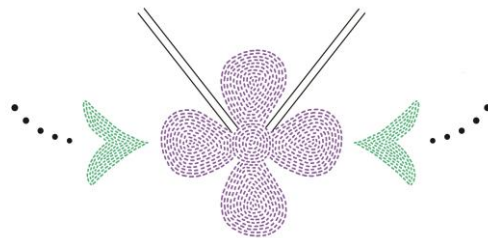


National Inquiry into
Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Women and Girls



Enquête nationale
sur les femmes et les filles
autochtones disparues et assassinées

**National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered
Indigenous Women and Girls
Truth-Gathering Process
Part I Statement Gathering
Westin Hotel
Ottawa, Ontario**



PUBLIC

Wednesday December 12, 2018

Statement - Volume 609

**Rhea Fast, Blade Fast, Kerrigan Fast
& Loretta Pete Lambert,
In relation to Brenda June Jimmy**

Statement gathered by Kerrie Reay

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Statement Gatherer: Kerrie Reay

Documents submitted with testimony: none.

Ottawa, Ontario

1 --- Upon commencing on Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at 6:42 p.m.

2 **MS. RHEA FAST:** Can we discuss as a family
3 before you start if we want it public?
4

5 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** We are starting on the
6 record. Did you want to stop? We can wait though till the
7 end until you've shared and then we can have this
8 conversation as well. We can do that either off the record
9 or on the record.

10 **MS. RHEA FAST:** Okay. We've all chosen
11 public.

12 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. This is Kerrie
13 Reay. I am a statement taker with the National Inquiry
14 into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. And
15 today we are in Ottawa, Ontario. It is December the 12th,
16 2018 and the time is 6:42 p.m.

17 Today I am speaking with Rhea Fast, that's
18 R-H-E-A, last name Fast, F as in Frank, A, S as in Sam, T.
19 Along with Rhea is her daughter Kerrigan, K-E-R-R-I-G-A-N
20 as in Norman, and her son Blade, B as in Bob, L-A-D-E. And
21 they both have the last name Fast. Along with Rhea is her
22 auntie Loretta Pete Lambert, and Loretta is L-O-R-E-T-T-A,
23 Pete P-E-T-E, and Lambert, L-A-M-B as in Bob, E-R-T.

24 And Rhea and her family are from the Little
25 Pines First Nation from Saskatchewan and currently reside

1 in Ottawa. And Loretta, are you in Saskatchewan?

2 **MS. LORETTA PETE LAMBERT:** I am.

3 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. And Loretta Lambert
4 is in Saskatchewan. Today the family is her to speak of
5 Rhea's mum, Brenda June Jimmy, who was taken from this
6 family on July the 19th, 1975 when she was murdered in
7 Edmonton, Alberta. Also in the room, is Laurie Odjick, L-
8 A-U-R-I-E, last name is O-D as in David, J-I-C-K.

9 And Rhea, you're aware that we are video
10 taping and audio taping today and that you and your family
11 are here voluntarily?

12 **MS. RHEA FAST:** Correct.

13 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And we will talk a little
14 bit more about whether you would like your statement to be
15 public or private. You had initially indicated public, but
16 we'll come back to that at the end of -- when you're done.

17 **MS. RHEA FAST:** Okay.

18 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And Rhea, the space and
19 the time is for you and your family and when you are
20 comfortable and ready in invite you to start wherever you
21 feel comfortable as you share today.

22 **MS. RHEA FAST:** Okay.

23 **MS. LORETTA PETE LAMBERT:** I will start the
24 process because ---

25 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Pardon? It's Loretta

1 speaking?

2 **MS. LORETTA PETE LAMBERT:** Yeah, Loretta
3 Pete Lambert speaking. The reason I'd like to start is I'd
4 like to give some context to the situation.

5 We had just -- this was in 1975 and we had
6 just buried my sister and she also had been murdered. And
7 we had just finished burying her. And then the -- her
8 grandpa comes walking up the hill and went -- goes and
9 talks to my father, my dad, and tells him that "My
10 daughter's been murdered." That would be her mother. And
11 everybody, of course, was in shock.

12 So we just lost two members of the family in
13 that month and so I was of course, you know, just young.
14 Brenda, the mum and I were the same age. We were, you
15 know, cousins, first cousins and we were -- we played with
16 each other until we parted ways when I was 15 and she was
17 15. She -- I moved away from my family and she moved, I
18 think, into the city. That's where my memory doesn't -- I
19 don't remember the details, but we never saw each other
20 thereafter, of course, you know?

21 So that's sort of the context of what
22 happened that day, and of course, the grandpa was totally
23 devastated, and our family was totally devastated when this
24 happened. And the thing I was telling Rhea -- Rhea and I
25 met last night at the phone -- in the phone. We talked for

1 about an hour and a half, and then I told her what I was
2 doing. I was also -- I'm a person with standing to the,
3 you know, to the inquiry here, and I told her what I was
4 doing, and I invited her to come over and come see the
5 process at least, and here we are now.

