Thomas E. Kilduff 30 English Commons Topsfield, MA 01983

Robert Moriarty, Chairman Zoning Board of Appeals Topsfield Town Hall 8 West Common Street Topsfield, MA 01983

July 10th, 2023

#### Dear Bob:

I am currently serving on the board of directors here at English Commons, however I'm writing this as a resident who is more than tired of the noise being generated by these events at Connemara Farm. This past Saturday night ( July 8<sup>th</sup>) was awful. Multiple residents called into the police department to complain. People are angry over the amount of noise, with one neighbor being brought to tears. The police came and I spent a good 45 minutes with him outside in between two of the units. You could hear all the announcements like you were part of the wedding and when the music started it was over the top loud. We used a sound meter that recorded decibel readings as high as 70 with the officer right there listening with us.

At the last zoom meeting there was much discussion about 10 decibels over ambient sound being the standard. To their credit most, if not all the ZBA board members chimed in that they really didn't know what 10 decibels over ambient noise levels would sound like. My question is what does that 10 decibels consist of. In this case it's not louder birds, or the wind blowing, or another airplane going by. This increase in decibels is made up of drums beating, base guitars, people yelling, cheering and more. You can feel the vibration inside your house. This is nuisance noise and nothing less. I don't believe it's fair to any of us that live here to be forced to continue putting up with this. It could also have a direct negative impact on the value of our residences. With all that said I believe it's about much more than 10 decibels above ambient sound. The noise unreasonably interferes with the comfortable enjoyment of our life and property. That's the Mass DEP standard as I read it.

My last point is that the neighbors being most affected by this should be heard from at the next zoom meeting. Up to this point it's only the attorneys that have been able to speak. Attorney Deluna has a number of times tried to marginalize us as a small group of disgruntled neighbors. Let the people speak about their frustrations and anxieties over the noise from these events.

If this was a minor issue none of us would be taking the time to attend these meetings. We would not have felt the need to seek representation by an attorney and we would not be taking the time to write to you to express our sincere frustration and anxiety over what is taking place every week end and then some.

Sincerely,

Thomas Kilduff



## Topsfield Police Department Incident Report

Page: 1 07/10/2023

Incident #: 23TOP-221-OF

Call #: 23-54759

Date/Time Reported: 07/08/2023 2020 Report Date/Time: 07/09/2023 0732

Status: No Crime Involved

Reporting Officer: PATROL JOSEPH LEVASSEUR Assisting Officer: PATROL JUSTIN SLATTERY

Signature:

PHONE AGE SSN SEX RACE # INVOLVED 508-317-3144 69 KILDUFF, THOMAS E 12 BOSTON ST Apt. #30 TOPSFIELD MA 01983

Military Active Duty: N

BODY: NOT AVAIL.

DOB: 02/20/1954

LICENSE NUMBER: MA S50265158

COMPLEXION: NOT AVAIL.

PLACE OF BIRTH: NOT AVAIL.

ETHNICITY: NOT HISPANIC

[CONTACT INFORMATION]

CallBack Number CallBack Number

(Primary)

978-561-3110

508-317-3144

GUIDI, THOMAS LOUIS

40 ENGLISH CMNS

TOPSFIELD MA 01983-2236

Military Active Duty: N

BODY: NOT AVAIL.

DOB: 01/11/1952

LICENSE NUMBER: MA S45021500

71

COMPLEXION: NOT AVAIL. PLACE OF BIRTH: NOT AVAIL.

ETHNICITY: NOT HISPANIC

Zone: TOPSFIELD POLICE ZONE

#### # EVENTS(S)

LOCATION TYPE: Residence/Home/Apt./Condo

ENGLISH COMMONS DEVELOPMENT

12 BOSTON ST Apt. #34

TOPSFIELD MA 01983

Disturbance - NOISE COMPLAINT

PHONE AGE SSN PERSON TYPE RACE # PERSON(S) 978-821-3680 78 REPORTING PARTY MASTERSON, SHARON L 12 BOSTON ST Apt. #32

TOPSFIELD MA 01983 DOB: 10/25/1944

CONTACT INFORMATION:

CallBack Number (Primary)

978-821-3680

# Topsfield Police Department Incident Report

Page: 2 07/10/2023

Incident #: 23TOP-221-OF

Call #: 23-54759

#	PERSON(S)	PERSON	TYPE	SEX	RACE	AGE	SSN	PHONE
2	BOURGOIN, DIANORA 12 BOSTON ST Apt. #34 TOPSFIELD MA 01983 DOB: 03/25/1948	REPORTI	NG PARTY	F	W	75		

### Topsfield Police Department NARRATIVE FOR PATROL JOSEPH LEVASSEUR

Ref: 23TOP-221-OF

Entered: 07/09/2023 @ 0738 Modified: 07/09/2023 @ 0808

Entry ID: JLEVA Modified ID: JLEVA Page: 1

I, Officer Levasseur, report the following:

On Saturday, 07/09/23, I worked my assigned 3:00PM to 11:00PM shift in marked cruiser 15. My partner for the shift was Detective Slattery. There was still day light at this time.

At approximately 8:02PM, the RECC advised police units of a 911 caller from 32 English Commons calling to report loud music coming from Connemara Farm at 252 Rowley Bridge Road. The RECC advised the caller, who was identified as Sharon Masterson, called in to have this incident "on record." Considering this call came in via 911, I responded to the area. It should be noted there have been complaints from English Commons residents about excessive noise from Connemara Farm dating back to 2020.

Upon my arrival, I was met by the resident of 30 English Commons, Thomas Kilduff, who flagged me down. Mr. Kilduff also stated the noise was extremely excessive and was disturbing his peace. Ms. Masterson then came out to speak with me as well. Mr. Kilduff stated he was a member of the Board of Directors for the English Commons Association. While conversing with them, I could hear the music coming from Connemara Farm. I asked Mr. Kilduff and Ms. Masterson what the status was with their noise ordinance questions addressed to the Topsfield Zoning Board. They stated the meetings have been continued the past three times with no resolution. I also spoke with Thomas Guidi of 40 English Commons, the President of their Association.

I walked between units 34 and 36 and could hear the music and vocals very clearly. I stood and listened for at least one minute to see if the excessive noise would continue, which it did. Mr. KilDuff and Mr. Guidi stood with me. While standing there, they advised me they have asked the Topsfield Zoning Board to come to English Commons on a night when Connemara Farm has a wedding to hear the excessive noise. They stated the Zoning Board had not responded to their emails nor have they come to English Commons. Mr. Guidi, Mr. Kilduff and I also went to the property line of English Commons and Connemara Farm with a decibel meter. The meter showed readings from 50 to 70. When I returned to my cruiser, the residents from 36 English Commons came to voice their concern as well. In total, 7 residents approached me. It should also be noted that 2 more 911 calls came in while I was on scene.

After hearing the noise, I deemed the noise excessive. Det. Slattery and I went to Connemara Farm to speak with the event coordinator. She took out a decibel meter that provided readings from 60 to 70. We advised her of the multiple complaints and she understood. She stated she would reduce the noise.