To the Senate Judiciary Committee:

Good Afternoon, My name is James Noble and I would like to thank this Committee for giving me the opportunity to voice my opinion in support of Senator Fred Dyson's Senate Bill 108 relating to the "Confidentiality of Certain Records of Criminal Cases".

I will keep my personal testimony as brief as possible to share my experience with (2) Charges that were filed against me from an ex-girlfriend and the repercussions I have experienced following a "Dismissal Ruling" from the Judge on both cases.

I believe to communicate this ordeal in it entirety, I must share some history of these charges; however, I will minimize all of the dramatic-details as I really don't enjoy reliving this situation either. With that said, I do appreciate a few moments of your time to hear my testimony and understand why I am so passionate about supporting Senator Dyson's Bill.

In researching this issue, I have discovered that a majority of cases that are encompassed by this bill, seems to involve the revengeful actions from a "significant other" abusing our Court System.

My (2) cases fall into this category.

Back in 2003 – 2007, I was dating a girl named Monica Fox. For purposes of this testimony, I will continue to refer to her only as Monica.

Toward the end of 2006, she ended our relationship and; as I later discovered, she was also dating a man named Charles Otten, her Front-Line Supervisor. What is most important of this statement, is that I would soon discover they were both very well versed at the interworking's of Alaska State Laws, being that they both worked for the State of Alaska's Juvenile Justice System.

Monica and myself continued to maintain a platonic relationship following our separation, until I discovered she had actually been dating someone else. In 2007, I found the love of my life whom I started dating, and later married. For obvious reasons of the time, I severed all financial and emotional support that I had been offering to Monica following our separation.

Not surprisingly, I soon received a Domestic Violence Protection Order from the Courts on September 17th 2007, while I was at work in Prudhoe Bay. Fortunately, I was able to afford a Lawyer to represent me throughout the court proceedings. During the course of my defense of the DV Order, my Lawyer also discovered that she had previously filed a "Stalking Charge" on September 11th 2007, which was dismissed the next day on September 12th 2007. To this day, I have no idea what happened in that case as the Courts has never notified me with any details of that charge. What I can say about that charge, is that it still appears in my Courtview Website Records for all to see, regardless of the fact that it was dismissed…the day after it was filed.

On October 04th 2007, my Lawyer and I appeared in Court to contest the DV Charge. I had several witnesses who were willing to testify on my behalf, including an Alaska State Trooper who could refute Monica's signed statement under oath.

I proved in a court of law that I was not this person that Monica was trying to portray me as. Many of her lies manifested themselves during the hearing, so much to the point that the Judge declined to hear from any of my witnesses and dismissed the DV case due to "Insufficient Evidence".

Unfortunately, I still have those (2) charges of "Stalking and Domestic Violence" listed on my Courtview Website Record for the public view at any time. It is not fair for my wife and I to have to bear the actions of very "Vicious and Vindictive Ex-Girlfriend" whose sole purpose was to use the court system to tarnish my character and future.

Thankfully, I had previously secured employment in a workplace where my Supervisors have known me for over 20 years, but I fear that if I ever have to re-enter the job market, those (2) listed charges would most definitely effect a recruiters opinion of selecting me for an interview. How do I know this? Because from time to time, I have been asked by my Supervisor's to research potential candidates to work in our department. It is very easy to form a negative opinion of someone based on the Courtview Website, without ever following up to see if the cases were dismissed or acquitted.

Closer to home, my wife has told me that; while we were dating, she had been warned numerous times from her family and friends "Not get involved with James" due to opinions they formed with these (2) charges on Courtview Website Records. Fortunately, these opinions have changed over time, once the family got to know me and I was given the opportunity to explain the situation to them. Based on findings from the Sponsors Statement of this Bill, is my conclusion that for the majority of the time, people never get this chance.

It was very embarrassing to relive this experience all over again and defend my character each time people ask me about it. My response to them, is my same response that I offer the Committee here today: "Please take a moment to read Monica's DV Petition, and compare it to her recorded testimony, before you form an opinion of me, I can offer up a copy of each upon your request."

To this date, nobody has taken me up on this offer, my guess is that an opinion (rather good or bad) has already been formed about me and I have to live with the repercussions.

Let's take a moment to put this more in perspective. I ask that everyone listening here today recall a situation in your life when you were wrongfully accused of something. {Pause} Maybe someone accused you of stealing, or lying? {Pause} Remember how it made you feel to try to defend and explain yourself to your peers? {Pause} Were you able to be vindicated? {Pause}. Now, finally ask yourself, "What would it be like to know that, even though you proved that you were innocent, you would be documented with that charge for all the public to see and for all time?"

In Alaska and in America, we are supposed to be innocent until proven guilty in a court of law, yet my wife and I must continue to bear the label of a "Stalker and DV Assailant", because of the actions from an ex-girlfriends jealous rage.

In closing, I would like to thank everyone here today for listening to my Testimony and Personal Experience regarding the Courtview Website Records of charges that were acquitted or dismissed against me. I understand that the Courts are now considering a rule change for Civil Cases such as mine, to be included and compliment SB108. For obvious reasons, I support that rule change as well. I challenge this committee to support passage of Senator Dyson's SB108 as it is not only the right thing to do, but will offer citizens like myself a final sense of closure and privacy from charges in which the Judges have just cause to dismiss or acquit. I thank you for your time.