6 And I think it's important to know that -- I
7 believe anyway, that things happen for a reason. Brenda's
8 voice has to be heard. Her story has to be heard. And it
9 has affected her children and her grandchildren who are
10 sitting here. And with us too, like, we really did not
11 know what happened to her until after pieces of information
12 have been shared with us. Despite the fact that our sister
13 was murdered too, it was -- it was devastating for the
14 family, for both families at the time.

15 So -- and I think with Rhea and her children
16 sitting here, it's just a time, I guess to tell and share
17 the story and hoping that the Commissioner will take from
18 here what they can make for recommendations for Canada to
19 change. And I think with -- even with me, I -- after
20 speaking with Rhea last night, you know, reconciling with a
21 child of my cousin and speaking with her last night, I had
22 a really deep, deep conversation mentally, with myself I
23 guess, of course. And I just realized how it impacted me
24 too.

25 And then today when she came to the circle

1 with the Commissioners, that's -- that was I thought,
2 that's the time for her to be able to tell her story. So
3 and then people just seemed to mobilize and made it
4 possible, and I certainly thank you for giving us this
5 opportunity to speak.

6 And that, you know, Rhea, I've never seen
7 her in my life, I didn't even know that her mother had a
8 child when she was murdered. I didn't know Rhea existed.
9 We didn't know. I was too young, I was only 17, the same
10 age as her mother and I was already had a child too, and --
11 but I just -- we just never heard about Rhea. So now there
12 she is. Thank you, Rhea, for letting me speak (inaudible).

13 **MS. RHEA FAST:** My name is Rhea Lynn Fast.
14 I am the daughter of Brenda June Jimmy. At birth my name
15 was Kimberly Ann Jimmy. I was scooped when I was three
16 months old to the family that has me now. I didn't know
17 any of this until I started snooping.

18 I was told that if something had your name
19 on it, it was yours. So I went through my adopted -- well,
20 I don't really call him my adopted dad -- my dad's file
21 cabinet and I saw my name on a manila envelope, and so I
22 went through it. And I found 15 bucks, so I kept it, and
23 then I found a piece of paper with a red seal on it. So I
24 opened up the piece of paper and I started reading it and
25 it said that Kimberly Ann Jimmy, born May 4th, yada, yada,

1 yada. These people witnessed it, the adoption process.

2 So I went upstairs to my dad and I said, do
3 I have a sister? He's like, no. And I'm like, "Well,
4 who's Kimberly Ann Jimmy?" And that's when he told me, "We
5 need to talk." And I was 10. So for 10 years I believed I
6 was white, trained to be white. Probably up until I was
7 28, I was still trained to be white.

8 I had an older daughter at my mum's age, 18.
9 I gave her up for adoption. I just wasn't ready to parent
10 her. And then I moved on in life and became a military
11 spouse. And at that time Kerrigan came along and for me,
12 and knowing, you know, what happened to my mum, now that I
13 know every gory detail, if it wasn't for Kerrigan I'd
14 probably be in the same place. I wouldn't be alive today.
15 And I thank her every day, every single day. I didn't save
16 my life, she did. She saved every ounce of it.

17 Then I had my daughter [Daughter 1], who is
18 21 years old. She lives in Rimouski, Quebec. She will be
19 21 in January. When I had her she was clinically dead at
20 birth. They whisked her away from me and she was a little
21 fighter. So I call her -- she was born in Honolulu, Hawaii
22 in 1998, and I call her my heart of the ocean. Kerrigan's
23 has always been, I love you to the moon and back, with
24 infinity purple smarties attached.

25 Then four years later came the boy I wanted.

1 And my girls, Kerrigan and [Daughter 1], were taken from me
2 because I was in an abusive relationship with my son's
3 father. I found a way out. I was with him for 19 months.
4 I found a way out, this was right after 9-11. I was
5 supposed to fly out on 9-11 to Saskatchewan to meet my
6 family, but our flight was grounded for four days.

7 I climbed down three balconies, pregnant
8 with my son to get away. I went to the Reserve, was told
9 the story, but wasn't told the right story. I was told
10 different versions, to be honest, not the truth at all.
11 But then I couldn't do it anymore. You know, I was raised
12 in the big city and reserve life wasn't for me. But I knew
13 I couldn't speak French, so I had to move somewhere where I
14 was close enough to my daughters that I could get to them,
15 because they were in Quebec.

16 With intergenerational trauma of the abuse I
17 took, and I can tell you I have been abused for 32 years of
18 my life, to the day. One day something -- I don't even
19 know, something in me said I needed to know. So a few
20 police officers, which I will not mention because they are
21 not here -- I will mention, I will not give their names --
22 told me to call Edmonton and I did.

