National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

Truth-Gathering Process

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Statement - Volume 609

Rhea Fast, Blade Fast, Kerrigan Fast
& Loretta Pete Lambert,
In relation to Brenda June Jimmy

Statement gathered by Kerrie Reay

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**Statement Gatherer:** Kerrie Reay

**Documents submitted with testimony:** none.
--- Upon commencing on Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at 6:42 p.m.

MS. RHEA FAST: Can we discuss as a family before you start if we want it public?

MS. KERRIE REAY: We are starting on the record. Did you want to stop? We can wait though till the end until you’ve shared and then we can have this conversation as well. We can do that either off the record or on the record.

MS. RHEA FAST: Okay. We’ve all chosen public.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Okay. This is Kerrie Reay. I am a statement taker with the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. And today we are in Ottawa, Ontario. It is December the 12th, 2018 and the time is 6:42 p.m.

Today I am speaking with Rhea Fast, that’s R-H-E-A, last name Fast, F as in Frank, A, S as in Sam, T. Along with Rhea is her daughter Kerrigan, K-E-R-I-G-A-N as in Norman, and her son Blade, B as in Bob, L-A-D-E. And they both have the last name Fast. Along with Rhea is her auntie Loretta Pete Lambert, and Loretta is L-O-R-E-T-T-A, Pete P-E-T-E, and Lambert, L-A-M-B-E as in Bob, E-R-T.

And Rhea and her family are from the Little Pines First Nation from Saskatchewan and currently reside
in Ottawa. And Loretta, are you in Saskatchewan?

**MS. LORETTA PETE LAMBERT:** I am.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. And Loretta Lambert is in Saskatchewan. Today the family is here to speak of Rhea’s mum, Brenda June Jimmy, who was taken from this family on July the 19th, 1975 when she was murdered in Edmonton, Alberta. Also in the room, is Laurie Odjick, L-A-U-R-I-E, last name is O-D as in David, J-I-C-K.

And Rhea, you’re aware that we are video taping and audio taping today and that you and your family are here voluntarily?

**MS. RHEA FAST:** Correct.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** And we will talk a little bit more about whether you would like your statement to be public or private. You had initially indicated public, but we’ll come back to that at the end of -- when you’re done.

**MS. RHEA FAST:** Okay.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** And Rhea, the space and the time is for you and your family and when you are comfortable and ready in invite you to start wherever you feel comfortable as you share today.

**MS. RHEA FAST:** Okay.

**MS. LORETTA PETE LAMBERT:** I will start the process because ---

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Pardon? It’s Loretta
speaking?

**MS. LORETTA PETE LAMBERT:** Yeah, Loretta Pete Lambert speaking. The reason I’d like to start is I’d like to give some context to the situation.

We had just -- this was in 1975 and we had just buried my sister and she also had been murdered. And we had just finished burying her. And then the -- her grandpa comes walking up the hill and went -- goes and talks to my father, my dad, and tells him that “My daughter’s been murdered.” That would be her mother. And everybody, of course, was in shock.

So we just lost two members of the family in that month and so I was of course, you know, just young. Brenda, the mum and I were the same age. We were, you know, cousins, first cousins and we were -- we played with each other until we parted ways when I was 15 and she was 15. She -- I moved away from my family and she moved, I think, into the city. That’s where my memory doesn’t -- I don’t remember the details, but we never saw each other thereafter, of course, you know?

So that’s sort of the context of what happened that day, and of course, the grandpa was totally devastated, and our family was totally devastated when this happened. And the thing I was telling Rhea -- Rhea and I met last night at the phone -- in the phone. We talked for
about an hour and a half, and then I told her what I was doing. I was also -- I’m a person with standing to the, you know, to the inquiry here, and I told her what I was doing, and I invited her to come over and come see the process at least, and here we are now.

And I think it’s important to know that -- I believe anyway, that things happen for a reason. Brenda’s voice has to be heard. Her story has to be heard. And it has affected her children and her grandchildren who are sitting here. And with us too, like, we really did not know what happened to her until after pieces of information have been shared with us. Despite the fact that our sister was murdered too, it was -- it was devastating for the family, for both families at the time.

