

The Truth They Didn't Want You to Hear: My Silenced Testimony at Sunnie's HRO Trial

They refused to let me speak. My voice was shut out, my experience dismissed. But now, I'm sharing what really happened—because the truth matters. Read this and understand the pain I endured, the injustice I faced, and why it's time people finally hear my side of the story.

Q: In the HRO filed against me, it says you told Brittany about a video you posted on your website - is that true?

A: No.

Q: In your own words, can you explain what happened?

A: During the first HRO hearing I was led to believe that I had to accept the HRO without finding of fact in order to protect my daughter Brittany's credibility. My family is close and they kept asking me questions about what happened. So, in an effort to answer all their questions just one time, I made a video sharing my side of the story and posted it privately on my website on a hidden page, which was additionally password protected. I then emailed the login information to 5 family members.

My daughter, Vanessa, decided to tell my daughter Brittany and shared the link to the page as well as the password. Brittany and Steven, who were unauthorized, then accessed my private password protected page, and while there they also made a screenshot of my webpage.

They both admitted in their HRO filing that my daughter Vanessa told my daughter Brittany about this and Vanessa also says this is true.

Bottom line is everyone agrees that Vanessa told Brittany about this.

But then the court referee removes Vanessa from the equation and said I was the one who told Brittany - and for that found me in violation of the HRO for something I literally did not do.

Q: How did it come about that I was called a liar in the HRO trial?

A: Their attorney, Mr. Van Loh was generally rude to my witnesses, and when he couldn't catch them in a lie (because they were being truthful), during the closing statements he told the court that all my witnesses were liars. Without any supporting evidence, that referee somehow magically determined that you and the others were supposedly lying.

Q: When Brittany and Steven were dating, did she ever tell you about a time that she broke up with him?

A: Yes

Q: Did she say why?

A; She said it was because she felt like he was too controlling.

Q: Did she tell you the reason why they got back together again?

A: Yes.

Q: What did she say the reason was?

A: She said it was because they had a meeting during which he explained that due to his upbringing he was not taught how to properly express himself emotionally. And then he convinced her to date him again.

Q: I submitted evidence titled "Rules of Engagement". What was the Rules of Engagement about?

A: Brittany and Steven presented my wife and I with a letter titled Rules of Engagement. It contained rules they expected us as parents to follow. My wife and I thought this was strange but hesitantly agreed to it.

A few days later, I was unsure about something and asked a question, in an email, about how to ask a question and was immediately accused of manipulation by Steven. The 4 of us (my wife, our daughter Brittany, Steven and myself) were in an email conversation about this and suddenly Steven contacts me directly saying things that made me feel uncomfortable – I

replied that I won't continue that conversation without Brittany or Mrs. Hutchinson being involved.

I went back to the group email and addressed him in a more pointed manner. Nothing ended up being resolved due to Steven acting like a victim, when in the private email to me he said that if I loved my daughter Brittany that I would lay down everything and let him control me.

Afterwards, my wife asked me about how I had approached him in the conversation. I showed her the emails Steven had sent directly to me and she was appalled by what he had said. It was then she understood my response.

I will also say that I was accused of only one time supposedly violating these Rules of Engagement, but when asked how, neither of them has ever given a clear explanation. Brittany's mother and I and our family still have no idea what they are talking about. They have repeated this accusation several times about the same incident but can't explain what happened. They have done this over and over again where they make claims about my behavior, then fail to offer any details. Everything is just so vague.

Q: Have you ever threatened your daughter?

A: I have never and would never threaten my daughter Brittany. I literally love her more than life itself. I would lay down my very life anytime for her. She is absolutely one of the best things that has ever happened to me. I miss her so much. I still remember the last time we talked. It was February 22nd, 2021 at 11:20 AM. The last thing she said to me was, "Dad, I love you so so so so much!" And even though we haven't talked since then, my heart has conversations with her every day.

Q: Have you ever threatened Steven?

