

January 22, 2021

### Select Investigating Committee

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

My name is Taylor Passow. I'm writing this statement in regard to my experiences/relationship with Rep. Aaron Coleman. I matched with Aaron on Tinder in November of 2019. He was very upfront with his intent on holding a political position when we first started talking. He would say things like "Baby I'm a high-status man" and I'm looking for my future first lady of Kansas." These things were appealing to me in the beginning because he seemed very goal-oriented and driven.

I was hesitant on meeting up with him in person because I had never actually met someone from Tinder before. But I felt like if there was a safe place to start, it would be with somebody who wanted to run for office one day. We ended up setting up a plan to meet up later that week and get a hotel room for the night at the Traveler's Inn in Topeka, Kansas.

When he picked me up, we went for ice cream and sat in the parking lot for about 30 minutes. The atmosphere felt awkward. We did not have much to talk about and when we did talk it didn't seem that we had much in common. We went to the hotel, got our room, and things got physically intimate fast. That is when I encountered my first red flag with Aaron Coleman.

While we were intimate, Aaron grabbed his belt off the floor, looped it around my neck and pulled hard. I was caught by surprise and started pulling the belt away from my throat because I was struggling to breathe. He let go and finished. I stepped outside to smoke a cigarette and think about what had just happened. At the time, I decided what he did wasn't that big of a deal because it was apparent that this was just going to be a one time hook up, so we just went to bed.

The next morning, we went and had breakfast and went to a museum and he was being very sweet. After that we ended up talking more and meeting up more, and I started to notice more questionable behavior. One time when we were about to get intimate, he rolled me over on my stomach and pinned me down and said, "Maybe I'll just rape you instead." I tried to get him off me, but he just held me down. We didn't end up having sex that time, but I still stayed.

One time we stayed at an Air B&B in Topeka, and while intoxicated on various drugs and alcohol, he confessed to me about getting in legal trouble for blackmailing a girl for nudes in middle school. When I confronted him about it when we were sober, he acted like he didn't remember what I was talking about and changed the subject. He would also frequently talk about how fatal it would be to his life and career if I had gotten pregnant by him. Once he'd even said, "If you get pregnant and won't have an abortion, I'll have to kill you and the baby. This scared me so much that when I had a pregnancy scare in January of 2020 I went and stayed with a friend until I could make sure that I wasn't pregnant. While staying with my friend, she noticed some bruising around my neck and that is when I told her that Aaron assaulted me on December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

We were staying at an Air B&B in KCMO, and it was the morning we were scheduled for check out. We were sitting in a hot tub, and he had been asking if I wanted to have a threesome. I repeatedly told him no, I'm sorry, I'm just not into that. But he kept asking so I made a joke about breaking up with him for his birthday so he could have a threesome. He jumped on top of me, started choking me, and slapped me

three times. I got one of my arms free and slapped him, causing him to fall back into the seat of the hot tub. I got out and said, "Maybe I'll just break up with you." He made a remark about "good luck finding a ride back to Topeka." I went inside and he followed me and began packing. He kept asking me if I was going to apologize for what I did, and I told him I had nothing to apologize for.

Before going out to his car he said, "You're really not going to say you're sorry?" I just ignored him and thought he left. I ended up texting him and apologizing because even if he did something bad, and gave me numerous red flags, being with him seemed better than being alone. We made up, but our relationship was never the same after that. I was just never able to be comfortable around him anymore.

That was the turning point of our relationship. We officially broke up January 13th, 2020. It took less than two months for me to realize that Aaron Coleman was somebody that made me feel bad about myself, unsafe, and uncomfortable. But the things he said to me are stuck in my head forever. Things like "I can't wait for you to lose weight." "I bet you'd be so pretty if you were skinny." "I can't wait to transform you into someone worthy of being the First Lady of Kansas." "I hope you get kidnapped and raped and chopped up and scatter in bits and pieces." "Mag dump yourself, Bempty the clip out into your head, if I never hear from you again I'll know what happened." "I miss having a personal sex slave"

These are not things someone who has political power should say or do. These are not things a mentally stable person would say or do. Aaron Coleman is not fit for a political position. And his campaign for "women's right" seem pretty disrespectful to me and the dozen other victims that have had to put up with his behavior.

Committee, thank you for your time.

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