## Deininger & Associates LLP

Attorneys at Law

Christopher L. Deininger Member New York & New Jersey 415 Route 10, Suite 1 Randolph, NJ 07869 Tel 973-879-1610 Fax 973-361-1241

www.deiningerlaw.com

chris@deiningerlaw.com

September 4, 2022

### VIA ECOURTS

Hon. Louis S. Sceusi, J.S.C. Superior Court of New Jersey - Morris County Morris County Courthouse, Washington & Court Streets Morristown, New Jersey 07960

### RE: <u>Lauren Kanarek v. Michael Barisone, et al.</u>, Docket No.: MRS-L-2250-19

**Barisone Cross-Motion Compelling Plaintiff's in-Person Deposition Return Date: September 9, 2022** 

Your Honor:

I represent Michael Barisone, a defendant-counterclaim-plaintiff in the above-referenced matter. I am submitting this reply letter brief, in lieu of a formal one, in support of the Barisone cross-motion compelling plaintiff LAUREN KANAREK to physically appear, in New Jersey, at counsel's offices, for her deposition in this matter. Barisone is also joining in the motion to compel made by co-defendant Sweet Grass Farms.

### ARGUMENT

BARISONE is joining in the reply legal arguments made by Mark Silver, Esq., in his motion on behalf of co-defendant SWEET GRASS FARMS, LLC, seeking to compel plaintiff's in-person deposition. For purposes of this reply only, those arguments by co-defense counsel are adopted and incorporated herein by reference.

### MRS-L-002250-19 09/04/2022 4:47:45 PM Pg 2 of 21 Trans ID: LCV20223174553

Plaintiff has failed to present any evidence in her opposition to the defendants' motion and cross-motion to compel her in-person deposition appearance. There is no attorney certification presenting documents that could be utilized as evidence, and also no certification or affidavit presenting any sworn statement from the plaintiff. The "opposition" as to plaintiff being compelled to appear in New Jersey for an in-person deposition, therefore, is limited exclusively to attorney argument.

When a motion is based upon facts not appearing in the record, the moving party <u>must</u> present affidavits "made on personal knowledge" of the persons presenting the factual basis for the relief requested. <u>R.</u> 1:6-6. Not even "facts" presented upon "information and belief" will suffice. <u>See e.g. Wang v. Allstate Ins. Co.</u>, 125 <u>N.J.</u> 2, 16 (1991). The only exception to that mandate is when the facts are "judicially noticeable," in which case the Court may exercise discretion to take judicial notice of a fact not capable of reasonable dispute. <u>R.</u> 1:6-6. Attorney argument is not evidence and, as a matter of law, cannot be utilized as a substitute for evidence on a motion for relief. <u>Estate of Kennedy v. Rosenblatt</u>, 447 <u>N.J. Super.</u> 444, 456 (App. Div. 2016).

Plaintiff's only opposition to the motions compelling her personal appearance is the claim made by her attorneys that she is in some "weakened" medical state or condition, as a result of having been shot several years ago. <u>See generally</u> Plaintiff's Opposition & Cross-Motion For a Protective Order. Such an assertion is a medical opinion only capable of being proffered, in admissible form, by a qualified physician appearing in court and being subjected to cross-examination. It is not an assertion capable of being subject to any form of judicial notice. <u>See</u> Comment to Court Rule 1:6-6, noting that "net opinions of experts also fail to meet the motion-practice, admissible-evidence requirement of affidavits", citing <u>Randall v. State</u>, 277 <u>N.J. Super.</u> 192, 198 (App. Div. 1994).

#### MRS-L-002250-19 09/04/2022 4:47:45 PM Pg 3 of 21 Trans ID: LCV20223174553

Juxtaposed to plaintiff's dearth of evidence is the defendants' evidence that Lauren Kanarek is sufficiently healthy, strong, and well to appear for her in-person deposition in New Jersey. For example, plaintiff appeared in-person for her testimony at the criminal trial against Barisone, and did so by traveling up to New Jersey (whether it was by car, airplane or boat) to testify in the courtroom for two days, unmasked.

