

FILED  
SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
6/23/2020 2:21 PM  
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No. 98633-9

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

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UNEMPLOYMENT LAW PROJECT, et al.

Petitioners,

v.

SUZAN LEVINE, COMMISSIONER FOR THE WASHINGTON STATE EMPLOYMENT  
SECURITY DEPARTMENT.

Respondent.

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DECLARATION OF NICHOLAS PETRISH

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THE SHERIDAN LAW FIRM, P.S.

John P. Sheridan, WSBA #21473  
Mark W. Rose, WSBA #41916  
Andra Kranzler, WSBA # 44098  
Justin O. Abbasi, WSBA # 53582  
Hoge Building, Suite 1200  
705 Second Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104  
(206) 381-5949

Attorneys for Petitioners

I, NICHOLAS PETRISH, declare that the following statement is true and correct:

1. My name is Nicholas Petrish
2. I am over the age of eighteen (18) and competent to make this declaration.
3. I am a resident of Biglake in Skagit County, WA.
4. I worked as a union electrician for the last fourteen years.
5. I became unemployed on March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
6. I applied for unemployment benefits on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, 2020.
7. I received a Monetary Determination the following day denying me benefits.
8. The Employment Security Department (ESD) told me on that my benefits are being withheld because I didn't have proper documentation without any specificity as to how to rectify the issue. I have taken the following actions to address this issue with ESD: I've called ESD and cannot get through or was put on hold for over an hour without a call back. I've faxed in documents and catalogued my claim for my records. There were also software issues that either kept me from logging in or would cause the system to crash if I did log in. After weeks

of no response, I called Suzie Levine. I was an Obama national delegate for the DNC in 2008, and I met her back then when she was also a delegate, so I have her personal phone number. I talked with her for about these problematic issues for twenty minutes. I told her that I wanted both electronic and hard copy service, since I had switched over from electronic service to paper service within the first few weeks of applying, and all my messages and information had disappeared. Suzie affirmed that my claim should go through soon. Several weeks later, after my claim had not gone through, I called her again, but she has yet to return my phone call. I've called several law firms for help, but I have not been helped because I haven't officially been denied yet to warrant an appeal.

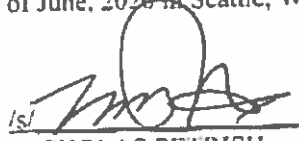
9. I have been significantly and adversely affected in the following ways due to my not receiving my unemployment benefits: We are burning our savings up. We have ordered a new roof, but now we have no income to pay for it. I'm not working and I don't have any income flowing in. I have thirteen thousand dollars waiting for me from FSD.

10. On a scale of 1-10 my level of fear and stress is a 10, because I'm told to stay home to flatten the curve. I see a lot of suffering and have friends that are losing their homes and their minds. It's taken us weeks and weeks to adjust, and the stress is unbearable. The people in

charge are simply watching while the whole system break down without any action whatsoever.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

DATED this 11<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020 in Seattle, Washington.

  
/s/ NICHOLAS PETRISH

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Tony Dondero, certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington and the United States that, on June 23, 2020, I served the document to which this Certificate is attached to the party listed below in the manner shown.

ROBERT FERGUSON  
Attorney General

Eric D. Peterson, WSBA #35555  
Senior Assistant Attorney General

Leah E. Harris, WSBA #40815  
Assistant Attorney General

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- By United States Mail
- By Legal Messenger
- By Facsimile
- By Overnight Fed Ex Delivery
- By Electronic Mail

Dated this 23rd day of June 2020.

*s/Tony Dondero* \_\_\_\_\_  
Tony Dondero,  
Legal Assistant

**THE SHERIDAN LAW FIRM, P.S.**

**June 23, 2020 - 2:21 PM**

**Transmittal Information**

**Filed with Court:** Supreme Court  
**Appellate Court Case Number:** 98633-9  
**Appellate Court Case Title:** Unemployment Law Project et al. v. Suzan Levine

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