**Simon/Simone**

**Please use the name and gender pronouns of your preference.**

 You have lived in your townhome for 15 years. You live simply and peacefully and enjoyed the safety and security of your home. You are retired veteran, trying to make ends meet living on a fixed income. You have been receiving consistent care for PTSD and your house is a refuge (especially all of your house plants) and has provided much needed stability after being housing unstable during certain periods of your life. The last 2 years have been financially difficult and you have had to pick up a few shifts a week to cover your expenses. You work third shift at Home Depot and enjoy your role in the Garden Center.

In May of 2022 your life completely changed when Pat/Patricia moved in. You live on the top floor and Pat/Patricia lives on the ground floor. From the moment they moved in you new things were going to be bad. They had an gaggle of people around on move-in day and the party hasn’t stopped. If there aren’t a group of friends around, they are playing music and singing all hours of the day or night.

This spring things really got bad. You were out on your balcony doing spring cleaning and watering your plants and Pat/Patricia came outside and started accosting you with threats and provocations. They said things like, “you have no right to use water on your balcony. I will call the HOA or the police immediately.” This was very unsettling as this has been your spring routine for years and you had no idea why they were being so over-reactive.

Everything went downhill from that point. Any time you came out and watered your plants Pat/Patricia would come outside and yell profanities. This kind of behavior escalated and as you got ready for work on the day that you had shifts they would yell more profanities and even started pounding on the ceilings. It was as if they were monitoring your schedule and lashing out at any chance. You also noticed they set up a security camera pointing at your property. That certainly can’t be legal.

A few months ago when you came home from work you noticed that Pat/Patricia’s care was parked over the line in the shared driveway and the garbage cans were in the wrong place. You moved the garbage cans to their proper place and maneuvered the difficult angle to access your parking space. The next time you returned from work you noticed the same thing. This patterned continued for a few weeks. Things really escalated when you left for work one morning at 3AM and Pat/Patricia came out of their house and started shouting about “if you move that garbage can onto my property one more time I will take matters into my own hands.” I couldn’t believe they had the gall to threaten me in the middle of the night as I was on my way to work. And I wasn’t going to let them take over my property so I put the garbage can back where it belonged. The incessant nature of these kinds of surprising and shocking behaviors are making your living arrangements unbearable. Your therapist has recommended that you get a Harassment Restraining order to force them to stop treating you this way. You do not trust court processes and feel like there is not system that will look out for your interests so this is advice you did not take.

You are struggling with vision problems and having the place where Pat/Patricia is putting the garbage can is making it very difficult for you to get in and out of your parking spot. Additionally, with them parking overline and intruding on your property it is making it almost impossible for you to navigate especially when you are going to work when it is dark. You do not want to talk about your vision problems because you are concerned your license will be revoked and you need to be able to drive back and forth to work.

To make matters worse, Pat/Patricia started showing up at your door and knocking violently when they got home from work. You had no intention of opening the door because you knew who it was and didn’t want to expose yourself to any of their assaultive language or threats. The next time they knocked just as violently and then relentlessly rang the doorbell for 5 minutes. I was afraid that they were going to break into my house.

And then your car was damaged. The side of the car by the garbage cans was keyed and you are certain Pat/Patricia was at fault. You were so disgusted by this behavior that you had no choice but to get a Harassment Restraining Order.