

THE HONORABLE THOMAS S. ZILLY

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

CITIZENS OF EBEBY'S RESERVE FOR A
HEALTHY, SAFE & PEACEFUL
ENVIRONMENT,

Plaintiffs,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY;
ADMIRAL BILL GORTNEY, in his official
capacity as the Commander, Fleet Forces
Command; and COMMANDER MIKE
NORTIER, in his official capacity as
Commander Naval Air Station Whidbey
Island,

Federal Defendants.

NO. 2:13-cv-01232-TSZ

DECLARATION OF BRENDA
FRITSCHER WILBUR

I, BRENDA FRITSCHER WILBUR, declare as follows:

1. I am over the age of 18 and competent to testify in this matter. The information in this declaration is based on my personal belief.

2. I am a 73 year old married woman and reside at 118 Keystone Avenue in Coupeville, directly under FCLP approach path at Admiral's Cove. I have been married for 52 years and had a career in the social service sector in a variety of administrative

1 positions. I worked for the Juneau (Alaska) School District as a Community Education
2 Coordinator for about 10 years full time. When my sons went off to college, I was a
3 social service director at the nursing home for three years, then a Suicide-Crisis Line
4 coordinator, senior peer counsel coordinator and for three years was the Site Manager
5 for the Senior Center in Juneau. I also worked in a low-income housing project and a
6 home health service program. My college degree was in Sociology and I did post
7 graduate work in gerontology.
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9 3. We moved here in 2006 and have lived in our home for eight years. My
10 husband and I gave considerable thought as to where to move. We had lived in Juneau
11 when it was still town-like and wanted to find a place to live that captured its unique
12 beauty and was close to our two sons and their families. We chose Whidbey Island
13 because it met those criteria. The water, mountains, the incredible variety of birds, and
14 just the many ways we are able to feel close to nature. All of this has been destroyed
15 by the Growler noise
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17 4. Living in the flight path is a source of constant dread and anxiety. The
18 decibel readings when flying directly over our home on Keystone Ave are about 110 to
19 119 dBA. When the Growlers fly I become a different person. My anxiety, blood
20 pressure, and anger increase. I get headaches and feel disoriented. I go into survival
21 mode. These moods go beyond the times when the jets fly. There is an anticipation
22 that keeps me on alert with a feeling of dread. I deeply resent having to wear ear
23 protection just to be able to function.
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5. All my life I have been active in sports and enjoy the outdoors. I am a very active 73-year-old woman who loves being outdoors hiking, gardening, walking my rescue dogs, and going to parks.

6. When the jets fly I feel helpless, angry, unfocused and extremely frustrated. "The sound of freedom" is detrimental to my well-being. I love my home across the street from the ocean, beach and rare wildlife. The noise becomes more and more unbearable with each jet and each 2-4 jet session.

7. The noise has become so unbearable that we have considered moving. It is a source of such distress that we are considering this. If we did decide to move, we wonder if we would be able to sell our house and how much loss of value would there be.

8. In September and October I had two major back surgeries, which caused a lot of pain and duress. Living under the Growlers, added to the pain and distress of my recovery. It is unsafe for my family and all the other homes that are in the flight path. I live knowing that when the jets fly two hundred feet above my house, that an accident can occur. There is no way I can describe the dread of having to live under these conditions. It is unfathomable to believe that the Navy with all of its resources cannot find an appropriate air field to train its aviators that is safe and does not subject a densely populated area to live under the constant fear of being killed by an 'accident'.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated this 15th day of March, 2015, in Coupeville, Washington.

By: Brenda Fritsche Wilbur
BRENDA FRITSCHÉ WILBUR

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