So -- and I think with Rhea and her children sitting here, it’s just a time, I guess to tell and share the story and hoping that the Commissioner will take from here what they can make for recommendations for Canada to change. And I think with -- even with me, I -- after speaking with Rhea last night, you know, reconciling with a child of my cousin and speaking with her last night, I had a really deep, deep conversation mentally, with myself I guess, of course. And I just realized how it impacted me too.

And then today when she came to the circle
with the Commissioners, that’s -- that was I thought, that’s the time for her to be able to tell her story. So and then people just seemed to mobilize and made it possible, and I certainly thank you for giving us this opportunity to speak.

And that, you know, Rhea, I’ve never seen her in my life, I didn’t even know that her mother had a child when she was murdered. I didn’t know Rhea existed. We didn’t know. I was too young, I was only 17, the same age as her mother and I was already had a child too, and -- but I just -- we just never heard about Rhea. So now there she is. Thank you, Rhea, for letting me speak (inaudible).

**MS. RHEA FAST:** My name is Rhea Lynn Fast. I am the daughter of Brenda June Jimmy. At birth my name was Kimberly Ann Jimmy. I was scooped when I was three months old to the family that has me now. I didn’t know any of this until I started snooping.

I was told that if something had your name on it, it was yours. So I went through my adopted -- well, I don’t really call him my adopted dad -- my dad’s file cabinet and I saw my name on a manila envelope, and so I went through it. And I found 15 bucks, so I kept it, and then I found a piece of paper with a red seal on it. So I opened up the piece of paper and I started reading it and it said that Kimberly Ann Jimmy, born May 4th, yada, yada,
yada. These people witnessed it, the adoption process.

So I went upstairs to my dad and I said, do I have a sister? He’s like, no. And I’m like, “Well, who’s Kimberly Ann Jimmy?” And that’s when he told me, “We need to talk.” And I was 10. So for 10 years I believed I was white, trained to be white. Probably up until I was 28, I was still trained to be white.

I had an older daughter at my mum’s age, 18. I gave her up for adoption. I just wasn’t ready to parent her. And then I moved on in life and became a military spouse. And at that time Kerrigan came along and for me, and knowing, you know, what happened to my mum, now that I know every gory detail, if it wasn’t for Kerrigan I’d probably be in the same place. I wouldn’t be alive today.

And I thank her every day, every single day. I didn’t save my life, she did. She saved every ounce of it.

Then I had my daughter [Daughter 1], who is 21 years old. She lives in Rimouski, Quebec. She will be 21 in January. When I had her she was clinically dead at birth. They whisked her away from me and she was a little fighter. So I call her -- she was born in Honolulu, Hawaii in 1998, and I call her my heart of the ocean. Kerrigan’s has always been, I love you to the moon and back, with infinity purple smarties attached.

Then four years later came the boy I wanted.
And my girls, Kerrigan and [Daughter 1], were taken from me because I was in an abusive relationship with my son’s father. I found a way out. I was with him for 19 months. I found a way out, this was right after 9-11. I was supposed to fly out on 9-11 to Saskatchewan to meet my family, but our flight was grounded for four days. 

I climbed down three balconies, pregnant with my son to get away. I went to the Reserve, was told the story, but wasn’t told the right story. I was told different versions, to be honest, not the truth at all. But then I couldn’t do it anymore. You know, I was raised in the big city and reserve life wasn’t for me. But I knew I couldn’t speak French, so I had to move somewhere where I was close enough to my daughters that I could get to them, because they were in Quebec.

With intergenerational trauma of the abuse I took, and I can tell you I have been abused for 32 years of my life, to the day. One day something -- I don’t even know, something in me said I needed to know. So a few police officers, which I will not mention because they are not here -- I will mention, I will not give their names -- told me to call Edmonton and I did.

And a lady called me back from historical homicide and because I was her only child, she had to ask me questions of what I knew about my mum’s murder, or you
know, if I knew anything at all, because you know, we don’t exhume the bodies. There was no -- I mean the closest familial DNA would have been either my cousin [Cousin 1] or [Aunt 1]. And so, I answered the questions -- excuse me -- and she said, “I will give you a call. Just give me a couple days to pull her file.” And she kept her word.

She called me back and I can tell you by reading this, and then I can go into how it has affected me, my daughters, my son.

