their own properties. He believed they would have snooped through and probably taken many of his private and personal financial and estate papers. He said they claimed it was because they were afraid Marlene would move in and control his assets and his life, now that he was injured, but, it was clear that Dad was less worried about that than he was about how Andy Bouchard and his two sisters had already stripped him of his privacy and rights, and home.

Dad talked to me about how Andy had tricked him into signing a Power of Attorney, or some other legal document (recollection doesn't serve me on which one it was, exactly). He said Andy slipped it under other paperwork, something to do with insurance, possibly the claim for his slip and fall injury at St. Eustache church (again, if I recall correctly); but that, in fact, he had been tricked into signing a legal document giving Andy control of something he would not have willingly done. He was very upset by that.

Dad even told me to quickly run over to the farm and take a TV; he wanted me to have

'something' before it was all 'gone', stolen by the others, he said. And, he went on to say how he was afraid of losing the money in his own bank account and gave me a handwritten note authorizing the bank to release \$1,000.00 to me immediately. He said I needed to go immediately, and tell no one, before it was all gone. I told him he shouldn't be doing anything until he was of sound mind and had healed; I did not use the signed note and discarded it some time later.

He never uttered a word about being afraid of Marlene's actions, or that he was upset with Marlene or that she had taken advantage of him. All the fears he expressed were about the actions of his son, Andy Bouchard, predominantly, and, as 'accomplices' (knowingly or not, I'm unsure), at Lynda Staub and Claire Demery.

As time went on, I became furious that these 3 siblings had, in fact, moved my Dad out of his home and confiscated all his private possessions before he even had more than 3 days to heal and express his own wishes.

I began to suspect that Marlene might be a scapegoat, since I felt they could have very easily only changed the locks, and/or removed ONLY Dad's personal papers, without cleaning out every corner and moving furniture out, and/or that Andy could have simply placed a restraining order on Marlene to keep her off the property. I felt something was just not 'right' about how quickly, thoroughly, and excessively they had 'protected' Dad from Marlene.

When Dad came out of the hospital, in the months and years that followed, Dad continued to tell me how he felt he'd been repeatedly lied to, manipulated, and taken advantage of by his son Andy Bouchard over the years. I couldn't grasp all the details of their legal agreements (all verbal, I might add) which stretched back 20 years, and so I didn't get involved. I simply counselled Dad to take it up with Andy Bouchard himself and/or to live with his mistakes of having trusted him (favoured him all his life, given Andy is the eldest son of a Fr-Cdn, R.C. Family - a cultural thing) .. and to simply not have any further contact or dealings with Andy Bouchard.

During the 'conflict' between the three Manitoba siblings and Marlene in the weeks immediately following Dad's release from hospital, and Dad having been relocated to St. Eustache Manor, I did visit him at his new apartment. To my surprise, Andy was there with binders and binders full of 'evidence' against Marlene; as was his wife Angela, and sibling Claire Demery. They tried to persuade me that it was all Marlene's fault, but I knew better than to take Andy's word at face value. I have always, my entire life, questioned his ethics and honesty - just a gut feeling. So, I agreed to attempt to 'mediate' the conflict on the condition that Andy Bouchard allowed Dad to return to his home in Elie if and when he so chose, and no later than July 1 that year. I asked him, several times, in front of his wife and my sister, and Dad, if I had his word. He said I did. Yet, 5 months later, and now, years later, Dad has not yet been returned to his homestead in Elie. I understand that, in the very beginning, it was Dad's choice. But, as time went on, I believe Dad began to 'wake up' to how much he'd been manipulated by his son, and when he later wanted to return to the homestead, Andy would not, and still has not, allowed him to return. I don't know if there's some legal reasons for this, but if there are, I'm not aware, and, regardless, I believe the ethical thing to do would be for my brother Andy to fairly compensate him for not being allowed to die in peace on the property in Elie that was once owned by Lionel, where he raised his nine children, and was once owned by Lionel's father before him. I do NOT think it would be wise or safe for Lionel to return to the farm, as the relationship between he and his grown children in Manitoba has been damaged beyond repair and no-one would be there to help him in his senior years. I, myself, plan to move out of province in the near future."

*Leona Bouchard*  
 Signed for *Doreen Bouchard*

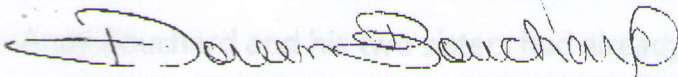
*Oct 25/2010*

Leona Bouchard on behalf of Doreen Bouchard with the express permission of Doreen Bouchard

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Signed: Doreen Bouchard, Winnipeg, Manitoba

October 26, 2010

My name is Susie Waldner. I work as a senior caregiver from Winnipeg. I have known Lionel Bouchard for many years having grown up in St. Eustache, a small town neighboring Elie.

