

Ms Stott Despoja,

Below is a description of the abuse I have endured and the experiences I have had when attempting to report my situation.

I began chatting with [REDACTED] on the [REDACTED] dating site for about two weeks. We went on two dates and continued texting. On our first date, I shared that I am bisexual. I left my marital home on September 9, [REDACTED] and called [REDACTED] to let him know I had left my husband and would stay in a hotel. I was in a very vulnerable headspace, and I wasn't mentally right. [REDACTED] invited me to come directly to his house, which I did. He then insisted that I move in with him to avoid the hassle of finding a new place. I accepted his offer because I was developing feelings for him. [REDACTED] was very charming and promised to look after me and help me with my divorce from my ex-husband, knowing that I was leaving due to domestic violence.

[REDACTED] knew I would receive a settlement from selling my marital property. After I moved in, he was very convincing about his wealth and assured me he would support me through this difficult period. Two weeks later, he took me to [REDACTED] making grand promises about our future involving business and travel. He came to all my lawyer meetings and knew everything. He paid \$2k of my lawyer fees. He knew all my finances I would receive after settlement.

However, [REDACTED] began to exploit my sexuality. As a bisexual woman, he pressured me into uncomfortable situations, such as threesomes (I agreed on a few occasions), meeting women and discussions about polyamory relationships, which I made clear I was not interested in. He thought he had the right to control me sexually and I felt obliged and scared if I said no. He would take me out and women would be waiting without me knowing and sometimes arranging for me to meet women for his sexual benefit. I felt that sometimes when I didn't want sex, he would force himself on me and I would lay there and take it.

[REDACTED] has been active on multiple dating sites, claiming to be semi-retired and working as a currency trader, this was a way for him to get women to invest. I have evidence that he solicits multiple women to invest in various schemes. He is also on [REDACTED] under the username [REDACTED]. I have reported this to the police but there has been no investigation on financial fraudulent activity.

These are bits of messages [REDACTED] has communicated to other women.

This is all the recent conversation with multiple women he is currently talking to 27 women. This is how he lures women into trading.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

During my legal battle with my ex-husband, [REDACTED] persuaded me to accept a settlement of [REDACTED] which I initially disagreed with, however, he insisted I take it so it's all over and done. He insisted on us opening joint accounts to deposit all my settlement and wages into. My settlement was transferred on [REDACTED] and he withdrew it on [REDACTED]. Then he moved the money into an international transfer account I had no idea about it. He also withdrew my COVID-19 superannuation payments to international transfers on [REDACTED] 2020, and [REDACTED] 2020. He forced me to sell my [REDACTED] once sold \$15K went into our joint bank account then he transferred the money to an international account.

[REDACTED] has drained all my money over the past three and a half years. He invested \$3,000 into the [REDACTED] to start currency trading under their name, avoiding taxes. He opened multiple currency trading accounts in my name without my consent or any signed documents. His actions included physical and financial abuse, stalking, contacting my family and friends, and sexual abuse (which I did not report to the police). He displayed conman behaviour, selfishness, controlling actions, and disrespect. He went through my phone while I was asleep, contacted my work colleagues, and spread malicious rumours about me.

During our relationship, He assaulted me on several occasions. On [REDACTED] he pulled my hair and held me up by my throat against a wall outside a pub because I wanted to go home. He would push and chase me around the house to grab my phone off me. Whilst I slept, he would take my phone, scan face recognition, and look through my phone.

We were away in our caravan and on [REDACTED] I received a message on my mobile phone then he assaulted me, ripped my nail off and I had bruising over my body due to him grabbing and pushing me around as I was trying to get away.

During our relationship in [REDACTED] I didn't feel myself and no longer wanted to die because I couldn't take the abuse anymore. I attempted suicide twice and was admitted to [REDACTED]. During my admission, I had several triggers from my ex-husband's abuse, and my children not talking to me, but I hid the issues I had with [REDACTED] who was the main trigger. He was still controlling me during my admission to [REDACTED].

I left [REDACTED] because I couldn't take to constant abuse. He would monitor our joint bank account and when I was out shopping, he would call and ask why I was at a particular shopping centre and question me for purchasing clothing I needed. He had no income coming in as I was supporting him. He would keep an eye on my whereabouts from our bank account. He would contact my friends, family, and work colleagues to find out my whereabouts and my situation. He also told everyone that I was an escort and prostitute.

I filed a police statement in [REDACTED]) and no action has been taken. I kept calling the police station to find out what was happening with the charges. Still, I continued to receive answers that we were very busy. As per the prosecutor, my police station visits were not documented.

[REDACTED] I received a message from the prosecutors to call. I called the prosecutor and he stated that he would not take my statement to the judge because it has taken the police too long to investigate and [REDACTED] has not been interviewed yet. It is now a historical case according to the police.

Please see the correspondence from Prosecutor:

Mon, 22 Apr [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Thursday, May 23 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Thu, 23 May [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Tuesday, July 9 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Tue, 9 Jul [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

After leaving [REDACTED] I was seeing DV counsellor, psychologist, and psychiatrist. I had an appointment for a domestic violence disclosure meeting with the DV team and the Police on Thursday [REDACTED]. It was recommended to me to make the police report.

