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Attorney Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 9, 2024

By: BRETT PRITCHARD,

The Law Office of Brett H. Pritchard releases the following authorized statement on behalf of their client Megan Black:

Mrs. Black Retained the services of the Pritchard Law firm in July of 2022 to initiate proceedings to dissolve her marriage to her husband, Gordon Black. Mr. and Mrs. Black have known each other since 2014 and got married in Belton, Texas after they both relocated there from out of state when Mr. Black became stationed at Fort Cavazos. As has now come to public attention, Mr. Black, an active duty soldier with the United States Army, was recently detained by the authorities inside Russia on allegations that he committed criminal violations while traveling within the country.

Megan Black wishes to make clear that she had no advance knowledge of Mr. Black's intentions to travel to Russia, much less provide any encouragement or assistance pertaining to his actions. Mrs. Black first became aware of Mr. Black being absent from his assigned duty location when the investigations branch of the Army reached out to Mrs. Black seeking any information she might have regarding what was, at that time, a missing person investigation. Mrs. Black only became aware of the nature of the current situation when it was reported on by the media, and she has no additional information about this matter other than what has already been reported publicly. Nevertheless, Megan Black firmly believes that Mr. Black's decision to travel to Russia, while ill-advised, was motivated by entirely personal reasons involving an extra-marital affair between himself and a Russian National and that Mr. Black is not involved in any form of geopolitical intrigue.

It is Mrs. Black's desire that her husband obtains a prompt and fair resolution to his current legal situation and is able to secure his release back home as soon as possible, whether this is done through his due process rights under the Russian Federation's domestic law and international treaty obligations or through diplomatic means between the countries involved.

Mr. and Mrs. Black share a 6-year-old daughter from their 9-year marriage together, and this entire state of affairs has created substantial distress for her child, who has to deal with the dual uncertainty of not knowing when she will see or hear from her father again, nor understanding how she and her mother will move forward with their lives under conditions where her parent's legal status and property ownership are kept in limbo by a Texas family law court pending a potentially indefinite resolution of Mr. Black's incarceration status.

Megan Black will continue to pursue her state domestic relations case to ensure that her financial and parental interests are protected. The well-being of her daughter remains her highest priority. In this regard, Megan Black wishes that the public respects her family's privacy during this difficult time and specifically requests that any inquiries be directed to her attorney at the above-listed contact information.

Respectfully,

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Attorney for MEGAN MARIE BLACK

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