
To	kellie_elliott@yahoo.com
Cc	
Bcc	
Subject	Case file

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing in regards to the upcoming Bill to be presented in Ohio on March 8Th, 2022. I am a mother of two beautiful children who were murdered by their father on January 24, 2022. My children and my divorce case are a perfect example why this bill HB508 is a terrible idea for women, men and children who have been a victim of domestic violence and child abuse.

In 2001, I began dating Shane R Elliott. The beginning all was well, life was fun, I felt loved and cared for..... until it wasn't ok. At the time I started seeing Shane I was only 17 years of age. Once the abuse began in 2002 it seemed as though this was normal. The abuse continued throughout the years. The vicious cycle of abuse, love and turmoil continued for 17 years. In 2015 Shane had severely assaulted me. He had spent the evening in the living room with our two children, having a singing party.... Just having a blast with them. Come to find out later, while I was laying in bed and he was attending to the children, he had consumed 22 beers in just 4 hours. Once the children had fallen asleep on the floor, he came into our bedroom and closed the door behind him. He came and pulled me out of the bed by my ankles and grabbed me by my hair slamming me up against the wall. I can remember my head had been slammed against the wall, the tanning bed and dresser and finally against the floor repeatedly. He then began choking me with his arm and said he was going to shoot me and then kill himself so I could watch him die and it would all be my fault. When he got up to get the gun from the closet I ran. I ran to the neighbors house in my panties and a tank top. We called the police and Shane was arrested and I was taken to the hospital. My children, who were laying right on the living room floor, thankfully slept through the entire thing. Shane was at the time charged with Domestic Violence and later given the chance to have it plead down to a lower charge if he followed through with an alcohol substance abuse class. Shane of course followed through and was sober for 1 year. He was then only held with a charge of Disorderly Conduct. I had filed for divorce at that time and also had protection orders for my children and myself. What I have realized through all this is the cycle of abusers is real.

They find a way to get in your head and make you feel like all their actions are your fault. It's your fault they hurt you. I stopped the divorce process later in 2015 and dropped the protection order. This is a perfect example of what an abuser does. Shane followed through with the alcohol rehab classes. He was sober for a year. Shane convinced me that he would never hurt me again. By December 2015 he had put his hands on Caleb. Caleb and Grace had received money from family members for Christmas and when they were told to get their piggy banks Grace's was full (as the kids each should have had about \$700 each) and Caleb's was empty. We soon later found out that Caleb had given most of his money to a little boy on the bus. Shane was irate. He had dragged Caleb downstairs and spanked his bottom so hard he left his bottom black and blue. (I have photos) This wasn't the first time Shane had been abusive to Caleb. Summer prior Shane had tackled Caleb in the yard because he almost pushed Grace into the edge of the deck while they were racing in the yard. Shane was a 6'3 man and Caleb was only 5 years old. Shane tackled him and had him pinned down in the back yard and was screaming in his face. Caleb then pooped his pants because he was so scared. He flipped Caleb over and was hitting him. There are 20 years of abuse I have documented.

In 2018, the kids and I went to a family game night at my parents. Shane had said he wanted to stay home. Shane had mentioned in his text messages that he had been drinking. The kids and I arrived home, he seemed out of sorts. I carried the kids up to their beds and tucked them in. When I came down after getting Grace to bed he was in my face. Yelling and screaming at me because I wasn't making any money. (I had enrolled in school Jan 2018) Prior 4 years I had been babysitting from home. Shane followed me through the house, taunting me and threatening me. I had made it to the kitchen where I was trying to get my shoes. I had hid my keys in the bottom of my boots when I came home. Shane had grabbed me by my hair and pulled me up from putting my shoes on and had his arm around my neck. I remember getting his arm off my neck and running out the back door. I left and called my mom. My mom had suggested I go back and get the kids. When I went back he was waiting by the door. He grabbed my arm and pulled me to the living room. I ran up the stairs to get the kids. He followed. I sat on the floor of Caleb's closet because I knew he wouldn't hit me in front of the kids. He tried to take my phone from me. When he started yelling I ran downstairs so Caleb and Grace wouldn't wake up. Shane kept pulling my arms trying to drag me through the house. He finally got me backed into a corner in the kitchen. He screamed at me for over 2 hours. He ripped the counter tops off the cabinets in anger. Once I finally got away he followed me into the bedroom and made me take my clothes off and sexually assaulted me. This went on for hours through the night. The following day I decided I was leaving.

