

AFFIDAVIT

Sheriff's
Polk County



Office
Winter Haven, FL

FORM #9013A - Revised 05/27/10

Agency ORI Number
FL0530000

INCIDENT NUMBER
150046188

JUVENILE ADULT BOOKING # _____ OBITS# _____

IN CIRCUIT/COUNTY COURT IN THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR POLK COUNTY, FL

SUBMITTING MEMBER _____ MEMBER # 1940

DATE /TIME OF ARREST/INCIDENT 9/24/2015 11:00:00

LOCATION OF INCIDENT _____

NOTICE TO APPEAR COMPLAINT AFFIDAVIT _____ ARREST REPORT _____

CITY OF AUBURNDALE(Unincorporated), COUNTY OF POLK, STATE OF FLORIDA



RIGHT THUMB PRINT

THE UNDERSIGNED AFFIANT SWEARS SHE/HE HAS JUST AND REASONABLE GROUNDS TO BELIEVE THAT ON 10/20/15 AT

APPROXIMATELY 11:00:00 IN THE VICINITY OF AUBURNDALE POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA

RINGER,RICHARD _____ ALIAS _____

LAST FIRST MIDDLE PHONE
ADDRESS _____

RACE/SEX W/M DOB HT 604 WT 210 EYE HAZ HAIR BLD COMP BUILD Large

SPEECH SCARS _____ POB UNKNOWN, IL MARITAL STATUS MARRIED

DL# _____ ST FL SS# _____ OCCUPATION _____

EMPLOYER/SCHOOL _____ PHONE _____

JUV-PARENTS _____ PHONE _____ n/a

NOTICE TO APPEAR/OF APPOINTMENT

I AGREE TO APPEAR IN COURT/JAC AT _____, FLORIDA ON 20 AT _____ AMPM TO ANSWER THE CHARGE(S) IN THIS COMPLAINT OR TO PAY THE PRESCRIBED FINE FOR THIS OFFENSE. I UNDERSTAND THAT A WILFUL FAILURE TO APPEAR WILL RESULT IN A WARRANT FOR MY ARREST AND MAY BE A NEW OFFENSE (DO NOT BE LATE).

Defendant/Violators Signature _____ Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

COMMITTED THE OFFENSE(S) OF:

Criminal Mischief \$1000 or more FSS/FAC/CO 806.13(1)(B)3. Counts: 1 LEVEL/DEGREE F3
Agg Stalking Follow/Harass/Cyber-Inj/Death FSS/FAC/CO 784.048(3). Enhanced by 777.085 LEVEL/DEGREE F-2

AFFIDAVIT
CONTINUATION

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CO-DEFENDANT:

Codefendant: RINGER,JOY

VICTIM/WITNESS:

Victim: ELLIS,SCOT	W/M	N/A	6/14/71
Victim: MATHIEU-ELLIS,MARION	W/F	N/A	2/20/85

PROBABLE CAUSE:

Richard Ringer has engaged in a course of conduct over the last year that has caused fear for their lives and great emotional distress to their neighbors, Scot and Marion Ellis. Richard and Joy Ringer's behavior includes a continual pattern of taking videos and photos of Scot and Marion Ellis, the friends that come to their home, including their vehicles and tag numbers. Richard Ringer and his wife Joy Ringer have engaged in verbal abuse of the victims to include derogatory statements about Marion's nationality and that of her unborn child, making threats on their lives and the life of their dog, making numerous unfounded complaints to various government agencies, shining security lights on the Ellis home, and making false statements in court in order to attempt to gain an injunction for protection. Richard Ringer along with his wife Joy Ringer have made Marion Ellis' French nationality a focal point of their anger and contempt by taunting Marion with slurs and anti-French sentiments.

Scot and Marion Ellis are professional water skiers who own a home on Lake Tennessee in Auburndale. They use their dock, boat, slalom courses and ski jump on Lake Tennessee on a regular basis and have the necessary government permits for those items. Soon after the Ringers moved in next door, the Ringer's started to complain about the noise from the ski activities, imagined beach erosion, the amount of friends and vehicles at the Ellis home, the Ellis' dog, and the nationality of Marion Ellis. The Ringer's have bombarded government agencies with emails, photos and videos of the activities at the Ellis home for a significant period of time. The Ringer's trained several video cameras on the Ellis home memorializing the Ellis' every move. Scot and Marion Ellis were put on notice by Joy and Richard Ringer that they were recording their every move. Marion Ellis stated she feels like she cannot move about freely in her own yard or have any privacy without the Ringers recording every movement.