I went to [REDACTED] Police Station several times to report my concerns. On [REDACTED], I left work early to file a domestic violence statement at about [REDACTED]. Following advice from my lawyer and my Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme caseworker, I needed to make a statement about my ex's abuse. I arrived at the station around [REDACTED], feeling frightened and anxious. An office worker or volunteer took my details and asked what I was there for. I said I needed to make a DV statement. The waiting room had three people: two females in a cubicle on the right-hand side and a male waiting about two meters from me.

The female police officer then called my name loudly and rudely. As I approached the desk, her body language was intimidating. She asked in a rude, apathetic, and aggressive manner, "WHAT ARE YOU HERE FOR?" I replied timidly, "I need to make a statement." The officer continued in the same tone, "WHAT SORT OF STATEMENT?" I answered, "DV." The officer asked, "WHY DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A STATEMENT?" At this point, I started crying and shaking, feeling deeply intimidated, distressed, embarrassed, and judged. I felt like a criminal. When I quietly told the officer that she was rude, she rolled her eyes and flapped her arms. I then walked out.

I went straight to my DV counsellor at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] who said the behaviour I encountered was unacceptable. I also contacted the SA Domestic Violence Disclosure caseworker. I will not be returning to the police station, as I did not receive the respect and support, I needed during this traumatic time. How many more lives will be lost to domestic violence when victims are treated like just another number?

I had 3 lawyers because I needed representation for settlement.

First lawyer: wanted \$10K upfront.

Second lawyer [REDACTED] paid \$462 first appointment and paid \$2K to continue (funds I borrowed) Lawyers didn't want to represent me anymore because the pool of money was small (\$80k) and declined Legal Service Commission assistance.

Third lawyer [REDACTED] was amazing, I received help from the Legal Service Commission assistance, and they allocated me this Lawyer and have a settlement outcome.

My experience in dot point:

- Financial abuse money taken from me an estimated \$500K.
- [REDACTED] Kept money from the sale of assets for nearly 2 years. Consent orders finally signed off, awaiting funds.
- Physically, mental, and financial abuse.
- Police statement done because police stated it was historical and non-urgent due to increased workload.
- I still don't have an outcome of the investigation.
- I wanted an AVO but I'm not sure why it wasn't served. I'm still frightened, I receive prank calls and sometimes I fell I'm being watched by [REDACTED].

- Prosecutor sent the police report back to the investigating officers.
- I have not been updated on what is going on with the investigation.
- Lawyers are out to get money and not support victims of DV.
- Excellent experience with my last lawyer.
- If it wasn't for my mother who is on a pension, I would be out on the street even though I work because [REDACTED] took all my money.
- My counsellors were great and were there for me.
- There needs to be financial assistance or a civil case where women who have been financially abused receive some money back.
- Where financial abuse has happened there needs to be a police unit to investigate. What happened to me was fraud and [REDACTED] is still up to his old tricks chasing vulnerable women.
- I didn't state to the police my sexual abuse as I was frightened and sometimes, I would agree to stop the fighting.
- My workplace [REDACTED] has been very supportive. I get short-term parking (which I pay for) but my car park gets taken away even though [REDACTED] manager [REDACTED] knows my situation. My [REDACTED] [REDACTED] are aware of the situation and keep sending [REDACTED] emails to continue to extend [REDACTED] but, car parking will be taken away again end of September and this is causing me great stress. [REDACTED] has refused to give me permanent parking at the [REDACTED] and suggests I park on [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. This is not a safe option for me. [REDACTED] has the final say and I don't approve of his idea for me to park somewhere else off the [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

If this is published would there be some editing? Names taken out and dating sites?

Regards

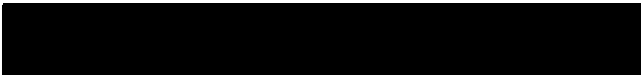
[REDACTED]



Cedar
Health
Service
Inclusive domestic
and family violence
healthcare



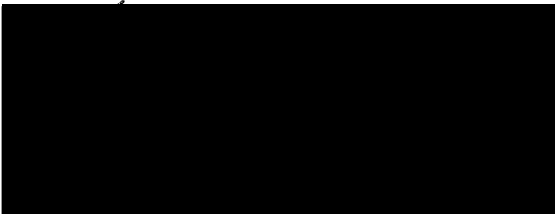
Dear Human Resources Consultant/Manager, Central Adelaide Local Health Network (CALHN),



Cedar Health Service is a specialized healthcare service that provides support to consumers in relation to the health impacts of domestic and family violence.

We are currently providing support to [REDACTED] and she regularly attends appointments at our service. This letter is to respectfully request that you provide assistance to [REDACTED] in order that she may access her full leave entitlements under the SA Health Domestic Violence Policy Directive. Accessing this leave will allow [REDACTED] to attend health, and other appointments, to address and recover from the impact of her experience of domestic violence.

Yours sincerely,



Women's and Children's Health Network

clinical psychology

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear Human Resources and Managers of Central Adelaide Local Health Network,

[REDACTED]

I have been working with [REDACTED] for the last year due to issues of Domestic Violence. She currently requires access to Domestic Violence Work Assistance due to long term issues relating to being a victim of domestic violence. For this reason, I have been asked to provide a letter in accordance with SA Health's Domestic Violence Policy.

I can confirm that I have been providing [REDACTED] with support in relation to her needs as a victim, or person at risk, of domestic violence.

It is my opinion that [REDACTED] has been, and is at current risk of being a victim of domestic violence from her ex-partner.

[REDACTED] needs this support to assist in her recovery. This matter is confidential and is a very sensitive subject for [REDACTED]

Yours truly,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]