

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA,
 Petitioner,
 v.
 LETITIA JAMES, IN HER OFFICIAL CAPACITY AS THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK,
 Respondent.

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 § AFFIDAVIT OF THOMAS H. KING
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 § Index No. 158019/2019
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 § Motion Sequence 001
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State of New York)
)
 County of _____) ss:

1. My name is THOMAS H. KING. I am above the age of eighteen years, have never been convicted of a felony, and am fully competent to make this affidavit. The statements set forth below are true and correct and, unless otherwise qualified, are based upon my personal knowledge.

2. I am a life member of the National Rifle Association of America (the "NRA") and a member of the NRA Board of Directors. I am also the Executive Director of the New York State Rifle and Pistol Association, an official NRA-affiliated State Association which is the largest and oldest Second Amendment advocacy organization in New York State. I deeply support the advocacy mission of the NRA. As a Board member, I am also a fiduciary of the NRA.

3. I am submitting this affidavit because it is my view that Lt. Col. Oliver North ("North") intentionally breached his fiduciary duties to the NRA in the past, and I am concerned that he may compromise the NRA's confidences, including by disclosing potentially privileged information belonging to the NRA or its Board of Directors.

4. On April 25, 2019, I received an open letter from the NRA's Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer, Wayne LaPierre. A true and correct copy of that letter is attached hereto as Exhibit A. The letter recounts an apparent extortion threat delivered by North, at the behest of his employer, the NRA's former ad agency, Ackerman McQueen, Inc. ("Ackerman"), shortly prior to the NRA's Annual Meeting of Members in April 2019.

5. I was not directly a party to any of the telephone calls or conversations where the extortion threats reportedly occurred. However, I have known Wayne LaPierre for decades, and know him to be a man of character and integrity. As such, I found his letter shocking, but credible. I also understand that the account given by LaPierre in his letter is corroborated by two witnesses and numerous documents.

6. LaPierre circulated his letter on the evening of August 25, 2019. It is my understanding that the next day, North left Indianapolis and indicated he would not seek re-election as NRA President.


7. Shortly thereafter, the expense records which North and Ackerman reportedly threatened to "leak" appeared mysteriously on the Internet. The *New York Times* noted the coincidence, commenting that "North's threat effectively came to fruition[.]"¹

8. Based on the above information, as well as years of direct interaction with North, LaPierre, and others involved in these events, I have serious concerns in my capacity as an NRA fiduciary about entrusting North to protect the NRA's privileges or confidences. For this reason, I filed an official complaint with the Ethics Committee of the NRA Board of Directors, requesting that North be expelled from the NRA (and, concomitantly, removed from the Board of Directors).

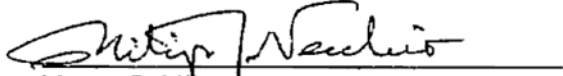
¹ A true and correct copy of the above-referenced *New York Times* article is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

9. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Executed this 19th day of August, 2019.


Thomas H. King

Sworn to before me this 19th day of August, 2019.


Notary Public

PHILIP J. VECCHIO
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 4803561
Qualified in Rensselaer County
Commission Expires October 31, 2022