

Madame Chair, members of the Committee,

Unaccustomed as I am to present in front of a Parliamentary Committee, you'll forgive me for taking a few moments to make a statement and, perhaps, through you, I may be offered a bit of latitude.

I have worked in the Private Security and Investigation for 20 years. I have worked with clients in Europe, The Middle East, Africa and Central America. I have held Investigators licenses across Canada with the exception of British Columbia and Saskatchewan.

I believe that the reason I have been summoned to testify before this Committee is to offer insight into the apparent media frenzy surrounding a former Cabinet Minister and a former MP.

My role to many of you in this room may be confusing and misunderstood, because of what I do, but I believe I speak for all my clients in the insurance industry, the banking sector and government who would choose to remain anonymous because they, like me, believe that neglect is the ally of many.

And it's because of neglect that investigators are retained.

The job of Investigators, if you will, is to dig into the activities and statements that people make. Your role, too, is to examine the issue before you.

The notion that neglect is an ally is a strong statement.

It presupposes that as normal everyday respectful citizens, we take what people say as the truth. In fact, one can make the absolute leap that what generally happens at this place is built on that premise.

Most importantly, Madame Chair, neglect is NOT the purview of this place; it's all around us – in our everyday lives. And neglect, as an ally is the reason clients seek the counsel and professional skills of an investigator in the first instance.

Well, Madame Chairman,. The role of an investigator is to check the facts. And that Madame Chairman is what I have done in this case.

When the facts I uncovered as a private investigator regarding the proponents of this Committee's mandate, came to light, I sought the advice of close personal friends who understand way better than I do how things work here in Ottawa. I agreed to the clients wishes to contact individuals in public office – be they functionaries to politicians or politicians themselves.

When I brought to light the issues that appeared to affect the government, I advised the government. The reaction of the government, albeit a part of the mandate of this committee has nothing to do with me - it appears, however, that I am an unwilling participant in this drama.

I am here, Madame Chair, because your Committee believes I can shed some light on this matter. I hope that my presence here can help to clear up some of the misconceptions about this matter and that I can move on with my life as a professional private investigator making certain that those who would agree that neglect is an ally would find that I am very close behind to ensure that it is NEVER an ally.

Madame Chair, through you to the Committee members, I humbly submit that this matter has been and is a tough issue to manage through for the individuals who are at the centre of this matter. Many people have made assumptions about the evidence and information I collected during this case. Many people have made assumptions about this investigation as a result of media spin. I appear before you today to speak to the facts and connect the dots as I did with the clients and victims during the investigative process.

Many friends and, in fact, many Canadians with whom I have spoken have felt that there is way too much being made of this issue when, in the first place, it appears it has been dealt with by the Prime Minister. I hope and trust that my presence here today will serve to offer perspective and close this chapter and we don't neglect those other important matters that we look to you to manage.

Thank you