

From: Michael Marraccini <[REDACTED]>
Date: November 7, 2024 at 10:22:36 AM PST
To: intake@staff.azbar.org
Subject: Owens v. Echard (FC2023-052114)

My name is Michael Marraccini. I am a resident of California and was a subpoenaed witness for the trial of Owens v. Echard (FC2023-052114), which took place before Judge Mata on June 10, 2024.

I am formally notifying the State Bar of Arizona about the disturbing conduct of attorney David Gingras and his behavior in this matter and requesting intervention.

Based on postings online, it appears that there have been other recent complaints filed regarding Mr. Gringas as his behavior has impacted others. Please note this complaint and the extreme harassment that happened to me by Mr. Gingras, is distinct from what may have been reported in recent weeks where he:

1. Posted derogatory comments on his social media referring to people involved this case as "special ed"
2. Announcing his lawyering to a cage fighter named Conor McGregor.
3. Announced that he has somehow been responsible for lawyers being disbarred and incarcerated
4. Publicly disparaged medical experts involved in the case by Tweeting that their work product was a "soft two." (Look up the vile definition on Urban Dictionary)
5. Threatened to make reporters homeless and announced eagerness to read their obituaries

In the days and weeks leading up to the Owens/Echard trial, Mr. Gringas took to unilaterally harass me on the internet, publish private information about me on his personal Twitter and blog, post photos of me and threaten to have me arrested. His incendiary and personal comments about me (a reluctant witness in this case) and threats have been devastating to me and my family. His efforts to intimidate me into not appearing to testify (despite being subpoenaed) was witnessed by thousands of people online. Mr. Gringas then (in person) tried to get have me arrested on June 10, 2024 in violation of laws prohibiting witness intimidation. His efforts to witness tamper were witnessed by court staff and security personnel (contact information below).

The details herein are not conjecture. They are documented because Mr. Gringas broadcasts himself as a "first amendment attorney" which, to him, seems to mean he has a free pass to threaten and bully people with impunity. Mr. Gringas overtly and deliberately tried to intimidate me into not testifying against his client. He posted personal information about me on line. He made disparaging comments on line. His social media postings (as you will read) and his behavior at the courthouse (which court officers and other witnesses will confirm) were intended to bully me into not appearing at trial.

Specifically:

1. Mr. Gringas harassed me by posted on his personal Twitter and blog a full deposition transcript from a proceeding I was involved in 2018 and the entire restraining Order his client obtained against me. **Yes**, in response to me being listed as a witness by Mr. Echard, *and* after the Court denied his Motion in Limine to exclude my testimony, Mr. Gringas opted to publicly harass and threaten me on his personal social media.
2. Mr. Gringas then posted photos of me without my consent on his personal Twitter and blog in further effort to intimate and embarrass me. This was coupled with demanding I talk to him “*man to man*” with him. Officers of the court do not torment and bully like the MMA fighter he compares himself to.
3. Mr. Gringas threatened to have me **arrested** if I showed up at Court and honored the subpoena. He made these threats on his personal Twitter and his blog by posting publishing court filings. He then tried to make good on these threats where his erratic behavior was witnessed by Court staff and security.
4. Mr. Gringas acted aggressively at the courthouse on June 10, 2024. I was not alone thinking he appeared to be hyper aggressive and was literally running around the courthouse. I am attaching the correspondence to the court and court security as well as his bogus claims that the court would be complicit in violating Federal law by having me testify. It is as if he manufactured a legal argument when he was called out for threatening to have me arrested and his unilateral antics on line.

Background:

For a little more context – though I trust this is not the first you have heard of Laura Owens/Mr. Gringas – I was subpoenaed to testify as a witness in the Echard matter. Mr. Echard was the victim of pregnancy fraud by Laura Owens. Other victims were invited to testify including myself by subpoena and witness, Gregory Gillespie (contact info below).

Ms. Owens faked medical records (this is not an allegation, it was admitted) in addition to faking multiple pregnancies. I was a victim in 2016 and was supposed to testify regarding the same. Specifically I was to discuss how Owens lied about ovarian cancer and pregnancy matters during my relationship with her and then that she would falsify abuse allegations to obtain Orders of Protection.

I was contacted by Echard’s attorney Mr. Woodnick who also arranged for Greg Gillespie to testify regarding the common history. Mr. Gringas contacted my California attorney, Randy Sue Pollock (contact information below), who will confirm that he was hostile with his communications.

At first I was reluctant to get involved (his hostility being concerning) but was subpoenaed to testify. I was encouraged (by Echard’s attorney) to talk to Mr. Gringas so he could hear about my experience with his client and the fraud.

Mr. Gringas then tried to get me to talk directly to his client, who has an active restraining order against me. This was strange and concerning and seemed like he was setting me up to violate a court order. I had no desire to talk to Ms. Owens for all of the reasons addressed in court. I knew his request was grossly inappropriate as Randy Pollock will confirm.

