

Dear Knox County Merit System Council:

On or around March 27, 2020, I was asleep at my now ex-boyfriends home in Powell, Tennessee. I was awoken by Westley Keck hitting my lower back while he screamed that we were breaking up and for me to get out.

As I was waking up he grabbed my leg and pulled on me. He then came to the side of the bed I was laying on and grabbed my right arm and began to pull me out of the bed. My legs and feet had become tangled in the blanket. I was unable to hold myself up as he pulled me and I fell on my knees from the bed as he pulled me.

I quickly gathered my things as he followed closely behind still yelling at me and I left.

I gave a more detailed account of Mr. Keck physically assaulting me in the Knox County General Sessions Court Preliminary Hearing when I testified under oath. I ask that you please listen to my testimony and the Judge's ruling where he found there was probable cause that Mr. Keck assaulted me and bound it over to the Knox County Grand Jury.

On or around March 30, 2020, my mother (Lorie Spears) was at work at the Roger D. Wilson Detention Facility. She was an employee of the Knox County Sheriff's Office at that time. While there, she overheard part of a conversation between two correctional officers (C.O. Hall and C.O. Hickman) mentioning Westley Keck, bruises, and another officer (C.O. Jenkins). My mother had noticed my bruises and wondered if the conversation she heard possibly correlated to my bruises. She asked C.O. Hickman about what she had heard, and the officer confirmed that Westley Keck and C.O. Jenkins had previously dated. Apparently, C.O. Jenkins had confided in Hickman that she had hid from Westley Keck in a closet and also had been assaulted by Mr. Keck, just like me.

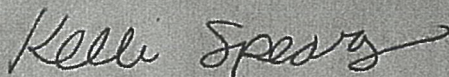
On or around March 31 2020, my mother returned home from working overnight. She asked to speak with me and then explained what she had learned. She then asked me for the final time if Westley Keck had caused my bruises, and I confided in her telling her that he did give me the bruises. That evening/night when she arrived at work, Westley Keck made a gesture towards her, and she responded implying what she knew what he had done to me. Lieutenant Smith asked to speak with her aside and asked if something was wrong. She told Lieutenant Smith what I had said Mr. Keck did to me and showed him pictures of my bruises.

On or around April 1, 2020, I received a call from a number I did not recognize. The call was from Detectives Hummel and Aken asking to speak with me about Westley Keck. I agreed and told them of the previous events. The Detectives also took pictures of my bruises.

The incident I detailed above was not the only instance where Westley Keck hit me or intimidated me. Previously, he had tried pulling jewelry off of me, backed me into walls, and would bite me. In one instance I was looking through laundry at Westley Keck's home when I blacked out and woke up on his couch.

I appreciate this court working with Mr. Havasy so that I may be heard even though I am unable to attend the hearing. I am choosing not to attend because I live in Georgia, the cost of travel, and fear for my safety around Mr. Keck.

I ask that you please uphold the Sheriff's decision. Mr. Keck has no business being in a position of power over anyone after what he has done to me.



Kelli Spears

EXHIBIT

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