A: No – I tried to have a good relationship with him, but he kept being rude to me and eventually my wife and I came to believe he was lying to Brittany about me. He once called and said, quote "If you want a relationship with

Brittany, then you need to submit to me and allow me to control you.” But he wants the court and my daughter to believe that I am the real monster.

Q: He mentioned in the HRO that you reminded him several times about assaulting one of Vanessa's boyfriends...did you tell him about that incident?

A: No. Absolutely not. I have no reason to tell him that. I was trying to have a good relationship with him, the same as the others my daughters have dated.

Q: How did he find out about it?

A: I think it's important to begin with what this story is about. Kyle was my daughter Vanessa's boyfriend she had just begun dating, and he physically assaulted her. Vanessa came to me and told me what happened. She didn't want me to call the police because she was embarrassed. Kyle was calling Vanessa repeatedly and harassing her. So, I called Kyle, and he started yelling at me, so I hung up. I went to Kyle's apartment in person. Probably not the smartest thing I've done as a parent. But sometimes we live and learn through the experiences.

I went there and asked if he had assaulted her. He responded by saying "Yeah, and if I wanted to, I could go rape your daughter." He then pushed me backwards with both hands. I stumbled back across the hallway and then he immediately came at me with a raised fist. At that point I felt the need to defend myself and struck him twice. He fell back against the wall about 6 feet behind him and his head made a dent in the wall. He looked up at me and said "Okay, okay. I'm done" I told him, "Never come near my daughter again." He responded "No sir. It's done." So, I left.

Vanessa told this story at her mom's birthday party that I had arranged at Outback Steak House in Maplewood – which is her favorite restaurant. I invited the whole family and during the meal Vanessa began telling the story to her new boyfriend, James. I intervened and quickly finished telling the story. James did not seem bothered by it at all. About a week or so later, at a bonfire at our house, Vanessa began telling this story again – this time to

several of my friends. I quickly ended it and asked her not to tell this story again. She said, "I am so proud of you dad." I said thank you, but really let's not repeat this anymore, it makes me look like something I am not. She said OK, and I love you dad. I said thank you and I love you too.

During the times she told this story, twice, Steven was not involved in the conversation at all. At my wife's birthday party, he was seated across the table from us and several seats away and engaged in a different conversation. At the bonfire, the chairs were in a half-circle around the fire pit, and he was seated 4 chairs over from us and again, engaged in a different conversation. His name was not mentioned – we did not otherwise refer to him – nor make any type of eye contact whatsoever. My friends were on mine and Vanessa's right side and Steven was on our left, 4 chairs away so we were not even looking in his direction. My daughter started telling the story both times – I quickly ended it and asked her not to repeat it anymore – yet Steven claims in his HRO filing that I reminded him several times about this story. Clearly, he is not telling the truth.

Q: What else happened in that situation which made you concerned?

A: At the bonfire our brother made a couple of jokes towards Steven. I have a reverence for churches and people who work there, so I stepped in and explained that Steven works at a church and asked our brother not to joke about him. He's a good guy – so he quickly apologized and changed the topic. That was it.

The next day my daughter Vanessa told me that Steven had been rude to her. My son Alex said this also. So did two of my friends. My wife asked both of our children about this and confirmed it happened. We also met the two friends a week later at a restaurant and they talked about how Steven was rude to them.

So, I am defending him at the bonfire, meanwhile he is rude to my daughter, rude to my son, rude to several of my friends, at my house, and later on lies about me having told him this story.

Q: Please refer to Evidence titled “Laundry Letter”. What was the laundry letter situation about?

A: My work was covid aware and we shared news stories about covid through email, and one day there was an article about how long the virus can last on clothes.

Several days later upon arriving home from work, my daughter Brittany said she was going out somewhere and explained that Steven’s laundry was in the dryer. He washes his clothes at our house, and I honestly didn’t mind.

