In Mothers' Own Words

Short, true moments from our families

Short, true stories from our families — the moments that show why the law must change.

- My son telephoned emergency twice and then showed the firefighters where the recycling box had paper and plastic mixed together, saying he was reporting to the authorities an important "violation of the building code."

- My child attacked her father when he tried to stop her running overseas to borrow large sums of money. The money was intended to sue the head of the conspiracy she believed was ruining her life. After being visited by a Rights Advisor, she contested a Form 3. The doctor said she needed the meds, but he said he would not challenge it — because it was a waste of his time; he wouldn't win.

- My daughter had responded well to treatment after 12 weeks of hospitalization. On a day she was feeling well, she won her challenge to the legal order for her (CTO) medical treatment plan and immediately stopped the medication. After 8 weeks, police found her at the door of a millionaire's apartment in England — hungry, cold, malnourished, inappropriately dressed for colder weather, trespassing and demanding keys to a $50 million apartment she insisted a well-known individual had bought for her.

- My son was on a CTO and was mandated to take his medication. As his SDM, I attended his psychiatrist's appointment and showed the doctor all my son's unopened medication. He asked my son if he had taken it, and he said yes. He believed my son — because he spoke well, presented well.

- At the psychiatrist's appointment, I spoke to him about my son's deteriorating condition — his alternate reality, a dark elite guiding him to leave Toronto. I showed him a photocopy of my son's one-way ticket to Thailand. He asked my son if he would be back for his appointment. My son agreed to follow up — but left the next day, very psychotic.

- My son was escorted to the ER by police through a Form 2 signed by the justice of the peace. After arriving at the ER, my son was assessed and released. The whole time was less than two hours — because the ER doctor felt my son wasn't "psychotic enough." He then spent the following three days with no sleep, yelling and screaming at air, keeping us awake all night slamming doors — leaving his caregivers with no sleep, anxiety, stress and worry, all while continuing to work to put food on the table and pay bills.

- One morning, my application for my daughter to be assessed by a psychiatrist (Form 2) was denied because I was unable to provide the justice of the peace with written evidence of being the substitute decision maker (SDM). That evening, my family member's phone was detected at the airport — but the police couldn't pick her up without a Form 2. She flew to Europe; delusions and psychosis increased, and she was hospitalized five months later upon return. I learned that there is no such document indicating authority of being appointed as SDM.