“British soldier sentenced to five years. Trevor Desmond Riddle, 20 of Bridgewater, Somerset, England, was sentenced to five years Monday in Alberta Supreme Court after he plead guilty to a reduced charge of manslaughter. Riddle, a Private in the British Light Infantry’s First Battalion was originally charged with murder punishable by life imprisonment in the beating death of Brenda June Jimmy from Edmonton. The girl’s body was found in the rear of an Army truck at the Oriona -- sorry -- Orton’s Armories in Edmonton July 25th. The soldier will be released by the British
Forces with which he has served four years. At the end of his prison sentence he will be deported back to England.”

“A British soldier has been committed to stand trial on the bludgeoning death this July of a young city woman. Trevor Desmond Riddle, 19, was ordered to stand trial by Senior Provincial Court Judge Carl Ross following a day long preliminary hearing a publication ban was granted on the evidence introduced, preventing its release.”

The detective phoned me and, you know, we talked, and you know, she told me what tattoos she had, the gas had already eaten away at her skin, so they couldn’t make out what kind of tattoos they were, except her and [Aunt 1] had the same cross on the same wrist. And there was a mix up actually -- what nobody know is there was a mix up, because my mum Brenda had my aunt [Aunt 1]’s ID that night, because she needed to be 18 to get into this bar in Alberta.

So my aunt [Aunt 1] gave her her ID and my mum when to this bar. She was with four women. Those women I don’t know to this day. She met -- all the girls
met these Infantry soldiers and Trevor asked my mum, “Do you want to take a walk?” “Okay” she said.

Without me getting the file from the Edmonton homicide, which they are more than willing to give me because I have more than proven that I am her child, and it is because of my children I don’t seek to get that file. As much as I want to read the names of the girls that -- I mean, there’s different parts of anger, the girls that let her go, and me being a mum.

It was hard on Kerrigan, because they weren’t a part of my life for 12 years, and I got sick and I was in the custody battle for my life, like with -- for Blade. So my daughters didn’t see me for 12 years. I knew Kerrigan would always return home because she’d always tell me, “Mommy, as soon as I turn 18, I’m coming home.” And she did.

Blade, I fought for tooth and nail with everything I had, and I finally won full custody of him. The abuse that he suffered at the hands of his father. My mum -- you know, she’s my little toughy, you know, she’ll tell me some days, don’t cry -- don’t cry mommy, and she’s now crying. We were robbed of a life we’ll never know.

The picture I have on our phones is the only picture we have of her. That day Trevor Desmond Riddle took apart my entire life, stole everything from me. Who I
was, who I became, to who I was becoming. Because of this (inaudible). And I try to tell my girls and unfortunately, I’ve pushed away my own daughter, because she was raised in a small city with maybe 5,000 people. Coming to the big city, being (inaudible). I didn’t have her for that 12 years, so I wanted to hold on to her.

I didn’t want to let go because all that came through my mind and maybe I shouldn’t have taken that phone call that day. Because I was afraid I’d get a phone call, I was afraid for my phone to ring. It’s not that I didn’t trust her, this whole time I’ve envisioned her in the back of a truck. People say she looks just like me, so she looks just like my mum. And I was having nightmares for a while, and I got put on some PTSD medication.

At -- it was my kids and I would tell Kerrigan all the time, don’t go downtown. It’s different than a little city. It’s different than a little town. I mean, it wasn’t even as big as Lloydminster, of the whole town, and not even the size of North Battleford. And wanting to protect the daughter that saved me.

Because even though [Daughter 1] is the fighter, she fought to stay alive and she’s my heart of the ocean. Kerrigan is my miracle child. She’s the 3 percent they don’t tell you on the side of the birth control box. I was having my period and everything. Couldn’t find her
in bloodwork, couldn’t find her in urine.

So they finally did an ultrasound to find out what was going on. And I was, you know, in the room and the girl’s taking all the pictures. She said, “I’ll be back in a second.” I said, “Okay.” And then walked straight out to the radiologist, the doctor, and he’s looking, and he’s looking. And he says, “Well, something’s going on here.” I said, “What do you mean?” He turned around the computer and he says, “You’re 13 weeks pregnant.”