She asked that when the dryer was done that I put his clothes in a basket and place it outside the front door of the house. She said the reason is that Steven is concerned about Covid and does not want to come inside. I said OK and decided to write him a letter to be helpful and told him about how I had learned about the Covid virus being able to live on clothes for up to 48 hours. I then suggested that since he is concerned about Covid in our house, that he might want to consider washing his clothes at his apartment, at least until the pandemic had gotten better. Later, when I placed his clothes outside the front door, I put that letter on top of the clothes basket. I then finished preparing to leave the house to go somewhere.

The letter was very nicely written and showed an abundance of care and concern for Steven’s health.

As I was about to leave the house I noticed Steven’s car in the driveway. He was standing at the front door reading the letter. I began walking to the front door to say hello. Before I got to the door, he turned and carried the laundry basket back to his car, put it into the back seat, slammed the car door, and stood there glaring angrily at our house. Then he gets into his car and squeals his tires backing out of the driveway. He then races off, runs a stop sign without ever slowing down, and continued to accelerate to nearly double the speed limit.

Q: Will you please read the laundry letter to the court?

A: Hi Steven, I did some research and was surprised to learn the Covid virus can live for up to 48-hours on our clothing. I can understand your concern over this virus, so much so that Brittany asked me to leave your clothes outside the front door for you to pick up. I can fully appreciate that. When one considers how long the virus can live on clothing, and the fact they are inside our house - a place you're concerned about being exposed to, perhaps it would be a safer option for you to wash your own clothes at home. Something to think about. Would have been nice to see you today - it's been a while. We could have safely visited for a few minutes, especially since I tested Negative just yesterday for Covid. But, we can't be too careful! Well, perhaps another time.

Hope you have a wonderful day.

Mr. Hutchinson

Q: Has he ever mentioned this letter to you?

A: He has never said anything about this letter. Nothing. No thank you for your concern, maybe we can meet up another time, nothing like that.

Then just two days later I came home from work to discover he was hanging out at our house with Brittany, for hours. So, he can't come inside to pick up the laundry, or even ring the doorbell and say hello, yet two days later he can spend hours inside our home? Neither my wife or I could make any sense of this.

Q: Where there any witnesses to this?

A: Later I went to the mailbox and met our neighbor, who told me he heard a car door slamming. He saw what Steven did in the driveway and how he drove away, running the stop sign and speeding. He asked who that was – I said my future son-in-law. He laughed and said “You’re joking!” I replied no, that’s him. He said that he would not allow that kind of behavior at his house. I said, yeah, I’m thinking that too.

But I wanted to give another chance at resolving whatever issues he was having – which were not clear to me. So, later that evening I called Steven to

invite him to hang out sometime – he sharply said “No” and immediately hung up.

Q: In the HRO Steven says a few days later you left your gun out in plain sight at your house as a threat to him. Is this true and if so, why?

A: The HRO claims that I, quote "placed the firearm on the banister by the front door, in plain sight, as both a threat and reflecting his anger and resentment towards Steven."

First of all, what anger and resentment? The last communication I had with Steven was the letter I had left a few days prior on his laundry basket, and a phone call later the same day asking him to hang out sometime.

I only left the gun on the banister because Brittany's mom asked me to.

After what happened in Minneapolis with George Floyd and the protests and then the protesters threatening to go to the suburbs, it made my wife feel safer to have it visible for a few minutes when I got home from work. What am I supposed to say, No?! Just keep on feeling afraid?

Again, she literally asked me to do this! In fact, she first asked me if I still owned a gun. That shows how rarely I ever bring it out. And I only placed it on the banister when coming home from work, going into the kitchen, greeting my wife and unpacking my lunch bag. That took maybe 3 or 4 minutes. Then I went and put the gun away in a safe in our bedroom. I only started carrying it very recently at that time because my job required me to go to Minneapolis at random times to visit customers. Many of them were close by to where the protests were happening. I had a concealed carry permit, so I was able to carry a weapon lawfully. And it always remained in my car during the day, I never brought it into my workplace – then at night I brought it into the house and placed it on the banister for a few minutes and then into a safe.

