

EXHIBIT B

I, AARON ASAY, declare and state as follows:

1. I am over the age of eighteen and competent to testify to the matters stated herein. All statements in this declaration are based on my personal knowledge unless otherwise indicated.
2. I was formerly employed with Aerial Recovery, where I served in leadership and field operations capacities, including directing medical, anti-human trafficking, and humanitarian missions.
3. I have extensive experience in mental health and trauma response. I am a board-certified Physician Assistant, holding a doctorate degree in Global Health, and I am a Fellow of the International Board of Disaster Medicine at Harvard. I have worked in emergency medical and crisis settings, beginning as a firefighter in 2004. I also serve in the military, currently in the Hawaii Air National Guard on a disaster rescue team, and I hold the rank of Major.
4. I served a two-year LDS mission in Venezuela and speak fluent Spanish.
5. I was a paid contractor on numerous missions (“Operations” or “Ops”) with Tim Ballard, formerly of Operation Underground Railroad (OUR), and later associated with Aerial Recovery.
6. The first OP I went on with Mr. Ballard was in 2015 where I was the medical lead.
7. Over time, I became increasingly alarmed at Mr. Ballard’s erratic behavior, questionable decision-making, and apparent mental health issues. Despite my initial belief that his behavior was a consequence of the trauma associated with rescuing children, I provided him unwavering support, even writing a letter for his excommunication disciplinary hearing held by his LDS Stake.



8. Aerial Recovery asked me to accompany Ballard on his *Sound of Freedom* premier press conference tour in Colombia, Dominican Republic, Honduras, and Guatemala.
9. At the Colombian premiere of *Sound of Freedom*, Mr. Ballard recklessly introduced me to the national media audience as his “number one undercover operator” while I was attending incognito, compromising ongoing operations and endangering my safety. At that time, I had growing suspicions that Mr. Ballard was abusing medication and was unfit for field operations.
10. My concerns about Mr. Ballard’s behavior escalated significantly in early 2024. Around February 2024, during a late-night meeting in Franklin, Tennessee, Mr. Ballard, with evident distress, voluntarily confessed that one of his Couples Ruse partners had engaged in oral sex with him during an OUR Operation.
11. Mr. Ballard framed this incident as something that “just happened,” suggesting his Couples Ruse partner initiated it. However, he admitted to being in only boxers and was sexually aroused during the encounter, which he described as part of the "Couples Ruse." I was appalled and told him directly that this behavior violated every ethical and operational boundary, rules I had learned from him. I also asked him, if it was his partner who initiated such contact, why would he ever take her on subsequent operations, to which Mr. Ballard had no answer and just shrugged his shoulders.
12. I urged Mr. Ballard to confess and own-up to the mistake publicly, and permanently withdraw from the anti-human trafficking work. I reminded him of a letter I wrote in 2021, advising him to retire for his own mental health and safety, and to heal his family. After reading it at the time, he agreed in a following email that he needs his own “aftercare” and to heal his marriage and that he was going to come visit me in Hawaii to



do that.

13. He also responded with anxiety, asking what his wife Katherine would do if she discovered he had engaged in oral sex with an operative while in his underwear. He then went outside and appeared to vomit.
14. At that point, it became clear to me that Ballard had been deceiving not only me but countless others. My perception of Ballard transformed drastically, as in my opinion no legitimate undercover operative would ever engage in such conduct.
15. I later learned that Mr. Ballard had betrayed my trust by sharing my private text messages—urging him to distance himself from Aerial Recovery because of their mismanagement of donor funds—with Jeremy Locke and Britnie Turner, an allegation he denied, contrary to the incontrovertible evidence I was given (screenshots of my texts to him on Jeremy’s phone). I believe this betrayal contributed to my retaliatory termination by Aerial Recovery in March 2024.
16. While at Aerial, I was pressured to teach and endorse the “Couples Ruse” in training scenarios. Despite my vehement objections and making clear my disbelief in the technique, I was coerced to proceed.
17. I also raised grave concerns about the "Heal the Heroes" program operated by Britnie Turner and Jeremy Locke, touted as an Aerial Recovery program, but one which the rest of the administrative team, including myself, had no part of. As a licensed medical professional, I repeatedly objected to the lack of clinical oversight, unqualified leadership, and the deceptive portrayal of the program as mental health care. My concerns were ignored, and I was not allowed to see the curriculum or participate in planning or program follow-up. I advised them that any mental health program should



collect data on outcomes to understand the effectiveness of interventions and activities better. This was something they were completely uninterested in doing.

18. I later discovered that funds raised under the guise of anti-human trafficking were being misappropriated to a so-called “Redemption Ranch” on Turner’s private island, used to host veteran retreats with horses and zebras, under the pretense of trauma healing. This diversion of funds constituted, in my view, donor fraud and a violation of our mission.
19. Turner’s private island, though luxurious, I believe, was a facade. She tells the public she is the owner, however, in reality it is owned by an investment group, for which she has to pay a substantial interest payment. One of the “investors” told me in confidence that she was significantly behind in those payments. The “heal the heroes” program costs donors \$25,000 for each veteran attending the 5-day retreat on the island. We were told those funds pay for our missions at Aerial Recovery however we never saw those funds. Our suspicion is she was using the funds to pay investors who had financed her purchase of the island. I believe this was accurate because during an internal meeting to discuss “worst case scenario” budgeting, Jeremy stated that “Heal The Heroes” would be the only program we absolutely would not cut out, even though humanitarian disaster response was what our management team understood our mission to be, and where the donor funds we were aware of were contributed for use. When we pushed for an explanation why “Heal The Heroes” would be saved and not disaster response, Jeremy refused to give us an explanation. On a separate call with the same group, Jeremy admitted he had no idea what was going on with the money and that he was worried his wife was doing something wrong because she would not let him see the financial statements; all accounting was strictly guarded between Britnie and her accounting employee. This group call occurred



while Jeremy was at home on Buck Island BVI, and we were in Tennessee and he told us he was keeping our conversation secret from his wife because he was suspicious. Soon after that Jeremy began to distance himself from the rest of our team.

20. As members of the full-time staff resigned, I tried to help Jeremy make good decisions at a time when I felt we were in crisis. I perceived Jeremy as a victim of a controlling and unhealthy relationship, and I thought I could counsel him because I had so much experience in non-profit work and mental health. I was still trying to protect my friend, not fully understanding the situation and misreading Jeremy's intent. As I was calling out the poor treatment and bad behavior of Britnie, he was scheming to silence me and further strengthen their relationship with Tim Ballard. In March of 2024, Aerial Recovery retaliated against me by locking me out of all accounts, including those containing my personal writings and documents. I was terminated without warning, accused of unspecified "misconduct," and my final paycheck and reimbursements were threatened to be withheld. I was coerced to sign a release falsely attributing blame to me for reputational damage to the organization in exchange for an unfair severance agreement, that would bind me legally to be responsible for the reputation of Aerial Recovery in the future.

21. I refused to sign and instead relocated my family from Tennessee under financial duress and reputational damage caused by my association with Ballard and Aerial Recovery.

22. Tim Ballard and Aerial Recovery have devastated me financially, reputationally, emotionally and occupationally. I had a prospective employer in Utah who had actually emailed me an offer, pulling the offer once they learned I had worked with Ballard.

23. I make this statement voluntarily and under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State



of Utah and the United States of America.

Executed this ___ day of July 2025, in Highland, Utah. 07 / 19 / 2025



Aaron Asay, DMSC, PA-C, FIBODM









Audit trail

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