And that’s when I knew what love was, was the first time in my life. For the first time, even though she was the size of a bean, I knew love for the first time. I was raised by a wealthy family. Blade is the only namesake to that family and with Blade -- because I was told [Daughter 1] was a boy for eight months -- and then I’m at the (inaudible) Medical Centre giving birth and -- because my ex-husband was special ops, he was a Marine.

And he was in the birthing room with me and I think it was actually the night of the Superbowl, because they were -- it was the Green Bay Packers playing and they were all wearing cheese hats. And I thought for eight months I was told she was a boy and, no. There was this other little girl, eight pounds, 11 ounces, and looked like a monkey.
Then came Blade. And the saddest thing about my intergenerational trauma, because of what has happened, is my dad and I, we didn’t get close until I had a boy. Because in the German world, boys are the sacred ones, women are to be in the kitchen cooking, making dinner.

I have been beaten my whole life and I think still to this day -- because I didn’t know this story when I became a military spouse, I hadn’t found them yet. And to look at your living grandfather and him ask you, you know, “What do the girls’ dad do?” And I had to say, military, and here my mom was killed by a military man, Mr. Riddle. He’ll be emblazoned.

I asked the detective one question I needed to ask her, one question I needed and my kids to know, was if she suffered. And she said, “No, it was very quick.” I said, “Is it true that he took half her head off with a full can of gas, jerry can?” She said, “Yes, it is.” I said, “Is it true that he encased her in gas cans to conceal her body?” She said, “Yes, it is.”

I have so much anger and so do my children, and my children do resent some of the Jimmy family because we have been lied to for 17 years. It’s like I was telling my auntie and some of the other ladies I met today, you never -- I don’t care who you are, you never forget the
name of the person that killed your sister, or your
brother. It’s just not something you forget. It’s just
not something you’d brush under the carpet and say, “Okay.
Let’s move on and have another day.”

So I had to find him on my own. My daughter
was a work, I wouldn’t pick up the phone. She called my
adopted daughter, she said take the -- kick the door down
if you have to, mommy’s not answering. Call the police.
That day after finding out the truth. And the detective
said one thing to me. She said, “Take comfort in the fact
that, you know, she was you know, a strong woman.” I’m
like, you want me to take comfort in the fact that she was
a strong woman? She said, “What I meant by --” she said,
“I meant no disrespect.” She said, “Please take comfort in
the fact that your mother fought for her life. That that
man will have scars on his body, on his face from her for
the rest of his life.”

She asked me if I would like the file. And
I talked to my kids about it and they said, “No, mommy,
don’t.” For me, after knowing all this, safety is key for
my kids. Especially for my daughters. You don’t walk
away. I don’t think I’ll ever walk away from it. And some
days I wish there was one picture that would miraculously
turn up of her holding me, or somebody finding a picture of
her holding ---
I’m going to take a little breather and I’m going to let Kerrigan speak.

**MS. KERRIGAN FAST:** I never knew about having a grandma that was murdered until I moved home in Ottawa four years ago. When I was with my dad, I never knew I had a family in Saskatchewan. I never knew that -- I knew I was Native, but I didn’t know what it was about. I learned everything when I got here four years ago. About the huge family that I have back home, about my culture, and what’s in the culture, how it works.

And then my mum told me that she was adopted. I knew she was adopted, I didn’t know for what reason until she told me four years ago. When I found out that my grandma was murdered it hurt like hell, even though I didn’t get the chance to meet her because this guy was selfish and murdered her because she said, no.

When my mum found out why, like she said, I was at work. I left work to come to the house and I called the police because mentally, she was breaking down. Then she asked me if it would be a good idea if she got the files and I said, “No, because look at you now. You don’t even know the details and in those files, there will be pictures, more details than what you already have, which is going to hurt you even more.” I’m like, “You have the details that you wanted. You wanted to know who did it and
why.” I told her she didn’t need the pictures because it was just going to make everything worse.

Even though in the situation that we didn’t get files, it made everything worse for her. Because then the detective gave her all the information. She looked up the guy and it went as far as she contacted him, telling him that he took away everything from her, a mother, a grandmother, a sister, and aunt. And she went through hell in her whole life.

And even when she said that she was protecting me this whole time, I realized it one night in the summer. I went to the bar with my friends and I was drugged. I found myself in the hospital the next day, didn’t know how I got there, didn’t know how I called the ambulance myself. And that’s when I realized that my mum was doing everything in her possible way to prevent anything happening to me.

