SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NEW YORKX	
CATHERINE KASSENOFF,	
Plaintiff, -against-	Index No. 150761/2023
ALLAN KASSENOFF, CONSTANTINE	VERIFIED COMPLAINT
"GUS" DIMOPOULOS, and DIMOPOULOS BRUGGEMANN, P.C.	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
Defendants.	

Plaintiff CATHERINE KASSENOFF ("Plaintiff"), pro se, as and for her verified complaint against Defendants ALLAN KASSENOFF ("Kassenoff"), Constantine "Gus" Dimopoulos ("Dimopoulos") and Dimopoulos Bruggemann, P.C. ("DB Law Firm") (collectively, "Defendants") herein, at all times hereinafter mentioned, alleges as follows:

### **NATURE OF THE ACTION**

- 1. This case is about the lengths to which a man who abused his wife and children for years will go to continue that abuse, in order to get leverage over his wife in his divorce case.
- 2. Defendants' numerous false statements and reports to the Supreme Court County of Westchester, the Westchester County District Attorney's Office ("DA"), and the Larchmont Police Department ("LPD") were used to obtain leverage over Plaintiff, a mother of three young children, in the divorce action commenced by Defendants, *Kassenoff v. Kassenoff*, 58217/19 (Westchester Co. Sup. Ct.) ("Divorce Action").
- 3. The Defendants herein used the courts of Westchester County to first obtain a fraudulent and *ex parte* temporary order of protection ("TOP") on or about July 6, 2021, against Plaintiff

and in favor of Plaintiff's minor children ("the Children"), with an expiration date of January 6, 2022, based on material falsehoods.

- 4. Subsequently, Defendants obtained an unconstitutional *ex parte* "one mile stay away" TOP on or about September 15, 2021 (with an expiration date of January 6, 2022) and then an *ex parte* "corrected" and unserved TOP on or about September 23, 2021 (with a new expiration date of February 16, 2022) in order to inflict harm on Plaintiff by causing her to have to vacate her home, separating her from her Children, destroying her reputation and livelihood, and rendering her homeless. Those TOPs were based on material falsehoods as well.
- 5. Not a single one of the TOPs obtained by Defendants was converted to a permanent order of protection or even renewed or extended because each was so frivolous.
- 6. Once Defendants obtained the "corrected" TOP against Plaintiff, they made numerous false reports to the LPD about Plaintiff in order to orchestrate her mandatory arrest for a purported violation of the "corrected" TOP.
- 7. Defendants sought Plaintiff's arrest in order to cause her to lose her job as Special Counsel to the Governor of New York and destroy her impeccable professional and personal reputation, so that she would not have finances to fight the Divorce Action and to cause extreme emotional distress by, for instance, separating her from her Children and humiliating her.
- 8. From October 2021 to January 25, 2022, Defendants repeatedly pressured and importuned the LPD to arrest Plaintiff when they knew that the "corrected" TOP had never been served on Plaintiff by the LPD and was therefore invalid. They also materially misled the LPD to believe that the "corrected" TOP contained restrictions that it did not, such as a restriction on third party contacts, so that the LPD would falsely arrest Plaintiff.

- 9. On the morning of January 26, 2022, after months of importuning and pressuring the LPD to arrest Plaintiff and falsely reporting violations of the "corrected" TOP, various members of the LPD arrested Plaintiff, charged her with criminal contempt under the New York Penal Law, and confined her.
- 10. Defendants knew that the "corrected" TOP had never been served by police on Plaintiff and was therefore invalid and unenforceable, as its terms specifically required service by the police in order to be valid and enforceable. Nonetheless, all along, Defendants falsely told the LPD that the "corrected" TOP was in fact valid.
- 11. Just days after her false arrest, Plaintiff, an attorney with an impeccable reputation, lost her 7-year position with the Office of the Governor of New York State.
- 12. Plaintiff was also in the midst of a routine background check when Defendants purposefully caused her to lose her job.
- 13. After Plaintiff's false arrest, Defendants then pressured the DA to bring charges against
  Plaintiff that they knew to be false inasmuch as they were based on the invalid and unenforceable
  TOPs and based on material falsehoods.
- 14. Defendants even volunteered the Children to be interrogated by the DA when there was no obligation to do so and knowing the trauma that would be inflicted on the Children in forcing them to undergo questioning about their mother.
- 15. Defendants took the Children to the DA in or about February and/or March 2022 to have them falsely report that they were "scared" of Plaintiff, their own mother who had been their primary caregiver their whole lives and whom they adored and who loved them.

- 16. After months of proclaiming her innocence, on or about March 16, 2022, Plaintiff obtained the outright dismissal of all charges against her, and all TOPs were vacated by the Honorable Susan Capeci. Plaintiff was fully vindicated.
- 17. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' actions and misrepresentations, Plaintiff has suffered extensive emotional harm. Plaintiff has also suffered financial losses, including but not limited to: her loss of employment and associated benefits, costs associated with maintaining her apartment in Larchmont during the pendency of the TOPs when she could not live there, moving costs, hotel expenses, storage costs, medical costs, and legal fees associated with defending the criminal and contempt charges brought against her, opposing the imposition of the *ex parte* TOPs and litigating the TOPs in the Divorce Action.
- 18. Defendants' actions, which were also collaterally aimed at depriving Plaintiff of time with her Children to devastate her emotionally and financially, were undertaken in a perverted manner to obtain custodial and financial leverage in Defendants' Divorce Action against Plaintiff.

#### **PARTIES AND JURISDICTION**

- 19. Plaintiff is an individual over the age of eighteen (18) who resides in the State of New York. At all relevant times herein, Plaintiff maintained an office in the County of New York, New York. At various relevant times, Plaintiff lived in New York County, New York.
- 20. Defendant Allan Kassenoff ("Kassenoff") is an individual over the age of eighteen (18) who maintained an office in New York County, New York at all relevant times, from which he regularly conducted personal business related to the events set forth in this complaint.

- 21. Defendant Constantine "Gus" Dimopoulos ("Dimopoulos") is an individual over the age of eighteen (18) who is a natural person residing and working in the State of New York, but also working in New York County, New York.
- 22. At all relevant times, Dimopoulos Bruggemann, P.C. ("the DB Law Firm") was and is a professional corporation created under the laws of the State of New York with its principal place of business at 73 Main Street, Tuckahoe, New York 10707. Upon information and belief, DB Law Firm is owned by Dimopoulos and conducts business on a regular basis in New York County, New York.
- 23. At all relevant times, Dimopoulos is and was an attorney and the managing partner of the DB Law Firm.
- 24. This Court has personal jurisdiction over the parties pursuant to CPLR §§ 301 and 302 because, at all relevant times, at least one of the Defendants resided and/or conducted business in the State of New York, New York County.
- 25. Plaintiff designates New York County as the place of trial pursuant to CPLR § 503(a). The basis of this designation is that a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to the claims occurred in New York County, New York.

#### BACKGROUND FACTS

- 26. Plaintiff is a Mother of three young girls ("the Children") who was married to and living with Defendant Kassenoff from 2006 until he filed for divorce in May 2019.
- 27. Plaintiff was the primary caregiver of the Children for their entire lives until Kassenoff filed for divorce.
- 28. In both 2008 and later in 2017, Plaintiff was diagnosed with breast cancer and underwent extensive medical treatment which compromised her health.

- 29. Kassenoff's Divorce Action was filed after years of his physical and emotional abuse of Plaintiff and the Children. His abuse is captured in the numerous audios and videos over the years, including here: <a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Dn3INuDI822sUzbJn9zRC49tgu-Vjnmp?usp=share\_link">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Dn3INuDI822sUzbJn9zRC49tgu-Vjnmp?usp=share\_link</a>
- 30. In May 2019, Kassenoff committed two assaults against his own family members. He kicked the oldest of the Children and he threw a clump of rocks and dirt at Plaintiff's head at close range. Both incidents required medical attention and were just days apart.
- 31. Kassenoff admitted to the latter incident in May 2019 in sworn testimony.
- 32. In order to protect the Children, Plaintiff immediately obtained a temporary order of protection against Kassenoff and, in support thereof, recounted Kassenoff's domestic abuse.
- 33. After Kassenoff's two daughters reported his assault to school officials and the police, Child Protective Services ("CPS") commenced an investigation into child abuse of him. Days later, Kassenoff emailed Plaintiff asking, "Why did you report me to CPS? Now I'm going to have to hire a lawyer and file for divorce." *See* Exhibit "1".
- 34. Immediately thereafter, Kassenoff hired Dimopoulos and DB Law Firm to represent him in the Divorce Action he filed on May 24, 2019.
- 35. Dimopoulos calls himself a "hired gun" on social media.
- 36. Kassenoff has, at all relevant times, been a shareholder of Greenberg Traurig ("GT"), with an annual income of approximately \$800,000 to \$1,000,000.
- 37. At all relevant times, Kassenoff has almost exclusively uses his GT email address <a href="mailto:kassenoffa@gtlaw.com">kassenoffa@gtlaw.com</a> to communicate with Plaintiff and Defendants. His signature block has always borne an address in New York, New York.

