

FEDERAL LAWSUIT FILED AGAINST GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY COMMISSIONER RON CLOUS & GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY

SUIT ALLEGES TERRORIZING AND INFLICTING EMOTIONAL TRAUMA ON TRAVERSE CITY WOMAN AFTER PULLING AN AR-15 ASSAULT RIFLE ON HER



ROYAL OAK, MI, UNITED STATES, April

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FEDERAL LAWSUIT FILED AGAINST

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY

COMMISSIONER RON CLOUS AND GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY

FOR CONSTITUTIONAL VIOLATIONS

SUIT ALLEGES TERRORIZING AND INFLICTING EMOTIONAL TRAUMA ON TRAVERSE CITY WOMAN AFTER PULLING AN AR-15 ASSAULT RIFLE ON HER

NEWS CONFERENCE WITH ATTORNEY BLAKE RINGSMUTH AND VICTIM PATRICIA MACINTOSH WHO WILL BOTH ADDRESS THE MEDIA, TO BE HELD AT

PARK PLACE HOTEL AT 11:30 AM EST ON TUESDAY APRIL 13TH 300 E. STATE STREET IN TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN

TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN— First he pulled an AR-15 Assault Rifle on her, then he laughed in her face in an effort to send a message of fear into a Grand Traverse County woman Patricia Macintosh, and others that disagreed with his support of the Proud Boys hate group's violence this past January. These are some of the many allegations being made in a Federal Lawsuit (Case # 1:21-cv-309) which was filed TODAY, APRIL 12TH which names Grand Traverse County Commissioner, Ron Clous, and others. The Lawsuit is being filed in United States District Court, Western District of Michigan, Southern Division. The incident took place at a public Grand Traverse County Board of Commissioners meeting on January 21st of this year, when the 74-year-old Patricia Macintosh asked elected county officials to "please make some sort of a public statement" condemning the violent behavior by Proud Boys during the insurrection at the nation's Capital Building on January 6th. Commission Vice-Chair, Ron Clous responded by

grabbing an AR-15 assault rifle and brandished it with a menacing smirk on his face, while the Commission Chair looked on laughing in support. Although the community demonstrated outrage by repeatedly demanding Clous' resignation and/or an apology, none has been offered. The County Commission has additionally failed to censure Clous's threatening behavior or move to prevent him or other Commissioners from similar unconstitutional actions in the future.

In the aftermath, Patricia Macintosh received threatening phone calls and lives in fear, given how groups such as Proud Boys respond to those who don't share their beliefs. Despite this, she is asking the Court to deem this threatening behavior illegal and unconstitutional and to declare and order that it never happen again. Attorney Blake Ringsmuth, and the law firm of Ringsmuth Wuori, PLLC of Traverse City are representing Patricia Macintosh and "standing up for the rights she and the rest of us cherish and see that they not be taken for granted, here in Grand Traverse County, or anywhere in this great country."

Please see the <u>embedded video</u> here of gun incident as well as still photos attached in release. To attend news conference remotely, please Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82983745405?pwd=MEx2OU1OdHdnRENCUGdpRGJKeWRMQT09

Meeting ID: 829 8374 5405

Passcode: 223538

Patricia Macintosh will be in attendance and will address the media at the news conference along with her

attorney, Blake Ringsmuth. Mr. Ringsmuth is available for advance and day-of interviews and the media is welcomed to attend in person or via Zoom.

Media credentials required for attendance.

Copies of the Federal Lawsuit will be available for those in attendance and is also attached here in a PDF file.

The law firm Ringsmuth Wuori, PLLC practices in the field of civil rights, personal injury and employment law and are nationally recognized for their successful representation.

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