



Violence in the Perpetrator's Family of Origin

Foundational Document

Prepared by: Counsel for the Mass Casualty Commission

NOTE 1: This document is based on an analysis of materials available to the Mass Casualty Commission **as of July 7, 2022.** Further production and investigation are ongoing. Should new information reveal inaccuracies in this document, an addendum may be issued.

NOTE 2: **This document contains sensitive and disturbing material.** Please read this information about the potential of being affected and/or overwhelmed when hearing, talking about, and/or reading distressing material:

Sometimes thinking, reading, or hearing about a distressing or emotionally overwhelming experience can remind us of circumstances that are upsetting and disturbing. It can bring up a specific thought pattern or memory that is difficult to think about and could cause psychological distress. Having an immediate short-term effect like this would be a usual way to feel. This is often referred to in literature as having a “triggering effect” or a “flooding of distressing memories.”

If you are experiencing distress and overwhelming emotions you can call the **Nova Scotia Provincial Crisis Line**. This service is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. It is open to persons of all ages, and you can call for yourself or because you have concern for someone else. The Nova Scotia Provincial Crisis Line is aware they may receive some additional calls and are ready and prepared to take your call as needed. You do not have to be in a crisis to call, and nothing is too big or too small a reason to reach out. The staff responding when you phone are skilled crisis clinicians. They can also provide the contacts for other 24/7 crisis services if you live outside of Nova Scotia. The number is **1-888-429-8167**.

SUBJECT MATTER

This document summarizes evidence currently in the possession of the Mass Casualty Commission in relation to violence in the perpetrator's family of origin. It addresses a wide range of violent conduct, including violence against children and physical, emotional, and verbal abuse. This document presents information about a history of child abuse spanning several generations in the perpetrator's family. There is further reference to the perpetrator's alcohol use disorder, possession of weapons, and threats of violence. This document also includes statements from the perpetrator's family members about the perpetrator's mental health, as well as related information from the perpetrator's medical records. Note that issues of financial misdealings in the perpetrator's family, and the perpetrator's violence and aggression towards his common-law spouse and other intimate partners, are addressed in separate foundational documents.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	3
Gender-Based Violence	3
Intimate Partner Violence	4
Coercive Control	6
SPECIAL TERMS.....	7
KEY RESPONDERS	7
KEY CIVILIAN WITNESSES	8
SOURCES OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE WORTMAN FAMILY	10
VIOLENCE IN THE WORTMAN FAMILY BEFORE THE PERPETRATOR'S BIRTH	13
THE PERPETRATOR'S CHILDHOOD	14
THE PERPETRATOR'S ASSAULT ON HIS FATHER IN CUBA	26
THE PERPETRATOR'S THREAT TO KILL HIS PARENTS.....	29
THE PERPETRATOR'S ADOPTED BROTHER.....	40
CONFLICT OVER TITLE TO GLYNN WORTMAN'S HOME.....	42
BREAKDOWN IN THE PERPETRATOR'S RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS PARENTS	44
OTHER OBSERVATIONS OF THE PERPETRATOR BY FAMILY MEMBERS AND ACQUAINTANCES	46
FAMILY MEMBERS' CONCERNS DURING THE MASS CASUALTY	49
FAMILY MEMBERS' STATEMENTS AND OTHER RECORDS ABOUT THE PERPETRATOR'S MENTAL HEALTH	50

INTRODUCTION

1. This document sets out the history of the perpetrator's violent interactions with his family of origin, obtained from a review of the RCMP's investigation and police records. This document also includes statements from the perpetrator's family members about the perpetrator's mental health, and related information from the perpetrator's medical records.
2. The sources of the information in this document are members of the perpetrator's family, the perpetrator's common-law spouse Lisa Banfield, members of Ms. Banfield's family, and friends and acquaintances of the perpetrator. The identity of some individuals referenced in this foundational document has been anonymized to protect their privacy and dignity interests. This document also refers to police records that contain information about the perpetrator's relationship with his parents.
3. The Mass Casualty Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure allow it to receive any evidence that is considered to be relevant and helpful in fulfilling its mandate. The evidence presented in this foundational document represents a series of personal recollections and remarks from various witnesses about violence in the perpetrator's family of origin. Many of the statements were made after the mass casualty occurred. At times in their interviews with the RCMP, these witnesses referred to incidents they have observed. At other times, they referred to incidents they had learned about from other sources. Wherever possible, the origin of this information is included in this document. The Commission has not interviewed members of the Wortman family. The Commission's attempts to speak to some members of the Wortman family were not successful.
4. Other foundational documents prepared by the Commission have organized factual information about what happened during the mass casualty. The information in this foundational document is presented and catalogued for a different purpose, in line with the Commission's broad mandate to inquire into "the causes, context and circumstances giving rise to the April 2020 mass casualty" and its specific mandate to examine the "role of gender-based and intimate partner violence."
5. Given that the Commission has been directed to investigate gender-based and intimate partner violence, it must bring into its work frameworks that help explain these issues. To start, it is important to define "gender-based violence" (GBV), "intimate partner violence" (IPV), and the related term of "coercive control." This background awareness provides a helpful framework for understanding the information presented in this foundational document.

Gender-Based Violence

6. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees defines gender-based violence as follows:

Gender-based violence refers to harmful acts directed at an individual based on their gender. It is rooted in gender inequality, the abuse of power and harmful norms. Gender-based violence can include sexual, physical, mental and economic harm inflicted in public or in private. It also includes threats of violence, coercion and manipulation. This can take many forms, such as intimate partner violence, sexual violence, child marriage, female genital mutilation and so-called 'honour crimes'.

- "Gender-based Violence," United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, <https://www.unhcr.org/gender-based-violence.html>: COMM0059534

7. Drs. Carmen Gill and Mary Aspinall, from the Department of Sociology at the University of New Brunswick, prepared an expert report for the Mass Casualty Commission titled "Understanding Violence in Relationships." In this report, Drs. Gill and Aspinall define GBV as "violence experienced due to a person's gender or how they express it." The authors explain that: "In addition to physical violence, gender-based violence may also include more covert behaviours that are not criminal yet still cause victims to feel unsafe and threatened and can have long-term physical and emotional impacts. As a result, women, especially those who identify as Indigenous, 2SLGBTQ+, live with disabilities, and/or reside in rural or remote locations, are at much higher risk of experiencing gender-based violence."

- [Commissioned report prepared by Drs. C. Gill and M. Aspinall, "Understanding Violence in Relationships," June 2022: COMM0058937 at p. 7](#)

8. GBV is a very broad term and includes all forms of violent behaviour targeted at someone because of their gender. GBV is a by-product of gender inequality and power imbalances. Although men may also be victims of GBV, women, particularly those with increased vulnerabilities, are the predominant victims of GBV.

- [Commissioned report prepared by Drs. C. Gill and M. Aspinall, "Understanding Violence in Relationships," June 2022: COMM0058937 at p. 7](#)

Intimate Partner Violence

9. The World Health Organization defines intimate partner violence as:

. . . behaviour by an intimate partner or ex-partner that causes physical, sexual, or psychological harm, including physical aggression, sexual coercion, psychological abuse and controlling behaviours. It can occur among heterosexual or same-sex couples, and does not require sexual intimacy.

- "Violence against Women," World Health Organization, March 9, 2021, <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/violence-against-women>: COMM0059535

10. Drs. Gill and Aspinall define IPV as “behaviours occurring solely between current or former intimate partners, whether or not currently living together. It may include physical violence as well as sexual, psychological, or emotional harm.” IPV occurs in “a wide range of relationship dynamics that contain various degrees of sexual intimacy or geographical proximity.”
 - [Commissioned report prepared by Drs. C. Gill and M. Aspinall, “Understanding Violence in Relationships,” June 2022: COMM0058937 at p. 8](#)
11. Dr. Katreena Scott is a clinical psychologist, professor, and director of the Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children at Western University in Ontario. Dr. Scott prepared an expert report for the Mass Casualty Commission titled, “When We Know Something is Wrong: Secondary and Tertiary Intervention to Address Abuse Perpetration.”
12. In this report, Dr. Scott defines IPV as “violence and abuse that occurs in the context of an intimate relationship. This relationship can refer to a dating relationship, co-habitation or marriage and includes same-sex relationships.” Dr. Scott notes that although both “men and women may be perpetrators of violence, research suggests that male violence against women is more severe in terms of victim’s fear, hospitalization for injuries, absenteeism from work, and homicide.”
 - Commissioned report prepared by Dr. Katreena Scott, “When We Know Something is Wrong: Secondary and Tertiary Intervention to Address Abuse Perpetration,” forthcoming. When finalized, the report will be available on the website of the Mass Casualty Commission.
13. Dr. Scott also explains that:

IPV includes a range of different behaviours including, but not limited to, the use of physical violence against an intimate partner. Other common forms of IPV are sexual abuse (any unwanted, nonconsensual activity), psychological or emotional abuse (gestures, words or activities that serve to threaten, intimidate, undermine, humiliate, and isolate the victim), economic abuse (actions that deprive a victim of the ability to provide for their basic needs and/or those of their children) and spiritual abuse (exerting power and control over someone by using their faith or beliefs, blaming abuse on spiritual figures).

 - Commissioned report prepared by Dr. Katreena Scott, “When We Know Something is Wrong: Secondary and Tertiary Intervention to Address Abuse Perpetration,” forthcoming. When finalized, the report will be available on the website of the Mass Casualty Commission.
14. Like GBV, IPV takes many forms; however, whereas GBV is a much broader concept, IPV is much more specific in its application. It is limited to violent behaviour targeted at a current or previous intimate partner. IPV occurs in all types of intimate relationships and couple pairings: casual or serious, exclusive or non-exclusive, short- or long-term, and everything in between.

Coercive Control

15. GBV and IPV are more commonly used terms than “coercive control,” which is a form of violence that occurs in intimate partner relationships. Drs. Gill and Aspinall use this term to refer to “the ongoing patterns of abuse and accumulation of harm that occurs through both time and space as opposed to the incident-specific and injury-inducing violence that predominates in current definitions and law enforcement responses towards intimate partner violence.”
 - [Commissioned report prepared by Drs. C. Gill and M. Aspinall, “Understanding Violence in Relationships,” June 2022: COMM0058937 at p. 9](#)
16. Dr. Scott defines coercive control as “a pattern of behaviours to assert control over a person through repeated acts that disempower the other partner in a number of possible ways including through fear for the safety of self or others, removal of rights and liberties or fear of this removal, by isolating them from sources of support, exploiting their resources and capacities for personal gain, removing the victim’s rights and liberties, depriving them of the means needed for independence, resistance, and escape, and regulating their everyday behaviour.”
 - Commissioned report prepared by Dr. Katreena Scott, “When We Know Something is Wrong: Secondary and Tertiary Intervention to Address Abuse Perpetration,” forthcoming. When finalized, the report will be available on the website of the Mass Casualty Commission.
17. In reviewing this foundational document, it is helpful to understand coercive control as referring to a course of intimidating, degrading, and regulatory practices used by abusers to manipulate, intimidate, and instill fear in an intimate partner. It may be manifested by acts of physical, sexual, and emotional abuse; limitations on access to other family members, friends, transportation, communication, food, school, and work; financial control; and/or implicit or explicit threats to harm victims or their children, family members, pets, belongings, or others. Coercive control effectively traps victims and removes their sense of individuality and freedom in the relationship. The individual actions may seem normal or unremarkable on their own; it is the repeated and cumulative effect of the behaviour that creates the coercive control.

SPECIAL TERMS

CFRO	Canadian Firearms Registry Online
CISNS Bulletin	Criminal Intelligence Service Nova Scotia Bulletin, a type of publication distributed among some policing agencies in Nova Scotia prior to 2016
GBV	Gender-based violence
HFIP	Halifax Firearms Interest Police
HRP	Halifax Regional Police
IPV	Intimate partner violence
MCU	Major Crime Unit
NWEST	National Weapons Enforcement Support Team (RCMP)
TPS	Truro Police Service

KEY RESPONDERS

Cpl. Lynn Tardiff	RCMP Codiac Detachment, Moncton
Cst. Len Vickers	RCMP Codiac Detachment, Moncton
Sgt. Corey Kilborn	RCMP Major Crime Unit, Southeast District
Cst. Craig Owen	RCMP Major Crime Unit, Codiac
Cst. Dayle Burris	RCMP Major Crime Unit, Southwest Nova
Cst. Ben Kershaw	RCMP Major Crime Unit, Northeast Nova
Cst. Greg Wiley	RCMP Bible Hill Detachment, Colchester County
Cst. Troy Maxwell	RCMP Bible Hill Detachment, Colchester County
Staff Sergeant (S/Sgt.) Greg Vardy	RCMP Halifax
Cst. Denis Chartrand	RCMP GIS, Halifax
Sgt. Claudia Beauregard	RCMP Truth Verification Services, Ottawa
Sgt. Derek Blanche	RCMP Human Trafficking Unit, Nova Scotia
Cst. Terry Brown	RCMP Bible Hill Detachment, Colchester County

Cpl. David Lane	RCMP Human Trafficking Unit, Nova Scotia
Sgt. Dave Legge	RCMP H-Division Polygraph
Cst. Hubert Martin	RCMP Yarmouth Detachment, Yarmouth County
Cpl. Kathryn MacLeod	RCMP Major Crime Unit, Northeast Nova
Cst. Marc MacMullin	RCMP Halifax Integrated Major Crime – Homicide Section
Cst. Colin Shaw	RCMP Criminal Investigations Division, Nova Scotia
Cst. Mike Townsend	RCMP GIS, Halifax
Sgt. Fraser Firth	RCMP Polygraph
Sgt. Colin Kuca	RCMP K-Division Serious Crime Branch
Cpl. Andrew Olford	RCMP K-Division Serious Crime Branch
Inspector (Insp.) Karina Derosiers	RCMP Truth Verification Section, Ottawa, Ontario
Sgt. Tim Moser	National Weapons Enforcement Support Team
Sgt. Brian Fitzpatrick	HRP Sexual Assault Investigative Team
D/Cst. Matthew Guest	HRP Integrated CID, Homicide Unit
D/Cst. Jennifer Lake	HRP Integrated CID, Major Crime Unit
D/Cst. Sue Lynch	HRP Halifax Integrated Major Crime – Homicide Section
D/Cst. Anthony McGrath	HRP Sexual Assault Investigative Team
D/Cst. Jeff Nicholson	HRP Sexual Assault Investigative Team
D/Cst. Steven Wagg	HRP Halifax Integrated Major Crime – Homicide Section
Cst. Diane Penfound	HRP Patrol Division
Sgt. Cordell Poirier	HRP (retired)
Sgt. David Boon	HRP Integrated CID Commander
Sgt. Christina Martin	HRP