Following the alleged shooting, plaintiff has continued to compete athletically in the sport of dressage (see Deininger Reply Certif., **Exhibit A**); she has continued horseback riding and taking dressage lessons, including "4 horse lessons" in a single day (see Deininger Reply Certif., **Exhibit B**); she has gone out partying in New York City with her sisters as recently as April 2022 (see Deininger Reply Certif., **Exhibit C**); and, recently she has even spent two days being interviewed and filmed by CBS News for her appearance on an upcoming episode of the television program *48 Hours* (see Deininger Reply Certif., **Exhibit D**).

Rather than presenting any support for any medical need for any form of accommodation, the evidence before this Court confirms that plaintiff is living her life actively and without any impediment. Even giving plaintiff some benefit of the doubt, ordinary social distancing (which she did not require during the criminal trial) obviously would suffice.

#### **CONCLUSION**

For the forgoing reasons, the defendant-counterclaim plaintiff BARISONE is requesting that his cross-motion and that of his co-defendant be granted in all respects.

Submitted Respectfully, DEININGER & ASSOCIATES, LLP

3\_\_\_\_\_

Christopher L. Deininger, Esq.

cc: All counsel of record

01013 Christopher L. Deininger, Esq., N.J. Bar ID No. 004271996 DEININGER & ASSOCIATES, LLP 415 Route 10, Suite 1 Randolph, New Jersey 07869 (973) 879-1610; Fax (973) 361-1241 Attorneys for Barisone

LAUREN KANAREK	Plaintiff,	: SUPERIOR COURT OF NEV : JERSEY LAW DIVISION – MO : COUNTY	
v.	1 tanning),		
MICHAEL BARISONE; SWEETGRASS FARMS, LLC; RUTH COX; JOHN DOES 1-30; ABC CORPORATIONS 1- 20,		DOCKET NO.: MRS-L-2250-19	-19
	Defendants,		

### REPLY CERTIFICATION OF CHRISTOPHER L. DEININGER, ESQ., IN SUPPORT OF BARISONE'S CROSS-MOTION AGAINST PLAINTIFF

CHRISTOPHER L. DEININGER, ESQ., of full age, hereby certifies and says the following under penalty of perjury:

1. I am an attorney at law duly admitted in the State of New Jersey, and counsel in the above-captioned matter for defendant-counterclaim-plaintiff MICHAEL BARISONE ("Barisone").

1. I am making this REPLY certification in further support of the Barisone crossmotion compelling plaintiff LAUREN KANAREK to appear for an in-person deposition in this action.

2. I reviewed the papers filed in opposition to my cross-motion by plaintiff's counsel (collectively, "Plaintiff's Opposition").

#### MRS-L-002250-19 09/04/2022 4:47:45 PM Pg 5 of 21 Trans ID: LCV20223174553

3. Plaintiff's Opposition is devoid of any evidence capable of supporting Plaintiff's claim that she is in some sort of "weakened" physical condition, such that she should be relieved of making a personal, in-person appearance for her deposition in this matter.

4. Annexed hereto as **Exhibit A** is a true and accurate copy of a dressage-competitionrecord confirming that in 2020, following the alleged shooting and her recovery which occurred in 2019, plaintiff Lauren Kanarek has continued to engage in athletic competitions in the sport of dressage.

5. Annexed hereto as <u>Exhibit B</u> are true and accurate copies of two Internet postings made in or about January 2022 by Robert Goodwin – plaintiff's boyfriend who lives with her in Florida.

6. Those postings depict plaintiff Lauren Kanarek engaging in horseback riding, practicing the sport of dressage. See Exhibit B.

7. Annexed hereto as <u>Exhibit C</u> are true and accurate copies of three photographs of plaintiff Lauren Kanarek posted on Instagram, on or about Saturday April 16, 2022, in the immediate aftermath of the criminal trial in which defendant Barisone was found "not guilty" and/or "not guilty by reason of insanity" as to all charges pursued against him by the State of New Jersey.