- 38. At all relevant times, Kassenoff has communicated with Plaintiff and Defendants often from GT's Offices in New York, New York.
- 39. At all relevant times, Kassenoff has used GT computers in New York, New York to create, edit, read, store, download and otherwise process affidavits, exhibits, memoranda of law, affirmations, letters, motions, and notices of motion filed or used in the Divorce Action.
- 40. In response to the allegations of child abuse against him, Kassenoff blamed Plaintiff, falsely claiming she was "crazy" and "lying." Plaintiff had no history of mental illness and is, in fact, a practicing attorney and former Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Eastern District of New York, where she was granted top secret intelligence clearance.
- 41. It became Kassenoff's mission to destroy Plaintiff and take custody of the Children, in retaliation for Plaintiff's allegations of domestic abuse by Kassenoff. Kassenoff began a campaign in the Divorce Action of seeking repeated *ex parte* forms of relief in order to accomplish this goal.
- 42. Kassenoff began this campaign in order to retaliate against Plaintiff for her claims of domestic abuse by him. Dimopoulos and the DB Law Firm were aware of and facilitated Kassenoff's intention to retaliate against Plaintiff.
- 43. Kassenoff used Dimopoulos and the DB Law Firm, and his stature as a shareholder at GT, to submit self-serving affidavits in which he boldly lied to the Court in order to obtain *ex* parte relief, such as temporary orders of protection ("TOPs"), eviction of Plaintiff from her home, and temporary custody of the Children.
- 44. In June 2019, Kassenoff filed an *ex parte* order to show cause, falsely claiming Kassenoff had a mental illness and was making the Children lie about him. After obtaining the *ex parte*

relief he sought, he was able to temporarily remove Plaintiff from the home she owned with him in Larchmont, New York and temporarily gain custody of the Children.

- 45. With marital assets subject to automatic stay orders that prevented Plaintiff from accessing them, Plaintiff has been at a serious financial disadvantage throughout the Divorce Action, which is ongoing.
- 46. As an employee of New York State until February 2022, Plaintiff has been the less monied spouse throughout the Divorce Action by a significant margin.
- 47. Kassenoff has accrued legal expenses of approximately \$3,000,000 in the Divorce Action.
- 48. Defendants used their economic superiority to continue the marital abuse of Plaintiff in the court system, by bringing serial motions for contempt, for purported "emergency" *ex parte* applications for TOPs, to continuously restrict Plaintiff's access to the Children, to force Plaintiff to take time off work to attend court, and for other relief. This well-known phenomenon is known as "litigation abuse." *See e.g. J.N. v. T.N.*, 2022 N.Y. Slip Op. 22310 (Sup. Ct. N.Y. Co. 2022); *Jessica T. v. Kieth T.*, 2020 Slip Op. 50673(U) (Sup. Ct. Suffolk Co. 2020).
- 49. In the early years of the Divorce Action, Defendants brought *ex parte* applications for TOPs, none of which were ever converted to permanent orders of protection or extended or renewed, as follows: (1) in July 2020, after which a TOP was granted and then vacated in August 2020; (2) in September 2020, which application for a TOP was denied.
- 50. In May 2021, Defendants made an application by letter to the Divorce Court for an order "protecting" the Children. It was never granted.
- 51. In June 2021, Kassenoff made an *ex parte* application, by his counsel Dimopoulos and the DB Law Firm, for a TOP in favor of the Children and against Plaintiff, falsely claiming in his

sworn affidavit that on June 23, 2021, Plaintiff had "approached [him and one of the Children] from behind and grabbed [one of the Children]'s arm and turned her toward her". He falsely stated that the child was "visibly shaken and scared", arguing that she was scared of Plaintiff.

- 52. Photographs from Kassenoff's phone taken on June 23, 2021 and produced in August 2021, showed the child smiling at Plaintiff, holding her hand, not "scared" as falsely sworn by Kassenoff.
- Photographs from Kassenoff's phone taken on June 23, 2021 and produced in August 2021 showed that the initial contact between Plaintiff and the child was face-to-face, not from behind, as falsely sworn by Kassenoff.
- 54. On or about July 6, 2021, the Divorce Court issued a TOP against Plaintiff ("July 6 TOP"), without a hearing and based only on Defendants' false statements. At the time the Court issued the July 6 TOP, it had not seen the photographs from Kassenoff's phone.
- 55. The July 6 TOP was never converted to a permanent order of protection and was ultimately vacated because it was baseless.

### The Role of the Corrupt Attorney for the Children, Carol Most

- 56. In their litigation abuse of Plaintiff, the Defendants were aided by the Attorney for the Children ("AFC"), Carol Most ("Most"), who was appointed by the Court in June 2019 to represent all three Children.
- 57. Most was Kassenoff's *de facto* attorney throughout the Divorce Action, almost always supporting his positions, advocating for him against Plaintiff, minimizing and burying his wrongdoing, and seeking to restrict Plaintiff's contact with the Children as much as possible.
- 58. When one of the Children ran away from Kassenoff twice by taxi to Plaintiff's home in New Rochelle because she experienced abuse by Kassenoff in January and March 2021, Most

suppressed the report of abuse by the child and advocated that the child be sent away to a therapeutic boarding school and wilderness camp.

- 59. Most consistently suppressed the Children's preferences to live with Plaintiff and their reports of Kassenoff's abuse as her goal was to support Kassenoff at all costs.
- 60. Most's actions in the Divorce Action were so reprehensible, and contrary to the best interests of the Children, that Most was ultimately removed in disgrace for "cause" in the Divorce Action on October 4, 2022 ("Removal Order"). See Exhibit "2".
- 61. Unfortunately, by that point, Most had inflicted immeasurable damage on Plaintiff and the Children in order to promote the interests of Defendants, her *de facto* clients.
- 62. Throughout the Divorce Action, Most was being paid thousands of dollars by Kassenoff and the other Defendants to take positions in Kassenoff's favor and against Plaintiff.
- 63. In discharging Most for "cause," the Divorce Court found that she had become a witness against Plaintiff in violation of the witness/advocate rule, Rule of the Chief Judge Rule § 7.2. The Court also found that Most had committed acts of spoliation by "blacking out" email exchanges with Defendants using a magic marker in order to protect Kassenoff from scrutiny.
- 64. The Divorce Court went further. In finding that Most had an "unusual alignment" with Kassenoff, in a Decision & Order dated November 14, 2022, the Divorce Court denied Most over \$113,000 in legal fees claimed by her ("Fees Order"). See Exhibit "3".
- 65. With breathtaking arrogance, Most continues to demand fees to this day: she has transmitted an invoice to Plaintiff and Kassenoff of over \$270,000.
- 66. Upon information and belief, Most is the subject of numerous bar complaints and grievances by other parents in custody cases who claim she, in her role as AFC, minimized abuse and aligned herself with the monied party against the protective parent.

### The Role of the Corrupt Forensic Evaluator, Marc T. Abrams

- 67. In or about July 2019, the Divorce Court appointed a so-called neutral forensic evaluator named Marc T. Abrams ("Abrams") to make a recommendation as to custody of the Children.
- 68. Abrams was paid over \$32,000 for his evaluation and report, with 80% of his fee paid by Kassenoff.
- 69. Abrams currently claims he is owed an additional approximate \$15,000 from Kassenoff.
- 70. Kassenoff also paid Abrams approximately \$400/hour to testify for several days on his behalf at a hearing in July 2020.
- 71. At the time Abrams commenced his evaluation in the Divorce Action in the Fall of 2019, he had been accused of sexual misconduct and "perversion" in other custody cases, such as the cases involving Cecilia Thomas and Stephanie Treanor. Dimopoulos and DB Law Firm were aware of these accusations at the time.
- 72. Dimopoulos and DB Law Firm represented one such accuser, Stephanie Treanor, in the Fall of 2019.
- 73. When Ms. Treanor wanted to disqualify Abrams as a result of his misconduct in her divorce case, *Treanor v. Treanor*, 51515/18 ("Treanor Divorce Case"), Dimopoulos and DB Law Firm moved to withdraw from representing her and would only agree to continue representing her if she withdrew her allegations against Abrams.
- 74. Dimopoulos' and DB Law Firm's ultimatum to Ms. Treanor is shockingly memorialized in a letter dated October 3, 2019 ("the Letter"). *See* Exhibit "4".
- 75. The Letter also sets forth an ultimatum with respect to Most, who was also the AFC in the Treanor Divorce Case.

- 76. The reason Dimopoulos and DB Law Firm took a position against their own client, Ms. Treanor, and in support of both Most and Abrams, is that they did not want to anger Most or Abrams and needed to align with them in order to further Kassenoff's custody position in the concurrent Divorce Action.
- 77. Most and Abrams were financially aligned with Kassenoff, who was paying and had promised to pay all of these individuals Most, Abrams, and Dimopoulos handsomely for their support against Plaintiff to "win" custody of the Children.
- 78. Dimopoulos' and DB Law Firm's unethical and fraudulent position against their own client, Stephanie Treanor, is the subject a lawsuit currently pending in New York County:

  Treanor v. Dimopoulos and Dimopoulos Bruggemann, PC, 67351/22 ("Treanor Lawsuit").
- 79. The Treanor Lawsuit alleges that Abrams is a "pervert" who sexually harassed her and also sexually harassed Cecilia Thomas, whom he made "lie on top of him" during a forensic interview.
- 80. During meetings with Plaintiff as part of the forensic evaluation, Abrams harassed her and asked sexually-inappropriate questions.
- 81. On March 25, 2020, Abrams issued his forensic custody report in which he recommended custody of the Children be given to Kassenoff over Plaintiff. Abrams provided this recommendation even though he knew that Plaintiff had been the long-time primary caregiver of the Children, had no mental health issues, and did not abuse alcohol, drugs or children.
- 82. Most immediately supported Abrams' recommendation, against the express preferences of the Children, who repeatedly said they wanted to live with Plaintiff.

