

BILL052(22)
Testimony

MISC. COMM. 34

COUNCIL

COUNCIL Meeting

Meeting Date: Jan 25, 2023 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 4

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 1

Name: Mahealani Sims-Tulba	Email: mahealanisimstulba@gmail.com	Zip: 96706
Representing: B.R.A.V.E.	Position: Support	Submitted: Jan 24, 2023 @ 10:12 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>B.R.A.V.E. Hawai'i programs benefit people of all age groups and grade levels. We cater to as many people as possible with the many different programs that we offer. B.R.A.V.E. Hawai'i brings awareness to the bullying problem here in Hawai'i with an interactive presentation for elementary school students, helps middle school students set achievable goals, and helps high school students find the importance of making the right decisions. B.R.A.V.E. also brings awareness to the extent of mental health and the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse. However, B.R.A.V.E. goes past that and even touches on the importance of respecting yourself, your environment, and those around you. Since 2013, B.R.A.V.E. Hawai'i has been able to spread its message to over 120,000 students and families statewide. Through our programs, we have showcased other exceptional children who go above and beyond to give back to their communities through a B.R.A.V.E. Kids award and scholarship. We are also working on creating a B.R.A.V.E. Leadership Academy, which allows student clubs, community leaders, and influencers to implement the mission of B.R.A.V.E. into their communities in their own creative ways.</p> <p>B.R.A.V.E. Hawai'i understands that bullying is an ongoing issue. There are many things that can influence someone to turn to bullying or to drugs and alcohol. With our programs, we are able to bring awareness to these issues and help students and families go in the right direction toward success. B.R.A.V.E. Hawai'i is able to showcase children who are already giving back and help them inspire others their age to follow in their footsteps. With B.R.A.V.E. Hawai'i, we allow the children and students to lead by example and inspire others.</p>		
Name: Celia Valenzuela	Email: ccabanilla28@hotmail.com	Zip: 96707
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jan 25, 2023 @ 05:28 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I am writing a testimony on behalf of my 7yo daughter. She was 6 years old when she had experienced a form of bullying in her dance class outside of school.</p> <p>She had come and had told us a dancer had told her she was not part of their group and made it known that 2 or 3 other girls were a "part" of a team. I confirmed with the instructor that she did not split the group up in any way and that there were a couple girls that are friends outside of class. My daughter said that made her sad and that her feelings were hurt and was tearing. It made her feel so bad that she didn't want to go to class and see the "mean girls."</p> <p>When I had brought the situation up to the instructor, she had stated that it was not acceptable to make her feel unwelcomed and had addressed it with girls in the next class. Moving forward, the situation resolved.</p> <p>Bringing the attention of bullying helps!</p>		
Name: Alim Shabazz	Email: alimshabazz@yahoo.com	Zip: 96706
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jan 25, 2023 @ 08:04 AM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>"I fully support this bill to tackle bullying. The proposed measures will create a safer environment for children, and provide them with the tools and resources to stand up for themselves and others. By teaching children to recognize and understand the communication patterns of their peers, they can better understand how to respond to potential bullying situations. This bill will help foster a culture of respect and understanding, and empower children to stand up to bullies. With this bill in place, we can make a real difference in the lives of children, and create a safer and healthier world for everyone."</p>		
Name: Sarah Beppu	Email: sarah.beppu@gmail.com	Zip: 96789
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Jan 25, 2023 @ 08:38 AM

Testimony:

I strongly support Bill 52 Relating To Bullying Of Youth. This is long overdue. While bullying can take on many forms the end effects of all are negative. Our children are growing up in a world where they face so much pressure and influence by social media.

Outlets like programs put on by City and County and being on City and County property should be a place where our youth can be a kid and have positive experiences. Worrying about being bullied should not be one of them.

The feeling of “nothing is going to happen” or “nothing will change” should not be something said when a child or guardian reports bullying. As individuals in power to make a lasting positive impact on our community, I ask each of you to support Bill 52. Help be a voice for so many who have lost hope when it comes to bullying. Let them no their voices are being heard and something is being done. No greater legacy than changing the course of someone’s life in a positive way. Bill 52 is a step in that direction. Mahalo!

Name: Choon James	Email: ChoonJamesHawaii@gmail.com	Zip: 96762
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Jan 25, 2023 @ 09:13 AM

Honolulu City Council
Bill 52 (2022), CD1

Mahalo for this Bill as a reminder to us all.

This is such an important Bill. We all know that a bully does not happen overnight. It's years of learning and copying from toxic environment from a person's situation.

We all know about bullying. Bullying comes in so many different forms and levels. Abusing one's powers and authority is probably the most common place of bullying.

I wanted to share this article with you, just to share how horrible human beings come become. These are supposedly successful and grown-up adults.

We need to remember that when we're in a position of power and authority, it's more imperative for us to be even more cognizant and understanding in helping others.

