

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BLOUNT COUNTY, TENNESSEE

TRAVIS GEORGE SAXTON

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Petitioner,

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Case No. CE-30651

Vs.

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JESSICA RESPESS SAXTON

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Respondent,

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**NOTICE OF CONTROLLING STATE LAW, CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS, AND
PRESERVATION OF OBJECTIONS**

COMES NOW the Respondent, Jessica R. Saxton, self-represented, and respectfully files this Notice for the limited purpose of placing controlling statutory and constitutional authorities expressly into the record while post-judgment proceedings remain pending.

This filing does not request that this Court adjudicate criminal liability, nor is it submitted for purposes of harassment, threat, or intimidation. It is submitted to identify duties imposed by Tennessee law, rights implicated by the proceedings, and authorities relevant to any continuing exercise of judicial power in this case.

Respondent respectfully gives notice as follows:

I. TENNESSEE LAW EXPRESSLY PROHIBITS OFFICIAL OPPRESSION

Tennessee Code Annotated § 39-16-403 provides that a public servant acting under color of office commits Official Oppression when the public servant:

1. intentionally subjects another to mistreatment, dispossession, assessment, lien, or other enumerated governmental action while knowing the conduct is unlawful; or
2. intentionally denies or impedes another in the exercise or enjoyment of a right, privilege, power, or immunity while knowing the conduct is unlawful.

The statute specifically applies to actions undertaken "under color of office," meaning actions undertaken or purportedly undertaken in an official capacity.

Respondent therefore expressly preserves her objection to any exercise of judicial or officer of the court authority that knowingly and intentionally deprives or impedes rights secured to her or her children by the Constitutions and laws of Tennessee and the United States.

II. TENNESSEE LAW EXPRESSLY PROHIBITS OFFICIAL MISCONDUCT

Tennessee Code Annotated § 39-16-402 provides that a public servant who acts with intent to obtain a benefit or harm another commits Official Misconduct when the public servant intentionally or knowingly, among other things:

1. exercises unauthorized official power;
2. acts under color of office in excess of official power;
3. refrains from performing a duty imposed by law or clearly inherent in the office; or
4. violates a law relating to the public servant's office or employment.

Respondent identifies this statute because several duties raised in the present proceedings are duties imposed expressly by Tennessee law.

III. TENNESSEE IMPOSES AN INDEPENDENT MANDATORY REPORTING DUTY

Tennessee Code Annotated § 37-1-605 expressly includes a "judge of any court of the state" among persons subject to Tennessee's mandatory child-sexual-abuse reporting requirements.

Section 37-1-605(b)(2) further provides that when a judge becomes aware of known or suspected child sexual abuse through personal knowledge, receipt of a report, or otherwise, the information shall be reported immediately to the Tennessee Department of Children's Services and appropriate child-protection authorities.

Respondent therefore gives express notice that the statutory duty belongs independently to the judicial officer upon satisfaction of the statutory trigger. The fact that another individual, professional, agency, parent, therapist, forensic facility, or mandatory reporter may previously have contacted DCS does not change the fact that Tennessee law expressly addresses what a judge must do upon personally becoming aware of known or suspected child sexual abuse.

IV. TENNESSEE CONSTITUTIONAL DUE PROCESS REMAINS APPLICABLE TO EVERY CONTINUING EXERCISE OF JUDICIAL POWER

Article I, § 8 of the Tennessee Constitution prohibits deprivation of life, liberty, or property except by the law of the land or the judgement of his or her peers.

The Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution likewise prohibits a State from depriving a person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law. Respondent therefore expressly preserves all objections concerning deprivation of parental liberty interests, property interests, access to evidence, meaningful opportunity to be heard, and adjudication based upon materially inaccurate factual premises.

V. STATUTORY MENTAL-STATE REQUIREMENTS

Tennessee Code Annotated § 39-11-302 defines culpable mental states as followed:

Intentional: A person acts with a conscious objective or desire to engage in the conduct or cause the result.

Knowing: A person acts with awareness that their conduct is of that nature or that the circumstance exists, or when they are aware that their conduct is reasonably certain to cause the result.

Reckless: A person acts when they are aware of, but consciously disregard, a substantial and unjustifiable risk that the circumstances exist or the result will occur, constituting a gross deviation from a reasonable standard of care.

Criminal Negligence: A person acts when they ought to be aware of a substantial and unjustifiable risk that circumstances exist or a result will occur, and the failure to perceive it is a gross deviation from an ordinary person's standard of care.

Through this filing, Respondent expressly places the Court on notice of:

1. T.C.A. § 39-16-403, Official Oppression;
2. T.C.A. § 39-16-402, Official Misconduct;
3. T.C.A. § 37-1-605, mandatory reporting of known or suspected child sexual abuse;
4. the corresponding penalties established under T.C.A. § 37-1-615;
5. Article I, § 8 of the Tennessee Constitution;
6. the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution; and

7. the factual disputes identified above that have previously been raised in the record.