I intended on speaking with Mr. Gringas about my experience with Owens. **Gain**, as my attorney, Ms. Pollock will confirm, on the eve of that phone call, Gringas then publicly (and unilaterally) harassed me through Twitter and his personal blog and shared complete transcript of a deposition I did in 2018, maligned me, and posted a picture of me online.

I promptly wrote Mr. Gringras an email outlining my thoughts on the same (attached) to try to explain to him why I didn't want to communicate with him (nor feel safe) due to his aggressive and threatening behavior. Instead of apologizing for his efforts to humiliate me and bully me into not participating, Mr. Gringras *increased his hostility* and publicly accused me of faking Ms. Owens medical records. He maliciously accused me of manufacturing 2500 records in this case. Again, I am *not even* a party to this and was subpoenaed to be there. **He publicly accused me of FRAUD on line!** To insulate myself from his unilateral attacks on me online, I provided my computer to a computer forensic expert who confirmed (of course) that I had not fabricated records as Gringras publicly and falsely accused me of doing.

Mr. Gringras then emailed my attorney Randy Pollock, to tell her that he was going to have me arrested if I attended the trial. This was troubling as the Judge specifically ruled that I was able to testify as he was denied his motion in limine. I was also made aware (because of his Twitter posts) that he had filed something saying he asked law enforcement at the courthouse to arrest me if I showed up on the 10th. I was petrified!

Mr. Woodnick communicated with the Court (I was included in the correspondence and am attaching it) letting the Judge and court police know that I would be there via subpoena (attached). I decided to attend.

The morning of the trial on June 10, 2024, I was already at the courthouse when I learned Mr. Gringras was trying to have me arrested so I would not walk into the courtroom to testify (as the court had already authorized). Fortunately, the law enforcement at the courthouse were wonderful and I would encourage the Bar to discuss what happened with them directly.

Mr. Gringras behavior has caused me and my family significant stress and anxiety and I fear for the safety of my wife and child due to him unilaterally threatenng and harassing me online and in person. **He is a lawyer, not a PR spin doctor on a hit mission.**

- **3.1 – Meritorious Claims and Contentions:** Mr. Gringras abused legal procedure without a good faith basis by repeatedly threatening to have me arrested in his filings and his communications with the Court. Mr. Gringras was aware that I had been subpoenaed and that the Judge had already ruled I could testify yet he tried to physically stop me (by asking officers to arrest me) from entering the courtroom.
- **3.3 – Candor to the Tribunal:** Mr. Gringras knowingly lied to the Court about the California restraining order suggesting that it prohibited me from appearing in court. That is just not the law. He also failed to advise the court of my letter to him explaining my fear for his behavior towards me including his online harassment campaign. He failed to tell the court that he tried to have me talk directly with Ms. Owens (she was asking to talk to me!!!) contrary to the SAME order he was using to try to have me physically stopped from going into the courtroom. *Nothing* in the California Order prevented me from attending a trial I was subpoenaed to attend.

I was present for the trial and saw Mr. Gringras allow his client to lie to the Court but trust that will be addressed by the court.

- **3.4 – Fairness to Opposing Party and Counsel:** I was subpoenaed to be a witness as a former victim of Ms Owens . Mr. Gringras, knowing that I had information that was harmful to Laura, perhaps harnessing his aggressive "Connor McGreggor" persona tried to intimidate me into not testifying by harassing me on twitter and his blog and threatening repeatedly to have me arrested.
- **3.5 – Impartiality and Decorum of the Tribunal:**
He threatened me.

- **3.6 – Trial Publicity:** Mr. Gringas repeatedly tweeted and blogged about me. He posted court documents from a different case in California with Laura, posted the deposition transcript from 2018 and the restraining order against me implying that I was some sort of monster. He also published photos and effectively doxxed me and my family to harm me personally and professional. Because of Gringas, I started getting messages from people on the internet about this case and I still fear for my safety from Laura, her family, and those who support her. I maintain Gringas did all of this to intimidate me into not testifying against Laura.
- **4.1 – Truthfulness in Statements to Others:** All of Gringas' Tweets and blog posts about me are false and misleading. He Tweeted and blogged about me being a liar and claimed I hacked Laura's phone and doctored medical records while blogged about this case in a twisted effort at attention.
- **4.4 – Respect for Rights of Others:** Mr. Gringas publicly tweeted and blogged about me for no reason other than to embarrass me and intimidate me into not testifying.

Witnesses who will confirm what occurred, in addition to the documentation attached confirming everything above:

1. Autumn Stewart; Judicial Assistant to Judge Mata 602 [REDACTED]
2. Sean Gibbs; Director of Court Security [REDACTED]
3. Kevin McGee Court Security [REDACTED]
4. Gregory Gillespie (other witness at the courthouse) [REDACTED] (614) [REDACTED]
5. Clayton Echard [REDACTED] (314) [REDACTED]
6. Steve Carbone reporter at the court house and witness
7. Megan Fox journalist and witness
8. Randy Pollock Esq. my attorney in California [REDACTED]
9. Echard's legal team [REDACTED]@woodnicklaw.com 602 [REDACTED]

I am happy to discuss this further

Mike Marraccini