May 14, 2018, I sent the kids to school on the bus, called my mom and my sister. I told them that I needed their help. I was packing clothes for myself and kids and leaving. I couldn't live through anymore abuse. I took trash bags of clothes for the three of us. I left all furniture, dishes, toys ect. I didn't even take money. I left a note for him when I left. I told him the new schedule for the kids. I decided to do a 2/2/3 schedule with him having evening visits during the week. He would keep them every other weekend at first. As time went I started seeing odd behavior from him. He began spending money like crazy, heavy drinking again and would go days without even asking to see the kids. Before I knew it he had gone 2 months without having contact with them. I remember speaking to him and telling him he needed to see a Dr because his behavior was off the wall crazy. He finally went to the Dr and they diagnosed him with bipolar

depression. He was prescribed several different medications and eventually just refused to take any because according to Shane, the doctors didn't know what they were talking about. He went right back to abusive behavior by saying I was the one who made him seem crazy and now that I was gone he was fine.

In 2019 I filed for a Dissolution. I was trying ever so hard to keep conflict at a minimum and try to be as fair as possible so he wouldn't come after me. He refused to agree to anything. It was mostly over child support and he also felt like a week to week schedule was gonna be best. There was no way I would ever leave those kids alone with him for longer than a day. I needed to know at all times what his state of mind was. There was also no way that he would ever emotionally be able to handle being a full time father on a week to week basis, as he could barely handle the small issues of his own life. The following fall Shane did the same thing and was absent during the kids lives from August to March while going through yet another Manic phase. At this point Shane was very upset and obsessed with our separation, money and I had started dating someone. Shane was extremely jealous and constantly starting arguments and also devaluing our home.

June 2020, I filed for divorce. I was no longer willing to deal with the abuse and turmoil anymore. Shane was refusing to help pay for anything with the kids. Once I filed they also put in an order for me to have full custody and to continue the 2/2/3 schedule. Shane was also ordered to pay child support for both children. Shane refused to take the papers. Court docs even state that they were unable to deliver several times. Through 2020 Shane began keeping the kids on an overnight basis on his parenting time. As time went on, he would refuse to return children on my parenting time (contempt of court motions filed) he also refused to follow parenting guidelines. Shane was never denied the children and had them on a 50/50 schedule, Shane thought the rules didn't apply to him. Shane was sent all sports schedules, Doctor appointments, school functions, birthday parties for kids, band concerts and so much, yet barely showed up to anything unless it was his parenting time. Even on his parenting time I would still end up taking the children to events and taking them back to him.

By 2021 Shane had realized that a GAL would be appointed. He decided to do a 180. All of a sudden he wanted to be super involved and actually he volunteered for the kids spring soccer/football opening day. Which caused him to miss Caleb's very first football game. This was the time Shane began really pushing for week to week, reduction in child support and not continuing the schedule provided by the courts. We always met in a public place due to the inconsistency of his behavior and wanting to keep myself safe. During 2021 Shane's behavior was on a serious decline. He was trying to make people believe that he never had the kids and that I declined him parenting time. Shane indeed had a 50/50 schedule that I followed fully. We also had continued first right of refusal as well. There are several contempt of court charges due his inability to follow court orders. This includes vacations, parenting time and responsibilities of fund for the kids. (EI medical, extra curriculars, school supplies, field trips ect) Also in 2021 Grace was hospitalized and Shane told Caleb that I had Grace admitted to take his parenting time. Grace was running fevers on the daily with rashes, hives and 14-17 hours of sleep a day. She wasn't eating but drinking water excessively. Shane called one time in a 3 day span to check on her. All he was concerned about was when she was going to be released. He never made arrangements to even see her while she was there. When Shane spoke to her while in

the ER, he made her cry, so Grace had requested that he not come. I never told Shane of this. I just waited for him to ask to come see her and he never did.