- 83. Abrams' custodial recommendation rested primarily on a false and baseless finding that Plaintiff was "gaslighting" the Children to imagine they had been abused by Kassenoff when they had not.
- 84. Abrams had been provided with voluminous evidence of Kassenoff's physical and emotional abuse, including audio/videos of Kassenoff, admissions by Kassenoff, third party affidavits and statements, medical records, CPS reports, police reports and therapists' reports. Abrams ignored this evidence and discredited it in his findings.
- 85. Abrams also created a phony diagnosis for Plaintiff of an "unspecified" personality disorder in his findings.
- 86. Defendants knew Abrams' findings were fraudulent and based on falsehoods.
- 87. Two days after Abrams' report issued on March 25, 2020, Kassenoff moved by "emergency" ex parte order to show cause ("OSC") to remove Plaintiff from the marital home she co-owned with him. His OSC, for which Plaintiff was never provided an opportunity to be heard, resulted in Plaintiff's immediate eviction during the height of the COVID pandemic.
- 88. As a result of the *ex parte* application, Plaintiff was immediately rendered childless and homeless. The Divorce Court relied on Abrams' recommendations almost exclusively.
- 89. The Divorce Court disregarded the expert opinion of Plaintiff's therapist, an M.D., who strongly supported Plaintiff's firm mental health throughout the Divorce Action.
- 90. Since Abrams' phony diagnosis, the Divorce Court has rejected any so-called negative diagnosis of Plaintiff, saying in its Removal Order (removing Most for "cause"):

"[t]he mother in this case has no prior history of a mental illness, and there a report from her treating therapist, a psychiatrist, in the record stating she has no clinical mental health issues (See NYSCEF Doc. No. 2065). The only professional that diagnosed the mother with any mental health problem is the prior forensic evaluator in this case [Abrams], who, as noted, has since been removed from the Panel of Mental Health Practitioners by the Second Department. He had opined

- she had an 'unspecified personality disorder,' a diagnosis which has not, to the Court's knowledge, been made by any other professional before or since."
- 91. In the Summer of 2021, Plaintiff filed a complaint against Abrams with the Office of Attorneys for Children and the Mental Health Professionals Certification Committee ("MPCC"), alleging, among other things, that he made a false diagnosis of her, he minimized actual domestic abuse by Kassenoff, he was financially aligned with Kassenoff, he was harassing during interviews of her, and that he was misogynistic and biased.
- 92. One of the grounds that Plaintiff raised in her complaint against Abrams related to his public Facebook posts, which Dimopoulos knew about. The Facebook posts reveal unstable, angry and biased rants against politicians and women. See Exhibit "5".
- 93. For instance, on October 24, 2012, Abrams posted publicly:

If a woman votes republican, do they hate themselves or just have really, really LOW self-esteem?

Then on February 21, 2018, Abrams addressed a taunt as follows:

To all of our elected COWARDLY WHORES

Then on February 22, 2018, Abrams called on "Sane Citizens" to:

1) VOTE THE WHORES OUT OF OFFICE

On August 18, 2018, Abrams posted a photo of Rudolph Guiliani with this caption:

His head is now used as a rectal fissure plug for Trump.....

In numerous other posts, Abrams used deranged, foul and filthy language, such as "p\*ssy!", "whore", "prostitutes", "Republiscum", "jackass in chief", "NRA whore!", "douches", "COWARDLY WHORES!". He posted on January 21, 2018: "I think that Jessica Hahn sucked his brain out through his dick many years ago....." and on August 24, 2018 posted an image of a woman performing oral sex on a man reading a book.

- 94. On August 24, 2021, Abrams was removed in disgrace from the Panel of Forensic Custody Evaluators in the First and Second Judicial Departments ("Panel") at the recommendation of the MHPCC, based on Plaintiff's complaint. See Exhibit "6".
- 95. Most had in several court conferences and filings said that Abrams was "her" expert on another case in Orange County pending at the same time as the Divorce Action, that his Facebook posts were "funny", and that she had known him for decades.
- 96. Days after Abrams' removal from the Panel, upon information and belief, Most engaged in a campaign to re-instate Abrams to the Panel, by soliciting affidavits and letters of support from attorneys and judges (including Judge Lewis Lubell) in Westchester County and other counties. She undertook this solicitation during her representation of the Children in the Divorce Action.
- 97. Most's efforts failed, and Abrams remains a disgraced psychologist who continues to be excluded from membership on the Panel.

#### The Applications for Fraudulent Ex Parte Temporary Orders of Protection

- 98. Shortly after Abrams was removed from the Panel, Defendants and Most made their most draconian and false application to date against Plaintiff.
- 99. In July 2021, Plaintiff had secured a three-bedroom apartment in Larchmont Village within the school zone for the youngest child and within the school district for the other two Children.
- 100. Larchmont Village is a 1-square-mile village in Westchester County, New York.
- 101. As of July 6, 2021, Defendants had in place an *ex parte* temporary order of protection ("July 6 TOP") in favor of the Children, against Plaintiff, that required her to stay away from the Children's schools and the Marital Home.

- 102. The July 6 TOP did not contain any restrictions as to how far away Plaintiff had to stay, as TOPs often contain.
- 103. There had never been a hearing on the July 6 TOP before it was entered against Plaintiff; it was entered based only on Defendants' false statements to the Divorce Court.
- 104. Plaintiff did not violate the July 6 TOP by securing and inhabiting her apartment, which was across the street from a delicatessen she frequented, or by being at the delicatessen.
- 105. The delicatessen was located more than 150 yards away from the temporary location of one of the children's schools.
- 106. On September 9, 2021, Defendants, by Dimopoulos, falsely told Judge Lubell in open court:
  - "Your Honor, every time I think this case cannot get worse, it does. Just this morning, Mrs. Kassenoff showed up to a delicatessen that was across the street and one building over from [Child]'s school."
  - "I didn't know how, the other day she wrote threatening emails to my client, saying, on Rosh Hashonah, saying, Why isn't [Child] in school today, on Rosh Hashonah."

"This morning the nanny spotted her across the street lurking."

- 107. Plaintiff did not send threatening emails to Kassenoff.
- 108. Plaintiff was not "lurking" across the street.
- 109. On or about September 14, 2021, Defendants moved, on an "emergency" ex parte basis, to enhance the July 6 TOP, which had been issued by Judge Nancy Quinn Koba, falsely claiming that Plaintiff was "lying in wait" for her own Children one morning. The truth was that Plaintiff was simply walking her dog near her new apartment, as she was permitted to do.
- 110. In his sworn affirmation dated September 14, 2021, Dimopoulos made material false representations to the court in support of his *ex parte* TOP application:

"The stay-away provision of the TOP was clearly violated by [Plaintiff] by being 500 feet from the Marital Residence and on the path that the children take to school. Beyond that, the Defendant has clearly violated those provisions of the TOP that prohibit stalking."

"In addition to violating the TOP, the Defendant has clearly and irrefutably violated this Court's October 30, 2020 Order that directs that neither party may have unilateral contact with the children's therapist..."

- 111. Plaintiff was not required to be more than "500 feet from the Marital Residence" on September 14, 2021 or any time prior.
- 112. Plaintiff was not required to avoid "the path" to school on September 14, 2021 or any time prior.
- 113. Plaintiff did not "stalk" her own Children.
- 114. Plaintiff did not in fact violate the October 2020 order regarding the Children's therapists and there is no court order finding that she did.
- 115. In early September 2021, Dimopoulos falsely told the court that Plaintiff had "shown up" at one of the Children's schools, in violation of the *ex parte* July 6 TOP, when Plaintiff had never done so.
- 116. On September 15, 2021, Defendants obtained a "one mile stay away" TOP ("the One Mile Stay Away Order"), from Judge Lewis Lubell, who did not so much as hold a hearing before implementing this new TOP. *See* Exhibit "7". Judge Lubell simply wholesale adopted Defendants' false assertions in support of their application.
- 117. Just weeks prior, Judge Lubell had presided over the wedding of the disgraced Abrams. On or about November 20, 2021, Plaintiff posted on social media a photograph of Judge Lubell presiding over the wedding of Abrams. *See* Exhibit "8".

- 118. At conference on September 15, 2021, Judge Lubell unjustifiably and repeatedly threatened Plaintiff with the loss of her law license and with incarceration, screaming that she had violated court orders. Plaintiff had not violated court orders and had never been deemed to have violated any court orders.
- 119. At the conference before the Court on September 15, 2021, Dimopoulos continued to lie, with Kassenoff sitting next to him, about the events of June 23, 2021:

"And even then, Your Honor, when she had the choice when she saw [Child] and Mr. Kassenoff to just walk the other way, she did the exact opposite. She went over to the child and started talking to the child."

- 120. Plaintiff did not "go over to the child and start[] talking to the child." Plaintiff and the child ran into each other on the street and warmly, but briefly, greeted one another.
- 121. Dimopoulos continued to misrepresent the truth at the September 15, 2021 conference, saying:

"Your Honor, these children are scared. They are confused and they are scared. They walk to – [Child] walked to school on the first day of school and their mother was lurking across the street staring at her."

- 122. Plaintiff was never lurking or staring at her Children.
- 123. The Children were not ever scared of Plaintiff and would have no legitimate reason to be.
- 124. At the conference before the Court on September 15, 2021, in seeking incarceration of Plaintiff, Dimopoulos lied, with Kassenoff sitting next to him, about the Children's therapists. He said:

"[t]hey consistently get threatened" by Plaintiff.

Then, Dimopoulos lied as follows:

"On June  $23^{rd}$ , [Plaintiff] did something. She went near the kids which she wasn't supposed to do."

