

**DECLARATION OF LEAH SOLOMON IN SUPPORT OF
STATEMENT OF CHARGES FOR RECALL OF
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, JENNY A. DURKAN**

I, Leah Solomon, declare and state as follows:

1. The information contained in this declaration is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and I am of majority age.

2. I attended each day of protests from 5/29 onward, with just a few days off.

3. On 5/29 almost immediately upon entering downtown our group was corralled and split, chased up hills and eventually fired on with flash bangs and tear gas. I did nothing but walk through the street, and turn around and walk the other way when I was told to disperse.

4. On 5/30, I arrived to the protests downtown about 15 minutes passed the scheduled march time of 3pm. I had just read online that the police were willing to let us march and this protest was cleared to proceed as intended.

5. When I arrived, almost instantly police lined up in the middle of the group and began to split us off from one another. Flash bangs, gas and other “crowd dispersal” tactics began immediately.

6. I was the recipient of pepper spray myself and experienced burning in my eyes, nose and throat which made it very difficult for me to run in the opposite direction, which seemed to be the instruction. We never got answers as to why we weren’t allowed to march. I found out by a police officer yelling in my face at 5:05 that there was a curfew just handed down by the mayor for 5pm.

7. On 5/31 I met the crowd downtown and marched up the hill to the E precinct where we were not allowed to march by. What followed was something that would become the regular nightly activity for the subsequent week.

8. Our group would remain stationary at the barricade, chat, speak, hold space, until eventually the police would lose their patience and begin indiscriminately pepper spraying, tear gassing and flash banging us.

9. I was again the recipient of some chemical agent which resulted in burning in my eyes, nose and throat, causing days of discomfort. I was also the recipient of a flash bang thrown right at my feet as I was headed in the other direction away from the barricade as directed by the

police themselves. I have experienced PTSD symptoms of hyper-vigilance, inability to sleep and an increase in depression and emotional detachment.

10. I still cannot believe the violence that was perpetrated against the people of Seattle at the hands of our police force and mayor, after all that we've been through trying to reform this organization.

Signed this 14th day of June 2020 at Seattle, Washington. I declare that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

By: _____

Leah Solomon