One day while Steven is over he sees the handgun in its usual place, and made an incorrect assumption. And the gun was NOT by the front door - it was on the banister, up on the 2nd floor. He never went upstairs. He and

Brittany were in the lower level of the house in the family room the entire time. When he saw it, he was at the bottom of the stairs near the front door. My weapon was in a holster and there was nothing illegal or threatening about its placement, not at all. He was never near it - he looked up a flight of stairs and saw it. He never saw me, I was never near the gun. At the time I was in the kitchen, which is not visible from the front door. Brittany and Steven were leaving the house and called out saying hi to me. I said hi back to them, then Brittany said they were leaving. I said OK, good bye – have a good day in an upbeat tone. I never saw them. We only heard each other’s voices.

Where is the threat??

Since the one time he saw my gun, this story has grown to where according to an HRO filing I want to kill him, kill my daughter, and go to a church and harm hundreds of children. All because he saw my gun, one time, at my house, where it was placed in response to my wife’s request to make her feel safer. Can anyone make this make sense?

Q: Have you ever talked with your kids about the gun?

A: I asked my kids about the gun. They don’t know what kind it is. They don’t know what color it is. I asked when the last time was they saw me holding that gun or any gun. They said, dad, we’ve never seen you holding any gun, ever.

Again, make this make sense.

Q: Was there any talk about mediation – if so, what happened?

A: I contacted Steven and offered to let bygones be bygones and to set simple expectations of how we communicate. I texted him and he refused to meet and instead said he would not talk with me without mediation. I told him to go ahead and pick out any place he wanted to go for mediation, and Mrs. Hutchinson and I would pay for it. He said no, the only place he would go for mediation is at the church where he works. I said OK, set something up. I also told him that we didn’t have to bring up everything in the past and

could just focus on moving forward. He said no, in mediation we will talk about everything that has happened in the past. I asked if he was sure, because that would mean things would come out that Brittany does not know about. That would not be good for him. He said yes, he was sure.

The first date and time was set for mediation but was soon cancelled because the mediator had something come up. OK, no problem – life happens. So, another date was set – again at the church and with the same person.

Once that date was set, Steven began texting me about it. I said I was OK with talking about the past as he previously requested. He then began demanding we not talk about the past and said quote, “Mediation is only about how you and Mrs. Hutchinson are going to talk to me.” I immediately showed this to my wife, who said, quote “This is bullshit – what is wrong with him?” She and I are both aware of him insisting multiple times on controlling both myself and the relationship I have with my daughter.

I replied back to him saying that mediation is a time for us to learn how to communicate with each other.

Steven then canceled mediation and refused to reschedule.

Q: Did you ever tell them they were Loved and Forgiven?

A: I suggested we take a few months off from the disagreement – kind of a time-out. I felt as though it was not right to let things set the way they were and instead decided to tell them they were LOVED AND FORGIVEN.

I drove first to Stevens Apt. I exited my car and an African-American lady walking to her car. She greeted me by saying good morning sir! I replied good morning. She then said the buzzer box to the building door was broken so I could just walk in. She also said that maintenance was aware and would get it fixed. I thanked her and she replied, have a blessed day sir!

In the HRO it says I repeatedly buzzed his apt – umm, how? The buzzer box was not working, He also says I “gained access” making it sound like I had broken into the building like a thief, when thanks to the information from the nice lady in the parking lot, I simply walked in like a normal person.

During this time I was wearing a mask.

I went to his apartment and knocked three times in a normal manner. Then stepped back across the hall, practicing social distancing. When there was no answer, I knocked three more times, again in a normal manner. When there was no answer that time, I left.

Then I bought flowers and drove to Brittany’s apartment. She didn’t answer. I noticed her car was in the parking lot, so I left the flowers on her car and drove away.

My wife knew about this and said how proud she was of me. Said she appreciated my actions, and she loved how I always put our family first.

I then updated my private journal and when I wrote about this, I used the words LOVED AND FORGIVEN and had typed that all in upper case, 4 times on the same page – it was clear and obvious to anyone reading it what my intent was in going there.