8. In those postings, under the Instagram handle "laurenkana," it is indicated that plaintiff Lauren Kanarek attending a "party" after which she intended to go to a "hotel lobby" in New York City as "Sat night continued". See Exhibit C, first page.

9. Annexed hereto as <u>Exhibit D</u> is a true and accurate copy of a "selfie" of plaintiff Lauren Kanarek posted to Instagram in or about June 2022 – perhaps 8-12 weeks ago.

#### MRS-L-002250-19 09/04/2022 4:47:45 PM Pg 6 of 21 Trans ID: LCV20223174553

10. In the text posted underneath that selfie, it is indicated that plaintiff Lauren Kanarek had just participated in "part 1 of my [CBS News, *48 Hours* television show] interview & [film] shoot." See Exhibit D.

11. Lauren Kanarek indicated as well that the events of that day were "festivities" held at a horse farm/training facility called "Little Ranches," and that she was think of having "Thai food" for dinner following the conclusion of her "Long Day!" of being interviewed and filmed by CBS News. See Exhibit D.

12. Based on those Internet/social media postings, defendant MICHAEL BARISONE is disputing plaintiff's claim of having some sort of "weakened" physical condition that might somehow justify her failure to make an in-person appearance for her deposition.

13. Annexed hereto as <u>Exhibit E</u> is a true and accurate copy of a page from Lauren Kanarek's sworn response to "SUPPLEMENTAL INTERROGATORIES" served in this matter by her attorneys.

14. In her response to question "1" and question "2", plaintiff directed the defendant parties (in essence) that they should go to her various Internet social media feeds to obtain copies of whatever she might post on social media and/or the Internet. See Exhibit E.

15. Because defendants were invited by plaintiff/plaintiff's attorneys to go to plaintiff's social media postings and Internet postings to obtain copies of her the information plaintiff <u>was</u> <u>not</u> herself producing, defendant MICHAEL BARISONE is taking the position that his attorneys are not "stalking" plaintiff but, rather, simply acting upon her invitation to view and gather information from her social media postings.

MRS-L-002250-19 09/04/2022 4:47:45 PM Pg 7 of 21 Trans ID: LCV20223174553

I hereby certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

3\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

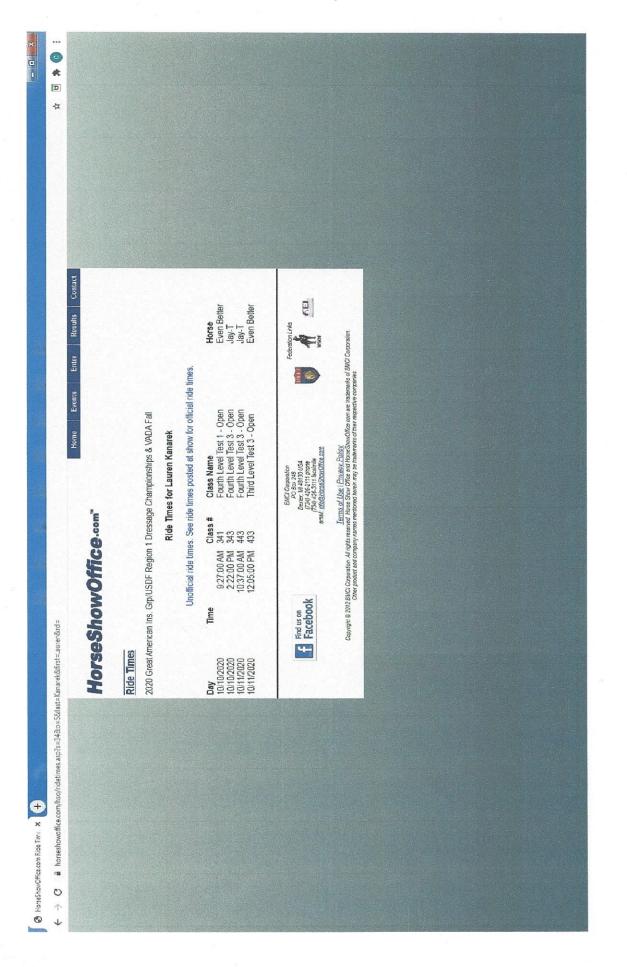
CHRISTOPHER L. DEININGER, ESQ.