I ended up firing my Lawyer in 2021 as well, due to having the GAL report and Shane stating that all I was after was control, even providing evidence to the GAL, she overlooked all the evidence and sided with Shane. My lawyer was no longer for the best interest of my children. I hired another lawyer who was listening to me and my concerns. Shane was all over the place emotionally and financially. I could tell by October he was yet again in another manic phase. Usually he wouldn't have Caleb and Grace during these times. When Caleb's birthday came, October 31, Shane refused for Caleb to spend time with me in the time dated on the parental guidelines. The times were 9am to 9pm. I filed a report that day as well with the police. We again had the same issue on Grace's birthday Dec 12. Shane knew what the guidelines were but refused to follow them. He only wanted to follow them on his guided parental times that didn't involve me. He did allow for me to have Grace from 11am to 5pm. But 40 minutes of that was an argument from him causing Grace to be frantic and a mess of tears. I tried to work with Shane so I brought her back at 5pm just so he could see that there can be compromises. Then come December Shane was scaring me. He had begun threatening me, scaring Caleb with his strange behavior. He began responding to questions the kids would have with off the wall responses. Caleb brought these to my attention in December. December Shane also demanded that he have Christmas Eve, Day and the week after Christmas, totally neglecting the time with their mother at all. When we went to court on Dec 21, he was denied all of these. He was to have the kids on Christmas Eve from 8pm to the 26Th at 6pm. Shane also began texting my boyfriend, trying his best to come between us as well. There had already been contempt charges on Shane concerning this as well. He had shown up at my boyfriend's home, stopped at the end of the driveway in an accomplice vehicle and was taking video and pictures of my boyfriend's house. Shane claimed he was only trying to prove that I lived there. This particular weekend he had my children and had left them at someone's house so he could do this. He reached out to my boyfriend again in January trying to do the same thing. Shane wanted complete control of everything. When he lost complete control over my life he lost complete control over himself. He showed this time and time again. His final attempt to show control and abuse towards me was to take the lives of my children. He posted on Facebook after he killed them, blaming myself and the system for his children's murder. He was jealous that I was moving on with my life, that I was happy and my children were happy in our life. Shane was drowning in debt that he seemed to blame everyone else for.

Bill HB508 is a terrible idea for those who cannot have 50/50 shared parenting. There needs to be guidelines. The evidence provided to those who need to see it, should never be ignored. Shane had prior domestic violence, evidence of alcohol dependence and child abuse.

.I requested a Guardian Ad Litem be assigned to our case. Michelle Maciorowski was the GAL assigned. Shane and I both had office visits with the GAL at the end of July. In August, Ms. Maciorowski first visited with Shane in his home and the following week visited my home. Each visit was approximately 30 minutes where she spoke with Caleb and Grace. The GAL report came out at the end of August. This report was full of her opinions and lacked evidence that

was provided to her. After hiring a new lawyer, I asked to speak with Ms. Maciorowski again as I felt more information and evidence needed to be provided in the GAL report. We met in her office in November. I again tried to talk with her and provide her with printed documents, including several character witness letters. She stated that they were irrelevant to the case and the provided documents would not change her mind on her opinions and recommendations she stated in her original report.

I urge you to reconsider the passing of bill HB508. There needs to be checks and balances provided to both parental parties. Each case presented to the courts should be handled individually, no custody case is the same. Automatically giving 50/50 Shared Parenting for every case, could be detrimental to children, especially if they come from a home that has a parent with drug, alcohol, physical abuse and domestic violence tendencies. Each parent's concerns should be heard and evidence should be provided. In addition, the GAL assigned needs to have extensive training and experience so they can make adequate and appropriate recommendations.

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