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**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF STEPHANIE CHATFIELD
THROUGH HER LAWYER MATT NEWBURG**

Stephanie Chatfield can no longer sit quietly by while those with hidden agendas seek to pedal false narratives for their own personal gain. She has had more than one month to gather her own facts and come to her own conclusions. There is no question that Mr. Chatfield had numerous affairs, which he has admitted to; however, there is also no question that each of them—including with Rebekah Chatfield—were consensual. The Chatfield family is working through the pain as a family that Mr. Chatfield has caused, and Mrs. Chatfield unconditionally supports Mr. Chatfield as he asks for forgiveness and works to make amends with those he has so deeply hurt.

However, Mrs. Chatfield now feels compelled to defend her family. Simply put, Rebekah's allegations are false. Prior to making her claim, Rebekah began to see spirits of those who had passed away and felt that these spirits were also inside her body. She claims that voices told her to abandon her husband and children, and she has been gone since December 1st. She admits in her journal that she is having visions and doesn't know if her emotions are hers or somebody else's. Rebekah also wrote in her journal that she wanted to be a millionaire in 2022, be seen on stage, and write a book, though she admitted she didn't know a topic to write about. She has also started a group entitled "Prayed Over and Preyed On" where she continues to misrepresent what transpired between her and Mr. Chatfield, likely to get people to continue sending her money online. Rebekah has even been speaking to an author and has begun filming for her "documentary." This is all built on a lie and began after Rebekah claims a palm reading told her to "divorce her old life."

Two weeks before Rebekah told Mrs. Chatfield about her allegations, Rebekah, over Facetime, told Mr. Chatfield's brothers. In what one brother describes as a bizarre phone call where Rebekah was smoking a blunt and giggled the entire time, she made her outlandish allegations while getting prompts about what to say from a "friend." Before she made these claims, she had left her young children and husband to live in a different state. She has had little contact with them since leaving the state. She blames law enforcement for her separation from them.

Mrs. Chatfield knows that Rebekah's claims are false because her claims make no sense and do not match up with reality. First, Rebekah never once babysat for the Chatfield family at 15 years old, nor did she ever stay over at their house at that age. Nobody ever dropped her off, nor did they ever pick her up. And not only did they not have the money to go out and hire a babysitter at the time, but anytime they did need assistance, Mrs. Chatfield's mother-in-law would babysit.

As a senior in high school, Rebekah would travel to games with Mrs. Chatfield and spend time with her and the children, especially while Mr. Chatfield was gone, but it was because Rebekah was dating Mr. Chatfield's brother and had left her mother and had no-one to spend time with. Mrs. Chatfield even planned Rebekah's graduation party and served as her maid of honor in 2014.

Second, Mr. and Mrs. Chatfield never lived in a house with three stories and a basement. Rebekah has told one media outlet that the three-story house is where a "rape" occurred in a basement. This is impossible. Rebekah has told other media outlets that it happened in a house in a basement when she was 15 years old. This is also impossible. When Rebekah was 15 years old, the Chatfields lived in a ranch style house without a basement and had only one child. Shortly before Rebekah turned 16, the Chatfields purchased a house with a basement, however extensive work was done on the house and driveway before they could move in. But to be clear, Rebekah never stayed over at the Chatfield house when she was 15, and when they moved into the house with the basement, they did not even have a TV or furniture in it for the first year.

Third, Rebekah told media outlets that she was pressured to marry her current husband. That is also false. Mrs. Chatfield distinctly remembers a time just before the wedding that Rebekah's husband got cold feet and considered not following through with the wedding. Rebekah became irate that she would not be getting married and begged for family members to talk to her fiancé so she could marry into the Chatfield family. Mrs. Chatfield was there—and so were others—and they witnessed her breakdown, begging for someone to convince her fiancé to come back to her so they could get married. There was no pressure and no ultimatum by Mr. Chatfield or anyone else from the Chatfield family for Rebekah to marry. It was Rebekah asking for others to put pressure on her fiancé to marry her. And that's why in her journal after her wedding, she writes about how much she loves the entire Chatfield family.

Fourth, the notion that Mr. Chatfield would manipulate Rebekah to be alone with her is also false. Rebekah repeatedly asked Mrs. Chatfield to come over to their house or ride to games with her to watch her now-husband play sports. Even as an adult, Rebekah would seek to join the Chatfields at dinner or spend time up north—even without her husband—and was considered somewhat of a nuisance because of her desire to spend time with Mr. and Mrs. Chatfield, though her mother lived only minutes away. No one manipulated scenarios for Mr. Chatfield to be with Rebekah—she sought them out.

Fifth, Mrs. Chatfield knows Rebekah's allegation that she was raped by Mr. Chatfield on or around her wedding night is also untrue. Rebekah's story has changed about the specific night, but Rebekah didn't stay at the Chatfield house before the wedding or on her wedding night. Instead, Rebekah stayed at her mother's house with her bridesmaids on the nights leading up to the wedding. On the night of her wedding, Rebekah stayed with her husband at a hotel in Mackinaw City. So, the claim that Rebekah was raped while staying at the Chatfield's home on a night leading

up to the wedding or the night of the wedding is not true because Rebekah was not at the Chatfield home as she claims.

Sixth, Rebekah claims that she never told anyone about this rape or journaled about it out of fear that her husband would read it, yet in her journals she continually criticizes her husband. In a journal as recent as November of 2021, Rebekah writes down a list of the major traumas of her life, from childhood to current, and even mentions sexual ones. But nowhere even once did she mention anything about Mr. Chatfield or high school. In fact, this lie was never fabricated until she traveled out of state to spend time with a friend who previously began an organization that was purportedly designed to expose sexual abuse in churches. She has taken numerous out of state trips to visit this friend over the past 5 years. Her friend convinced her that claims like this these days don't "need proof." She admitted to another friend that her goal was to make these claims and then hire civil attorneys to sue Mr. Chatfield and then the church.

Mrs. Chatfield has also learned that Rebekah sent Mr. Chatfield numerous sexually explicit photos and videos over the years. One time Rebekah sent a sexually explicit picture in which her head was not visible, but her body was. She was posing in a very provocative manner wearing only lingerie. Rebekah's husband saw the photo come in because he was using Mr. Chatfield's phone at the time. When confronted by her husband, Rebekah lied and said that she was not the woman who sent the photo. Rebekah has taken numerous steps over the years to hide this affair from her husband and family.

Mrs. Chatfield understands why there is so much attention surrounding this story. But Rebekah's story of being assaulted is fiction, and she should seek counseling. Being a victim of sexual assault herself, Mrs. Chatfield is sensitive to all of those who are true victims of sexual assault. However, she also recognizes that it is equally important to stand up to those who falsely claim they are victims of sexual assault. Had Rebekah ever once felt uncomfortable around Mr. Chatfield, there were hundreds of occasions she could have said so, but instead she made every attempt to be with Mr. Chatfield, and this is well documented through photos and videos.

Mrs. Chatfield acknowledges this for what it is: an affair. Rebekah's goal is to tell lies in an attempt to become a millionaire and film her documentary. She should not be rewarded for lying when so many details of her lies are verifiably false. Mrs. Chatfield will continue to cooperate with the authorities and will continue to support Mr. Chatfield as he makes amends to his family.