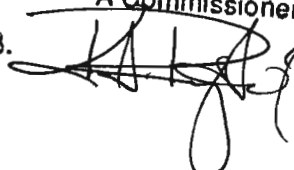


HERITAGE PLACE, SUITE 900, 155 QUEEN ST., OTTAWA, CANADA K1P 6L1 • TELEPHONE (613) 786-3172

March 5, 1996

This is Exhibit "E"
of the Affidavit
of Catherine L.E. Ross
sworn August 1st, 1996
A Commissioner, etc.

Ms. Katrina A. Prystupa, B.A., LL.B.
Suite 204
120 Holland Ave.
Ottawa, Ontario
K1Y 0X6



Dear Ms. Prystupa:

Re: Catherine Ross

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 26, 1996, requesting an updated report pertaining to Ms. Ross.

I can advise you that Ms. Ross has been under my continual care since her initial referral to me on the 22nd of April, 1994. I previously submitted two reports dated June 20, 1994 and November 21, 1994, describing Ms. Ross' emotional state. In those reports, I also addressed her previous consumption of alcohol and tranquilizing medication.

Since my reports were written, I can state to you that Ms. Ross has continued to demonstrate excellent progress and stability. She has reported to me that she has relinquished all tranquilizing medication in January, 1995, and has not required tranquilizers since that date. She also reported ceasing her alcohol intake in May/June, 1995.

I can state to you that Ms. Ross has closely followed my advice in regard to reducing and eliminating both consumption of alcohol and tranquilizers. At one stage in my management of her, I suggested the introduction of Antabuse as a possible aid to assist her, and this would have occurred in May, 1995. She did require the utilization of Antabuse for several days, and it was discontinued because of side effects. In January, 1995, I did assist her with a prescription for Trilafon, 2 mg. twice per day; Trilafon is a non-addictive tranquilizer. During this period of time, she was experiencing considerable stressors. In particular, she was the recipient of threats from her husband, and she was concerned about the well-being of her children. To compound her problems, her mother was quite ill. She was also losing weight and experiencing insomnia. Apart from the prescription for Trilafon, she required no other medications.

I can advise you that Ms. Ross had previously requested assistance in regard to withdrawal from her tranquilizing utilization. She recognized that she had been dependent on them and that her behaviour and judgement, at times, had been impaired.

I can state to you that Ms. Ross did not require any other specialized treatment, apart from the intervention of myself. She did not require attendance at any drug nor alcohol treatment facility. She ceased the tranquilizing medication abruptly. It is important to advise you that she was undergoing a considerable degree of stress. She felt powerless and had lost her confidence. She was also residing with Diane Nicol and was exposed to her disturbed child. As mentioned above, Ms. Ross was experiencing a considerable degree of loss of weight - her weight dropped to 85 lbs. - and against this background she attended via ambulance at the Queensway-Carleton Hospital where she was observed. This occurred on January 9th, 1995. Her attendance at hospital was precipitated by a physical problem in which she experienced stiffness on one side of her body and fears for the development of a "stroke". She fully recovered from this episode and there has been no recurrence since.

I can also advise you that, following my November, 1994, report, Ms. Ross did decline from a physical and psychological point of view. Her self confidence diminished and her stamina also declined. I noted an increment in her depressive state. Residing with Diane Nicol turned out to be disastrous for her. At that time, she recognized that she required assistance but could not turn to her mother as her mother was also quite ill. She telephoned her husband and requested that he take their children for several days. On her recovery, she reclaimed her children.

Following her hospitalization in January, 1995, Ms. Ross recovered from a physical and mental point of view. She gained weight and her weight has now stabilized. In my opinion, there is a significant link to her physical well-being and her emotional state. Given the emotional turmoil she was experiencing, it is my view that many of her physical symptoms were linked to her emotional distress. With a stable environment, her emotional state is quite consistent and stable. She moved into Ottawa to stay with her mother in May, 1995, and since April has demonstrated consistent improvement. On June 1st, 1995, Ms. Ross moved with her children to Ottawa into her own accommodation.

There is no question in my mind that Ms. Ross is emotionally prepared to continue to care for her two children, and I have no concerns regarding her ability to continue to do so. She demonstrates a strong commitment to her children. From the information at hand, her children are doing well. The children required involvement at the Royal Ottawa Hospital Department of Psychiatry, and I was most encouraging of this. Hillary has now completed her program at the Royal Ottawa Hospital, and Khierstyn will be finalizing her play therapy group in June, 1996. The involvement of the children in the Royal Ottawa Hospital program occurred in approximately April/May, 1995.

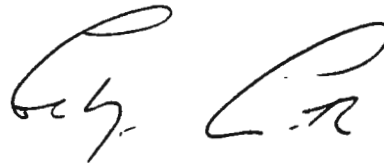
At the present time, I would state that Ms. Ross is most stable. She does, however, experience considerable fear and anxiety related to her husband's behaviour and his ongoing attempts to separate her from her children. It is significant to note that her fears are quite understandable, given the history of abuse in this relationship. She is most concerned about the stability of her former husband. It was also significant to note that Ms. Ross has entered into

another relationship with an individual who resides in England and whom she has known for 14 years. He will be immigrating at the end of May. It is my understanding that her friend is a consultant in the computer arena and has a definite job offer on his arrival. Ms. Ross has advised me that he relates extremely well to her and her children.

In summary, therefore, it is my opinion that Ms. Ross does demonstrate continued improvement in regard to her emotional and physical state, and she is attempting to re-integrate into the work force. An early settlement of these proceedings, in my opinion, is essential to allow her to proceed in a stable manner.

I trust this information is sufficient for your purposes and if you require any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Selwyn M. Smith', written in a cursive style.

Selwyn M. Smith, M.D.

SMS:jw