"you have six or seven violations". . . "since the date of the order of protection"

- "Your Honor, there is absolutely no question in my mind that [Plaintiff's] conduct warrants an order of incarceration. There's no question in my mind that unless she is incarcerated she will continue on a near daily basis to violate the orders of this court."
- 125. Plaintiff has never violated a court order or been found to have violated one.
- 126. Plaintiff was not restricted from being "near" the Children on June 23, 2021.
- 127. On September 15, 2021, Judge Lubell forced Plaintiff to miss a critical work meeting in order to appear before him, or risk issuance of an arrest warrant for failure to appear, rather than allow her to participate in the court conference remotely or at a different time.
- 128. By contrast, on both prior and subsequent occasions, Kassenoff was permitted to appear remotely and even entirely miss conferences with the Divorce Court.
- 129. Judge Lubell also unjustifiably stigmatized Plaintiff in open court by gratuitously saying she should "get help" and words to that effect, in order to discredit her.
- 130. After the September 15, 2021 conference, Dimopoulos emailed Judge Lubell, making additional false representations:
  - "Our recent investigation leads us to believe that [Plaintiff] has moved into an apartment at 17 Addison Street, which was rented just two weeks ago according to the Multiple Listing Service. If that is the case, the [Plaintiff] is located, literally, around the corner from the marital residence <u>directly</u> next to [Child's] school (and on the path to both [Child's] and [Child's] school). At the time she rented this apartment (or another nearby) she knew of the existence of the temporary order of protection. Moving 0.2 miles from the marital residence is in and of itself a violation of the existing TOP."
- 131. At no time did Plaintiff ever rent or try to rent or even visit an apartment at 17 Addison Street.
- 132. Defendants knew that Plaintiff did not rent an apartment at 17 Addison Street.
- 133. Defendants' goal was to have Judge Lubell rely on their misrepresentation about 17 Addison Street by issuing an immediate arrest warrant for Plaintiff.

- 134. In New York State, if there is reasonable cause to believe that an order of protection was violated, the police must make an arrest.
- 135. Moving 0.2 miles away from the marital residence would not have been "in and of itself a violation of the existing [July 6] TOP."
- 136. The One Mile Stay Away Order was so draconian that it required Plaintiff to immediately vacate her apartment in Larchmont, rendering her again homeless overnight and unable to see the Children.
- 137. From September 2021 to January 2022, Plaintiff lived like a nomad in hotels and the homes of friends and acquaintances, including in New York, New York, among other locations, in order to comply with the terms of the One Mile Stay Away Order.
- 138. Plaintiff had maintained a home office in her Larchmont apartment containing her legal files, research, and work materials.
- 139. Because Plaintiff was deprived of her home office in her Larchmont apartment in a sudden manner on September 15, 2021, she was unable to take on certain legal matters that would have increased her income.
- 140. After the conference on September 15, 2021, Plaintiff immediately left the Larchmont area, and her apartment, for fear of being in violation of the One Mile Stay Away Order.
- 141. The One Mile Stay Away Order had an expiration date of January 6, 2022 but had no restriction for contact of the Children by third parties.
- 142. Plaintiff stayed away from Larchmont, New York until after January 6, 2022 and had no contact with the Children during this entire time.
- 143. Plaintiff made numerous emergency applications to the Divorce Court to see her Children at, for instance, Christmas and Thanksgiving. Judge Lubell denied all her requests.

- 144. Plaintiff repeatedly asked for an immediate hearing to adjudicate the merits of the One Mile Stay Away Order, but her requests were either ignored or denied.
- 145. Judge Lubell did not agree to hold a hearing on the *ex parte* "emergency" TOP he issued on September 15, 2021 until November 5, 2021.
- 146. Judge Lubell's failure to hold an immediate hearing to adjudicate the merits of the One Mile Stay Away Order was a deprivation of Plaintiff's Constitutional rights and was retaliatory.
- 147. On or about September 23, 2021, Plaintiff gave public testimony about her ordeal with Abrams and his removal from the Panel for gross misconduct, before the New York Blue Ribbon Commission ("BRC"). She named him publicly and the testimony is/was available online and elsewhere.
- 148. Upon information and belief, Judge Lubell was made aware of Plaintiff's public testimony before the BRC on September 23, 2021. This testimony was provided as part of an earlier public hearing on September 9, 2021.
- 149. Upon information and belief, Judge Lubell\_was aware of certain public statements Plaintiff made on social media on September 4, 2021, in which she discussed her anticipated testimony about Abrams.
- 150. On September 16, 2021, Dimopoulos and DB Law Firm filed a letter ("the September 16 Letter") on behalf of Kassenoff in the Divorce Action in which they stated:

"During yesterday's appearance, the Court granted the Plaintiff's request for interim relief by modifying the temporary order of protection to provide for a one-mile radius. As the Court knows, law enforcement will likely only enforce an order on the Court's SC-1 form that they are accustomed to. Accordingly, I have prepared the attached proposed temporary order identical to Judge Koba's earlier [July 6] order – except for the bottom of page two which now states: 'observe such other conditions as are necessary to further the purposes of protection: Defendant shall stay at least one (1) mile away from persons and places listed above.' Given the fact that the Court has already issued an order with this relief –

- and I am merely asking for it to be presented on a different form I believe notice of settlement is unnecessary."
- 151. Defendants attached an SC-1 form to the September 16 Letter that was not, in fact, "identical to Judge Koba's earlier order except for" the one-mile provision.
- 152. While Defendants completed every single entry on the SC-1 form to correspond to Judge Koba's earlier order, they omitted a material term from their submission: the January 6, 2022 expiration date of the TOP.
- 153. Defendants' intention in omitting the expiration date on the SC-1 form, which had been January 6, 2022 in the July 6 TOP, was for the Divorce Court to change the expiration date.
- 154. Defendants intended for Plaintiff to be unaware of any change in the expiration date that the Divorce Court might make so that she might accidentally run afoul of it.
- 155. On or about September 23, 2021, Judge Lubell issued a "corrected" TOP against Plaintiff by uploading it to the NYSCEF e-file system ("Corrected TOP"). *See* Exhibit "9". He did not conference with the parties or advise or notify them that he was changing the terms of the One Mile Stay Away Order issued on September 15, 2021 to extend its expiration date.
- 156. In the Corrected TOP, while he kept all other provisions the same as in the One Mile Stay Away Order, Judge Lubell changed the expiration date from January 6, 2022 to February 16, 2022 and specifically required that the Corrected TOP be "served by the police."
- 157. Judge Lubell did not give any reason for "correcting" the expiration date in the Corrected TOP. Nor did Judge Lubell explain why the Corrected TOP said "both parties present in court," when they were not.
- 158. On or about September 24, 2022, Judge Lubell repeatedly directed Sargeant Lisa Pompilio of the Larchmont Police Department ("LPD") to serve the Corrected TOP on Plaintiff.

- 159. On or about September 25, 2021, after having long vacated her apartment and left the Larchmont area, Plaintiff received a phone call from Sergeant Pompilio. In sum and substance, Pompilio made clear on that call that she had a TOP to serve on Plaintiff, which she specifically said would not be valid or enforceable unless it was so served by a police officer.
- 160. As Sergeant, Pompilio had responsibility for directing and instructing the police officers at the LPD as to the handling of any TOP issued by a court of law against residents of Larchmont, New York.
- 161. The police officers of the LPD knew or should have known that the TOP had to be served on Plaintiff in order for it to be valid and enforceable.
- 162. No police officer or member of the LPD or any other police department ever served Plaintiff with a TOP in September 2021 or anytime thereafter.
- 163. Defendants provided and/or caused to be provided copies of the Corrected TOP and One Mile Stay Away Order with all the Children's schools.
- 164. In early October 2021, Plaintiff hired a former colleague from the U.S. Attorney's Office, Andrew Frisch, Esq., to defend her against Defendants' allegations in the TOP and other applications and challenge the validity and enforceability of the TOPs.

# The Numerous Attempts By Defendants to Have Plaintiff Falsely Arrested And Held in Contempt

- 165. Over the course of the next several months, Kassenoff– upon the advice of Defendants made numerous false reports to the LPD in an effort to have Plaintiff mandatorily arrested for supposed violation of the TOPs Defendants obtained *ex parte* from the Court.
- 166. Kassenoff also pressured and encouraged his live-in nanny Rebekah Wade ("Wade") to make false reports in an effort to have Plaintiff falsely arrested and/or prosecuted.

- 167. On October 25, 2021, an acquaintance of Plaintiff apparently texted one of the Children, which was permissible under the One Mile Stay Away Order and the Corrected TOP.
- 168. Nonetheless, on about October 28, 2021, Kassenoff handwrote a criminal complaint which he filed with the LPD, in which he misrepresented to the LPD that a TOP was in place that in fact prevented contact of the Children, on Plaintiff's behalf, by third parties and that the third party text was a violation of the TOP.
- 169. The LPD did not even contact Plaintiff about the text complained of because the report Kassenoff made was so frivolous and misleading.
- 170. Kassenoff knew the handwritten complaint he made on October 28, 2021 to the LPD was material and false because he knew there was no restriction on third parties to contact the Children on Plaintiff's behalf.
- 171. If that were not enough, Kassenoff went back to the LPD on October 29, 2021 to pressure Police Officer Zapata and other employees of the LPD again to mandatorily arrest Plaintiff, reporting the text again, in a second criminal complaint.
- 172. The LPD did not so much as contact Plaintiff about the text complained of because Kassenoff's report was so frivolous and misleading.
- 173. Upon information and belief, Kassenoff made these October 28 and 29, 2021 reports to the LPD on the advice of Dimopoulos and the DB Law Firm.
- 174. Throughout the Summer and Fall of 2021, Defendants and Most brought and/or supported no fewer than five (5) motions against Plaintiff in the Divorce Action, seeking her incarceration, which are designated therein as Motion Sequences # 28, 34, 40, 43 and 46.

  Defendants went so far as to tell the Court how Plaintiff's prison sentence should be served.

