



Judge Paul F. Sheridan  
Fairfax County Circuit Court  
Fairfax, Virginia

September 20, 2024

To the Honorable Judge Paul Sheridan,

I am the President of Wings for Justice, a National Domestic Violence Non-Profit Organization. I have been working personally on Ms. Rohini Hughes case for the past several years and we've reviewed all of her evidence and testimony and fully vetted that she and her children were abused repeatedly by her ex husband, Lieutenant Colonel Matthew Hughes. Her court records and transcripts also indicate that the Fairfax County Family Court was extremely biased against her and sided with their colleague that practices in the same county as a Family Court attorney. She was vetted and selected by Congress to give her testimony of her abusive ex-husband and the bias shown against her because of judges too afraid to stand up to an Air Force JAG attorney and family court. Soon thereafter, Lieutenant Colonel Matthew Hughes retaliated against his ex-wife and son for exposing the truth of his abusive actions, including attempted murder. Within one month of Lieutenant Colonel Hughes filing this defamation lawsuit, he received a promotion in rank, and with that came an increase in pay grade. He is also a family law attorney practicing in Fairfax County, Virginia and has shown no proof that he has lost any business or standing in the community.

Ms. Hughes had a pro bono attorney who filed motion to dismiss in 2020 that was ignored by Fairfax County Court. She filed an epraecipe in 2023 to have that motion heard and it seems to have been set aside unheard. You were then brought on to this case, Judge Sheridan, because all of the Fairfax County judges had to recuse themselves because of their working relationship with a high ranking attorney that practices in Fairfax County Court rooms on the regular.

Colonel Hughes filed motion to dismiss a jury trial but did not serve proper notification to Ms. Hughes so she didn't attend the hearing. Fairfax County Circuit Court did not verify that Ms. Hughes was properly served via email nor by her confidential address at the Virginia State Attorney General's office. She found out her jury was dismissed several months later. Last year, Ms. Hughes filed a motion to get her jury trial back and also to have this

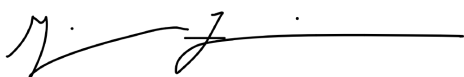


whole defamation lawsuit dismissed for lack of merit. Ms. Hughes and her young adult son have been homeless as they have been on the run and hiding from Lieutenant Colonel Hughes. Fairfax County Court has thrown out evidence and ignored her testimony of the abuse and her children have suffered. This is a disturbing pattern for military families, which is why Miss Hughes was invited to speak before the Senate armed forces subcommittee. One of the other witnesses was also put through a defamation trial by her ex-husband as well. The length these military abusers will go to no bounds.

As disclosed at the hearing on March 21, 2024, Ms. Hughes was diagnosed in fall of 2023 with stage four colon cancer. Her prognosis is not good and even in her weakened condition she continues to try to prepare her case as a pro se litigant. She has expained in her Motion of March 15, 2024 that she does not have the means financially, nor the physical stamina in her weekend condition entering the final stages of colon cancer, to travel to Fairfax County in person. She filed to have her and her witnesses appear via zoom but this is now been denied with very late notice three days before the trial begins. Considering that Fairfax County has allowed zoom appearances regularly since 2020, she should be allowed to appear via zoom.

The fact that this case continues even with no preponderance of evidence that there has been any damage done to Lieutenant Colonel Hughes and the fact that she spoke absolute truth and was vetted by Congress is appalling to us as a domestic violence organization. Furthermore, the intent of Colonel Hughes appears to be to inflict more pain on his victims as he knows Ms. Hughes is impoverished to the point of homelessness, squeezing blood from a turnip so to speak. Why is a dying woman being put through even more abuse at the hands of Lieutenant colonel Matthew Hughes even while fighting stage four colon cancer? The Due Process violations that our team has seen repeatedly in her case over the last several years is extremely disturbing to say the least. We are respectfully requesting that this matter be dismissed and that her motions are considered so that she can live the rest of her days in peace free from her abuser.

Kind Regards,



Gina L. Fischer  
President, Wings For Justice