23 And a lady called me back from historical
24 homicide and because I was her only child, she had to ask
25 me questions of what I knew about my mum's murder, or you

1 know, if I knew anything at all, because you know, we don't
2 exhume the bodies. There was no -- I mean the closest
3 familial DNA would have been either my cousin [Cousin 1] or
4 [Aunt 1]. And so, I answered the questions -- excuse me --
5 and she said, "I will give you a call. Just give me a
6 couple days to pull her file." And she kept her word.

7 She called me back and I can tell you by
8 reading this, and then I can go into how it has affected
9 me, my daughters, my son.

10 "British soldier sentenced to five
11 years. Trevor Desmond Riddle, 20 of
12 Bridgewater, Somerset, England, was
13 sentenced to five years Monday in
14 Alberta Supreme Court after he plead
15 guilty to a reduced charge of
16 manslaughter. Riddle, a Private in the
17 British Light Infantry's First
18 Battalion was originally charged with
19 murder punishable by life imprisonment
20 in the beating death of Brenda June
21 Jimmy from Edmonton. The girl's body
22 was found in the rear of an Army truck
23 at the Oriona -- sorry -- Orton's
24 Armouries in Edmonton July 25th. The
25 soldier will be released by the British

1 Forces with which he has served four
2 years. At the end of his prison
3 sentence he will be deported back to
4 England."

5 "A British soldier has been committed
6 to stand trial on the bludgeoning death
7 this July of a young city woman.
8 Trevor Desmond Riddle, 19, was ordered
9 to stand trial by Senior Provincial
10 Court Judge Carl Ross following a day
11 long preliminary hearing a publication
12 ban was granted on the evidence
13 introduced, preventing its release."

14 The detective phoned me and, you know, we
15 talked, and you know, she told me what tattoos she had, the
16 gas had already eaten away at her skin, so they couldn't
17 make out what kind of tattoos they were, except her and
18 [Aunt 1] had the same cross on the same wrist. And there
19 was a mix up actually -- what nobody know is there was a
20 mix up, because my mum Brenda had my aunt [Aunt 1]'s ID
21 that night, because she needed to be 18 to get into this
22 bar in Alberta.

23 So my aunt [Aunt 1] gave her her ID and my
24 mum when to this bar. She was with four women. Those
25 women I don't know to this day. She met -- all the girls

1 met these Infantry soldiers and Trevor asked my mum, "Do
2 you want to take a walk?" "Okay" she said.

3 Without me getting the file from the
4 Edmonton homicide, which they are more than willing to give
5 me because I have more than proven that I am her child, and
6 it is because of my children I don't seek to get that file.
7 As much as I want to read the names of the girls that -- I
8 mean, there's different parts of anger, the girls that let
9 her go, and me being a mum.

10 It was hard on Kerrigan, because they
11 weren't a part of my life for 12 years, and I got sick and
12 I was in the custody battle for my life, like with -- for
13 Blade. So my daughters didn't see me for 12 years. I knew
14 Kerrigan would always return home because she'd always tell
15 me, "Mommy, as soon as I turn 18, I'm coming home." And
16 she did.

17 Blade, I fought for tooth and nail with
18 everything I had, and I finally won full custody of him.
19 The abuse that he suffered at the hands of his father. My
20 mum -- you know, she's my little toughy, you know, she'll
21 tell me some days, don't cry -- don't cry mommy, and she's
22 now crying. We were robbed of a life we'll never know.

23 The picture I have on our phones is the only
24 picture we have of her. That day Trevor Desmond Riddle
25 took apart my entire life, stole everything from me. Who I

1 was, who I became, to who I was becoming. Because of this
2 (inaudible). And I try to tell my girls and unfortunately,
3 I've pushed away my own daughter, because she was raised in
4 a small city with maybe 5,000 people. Coming to the big
5 city, being (inaudible). I didn't have her for that 12
6 years, so I wanted to hold on to her.

7 I didn't want to let go because all that
8 came through my mind and maybe I shouldn't have taken that
9 phone call that day. Because I was afraid I'd get a phone
10 call, I was afraid for my phone to ring. It's not that I
11 didn't trust her, this whole time I've envisioned her in
12 the back of a truck. People say she looks just like me, so
13 she looks just like my mum. And I was having nightmares
14 for a while, and I got put on some PTSD medication.

15 At -- it was my kids and I would tell
16 Kerrigan all the time, don't go downtown. It's different
17 than a little city. It's different than a little town. I
18 mean, it wasn't even as big as Lloyminster, of the whole
19 town, and not even the size of North Battleford. And
20 wanting to protect the daughter that saved me.

21 Because even though [Daughter 1] is the
22 fighter, she fought to stay alive and she's my heart of the
23 ocean. Kerrigan is my miracle child. She's the 3 percent
24 they don't tell you on the side of the birth control box.
25 I was having my period and everything. Couldn't find her

1 in bloodwork, couldn't find her in urine.

