

3.14.20

Good morning Mayor Wilson, Vice-Mayor Bennett-Parker and Council Members.

My name is Carolyn Griglione. I live at 1416 N. Ivanhoe St.

I want to give a quick update about what I've encountered on my walks and drives on Seminary Rd. between N. Howard St and Quaker Lane.

During morning rush hour I am now able to easily enter and exit the non signalized cul-de-sac streets. Having to only cross or enter one lane of traffic makes it much easier and safer for myself and others who need to enter or exit these streets.

My husband and I use the pedestrian crossings and find these a positive change. We no longer feel like flies trying to avoid the swatter when crossing Seminary Rd.

I see cyclists and or pedestrians each time I walk or drive this section of Seminary Rd. Of course my trips are so minimal in time that I have no idea as to how many I would see if I spent more time watching for them.

I do take time to stand and watch the speed meter sign. It appears to me a good number of drivers now stay below 30mph. This is a very positive change. I attribute it to the new design.

I greatly appreciate the pro-active decision that was made to improve safety for all users of Seminary Rd.

I must add that I feel the changes have had a positive impact on Seminary Rd. west of N. Howard as well.

Thank you.

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2
3/14/20
Public Discussion
Period

SPEECH SAID CHAHMOUNE CITY OF ALEXANDRIA MARCH, 2020

My name is Said Chahmoune. My wife's name is Geraldine Dwyer. We have been married and lived in the now called Potomac Yard neighborhood (135 Lynhave Drive) for over 22 years.

This is about Circuit Court case CW19001332.

I am here to tell you about the involvement of the Alexandria Adult Protective Services in the present attempt to steal my wife's house, which is across from the upcoming Potomac Yard Metro station. Two of their social workers, Jennifer Sarisky and Rhonda Williams, neither of whom are M.D., have falsely claimed that my wife is "mentally incapacitated" as part of another City employee's plan to take her house. City Attorney Jonathan Westreich has sued her in order to take title to her house and sell it, to quote : "pay her bills". She did not owe anything. She had a \$14000 bill from a nursing home which had treated her badly, and had hired an attorney, Terry Legum, to dispute the bill.

Mr. Westreich filed an "emergency motion" to have my wife declared "mentally incapacitated" using these social workers and to have a colleague of his appointed as guardian in order to take her house. The hearing was before Circuit Court Judge Lisa Kemler on Nov. 13, 2019. Despite Westreich's best efforts their motion was denied.

Not satisfied with their loss, Westreich again filed a second "emergency motion". This time he was before Judge James C. Clark. Judge Clark is known to the general public as dictatorial, threatening and disregardful of the law. In fact he put a divorcee, Janice Grenadier, in jail for opposing and not being able to pay another's legal bill that this judge wrongly ordered.

At the second "emergency motion" hearing on December 11, 2019, Judge Clark, without any medical evidence, just the opinion of an Alexandria social worker, declared her "mentally incapacitated" and appointed Mr. Westreich's colleague, to be her temporary guardian and to use mine and my wife's life savings. She was taken by force from the courtroom by guards to Alexandria Hospital. There was nothing materially wrong with her.

We appealed and our attorney withdrew without cause. Westreich, knowing this, unilaterally set a hearing for a permanent guardian for January 7, 2020. With the voluntary help of several attorneys on an ad hoc basis, we filed motions to reschedule the hearing until we could obtain an attorney to replace the attorney that withdrew. The guardianship law requires a person who is considered for guardianship is entitled to an attorney and that she has a legal right to have a trial by jury, and other laws which were ignored by Judge Clark. If any guardian is to be appointed it should be a family member.

All of these motions were ignored. (Judges for motions are supposed to be by random selection. However Judge Clark had himself made the judge for all latter hearings.) Instead Judge James C. Clark on January 7, 2020 and without any medical evidence, using the nonmedical opinion of social worker Rhonda Williams, again declared my wife "mentally incapacitated", My temporary attorney Helena M. Seamour was ordered to be silent when she made her oppositions, and he threatened her with : "Which door do you wish to leave by, meaning he was going to put her in jail for representing us. Judge Clark stated before the hearing in an off record comment that he had "already decided that she was 'mentally incapacitated'."

Judge Clark then signed City Attorney Westreich's proposed Order (never seen before) to take \$25775

of my wife's lifelong savings and take \$8310 of her funds to pay guardian ad litem and to pay the new permanent guardian an unknown fee The Order also said he could sell her house, and pay himself and others. He had taken her by force to a Manassas nursing home near his house, but 30 miles from our home in Alexandria..

We have appealed to the Virginia Court of Appeals and have notified various investigative agencies.

REQUEST

While this Board has no control over judges, we hope that Judge James C. Clark is not reappointed. The Board does have control over Adult Protective Services, its social workers and the City Attorney's Office. Social workers Sarisky and Williams need to be investigated, terminated and prosecuted. In addition, the architect of this blatant theft attempt, to obtain my wife's house and funds, Jonathan Westreich, needs to be immediately investigated, terminated and prosecuted.

We are in the process of engaging a civil rights attorney to sue the City and all involved.

Thank you very much for your consideration

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