- 175. The serial "emergency" ex parte orders to show cause ("OSC") filed by Defendants included: (1) an ex parte OSC filed on June 25, 2021 in which they provided false facts in support of the July 6, 2021 TOP and for contempt ("MS #28"); (2) the ex parte OSC to request a "one mile stay away" on September 14, 2021 ("MS #34); (3) an ex parte OSC filed on October 26, 2021 for contempt of the extant TOP ("MS #40"); (4) an ex parte OSC filed on November 10, 2021 falsely claiming Kassenoff and the Children had been removed from medical coverage for 2022 ("MS # 43") and (5) an ex parte OSC filed November 30, 2021, claiming Plaintiff was in violation of a stayed "gag" order ("MS # 46") ("Serial Contempt Motions").
- 176. The Serial Contempt Motions asked for criminal and civil contempt penalties to be levied against Plaintiff.
- 177. Each of Defendants' contempt OSCs was more frivolous than the next, but terrifying for Plaintiff nonetheless, especially as they sought Plaintiff's repeated incarceration.
- 178. Plaintiff had never in her life had so much as a brush with the law. She had no criminal history whatsoever.
- 179. Plaintiff could not eat or sleep because she was so worried about the contempt charges, the TOPs, and her homelessness and reputation. She developed anxiety as well, exacerbated by her inability to contact her own Children, whose wellbeing she worried about while in the esclusive custody of Kassenoff.
- 180. Findings of contempt against attorneys like Plaintiff carry the likelihood of suspension or revocation of the attorney's law license. Defendants, all lawyers, knew this.
- 181. On November 5, 2021 Judge Lubell commenced a contempt hearing against Plaintiff ("the Contempt Hearing"). At the Contempt Hearing, the extant *ex parte* Corrected TOP (with

an expiration date of February 16, 2022) was adjudicated, along with the other Serial Contempt Motions and TOPs.

- 182. Neither Plaintiff nor her counsel were award of the terms of the Corrected TOP at the Contempt Hearing.
- 183. Kassenoff took the stand at the Contempt Hearing and, under oath and penalty of perjury, lied about the extant TOP, claiming it was "virtually identical" to the one he had issued *ex parte* on July 6, 2021 (with an expiration date of January 6, 2022) when he knew it was not "virtually identical."
- 184. Kassenoff went on to further mislead by falsely saying that the Corrected TOP had only one significant difference from the July 6 TOP: "[i]t was a one-mile stayaway" order.
- 185. Kassenoff knew that the Corrected TOP had an expiration date of February 16, 2022, which extended the July 6 TOP by over a month, and that this made the Corrected TOP materially different from the July 6 TOP.
- 186. At no time during his testimony did Kassenoff point out the change in the expiration date of the Corrected TOP.
- 187. Defendants concealed the later expiration date of February 16, 2022 at the Contempt Hearing and elsewhere because it was their goal to trick Plaintiff into thinking the expiration date was still January 6, 2022.
- 188. Defendants and Most sought to conceal the new expiration date of February 16, 2022 from Plaintiff in an effort to have her rely on the January 6, 2022 expiration date, return to Larchmont before February 16, 2022, and be mandatorily arrested.
- 189. Kassenoff also knew that the Corrected TOP contained a provision that it had to be "served by the police" ("Service Provision") which the July 6 TOP did not contain.

- 190. Kassenoff knew that the Service Provision was a material change to the July 6 TOP, thereby making his testimony at the Contempt Hearing false and misleading.
- 191. Dimopoulos and Most both solicited Kassenoff's false testimony about the TOPs at the Contempt Hearing, knowing it was false and misleading.
- 192. Kassenoff has authorized every single filing made by Defendants against Plaintiff in the Divorce Action. At the Contempt Hearing, he testified, in response to questioning by Plaintiff's counsel Andrew Frisch, on November 5, 2021 as follows:
  - Q: How many times, to your knowledge, has Mr. Dimopoulos submitted papers to the court in support of an application that [Plaintiff] be imprisoned?
  - A: I have no idea.
  - Q: Do you know whether or not he has done so?
  - A: He has.
  - Q: Have you authorized him to do so?
  - A: I have authorized everything he's done.
  - Q: So to the extent, so we're clear, I want the record to be clear to the extent that Mr. Dimopoulos has submitted papers to this court asking that [Plaintiff] be put in jail, you authorized that?
  - A: Yes.
- 193. On or about November 26, 2021, Plaintiff filed a grievance with the Commission on Judicial Conduct against Judge Lubell in which she detailed his inappropriate relationship with Abrams, numerous baseless threats to incarcerate and arrest her and refer her to the grievance committee, numerous baseless threats to hold her in contempt, and his intemperate demeanor which he displayed as screaming in the courtroom at her, among other retaliatory conduct and rulings he undertook during the Divorce Action.

- 194. On or about November 29, 2021, Judge Lubell announced to Plaintiff and Defendants that there was "strong support for recusal in this matter" and thereafter recused himself from the Divorce Action.
- 195. Judge Lubell also declared a mistrial of the numerous contempt motions pending against Plaintiff.
- 196. The contempt motion brought on or about November 30, 2021 (designated as MS #46) by Defendants was a flagrant attempt to silence Plaintiff from speaking publicly about her ordeal with Defendants.
- 197. The contempt motion brought on November 30, 2021 was sanctionable because Defendants brought this application the day *after* the Appellate Division stayed the very same "gag" order upon which Defendants sought contempt.
- 198. Defendants knew that the motion for contempt that they filed on November 30, 2021 was sanctionable and frivolous because on November 29, 2021, the Appellate Division stayed the order upon which they sought contempt.
- 199. Defendants lied in their motion for contempt in saying that the stayed order was in fact valid and enforceable.
- 200. On December 20, 2021, despite Judge Lubell's earlier recusal, he issued what can only be described as a retaliatory ruling to further restrict Plaintiff's access time with the Children at Christmas time and thereafter.
- 201. Plaintiff was given no contact whatsoever with the Children for Christmas, which was devastating to her. Similarly, Plaintiff was given no contact with the Children for Thanksgiving or Halloween or at all.
- 202. The absence of the Children in Plaintiff's life caused her unimaginable grief and pain.

- 203. On December 20, 2021, Kassenoff continued his attempts to have Plaintiff falsely arrested by going to the LPD to report an email Plaintiff had sent to him in which she made clear that she intended to publicize his harassment and abhorrent treatment of her. He tried to convince officers at the LPD that he was being physically threatened when he was not and that Plaintiff should be arrested.
- 204. The LPD did not so much as contact Plaintiff about the email complained of because Kassenoff's complaint was so frivolous and vindictive.
- 205. Eleven days later, on December 31, 2021, Kassenoff went back to the LPD. This time, he lodged a criminal complaint, with Police Officer Zapata and other police officers, about a standard preservation notice that Plaintiff had sent to his employer in connection with a lawsuit involving Dr. Susan Adler, who was the therapist for the Children.
- 206. Preservation notices are routinely sent by lawyers to entities that hold or control information relevant to a claim or lawsuit when litigation is "reasonably anticipated."
- 207. Kassenoff falsely reported to the LPD that the preservation notice was "harassment" of him and improperly sought Plaintiff's arrest.
- 208. The LPD did not so much as contact Plaintiff about the preservation notice complained of because Kassenoff's complaint was so frivolous.
- 209. On or about January 23, 2022, Plaintiff told Defendants, in an email, that because the One Mile Stay Away Order had expired on January 6, 2022, she wished to contact the Children.
- 210. Defendants knew that Plaintiff had never been served by the police with the Corrected TOP.

- 211. Evidencing Defendants' knowledge of the invalidity and unenforceability of the Corrected TOP, on or about January 23, 2022 Dimopoulos sent an email to Plaintiff (with a cc: to Kassenoff) purporting to contain a Dropbox link containing the Corrected TOP.
- 212. There was no need for Defendants to send this Dropbox link to Plaintiff if Plaintiff had been previously served with the Corrected TOP.
- 213. After the expiration of the One Mile Stay Away Order on January 6, 2022, Plaintiff returned to her apartment in Larchmont, having spent over four months homeless and moving around in New York City and other locations.
- 214. Plaintiff was relieved to finally be able to return to her belongings and her home.
- 215. Ruthlessly determined to have Plaintiff falsely arrested, on January 25, 2022, Kassenoff placed a phone call to the LPD, speaking with Sergeant Paprota and Officer Formisano, to demand the arrest of Plaintiff on the Corrected TOP he knew she had never been served with by the police.
- 216. A seasoned litigator and experienced attorney, Kassenoff falsely and materially told the LPD that Plaintiff had "again" "violated the valid order of protection". See Exhibit "10."
- 217. Kassenoff then followed up his phone call by going to the LPD at 10 p.m. on January 25, 2022 to complete a Domestic Incident Report ("DIR") against Plaintiff on behalf of the Children.
- 218. In his DIR, Kassenoff falsely stated that "the victim told him she was scared." The DIR also specified that the "victim" was Plaintiff's daughter and had been given a Victim Rights Notice.
- 219. Upon information and belief, Kassenoff made his reports on January 25, 2022 to the LPD on the advice of, with the knowledge of and/or at the urging of Dimopoulos, the DB Law Firm and Most.

- 220. Defendants were told by various members of the LPD, at various times between September 15, 2021 and January 25, 2022, that no order of protection had been served on Plaintiff.
- 221. But the LPD, like many others within the Larchmont community, was intimidated by Kassenoff and the Defendants.
- 222. Kassenoff was, at all relevant times, a member of the Larchmont Planning Board, which is a powerful board that approves or denies home and other building renovations and changes.
- 223. It was publicly-known in the Larchmont community, including at the LPD, that Kassenoff was a member of the Larchmont Planning Board.
- 224. Before Larchmont Planning Board meetings, the LPD routinely hand-delivered materials to Kassenoff in preparation for such meetings.
- 225. Neighbors have been too afraid to come forward against Kassenoff, to report his maltreatment of the family pets, because of his membership in the Larchmont Planning Board and stature in the Larchmont community.
- 226. Kassenoff's constant demands over the course of many months prompted the LPD to "canvas the area" on January 25, 2022, looking for Plaintiff.