2 So they finally did an ultrasound to find
3 out what was going on. And I was, you know, in the room
4 and the girl's taking all the pictures. She said, "I'll be
5 back in a second." I said, "Okay." And then walked
6 straight out to the radiologist, the doctor, and he's
7 looking, and he's looking. And he says, "Well, something's
8 going on here." I said, "What do you mean?" He turned
9 around the computer and he says, "You're 13 weeks
10 pregnant."

11 And that's when I knew what love was, was
12 the first time in my life. For the first time, even though
13 she was the size of a bean, I knew love for the first time.
14 I was raised by a wealthy family. Blade is the only
15 namesake to that family and with Blade -- because I was
16 told [Daughter 1] was a boy for eight months -- and then
17 I'm at the (inaudible) Medical Centre giving birth and --
18 because my ex-husband was special ops, he was a Marine.

19 And he was in the birthing room with me and
20 I think it was actually the night of the Superbowl, because
21 they were -- it was the Green Bay Packers playing and they
22 were all wearing cheese hats. And I thought for eight
23 months I was told she was a boy and, no. There was this
24 other little girl, eight pounds, 11 ounces, and looked like
25 a monkey.

1 Then came Blade. And the saddest thing
2 about my intergenerational trauma, because of what has
3 happened, is my dad and I, we didn't get close until I had
4 a boy. Because in the German world, boys are the sacred
5 ones, women are to be in the kitchen cooking, making
6 dinner.

7 I have been beaten my whole life and I think
8 still to this day -- because I didn't know this story when
9 I became a military spouse, I hadn't found them yet. And
10 to look at your living grandfather and him ask you, you
11 know, "What do the girls' dad do?" And I had to say,
12 military, and here my mom was killed by a military man, Mr.
13 Riddle. He'll be emblazoned.

14 I asked the detective one question I needed
15 to ask her, one question I needed and my kids to know, was
16 if she suffered. And she said, "No, it was very quick." I
17 said, "Is it true that he took half her head off with a
18 full can of gas, jerry can?" She said, "Yes, it is." I
19 said, "Is it true that he encased her in gas cans to
20 conceal her body?" She said, "Yes, it is."

21 I have so much anger and so do my children,
22 and my children do resent some of the Jimmy family because
23 we have been lied to for 17 years. It's like I was telling
24 my auntie and some of the other ladies I met today, you
25 never -- I don't care who you are, you never forget the

1 name of the person that killed your sister, or your
2 brother. It's just not something you forget. It's just
3 not something you'd brush under the carpet and say, "Okay.
4 Let's move on and have another day."

5 So I had to find him on my own. My daughter
6 was a work, I wouldn't pick up the phone. She called my
7 adopted daughter, she said take the -- kick the door down
8 if you have to, mommy's not answering. Call the police.
9 That day after finding out the truth. And the detective
10 said one thing to me. She said, "Take comfort in the fact
11 that, you know, she was you know, a strong woman." I'm
12 like, you want me to take comfort in the fact that she was
13 a strong woman? She said, "What I meant by --" she said,
14 "I meant no disrespect." She said, "Please take comfort in
15 the fact that your mother fought for her life. That that
16 man will have scars on his body, on his face from her for
17 the rest of his life."

18 She asked me if I would like the file. And
19 I talked to my kids about it and they said, "No, mommy,
20 don't." For me, after knowing all this, safety is key for
21 my kids. Especially for my daughters. You don't walk
22 away. I don't think I'll ever walk away from it. And some
23 days I wish there was one picture that would miraculously
24 turn up of her holding me, or somebody finding a picture of
25 her holding ---

1 I'm going to take a little breather and I'm
2 going to let Kerrigan speak.

3 **MS. KERRIGAN FAST:** I never knew about
4 having a grandma that was murdered until I moved home in
5 Ottawa four years ago. When I was with my dad, I never
6 knew I had a family in Saskatchewan. I never knew that --
7 I knew I was Native, but I didn't know what it was about.
8 I learned everything when I got here four years ago. About
9 the huge family that I have back home, about my culture,
10 and what's in the culture, how it works.

11 And then my mum told me that she was
12 adopted. I knew she was adopted, I didn't know for what
13 reason until she told me four years ago. When I found out
14 that my grandma was murdered it hurt like hell, even though
15 I didn't get the chance to meet her because this guy was
16 selfish and murdered her because she said, no.

17 When my mum found out why, like she said, I
18 was at work. I left work to come to the house and I called
19 the police because mentally, she was breaking down. Then
20 she asked me if it would be a good idea if she got the
21 files and I said, "No, because look at you now. You don't
22 even know the details and in those files, there will be
23 pictures, more details than what you already have, which is
24 going to hurt you even more." I'm like, "You have the
25 details that you wanted. You wanted to know who did it and

1 why." I told her she didn't need the pictures because it
2 was just going to make everything worse.

3 Even though in the situation that we didn't
4 get files, it made everything worse for her. Because then
5 the detective gave her all the information. She looked up
6 the guy and it went as far as she contacted him, telling
7 him that he took away everything from her, a mother, a
8 grandmother, a sister, and aunt. And she went through hell
9 in her whole life.