I was being selfish. I was telling her, “I’m 22. I’m old enough. I know what’s going on. I’m not stupid. I’m going to be safe.” And after that night I realized it takes one little thing to turn your whole life around. When I was at the hospital the doctor said if I had more milligrams of whatever I had in my system that would have been it. I was on oxygen, heart monitors, all night. I was passing out. I stopped breathing for a few
minutes and like I said, if it would have been more -- a few more milligrams of what I had, that would have been it for me.

And that was the first time I’ve ever went to that bar, and the last. I’ve been to bars since I was 17 and nothing has ever happened like that and when that happened, I realized -- I look at my friends, I’m like, now I know why she was so protective of me going downtown with people I don’t know. Because that night I went to a bar -- I went to that bar with people I don’t know. I knew my friend which, it was her birthday, everybody else in that group, I did not know.

Even though I don’t live with her anymore, we’ve been through hell and back for the last six, seven months. I so want to thank her for everything that she’s done and keeps doing, and protecting me, even though I’m being hard-headed. It’s coming to the point that I’m realizing that people do mistakes, you can’t prevent the mistakes that you do, but you learn from them.

I always told her -- I always thought since I’ve been home, why is it so hard for her knowing that someone killed her mother? Why is it so hard even though she didn’t know her? And that answered my question. It’s because the guy robbed her from her life. Robbed us from a grandmother.
And I don’t mean to say this being mean, or non-sentimental, but if that didn’t happen, she wouldn’t have had us. She wouldn’t have had the life and the children that she has now. She would have had a different life. Even though it’s hard to say, things happen for a reason. Even though it means losing someone. If there wasn’t for that moment, she would not have the children that she has now and the support that she has now from everyone.

And even though I didn’t meet my grandmother, every year, everywhere -- every year we go to the beach and lay down flowers in the river and say hi to her. Every year we celebrate her birthday and her death by going to the river and putting roses in the water and just watching them go away, because my mum did not have a chance to say goodbye. Nobody had the chance to say goodbye.

The guy that did this will have this on his consciousness for the rest of his life, even though he wants to deny it or hide it. He killed someone that didn’t deserve to die.

**MS. RHEA FAST:** When Kerrigan went out that night, I knew she was lost the next day on the phone when I talked to her. She was hanging out with a girl that Kerrigan was 28 times too smart to be hanging out with.

And for me, I have one man and Kerrigan has
thanked him, who literally, literally saved my life. And he was Chief of the Whitefish Police Department in Montana. It was 1989 and that was the day I almost died.

Three men had taken me while I was walking home from a friend’s. They shoved me in the trunk of a black car, did everything possible to me on the way to Montana that they could. I was broken, battered and bruised, bloody, and they made one mistake. I told them I needed to go to the bathroom, and I knew that the bathrooms were behind like, where the (inaudible) and I saw an emergency exit and I ran across the street to a drugstore.

Blood everywhere. Blood in between my thighs. And I looked at the lady and I said, “A police station.” She said, “We have stairs leading to one right here.” And 28 years later I find him and thank him for getting me home even though I was already out of the house by then, he still got me home to my family. I thank him to this day, and if it was not for him, and if it was not for her, there would be no me. Your turn sporty.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Here you go, Blade.

MR. BLADE FAST: Since my mum had my sister Kerrigan she has -- and then had my sister [Daughter 1], and then had me, she’s done everything possible for us. As my sister previously stated, she’s hard-headed and stubborn, but so am I. As my mum previously stated, I was
abused by my father, as my mum was abused by her dad as well.

When I was around two or -- around two, I asked my mum, “Where is my dad?” That night he called, and when I was nine if it wasn’t for me screaming and telling him I wanted to go to a foster home, I wouldn’t be alive. If it was not for my mum’s help, I would not be here.

And I was in fostering for two and a half years, went through a rough patch, then my sister came home. I was cliché sibling rivalry. I got jealous and then I learned the hard way by getting placed back into a group home, and learnt that she didn’t have my mum for 12 years. That she didn’t know about the culture. She didn’t have her little baby brother. She didn’t know anything, and she didn’t have my mum and I did for my whole life.