Dated: September 4, 2022

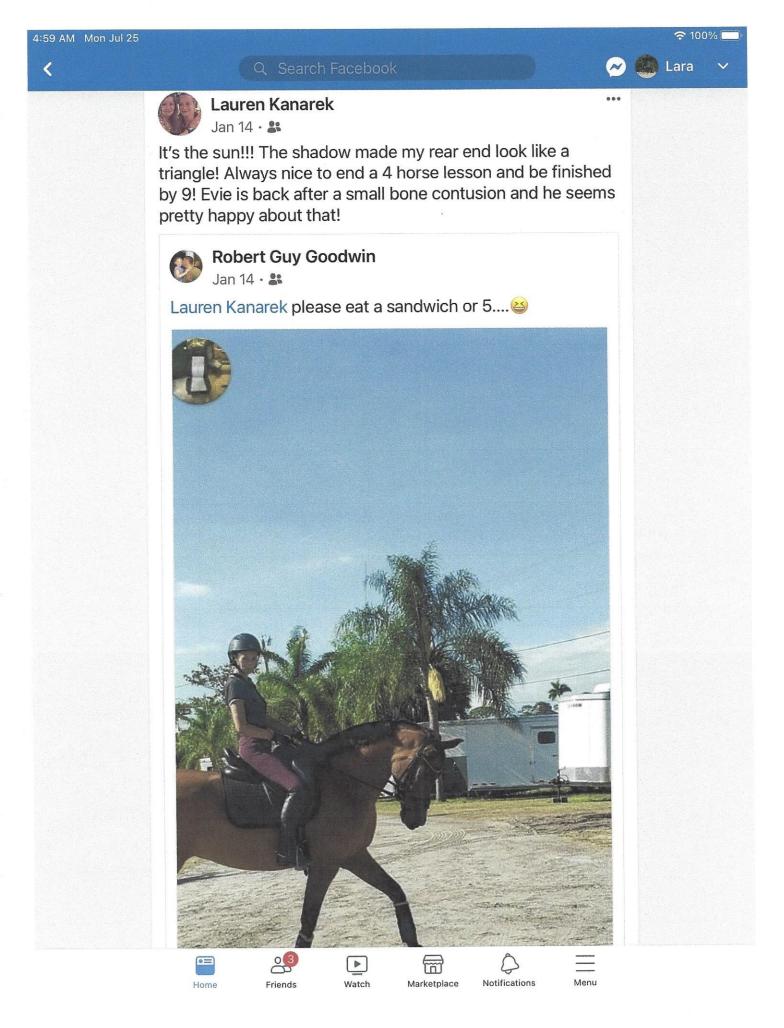
MRS-L-002250-19 09/04/2022 4:47:45 PM Pg 8 of 21 Trans ID: LCV20223174553