KEY CIVILIAN WITNESSES

- BD
- Brenda Forbes
- Jill Sutherland
- Janice Banfield
- George Forbes
- Alan Wortman

- Lisa Banfield
- Maureen Banfield
- Brenda Brewster
- Leigh Corporon
- Angela Doucette
- Robert Doucette
- EE
- Bruce Estabrooks
- Stephanie Goulding
- Nancy Hudson
- Donald Johnson
- Renée Karsten
- Dr. Matthew Logan
- David McGrath
- Jeff Samuelson
- Robin Samuelson
- Annette Wortman
- Chris Wortman
- Evelyn Wortman
- Glynn Wortman
- Margaret Wortman
- Neil Wortman
- Paul Wortman

Violence in the Perpetrator's Family of Origin: Foundational Document

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE WORTMAN FAMILY

18. The perpetrator was born on July 5, 1968, and grew up in Moncton and Riverview, New Brunswick. His mother is Evelyn Wortman (née Goguen) (born September 7, 1947) and his father is Paul Wortman (born June 11, 1948). Paul Wortman's parents (the perpetrator's paternal grandparents) were Stanley and Doris Wortman.
 - [Investigations Unit Report: COMM0011585 at p. 2](#)
 - [Statement of Chris Wortman, April 28, 2020: COMM0051420 at p. 13](#)
 - [Letter from Neil Wortman to Jeff Samuelson: COMM0006996](#)
 - [Statement of Jeff Samuelson: COMM0006980 at p. 30](#)
19. The RCMP interviewed Paul at his and Evelyn's home in Moncton, New Brunswick, on May 8, 2020. Evelyn was in the house, but she was not interviewed. She had spoken with RCMP Constable (Cst.) Craig Owen on the phone on April 22, 2020, and said she could not provide a statement. Cst. Owen noted that Evelyn was very upset, crying, and had a hard time talking.
 - [Statement of Paul Wortman: COMM0008458](#)
 - [Handwritten notes of Cst. Craig Owen: COMM0012115, at p. 1](#)
20. Paul Wortman has four brothers. Their birth order is as follows, with year of birth and marital status where known: Neil Wortman (married to Annette Wortman), Paul Wortman (born 1948; married to Evelyn Wortman), Glynn Wortman (not married), Alan Wortman (born 1954; married to Claudette Wortman), and Christopher Wortman (born 1961; married to Margaret Wortman). The two youngest brothers, Alan and Chris, are retired RCMP members.
 - [Task Action Report of Karina Derosiers: COMM0006907 at p. 6](#)
 - [Witness Interview Statement – Wortman, Christopher \(Task ID 59\): COMM0003402 at p. 3](#)
 - [Statement of Alan Wortman, May 1, 2020: COMM0006909 at p. 24](#)
 - [Statement of Bruce Estabrooks: COMM0008492 at lines 18–21](#)
21. The RCMP obtained statements from the perpetrator's paternal uncles in April and May 2020. The RCMP interviewed Chris Wortman by phone on April 21, 2020, and in person on April 28, 2020. The RCMP interviewed Alan Wortman in person on May 1, 2020, and by phone on May 2, 2020. The RCMP interviewed Glynn Wortman by phone on May 6, 2020, and interviewed Neil Wortman in person on the same day.
 - [Statement of Chris Wortman, April 21, 2020: COMM0003405](#)
 - [Statement of Chris Wortman, April 28, 2020: COMM0051420](#)
 - [Statement of Glynn Wortman: COMM0008447](#)

- [Statement of Neil Wortman: COMM0008450](#)
- [Statement of Alan Wortman, May 1, 2020: COMM0006909](#)
- [Statement of Alan Wortman, May 2, 2020: COMM0006910](#)

22. The perpetrator also had one sibling, a biological brother named Jeff Samuelson. Mr. Samuelson was born to Paul and Evelyn Wortman on March 28, 1970, in the United States, and he was placed for adoption at birth. Mr. Samuelson learned of his birth family and met Paul, Evelyn, and the perpetrator in 2010.

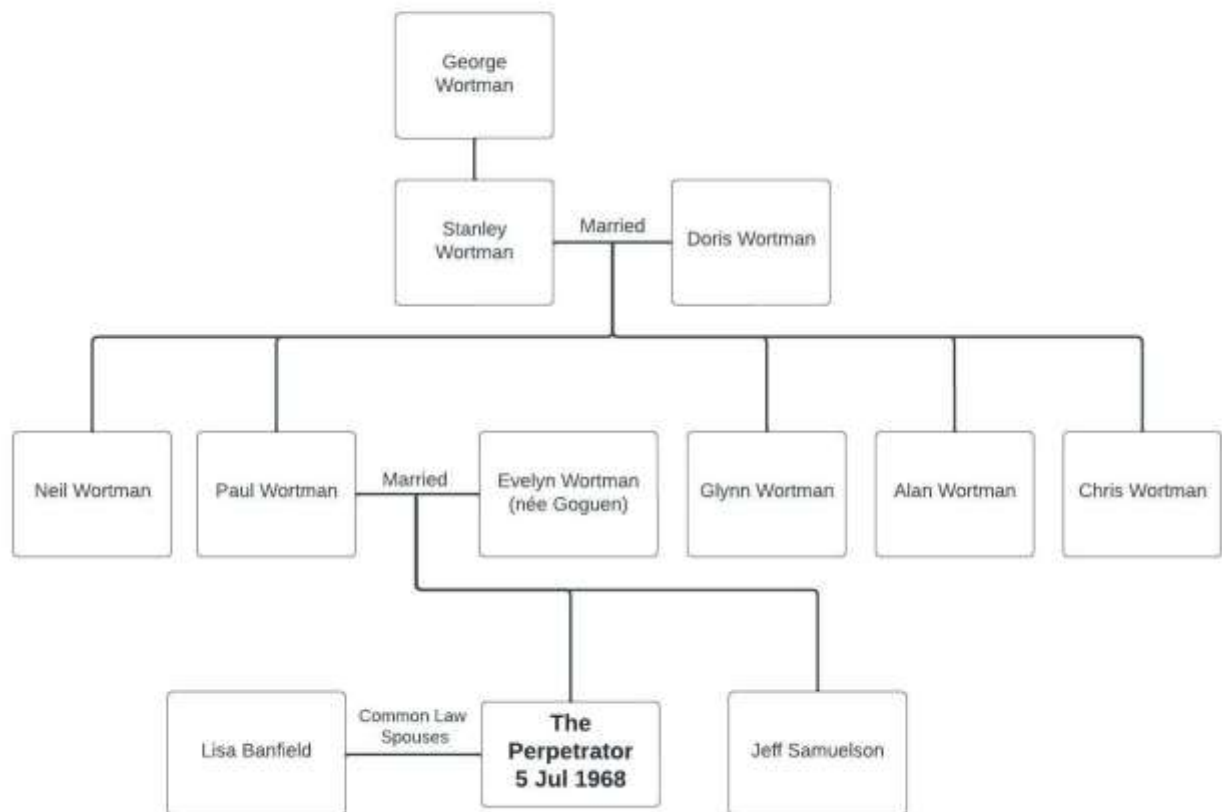
- [Investigations Unit Report: COMM0011585 at p. 52](#)
- [Statement of Jeff Samuelson: COMM0006980 at p. 2](#)

23. The RCMP interviewed Mr. Samuelson on April 27, 2020. He provided some family information, but had had very few interactions with the perpetrator. Mr. Samuelson is married to Robin Samuelson, who was present during his RCMP interview and also shared some information about the perpetrator's family with the RCMP.

- [Investigations Unit Report: COMM0011585 at p. 52](#)
- [Statement of Jeff Samuelson: COMM0006980 at p. 2](#)

24. The perpetrator's biological family members are depicted in the Wortman family tree below:

Wortman Family Tree



Wortman family tree, produced by Mass Casualty Commission intelligence analyst Brian Corbett

25. In addition to biological family members, the perpetrator's common-law spouse Lisa Banfield and some of her family members provided information about the Wortman family to the RCMP after the mass casualty. Lisa Banfield was interviewed by the RCMP several times after April 19, 2020.
 - [Statement of Lisa Banfield, April 19, 2020: COMM0002948 at lines 653–65](#)
 - [Statement of Lisa Banfield, April 20, 2020: COMM0003436](#)
 - [Statement of Lisa Banfield, April 28, 2020: COMM0004070 at lines 2433–55](#)
 - [Transcript of Recorded Interview between Lisa Banfield and Dr. Matthew Logan: COMM0050847](#)
26. Lisa Banfield's sister Maureen Banfield was interviewed on April 19, 2020, by Halifax Regional Police (HRP) officers Deputy Constable (D/Cst.) Sue Lynch and Cst. Diane Penfound, who were assisting the RCMP after the mass casualty. HRP Sergeant (Sgt.) Brian Fitzpatrick interviewed David McGrath, who was Maureen Banfield's long-term partner at the time of the mass casualty.

- [Statement of Maureen Banfield: COMM0003019](#)
- [Statement of David McGrath: COMM0003005](#)

27. Lisa Banfield's sister Janice Banfield was interviewed by HRP D/Cst. Jennifer Lake on April 20, 2020.

- [Statement of Janice Banfield: COMM0003036](#)

28. Lisa Banfield's sister Brenda Brewster was interviewed by RCMP Cst. Marc MacMullin and HRP D/Cst. Steven Wagg on April 29, 2020.

- [Statement of Brenda Brewster: COMM0004402](#)

VIOLENCE IN THE WORTMAN FAMILY BEFORE THE PERPETRATOR'S BIRTH

29. In his statement to the RCMP after the mass casualty, Paul Wortman told Csts. Dayle Burris and Ben Kershaw he himself was raised in a violent family, "[w]here there was more than screaming going on."

- [Statement of Paul Wortman: COMM0008458 at p. 35](#)

30. The perpetrator's uncle Alan Wortman also told the RCMP that Paul experienced violence as a child. In May 2020, Alan told RCMP Inspector (Insp.) Karina Desrosiers and Sgt. Claudia Beauregard that his and Paul's father Stanley Wortman (the perpetrator's paternal grandfather) was violent towards the three older brothers, Neil, Paul, and Glynn. Alan said Stanley was not violent towards their mother, or towards the two younger brothers, Alan and Chris. Alan told the RCMP that at one point Paul beat their father up.

- [Statement of Alan Wortman, May 1, 2020: COMM0006909 at lines 133–44](#)

31. Alan also told Insp. Desrosiers and Sgt. Beauregard about an incident where Glynn retaliated against their father Stanley, when Glynn was approximately 14 years old. Alan's mother and Glynn had gone out for drinks, and when they came home Alan's father started "hounding" Glynn. Glynn got a kitchen knife and stabbed their father in his bed. Alan ran inside when he heard the screaming. There was blood everywhere. An ambulance came, and Glynn was charged and convicted of aggravated assault or something similar. Alan believes Glynn intended to kill their father. This information is based on Alan's observations of events and the Commission has not verified whether Glynn was charged or convicted of assault. According to information Neil Wortman provided to a media outlet, Glynn was charged and served time in jail in relation to this incident.

- [Statement of Alan Wortman, May 1, 2020: COMM0006909 at lines 152–60](#)

- [Global News: How ending child abuse and improving mental health care could prevent mass shootings, April 21, 2021: COMM0059533](#)

32. Sometime after 2010, the perpetrator's uncle Neil Wortman wrote a letter explaining the Wortman family to the perpetrator's biological brother Jeff Samuelson, who had been placed for adoption by Paul and Evelyn in 1970. After Mr. Samuelson discovered the Wortmans were his birth family in 2010, Neil wrote the letter to help Mr. Samuelson "understand why the Wortman family is the way it is." In the letter, Neil explained that violence in the Wortman family extended at least two generations back, to the perpetrator's great-grandfather George Wortman. Neil wrote:

Your great grandfather, George Wortman, was a tyrant who brutalized his family. He managed to isolate himself from all members of his family to the point where none of his children ever spoke of him after his death. All of his children were seriously affected by the treatment that they received from him. Only one of them survives today. If you met him, or if you could have met any of the others, including your grandfather, Stanley Wortman, you would have quickly observed that they were seriously off center. All of them, to varying extents, treated their wives and children the only way they knew how – like their father treated his family members. Abused children often become abused parents.

...

You will have to decide if it is worth meeting your new relatives with their faults and strengths . . . You may not want us to visit you. Paul does not talk to me or his brother, [Chris]. He has threatened to not talk to his son. He may use the same threat with you and order Evelyn to not talk to you. You have to consider this possibility if you intend to build relationships with Paul or Evelyn. Think carefully about this and share your thoughts with me and my family. We will understand whatever you decide

- [Letter from Neil Wortman to Jeff Samuelson: COMM0006996](#)

THE PERPETRATOR'S CHILDHOOD

33. As set out below, several witnesses told the RCMP that the perpetrator's father Paul Wortman abused the perpetrator's mother Evelyn Wortman, and that Paul also abused the perpetrator when he was a child. In May 2020, Paul Wortman told RCMP Csts. Burris and Kershaw that he "never hit [the perpetrator], but I would be yelling, which is probably just as bad as hitting."

- [Statement of Paul Wortman: COMM0008458 at p. 35](#)

34. In May 2020, the perpetrator's uncle Alan Wortman told Insp. Desrosiers and Sgt. Beauregard of the RCMP that he once saw the perpetrator's father Paul assault his wife Evelyn at a Christmas

dinner. Alan first stated that this incident occurred when he was 10 or 11 years old, but then realized he was probably 16 years old at the time. Alan described it as follows:

Alan WORTMAN: Um, Paul is ah, Paul gets his way. And he can be violent. Um, I don't want to paint a picture of my brother as a bad guy but. I ah, I did see Paul, I'll tell you, I, I did see Paul, when I was a young boy, probably 10 or 11 [later corrected to 16] ah, at a Christmas dinner, he, this got nothing to do with [the perpetrator], I'm just telling you Paul's attitude. There was an argument at the table and ah, Paul was leaving and he said Evelyn, you're leaving with me. And um, she said something an[d] he struck her, knocked her onto the floor and kicked her and kicked her and kicked her. I had to, I was only about 10 [16], I said, you have to stop doing that, stop it. That's his, he just blows up.

