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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF OREGON

PORTLAND DIVISION

**TUCK WOODSTOCK; DOUG BROWN;  
SAM GEHRKE; MATHIEU LEWIS-  
ROLLAND; KAT MAHONEY; JOHN  
RUDOFF**; and those similarly situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

**CITY OF PORTLAND**, a municipal  
corporation; and **JOHN DOES 1-60**,  
individual and supervisory officers of Portland  
Police Bureau and other agencies working in  
concert,

Defendants.

Case No. 3:20-cv-1035-BR

**DECLARATION OF TUCK  
WOODSTOCK IN SUPPORT OF  
PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR  
TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER  
AND PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**

I, Tuck Woodstock, declare:

1. I am an Oregon resident who lives in the City of Portland. I have attended the protests in Portland over the last month at least 15 times as a freelance and independent journalist for the purpose of documenting and reporting on them. If called as a witness, I could, and would, testify competently to the facts below.

2. I have been a journalist for seven years. My work has been published in the *Washington Post*, *NPR*, *Portland Monthly*, *Travel Portland*, and the *Portland Mercury*. I have attended the George Floyd protests a few times as a freelancer for the *Mercury* and many more times as an independent journalist.

3. When I attend the protests, I make it clear that I am present as a journalist and not a protester. I always wear a press pass from the *Mercury* that says “MEDIA” in large block letters. During dispersals, I hold my media badge over my head at all times.

4. The Portland police’s indiscriminately violent conduct toward journalists and protesters alike has made it difficult—and at times, impossible—for me to report on the protests accurately and thoroughly.

5. For instance, when police use gas canisters against crowds of protesters, it is important to report on whether the canister contains tear gas, smoke, or something else. That is the only way the public can become informed about the level and type of force that the police are using. It is often the only way for the public to hold their public servants accountable.

6. However, the police’s practice has been to shoot rubber bullets or other impact munitions at anyone who approaches a canister. I have personally seen reporters and protesters approach a canister only to be shot by *several* rubber bullets. Because of this, I have often been unable to approach a canister and record its type and contents.

7. Similarly, it is important to record what type of impact munitions police are using against the public. Not all munitions are alike, and some can cause much greater injuries than others. Rubber bullets, for example, can be lethal if they strike a protester in the eye. That is why many manufacturers instruct users never to shoot such bullets at the head. Nevertheless, I

have often seen police officers in Portland aim and shoot impact munitions directly at protesters' heads, often very near me. I often cannot confirm, however, that the munition shot was a rubber bullet, because the police will shoot anyone who approaches the spent round or who does not leave the area being dispersed.

8. On the night of June 19, I saw officers in North Portland shoot a protester in the head with some type of impact munition. I reported that it was a Portland Police Bureau officer. The Bureau responded that it had in fact been an officer from the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office. However, if I had approached the officers to determine which entity employed them, I am certain I would have been shot, maced, or arrested. I have seen much the same happen to many other people, both protesters and journalists.

9. Unlike some reporters, I usually do not attempt to remain in an area when police are clearing it by charging at people with batons and other weapons. I do my best to remain ahead of the police line. One time, however, I did not move fast enough and was shoved to the ground as the police tackled a protester next to me. Another time, I was very nearly tackled myself, even though I was holding up a press pass and obviously filming—at the last minute, a protester saved me by dragging me out of the officer's path. Such uses of physical violence by the police have regularly and frequently prevented me from reporting on police uses of force against other protesters. When I have to stop reporting and run so that I don't get hit, that makes me a less effective reporter. It also means I am less able to do my job of informing the public.

10. On several nights, the police have announced that any press that remain in an area will be arrested alongside protesters. On such nights, I go home to avoid being arrested. Once again, I am unable to do my job of covering the protests and keeping the public informed. On at least one night of which I am aware, after I and another reporter left the scene, the group of protesters we were covering were severely attacked by police officers.

11. These actions by the Portland police make me feel unsafe when I report on the protests. I intend to continue reporting on them as best I can without being shot by rubber bullets, inundated with tear gas, or arrested. The police's use of these tools of violence against

journalists makes it harder and more dangerous for me to cover the protests, and thus it means that the public are less informed about the protests and the police's use of violence against protesters and others in attendance.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: June 28, 2020

  
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Tuck Woodstock