## The False Arrest of Plaintiff on January 26, 2022 Lacked Probable Cause And Had Disastrous Consequences

- 227. On the morning of January 26, 2022, Plaintiff was arrested by a team of LPD police officers for supposed violation of the Corrected TOP.
- 228. Plaintiff was arrested based on the urging and pressure, over the course of numerous months, of Defendants.
- 229. Upon information and belief, Dimopoulos himself contacted the LPD on January 26, 2022 seeking Plaintiff's arrest.

- 230. Most and Defendants were in frequent contact with one another in the days before Plaintiff's arrest.
- 231. Defendants and Most knew the arrest they orchestrated of Plaintiff on January 26, 2022 was false and lacked probable cause because they knew that the Corrected TOP upon which they demanded Plaintiff's arrest had never been served on Plaintiff, per its explicit terms.
- 232. Defendants and Most also knew that Plaintiff believed the operative TOP in effect had expired on January 6, 2022.
- 233. It was because of Defendants' persistent efforts and pressure on the LPD that the LPD effectuated the arrest of Plaintiff on January 26, 2022 without probable cause, knowing that the Corrected TOP had never been served on Plaintiff.
- 234. The LPD knew that the arrest of Plaintiff lacked probable cause because their own Sergeant, Sergeant Pompilio, said in a phone call on September 25, 2022, in sum and substance, that the Corrected TOP had to be "served by police" in order for it to be valid and enforceable.
- 235. As Plaintiff was getting into her car on the morning of January 26, 2022, she was ambushed by Police Officers Paprota, Dicostanzo and Detective Daniel Hammond, who pinned her behind her car door while he was deciding whether or not to place her under arrest.
- 236. Pinning Plaintiff behind the door was unnecessarily forceful and caused Plaintiff emotional trauma and distress.
- 237. Plaintiff was placed in a marked police vehicle, hauled away in handcuffs, paraded directly in front of her daughter's school, cuffed, shaking and crying, in the small Larchmont Village community.
- 238. Plaintiff's humiliation and embarrassment were maximized by the arresting officers, who could have easily taken her through the back of the police precinct rather than force her to be

seen by school personnel and school parents at the front entrance of the precinct, which directly faced the front entrance of the school of one of Plaintiff's Children.

- 239. After arrest, Plaintiff was put into a cell at the LPD precinct at 120 Larchmont Avenue, Larchmont, New York. She was held in the cell for several hours, crying uncontrollably, during which her repeated requests to speak to her lawyer were ignored.
- 240. Plaintiff was thereafter fingerprinted, frisked, and not permitted to remove her full-length winter jacket.
- 241. On the afternoon of January 26, 2022, Plaintiff was arraigned in Larchmont, New York, on charges of Criminal Contempt in the Second Degree (New York Penal Law 215.50).
- 242. Plaintiff again retained Andrew Frisch to defend her against the charges, at significant cost.
- 243. At the time of her arraignment, Plaintiff was shackled at her waist and physically escorted by two or three armed LPD police officers, including officer Zapata and Detective Hammond.
- 244. Plaintiff appeared before Judge Thea Beaver, whom she knew as a fellow attorney in the legal community and who handled the seller's sale of a home Plaintiff had purchased a few years prior. It was humiliating for Plaintiff to be seen by Judge Beaver in this manner.
- 245. Judge Beaver apologized to Plaintiff, saying that there "must be some sort of mistake."
- 246. At the time of Plaintiff's arraignment on January 26, 2022, a criminal order of protection immediately issued that reinstated the "One Mile Stay Away Order" for another 6 months and that again required Plaintiff to immediately vacate her apartment in Larchmont.
- 247. Plaintiff was again immediately rendered homeless.

- 248. The lead Assistant District Attorney assigned to prosecute the criminal case against Plaintiff was Christine Paska ("Paska") of the Westchester District Attorney's Office ("DA").
- 249. The arrest on January 26, 2022 and subsequent proceedings were an emotionally and physically devastating experience for Plaintiff.
- 250. Plaintiff had a spotless record up to the point of her arrest, having been an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Eastern District of New York, a Special Counsel to the Governor of New York, and in-house counsel for various companies like Citibank.
- 251. Two days after the false arrest of Plaintiff on January 26, 2022, Kassenoff was back in the LPD attempting to further the prosecution of Plaintiff. On that day, he made a criminal complaint about a court filing a writ of habeas corpus ("the writ") that Plaintiff had properly filed in order to gain access to her Children and about emails in which Plaintiff legally threatened a lawsuit and attorney grievance in connection with her false arrest.
- 252. Kassenoff wanted a second arrest or charge brought against Plaintiff because the writ said Plaintiff "reside[d] in an undisclosed location in Larchmont, New York" and at the time she still had a leased apartment in Larchmont. *See* Exhibit "11". He went so far as to falsely claim: "My three girls and I are all very scared of Ms. Kassenoff and what she might try to do against us." *Id*.
- 253. Upon information and belief, Kassenoff relied on Dimopoulos and DB Law Firm in making the report to police on January 28, 2022 about the writ of habeas corpus.
- 254. Defendants knew that the report to police about the writ of habeas corpus was baseless and contained false and misleading statements.

- 255. Mere days later, on or about February 7, 2022, Plaintiff was immediately terminated from her 7-year employment with the State of New York. At the time, Plaintiff was in the midst of a 7-year background check. This was yet another emotionally devastating experience.
- 256. As a result of her termination, Plaintiff also lost all her health benefits at the end of February 2022 as well as the ability to contribute to her 401(k) plan and get matching contributions from her employer.
- 257. Plaintiff had an excellent work record with the State of New York for the entire 7 years she was employed there.
- 258. Upon information and belief, Defendants advised Plaintiff's employer of the false arrest and subsequent prosecution, or caused Plaintiff's employer to know of Plaintiff's false arrest and subsequent prosecution, in order to secure the termination from her job.
- 259. Kassenoff had on at least two prior occasions asked Plaintiff's employer to "investigate" her. Kassenoff admitted to one such attempt to have Plaintiff "investigated" at his deposition in the Divorce Action in June 2020.
- 260. Kassenoff knew that an arrest of Plaintiff while she held the position as Special Counsel for Ethics would be problematic for her employer.
- 261. Defendants sought to destroy Plaintiff's personal and professional reputations and to essentially make her unemployable as an attorney through misuse of TOPs, false reports to police, false arrests, false findings of contempt, and criminal prosecution.
- 262. Defendants and Most, all seasoned attorneys and litigators, knew that the grounds for Plaintiff's arrest and prosecution were invalid and fraudulent.
- 263. Defendants and Most orchestrated Plaintiff's arrest in order to harass her and cause severe emotional distress as well as to lose her job and ability to earn a living.

264. Defendants and Most also knew that Plaintiff had serious health issues from her two prior breast cancer diagnoses and related conditions.

# The Malicious Prosecution of Plaintiff Resulting in the Dismissal of All Charges and Vacatur of all Temporary Orders of Protection

- 265. Defendants enlisted the help of Kassenoff's live-in nanny, Rebekah Wade ("Wade"), in order to have Plaintiff maliciously prosecuted.
- 266. On January 27, 2022, Wade-beholden to Kassenoff as her employer was pushed by Defendants to make her own criminal complaint against Plaintiff.
- 267. Wade's contradictory sworn statement to the LPD (in particular, to Reporting Officer Zapata) first says that on January 25, 2022 Plaintiff "yelled at" one of the Children and then "yelled that [she] loved" her, from her car, and drove away.
- 268. Defendants knew that Plaintiff had done nothing wrong on January 25, 2022 because they knew she had not violated a valid and enforceable TOP and had not acted inappropriately when communicating with one of the Children.
- 269. By January 25, 2022, the One Mile Stay Away Order had expired.
- 270. Nonetheless, Defendants urged Wade to make false and misleading statements to the LPD on January 27, 2022.
- 271. On January 27, 2022, Paska and Most had a 42-minute conference in which Most pressured Paska to prosecute Plaintiff for supposed violation of the Corrected TOP, knowing that the basis for such prosecution was invalid, illegal and unconstitutional.
- 272. Thereafter, Most continued to pressure Paska to indict and/or prosecute Plaintiff, going so far as to volunteer and encourage her clients the Plaintiff's three minor Children to be interrogated by the DA to further the prosecution.

- 273. Most knew that the Corrected TOP had never been served on Plaintiff and that the Children were not fearful of Plaintiff.
- 274. Most urged Paska to prosecute Plaintiff at the behest and demand of Defendants and in order to further their interests.
- 275. In or about February or March 2022, Defendants personally met with the DA in order to pressure and importune the DA to prosecute Plaintiff.
- 276. Throughout January, February and March 2022, Most and Defendants pressured and importuned Paska and the DA to interrogate the Children, who were Most's own clients and loved Plaintiff.
- 277. In or about February or March 2022, Defendants brought Plaintiff's minor Children to be interrogated by the DA, despite there being no requirement to subject the Children to such interrogation, and with knowledge that the Corrected TOP was invalid.
- 278. Defendants and Most sought to have the Children questioned by the DA so that Plaintiff would be successfully but falsely prosecuted.
- 279. Defendants and Most coerced and/or tried to coerce the Children to falsely say that they were fearful of Plaintiff, in order to support the arrest and prosecution of Plaintiff.
- 280. Between approximately January and May 2022, Most also proposed and/or negotiated an employment opportunity for Paska at her law firm, MOST & SCHNEID, P.C., in order to secure her support in prosecuting Plaintiff.
- 281. Upon information and belief, Defendants were aware of Paska's hiring and had urged Most to hire Paska, in a bid to secure Paska's support in prosecuting Plaintiff.
- 282. Most offered and caused to be offered Paska a job as a lawyer at her law firm, MOST & SCHNEID, P.C., in or about May 2022.