Karina DESROSIERS: Okay.

Alan WORTMAN: And whether his son followed suit, I don't know.

- [Statement of Alan Wortman, May 1, 2020: COMM0006909 at lines 117–24, 167–86](#)

35. In May 2020, the perpetrator's uncle Glynn Wortman told Csts. Burris and Kershaw his brother Paul was only 19 years old when his then-girlfriend Evelyn became pregnant with the perpetrator, so Paul and Evelyn got married and raised the perpetrator. Glynn said Paul did not want children, including the perpetrator, and "never should have had children."

- [Statement of Glynn Wortman: COMM0008447 at lines 22–25](#)

36. Glynn would often babysit the perpetrator when he was a baby while Paul and Evelyn were working. When the perpetrator was a toddler and Glynn was 17 or 18 years old, Glynn decided to move to Moncton to find work. Glynn asked Paul and Evelyn if he could take the perpetrator with him, and they said yes. Glynn and the perpetrator lived together at Glynn's mother's (the perpetrator's grandmother's) boarding house in Moncton. Shortly thereafter, the perpetrator's parents came to pick him up and brought him to the United States so they could look for work.

- [Statement of Glynn Wortman: COMM0008447 at lines 42–55, 574–83](#)

37. Chris Wortman, another paternal uncle, took care of the perpetrator for one or two summers when the perpetrator was about 7 years old while Paul and Evelyn were at work. Chris, who was around 14 years old at the time, would watch over the perpetrator in his house from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. until his parents came home. Chris used to make the perpetrator breakfast and lunch, and he would take the perpetrator to the beach on the back of his motorcycle.

- [Statement of Chris Wortman, April 21, 2020: COMM0003405 at lines 11–13](#)
- [Statement of Chris Wortman, April 28, 2020: COMM0051420 at pp. 19–20](#)

38. The following information is based on information Glynn Wortman reported to the RCMP after the mass casualty. Glynn told Csts. Burris and Kershaw there was violence in the perpetrator's childhood home. Glynn said that Paul abused Evelyn when the perpetrator was growing up, and Glynn was once in the family home when it happened. He heard Evelyn crying and screaming, and he ran into Paul and Evelyn's bedroom. He saw Paul on top of Evelyn, choking her. Paul told Glynn to "get the hell out" and Glynn replied, "well get the hell off Evelyn." The perpetrator was a little boy or toddler at the time of this incident, and Glynn would have been around 17 years old or younger.

- [Statement of Glynn Wortman: COMM0008447 at lines 38–45, 556–60](#)

39. In addition to Paul choking Evelyn, Glynn recounted another incident of violence in the perpetrator's childhood home:

GW: Well my understanding was when [the perpetrator] was a little boy [Paul] held a gun to [the perpetrator's] head and then to Evelyn's. But then Paul denied that story. But I didn't make that up. I heard that from somebody. Probably my mother. My mother knew horrible things that Paul did to Evelyn and [the perpetrator]. And she would never divulge them.

DB: Okay. So tell me, tell me about this, this situation of Paul holding a gun to [the perpetrator's] head.

GW: [He] was just a little boy, again.

DB: Mm-mm.

GW: And probably didn't do a damn thing wrong.

- [Statement of Glynn Wortman: COMM0008447 at lines 782–9](#)

40. Glynn said the perpetrator had a "horrible upbringing with Paul" and that "Paul made [the perpetrator's] life miserable. . . . He turned him into a greedy, overbearing, little bastard." He added that the perpetrator "was always a crook." Glynn said the perpetrator "ended up [being] an asshole" because of the way his father Paul treated him: "He never treated him like a little boy. He treated him like an animal." Glynn said Paul treated the perpetrator the same way Paul had treated him as a younger brother growing up: "When I grew up Paul called me fat tub, fatty, chubby, fat cheeks, square head, everything but a human being. I had a complex." Glynn said Paul repeated this behaviour with the perpetrator and "never gave him any encouragement."

- [Statement of Glynn Wortman: COMM0008447 at lines 57–62, 207–12, 218, 735–52](#)

41. When Jeff Samuelson discovered that the Wortmans were his birth family and met them in 2010, he learned stories about the perpetrator's upbringing. In his statement to the RCMP after the mass

casualty, Mr. Samuelson recounted a story he heard from Paul, about a time when the perpetrator was “two and a half, three years old I don’t recall the age, the old man [Paul] decided that ah, his kid didn’t need a blanket anymore. So he burnt the friggen thing in front of him.” Mr. Samuelson said there was no “security” in the perpetrator’s upbringing, and that the perpetrator grew up hating his father.

- [Statement of Jeff Samuelson: COMM0006980 at lines 489–91](#)

42. Neil Wortman, the perpetrator’s uncle, told Csts. Burris and Kershaw in May 2020 that when the perpetrator was a young boy “he would trade with younger children and cheat them” (Neil did not specify what the perpetrator traded), which Neil thought was to boost the perpetrator’s ego. Neil said the perpetrator used to draw attention to himself by “making explosives as a little boy. He would take heads of matches, bind them with an elastic, and throw them on the sidewalk, and watch them explode. And as time went by and he got older they became more sophisticated right up to the point where he could make a pipe bomb.” Neil heard that the perpetrator blew the window out of his mother’s car. Neil did not state the source of this information.

- [Statement of Neil Wortman: COMM0008450 at lines 21–29](#)

43. Neil told Csts. Burris and Kershaw the perpetrator saw everything Paul Wortman did, including when Paul “pointed a gun at his wife’s [Evelyn’s] head and threatened if she ever left him he’d kill her. [The perpetrator] sees all this. . . . He hears the way his father treats other people and he learns from it. He learned little things like when they went to the drive-in Paul put his wife in the trunk of the car so they’d only pay for two admissions instead of three. [The perpetrator] is a little boy. He sees this. And I think this contributes to what, how he ended up.”

- [Statement of Neil Wortman: COMM0008450 at lines 78–83](#)

44. When Csts. Burris and Kershaw asked Neil to talk more about Paul, Neil replied, “My wife doesn’t want me to say too much about Paul because we’re terrified of him. . . . Paul’s a dangerous man. He may not be as dangerous as [the perpetrator] but he’s a dangerous man. He’s been into petty theft, grand larceny, assault. He once stole a car.” Neil gave other examples of Paul’s character:

[H]e’s always been doing stuff like that. Now how much of this [the perpetrator] saw I don’t know.

I used to go to the gymnasium with Paul. And the gymnasium is at the University of Moncton and when you paid your five dollars they give you an orange t-shirt with lettering on the back that said University of Moncton. That was evidence that you had paid your five dollars. Paul measured the height and width of the letters and the thickness, found those letters somewhere and ironed them on so he never had to pay five dollars again. He bought an orange shirt.

I mean these are dumb things but, but [the perpetrator], I don't know how much of this [he] saw.

Paul had a coat that he sewed I don't know how many pockets inside the coat, a long, long coat, went into the grocery store and filled them with steaks and things like that, high priced items. It's all, he was always into something like that.

He was, he was always quick with his fists. There was one time he was on Mountain Road and somebody beeped their horn at him and he took offence, got out of his car, walked back, pulled the man out of his car, and beat him badly.

Another time he was at Stelco Steel where he worked. A man shook the newspaper and dust fell into Paul's soup. Paul dragged him across the table and beat him badly and he was suspended for that.

How much of this [the perpetrator] knows? I don't know. But I do. These are things I know about. He was...[the perpetrator] was walking down Wheeler Boulevard one time with his mother and a fellow drove by really really fast and just narrowly clipped them. Paul was there with his car and saw it. He chased that car, pulled him over, and dragged him out of his car and beat him badly.

He, he does other things that are sneaky. When he first got married he made a deposit- - no he was going to rent an apartment and he wanted to make a deposit because he wanted to make sure that that apartment was available when he got back from his honeymoon. When he got - - the man said, no, I don't need your deposit, you can - - my word is my bond and, you know, the apartment will be waiting. When Paul got back from his honeymoon the apartment was let to somebody else. Paul went back that night and mangled the man's bicycle. And that's what he - - that's the sort of thing he would do.

He was five years younger than me and if there was something that I did to offend him and I probably did I'd find out years later how he got back at me. I'd find books with pages ripped out, you know, that's, that's the mentality of Paul.

Um, mm, he used to go to New Year's Eve dances with his wife. They never paid. They always dressed to the nines, walked in. Apparently if you walk in with enough of - - if you're audacious? You don't get questions and it's too bad and he'd get photographs with him and the cook and they'd have a nice evening but he'd never pay for it.

He taught, he taught [the perpetrator] that it's - - committing the crime is really not so bad it's getting caught. That's, that's what's bad. He taught him that. He'd go to a fast food place and when you buy your fast food drink you get a container and then you drink your drink and throw it away. Paul didn't. Neither did [the

perpetrator]. He just kept using the same container until it was ragged and you never have to pay for your soft drinks that way.

He once, he once kidnapped a dog in - - where he lived in the west end of Moncton because it wouldn't stop barking. He was in court for that, found guilty, and, and fined.

- [Statement of Neil Wortman: COMM0008450 at lines 98–147](#)

45. After the mass casualty, the perpetrator's uncle, Chris Wortman, told RCMP Sgt. Corey Kilborn that he grew up alongside the perpetrator since there was only a seven-year age difference between them, and even though they did not live close, they were close enough to see each other. Chris said the perpetrator was:

[a]lways kind of a strange little guy, never known to have a friend. He had a difficult upbringing...uhm...like I said before his father and mother, [you'd] have to meet them; I could describe them, but you'd have [to meet] them. They're, um, they're very bizarre, very strange. And as a result, [the perpetrator] was too. You know, there's a lot of dysfunction, there's a lot of dysfunction in the family in total, but his is really bad. Just his father is just, um [pauses] ... maybe he shouldn't have been a father is the best thing to say, you know what I mean. And give [the perpetrator] a credit, he never had a child and he knew, he had no intention of ever having a child. He knew. And his brother that he discovered that he had, probably, 10 years ago, who lives in the States, he's the same way, he's never going to have a child. He just knows it.

- [Statement of Chris Wortman, April 28, 2020: COMM0051420 at p. 13](#)

46. Chris recounted a time when the perpetrator was seven years old and his father Paul put a loaded gun in his hands and told the perpetrator to shoot him:

Corey KILBORN: Yeah. Let me just take you back to, um, so, [the perpetrator], you said he had a difficult upbringing, like, tell me more about that.

Chris WORTMAN: Probably the earliest incident that I can recall, and I explained this to Corporal MacLeod was I remember there was it was the, um, it would have been the Riverview RCMP. And the reason I brought it up with Corporal MacLeod is it would have been in, it would have had to be an indices check ... it would be so old. So, and I don't know if it would have come up, but the boys, the boys, the members that attended and, um, I found out later and I can't remember who told me whether it was my mother or or my brother or maybe I just overheard them talking, but they said that Paul, his father, loaded the 22 and gave it to [the perpetrator] and said "Shoot!"

Corey KILBORN: And said, shoot, shoot me?

Chris WORTMAN: Yeah.

Corey KILBORN: Wow!

Chris WORTMAN: I think he's seven seven-ish. And, um, that's just one instance and the only reason I brought it up because I knew there was a police report.

Corey KILBORN: And so, why, why would that have been done?

Chris WORTMAN: Why would Paul do that?

Corey KILBORN: Yeah.

Chris WORTMAN: He's unstable, you know, there's no other way to describe him. He's just very bizarre, dangerous; probably should have been should have sought psychiatric help a long time ago.

Corey KILBORN: And so why, why would you say dangerous?

Chris WORTMAN: Uh, he had no fuse, like he would, he would go [snaps his fingers], like he had road rage, um, had no friends himself, in battles with the neighbors, type thing. Everybody pissed him off; everybody, you know, was doing things that aggravated him, type thing.

- [Statement of Chris Wortman, April 28, 2020: COMM0051420 at pp. 21–22](#)

47. Chris described the perpetrator as a “career criminal” who learned from his father Paul’s example. Chris said the perpetrator “didn’t fall too far from the tree” and that “he’s like that for a reason.” Chris provided examples of activity that Paul and the perpetrator would engage in:

Chris WORTMAN: [Paul is] another guy that just like [the perpetrator], if he can screw the system somehow, he would.

Corey KILBORN: Oh, really?

Chris WORTMAN: Yeah.

Corey KILBORN: So what would be an example of that?

Chris WORTMAN: Um, helping themselves to building materials. You know, if [he’s] landscaping his yard he’d help himself to, you know, go to a garden center and help himself to the plants. I remember I used to get on my bike and ride to

their place in Riverview and I was helping them with siding his house one day, well he didn't pay for that siding; he paid for nothing.

...

Corey KILBORN: And so, he would just steal stuff?

Chris WORTMAN: Just steal stuff, and so that's what [the perpetrator] saw, that's what [the perpetrator] witnessed.

Corey KILBORN: Yeah.

Chris WORTMAN: And that's all, that's how ... that's how his life continued.

Corey KILBORN: And so [the perpetrator] was the same way as a result type of thing.

Chris WORTMAN: Yeah. [The perpetrator] brought it, he took it up a notch, so, he was doing some ... Just brazen, . . . I know he put himself through university smuggling tobacco and alcohol across the border. That's one thing he actually admitted to me and he said that they almost had him one time.

- [Statement of Chris Wortman, April 28, 2020: COMM0051420 at pp. 11, 14, 22](#)

48. In April 2020, Lisa Banfield told Staff Sergeant (S/Sgt.) Greg Vardy of the RCMP about the perpetrator's childhood and recounted what she knew about the perpetrator's father abusing him as a young boy:

S/Sgt. VARDY: Was there ever any abuse, like you know, beatings or anything like that, that you know of?

Lisa BANFIELD: To [the perpetrator]?

S/Sgt. VARDY: Yeah.

Lisa BANFIELD: Yeah, through Paul.

S/Sgt. VARDY: Okay.

Lisa BANFIELD: You know.