Accordingly, any future judicial act undertaken in this proceeding will occur after these statutory duties and constitutional protections have been expressly identified and placed into the court record.

Respondent makes no assertion through this Notice that mere disagreement concerning an interpretation of law establishes criminal intent. Respondent instead preserves the documentary record necessary to distinguish a good-faith judicial determination from an intentional or knowing course of conduct undertaken after actual notice of the governing law and material facts.

VI. PRESERVATION OF RECORD

Respondent respectfully requests that this Notice be maintained as part of the official record of this proceeding. Respondent further preserves all statutory, constitutional, appellate, disciplinary, civil, and other lawful remedies concerning any past or future deprivation of rights or misuse of governmental authority. Nothing contained herein constitutes waiver of any previously asserted claim, objection, motion, argument, or remedy.

VII. NOTICE THAT CONCERNS IDENTIFIED HEREIN ARE NOT ASSERTED TO BE ISOLATED TO THIS PROCEEDING

Respondent further gives notice that she has become aware of other judicial proceedings involving the same judicial officer in which parents, litigants, witnesses, or interested persons have raised allegations materially similar in nature to certain concerns raised in this proceeding, including allegations concerning:

1. the handling of reported or suspected child abuse or child sexual abuse;
2. the treatment of evidence relating to allegations of abuse;
3. restrictions upon custody, visitation, parental contact, or other substantial rights following the reporting or litigation of abuse allegations;
4. alleged failures to act upon information concerning danger to a child;
5. alleged irregularities concerning the consideration, exclusion, characterization, preservation, or disposition of material evidence or court records;
6. alleged exercises of judicial authority affecting liberty, property, parental interests, or access to judicial process; and
7. allegations that persons raising abuse, misconduct, or safety concerns were thereafter subjected to adverse judicial action.

Respondent does not request that this Court determine the truth or falsity of allegations arising from another person's case within the present domestic-relations proceeding. Nor does Respondent offer the existence of another allegation as proof that misconduct occurred in this case. The limited purpose of this paragraph is to place upon the record that the statutory and constitutional concerns identified in this Notice are not being presented to the judicial officer as concerns asserted by Respondent alone or as concerns that Respondent presently understands to be unique to *Saxton v. Saxton*.

To the extent any other matter becomes legally relevant in a future proceeding concerning notice, knowledge, intent, absence of mistake, recurring conduct, compliance with statutory duties, judicial administration, or alleged misuse of official authority, Respondent expressly reserves the right to rely upon competent and independently authenticated evidence from those proceedings before the tribunal having lawful jurisdiction to consider it. Respondent further reserves the right

to provide such evidence to any lawfully authorized investigative, disciplinary, appellate, legislative, administrative, or grand-jury body.

The purpose of identifying the existence of materially similar allegations is **Notice**. From the filing of this Notice forward, the judicial officer is expressly informed that concerns regarding the exercise of judicial authority in cases involving allegations of domestic abuse, child abuse, child sexual abuse, parental rights, evidence, mandatory reporting, and related constitutional protections have been asserted by persons beyond Respondent.

Should authenticated court records, certified transcripts, sworn declarations, agency records, or other competent evidence from another proceeding subsequently establish materially similar conduct, the existence of this Notice will document the date upon which the judicial officer was expressly *informed* that such concerns were being raised beyond this individual proceeding.

Nothing contained herein asks this Court to treat an unverified accusation as fact. Rather, Respondent distinguishes between:

- (a) notice that additional allegations and potential witnesses exist; and
- (b) proof of those allegations, which must be established through competent evidence before a tribunal authorized to consider them.

This distinction is intentional. Respondent's purpose is to preserve an accurate chronological record of what information was brought to the judicial officer's attention, when it was brought to her attention, what statutory and constitutional duties were expressly identified, and what official action, if any, occurred thereafter.

Respondent expressly reserves the right to present competent evidence concerning any materially similar proceeding to a grand jury or other tribunal possessing jurisdiction to determine whether the evidence, considered collectively, bears upon knowledge, intent, absence of mistake, fulfillment or nonfulfillment of statutory duties, or an alleged course of conduct undertaken under color of public office.

Respectfully submitted this 10th day of August, 2026,



Jessica Respass Saxton, *Self-Represented*

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Respondent's **NOTICE OF CONTROLLING STATE LAW, CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS, AND PRESERVATION OF OBJECTIONS** was served on the following by email, United States Mail, or the Court's authorized electronic-filing system on this 10th day of August, 2026:

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Jessica Respass Saxton, Respondent