When they filed the HRO – Steven included a copy of my personal journal – except the page where I described this event. You see, that page tells the real story. And he excluded it from his filing. He did say though that he was so afraid that he thought about jumping out of a 2nd story window and fleeing for his life and possibly calling the police. Which he never did. However, he later attended my oldest daughter’s wedding – at one point, I walked by him and nodded my head. He nodded back. Later we had pictures taken together. Why wasn’t he afraid then?? Because there never was a threat – these claims are all for dramatic effect.

This was one of 15 attempts I made at peace compared to their zero attempts – I tried until when he said through his attorney that he does not want to reconcile with me, at all.

Q: Did Steven ever ask you for money?

A: Yes, he asked for help and I gave them money every month for 2 ½ years – on the 20th of the month because that was the day Brittany was born. My wife later said that Steven told Brittany that I had promised to help them, but then never did. I showed her receipts which proved that we (husband and wife) were sending them money every month. I only stopped after 2 ½ years because my wife moved out of our house due to the stress caused by this situation.

Q: Even though you were prevented from going to Brittany's wedding, did you ever help out with it?

A: The night before the wedding my wife was tasked with ironing all of the tablecloths. There was a lot and it was obvious she would not get them done. I made the suggestion of double layering our dining room table with towels and thus turning it into a large ironing board. We had 2 irons and stood on opposite sides of the table and ironed these table cloths for 3 hours until they were done.

I ironed table cloths, for my daughters wedding that I couldn't attend for 3 hours – because that's love in action. I love my daughter so much that I am willing to do that for her. Look how important my oldest daughter Victoria's wedding was to me...<<SHOW PIC OF ME WITH HER AT WEDDING ON HOME SCREEN OF MY PHONE>> That's me dancing with her at her wedding. You want the truth – there it is!!! 2 ½ years later and it's still on the home screen of my phone.

Q: Did you report this to the Sheriff's Dept?

A: Yes

Q: What was the result?

A: I showed them the evidence and asked what I had done wrong? They said nothing, I had done nothing wrong and that I am a “good good father”. I asked where I go from here. They said since this was currently a civil matter that if I could get the court overseeing the HRO to refer this back to them, they would complete their investigation and quote, “likely put Steven in jail”. Later that day I showed my wife the card they had given me which has the case number on it. She knows about it. I told her I was hesitant to move forward with this out of concern for our daughter, thinking she too might be charged because she had also signed HRO papers.

Q: What are your relationships like with your ex-wife, Jennifer?

A: We still see each other multiple times each week – dinner, movies, hockey games. She texts me almost every night saying Sweet Dreams. Last night she texted to say that she will always love me. Says she will never date again, unless it’s me. Says she will never get married again, unless it is to remarry me. Says I am literally her best friend. She cried every day for a month after she moved out of our family home. She called the court and asked them to stop the divorce. She still contacts me anytime she has questions about technology or just random life questions. And when we are together, she smiles almost constantly – because she is in her happy place. And she knows the reason for our divorce, and the loss of our family home, and the reason I had to give up my career. It’s because of the stress from this whole situation and the barrage of bullshit being said about me. She knows this and wants this to be resolved as much as I do so our family can heal – and we both believe it will happen when the truth finally comes out.

Q: How about with your other 3 children?

A: Wonderful – no problems at all. For example, when Vanessa and I get pedicures, whatever color she gets her nails painted, I have my two big toes done in the same color. She absolutely loves this! My kids know that I always put them first in my life and my love and care for them is obvious.

Q: Did anything change in your relationship with your former mother-in-law?

A: I was at her house one day and she asked if it was true that her daughter and I were getting a divorce. I said yes, it's true. She then walked across the room and stood right in front of me and asked, will you still call me mom? I said, I would love to do that. She then hugged me and said she doesn't want to lose me.