S/Sgt. VARDY: Tell me about that.

Lisa BANFIELD: [The perpetrator] told me about the time, like I told you, that [Paul] took him in the car and they went down the dirt road and, and [the

perpetrator] said, he's looking at me in the rear-view and [the perpetrator] goes Lisa, I just knew he was going to kill me. And all of a sudden, he said the car stopped and [Paul] turned around and [the perpetrator] said whatever you're going to do, don't do it. And [Paul] just stopped, and he said, don't ever mention this again and he turned around and he went back home. He goes I knew I was going to die that day. And then he said there was times that you know, Paul beat on Evelyn all the time. Paul would cheat on her and he would go with Paul, wait in the car, while Paul is with some girl or whatever. And then, there was a time, he said he was ten or fourteen, that Paul gave him a gun and said shoot me, I know you want to. And [the perpetrator] was like, Lisa I was so close to shooting him, but he didn't. And he said, like, even like, his, like [Alan], and Chris, and all the RCMP, like he had two RCMP uncles or whatever and all the people in the family knew of all the abuse.

- [Statement of Lisa Banfield, April 28, 2020: COMM0004070 at lines 2433–2451](#)

49. Lisa Banfield thought the perpetrator did not like women “because of his mother. Because growing up, his mother really wasn't there for him at all. Like she, she was battered from Paul and abused, but yet she enabled a lot of the abuse to go on. She's witnessed it.” Lisa Banfield added that according to the perpetrator, his mother Evelyn “didn't protect him [from Paul] at all. I mean, at times even [the perpetrator] would tell me that in school, like, if he did something, he would tell Evelyn and say, you know – that was her name – don't tell ... And he called them by Evelyn and Paul, he never called them mom or dad. Ever. And and she would tell on him all the time, knowing that he's going to get beaten or whatever. And then she said she was sorry, but she kept doing it every time, so he couldn't trust her. He never trusted anybody, was what he said, his whole life.” Lisa Banfield said that as a result the perpetrator “had no respect for women, no respect for his father.”

- [Transcript of Recorded Interview between Lisa Banfield and Dr. Matthew Logan: COMM0050847 at pp. 32–33](#)
- [Statement of Lisa Banfield, April 28, 2020: COMM0004070 at lines 2451–2455](#)

50. Lisa Banfield also told RCMP S/Sgt. Vardy that when the perpetrator was younger than 10, he had a dog “and his dad didn't want the dog so he made [the perpetrator] kill the dog.” She said the perpetrator killed the dog either by drowning it or shooting it with a gun.

- [Statement of Lisa Banfield, April 28, 2020: COMM0004070 at lines 2269–2275](#)

51. Neil Wortman also recounted Paul Wortman making the perpetrator kill his dog. He said, “Paul didn't think he was taking care of the dog as well as he should've. So he made [the perpetrator] shoot his dog.” Neil said the perpetrator was a “little boy . . . he wasn't a teenager at that point . . . he was pre-teen” when this happened. Neil asked the RCMP interviewers, rhetorically, “What does that do to a kid?”

- [Statement of Neil Wortman: COMM0008450 at lines 227–246](#)

52. Annette Wortman, Neil Wortman's wife, did not have first-hand information about the perpetrator's childhood or Paul's parenting, but she heard family stories from Evelyn or Neil's brothers, including that Paul made the perpetrator shoot his dog.

- [Statement of Annette Wortman: COMM0008453 at lines 46–49](#)

53. Lisa Banfield also told S/Sgt. Vardy after the mass casualty that when the perpetrator was seven or eight, his parents would take him to the shopping mall and leave him there to find his own way home:

Oh, [the perpetrator] would tell me stories about how when he was a little, he was probably seven or eight and they would go to the shopping mall and Paul would say, okay meet back, he would let him go and then two would do their thing and leave him by himself to do whatever he wanted. And at this time he had to be back by a certain time, you know, so that they could leave and some little kid he's not worried about the time. Anyways, they would leave him and Evelyn would go home with Paul; [the perpetrator's] still at the mall not knowing where his parents are, so he'd be walking back home on the highway. And as soon as she got home she would jump in her car and go back to the mall to try [to] get [the perpetrator] and find him on the side of the road and pick him up.

- [Statement of Lisa Banfield, April 28, 2020: COMM0004070 at lines 2421–2430](#)

54. Annette Wortman said based on things she and Neil Wortman had heard, "the way that apparently that Paul was raising [the perpetrator] was just horrible. And [Evelyn] should have taken him away and then that's why [the perpetrator] wasn't talking to his mother and father. Um, because he blamed her for not leaving."

- [Statement of Annette Wortman: COMM0008453 at lines 79–82](#)

55. Annette also heard that the perpetrator's father Paul abused his mother Evelyn.

- [Statement of Annette Wortman: COMM0008453 at lines 200–209](#)

56. The perpetrator's uncle Alan Wortman did not see the perpetrator very much during his childhood, but told the RCMP the perpetrator was "brought up very, very tough." Alan said the perpetrator's father Paul could be violent.

- [Statement of Alan Wortman, May 1, 2020: COMM0006909 at lines 115–117](#)

57. Maureen Banfield, Lisa Banfield's sister, was also aware that the perpetrator had been abused as a child. After the mass casualty, Maureen told Cst. Penfound and D/Cst. Lynch of the HRP that "there was a lot of evidence very early on that he was quite disturbed in ah, in his manner."

He's been ah, he has shared ah, both through Lisa and directly, he's been extremely abused. Like severely abused as a young boy."

- [Statement of Maureen Banfield: COMM0003019 at lines 51–54](#)

58. BD met the perpetrator at the University of New Brunswick around 1990 and dated him in the summer of 2014. BD's romantic relationship with the perpetrator ended within a few months. BD had a young son, and the perpetrator told BD he did not see himself raising a young child since he was working hard to retire early and wanted to relax and enjoy his retirement. BD and the perpetrator stayed in touch after the end of their romantic relationship. As a result, BD knew the perpetrator for over 30 years.

- [Statement of BD: COMM0004082 at lines 108–16](#)

59. BD described the perpetrator as a "high functioning alcoholic" and she believed his heart was "a bit broken." She said he seemed to need to prove himself and his worth, and that making money and being successful were very important to him. She knew he did not have a good relationship with his parents and was disappointed with his parents and what they were capable of, and unhappy with his upbringing. She said "he had a demeanor about him that there was a sorrow inside. Um, when he spoke of his parents, that sorrow came through." She said he studied a bit of psychology and was always trying to figure out why his parents were the way they were or why they did what they did. She did not know if he was ever physically abused but she believes he was emotionally affected by his upbringing. She believes he lived with someone else in the family. BD never met his family.

- [Statement of BD: COMM0004082 at lines 144–58, 210–217](#)

60. The perpetrator also had a relationship with EE, who was his neighbour in Portapique. In July 2021, EE was interviewed by the Mass Casualty Commission. She said that she and the perpetrator met in 2014 and became friends. They also had a sexual relationship, and EE worked for the perpetrator. EE had heard from the perpetrator about the time his father forced him to kill his dog. EE also said the perpetrator told her he was sexually abused as a child:

Emily HILL: And I wondered if [the perpetrator] ever talked to you about his growing up time, his family, and what he told you?

EE: Oh yeah. That's one thing that we had a bond about. And yeah, his father was mean, and her and him. I think that's why he actually has that limp, just because it happened in a beating. Anyway, [his] dad made him kill his dog, as we know. [Redacted] Right. So we bonded a little bit over our abusive parents.

...

Emily HILL: And when you say you have that in common, it sounds like you connec... you shared with each other that you have this experience [Redacted] Did he ever did he ever say that he was sexually abused as a kid?

EE: Yeah.

Emily HILL: He told you that?

EE: Yeah. His uncle and father. And I don't know if that's out there [in the media] or not, but yeah. I don't know which uncle.

- [Mass Casualty Commission interview of EE: COMM0046242 at pp. 32–33](#)

61. Nancy Hudson was another neighbour of the perpetrator's in Portapique. She first met the perpetrator shortly after he moved to the area, in 2001 or 2002. Ms. Hudson told Csts. Burris and Kershaw in May 2020 that she heard from neighbours, including Brenda Forbes and Angela Doucette, who she assumed heard from Glynn Wortman, that the perpetrator had a "pretty wicked childhood" and was estranged from his parents. Ms. Hudson heard the perpetrator's father was mentally and physically abusive towards him.

- [Statement of Nancy Hudson: COMM0011647 at lines 318–33](#)

62. Bruce Estabrooks, a neighbour of the perpetrator's paternal grandmother in Moncton, New Brunswick, grew up with Paul Wortman and maintained a friendship with the perpetrator's parents until just before the mass casualty. On April 27, 2020, Mr. Estabrooks told RCMP Cst. Colin Shaw and Sgt. Fraser Firth that the perpetrator's father Paul had an anger management problem. Mr. Estabrooks said, "if [Paul] has a perceived wrong against him, he'll fight tooth and nail." Mr. Estabrooks gave the hypothetical example that if someone accidentally bumped shoulders with Paul Wortman in a crowd, whereas typically people would let that go after the person apologized, Paul "wants to extract some kind of revenge" or have the person get down on their knees and beg for mercy. Mr. Estabrooks stated that Paul Wortman "doesn't like to communicate he likes to just get revenge."

- [Statement of Bruce Estabrooks: COMM0008492 at lines 18–24, 69–72, 93–95, 115–6, 141–5, 416–29, 464–71](#)

63. Mr. Estabrooks told Cst. Shaw and Sgt. Firth that the perpetrator was raised as an only child, and that he was spoiled. The perpetrator's mother Evelyn Wortman was always nervous about Paul's anger issues and so she attempted to protect the perpetrator and treated him like a baby. Mr. Estabrooks described the perpetrator as "a loner" growing up. The perpetrator's parents bought him a dog, but his father returned the dog, which Mr. Estabrooks said broke the perpetrator's heart. It is unclear if this is the dog that other witnesses said was shot by the perpetrator.

- [Statement of Bruce Estabrooks: COMM0008492 at lines 86, 266–71, 304](#)

64. Mr. Estabrooks was not aware of any abuse inflicted on the perpetrator by his father. Mr. Estabrooks was also not aware of Paul physically abusing his wife Evelyn, but described Paul as having very “explosive” reactions. Mr. Estabrooks said Paul liked to “show that he can react physically against somebody.” When Mr. Estabrooks worked traffic enforcement in the Codiac detachment in Moncton, he brought Paul on two or three ride-alongs. Paul would get “worked up” and tell Mr. Estabrooks, “I would’ve done this I would’ve done that,” including “dragg[ing] someone [out] of the car and pound[ing] on him.” Mr. Estabrooks said if Paul was a cop he would have been fired on the first day, because Paul was inclined towards physical violence instead of talking to someone or giving them a ticket.

- [Statement of Bruce Estabrooks: COMM0008492 at lines 563–4, 575–89](#)

65. Paul Wortman said he did not hit the perpetrator. In May 2020, Paul told Csts. Burris and Kershaw he “had a hell of a temper” when the perpetrator was growing up, and “did a lot of screaming.” Paul said he himself was raised in a violent family, “[w]here there was more than screaming going on. I never hit [the perpetrator], but I would be yelling, which is probably just as bad as hitting.” Paul explained that he yelled at the perpetrator because he would “sense that, [the perpetrator] seemed to be challenging me.”

- [Statement of Paul Wortman: COMM0008458 at p. 35](#)

THE PERPETRATOR’S ASSAULT ON HIS FATHER IN CUBA

66. When the perpetrator was an adult, he seriously assaulted his father Paul Wortman on a family vacation in Cuba around 20 years before the mass casualty. In an interview after the mass casualty, Paul told Csts. Burris and Kershaw the perpetrator “got drunk and beat the hell outta me” after saying things like Paul “wasn’t much of a father.” Paul said he started apologizing to the perpetrator, “but that didn’t suit him so he just started pounding on me.” Paul recalled that the assault occurred at night, after the perpetrator, Lisa, Paul, and Evelyn had dinner together at a restaurant. The perpetrator was drinking at dinner and may have been drinking before dinner as well. Paul told the RCMP he felt hurt when the perpetrator started criticizing his parenting, and things escalated from there:

PW: . . . I actually felt hurt and I – I was crying I said I’m sorry if – if you know ya, you feel that ah, that I’m a – a rotten father.

DB: Mm-hmm.

PW: I was sincerely apologizing but ah, that didn’t seem to soothe his wounds.

DB: And what happened next?

PW: He smacked me.

DB: Ok.

PW: And I told him you know what, I said I'm not gonna fight back. So he straddled me on some kind of a, picnic bench or something and started, [pounding] the Hell outta me. I was actually unconscious, I don't know how much he hit me after that, but I remember waking up and there was a, there was a couple ah.. couple of ah, staff.. were pulling him away. And then he was in a rage like he was gonna fight them and then the manager came out. And I just, everybody realized this is out of hand. So that was that.

- [Statement of Paul Wortman: COMM0008458 at pp. 32–33, 36](#)

67. Paul's injuries were severe. He described to Csts. Burris and Kershaw that his "face was pretty smashed up, I lost a bit of vision in one of my eyes. But there's no scars on my face." Paul said he forgave the perpetrator for the assault a few months later.

- [Statement of Paul Wortman: COMM0008458 at p. 36](#)

68. In May 2020, Glynn Wortman told Csts. Burris and Kershaw that he had heard about the perpetrator's assault on Paul in Cuba:

DB: Okay. And tell me about any? Are you aware of any occasions where [the perpetrator] had been violent with Paul or Evelyn or anyone else?

GW: Oh my God. <laughter> I think it was Cuba. Paul and Evelyn, [the perpetrator] and Lisa were together in Cuba. And they had an argument, of course, [the perpetrator] was drinking. And [the perpetrator] took a turn and got violent. He beat the living shit out of Paul. And Paul didn't even defend himself. He just took it and he said I deserve this and he did deserve it.

DB: Yeah

GW: He beat the living shit out of him. I love that story. <laughter> And he took pictures in the airplane on the way home.

DB: Yeah.

GW: I guess he looked like hell.

DB: Okay.

GW: He was all swollen up and cut. <laughter> Black and blue.

DB: And tell me how you know all this, Glynn?

GW: I heard it from [the perpetrator] and I heard it from Paul.