I was present the day Andy Bouchard offered to buy the family homestead from his father, Lionel Bouchard. The agreement included the provision that his father remain in his home for the rest of his life, paper work Lionel shared with me and destroyed when Andy Bouchard, Lynda Staub, Angie Bouchard and Claire Demery cleaned out his house against Lionel's wishes while he was in the hospital in January 2006.

After witnessing Andy, Lynda and Claire's behavior towards their father over the years, it is my firm position that Lionel needs a protection order at the very least. Furthermore, he needs a provision in this protection order so that the order not be varied or contested.

I have witnessed Andy screaming at his father Lionel on numerous occasions at the farm. Over the years, Andy has refused to pay what was rightfully due his father, in essence robbing his father of a carefree retirement. Lionel now has to pay rent in addition to losing the income from a room he rents out.

At the Holiday Inn, I saw Lynda and Claire pushing their clearly distraught father into Lynda's car against his will. at a family gathering.

When at the St. Eustache Manor, his three children, Andy, Lynda and Claire took turns isolating and restricting access to Lionel in person or by telephone.

Then in August 2008, I learned that Mike and Lionel had gone to the farm to get some of Lionel's personal items as arranged by their respective lawyers. Upon arriving at the farm, Lionel told me Andy had a psychiatrist in his truck with him – the same one Andy had taken his father to several times prior. This upset Lionel as obviously Andy had no intention of negotiating his returning home, rather Andy was still on his quest of two years prior to commit his father.

The reason Andy, Lynda and Claire are doing this to their father is because they want to take his legal, moral rights and freedom away, make him a ward of the court and in the process do away with their father, example Andy telling Marlene while Lionel was in the hospital recovering from a fall, that Lionel was never going home.

At the Grace Hospital, Andy told Marlene and myself that he had been looking to place his father in a mental institute in Portage La Prairie. This was early in the recovery stage of the concussion.

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The third week in August 2008, Lionel came over with Mike Slegers. Lionel was acting totally out of character. He was terrified Mike would hear us talking, so he requested we sit in Mike's truck while Johnny Lafreniere, who I do home care for at his home in St. Francois, went out to the gazebo in the back with Mike. Lionel was very nervous in the house, not wanting to answer any questions. I felt that something had happened at Mike's and learned that Andy who now was over often, had provided Mike with a cellular to keep in contact, yet they had taken away Lionel's cellular and hidden it. Prior to this Lionel had not had contact for seven months when Lionel left wanting to get away from the pressure of his children went to live with Marlene in B.C. who then assisted and paid for her father to obtain legal representation.

I learned that the new 2007 Caravan Marlene had provided for her father's exclusive use, had been locked up in Mike's shed and a fifth wheel placed in front of the locked doors, on the pretext that trees might fall on the vehicle. Mike insisted that Lionel place the keys to his older Dodge van in the kitchen drawer in the event Mike needed to move the van in order to cut his grass. None of this made any sense to me. Knowing Lionel as well as I did, I knew he was being threatened and he feared for his life if he spoke out. Threats obviously had been made against Lionel to comply and to pressure him to give up his rights to his home. I saw Lionel as Mike's captive and believe that Mike was following Andy's instructions to ensure Lionel was never left out of his sight as it was obvious Lionel was not free to come and go or call anyone as he pleased. Mike informed me that Claire had stated that Andy would be paying Mike for returning their father to them and the figure of \$5,000 was mentioned. The RCMP had to be called in to assist the two private investigators hired by Lionel's lawyer to retrieve Lionel's 2007 Caravan which had been locked up on Andy's direction.

Later that night, I received a call asking to drop off the contents of the van, and then the driver reconsidered. It is then that both Johnny and I watched all night until 3:30 a.m. or later as Andy Bouchard and Mike Slegers hid in the bushes across the street obviously waiting for the van to pull up. Johnny and I later reported the incident to the Headingley RCMP as it was obvious that Andy and Mike had been waiting to ambush the van and we were concerned if they had any weapons with them as they lay in wait for the van to arrive.

Lionel's belongings had been thrown haphazardly; jam packed into the van as Andy was furious he had been made to turn over the van ruining a lot of his possessions in the process.

Lionel who had offered to drive Johnny and I to Winnipeg as neither of us drive, was now restricted in his driving by Mike and Andy.



Based on their past actions, I believe that Lionel's three children, and now Mike Slegers will never, going forward, ever let their father live in peace. Rather it is my belief they will continue to harass Lionel until he gives in and signs away his rights to his home and what is still due him or is pushed prematurely in the grave with stress, etc.

I understand the reason the original protection order was set aside was due to the fact that Lionel was unable to attend court for medical reasons.

Lionel is in grave danger without a protection order and I am voicing my very real concerns to the court and will hold the justice system responsible should anything happen to Lionel at the hands of his children, as the Court has been warned of what has transpired over the years and it has a duty to protect individuals – especially vulnerable seniors such as Lionel Bouchard.

*Susie Waldner*

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