



SYKORA & SANTINI
PLLP

HAND DELIVERED

June 10, 2016

Laura E. Krishnan
Stinson Leonard Street
150 South Fifth Street
Suite 2300
Minneapolis, MN 55402

RE: Estate of Prince Rogers Nelson 10-PR-16-46
Request for Parentage Information - Protocol Prior to Potential Genetic Testing
Brianna LaShawn Nelson and V.N.

Dear Ms. Krishnan,

Enclosed herein pursuant to the Special Administrator's Protocol Prior to Genetic Testing in the Estate of Prince Rogers Nelson are the following documents for Brianna LaShawn Nelson and

- Certified Copy of the Birth Certificate for Duane Joseph Nelson
 - Certified Copy of the Birth Certificate for Duane Joseph Nelson Jr.
 - Certified Copy of the Birth Certificate for Brianna Nelson
 - Certified Copy of the Recognition of Parentage for Brianna Nelson
 - Certified Copy of the Birth Certificate for REDACTED
 - Certified Copy of the Recognition of Parentage for REDACTED
 - Certified Copy of the Death Certificate for Duane Joseph Nelson Jr.
 - Certified Copy of the Death Certificate for Duane Joseph Nelson
 - Notarized Affidavit and Oath Request for Parentage Information for Brianna LaShawn Nelson
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- Notarized Affidavit of Carmen Denise Weatherall in Support of Parentage Information for Brianna LaShawn Nelson
 - Notarized Affidavit and Oath Request for Parentage Information for V.N. by her mother, Jeannine Elizabeth Halloran (as well as a Word copy with better picture resolution)
 - Statement of Search Efforts by Counsel for Brianna Nelson and REDACTED

Sincerely,

Jayne E. Sykora

Enclosures

ESTATE PLANNING & BUSINESS LAW

**BRIANNA LASHAWN NELSON RESPONSE
REQUEST FOR PARENTAGE INFORMATION**

Special Administrator Bremer Trust requests that you provide answers to the following questions and requests for information by affidavit signed under oath.

1. What is your full name?

Brianna LaShawn Nelson

2. What is your birth date?

December 14, 1984

3. Where were you born?

Abbott Northwestern Hospital,
800 E. 28th St.
Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minnesota

4. Please provide a certified copy of your birth certificate.

Enclosed

5. What are the full names of your biological parents?

Mother - Carmen Denise Weatherall

Father - Duane Joseph Nelson

6. Were your biological parents married when you were born? (If yes, answer the subparts below.)

No

7. Were your biological parents married after you were born? (If yes, answer the subparts below.)

No

8. If your parents were not married when you were born, had they attempted to marry each other by a marriage solemnized in apparent compliance with law, although the attempted marriage is or could be declared void, voidable or otherwise invalid? (If yes, answer the subparts below.)

No

9. If your parents did not marry or attempt to marry, did any man receive you into his home and openly hold you out as his biological child? If yes, please name the man and provide details and other evidence (e.g. sworn statements, photographs, documents) to support your answer.

Yes. Duane Joseph Nelson received me into his home as his daughter. He did the same with my brother, Duane Joseph Nelson, Junior ("Duane Junior"). Duane Junior and I both called our father "Daddy." I spent every summer with our father from the age of 5 until I was 15 years old at his home in Eden Prairie, Minnesota. Duane Junior spent those summers with my father and me.

I celebrated Thanksgiving, Christmas, and other holidays with my brother, my Dad, and my Dad's family. I attended holiday parties with my Dad's family, including Thanksgiving at Aunt Norrine's house, and we visited the Nelson Family Plot on Memorial Day. We also visited Aunt Lorna and Aunt Norrine at their homes on other occasions. My Dad had a close relationship with his brother, Prince Rogers Nelson, whom I referred to as Uncle Prince or "Uncle Boss. For many years my Dad was Prince's Head of Security. Growing up, my Dad would take me with him to his office at Paisley Park, where I spent time with Prince and my Dad.

My brother Duane Junior died in December 2005. Duane Junior and Jeannette Halloran had a daughter in 2004. Their daughter, my niece, is V.N.

When my father began receiving Social Security disability payments, part of those payments were paid directly to me. I received those payments from approximate 1998 through 2003.

In further support of these statements, I submit an affidavit of my mother, Carmen Denise Weatherall, containing information in response to this question.

10. If your parents did not marry or attempt to marry, did any man and your biological mother acknowledge the man's paternity of you in a writing signed by both of them under Minn. Stat. § 257.34 (copy attached) and filed with the state registrar of vital records? If yes, please provide a certified copy of such writing.

Yes. My mother and father acknowledged my father on my birth certificate and in a later Recognition of Parentage. The Recognition of Parentage is enclosed.

11. If your parents did not marry or attempt to marry, did any man and your biological mother execute a recognition of parentage of you pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 257.75 (copy attached)? If yes, please provide a certified copy of such recognition of parentage.

Yes. That document is enclosed.