We go to bingo almost every Tuesday evening and I often take her out to lunch, dinner, walks at the shopping mall, doctor appts, salon appointments and more. One day while visiting she gave me a hug and whispered, I left something in your shoe. It was a note asking me to take her out soon for ice cream. I still have that note and it's on my refrigerator. That's my mom!

Q: What were relationships like with any previous boyfriends of Brittany?

A: There was David, an excellent young man – I taught him how to shave. He came to our house after Brittany broke up with him, saying because he just felt better being with me. He didn't go to his family or friends – he came to me, because I always treated him so well.

Q: What is your relationship like with your son-in-law, Jake?

A: Fantastic. I call him son, he calls me dad. Never a problem during the entire time we've known each other – more than 12 years now.

Q: How was the relationship with your daughter Vanessa's boyfriend, James?

A: He told me that he looked up to me as a father figure. Said he was thankful I treated him so well and how I welcomed him into our family. When he suddenly ended up homeless, I'm the person who gave him money for food and other expenses, and I paid for his hotel room until he found a place he could move to.

Q: How did your wife respond to the 2nd HRO being filed?

A: When she learned they had filed for an extension, she asked if I would be requesting a referral to the Sheriff's Dept. I said that my concern was because our daughter Brittany had also signed the court papers that she might somehow also be charged, and I don't want to see her in jail. My wife then said these exact words, quote; "Well, if Brittany sat in jail, maybe then she would begin to realize that Steven is manipulating her." Recently she said in an email to me, that she does not have a relationship with Steven, rather she only tolerates him so that she can have a relationship with Brittany. She has also told me that she is afraid of Steven – that he will do to her what he's been doing to me. And will get away with it quote, "because of that lawyer and that court." Again, she is a smart woman – she knows what's up.

Q: During the trial, did you request a referral from the court to the Sheriff's Dept?

A: No.

Q: Why not?

A: Because I was prevented from doing so. That was not even a real trial. Their only evidence was my personal journal which the court had previously said would not be allowed because it was from the first HRO. My evidence was not allowed. I was not allowed to testify. My witnesses were treated terribly and all called liars. That's also why none of them wanted show up for this trial – for what? More disrespect, to be called liars, and made to feel like their testimony doesn't matter? Because of what they see happening to me, they don't even trust the justice system anymore. I was spoken to harshly and disrespected by the referee, in front of my daughter for no good reason. This wasn't a search for truth or justice. This reminded me of the story of the Salem witch hunt. The outcome was not based upon the truth yet the Plaintiff's want to claim this was a victory – for who? Certainly not for truth and justice. Not for my family. We deserve better than a bunch of damn lies – we deserve justice!

Q: Did I ever help you search for an attorney?

A: Yes.

Q: What was the result?

A: After that so-called trial, I wanted to appeal. The first attorney suggested mediation (which I did not want) and also said several times that I should report Mr. Van Loh for misconduct.

The 2nd attorney I spoke with said he would not represent me because, quote, "This is corruption." I offered \$10k to represent me as I just wanted an opportunity for my daughter to hear the truth. He said that court is corrupt and I will never win there and no other lawyer will represent me in that court either, because doing so would be a risk to their career. So, at that time I stopped the search for an attorney.

Q: Did you ever speak with an attorney about your First Amendment right?

A: Yes.

Q: What did he or she say?

A: All along the Plaintiff's and their attorney have positioned things to make it seem as though the only thing required for them to take me back into court and possibly have me put in jail was for Steven to feel disparaged by something I say. In other words, according to them it has nothing to do with the truth, but only about how Steven feels about it.

So, I spoke with an attorney who said my First Amendment Rights do not hinge upon whether or not someone feels disparaged. It just has to be truthful. So, I have a legal right to have a movie made based upon my evidence and the witnesses.

Q: Lastly, is there anything else you would like to add?

A; Just thank you to you and our family & friends for standing up for me. No matter the court's decision today, I will always appreciate all of your efforts.

I hope you win – you deserve to win and have your right to Freedom of Speech protected. Same as any other good and decent American. And hey, above all else, I love you!