# **EXHIBIT A**

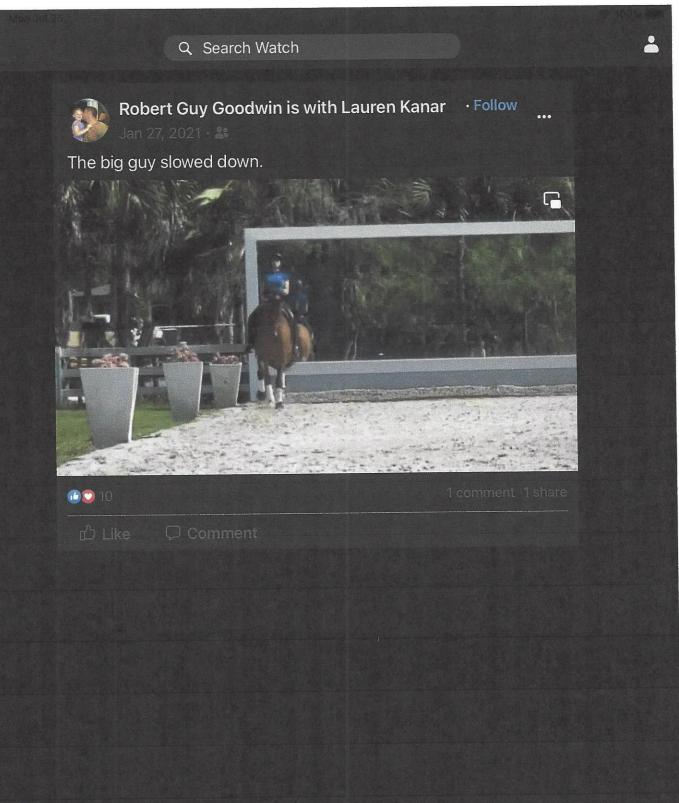
## MRS-L-002250-19 09/04/2022 4:47:45 PM Pg 9 of 21 Trans ID: LCV20223174553



# EXHIBIT B

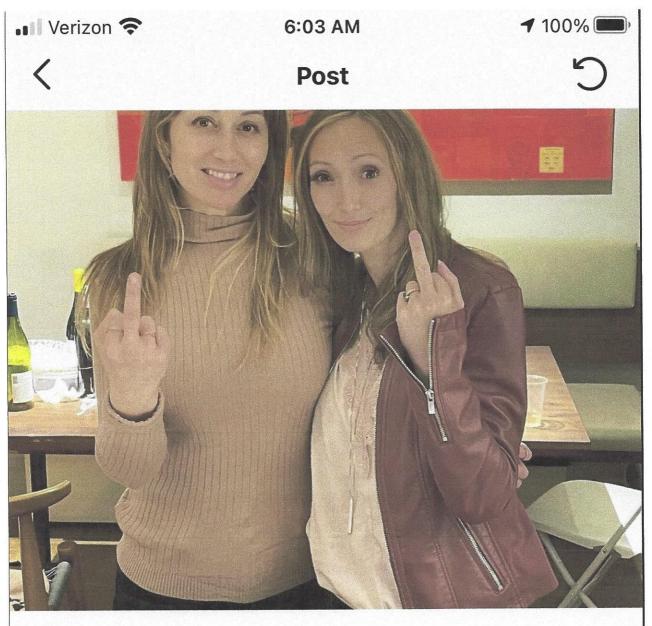


<



# **EXHIBIT C**

MRS-L-002250-19 09/04/2022 4:47:45 PM Pg 14 of 21 Trans ID: LCV20223174553



# V Q V

## 2 likes

**laurenkana** After the party it's hotel lobby.... (Or my other sister's apt...) Big sis and me! #sisterlove Sat night continued! Pic 1. Sending our sentiments to anyone who supports gun violence & those who've tried to take lives Pic 2.... Whatevs. Pic 3. Us imitating people who don't "get," the distinction between "vindicated," and "headed to a max sec psych ward."And yes..... the #truth will absolutely #comeout #rn #standagainstgunviolence #standagainstmurderattempt #equestrianstrong #lookslikethis #equestrianwronged #lookslike..... #tbc .....

MRS-L-002250-19 09/04/2022 4:47:45 PM Pg 15 of 21 Trans ID: LCV20223174553

## 🗤 Verizon 穼

6:05 AM

100%



LAURENKANA **Posts** 



laurenkana New York City, N.Y.