- [Statement of Glynn Wortman: COMM0008447 at lines 795–809](#)

69. In her statement to S/Sgt. Vardy and Sgt. Firth on April 28, Lisa Banfield recounted this incident and said the perpetrator grew up resenting his father Paul for his upbringing:

[W]e all went to Cuba one year and that's when [the perpetrator] beat the shit out of his father and when this happened um, he could've got sent to jail but Paul didn't want him to get sent to jail. And we had rooms that were across from each other. So, um, they were drinking and we were all that pool at one point, and then it's like, okay, it's supper time, let's, let's get ready for supper. So, Evelyn and I left to our rooms to get ready and then all of a sudden the people from another resort that knew me just from being down there, I just made friends with people or whatever, 'cause I was a social person um, came up and said, Like, like, they're, you know, your boyfriend has his father and it's all blood by the pool. And I came down and he was smashing his head against the concrete, like, t-trying to tell him to say he was sorry for all that he, like, they started talking about [the perpetrator's] childhood and Paul denied uh, anything that he ever did to [the perpetrator]. And [the perpetrator] was just trying to get, tell him to admit it and he wouldn't. And Evelyn's screaming, like, Paul, just say you're sorry, just say you're sorry. It was just a shit show. And, anyway, that night we went back to our rooms and then Paul comes to our door and he wants to talk to me and it's just, like, oh God, like, can you just uh, like, you know. So, he took me in his room and he asked Evelyn to leave and Evelyn's like, Paul, I'm your wife. And he goes, I want to talk to Lisa by myself. So, I'm in the room and he looks like Daffy Duck 'cause his face was just, lips uh, he didn't even look recognizable and he's just like, you know, I was a bastard to my wife, I was a bastard to my son and [the perpetrator's] gonna do the same thing to you and you need to leave and don't tell him I told you because he'll, he'll do more damage to me. Uh, like, what do you say to that? And their whole relationship was like that.

- [Statement of Lisa Banfield, April 28, 2020: COMM0004070 at lines 1325–43](#)

70. David McGrath, who was Maureen Banfield's long-term partner at the time of the mass casualty, also told HRP Sgt. Fitzpatrick after the mass casualty that the perpetrator "beat his father almost to death in Cuba" and "wanted to kill his parents." Mr. McGrath said the perpetrator had told him about the assault in Cuba:

It's about, it's almost like he was, needed to be active, because he was, he was abused. Apparently abused quite, quite badly by his parents. Ah, he was abused, they were very abusive to him, I've never met them. I don't know what happened. I do know that he beat the shit out of his father, maybe he might

have been 55 years old, in Cuba. Some thirty years ago. I don't know why, but I do know that, he told me that he did it.

- [Statement of David McGrath: COMM0003005 at lines 549–55, 1813–4](#)

71. In May 2020, Neil Wortman also told RCMP Csts. Burris and Kershaw about this incident. Neil said the perpetrator “beat his father to a pulp” in Cuba. Neil did not say how he came to know about this incident.

- [Statement of Neil Wortman: COMM0008450 at lines 77–78](#)

THE PERPETRATOR'S THREAT TO KILL HIS PARENTS

72. On the evening of Tuesday, June 1, 2010, the perpetrator phoned his uncle Glynn and told Glynn he was going to drive from Nova Scotia to his parents' house in New Brunswick to kill them. After the mass casualty, Glynn told the RCMP this happened “around 2005 or 2006,” but police records show that it took place in 2010. Glynn told Csts. Burris and Kershaw the following in May 2020:

GW: Well now I lived in Edmonton and [the perpetrator] said, called me and said, Glynn I'm going to Moncton and I'm going to kill Paul. He always called Paul, Paul, never called him Dad.

DB: Yeah.

GW: And I said [to the perpetrator] you don't want to do that. I said, he's not worth it. I said, you're just end up in prison. He's not worth it. He said, I'm going. And he was drunk. I said, [to the perpetrator], just settle down, think about it, calm down. When he's so drunk he couldn't have driven, driven his way up to Moncton. <laughter> So, he thought better of it and didn't go.

DB: Glynn?

GW: So...

DB: Sorry go ahead.

GW: ...he finally when I did see him in person he thanked me all over the place. He said Glynn he said you're right Paul isn't worth it. He said he'll die some horrible death and I won't be responsible.

- [Statement of Glynn Wortman: COMM0008447 at lines 818–32](#)

73. Paul Wortman also told Csts. Burris and Kershaw about this threat during his interview in May 2020. He said he got a phone call late one night from his brother Glynn, who warned him about

the perpetrator's threat. Glynn told Paul that the perpetrator was drunk and had called Glynn to say he was going to drive from Halifax or Dartmouth and shoot his parents.

- [Statement of Paul Wortman: COMM0008458 at p. 9](#)

74. After the warning from Glynn, Paul phoned the RCMP to report the perpetrator's threat to murder him and Evelyn. Paul said the RCMP investigated the incident, but the perpetrator convinced the RCMP that he did not threaten to shoot his parents and did not have any firearms. This was concerning to Paul, who knew the perpetrator had guns. The perpetrator had fired a gun in front of Paul at least once. Paul and Evelyn felt the perpetrator's threat to murder them was serious. They did not leave the house for a while after that incident.

- [Statement of Paul Wortman: COMM0008458 at pp. 9–16](#)

75. As discussed below, at the time Paul reported the perpetrator's threat and his possession of guns in 2010, HRP investigating officer Sgt. Cordell Poirier asked Paul "questions regarding the weapons he initially advised the Codiac detachment his son was in possession of." Sgt. Poirier wrote in his report that Paul "is still convinced that his son still has the weapons in the cottage at 200 Portapique Beach Rd. He stated that the last time he saw the weapons they were in a storage closet next to the large fireplace in the cottage living room. Unfortunately the last time he saw them was over 5 years ago. Due to his poor relationship with his son he would have no idea if the son still has the weapons. Writer advised him that without recent knowledge a Public Safety Warrant could not be obtained."

- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at p. 51](#)

76. Neil Wortman, Alan Wortman, and Chris Wortman were also aware of the perpetrator's threat to kill his parents in 2010. After the mass casualty, Neil told Csts. Burris and Kershaw that the perpetrator was so angry with his parents about the deed to a house that he threatened to drive from Portapique or Halifax to Moncton armed with weapons to kill them. Neil said:

There was one time and I know this is true [the perpetrator] found that his father had his name on his deed, . . . And he wanted it off of this piece of property cause he wanted to sell it. Paul wouldn't take it off. Paul's [the perpetrator's] father. Have you met him? You should. He wouldn't take his name off the deed. [The perpetrator] got into a fit of rage. He was on his way from Portapique or Halifax, I forget which, with his, armed to shoot his father. Lisa phone[d] Glynn and said you've got to do something about this he's on his way to shoot his father. Glynn called Alan my brother who's in the RCMP, was in the RCMP, he's retired. Alan called Paul and said you better look out this fellow is on his way. But [the perpetrator] had a change of heart, turned around, and went back.

- [Statement of Neil Wortman: COMM0008450 at lines 84–92](#)

77. In his May 2020 statement to the RCMP, Alan Wortman recounted the same incident:

Alan WORTMAN: . . . [Glynn] called me in a panic, one evening.

Claudette: In regards to?

Alan WORTMAN: In regards to [the perpetrator] was upset over something, he might have been talking to his father, I don't know, but [the perpetrator], according to [Glynn], [Glynn] had called me and said, listen Al, he says, I want you to take care of this, [the perpetrator] is getting in his car with a rifle and he's heading to shoot your fath, or, shoot ah, Paul. So I said, okay, I, I phoned Paul immediately and he did pick up then, and I said Paul, this is what [Glynn] just passed on to me. And ah, oh Jeez, sorry, oh, and ah, Paul said, bring it on. That's my brother. Just like [the perpetrator], I'm sure. Bring it on, let's have a little war.

- [Statement of Alan Wortman, May 1, 2020: COMM0006909 at lines 1105–13](#)

78. Alan stated that if he had not been able to reach Paul that night, he would have called the RCMP. Alan also stated that he thought Glynn may have called him later that night to tell him the perpetrator was at home and was not going to carry out the threat.

- [Statement of Alan Wortman, May 1, 2020: COMM0006909 at lines 1127–30, 1147–8](#)

79. In his statement to Corporal (Cpl.) Kathryn MacLeod on April 21, 2020, Chris Wortman recounted getting a similar call from Glynn that the perpetrator was threatening to drive to Moncton with weapons to kill his parents.

- [Statement of Chris Wortman, April 21, 2020: COMM0003405 at lines 165–78](#)

80. David McGrath, Maureen Banfield's long-term partner at the time of the mass casualty, recounted the same incident to Sgt. Fitzpatrick of HRP in his interview on April 19, 2020. He attributed it to a conflict over the perpetrator's property. He also said the perpetrator discharged his gun in the house on Portland Street in Dartmouth during the incident on June 1, 2010. Mr. McGrath added that Chris Wortman, the perpetrator's uncle who was an RCMP member, calmed him down that night:

I do know that there was an incident probably ten or twelve years where he was going to go up and kill his parents because somehow there, there was a connection to the parents to the log home in terms of the deed. And I don't know if they were trying to extort money from him. I don't know what was going on but he ah, fired, discharged a firearm in the house on Portland Street. And I told that, this lady, this other interviewers already. And ah, you know, he has, he has an uncle who's an ex, who's just recently retired RCMP officer from BC. So

apparently he phoned him and, and, somehow got things calmed down and I know he called me. I went over to the house cause Maureen told me, and it's like, ah. And Lisa was there so she went over and then I went over. I said, you guys, you know, you got to get out of there, like. But. Anyway, talked with him, and he, he was almost, he was almost suicidal at that time. Well he gave me his Rolex watch, and I said I don't want your Ro, Rolex watch. And then he came and talked to me one time later, and I said, you know this, this will all get fixed up and you know, you need to leave your parents behind. And that's what he did.

- [Statement of David McGrath: COMM0003005 at lines 552–71](#)

81. David McGrath clarified that the perpetrator shot a gun in the dining room area of his home because “his parents wanted the, he, they were on the, I think they were on the deed of the log home and they were, they were ah, there was something going on there and he wanted to kill them. And it was just ah, he was losing his mind, you know, I'm told. I mean I wasn't there. Lisa was there. She woulda called Maureen, Maureen went there, Maureen called me, and then I went there. It's like, I don't get to see this stuff first hand. . . . I'm the, I'm the, seem to be the one I get called to come over and talking to the guy.” Mr. McGrath said the perpetrator “respected his uncle Chris” and Chris was able to talk the perpetrator out of going to kill his parents.

- [Statement of David McGrath: COMM0003005 at lines 1273, 2459–78](#)

82. Maureen Banfield also described this incident to D/Cst. Lynch and Cst. Penfound of the RCMP in her interview on April 19, 2020. She said the perpetrator had “a psychotic break” related to his parents and their name on a deed to his property in Portapique. She said:

[H]e needed to get them off the deed and, and it was a technicality. Like, they, he asked them to do it, and then just to change it back and then they didn't want to do it. So he got really, very, very upset to the, to the degree that he ah, he had this break. And Lisa called me, she was absolutely and utterly ah, in a panic. He had discharged a firearm in the house, and he was talking about killing himself, and of killing his parents. And not just killing them like. He talked about dismembering them. Like he's been a, he was been a, what do you call it. A mort, a funeral director. So he's embalmed bodies and all that kind of stuff. He said I know how to get rid of bodies. And like it was scary. And so then we got his uncle who is an ex, not ex, who is a retired RCMP, he's the only one that we know that's fairly connected to [the perpetrator]. And he got involved. And, and ah, and ah, and David spoke with him and we, we said you need some help, like you know. Ah, but I can't remember the context, I can't remember how many years ago that was.

- [Statement of Maureen Banfield: COMM0003019 at lines 138–61](#)

83. On April 19, 2020, Lisa Banfield's sister Brenda Brewster told RCMP Cst. MacMullin and HRP D/Cst. Wagg about the same incident. Brenda said the perpetrator "wanted to kill his parents" and the police were involved "to stop him."
- [Statement of Brenda Brewster: COMM0004402 at lines 94–111](#)
84. After the mass casualty, Jeff Samuelson told the RCMP that when he and the perpetrator had phone calls, the perpetrator would say things like "I'd love to kill my parents." Mr. Samuelson stated that the perpetrator said he wanted to kill his father "a number of times on the phone. You know, that was kind of a standard thing."
- [Statement of Jeff Samuelson: COMM0006980 at lines 493–6](#)
85. The RCMP's compilation of police reports on the perpetrator states that on June 2, 2010, Glynn Wortman phoned the Codiac detachment to report the perpetrator's threat to kill his parents. Glynn called from Edmonton, Alberta, and talked to Codiac RCMP member Cst. Len Vickers, who wrote up an initial officer's report that was shared with the HRP. In his report, Cst. Vickers stated that he had received information from Glynn Wortman "concerning death threats made against [the perpetrator's] parents," and Cst. Vickers requested a call-back. The HRP recorded an incident of "uttering threats" in their file and assigned HRP Sgt. Poirier as the lead investigator.
- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at p. 45](#)
86. It appears that Cst. Vickers obtained statements from both Paul and Glynn Wortman in the early morning hours of June 2, 2010, about the perpetrator's threat to kill Paul and Evelyn. It is unclear in what order they were interviewed. In his HRP report, Sgt. Poirier described Paul and Evelyn Wortman as the "original complainants."
- [Statement of Paul Wortman: COMM0008458 at p. 13](#)
 - [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at pp. 45–46, 53](#)
87. According to his report, Sgt. Poirier began his investigation at 2:00 a.m. on June 2, 2010, by returning a phone call to Cst. Vickers. Cst. Vickers advised that he had received a complaint from Paul Wortman, who had in turn received a call from his brother Glynn Wortman on the evening of June 1, 2010, warning him that the perpetrator was drunk and angry at his father and said he was going to drive to Moncton and kill his parents.
- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at p. 46](#)
88. Sgt. Poirier recorded two possible addresses for the perpetrator: the apartment above the denture clinic at 193 Portland Street and a cottage (in Portapique) that the Bible Hill RCMP were going to check. Sgt. Poirier noted there was also a possibility the perpetrator was in possession of "several long-barrelled weapons."

- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at p. 46](#)

89. At 3:25 a.m. on June 2, 2010, Sgt. Poirier attended 193 Portland Street. His notes say he spoke to Lisa Banfield, who said the perpetrator had passed out drunk in bed two hours earlier. She advised that the perpetrator had been in a lengthy legal battle with his parents over land and had received a letter from them on June 1, 2010, which had upset him. Lisa Banfield told Sgt. Poirier the perpetrator started drinking because he was stressed, and then called his uncle Glynn Wortman in Edmonton to “vent his anger and frustration.” Sgt. Poirier wrote that “Ms. Banfield would not confirm or deny that he made the threat to kill his parents to his uncle. But she did say that if he did it was only because he was angry.” Lisa Banfield advised Sgt. Poirier that there were no weapons in the house. Sgt. Poirier told her he would come back in the evening on June 2, 2010, to speak with the perpetrator.

- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at pp. 46–47](#)

90. Sgt. Poirier called Cst. Vickers to update him that the HRP would take jurisdiction to follow up on this matter, since the threat had been made by phone in Dartmouth. Cst. Vickers “called off” the Bible Hill RCMP from checking the address in their area and faxed a copy of Paul Wortman’s statement to be added to the HRP file.

- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at p. 47](#)

91. A record about possible firearms in the perpetrator’s possession was added to the HRP’s database at 4:51 a.m. on June 2, 2010. The record was tagged “FIREARMS INTEREST POLICE.” It listed the perpetrator’s name and stated, “THIS PERSON MAY BE OF INTEREST TO FIREARMS OFFICERS”:

Narrative: CPIC ATTACHMENT - 1

Subject: **RECORD ADDED FIREARMS INTEREST**

Author: **HFIP**

Related date/time: **Wednesday, 2010-Jun-02 04:51**

RECORD ADDED FIREARMS INTEREST POLICE

WORTMAN, GABRIEL

SEX: MALE DOB: 1968-07-05 AGE: 41

FIREARMS INTEREST POLICE

THIS PERSON MAY BE OF INTEREST TO FIREARMS OFFICERS

OCCD: 2010-06-02 EXP: 2015-06-02

- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at p. 58](#)
- Note: HFIP stands for “Halifax Firearms Interest Police”.

92. At 2:17 p.m. on June 2, 2010, Paul and Evelyn Wortman went to the Codiac detachment and spoke with Cpl. Lynn Tardiff to request an update on the file. Cpl. Tardiff relayed to HRP Sgt. David Boon that “[t]hey became difficult and left without Cpl. Tardiff providing them with any information.” Sgt. Boon’s notes in the HRP file added that Cpl. Tardiff would attempt to contact the perpetrator’s parents again and keep them updated.

- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at p. 59](#)

93. Sgt. Poirier’s notes say he contacted Lisa Banfield around 9:00 p.m. on June 2, 2010, and she advised him that the perpetrator had left for Fredericton, New Brunswick, on business and would not be returning until the evening of June 6. She said she had told the perpetrator that Sgt. Poirier wanted to speak to him that evening. She said the perpetrator did not have a cell phone and so she would not have a contact number for him until he contacted her. Sgt. Poirier wrote in his report, “If he contacts her tonight hopefully he will contact writer if not writer will make contact with him on first day shift, [Monday] June 7th.” In the meantime, Sgt. Poirier checked the Canadian Firearms Registry Online (CFRO) for any possible weapons registered to the perpetrator. The CFRO provides law enforcement access to firearms license information, license statuses, and firearms registration information for Canadians. Nothing came up in Sgt. Poirier’s CFRO database search, meaning the perpetrator did not have a license to acquire or possess firearms and had not registered any guns. Lisa Banfield again told Sgt. Poirier there were no weapons at the Portland Street address. Sgt. Poirier noted that he still needed “to have a face to face with Mr. Wortman in order to satisfy the issue of whether or not a Public Safety Warrant would be required.”

- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at p. 48](#)

94. Sgt. Poirier next “completed an off-line search through the CFRO Police Help Line in Ottawa” on June 7, 2010, which turned up negative results. He concluded: “If Mr. Wortman has any weapons they are not registered.”

- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at p. 49](#)

95. On the morning of June 7, 2010, Sgt. Poirier visited 193 Portland Street again. The denture clinic was closed, and no one answered when he knocked on the residence door of the same building. On his way back to his police cruiser, Sgt. Poirier received a call on his cell phone from the perpetrator, who stated that he was calling from his cottage in the Bible Hill area, 200 Portapique Beach Road. The perpetrator said he was calling on his girlfriend’s cell phone, which showed as a blocked number. In his report, Sgt. Poirier summarized the call as follows:

Writer spoke to him about the incident and he would not get into much detail other than to say that he was very upset the night he called his uncle (Glynn Wortman) in Edmonton, and he had been drinking. He wouldn’t admit or deny that he made the [veiled] threat towards his parents to his uncle.

When asked if he was in possession of any firearms, he stated that the only guns he has [are] a pellet rifle, as well as 2 antique muskets that are in-operable and hanging on the wall at his Portapique Beach cottage.

He did advise writer that there are many issues going on with his parents and he would not go any further into that.

He stated that he has not had any contact with his parents in months.

He also advised writer that due to the stress with his family he has taken the next month off and will be staying at the Portapique Beach cottage as well as possibly driving to the USA with his girlfriend. His business will be closed until he returns, he stated that he will not be back in [D]artmouth for at least 3-4 weeks.

When writer advised him I would like to speak to him face to face he advised writer that he had nothing more to say to me and if I was going to charge him for the threats then go ahead and do so. With that he terminated the conversation.

- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at p. 49](#)

96. Sgt. Poirier made several attempts to contact Glynn Wortman in Edmonton to speak to him directly about his conversation with the perpetrator, but every time he got a computer-generated answering machine and Glynn did not return his calls. Sgt. Poirier also tried, unsuccessfully, to contact the original complainant, Paul Wortman, in Moncton by phone.

- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at pp. 49–50](#)

97. Sgt. Poirier spoke to Bible Hill RCMP member Cst. Greg Wiley, “who advised he is a friend of [the perpetrator].” Cst. Wiley told Sgt. Poirier he was “aware of the family situation of [the perpetrator] and the stress that it has been causing him.” Cst. Wiley said he had been to the perpetrator’s cottage in Portapique several times and had never seen a firearm. Cst. Wiley said he would try to meet with the perpetrator at his Portapique cottage to speak to him in relation to this complaint. In his interview with the Mass Casualty Commission in July 2021, Cst. Wiley said he “[found] it tricky that I would have even [–] and I’m not trying to distance myself from the guy [–] that I would have referred to [him] as a friend . . . I would have put it that I know the guy and I’ve got a fairly good handle on him from the contact I’ve had with him and he doesn’t come across as a violent guy to me.”

- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at p. 50](#)
- [Mass Casualty Commission interview of Cst. G. Wiley: COMM0015533 at pp. 52, 58](#)
- Note: More information about Cst. Greg Wiley’s relationship with the perpetrator can be found in the *Firearms* Foundational Document.

98. Sgt. Poirier advised Cst. Wiley that the main concern at that point in his investigation was whether the perpetrator had weapons at his cottage in Portapique. Sgt. Poirier told Cst. Wiley that if Cst. Wiley found any weapons at the perpetrator's cottage, they would be seized under a Public Safety Warrant.

- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at p. 50](#)

99. Sgt. Poirier wrote in his report that, due to the "in-direct and [veiled] nature" of the perpetrator's threat to kill his parents, and the additional information Sgt. Poirier had received throughout his investigation, he would not lay charges against the perpetrator for uttering threats. Sgt. Poirier decided the file would remain open until he spoke with Glynn Wortman in Edmonton, Paul Wortman in Moncton, and Cst. Wiley after his visit to the perpetrator's Portapique cottage. Sgt. Poirier added: "At this time the writer is satisfied that [the perpetrator] does not pose a threat to his parents. It is clear that due to stress, anger towards his parents in relation to land issues, and alcohol these comments were made."

- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at p. 50](#)

100. On June 8, 2010, Sgt. Poirier was able to get in touch with Paul Wortman ("the complainant") in Moncton and they spoke for about an hour. Sgt. Poirier summarized their conversation in his notes as follows:

[Paul] Wortman was advised that I was having problems getting in touch with his brother in Edmonton. He advised that his brother is an alcoholic and he and his two other brothers appear to have taken [the perpetrator's] side and they will no longer co-operate. He states his brother no longer will answer his phone and he only communicates with his other brothers by computer and the complainant does not have a computer. Writer advised him that unless I get co-operation from his brother Glynn in Edmonton the threat file will be closed. He understood.

Writer has made at least 6 attempts to contact Glynn in Edmonton without success.

The complainant was asked questions regarding the weapons he initially advised Codiak RCMP his son was in possession of and he is still convinced that his son still has the weapons in the cottage at 200 Portapique Beach Rd. He stated that the last time he saw the weapons they were in a storage closet next to the large fireplace in the cottage living room. Unfortunately the last time he saw them was over 5 years ago. Due to his poor relationship with his son he would have no idea if the son still has the weapons. Writer advised him that without recent knowledge a Public Safety Warrant could not be obtained.

- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at p. 51](#)

101. Later on June 8, 2010, Sgt. Poirier contacted Sgt. Tim Moser of the National Weapons Enforcement Support Team, which supports the RCMP on firearms investigations. Sgt. Moser “agreed that there was no [evidence] to secure a [Public Safety] Warrant” in relation to the perpetrator’s weapons. Sgt. Poirier noted that he was still waiting to hear back from Cst. Wiley “to establish whether or not Wortman has any weapons in his possessions [at] the cottage and if he does it will have to be dealt with by the RCMP.” Sgt. Poirier closed out his report for June 8 with a note that he contacted the Codiak detachment and spoke to Cpl. Tardiff, who was also aware of the file, and that he had advised her on the status of his investigation.

- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at p. 51](#)

102. On June 18, 2010, Sgt. Poirier entered a note in his report that he still had not heard back from Cst. Wiley as to whether the perpetrator had firearms at his cottage in Portapique. He added: “Will attempt to make contact with him. Extension required.” On June 23, 2010, HRP Sgt. Christina Martin granted Sgt. Poirier an extension to complete his investigation because he was “awaiting contact from parties involved.”

- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at pp. 52, 61](#)

103. On July 9, 2010, Sgt. Poirier added to his report that he had called Cst. Wiley, “who will be in work this evening,” and left a message requesting an update.

- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at p. 63](#)

104. On July 17, 2010, Sgt. Poirier spoke to Cst. Wiley and updated his file accordingly:

Writer spoke to Cst Greg Wiley, Bible Hill RCMP today and he has not spoken to [the perpetrator] to date. He states that he will attempt to speak to him in the next 2 days. He will get back to writer with the result.

Since last month writer has not received any further calls from the original complainants [Paul and Evelyn Wortman] which is an indication that their son [the perpetrator] has not had any contact with them since the incident was reported to Codiak RCMP in early June.

- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at p. 53](#)

105. After repeated unsuccessful attempt to contact Paul and Evelyn Wortman, Sgt. Poirier closed the HRP’s “uttering threats” file on the perpetrator on August 26, 2010. In his concluding report, he wrote that no further action was required on the file because there was “insufficient evidence to proceed at this time.” He explained:

Writer made several attempts to contact the complainant to see if [the perpetrator] has made any negative contact with them. Unable to get an answer unable to leave a message.

Since the complainant has not contacted writer since initial contact and Cst Wiley from Bible Hill was looking after speaking to [the perpetrator] to determine if any charges are to be laid there in their jurisdiction, no further action required on this HRP file.

File closed.

- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at pp. 54, 57](#)

106. On May 3, 2011, Sgt. Poirier learned from the Truro Police Service that the perpetrator had threatened to kill a police officer. This incident, including the fact that a warning about the perpetrator's threat to kill a police officer was distributed to law enforcement agencies in Nova Scotia through a Criminal Intelligence Service Nova Scotia (CISNS) Bulletin, is set out in more detail in the *Perpetrator's Violent Behaviour Towards Others* Foundational Document. When Sgt. Poirier learned about this second threat in 2011, he contacted Paul Wortman and added an entry to his 2010 report on the perpetrator's threat to kill his parents. Sgt. Poirier's May 4, 2011, update to his 2010 report stated in part:

I feel that this is a viable threat to police. I contacted [the perpetrator's] father (Paul Wortman) in Moncton and asked if he has seen or spoken to his son lately. Paul advised that he saw his son early in the year at a Hotel in Moncton where property was signed over to [the perpetrator]. The WORTMAN family is very disfunctional [*sic*] and Paul advised that he and his wife have not seen or spoken to [the perpetrator] since the hotel meeting.

Paul advised that he is very concerned about his son's mental state. [The perpetrator] is a heavy drinker, he is extremely intelligent and very wealthy and even though [Paul] does not associate with his son [Paul] feels that [the perpetrator] still has weapons in the Portapique cottage.

- [Profile for the perpetrator: COMM0003550 at p. 56](#)

107. In an interview with the Mass Casualty Commission on July 13, 2021, Cst. Wiley recalled that the perpetrator told him about a property-related dispute with his family in New Brunswick. After that, Cst. Wiley remembered receiving an email that "might have been that [CISNS officer safety bulletin]" that suggested the perpetrator was "pissed off with police" and had "threatened somebody or something out in New Brunswick." Cst. Wiley thought "it might have even been that [the perpetrator] was upset with the way the police handled [the family property dispute] or something like that." The email made Cst. Wiley "wonder how [the perpetrator] is towards police then and I didn't stop in [the perpetrator's] place."

- [Mass Casualty Commission interview of Cst. G. Wiley: COMM0015533 at pp. 43, 49-50](#)

108. In his RCMP interview on April 25, 2020, Cst. Wiley reported a slightly different version of events. He recalled receiving an email that may have said “just be aware, this guy uh... had a threats complaint from uh, made by relatives in New Brunswick and whether they said he could be a danger to police or a danger to whoever or wha- I’m – I’m not sure what the deal was, it was a heads-up. If you take a call out there, just – just be a little aware when you go to his place.” Cst. Wiley said, “I had stopped at his place after that . . . He was fine with me. Now, I was vigilant and he talked to me . . .” Cst. Wiley said he “had a visit or two” with the perpetrator before Cst. Wiley was transferred to another county. When describing his subsequent interactions with the perpetrator, Cst. Wiley stated that “at any time, even after these threat complaints had come in from New Brunswick and stuff and we’d got an email, [the perpetrator] was never unfriendly to me.”