12. Is any other man presumed to be your father under any of the presumptions found in Minn. Stat. § 257.55 (copy attached)? If yes, please provide details, and also whether the other man signed a written consent if your father and mother signed a written acknowledgment of paternity under Request No. 10 above.

No

13. Was your biological mother married to any man other than your biological father when you were born or within 280 days before your birth?

No

14. Does a judgment or order exist determining a parent and child relationship between you and one or more parents? If so, please provide details and a certified copy of such judgment or order.

No

15. Detail the actions taken by you to confirm that the responses to the above requests are true and accurate.

I have searched papers that we obtained from my father's apartment after his death. I signed and submitted requests for birth certificates, death certificates, and recognition of parentage documents. I am submitting an affidavit of my mother, Carmen Denise Weatherall. My attorneys and my mother have participated in searching for documentation and responding to these questions.

My attorneys will submit a description of the steps they have taken on my behalf and on behalf of V.N. to obtain supporting documentation.

16. If you contend additional information is needed or should be considered by the Special Administrator to support your claim to be an heir, please provide such information.

My father was raised a member of the Nelson family. He referred to John Nelson as his father and John's children as his siblings. I submit an affidavit of my mother, Carmen Denise Weatherall, containing additional facts showing that John Nelson was my father's father.

We have not yet located a marriage certificate for John Nelson and Vivian (Howard) Nelson but our search continues. I understand from my attorneys that we are unable to obtain information as to whether John Nelson executed a recognition of parentage or similar document without a Court order. We will make a request for such an order if necessary.

I am aware of additional family photographs that Vivian Nelson had. I understand that after Vivian died, those photographs became the possession of Aunt Norrine and Aunt Lorna. After Aunt Lorna, I understand that those photographs became the possession of Aunt Norrine. After my father died, my mother and I sent some photographs from my father's papers to Aunt Norrine. She acknowledged receiving those photographs in the enclosed note.

REDACTED

Brianna LaShawn Nelson
Brianna LaShawn Nelson

Subscribed and sworn before me this
9th day of June, 2016

Wendy Berg
Notary Public exp 12-27-19



Affidavit of Carmen Denise Weatherall

I, Carmen Denise Weatherall, being first duly sworn, depose and state the following:

- 1. I am over twenty-one (21) years of age and make this Affidavit based upon personal knowledge.**
- 2. The late Duane Joseph Nelson, Senior ("Duane") is Brianna LaShawn Nelson's father and I am Brianna's mother.**
- 3. I met Duane at the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee in September 1980. Duane played basketball for UW-Milwaukee from 1976 through 1981 and I was on the Pantherette pompom squad. Below is a photograph of Duane (on the left) that I located in Duane's papers.**

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Duane
had a
son with
Elberta
Mae
Smith,
Duane
Joseph
Nelson,
Junior
("Duane
Junior"

or "Casper"). Duane referred to Duane Junior as his son. Duane had a father/son relationship with Duane Junior until Duane Junior's death in 2005. Brianna and Duane Junior had a brother/sister relationship. Duane is identified as Duane Junior's father on his birth certificate.

- 5. In the spring of 1981, I met John L. Nelson and Norinne Nelson and other family members at Duane's apartment in Milwaukee. I recall John Nelson being a quiet and reserved man who was loving toward Duane. John Nelson spoke with great pride about**

Duane's success at basketball and college. I recall Duane and John Nelson would talk affectionately about Vivian Nelson.

6. On one occasion, I heard Norinne Nelson tell Duane in John Nelson's presence that Duane was not a real Nelson. This led to a heated argument between John Nelson and Norinne. John told Norinne, Duane is my son.
7. Below is a photograph of John L. Nelson during a 1981 visit to see Duane. This photograph was taken at Duane's apartment.

REDACTED

8. After Duane graduated from UW-Milwaukee, I went with him to live in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area. I was welcomed as part of the Nelson family. I attended family events with Duane, Norinne Nelson, Lorna Nelson, John Nelson, John Nelson, Jr., and other members of the Nelson family. I also attended events at Paisley Park with Duane like Prince's birthday parties. One year, I escorted John Nelson to the Minnesota Music Awards.
9. During these years, I heard John Nelson speak with pride about Duane's success as a high school and college basketball player. I saw John Nelson treat Duane the same way he treated his other children. In the photograph below, John Nelson appears (in the middle) with both Prince Rogers Nelson (far right) and Duane (second from left). I believe the photograph was taken in 1978. I found this photograph in Duane's papers.

REDACTED

10. In the photograph below, Duane and his father appear with two of Duane's sisters. Seated from left to right are Norinne Nelson, Duane, Lorna Nelson, and John Nelson. I believe this photograph was taken around 1982 or 1983. I was present when the picture was taken.

REDACTED

11. Duane and I were together for many years, although we did not marry. In December 1984, we had a daughter, Brianna LaShawn Nelson. Duane is identified on Brianna's birth certificate as her father. Below is a photograph of Duane with Brianna shortly after Brianna's birth. The photograph was taken at Lorna Nelson's home.