And then I’m starting to also realize now that if it was not for my sister, my mum would have not had me and would have not had my sister [Daughter 1]. And if it was not for my mum helping me through the post-abuse that I suffered from my father, I’d also not be here. And if it was not for my sister Kerrigan, I would not be here. And if it was not for my other sister, [Daughter 1], I would not be here.

Yes, I’m stubborn and sometimes ungrateful to all three of my family members. I’m slowly starting to
realize now that they’ve been the only three people that 
has supported me through everything and an officer that my 
mum said previously, that I’m not going to mention, who has 
supported us through everything that has happened, past, 
present, and what I may need in the future. But the 
officer stated that the officer would always be in our 
lives today. And this was four years ago.

**MS. RHEA FAST:** And that’s why me and my 
kids, my daughters, I didn’t know my daughters were being 
hit until Kerrigan came home. I had no clue. And it 
wasn’t by Kerrigan’s dad, it was by her stepmom.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Can we take a break? 
Blade is looking for a break. Do you want to stop or keep 
going? It’s 7:40. 
--- Upon recessing at 7:40 p.m. 
--- Upon resuming at 7:46 p.m.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay. We are back on the 
record. It is 7:46 and for the record Loretta Pete Lambert 
has left as she has another commitment and Rhea, I invite 
you to -- when you are ready ---

**MS. RHEA FAST:** Well, I left off -- one 
thing I told myself when I had my kids, that I would never, 
not in a million years hit them, because I didn’t want to 
be like my dad. Then when I found out -- when I picked 
this little one up in Montreal, I hadn’t laid eyes on her
in 12 years, off the bus comes this little girl, five foot two. I was so proud. I just looked at her. I said, “She’s mine.”

Then her and I got into an argument one day and to this day I forget what it was over. I think it was either because she couldn’t get a dog or she couldn’t get a cat, but it was something. And she laid it out all — she laid it out there, all of it. Swearing at me, “Where have you been? Why no phone calls?” At that point in time, that’s when I had to tell them I was sick and that I had to fight for Blade because Blade had no one else to fight for him.

I crawled in between her little legs and the hardest thing to do is ask a child for forgiveness, forgiveness that I wasn’t there, but I made her a promise. You now, she — she’s stubborn because she’s like me. Okay, maybe they’re all like me. But her the most, characteristics in her are to a tee, if you even look at us. Like, my tattoo guy down the street, he’d never met her before and she went in and he goes, “I know whose kid that is.”

And asking for forgiveness from your children because you weren’t there, because you were thinking you were doing the right thing for the other one, and then finding out your little girls were being abused,
and thrown over couches, chairs, tied to a chair. A daughter at 14 that I couldn’t be more proud of, youngest soccer coach ever, and she didn’t see one dime of that.

So when I knew Kerrigan -- I knew her, you know, her 18th birthday was coming up. I was engaged at the time. My ring had an insurance policy with it. And she said, Mommy I just want to finish out my credits here and then I’m coming.” And I said, “Okay, baby. You let me know.” But then I took out my knees at Calypso and she came home early.

And I knew I had to provide for her for three months until she could get OHIP. So I took that diamond ring and the insurance policy, brought it back to the jeweler, got the money put back in my account and I didn’t look back. I knew I had to pay for her medical, all her doctors’ visits, all her medicine, until we could get her Status Card back on track.

And my dad and I don’t always see eye to eye, and my kids are, you know, quite angry with him that, you know, he’s seen my oldest daughter more than he’s seen them. But he’s the one who told me the day that you can apologize to your child -- and it wasn’t even something I did wrong, it’s because of who I was with.

And with Blade, a 10 pound, 11 ounce nugget, and I’m finding out he was abused. I will personally tell
you that I messaged Kerrigan’s stepmom once I heard the story from both girls at different times, and it was not the same story, but pretty close, so I knew they weren’t lying because I asked them in different ways. And I told her, “There’s two places you can go. You can stay in Quebec, you can go to Victoria. Anywhere in between, it’s not going to be a happy sandwich.” His father stays in hiding in Barrhaven because he knows also, and I believe, you know SACA is taking care of it at this point.

And I think about maybe they’re right, you know? Maybe if I would have gone to San Diego with my mum and she, you know, opened up her own practice, had umpteen alphabet letters under her name, Kerrigan’s probably right, they would have never been born.

