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March 12, 1996

I am 39 years old and have been a permanent resident of Ipperwash, Ontario for the past 15 years. [REDACTED] The following is a brief description of events at Ipperwash that have had a serious impact on my family. In the fall of 1993 a lawsuit was launched by the aboriginal band of Kettle and Stoney Point against the residents of West Ipperwash for trespassing on our own property that we bought and possess clear deeds. We are being sued for \$210,000 each and they also want our land.

In 1988 my home had a value of \$130,000. My home has no resale value now as a result of the lawsuit and the illegal take over of the Ipperwash Provincial Park and Army Camp. My sister [REDACTED] live in Gratton subdivision Ipperwash beside military camp Ipperwash. The value of their home was \$90,000 in 1988, in 1996 it has little or no resale value.

On the night of Thursday September 6, 1995 [REDACTED] attempted to return home from a fishing trip and were unable to drive through aboriginal road blockades made of burning cars across two public roads highway 21 and Lakeshore Road. Taking a different route [REDACTED] was prevented from returning home to his wife and 6 year old son by a police roadblock. He was forced to spend a very tense night away from home.

On the afternoon of Thursday September 7 the day after the aboriginals had a shoot out with police. I tried to return home after work. The police had road blocks set up on Ravenswood Road and where not allowing anyone into the Ipperwash area. Only after getting out of my car and having a heated discussion with police they then let me continue home and warned me they could not guarantee my safety. I could not go to work on Friday September 8 because police roadblocks where in place to keep us out if we left Ipperwash. I removed some valuables from my house. For the next two weeks I had to carry a good supply of clothes in my car in the event of more aboriginal blockades or police roadblocks. Every time I left West Ipperwash I did not know if it would be possible to return. If my home or car was damaged or destroyed in a malicious act my insurance company could label the damage a result of civil insurrection and there would be no insurance coverage.

- Some of the effects on my family of living under these extreme pressures are:
- Inability to sleep or eat at times due to stress.
  - feeling very high levels of stress to the point of emotional breakdown.

-my 65 year old mother has a large investment in a house in West Ipperwash. She planned to sell the house to help finance her retirement. These circumstances have forced her to continue to work as long as physically possible.

-inability to sell our homes and move on to a normal life.

-my 6 year old nephew [REDACTED] has been traumatised by these events and others including:

- regularly hearing aboriginal gun fire from camp Ipperwash.
- seeing rifle toting aboriginals and police in military fatigues.
- a police evacuation without any police protection.
- his school bus would not go into Ipperwash for weeks because it was too dangerous.
- witnessing family members close to a nervous breakdown.

We will probably see more violent rebellion in Ipperwash. We cannot depend on our governments to allow police to enforce the law and protect people and their property. OPP Chief Superintendent Coles told 400 people at a public meeting in Thedford, Ontario in Oct. 1995 that police will not remove aboriginal blockades if the aboriginals are armed even if they are blocking access on public roads to our neighbourhoods. Police will not enter military Camp Ipperwash even when pursuing criminal activity. Law abiding citizens in the area have been forced to obtain firearms for the sole purpose of self defence. People are desperate. We need law and order enforced now before people take the law into their own hands.

Yours truly

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]