- 283. Paska became an employee of Most's law firm, MOST & SCHNEID, P.C., in or about July 2022.
- 284. At the time Most undertook all of the above actions, Plaintiff had refused to pay her legal fees and had filed several complaints against her with the Office for Attorneys for Children and other grievance committees and oversight entities.
- 285. After Judge Lubell recused himself from the Divorce Action, the divorce case was referred to the Integrated Domestic Violence Part and Judge Susan Capeci began presiding.
- 286. On or about March 16, 2022, all criminal charges against Plaintiff were dismissed upon the motion and affidavit of the Assistant District Attorney, Christine Paska. The Honorable Susan Capeci dismissed the charges and vacated all orders of protection against Plaintiff, resulting in full vindication of Plaintiff. See Exhibit "12".
- 287. On or about April 5, 2022, Judge Capeci dismissed with prejudice every single one of Defendants' contempt motions based on purported violations of TOPs, with the exception of one designated as "MS#28", which had been previously deferred to trial. See Exhibit "13."
- 288. At a conference before the court on July 11, 2022, Judge Capeci commented that in her thirteen years on the bench, she had never seen the DA outright dismiss charges as they did in Plaintiff's case. She said, in response to Dimopoulos telling the Court that he and Kassenoff did not have Plaintiff falsely arrested:

"That's not the point. You're an attorney and this is a legal issue, and you keep referring, and you've done it before, how it's indisputable [Plaintiff] violated an order on some weird technicality for which you blamed Judge Lubell, I might point out, interestingly enough, She was not served. I've sat in this part 13 years. I've never seen the District Attorney's Office dismiss a case and they did in this case because there's no service." (Emphasis added).

#### The Damages To Plaintiff Are Extensive

- 289. After Plaintiff lost her job with the State of New York, she became unemployed immediately and lost all her benefits, including medical and dental, as well as her ability to contribute to a 401(k) plan for retirement and to her pension plan.
- 290. Defendants told numerous members of the legal community, parents, school administrators, and others that Plaintiff had been arrested and, in sum and substance, was "crazy" and a "criminal."
- 291. Plaintiff was treated poorly and excluded by various parents and other members of the Larchmont and legal communities as a result of Defendants' false statements about her and their knowledge of her arrest.
- 292. Defendants never removed or requested the removal of the TOPs from the Children's schools and other locations where they disseminated the TOPs.
- 293. Defendants deliberately failed to request the removal of any TOPs against Plaintiff because they hoped that a mistake might be made and the police called to arrest Plaintiff and in order to embarrass Plaintiff.
- 294. In undertaking their wrongful actions, Defendants ruined Plaintiff's reputation and ability to earn, in order to prevent her from having custody of the Children and in order to prevent her from fighting for her financial rights in the Divorce Action.
- 295. Plaintiff's annual income from employment went from over \$175,000 to less than \$60,000 after she was arrested.
- 296. Plaintiff became self-represented in the Divorce Action after she was arrested and continues to be self-represented on custody issues today.

- 297. Defendants falsely told Plaintiff's Children that Plaintiff was "crazy", "a liar" and "a criminal", which severely damaged Plaintiff's relationship with the Children after her arrest and prosecution.
- 298. Defendants have attempted to prevent Plaintiff from telling the Children that she was fully vindicated and that it was Defendants who had wrongfully orchestrated her arrest and prosecution.
- 299. As a result of Defendants' wrongdoing, Plaintiff was not able to resume contact with the Children until April 2022.
- 300. From approximately June 2019 to the present, Defendants attempted to prevent Plaintiff from restoring her reputation by speaking publicly about her ordeal, by threatening her with motions for contempt and *ex parte* applications for TOPs.
- 301. Plaintiff had great difficulty securing a new job post-arrest, as it was widely known that she had been the subject of a TOP and/or arrested.
- 302. Plaintiff's legal career was almost completely destroyed by Defendants' actions in obtaining fraudulent TOPs against her and having her falsely arrested and prosecuted.
- 303. After her arrest, Plaintiff was only able to secure work as a contract attorney.
- 304. Plaintiff has symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and anxiety from Defendants' actions in severely curtailing her time with her Children, subjecting her to arrest and prosecution, rendering her homeless, and stigmatizing her to the public.
- 305. Plaintiff hired Andrew Frisch to contest the fees that Most claimed she was owed but that were disallowed by the Court after her removal for cause.
- 306. Plaintiff paid Mr. Frisch over \$50,000 to challenge Most's fees, which resulted in a net benefit to Kassenoff, who paid nothing to challenge Most's fees.

- 307. Kassenoff and Most were found by the Court to have had an "unusual alignment".
- 308. The damages resulting from Defendants' wrongful actions include, without limitation, the following:
  - (a) Relocation expenses (including hotel expenses, clothing and storage expenses) from having to vacate Larchmont and Plaintiff's Larchmont apartment, for which she continued to have to pay rent, in an amount of at least \$50,000;
  - (b) Legal expenses in fighting the contempt charges, the false arrest, the malicious prosecution and related issues such as securing a vocational expert to provide testimony about the impact of the TOPs, arrest, and prosecution of Plaintiff on her legal career, as well as fighting Most's charges and representation of the Children, in an amount of approximately \$200,000;
  - (c) Expenses for Plaintiff's medical treatment and evaluation of approximately \$10,000;
    - (d) Emotional distress damages;
    - (e) Lost earnings and benefits; and
    - (f) Lost earning capacity.

## AS FOR A FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Abuse of Process – All Defendants)

309. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "308", with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein.

- 310. Kassenoff retained Dimopoulos and/or the DB Law Firm to cause the issuance of process by making filings and other statements in the Divorce Action, in order to persuade the Divorce Court to grant orders to show cause, with temporary orders of protection, and related relief, against Plaintiff.
- 311. Defendants made the filings and other statements against Plaintiff in the Divorce Action, with an intent to harm Plaintiff.
- 312. Defendants caused the issuance of process in the form of TOPs, a contempt hearing, and orders to show cause and related relief against Plaintiff.
- 313. Kassenoff retained Dimopoulos and/or the DB Law Firm to cause the issuance of process by making false reports to the LPD, in order to persuade the LPD to arrest Plaintiff.
- 314. Dimopoulos and/or the DB Law Firm advised Kassenoff to make false reports against Plaintiff, in order to persuade the LPD to arrest Plaintiff, with the intent to harm Plaintiff.
- 315. Kassenoff made false reports to the LPD with the intent to harm Plaintiff by causing the issuance of process.
- 316. Kassenoff retained Dimopoulos and/or the DB Law Firm to cause the issuance of process in the form of criminal charges, indictment and/or conviction, against Plaintiff by the DA, in order to harm Plaintiff.
- 317. Defendants met with the DA in order to pressure and importune the DA to prosecute Plaintiff knowing such prosecution lacked legal and factual basis.
- 318. Kassenoff caused the issuance of process by the DA, in order to harm Plaintiff.
- 319. Defendants knew that the issuance of process based on Plaintiff's violation of a TOP lacked probable cause.

- 320. Defendants knew that the issuance of process based on allegations raised at the Contempt Hearing lacked probable cause.
- 321. Defendants sought in bad faith to have the Divorce Court, the LPD and/or the DA deprive Plaintiff of her Constitutional right to parent her Children, to live in her Larchmont apartment, to earn a living, to move freely, and to be free of harassment, as well as her other civil rights ("Plaintiff's Civil Rights").
- 322. Defendants knowingly and willfully lied in their affidavits, affirmations, emails. Letters and other statements submitted to the Divorce Court in order to persuade the Divorce Court to deprive Plaintiff's Civil Rights.
- 323. Defendants lied in their statements to the LPD and/or to the DA, in order to persuade the LPD and/or the DA to deprive Plaintiff of Plaintiff's Civil Rights.
- 324. Defendants knowingly and willfully presented Kassenoff's false testimony to the Divorce Court at the Contempt Hearing.
- 325. Kassenoff authorized Dimopoulos and the DB Law Firm to act on his behalf and bind him.
- 326. Kassenoff is vicariously liable for the misdeeds and omissions of Dimopoulos and the DB Law Firm when that firm was acting through any natural person as an attorney or agent for Kassenoff.
- 327. Defendants intended to harm Plaintiff through the use of regularly issued process which they used in a perverted manner to obtain a collateral objective: here, to harm Plaintiff in a manner not justified by law and deprive Plaintiff of Plaintiff's Civil Rights.

- 328. Defendants used TOPs, contempt charges, criminal charges, false reports to police, and prosecution in a perverted manner in order to obtain retribution against Plaintiff for alleging Kassenoff abused her and the Children.
- 329. Defendants had no legal basis to use process against Plaintiff in order to subject her to TOPs, contempt findings, false police reports, arrest, prosecution and/or conviction.
- 330. Defendants' actions proximately caused Plaintiff to be subjected to utterly baseless contempt charges, contempt hearing, and unlawful arrest and prosecution, which required her to expend thousands of dollars in legal fees, moving fees, living expenses, and caused damage to her personal and professional reputation and earnings, as well as caused her emotional distress, anguish and anxiety and separation from her Children.
- 331. The aforesaid actions by Defendants constituted a deprivation of Plaintiff's rights under the Constitution and laws of the United States of America.
- 332. The charges and TOPs brought against Plaintiff by Defendants were unjustified because the charges were dismissed outright and all TOPs vacated. Plaintiff was completely vindicated.
- 333. The contempt charges brought against Plaintiff by Defendants were unjustified because they were dismissed with prejudice. Plaintiff was fully vindicated.
- 334. Defendants' false police reports were terminated in Plaintiff's favor.
- 335. As a result of their wrongful acts in applying for TOPs based on falsehoods and making false reports to police, whom they importuned to arrest Plaintiff, Defendants are liable for both compensatory and punitive damages in an amount to be determined by the trier of fact.
- 336. Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount that exceeds the jurisdictional limits of all lower courts which would otherwise have jurisdiction.

