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*******PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*******

On October 21st, 2019 the deposition of City of Bainbridge Island Council Member Rasham Nassar was taken in *Dunn v. City of Bainbridge Island*.

In that suit, Plaintiffs David Dunn and Brian Wilkinson, allege that the City of Bainbridge violated the Public Records Act when it failed to provide them with public records that were created and maintained by Council Member Nassar and stored on her personal phone.

Recent Supreme Court decisions have confirmed that any writing prepared, owned, used, or retained by government agency, and which contains information that relates to the conduct of government, are public records regardless of whether they are created or stored on a private device.

The deposition sought information regarding Council Member Nassar's use of her personal phone for official City business, the events surrounding her phone's alleged destruction and her accusations against Mr. Dunn and Mr. Wilkinson.

The City has taken the position that phone was inadvertently destroyed, and the records were forever lost as there was no system in place to back-up the phone.

Council Member Nassar had signed at least four sworn declarations attesting that her 18-month old son "soaked the phone in a can of olives."

During her deposition, however, Council Member Nassar admitted that this was not accurate.

Council Member Nassar now claims that she had given her 18-month old son a full can of olives (liquid included) while he was in the back seat of her car. According to her most recent version, her son then decanted the contents of the can into his car seat cup holder into which he placed the phone.

Council Member Nassar had difficulty recollecting many details with respect to what happened with her phone and what types of public records she created and stored on it. Council Member Nassar responded "I don't recall" no fewer than 110 times during her deposition.

She could not recall details such as whether her phone had a protective case on when it was destroyed, nor could she recall when or who she talked to at the City after her phone was destroyed. While she admitted to texting fellow Council Member Ron Peltier from her personal phone to arrange phone calls, she could not remember if she ever made or received calls to him from her phone.

Last month, it was further revealed that Council Member Nassar had attempted to obtain a restraining orders against both Mr. Dunn and Mr. Wilkinson barring them from the Bainbridge City Hall.

On October 8th she emailed the Bainbridge Review and was quoted as saying:

“This matter has been referred to the police. As the investigation is active and ongoing, and due to continued concerns for my family’s safety I cannot comment further at this time.”

During her deposition, however, Council Member Nassar said she did not remember making any statements regarding any ongoing investigation against Mr. Dunn and Mr. Wilkinson. Indeed, subsequent requests made to the Police Department confirms that no official reports were ever made by Council Member Nassar, nor was any investigation ever initiated.

During her deposition, Council Member Nassar was asked specifically if she ever filed a police report against either Mr. Dunn or Mr. Wilkinson.

Her response: “I can’t recall.”

Attached is a copy of the transcript of the Deposition of Council Member Rasham Nassar.

/s Nicholas Power