10 And even when she said that she was
11 protecting me this whole time, I realized it one night in
12 the summer. I went to the bar with my friends and I was
13 drugged. I found myself in the hospital the next day,
14 didn't know how I got there, didn't know how I called the
15 ambulance myself. And that's when I realized that my mum
16 was doing everything in her possible way to prevent
17 anything happening to me.

18 I was being selfish. I was telling her,
19 "I'm 22. I'm old enough. I know what's going on. I'm not
20 stupid. I'm going to be safe." And after that night I
21 realized it takes one little thing to turn your whole life
22 around. When I was at the hospital the doctor said if I
23 had more milligrams of whatever I had in my system that
24 would have been it. I was on oxygen, heart monitors, all
25 night. I was passing out. I stopped breathing for a few

1 minutes and like I said, if it would have been more -- a
2 few more milligrams of what I had, that would have been it
3 for me.

4 And that was the first time I've ever went
5 to that bar, and the last. I've been to bars since I was
6 17 and nothing has ever happened like that and when that
7 happened, I realized -- I look at my friends, I'm like, now
8 I know why she was so protective of me going downtown with
9 people I don't know. Because that night I went to a bar --
10 I went to that bar with people I don't know. I knew my
11 friend which, it was her birthday, everybody else in that
12 group, I did not know.

13 Even though I don't live with her anymore,
14 we've been through hell and back for the last six, seven
15 months. I so want to thank her for everything that she's
16 done and keeps doing, and protecting me, even though I'm
17 being hard-headed. It's coming to the point that I'm
18 realizing that people do mistakes, you can't prevent the
19 mistakes that you do, but you learn from them.

20 I always told her -- I always thought since
21 I've been home, why is it so hard for her knowing that
22 someone killed her mother? Why is it so hard even though
23 she didn't know her? And that answered my question. It's
24 because the guy robbed her from her life. Robbed us from a
25 grandmother.

1 And I don't mean to say this being mean, or
2 non-sentimental, but if that didn't happen, she wouldn't
3 have had us. She wouldn't have had the life and the
4 children that she has now. She would have had a different
5 life. Even though it's hard to say, things happen for a
6 reason. Even though it means losing someone. If there
7 wasn't for that moment, she would not have the children
8 that she has now and the support that she has now from
9 everyone.

10 And even though I didn't meet my
11 grandmother, every year, everywhere -- every year we go to
12 the beach and lay down flowers in the river and say hi to
13 her. Every year we celebrate her birthday and her death by
14 going to the river and putting roses in the water and just
15 watching them go away, because my mum did not have a chance
16 to say goodbye. Nobody had the chance to say goodbye.

17 The guy that did this will have this on his
18 consciousness for the rest of his life, even though he
19 wants to deny it or hide it. He killed someone that didn't
20 deserve to die.

21 **MS. RHEA FAST:** When Kerrigan went out that
22 night, I knew she was lost the next day on the phone when I
23 talked to her. She was hanging out with a girl that
24 Kerrigan was 28 times too smart to be hanging out with.

25 And for me, I have one man and Kerrigan has

1 thanked him, who literally, literally saved my life. And
2 he was Chief of the Whitefish Police Department in Montana.
3 It was 1989 and that was the day I almost died.

4 Three men had taken me while I was walking
5 home from a friend's. They shoved me in the trunk of a
6 black car, did everything possible to me on the way to
7 Montana that they could. I was broken, battered and
8 bruised, bloody, and they made one mistake. I told them I
9 needed to go to the bathroom, and I knew that the bathrooms
10 were behind like, where the (inaudible) and I saw an
11 emergency exit and I ran across the street to a drugstore.

12 Blood everywhere. Blood in between my
13 thighs. And I looked at the lady and I said, "A police
14 station." She said, "We have stairs leading to one right
15 here." And 28 years later I find him and thank him for
16 getting me home even though I was already out of the house
17 by then, he still got me home to my family. I thank him to
18 this day, and if it was not for him, and if it was not for
19 her, there would be no me. Your turn sporty.

20 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Here you go, Blade.

21 **MR. BLADE FAST:** Since my mum had my sister
22 Kerrigan she has -- and then had my sister [Daughter 1],
23 and then had me, she's done everything possible for us. As
24 my sister previously stated, she's hard-headed and
25 stubborn, but so am I. As my mum previously stated, I was

1 abused by my father, as my mum was abused by her dad as
2 well.

3 When I was around two or -- around two, I
4 asked my mum, "Where is my dad?" That night he called, and
5 when I was nine if it wasn't for me screaming and telling
6 him I wanted to go to a foster home, I wouldn't be alive.
7 If it was not for my mum's help, I would not be here.

8 And I was in fostering for two and a half
9 years, went through a rough patch, then my sister came
10 home. I was cliché sibling rivalry. I got jealous and
11 then I learned the hard way by getting placed back into a
12 group home, and learnt that she didn't have my mum for 12
13 years. That she didn't know about the culture. She didn't
14 have her little baby brother. She didn't know anything,
15 and she didn't have my mum and I did for my whole life.