 $O \Delta$ 



## 2 likes

**laurenkana** After the party it's hotel lobby.... (Or my other sister's apt...) Big sis and me! #sisterlove Sat night continued! Pic 1. Sending our sentiments to anyone... more

0 0 0

4 hours ago

MRS-L-002250-19 09/04/2022 4:47:45 PM Pg 16 of 21 Trans ID: LCV20223174553



### $O \land$ $\heartsuit$

## 2 likes

laurenkana After the party it's hotel lobby.... (Or my other sister's apt...) Big sis and me! #sisterlove Sat night continued! Pic 1. Sending our sentiments to anyone ... more

0 0 0

4 hours ago

MRS-L-002250-19 09/04/2022 4:47:45 PM Pg 17 of 21 Trans ID: LCV20223174553

# EXHIBIT D



Iaurenкапа Little Ranches, Wellington



 $\bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \land \blacksquare$ 



laurenkana Ahh, got that off my chest & even made a few more equine pals during part 1 of my 48 hrs interview & shoot! Thanks to Little Ranches for hosting today's festivities! Long day! I'm thinkin Thai food.... 🆓 🚀 🎇 🍞

...

# EXHIBIT E

#### forum.chronofhorse.com

奈 60% ■

MRS-L-002250-19 05/25/2021 12:07:34 PM Pg 6 of 14 Trans ID: LCV20211286785

24 of 48

#### SUPPLEMENTAL INTERROGATORIES

1. Please identify all of your Internet social media and networking websites and/or applications, which you have used and/or maintained an account in the last three (3) years and provide your username and password, or alternatively, under Rule 1.340(c), please provide a copy of all non-privileged content/data shared on the account in the last three 3) years. Internet social media websites include, but are not limited to, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram, Foursquare, YouTube, Pinterest, Google+, Tumblr, Flicker, Skype, FaceTime, etc.

RESPONSE: Objection, overbroad and unduly burdensome. Without waiving, and subject to said objection, I have maintained the following social media accounts in the last three years:

Facebook:	Lauren Kanarek
Twitter:	@LaurenKanKan
Instagram:	@LaurenKana
	@LaurenKanarek
YouTube:	LaurenKanarek1210@gmail.com
Pinterest:	Unknown, I may have briefly had an account
Wassup:	Lauren Kanarek

With regard to postings on the above-referenced accounts, I am not in possession of physical copies of all of the postings, but to the extent they exist they are online.

2. Please identify any and all blog or internet message boards, chat rooms, and public forums that you have participated in or a member of within the last three (3) years and provide your username and password, or alternatively, under Rule 1.340(c), please provide a copy of all non-privileged content/data shared on the account in the last three 3) years. "Internet message board or public forum" includes, but is not limited to, any internet website or service in which users post messages or content in a public-forum."

**RESPONSE:** Objection, overbroad and unduly burdensome. Without waiving, and subject to said objection, the only one I believe I was a member of is Chronical of the Horse, under the user name La-LaPoP Rider. I am not in possession of physical copies of all of the postings, but to the extent they exist they are online.

 For any account identified in answer to Nos. 1 — 2, please describe in detail any and all content that you have deleted or erased on or after August 7, 2019 (and the dates 01013 Christopher L. Deininger, Esq., N.J. Bar ID No. 004271996 DEININGER & ASSOCIATES, LLP 415 Route 10, Suite 1 Randolph, New Jersey 07869 (973) 879-1610; Fax (973) 361-1241 Attorneys for Barisone

LAUREN KANAREK,	: SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW
Plaintiff,	: JERSEY LAW DIVISION – MORRIS : COUNTY
V.	
MICHAEL BARISONE; SWEETGRA FARMS, LLC; RUTH COX; JOHN DOES 1-30; ABC CORPORATIONS 1	: DOCKET NO.: MRS-L-2250-19
20,	
Defendants,	

### **CERTIFICATION OF SERVICE**

I, CHRISTOPHER L. DEININGER, ESQ., certify under penalty of perjury, that on September 4, 2022, I caused true and accurate copies of the defendant MICHAEL BARISONE's **Reply Letter Brief** and **Reply Supporting Certification (with exhibits),** to be served upon the Clerk of the New Jersey Superior Court, and upon all counsel of record, through e-Courts.

I hereby certify the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements are willfully false, I am subject to punishment.

**DEININGER & ASSOCIATES, LLP** 

Attorneys for the Barisone

By : \_\_\_\_\_ CHRISTOPHER L. DEININGER, ESQ.