REDACTED

12. Below is a photograph of Brianna, Duane, and me taken in the spring of 1986.

REDACTED

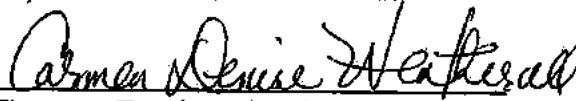
13. Although Brianna and I moved to Milwaukee to live near my family, she continued to have a family relationship with the Nelsons. Duane continued to have an active role as father to Brianna, including providing financial and emotional support.

14. Duane had a father/child relationship with both Brianna and Duane Junior. Below are photographs of Brianna, Duane, Duane Junior, and Lorna Nelson from Christmas 1994 or 1995 at Duane's home. I located these photographs in Duane's papers.

15. Duane and I executed a Recognition of Parentage under Minnesota law, which will be submitted in connection with this affidavit and related statements.

16. Duane and Brianna were devastated when Duane Junior took his life in 2005. Duane Junior had been an important person in their lives.

17. Duane was an important person in Brianna's life. He was a loving and supportive father to Brianna. After Duane's death in 2011, Brianna was devastated.


Carmen Denise Weatherall

Subscribed and sworn before me this
9 th day of June, 2016


Notary Public exp 12-27-19

STATE OF MINNESOTA
CERTIFICATION OF VITAL RECORD

CERTIFICATE OF BIRTH

STATE FILE NUMBER **1958-MN-020800**

DECEASED: MARCH 04, 2011 MINNESOTA

FULL NAME DUANE JOSEPH NELSON

DATE OF BIRTH AUGUST 18, 1958

SEX MALE

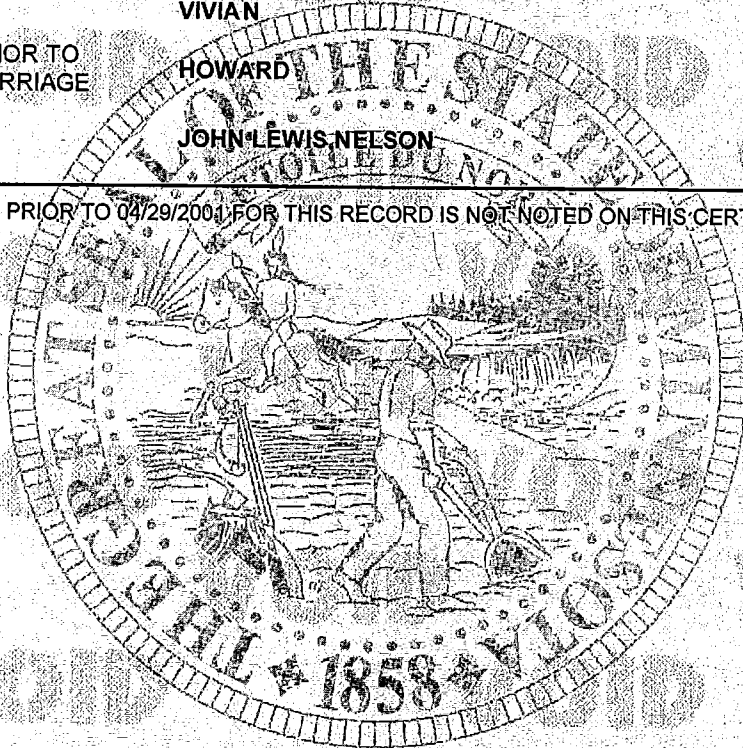
PLACE OF BIRTH MINNEAPOLIS HENNEPIN MINNESOTA

PARENT VIVIAN

NAME PRIOR TO FIRST MARRIAGE HOWARD

PARENT JOHN LEWIS NELSON

ANY AMENDMENT MADE PRIOR TO 04/29/2001 FOR THIS RECORD IS NOT NOTED ON THIS CERTIFICATE.



THIS IS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD OF BIRTH REGISTERED IN THE MINNESOTA OFFICE OF VITAL RECORDS.

MR&C Certificate ID
10033238



27A-001226034

FILED: AUGUST 27, 1958

Molly Mulcahy Crawford

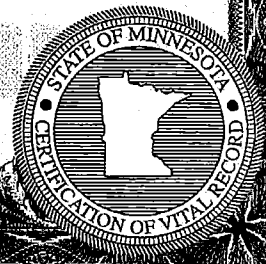
Molly Mulcahy Crawford
STATE REGISTRAR

ISSUED: JUNE 01, 2016

HENNEPIN COUNTY SERVICE CENTER-GC

THIS CERTIFICATE IS VALID ONLY WHEN PRINTED ON OFFICIAL WATERMARKED SECURITY PAPER WITH A SECURITY THREAD AND STATE SEAL OF MINNESOTA.

ANY ALTERATION OR ERASURE VOIDS THIS CERTIFICATE



REDACTED