#### AS FOR A SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(False Arrest and Imprisonment - All Defendants)

- 337. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "308", with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein.
- 338. Defendants obtained TOPs against Plaintiff based on false affidavits and false statements they submitted to the Divorce Court.
- 339. Defendants were directly and actively involved in the initiation of Plaintiff's arrest on January 26, 2022 and subsequent prosecution by the DA, on the basis of the TOPs they obtained with their false affidavits and statements.
- 340. Defendants importuned and pressured the LPD to arrest Plaintiff from in or about October 2021 through January 2022 on the basis of false reports and statements about Plaintiff.
- 341. Defendants lacked probable cause, or any cause whatsoever, to initiate the arrest and prosecution of Plaintiff.
- 342. Defendants were aware that the arrest of Plaintiff on January 26, 2022 was false and baseless and that the subsequent prosecution of her was illegal and baseless.
- 343. Defendants acted with malice in initiating the arrest and prosecution of Plaintiff.
- 344. Defendants acted with malice in continuing the prosecution of Plaintiff.
- 345. Defendants' actions proximately caused Plaintiff to be subjected to an utterly baseless and unlawful arrest and prosecution, which required her to expend thousands of dollars in legal fees, moving fees, living expenses, and caused damage to her personal and professional reputation and earnings, as well as caused her emotional distress, anguish and anxiety and separation from her Children.

- 346. The aforesaid actions by Defendants constituted a deprivation of Plaintiff's rights under the Constitution and laws of the United States of America.
- 347. Defendants undertook the above wrongful actions in retribution for her claims that Kassenoff had abused her and the Children.
- 348. The charges and TOPs brought and applied for against Plaintiff by Defendants were unjustified because the charges were dismissed outright and all TOPs vacated. Plaintiff was completely vindicated.
- 349. As a result of their wrongful acts in applying for TOPs based on falsehoods, where they knew the TOPs were invalid and unenforceable, and making false reports to police, whom they importuned to arrest Plaintiff, Defendants are liable for both compensatory and punitive damages in an amount to be determined by the trier of fact.
- 350. Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount that exceeds the jurisdictional limits of all lower courts which would otherwise have jurisdiction.

### AS FOR A THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Prima Facie Tort – All Defendants)

- 351. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "308", with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein.
- 352. Defendants' sole motivation for undertaking the series of actions against Plaintiff described herein was their disinterested malevolence.
- 353. Defendants maliciously intended to harm Plaintiff in order to retaliate against her for alleging domestic abuse against Kassenoff.
- 354. Defendants proximately caused special damages to Plaintiff, including but not limited to:
- (a) denigration of her personal and professional reputation, (b) lost earning capacity, (c) lost

- earnings, (d) severe emotional distress, (e) legal fees, (f) loss of time with her Children, (g) homelessness; and (h) legal fees to defend against Defendants' tortious conduct.
- 355. Defendants' actions were not justified in or excused by law.
- 356. The actions undertaken by Defendants in the Divorce Action were otherwise lawful.
- 357. As a result of their wrongful acts in applying for and then seeking the findings of violations of invalid and unenforceable TOPs that they knew had been obtained based on falsehoods, and by making false reports to police, whom they importuned to arrest Plaintiff, Defendants are liable for both compensatory and punitive damages in an amount to be determined by the trier of fact.
- 358. Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount that exceeds the jurisdictional limits of all lower courts which would otherwise have jurisdiction.

# AS FOR A FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Judiciary Law § 487 – Dimopoulos and DB Law Firm)

- 359. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "308", with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein
- 360. Defendants Dimopoulos and DB Law Firm, attorneys, are guilty of deceit and/or collusion in depriving Plaintiff of Plaintiff's Civil Rights.
- 361. Defendants Dimopoulos and DB Law Firm consented to the deceit and/or collusion.
- 362. Defendants Dimopoulos and DB Law Firm intended to deceive the Divorce Court and/or Plaintiff by engaging in conduct and/or making materially false statements that furthered and attempted to further the deprivation of Plaintiff's rights.

- 363. On the basis of Dimopoulos' and DB Law Firm's materially false statements, the Divorce Court issued process against Plaintiff that was baseless and ultimately dismissed outright.
- 364. Defendants Dimopoulos' and DB Law Firm's misconduct in depriving and attempting to deprive Plaintiff of Plaintiff's rights caused emotional and financial injury to Plaintiff.
- 365. Defendants Dimopoulos and DB Law Firm engaged in a chronic and extreme pattern of legal delinquency by bringing serial baseless applications for TOPs against Plaintiff, lodging baseless contempt charges against Plaintiff, and conducting a baseless contempt hearing against Plaintiff.
- 366. The Divorce Court relied on Dimopoulos' and DB Law Firm's material falsehoods in issuing process against Plaintiff.
- 367. The issuance of process against Plaintiff proximately caused her both financial and emotional damage.
- 368. Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount that exceeds the jurisdictional limits of all lower courts which would otherwise have jurisdiction.
- 369. Treble damages for Defendants' misconduct are warranted.

# <u>AS FOR A FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF</u> (Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress – All Defendants)

- 370. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "308", with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein.
- 371. Defendants' actions against Plaintiff were outrageous.
- 372. Defendants undertook their actions purposefully, intentionally and/or recklessly.
- 373. Defendants' actions could be reasonably expected to affect the mental health of Plaintiff because the emotional distress caused was so severe.

- 374. Defendants' actions did in fact cause emotional distress of Plaintiff.
- 375. As a result of their wrongful acts, Defendants are liable for both compensatory and punitive damages in an amount to be determined by the trier of fact.
- 376. Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount that exceeds the jurisdictional limits of all lower courts which would otherwise have jurisdiction.

### <u>AS FOR A SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF</u> (Negligent Infliction of Emotional Distress – All Defendants)

- 377. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "308", with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein.
- 378. Defendants' actions created an unreasonable risk of causing Plaintiff emotional distress.
- 379. Plaintiff's emotional distress was foreseeable because Defendants knew or should have known that causing process to issue against Plaintiff, resulting in her arrest/prosecution and contempt charges and hearing, would be detrimental to her well-being, abusive and cruel.
- 380. Defendants caused immense and potentially irreversible emotional damage to Plaintiff by causing the separation of Plaintiff from her Children for several months, ruining her personal and professional reputations, causing her to have anxiety and symptoms of PTSD, destroying her legal career and depleting her finances by forcing her to defend herself at great cost.
- 381. As a proximate result of Defendants' conduct alleged herein, Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount to be proven at trial but that exceeds the jurisdictional limits of all lower courts which would otherwise have jurisdiction.

## AS FOR A SEVENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF (Defamation – All Defendants)

- 382. Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs numbered "1" through "308", with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein.
- 383. Defendants made written and oral false statements about Plaintiff, purporting to be fact.
- 384. Defendants published false statements of fact about Plaintiff in court filings, emails, letters, affidavits and police reports to third parties.
- 385. Defendant orally made false statements of fact about Plaintiff to court personnel, police, school administrators, parents and other third parties.
- 386. Defendants were negligent and/or reckless with regard to the truth in making such false statements of fact about Plaintiff.
- 387. Defendants knew or should have known that their statements of fact were false and misleading.
- 388. Defendants' publication of false statements of fact about Plaintiff harmed Plaintiff's reputation.
- 389. Defendants' false statements of fact caused Plaintiff financial and emotional harm because they harmed Plaintiff's reputation.
- 390. As a result of their wrongful acts, Defendants are liable for both compensatory and punitive damages in an amount to be determined by the trier of fact.
- 391. Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount that exceeds the jurisdictional limits of all lower courts which would otherwise have jurisdiction.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff requests a trial by jury and that:

she be awarded compensatory and punitive damages, inclusive of reasonable costs and fees, against Defendants as to the First, Second, Third, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Causes of Action;

she be awarded compensatory and treble damages, inclusive of costs and fees, against Defendants Dimopoulos and the DB Law Firm as to the Fourth Cause of Action; and the Court award such other and further relief as shall be just and proper.

Dated: White Plains, New York March 14, 2023

Bv:

Catherine Kassenoff, *Pro Se* 224 Purchase Street, Apt. A1,

Rye, New York 10580

ckassenoff@yahoo.com; (917) 836-5200

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF WESTCHESTERX		
CATHERINE KASSENOFF,		X
-against-	Plaintiff,	Index No. 150761/2023  VERIFICATION
ALLAN KASSENOFF, CONSTANTINE "GUS" DIMOPOULOS, and DIMOPOULOS BRUGGEMANN, P.C.		
	Defendants.	v
STATE OF NEW YORK	) ss:	X
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER	)	
CATHERINE KASSENOFF, ESQ., being duly sworn deposes and says:  I am an attorney duly admitted and authorized to practice law in the Courts of the State of New York. I am the <i>pro se</i> plaintiff in the above-captioned proceeding and swear that the foregoing Verified Complaint is true to my own knowledge and belief, except as to matters therein stated to be alleged on information and belief, and to those matters, I believe them to be true.  New York, New York  Dated: March, 2023  By:  Catherine Kassenoff, Esq.  224 Purchase Street, Apt. A1  Rye, New York 10580  Tel: (917) 836-5200  Email: ckassenoff@yahoo.com		
Sworn to before me this 14 day of Notary Public CON	SCOTT W. ( NOTARY PL STATE OF NEV REG. NO. 01CF	JBLIC NYORK R6390567