16 And then I'm starting to also realize now
17 that if it was not for my sister, my mum would have not had
18 me and would have not had my sister [Daughter 1]. And if
19 it was not for my mum helping me through the post-abuse
20 that I suffered from my father, I'd also not be here. And
21 if it was not for my sister Kerrigan, I would not be here.
22 And if it was not for my other sister, [Daughter 1], I
23 would not be here.

24 Yes, I'm stubborn and sometimes ungrateful
25 to all three of my family members. I'm slowly starting to

1 realize now that they've been the only three people that
2 has supported me through everything and an officer that my
3 mum said previously, that I'm not going to mention, who has
4 supported us through everything that has happened, past,
5 present, and what I may need in the future. But the
6 officer stated that the officer would always be in our
7 lives today. And this was four years ago.

8 **MS. RHEA FAST:** And that's why me and my
9 kids, my daughters, I didn't know my daughters were being
10 hit until Kerrigan came home. I had no clue. And it
11 wasn't by Kerrigan's dad, it was by her stepmom.

12 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Can we take a break?
13 Blade is looking for a break. Do you want to stop or keep
14 going? It's 7:40.

15 --- Upon recessing at 7:40 p.m.

16 --- Upon resuming at 7:46 p.m.

17 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. We are back on the
18 record. It is 7:46 and for the record Loretta Pete Lambert
19 has left as she has another commitment and Rhea, I invite
20 you to -- when you are ready ---

21 **MS. RHEA FAST:** Well, I left off -- one
22 thing I told myself when I had my kids, that I would never,
23 not in a million years hit them, because I didn't want to
24 be like my dad. Then when I found out -- when I picked
25 this little one up in Montreal, I hadn't laid eyes on her

1 in 12 years, off the bus comes this little girl, five foot
2 two. I was so proud. I just looked at her. I said,
3 "She's mine."

4 Then her and I got into an argument one day
5 and to this day I forget what it was over. I think it was
6 either because she couldn't get a dog or she couldn't get a
7 cat, but it was something. And she laid it out all -- she
8 laid it out there, all of it. Swearing at me, "Where have
9 you been? Why no phone calls?" At that point in time,
10 that's when I had to tell them I was sick and that I had to
11 fight for Blade because Blade had no one else to fight for
12 him.

13 I crawled in between her little legs and the
14 hardest thing to do is ask a child for forgiveness,
15 forgiveness that I wasn't there, but I made her a promise.
16 You now, she -- she's stubborn because she's like me.
17 Okay, maybe they're all like me. But her the most,
18 characteristics in her are to a tee, if you even look at
19 us. Like, my tattoo guy down the street, he'd never met
20 her before and she went in and he goes, "I know whose kid
21 that is."

22 And asking for forgiveness from your
23 children because you weren't there, because you were
24 thinking you were doing the right thing for the other one,
25 and then finding out your little girls were being abused,

1 and thrown over couches, chairs, tied to a chair. A
2 daughter at 14 that I couldn't be more proud of, youngest
3 soccer coach ever, and she didn't see one dime of that.

4 So when I knew Kerrigan -- I knew her, you
5 know, her 18th birthday was coming up. I was engaged at the
6 time. My ring had an insurance policy with it. And she
7 said, Mommy I just want to finish out my credits here and
8 then I'm coming." And I said, "Okay, baby. You let me
9 know." But then I took out my knees at Calypso and she
10 came home early.

11 And I knew I had to provide for her for
12 three months until she could get OHIP. So I took that
13 diamond ring and the insurance policy, brought it back to
14 the jeweler, got the money put back in my account and I
15 didn't look back. I knew I had to pay for her medical, all
16 her doctors visits, all her medicine, until we could get
17 her Status Card back on track.

18 And my dad and I don't always see eye to
19 eye, and my kids are, you know, quite angry with him that,
20 you know, he's seen my oldest daughter more than he's seen
21 them. But he's the one who told me the day that you can
22 apologize to your child -- and it wasn't even something I
23 did wrong, it's because of who I was with.

24 And with Blade, a 10 pound, 11 ounce nugget,
25 and I'm finding out he was abused. I will personally tell

1 you that I messaged Kerrigan's stepmom once I heard the
2 story from both girls at different times, and it was not
3 the same story, but pretty close, so I knew they weren't
4 lying because I asked them in different ways. And I told
5 her, "There's two places you can go. You can stay in
6 Quebec, you can go to Victoria. Anywhere in between, it's
7 not going to be a happy sandwich." His father stays in
8 hiding in Barrhaven because he knows also, and I believe,
9 you know SACA is taking care of it at this point.

10 And I think about maybe they're right, you
11 know? Maybe if I would have gone to San Diego with my mum
12 and she, you know, opened up her own practice, had umpteen
13 alphabet letters under her name, Kerrigan's probably right,
14 they would have never been born.