- [Statement of Cst. G. Wiley: COMM0004021 at lines 358–403](#)

109. In his July 2021 interview with the Mass Casualty Commission, Cst. Wiley stated that he did not remember having a conversation with Sgt. Poirier in 2010. Cst. Wiley said it was possible he tried to contact the perpetrator at a time when the perpetrator was not at his Portapique cottage, because the perpetrator frequented that property irregularly. Cst. Wiley thought it was possible that he documented any contact attempts in his notebook. In a letter dated December 10, 2021, counsel for the RCMP advised that Cst. Wiley had searched his home but could not locate any such notes.

- [Mass Casualty Commission interview of Cst. G. Wiley: COMM0015533 at pp. 51, 53](#)
- [Letter from Lori Ward \(DOJ\), December 10, 2021: COMM0043057](#)

THE PERPETRATOR’S ADOPTED BROTHER

110. Jeff Samuelson is the perpetrator’s biological brother, who was placed for adoption by Paul and Evelyn as a baby in 1970.

- [Statement of Jeff Samuelson: COMM0006980 at lines 22–24](#)

111. After the mass casualty, the perpetrator’s aunt, Annette Wortman, told Csts. Burriss and Kershaw that the perpetrator was about two years old when Evelyn became pregnant with Jeff, and Paul said, “we’re not keeping that child.” Annette explained, “that’s Paul. He’s got to be controlling and he’s in charge.” She said that was how the perpetrator’s younger brother was given up for adoption.

- [Statement of Annette Wortman: COMM0008453 at lines 97–102](#)

112. Some information about Jeff Samuelson was provided to Cst. Shaw and Sgt. Firth of the RCMP by Bruce Estabrooks on April 27, 2020. Mr. Estabrooks grew up in Moncton, where he was a

neighbour of the perpetrator's paternal grandmother. Mr. Estabrooks was friends with the perpetrator's parents Paul and Evelyn Wortman until just before the mass casualty. Mr. Estabrooks last saw the perpetrator around 2010.

- [Statement of Bruce Estabrooks: COMM0008492 at lines 18–24, 43–44, 69–72, 141–5](#)

113. Mr. Estabrooks told Cst. Shaw and Sgt. Firth that the perpetrator's parents moved to the United States around 1970. While living in the United States the perpetrator's parents had another son, whom they gave up for adoption.

- [Statement of Bruce Estabrooks: COMM0008492 at lines 25–27](#)

114. Around 2010, the perpetrator's parents went to the United States and located the son they had given up for adoption. They developed a relationship with their son. At some point after that, the perpetrator met his brother. The perpetrator decided not to maintain contact with his brother.

- [Statement of Bruce Estabrooks: COMM0008492 at lines 27–39](#)

115. Mr. Estabrooks also told Cst. Shaw and Sgt. Firth that the perpetrator was angry at his parents for keeping his brother a secret. He had grown up as an only child and longed to have a brother or sister. Mr. Estabrooks thought this secret created a rift between the perpetrator and his parents.

- [Statement of Bruce Estabrooks: COMM0008492 at lines 39–43](#)

116. Jeff Samuelson found out Paul and Evelyn Wortman were his birth parents in 2010, and met them for the first time when he was about 40 years old. In his statement to RCMP Cst. Shaw after the mass casualty, he confirmed that the perpetrator was unaware that he had a brother before his parents connected with Mr. Samuelson in 2010. He described this revelation as a "major bombshell." He said that the perpetrator had a "horrendous upbringing" with no role models and parents who had "a thirteen year old adolescent maturity, both of them." He said the fact that his parents had kept him a secret "pretty much severed the relationships between [him and] Paul and Evelyn." He described the perpetrator as having a "deep hatred" for his parents.

- [Statement of Jeff Samuelson: COMM0006980 at lines 63–76](#)

117. The first and only time Mr. Samuelson met the perpetrator in person was in 2010. Mr. Samuelson was "shocked that [the perpetrator] didn't kill the parents" during the mass casualty. He added that "the old man is as dark as [the perpetrator] . . . the apples don't fall far from the tree." He added, "this could have been me up there if ah, you know, if I had grew up in an environment like [the perpetrator] did."

- [Statement of Jeff Samuelson: COMM0006980 at lines 31–34, 399](#)

118. Brenda and George Forbes were the perpetrator's neighbours in Portapique from 2002 until they moved away in 2014, in large part because of the perpetrator's aggressive and intimidating

behaviour towards Ms. Forbes. More information about this is set out in the *Perpetrator's Violent Behaviour Towards Others* Foundational Document. After the mass casualty, Mr. Forbes told Sgt. Firth and Cst. Mike Townsend that he and Ms. Forbes were at the perpetrator's house when the perpetrator's brother Jeff Samuelson and his wife Robin visited from the United States. According to Mr. Forbes, Mr. Samuelson said he and his wife decided not to have children because they "knew there was something wrong in the [Wortman family's] genetic makeup," and they did not want to "bring kids into the world who could actually have the [same problems]." Mr. Forbes believed Mr. Samuelson also said the perpetrator killed a kitten when he was a young child, and that the perpetrator was rough with animals.

- [Statement of George Forbes: COMM0006423 at lines 332–46](#)

119. Nancy Hudson, another neighbour of the perpetrator's in Portapique, told Csts. Burris and Kershaw in May 2020 that the perpetrator's mother used to visit him on the weekends when he first moved to Portapique in 2001 or 2002. Ms. Hudson heard that the perpetrator disowned his parents when he learned that he had a biological younger brother that his parents gave up for adoption and never told him about. Ms. Hudson did not see the perpetrator's mother visit him after he found out about his brother.

- [Statement of Nancy Hudson: COMM0011647 at line 319](#)

120. BD, who knew the perpetrator for 30 years after first meeting him at the University of New Brunswick, told S/Sgt. Vardy and Cst. Shaw of the RCMP in April 2020 that she was aware the perpetrator had a brother who had been placed for adoption and later reunited with his birth family. She said it really bothered the perpetrator that his parents raised him but not his brother. BD said the perpetrator was "very disappointed with his parents" and told his brother not to expect much of their parents.

- [Statement of BD: COMM0004082 at lines 145–56](#)

CONFLICT OVER TITLE TO GLYNN WORTMAN'S HOME

121. Angela Doucette lived in Truro and dated Richard Ellison, who was the perpetrator's neighbour in Portapique. Through Mr. Ellison and the perpetrator, Ms. Doucette became friends with the perpetrator's uncle Glynn Wortman. In May 2020, she provided information to Csts. Burris and Kershaw about the perpetrator's relationship with Glynn Wortman:

[The perpetrator] was polite, cordial, friendly. Um, he's always been that with – way with me although, on one occasion he wasn't and that was to do with his uncle [Glynn's] property; which I'm sure you're aware of. Um, when that was taking place, um, I had just begun to be friends with his uncle and he was telling me about [the perpetrator] wanting more money for the house and how he was actually gonna take him to court. So, I spoke to [the perpetrator] about it and he thought it was funny. He thought it was hilarious. He said, "Well, if anything else"

he said he'll "spend thousands of dollars to try to stop me" and then, shortly a couple months later, he dropped the suit. But he thought it was hilarious. And that – that was [the perpetrator] in a nutshell. No remorse, no guilt at all for anything. . . . I was taking care of [Glynn] at the time, I had just gotten back from burying my mother and I was at [the perpetrator's] shop across from [Glynn's] home there, and he come over and we were chit-chatting about whatever and he asked me how [Glynn] was and then he proceeded to tell me that I should take them for everything they had – or as much as I could get out of it because I had been taking care of [Glynn]. And ah, I was back [to him] at the time and I turned around and I looked at him and I said, "What did you just say?" And he's like, "Well, he's got lots of money. You can't do this for nothing" and I said, "This isn't why I'm doing it." I said, "Your uncle's on his death bed and you don't care and this isn't why I'm doing it. I have love [for] [Glynn], he's a great friend" and I said, "I think you better go home." And I could feel – I turned around again. I could feel him watching me and then he left.

- [Statement of Angela Doucette: COMM0010990 at lines 20–40](#)

122. Robert Doucette met the perpetrator in 2011 or 2012 in the Portapique area and worked as a contractor for the perpetrator on a casual basis until the time of the mass casualty. He lived in his trailer on the perpetrator's property for six months. In his interview with RCMP D/Cst. Anthony McGrath in April 2020, Mr. Doucette recounted the perpetrator's violent outbursts towards Lisa Banfield and his uncle Glynn Wortman. Mr. Doucette said the perpetrator tried to "worm his way" into getting Glynn's house around 2013 when Glynn was dying, but Glynn had already left the house to someone else in his will. When he found out, the perpetrator "just went right off one day. He had a, what was he driving. A Silver F-150. He smashed the fence. Big, big fence right along the front of that. He took that F-150 and just smashed the whole fucking fence right down. Like 80 feet of it. One post at a time. Smashing it down with the front of his truck. Like because his [uncle] wouldn't name him in his will. [The perpetrator's] got more money than anybody I know. Why he wanted that house, or that property, I have no idea. . . . But he just, he just lost it."

- [Statement of Robert Doucette, April 19, 2020: COMM0003048 at lines 247–84](#)

123. Donald Johnson met the perpetrator when he bought property in Portapique in August 2008. He and the perpetrator used to drink together and were friendly. On April 22, 2020, Mr. Johnson told RCMP Sgt. Dave Legge and Cst. Townsend that Glynn Wortman had said the perpetrator was "mentally abusive" towards him and financially manipulated him.

- [Statement of Donald Johnson, April 22, 2020: COMM0007065 at lines 301–28](#)

124. In May 2020, Neil Wortman told Csts. Kershaw and Burris that the perpetrator "tried to steal his uncle's [Glynn's] house" about four or five years ago. Neil was afraid the perpetrator might damage the house through arson, because Neil knew the perpetrator had a history of working

with incendiary devices and bombs as a young boy. Neil did not have contact with the perpetrator after this incident.

- [Statement of Neil Wortman: COMM0008450 at lines 63–65](#)

125. Brenda and George Forbes described the perpetrator's relationship with his uncle Glynn to the RCMP after the mass casualty. On April 23, 2020, Mr. Forbes told Sgt. Firth and Cst. Townsend that the perpetrator manipulated Glynn. In May 2020, Ms. Forbes recounted to Sgt. Colin Kuca and Cpl. Andrew Olford a report she said she made to the RCMP in 2013 regarding an assault on Lisa Banfield by the perpetrator that Glynn Wortman had witnessed. Ms. Forbes said Glynn told her the perpetrator had told him he had killed someone in the United States, and Glynn was worried the perpetrator would kill him if Glynn said anything to the RCMP about the assault. These events, including the 2013 notes of responding RCMP member Cst. Troy Maxwell and the RCMP's internal investigation in 2020 to locate a record of the original complaint, are outlined in the *Perpetrator's Violence Towards His Common-Law Spouse* Foundational Document. In his interview with the Mass Casualty Commission on April 29, 2022, Cst. Maxwell recalled that Ms. Forbes told him her neighbour was driving around the neighbourhood in an "old, decommissioned police car" in an unsafe manner. Cst. Maxwell's notes from 2013 do not record that Ms. Forbes reported intimate partner violence or possession of firearms to the RCMP.

- [Statement of George Forbes: COMM0006423 at p. 4.](#)
- [Mass Casualty Commission interview of Brenda and George Forbes: COMM0003883 at p. 3](#)
- [Statement of Brenda Forbes, May 14, 2020: COMM0011718 at lines 860–75](#)
- [Statement of Brenda Forbes, April 22, 2020: COMM0004004 at lines 40–51](#)
- [Mass Casualty Commission interview of Cst. T. Maxwell: COMM0057751 at p. 6](#)
- [Handwritten notes of Cst. T. Maxwell, July 6, 2013: COMM0011709](#)

BREAKDOWN IN THE PERPETRATOR'S RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS PARENTS

126. On April 21, 2020, Chris Wortman told Cpl. MacLeod that the perpetrator "never had a great relationship with his father, Paul" but "kind of tolerated his mother." Over the last 10 years or longer, however, Chris said the perpetrator "did not have any kind of relationship with his mother and father." Chris thought this stemmed from the perpetrator's childhood, and that the perpetrator was upset with his parents for keeping his brother Jeff Samuelson a secret. Chris said the perpetrator was "pretty bitter about that" and as a result he and his parents "didn't have a great relationship" and "didn't communicate a whole lot." It was a "very strained" relationship and the perpetrator was a "lone wolf."

- [Statement of Chris Wortman, April 21, 2020: COMM0003405 at lines 154–91](#)

127. In May 2020, Paul Wortman told Csts. Burris and Kershaw that he and Evelyn last spoke to the perpetrator four years before the mass casualty in Halifax around 2016. According to Paul, the

perpetrator told Evelyn he did not want to see either of his parents again. The perpetrator did not say why. Paul said he and Evelyn had no contact with the perpetrator after that.

- [Statement of Paul Wortman: COMM0008458 at p. 6](#)

128. According to Neil Wortman, a few years before the mass casualty the perpetrator told his parents he did not want to talk to either one of them ever again, and if one of his parents died he did not want the survivor to let him know. It is unclear if Neil Wortman was referring to the conversation between the perpetrator and Evelyn Wortman in approximately 2016. Neil Wortman did not tell the RCMP how he came to know about this statement by the perpetrator.

- [Statement of Neil Wortman: COMM0008450 at lines 163–4](#)

129. In her first statement to RCMP Cst. Terry Brown on the morning of April 19, 2020, Lisa Banfield said the perpetrator was not close to his family. She said “a lot of bad crap went on throughout the years.” As a result, the perpetrator had “disowned them.”