**MR. BLADE FAST:** If I may say something? Kerrigan was also pointing out, if that night never happened, if kookum never went to the bar, we would possibly never have been born. Because Kerrigan stated that everything happens for a reason, even though Brenda did not deserve what happened that night. Nobody should ever have to suffer that -- a pain like that. And you would have never had us.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Would it be okay if I ask a question?

**MS. RHEA FAST:** M’hm.
Statement - Public
Fast, Pete Lambert et al
(Brenda June Jimmy)

MS. KERRIE REAY: At three months old when your mother was taken from you, were you in Edmonton?

MS. RHEA FAST: I was at my uncle Sylvia and my uncle Wess’ house because they were babysitting me. And my uncle Wes came into my room and -- because they had my little crib and stuff there -- and he came into my room and he kissed my forehead and when he got back from work, I was already gone.

MS. KERRIE REAY: Were you ever given any indication as to whether the Child Welfare Services had looked for your family?

MS. RHEA FAST: Had looked for my family? No. There is indication though, that -- and my kids can attest to it -- that without a doubt something -- somebody is hiding something. And with the money that rolls through my dad’s hands, I can guarantee you my birth certificate was changed so that my family couldn’t find me. But he’ll never tell me the truth.

MS. KERRIE REAY: One of the things that comes with the Inquiry is the ability to subpoena documents. And would you be comfortable if we looked to subpoena those Child Welfare documents for the Commissioners to look to, to try to understand how you were taken and not (inaudible) family?

MS. RHEA FAST: All I was told was I was
taken in the night.

MS. KERRIE REAY: In the night.

MS. RHEA FAST: Yeah.

MS. KERRIE REAY: There’s some -- there’s an organization that the Inquiry is working with called FILU. The Family Information Liaison Unit.

MS. RHEA FAST: I’ve heard about it briefly, yes.

MS. KERRIE REAY: And I can put you in touch with people from FILU in Alberta that might be able to help you, if you are interested, if you are wanting. And that may be a decision that you may want to take time to consider with your family. There’s no rush. But if it is something that you would like to explore, or at least have a conversation with somebody from the organization, I can put you in touch with someone.

MS. RHEA FAST: Our family doesn’t trust well. I’d be interested in it, but as I was explaining to Laurie, when she walked across the room to me, and I felt it, it wasn’t my shoes. My body went like this, and I totally believe -- I love you mommy -- totally believe my mum shoved me and I was supposed to meet Laurie and was supposed to hug her. At first, I thought I was just off balance on my new shoes, but then I realized I wasn’t standing on anything and my entire body just went.
And I know what -- I don’t even want to think that I understand the hell that she goes through on a daily basis, but I do understand it, because I have two daughters, and I’ve kept up on their story. If they needed volunteers, if police were in, it’s just a matter of not being able to, you know, get out to -- get out there to help and look. Or they weren’t having, you know, sometimes -- for that little boy who drown this summer whose mother was just charged with it, they had like volunteers brought in by bus or whatever.

So after everything I did and went through this afternoon to now, while I was waiting outside for my daughter, this girls, like I said, had all her bags and she had spilled her 7UP everywhere. Everything was drenched. Her phone, her cards. So I Ubered her home. And I tell my kids not to be hateful because their mum would -- my mum, their grandmother and their Oma, would want better of them.

So whatever documents you can find that me and my kids can read, I would -- and I don’t know how to get and I don’t know how much it is. I was going to ask you about it, if that would fall into the aftercare. I want a copy of my live birth certificate. I don’t have a copy of that -- or my live birth registration.

MS. KERRIE REAY: The FILU program that I’m speaking about can help you with that. They’re there to
help in getting you the documentation that they can -- that
can be released. There may be, you know, some that can’t.
But what can be released they will help you access them.
They can help you get that.

**MS. RHEA FAST:** All I know is I was born at
the Charles Camsville (Phonetic) Hospital and then it
turned into an orphanage, and then it burnt down. No
longer stands. So I don’t know where all those records
went. I don’t know if they were saved. I don’t know.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Have you reconnected with
your mother’s family? You spoke about your auntie here.
Is that all?

**MS. RHEA FAST:** I -- when my kids found out
that I had been lied to for that long by my own blood,
there’s no connection left.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** Okay.

