

CANADA

C O U R S U P É R I E U R E

---

PROVINCE DE QUÉBEC  
DISTRICT DE TROIS-RIVIÈRES  
No. : 400-17-002642-110

GINETTE LEBLANC,  
demanderesse

c.  
PROCUREUR GÉNÉRAL DU CANADA,  
défendeur

et  
PROCUREUR GÉNÉRAL DU QUÉBEC,  
mis-en-cause

---

**AFFIDAVIT OF JOHN NORTON IN OPPOSITION TO  
ASSISTED SUICIDE AND EUTHANASIA**

THE UNDERSIGNED, being first duly sworn on oath, STATES:

1. I live in Florence Massachusetts USA. When I was eighteen years old and in my first year of college, I was diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) by the University of Iowa Medical School. ALS is commonly referred to as Lou Gehrig's disease. I was told that I would get progressively worse (be paralyzed) and die in three to five years.
2. I was a very physical person. The diagnosis was devastating to me. I had played football in high school and was extremely active riding bicycles. I also performed heavy labor including road construction and farm work. I prided myself for my physical strength, especially in my hands.
3. The ALS diagnosis was confirmed by the Mayo Clinic in Rochester Minnesota. I was eighteen or nineteen years old at the

AFFIDAVIT OF JOHN NORTON- Page 1

\\server\dox\ASE Files\Leblanc\John Norton Affidavit.wpd

time. By then, I had twitching in both hands, which were also getting weaker. At some point, I lost the ability to grip in my hands. I became depressed and was treated for my depression. If instead, I had been told that my depression was rational and that I should take an easy way out with a doctor's prescription and support, I would have taken that opportunity.

4. Six years after my initial diagnosis, the disease progression stopped. Today, my condition is about the same. I still can't grip with my hands. Sometimes I need special help. But, I have a wonderful life. I am married to Susan. We have three children and one grandchild. I have a degree in Psychology and one year of graduate school. I am a retired bus driver (no gripping required). Prior to driving bus, I worked as a parole and probation officer. When I was much younger, I drove a school bus. We have wonderful friends. I enjoy singing tenor in amateur choruses. I help other people by working as a volunteer driver.

5. I will be 75 years old this coming September. If assisted suicide or euthanasia had been available to me in the 1950's, I would have missed the bulk of my life and my life yet to come. I hope that Canada does not legalize these practices.

SWORN BEFORE ME at  
MASSACHUSETTS, USA  
on, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012

NAME: Heidi Pruzynski  
Heidi Pruzynski

A notary in and for the  
State of Washington Massachusetts

ADDRESS: 85 Main St  
Florence MA 01062

EXPIRY OF COMMISSION: June 22, 2018

PLACE SEAL HERE:



JOHN NORTON

AFFIDAVIT OF JOHN NORTON- Page 3

\\Server\down\ABE Villo\LePiant\John Norton Affidavit.wpd