15 **MR. BLADE FAST:** If I may say something?
16 Kerrigan was also pointing out, if that night never
17 happened, if kookum never went to the bar, we would
18 possibly never have been born. Because Kerrigan stated
19 that everything happens for a reason, even though Brenda
20 did not deserve what happened that night. Nobody should
21 ever have to suffer that -- a pain like that. And you
22 would have never had us.

23 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Would it be okay if I ask
24 a question?

25 **MS. RHEA FAST:** M'hm.

1 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** At three months old when
2 your mother was taken from you, were you in Edmonton?

3 **MS. RHEA FAST:** I was at my uncle Sylvia and
4 my uncle Wess' house because they were babysitting me. And
5 my uncle Wes came into my room and -- because they had my
6 little crib and stuff there -- and he came into my room and
7 he kissed my forehead and when he got back from work, I was
8 already gone.

9 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Were you ever given any
10 indication as to whether the Child Welfare Services had
11 looked for your family?

12 **MS. RHEA FAST:** Had looked for my family?
13 No. There is indication though, that -- and my kids can
14 attest to it -- that without a doubt something -- somebody
15 is hiding something. And with the money that rolls through
16 my dad's hands, I can guarantee you my birth certificate
17 was changed so that my family couldn't find me. But he'll
18 never tell me the truth.

19 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** One of the things that
20 comes with the Inquiry is the ability to subpoena
21 documents. And would you be comfortable if we looked to
22 subpoena those Child Welfare documents for the
23 Commissioners to look to, to try to understand how you were
24 taken and not (inaudible) family?

25 **MS. RHEA FAST:** All I was told was I was

1 taken in the night.

2 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** In the night.

3 **MS. RHEA FAST:** Yeah.

4 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** There's some -- there's an
5 organization that the Inquiry is working with called FILU.
6 The Family Information Liaison Unit.

7 **MS. RHEA FAST:** I've heard about it briefly,
8 yes.

9 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** And I can put you in touch
10 with people from FILU in Alberta that might be able to help
11 you, if you are interested, if you are wanting. And that
12 may be a decision that you may want to take time to
13 consider with your family. There's no rush. But if it is
14 something that you would like to explore, or at least have
15 a conversation with somebody from the organization, I can
16 put you in touch with someone.

17 **MS. RHEA FAST:** Our family doesn't trust
18 well. I'd be interested in it, but as I was explaining to
19 Laurie, when she walked across the room to me, and I felt
20 it, it wasn't my shoes. My body went like this, and I
21 totally believe -- I love you mommy -- totally believe my
22 mum shoved me and I was supposed to meet Laurie and was
23 supposed to hug her. At first, I thought I was just off
24 balance on my new shoes, but then I realized I wasn't
25 standing on anything and my entire body just went.

1 And I know what -- I don't even want to
2 think that I understand the hell that she goes through on a
3 daily basis, but I do understand it, because I have two
4 daughters, and I've kept up on their story. If they needed
5 volunteers, if police were in, it's just a matter of not
6 being able to, you know, get out to -- get out there to
7 help and look. Or they weren't having, you know, sometimes
8 -- for that little boy who drown this summer whose mother
9 was just charged with it, they had like volunteers brought
10 in by bus or whatever.

11 So after everything I did and went through
12 this afternoon to now, while I was waiting outside for my
13 daughter, this girls, like I said, had all her bags and she
14 had spilled her 7UP everywhere. Everything was drenched.
15 Her phone, her cards. So I Ubered her home. And I tell my
16 kids not to be hateful because their mum would -- my mum,
17 their grandmother and their Oma, would want better of them.

18 So whatever documents you can find that me
19 and my kids can read, I would -- and I don't know how to
20 get and I don't know how much it is. I was going to ask
21 you about it, if that would fall into the aftercare. I
22 want a copy of my live birth certificate. I don't have a
23 copy of that -- or my live birth registration.

24 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** The FILU program that I'm
25 speaking about can help you with that. They're there to

1 help in getting you the documentation that they can -- that
2 can be released. There may be, you know, some that can't.
3 But what can be released they will help you access them.
4 They can help you get that.

5 **MS. RHEA FAST:** All I know is I was born at
6 the Charles Camsville (Phonetic) Hospital and then it
7 turned into an orphanage, and then it burnt down. No
8 longer stands. So I don't know where all those records
9 went. I don't know if they were saved. I don't know.

10 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Have you reconnected with
11 your mother's family? You spoke about your auntie here.
12 Is that all?

13 **MS. RHEA FAST:** I -- when my kids found out
14 that I had been lied to for that long by my own blood,
15 there's no connection left.

16 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

17 **MS. RHEA FAST:** Except with my auntie
18 because, you heard her, she didn't even know I existed and
19 her sister [Aunt 2], are my cousins that I call them
20 auntie. But other than that, I don't want any connection.

