

BUGBEE LAW OFFICE, P.S.

1312 N. Monroe
Spokane, WA 99201

Phone: [REDACTED]

Fax: [REDACTED]

Media Statement

For Immediate Release

Re: *Mark Rypien*

In light of the dismissal of the misdemeanor assault charge against me, I want to express my appreciation to the citizen callers who reported this incident and to the officers involved for their efforts to protect Danielle on the day of this incident. I also appreciate the professionalism of the officers, jail staff, court personnel and the prosecutor's office in having treated me with respect and civility through a very difficult process.

I want to be clear that I did not assault Danielle. We were having an argument and she put her hands on my face, blocking my view of the road while I was driving. I shoved her aside out of actual fear that I might drive our car into a pedestrian, or otherwise cause a collision that could harm others or one of us. This was done to protect innocent bystanders and both her and I – I had no intent to harm or offend Daniel in any way.

I want to emphasize that I in no way condone domestic abuse of any kind. As I have previously publicly disclosed, I have a probable diagnosis of CTE. CTE can cause mood and behavioral disturbances that can include impulsivity, aggressiveness, anger and irritability. In the past I have shared that I suffer from some of these symptoms. I have a team of doctors, counselors and other professionals who are tops in their fields who help Danielle and I manage this condition. They have and continue to work with Danielle and I in dealing with the issues caused by this condition – including setting up a plan for how we deal with episodes of irritability, anger and aggressiveness. This incident was not caused by one of those episodes.

While it has been difficult for both Danielle and I to go through this process so publicly, we are grateful for the result. I am fortunate to have a voice to denounce abuse of women and intimate partners of any gender. I am also fortunate to be able to share with others who may be suffering from CTE that there are resources available to help them deal with this intractable condition.

Mark Rypien