**MS. RHEA FAST:** Except with my auntie
because, you heard her, she didn’t even know I existed and
her sister [Aunt 2], are my cousins that I call them
auntie. But other than that, I don’t want any connection.

I look at my kids and something you guys
kept saying to me all day, it’s my family. They are my
family. Him, her, and [Daughter 1], that’s my family. And
I see Laurie over there shaking her head, yes. That is who
my family is. And until they’re safe, until they have
jobs, finish school, I will protect them with everything I have because never do I want that phone call, like you heard my auntie Loretta say, like grandpa. Never.

And I know she’s with us. I knew she was here today, because when I was sitting down eating lunch, just felt this coldness and I had turned around to see if somebody had walked by me, like the cold breeze. There was no one there.

And some days I look at her picture, or I look at my adopted mum’s picture and I just ask them for a sign. Then I go look in the mirror and I look at the person staring back at me, and I’m that sign, because I’m still here and they are gone.

So even though Mr. Riddle got to take away everything from me, he didn’t realize mama bear had a cub, and he didn’t realize that cub would turn into a mama bear, and have her own three cubs. And I will have my vengeance in this life, or the next. Whether it’s to look at him and say, “Hey, here I am five foot nine. You picked on somebody who was five foot three. So pick on me.” But it’s like I said to Laurie, now I need a whole different passport to go find him.

And what the Commissioner can bring to the RCMP, or the Edmonton Police Service, or even Tribal Police, whatever is on whatever reserve, is more respect,
more compassion, more empathy, more understanding, and not so much hatred. And give somebody a sentence of four years for destroying an entire family, that is what they can do.

**MR. BLADE FAST:** Or as he thought,

destroying the whole entire bloodline.

**MS. RHEA FAST:** He thought he would destroy the entire bloodline, but then I was told why there was a publication ban put in place, and it was because he knew about me. But I don’t think he thought I’d ever find him.

And what they can do, even though my mum’s assault, although I don’t think four years assault -- but what they can do, and usually I’m not this, you know, nice and polite, usually I’m a straight shooter and I’ll just say what I need to say and if you don’t like it, oh well. What they need to do is they need to treat these other mums that are still looking and if they hear something, don’t wait weeks to look into it. Don’t wait months to look into it. Go that day. Go look at that clue that day. Because that day might be the only one that mattered.

And just like our friend, and our cousin Brendan Ahenakew in Saskatchewan, that RCMP officer drove by his car on fire. By the time the RCMP got there to put it out, Brendan was already dead in the car. So even though I was treated with the most compassion, and the most empathy, and the most understanding from my portable action
figures in blue, there need to be more and I 100 percent believe this.

And it’s not a prejudicial thing, it’s not a race thing, but every nationality should have their own policing. Every nationality.

My daughter asked me one day, I remember this, she asked me why I was prejudice. And I told her, “Go read up about the genocide to our people and what’s been done to our people, and our children, our parents’ children, her grandparents’ children. Go look, go read and you’ll understand why.” I was born, but I was trained to be racist. I was trained it every day. And a part of me always will be, because that’s all I know. That’s all I know.

Though what Kerrigan was saying about her knowing why I was protecting her the way I was, think about Laurie and her daughter and that she’s never been found yet. So again, he may have taken my mum, he didn’t take my family. I got my family. But what they do need is more resources to find these women, to find these girls. And if anything should happen, let it happen in my life, so at least my children can have peace in theirs.

And other than that, Mr. Riddle will meet karma someday. He’s still in my nightmares, those elfin ears. But sleep now, mama, your story’s been told. You
can rest now.

That’s all I have to say.

**MS. KERRIE REAY:** It takes a lot of courage, it takes a lot of strength to come and to share. And what I’d like to do is just turn off the video camera to give you a moment, and then we’ll come back on just to finish the paperwork. But give you a chance to take a deep breath. Okay. So it’s 8:21.

--- Upon recessing at 8:21 p.m.
LEGAL DICTA-TYPIST’S CERTIFICATE

I, Nancy Ewing, Court Transcriber, hereby certify that I have transcribed the foregoing and it is a true and accurate transcript of the digital audio provided in this matter.

Nancy Ewing
January 23, 2019