21 I look at my kids and something you guys
22 kept saying to me all day, it's my family. They are my
23 family. Him, her, and [Daughter 1], that's my family. And
24 I see Laurie over there shaking her head, yes. That is who
25 my family is. And until they're safe, until they have

1 jobs, finish school, I will protect them with everything I
2 have because never do I want that phone call, like you
3 heard my auntie Loretta say, like grandpa. Never.

4 And I know she's with us. I knew she was
5 here today, because when I was sitting down eating lunch,
6 just felt this coldness and I had turned around to see if
7 somebody had walked by me, like the cold breeze. There was
8 no one there.

9 And some days I look at her picture, or I
10 look at my adopted mum's picture and I just ask them for a
11 sign. Then I go look in the mirror and I look at the
12 person staring back at me, and I'm that sign, because I'm
13 still here and they are gone.

14 So even though Mr. Riddle got to take away
15 everything from me, he didn't realize mama bear had a cub,
16 and he didn't realize that cub would turn into a mama bear,
17 and have her own three cubs. And I will have my vengeance
18 in this life, or the next. Whether it's to look at him and
19 say, "Hey, here I am five foot nine. You picked on
20 somebody who was five foot three. So pick on me." But it's
21 like I said to Laurie, now I need a whole different
22 passport to go find him.

23 And what the Commissioner can bring to the
24 RCMP, or the Edmonton Police Service, or even Tribal
25 Police, whatever is on whatever reserve, is more respect,

1 more compassion, more empathy, more understanding, and not
2 so much hatred. And give somebody a sentence of four years
3 for destroying an entire family, that is what they can do.

4 **MR. BLADE FAST:** Or as he thought,
5 destroying the whole entire bloodline.

6 **MS. RHEA FAST:** He thought he would destroy
7 the entire bloodline, but then I was told why there was a
8 publication ban put in place, and it was because he knew
9 about me. But I don't think he thought I'd ever find him.

10 And what they can do, even though my mum's
11 assault, although I don't think four years assault -- but
12 what they can do, and usually I'm not this, you know, nice
13 and polite, usually I'm a straight shooter and I'll just
14 say what I need to say and if you don't like it, oh well.
15 What they need to do is they need to treat these other mums
16 that are still looking and if they hear something, don't
17 wait weeks to look into it. Don't wait months to look into
18 it. Go that day. Go look at that clue that day. Because
19 that day might be the only one that mattered.

20 And just like our friend, and our cousin
21 Brendan Ahenakew in Saskatchewan, that RCMP officer drove
22 by his car on fire. By the time the RCMP got there to put
23 it out, Brendan was already dead in the car. So even
24 though I was treated with the most compassion, and the most
25 empathy, and the most understanding from my portable action

1 figures in blue, there need to be more and I 100 percent
2 believe this.

3 And it's not a prejudicial thing, it's not a
4 race thing, but every nationality should have their own
5 policing. Every nationality.

6 My daughter asked me one day, I remember
7 this, she asked me why I was prejudice. And I told her,
8 "Go read up about the genocide to our people and what's
9 been done to our people, and our children, our parents'
10 children, her grandparents' children. Go look, go read and
11 you'll understand why." I was born, but I was trained to
12 be racist. I was trained it every day. And a part of me
13 always will be, because that's all I know. That's all I
14 know.

15 Though what Kerrigan was saying about her
16 knowing why I was protecting her the way I was, think about
17 Laurie and her daughter and that she's never been found
18 yet. So again, he may have taken my mum, he didn't take my
19 family. I got my family. But what they do need is more
20 resources to find these women, to find these girls. And if
21 anything should happen, let it happen in my life, so at
22 least my children can have peace in theirs.

23 And other than that, Mr. Riddle will meet
24 karma someday. He's still in my nightmares, those elfin
25 ears. But sleep now, mama, your story's been told. You

1 can rest now.

2 That's all I have to say.

3 **MS. KERRIE REAY:** It takes a lot of courage,
4 it takes a lot of strength to come and to share. And what
5 I'd like to do is just turn off the video camera to give
6 you a moment, and then we'll come back on just to finish
7 the paperwork. But give you a chance to take a deep
8 breath. Okay. So it's 8:21.

9 --- Upon recessing at 8:21 p.m.

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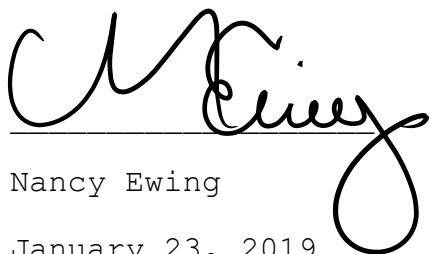
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LEGAL DICTA-TYPIST'S CERTIFICATE

I, Nancy Ewing, Court Transcriber, hereby certify that I have transcribed the foregoing and it is a true and accurate transcript of the digital audio provided in this matter.


Nancy Ewing
January 23, 2019