The Ringers pointed bright security lights directly at the Ellis home to include their windows which caused the Ellis' young son sleep deprivation until they were forced to paste cardboard to his window because thick curtains would not block the bright light. The Ringers erected signs on their dock naming controversial French figures presumably in an effort to shame Marion's French heritage. When Marion was questioned about the Ringer's actions, she became visibly distraught and tearful explaining that she was sensitive to this because she was not proud of every action that her country was involved in nor was she particularly proud of the two French figures showcased by the Ringers on their dock. She stated that she wondered why we all couldn't get along because she was also part German in her heritage. She stated that she has made America her home and does not understand the Ringers' deep seated hatred of her. Some of the statements made to Marion by the Ringers' include the following:

"I don't speak frog"

"Having a French frog" - (in reference to Marion's pregnancy)

"All Americans think French are assholes"

It should be noted that the term "Frog" is a derogatory slang word used to describe people of French nationality, akin to racial or ethnic slurs describing Latinos or African American individuals.

All of the government agencies the Ringers have contacted about the Ellis' skiing have closed their cases. The Ringers have not given up and continue to harass and threaten Scot and Marion Ellis, their family and their friends.

Joy and Richard Ringers' motives are made clear in their numerous complaints to DEP and Code Enforcement. The Ringer's numerous complaints about the Ellis's involve not only skiing, but seawalls, concrete blocks, investigative decisions, dog waste, noise, fences, and jump locations. Additionally, Richard Ringer made threats during his injunction hearing to call the Fire Marshall and the Health Department on Scot and Marion Ellis.



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Richard Ringer also made several inaccurate statements under oath at the injunction hearing to include minimizing how many times he contacted code enforcement, DEP, and the Polk County Sheriff's Office.

Joy and Richard Ringer have also targeted Scot Ellis's mother and father, who are both 65 years of age or older, as well as their physically impaired daughter. The Ringers' have made many threatening statements to the Ellis family over time to include a credible threat on their lives and the life of their chocolate Labrador named Rider. Recently State Attorney Chief Investigator Beverly Cone has traveled to the Ellis' home. At that time, she observed animal bones laid out on the Ringers property close to the property line with the Ellis'. These bones were placed in such a fashion as to attract the Ellis' dog onto the Ringers property.

The Ellis' have recently recorded a few of the derogatory statements made to their family after being informed by the Ringers' that the Ringers' were recording their every move. The recorded statements by Joy Ringer toward Janifer Ellis (Scots' mother) include:

"A spiteful bitch you are"

"I admit I pulled the fence up"

"Let your son fight his battles, get him off the tit"

"She (Marion) is only 28, we have a daughter older than that. You know he will be a senior citizen when his kid is in high school"

"You used to be a nice woman, you used to be good looking and now everybody hates you"

"(Your husband) is trying to forget he married you"

"You are a fucking bitch you fucking cunt"

"You can't touch my fucking property bitch. You stay the fuck off of it"

On March 3, 2015 Richard Ringer met with Investigators at the State Attorney's Office in reference to the Ringers' conduct towards the Ellis'. Richard was told their behavior was threatening and upsetting to the Ellis'. Richard was told that his family's behavior must stop or a stalking charge was likely. The Ringer family modified their behavior for a couple of weeks, after this meeting at the State Attorney's Office, and then they became even more aggressive towards their neighbors, the Ellis'.

On September 7, 2015, Scot and Marion Ellis had a substantial wood barrier installed on their property to help manage the flow of water during periods of heavy rain. The barrier, erected between the two property lines, was systematically destroyed by Richard Ringer over the following two weeks. He eventually tore the entire barrier apart and threw it in pieces over the Ellis' chain link fence. The value of the wood and labor involved totaled \$1,138.72. Richard Ringer can be heard on the audio throwing pieces of the wood barrier in anger.

Joy and Richard Ringer's agitation and their continual blast of photos, stills from video, and commentary about the daily activities of the Ellis family have surpassed an intrusive level and are willful and malicious harassment constituting Aggravated Stalking under FSS. 784.048 (3) and 775.085. The Ringer's volatility and the constant barrage of insults, to include slurs on Marion's nationality, have caused great emotional distress to Scot and Marion Ellis and their family and they are fearful for their lives after a direct threat was made to shoot them and their dog. The Ellis' have stated that the separate repeated actions and statements of Joy and Richard Ringer each have placed them in fear of their lives.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME, THE UNDERSIGNED AUTHORITY, THIS

20 DAY OF October 2015

This affidavit was electronically signed

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