Mahalo,

Choon James

<https://www.justice.gov/usao-ma/pr/two-former-ebay-executives-sentenced-prison-cyberstalking>

PRESS RELEASE

Two Former eBay Executives Sentenced to Prison for Cyberstalking

Thursday, September 29, 2022

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For Immediate Release

U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Massachusetts

BOSTON – The former Senior Director of Safety & Security at eBay, Inc. and the company's former Director of Global Resiliency were sentenced to prison today for their roles in a cyberstalking campaign targeting the editor and publisher of a newsletter that eBay executives viewed as critical of the company.

James Baugh, 47, of San Jose, Calif., was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Patti B. Saris to 57 months in prison and two years of supervised release. Baugh was also ordered to pay a fine of \$40,000. David Harville, 50, of Las Vegas, Nev., was sentenced to two years in prison and two years of supervised release. Harville was also ordered to pay a fine of \$20,000. On April 25, 2022, Baugh pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit stalking through interstate travel and through facilities of interstate commerce, two counts of stalking through interstate travel, two counts of stalking through facilities of interstate commerce, two counts of witness tampering and two counts of destruction, alteration and falsification of records in a federal investigation. On May 12, 2022, Harville pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit stalking through interstate travel and through facilities of interstate commerce, two counts of stalking through interstate travel and two counts of stalking through facilities of interstate commerce.

“The internet is incredibly powerful. It brings community, information, and even merchandise right to our homes. Mr. Baugh and Mr. Harville used the internet’s power to harass and intimidate a couple who did nothing—nothing—other than publish content that our First Amendment protects. The defendants’ toxic brand of online and real-world harassment, threats, and stalking was outrageous, cruel and defies any explanation—**all the more because these men were seasoned and highly paid security executives backed by the resources of a Fortune 500 corporation.** Their behavior was reprehensible. The just sentences the Court imposed today will take Mr. Baugh and Mr. Harville offline and out of our community for some time. This should serve as a strong reminder to all that holding positions of wealth and privilege does not absolve or shield criminals from accountability and incarceration. The government’s investigation continues,” said United States Attorney Rachael S. Rollins.

“Both men demonstrated a clear contempt for the law when they weaponized eBay’s security department to engage in an incredibly disturbing pattern of retaliatory harassment and intimidation to torment this couple, who, thankfully, did not let their fear silence them,” said Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI Boston Division. “While today’s sentencings cannot erase the substantial distress their victims suffered, it does make it crystal clear that anyone who goes online to threaten, intimidate, or harass others will face real-world consequences, including federal prison time.”

Harville and Baugh were arrested and charged in June 2020. Co-conspirators and former eBay employees Philip Cooke, Brian Gilbert, Stephanie Popp, Veronica Zea and Stephanie Stockwell previously pleaded guilty for their roles in a conspiracy to cyberstalk the victims. Cooke was sentenced in July 2021 to 18 months in prison. Gilbert, Popp, Zea and Stockwell are awaiting sentencing.

Between approximately Aug. 5, 2019 and Sept. 6, 2019, Harville, Baugh and their co-conspirators at eBay agreed to engage in a harassment campaign targeting a husband and wife in Natick, Mass. for their roles in publishing a newsletter that reported on issues of interest to eBay sellers. Senior executives at eBay were frustrated with the newsletter's tone and content as well as the substance of comments posted beneath the newsletter's articles. The harassment campaign arose from communications between those senior executives and Baugh, who was eBay's senior security employee.

The defendants and their co-conspirators executed a three-part harassment campaign intended to intimidate the victims and to influence their reporting about eBay. The campaign included sending anonymous and disturbing deliveries to the victims' home; sending private Twitter messages and public tweets criticizing the newsletter's content; threats to visit the victims in Natick; and traveling to Natick to surveil the victims and installing a GPS tracking device on their car.

The deliveries ordered to the victims' home included a book on surviving the death of a spouse, a bloody pig mask, a fetal pig, a funeral wreath and live insects. The harassment also featured Craigslist posts inviting members of the public to experience sexual encounters at the victims' home.

The threatening Twitter messages were written as if they had been sent by eBay sellers who were unhappy with the victims' coverage in the newsletter. Some of these messages posted the victims' home address and threatened to show up at their home.

On Aug. 15, 2019, Baugh, Harville and a co-conspirator traveled from California to Natick to surveil the victims and install a GPS tracking device on the victims' car. The victims spotted the surveillance team and contacted local police. Harville also purchased tools intending to break into the victims' garage and lied to an eBay investigator who was responding to the Natick Police's request for assistance.

After learning of the police's investigation, Harville and Baugh deleted digital evidence related to the cyberstalking campaign. Additionally, Baugh made false statements to police and internal investigators and falsified records intended to throw the police off the trail.

U.S. Attorney Rollins, FBI SAC Bonavolonta and Natick Police Chief James G. Hicks made the announcement today. eBay provided valuable assistance and cooperation with the investigation. Assistant U.S. Attorney Seth B. Kosto, Deputy Chief of Rollins' Securities, Financial & Cyber Fraud Unit prosecuted the case.

Updated September 29, 2022