- [Statement of Lisa Banfield, April 19, 2020: COMM0002948 at lines 653–65](#)

130. In her statement to RCMP members S/Sgt. Vardy and Cst. Firth on April 28, 2020, Lisa Banfield said the perpetrator had been estranged from his family since the property dispute in 2010:

[I]t's been over ten years and he said, you know, they're dead to me. He, he told them don't call me. Once he got his money back from the house um, he never had anything more to do with them. And if they called, like, he would hang up, he wouldn't have nothing to do with them or talk to them and told them if one uh, one or either of them died, he doesn't care, doesn't want to know and that was it. And even, like, his uncle Chris, like, we started to get close with them and, out of all of them, I liked Margy and Chris, they seemed the most normal. Um, but he didn't want to have nothing to do with them because Chris connected back with Paul, which is his brother and [the perpetrator] didn't, like, [the perpetrator] felt betrayed that after all the years that he knew what he did to him and he chose to be with his brother. So, [the perpetrator] just cut that off too. So, his whole family, he just cut out of his life, period. He said none of them can do anything for me. I don't want anything from them and that was it.

- [Statement of Lisa Banfield, April 28, 2020: COMM0004070 at lines 1343–53](#)

131. Lisa Banfield's sister Maureen Banfield told HRP members Cst. Penfound and D/Cst. Lynch on April 19, 2020, that the perpetrator was “totally estranged from his family. He didn't have any siblings up until a few years ago he was ah, cold cocked to say that.” She emphasized that the perpetrator was “estranged from his parents, didn't want them. He said I don't want them to have my money, like I don't want them on anything.”

- [Statement of Maureen Banfield: COMM0003019 at lines 54–60, 681–3](#)

132. Jill Sutherland was the perpetrator's neighbour in Portapique. She told RCMP Sgt. Derek Blanche and Cpl. David Lane on April 22, 2020, that the perpetrator "hated his dad with a passion."

- [Statement of Jill Sutherland: COMM0006508](#)

133. Leigh Corporon met the perpetrator 10 or 15 years before the mass casualty. Mr. Corporon did work for the perpetrator at his denture clinic, such as painting and making signs. When he was interviewed by RCMP Cst. Hubert Martin on April 20, 2020, Mr. Corporon said the perpetrator was not nice to his mother, and that he threw her out of his house when she came to him asking for money.

- [Statement of Leigh Corporon: COMM0004163 at lines 458–71](#)

OTHER OBSERVATIONS OF THE PERPETRATOR BY FAMILY MEMBERS AND ACQUAINTANCES

134. In May 2020, Glynn Wortman told Csts. Burris and Kershaw that the perpetrator was like his father in a few ways, including that he did not have a lot of friends and did not trust people. Glynn also stated that the perpetrator abused Lisa Banfield like Paul abused Evelyn. Glynn once witnessed the perpetrator choking Lisa Banfield and told him to get off her. More information about this is set out in the *Perpetrator's Violence Towards His Common-Law Spouse* Foundational Document. That was the last time Glynn spoke to the perpetrator.

- [Statement of Glynn Wortman: COMM0008447 at lines 152–74, 544–6](#)

135. On another occasion, Glynn Wortman went on a ski trip in Wentworth with the perpetrator and Lisa Banfield. They were drinking into the night and Lisa went to the counter to get another round. She began talking to a man in line. The perpetrator became very angry, ran over to Lisa, and dragged her out of the line, saying "we're out of here." The perpetrator "drove like a maniac the whole trip home to Portapique" and Glynn said when two dogs ran out into the street, "I think he ran over them both. He never slowed down. He never stopped."

- [Statement of Glynn Wortman: COMM0008447 at lines 101–12](#)

136. Glynn Wortman said the perpetrator had a Doberman Pinscher dog and used to sic the dog on Glynn, forcing Glynn to run around the house to escape the dog. He was scared to death. Glynn said the dog was big and "it was a nice dog but they made it vicious" by teaching it to chase him. Glynn said the perpetrator learned this behaviour from Paul. There was a dog in the neighbourhood that Paul did not like because it was always barking, "so he picked the dog up, took it in the car, took it out into the country and let it loose. The dog found its way home. I don't know how it did it. Smart dog. But the people knew that Paul took their dog and called the cops. Paul got into shit over that. But I mean [the perpetrator] seen this kind of action."

- [Statement of Glynn Wortman: COMM0008447 at lines 466–88](#)

137. Glynn Wortman also told Csts. Burris and Kershaw that the perpetrator liked to show off his guns and once invited Glynn to shoot rats with him at a dump for fun.

- [Statement of Glynn Wortman: COMM0008447 at lines 357–77](#)

138. As for other family relationships, Glynn Wortman said the perpetrator never liked his uncle Alan, or any of the Wortmans except Chris. He added that the perpetrator “used to love me but then he took a turn. He thought I was after his girlfriend.” Glynn said Alan and Neil never liked the perpetrator.

- [Statement of Glynn Wortman: COMM0008447 at lines 411–16](#)

139. Glynn Wortman said the perpetrator “could not handle his beer” and that when the perpetrator drank he “turned into a bugger,” “went off his stick,” “got mean and ignorant. . . . Really mean. Evil looking,” and was both verbally and physically abusive.

- [Statement of Glynn Wortman: COMM0008447 at lines 620–39](#)

140. Glynn Wortman suspected that the mass casualty began with the perpetrator drinking beer:

DB: Mm-mm. But like having watched all that and, and kind of seeing how things rolled out, ah, can you, can you provide any insight as to why [the perpetrator] did what he did? And how he went about doing it?

GW: Well he couldn't have drank the whole time but it started out with him drinking beer.

DB: Okay.

GW: He goes off - - he went off his nut when he drank beer. And every once in a while he would stop drinking and everybody liked him.

DB: Right.

GW: He's a very likable guy, you know?

DB: Right.

GW: But when he drank beer he went off his nut.

BK: Yeah.

GW: He was unbearable.

- [Statement of Glynn Wortman: COMM0008447 at lines 924–36](#)

141. Chris Wortman left New Brunswick at age 19 when he joined the RCMP. He lost contact with the perpetrator for many years, until around 2014 when Chris retired from the RCMP and moved back east. The perpetrator and Lisa Banfield visited Chris and his wife a couple of times between 2014 and 2017. About three years before the mass casualty, Chris did not feel comfortable being around the perpetrator anymore because the perpetrator was an alcoholic and “not a friendly drunk.” Chris saw the perpetrator become “very, very aggressive and kind of scary” after drinking and did not want to see him in that shape again. Chris added that he was also uncomfortable because the perpetrator associated with “shady characters” and criminals, and Chris knew the perpetrator “was involved in some illegal activities” and “operated on the other side of the law.”

- [Statement of Chris Wortman, April 21, 2020: COMM0003405 at lines 11–41, 50–68, 191–208](#)

142. On April 21, 2020, Chris Wortman told RCMP Cpl. MacLeod that the perpetrator “didn’t get along with too many of the family members” and that other family members “didn’t approve of his activities.” Chris said the perpetrator did not get along with Chris’s brothers (the perpetrator’s uncles) Neil and Alan, and was friendliest with Glynn, though the perpetrator and Glynn had a falling out due to financial disputes about a house.

- [Statement of Chris Wortman, April 21, 2020: COMM0003405 at lines 139–54](#)

143. Alan Wortman left home when he was 15 years old. He came home for the summers to play baseball until he was 18 years old. He joined the RCMP and served for 35 years. He was never aware of any interest in the RCMP or police by the perpetrator. He heard stories about the perpetrator from Glynn, including that he got through university by smuggling drugs and cigarettes with the help of the perpetrator’s father.

- [Statement of Alan Wortman, May 1, 2020: COMM0006909 at lines 190–201, 209–40, 281–7, 1192–3](#)

144. David McGrath, who was Maureen Banfield’s long-term partner at the time of the mass casualty, told HRP Sgt. Fitzpatrick on April 19, 2020, that the perpetrator was always kind to him and Maureen. However, Mr. McGrath said he saw “the other side of him and he makes me nervous.” As a result, when the Banfield sisters made a plan in 2019 that they would retire and move to Portapique together, Mr. McGrath did not want to move closer to the perpetrator. He told Maureen the perpetrator was a “sociopath” and a “loose cannon. And if he turns on you, and I’ve seen him turn on people, it’s not good.” In a statement after the mass casualty, Mr. McGrath told the HRP the perpetrator had guns and could be violent.

- [Statement of David McGrath: COMM0003005 at lines 243–67](#)

145. In her interview with HRP D/Cst. Lake on April 20, 2020, Lisa Banfield’s sister Janice Banfield described the perpetrator as “a psychopath or a sociopath, he’s a narcissist.” She did not like the

perpetrator and knew he abused Lisa. She said the Banfield family tolerated the perpetrator because "Lisa chose to be with him and we love Lisa and we want to be with Lisa." Janice Banfield said "[Lisa] loved [the perpetrator] even as – as much of an asshole as he was to her and could be. Like there's times that he could be [–] there's this little boy in him that's so injured and he – he grew up in a very abuse – very – very abusive family."

- [Statement of Janice Banfield: COMM0003036 at lines 121–37](#)

146. Stephanie Goulding, Lisa Banfield's niece, was close with Lisa and socialized with the perpetrator whenever she visited Lisa. The last time Ms. Goulding saw the perpetrator was at a New Year's Eve party in late December 2019. In her statement to D/Cst. Matthew Guest and D/Cst. Jeff Nicholson of the HRP on April 19, 2020, Ms. Goulding said the perpetrator "verbally and physically abused" Lisa and that "he had some alcohol problems."

- [Statement of Stephanie Goulding: COMM0004407 at lines 72–107](#)

147. George Forbes, who was the perpetrator's neighbour in Portapique from 2002 to 2014, told RCMP Cst. Townsend and Sgt. Firth he knew Lisa Banfield wanted to have an animal but the perpetrator would not allow it. She also wanted to have children, but the perpetrator did not want children. Mr. Forbes did not specify whether he knew this information from Lisa Banfield or another source.

- [Statement of George Forbes: COMM0006423 at lines 346–8](#)

148. Renée Karsten is a denturist who met the perpetrator at denturist school around 1997 and later worked for him at his clinic. In her statement to S/Sgt. Vardy and Cst. Shaw in May 2020, she said the perpetrator told her he never wanted to have children because he did not want to produce any more Wortmans. Instead, he wanted to end the Wortman legacy.

- [Statement of Renée Karsten: COMM0010163 at lines 155–7](#)

FAMILY MEMBERS' CONCERNS DURING THE MASS CASUALTY

149. In his May 2020 statement to Csts. Burris and Kershaw, after recounting stories about the perpetrator's upbringing and the history of violence in the Wortman family, Neil Wortman told the RCMP he thought the perpetrator might have been the active shooter he heard about on the news during the mass casualty:

So this, these are all stories that I've heard about [the perpetrator]. So I was really - - when I, when I heard there was an active shooter in Portapique I kind of sort of laughed and said Jesus I wonder if that could be [the perpetrator]. My God! I was joking. And then it turns out it was. And it, it, I can believe it. I mean I have to believe it. But I never thought [it] would get to that.

- [Statement of Neil Wortman: COMM0008450 at lines 92–96](#)

150. David McGrath, Maureen Banfield's long-term partner at the time of the mass casualty, told RCMP Sgt. Fitzpatrick on April 19, 2020, that when he learned about the mass casualty he thought the perpetrator might go to New Brunswick, where his parents were: "When they asked me where I thought he was going to go, and I said well, I don't know what happened but, it was obviously the parents in New Brunswick that you might, and I don't know where they live, and I don't know their, their name." Other family members who knew about the perpetrator's 2010 threat to kill his parents also thought the perpetrator would target his parents in Moncton, New Brunswick, during the mass casualty. For example, Lisa Banfield's sister Brenda Brewster told RCMP Cst. MacMullin and HRP D/Cst. Wagg on April 19, 2020, that when she first learned about the mass casualty, she thought the perpetrator was going to New Brunswick. During the mass casualty, the RCMP came to Paul and Evelyn Wortman's house around 5:00 a.m. on April 19, 2020, to take Paul and Evelyn to another location for their safety.

- [Statement of David McGrath: COMM0003005 at lines 580–3](#)
- [Statement of Brenda Brewster: COMM0004402 at lines 94–111](#)
- [Statement of Paul Wortman: COMM0008458 at lines 7–13](#)

151. During the mass casualty, Neil Wortman and his wife Annette were worried the perpetrator might target them. When they heard the perpetrator's name on the news, Neil said he knew that if there was a "hit list" his name would be on it. Neil immediately called the RCMP detachment in Shediac, New Brunswick, to say he and Annette were leaving their home because they thought the perpetrator could be on his way to their house. Neil and Annette also knew from stories Glynn told them over the years that the perpetrator owned many guns. They left their house that weekend for their safety.

- [Statement of Neil Wortman: COMM0008450 at lines 100–2](#)

FAMILY MEMBERS' STATEMENTS AND OTHER RECORDS ABOUT THE PERPETRATOR'S MENTAL HEALTH

152. After the mass casualty, the perpetrator's uncle Glynn Wortman told Csts. Burris and Kershaw that the perpetrator "should never have ended up a killer." Glynn suggested that the perpetrator's upbringing and the perpetrator's father Paul Wortman were the keys to understanding the mass casualty. Glynn stated that the perpetrator's mental health was "warped" because mental health issues ran in the family:

He was warped because when he was young his, his father was, my father was a looney bin, my grandfather was nuts, the whole god damn Wortman crew is nuts.

...

. . . you have to include Paul and Evelyn when you talk about [the perpetrator]. They used to come to my mother's place screaming. They were so loud. The three of them would be screaming. . . . [They were] just wild.

- [Statement of Glynn Wortman: COMM0008447 at lines 431–5, 446–62, 752, 767–9](#)

153. In his statement to Csts. Burris and Kershaw after the mass casualty, Paul Wortman speculated that the perpetrator had thoughts of suicide:

PW: I – I know and you know.. he knew, he was gonna die. That was a way, of committing suicide.

DB: Tell – tell me what you mean by that.

PW: You don't go shooting people and expect to get away with it, my son was not dumb.

DB: No.

PW: Do you understand what I'm saying?

BK: I do.

DB: Absolutely-

PW: He knew what he was doing and he knew he was gonna die, why he had to do what he did he probably didn't have the guts to click one off. I don't, there's other ways to kill yourself without shooting yourself, I know a couple. You can do it painlessly.

DB: But what – why the carnage in between, like I understand what you're saying Mr. WORTMAN-

PW: But why that I have no idea, that's the point.

- [Statement of Paul Wortman: COMM0008458 at p. 46](#)

154. On April 21, 2020, Chris Wortman told RCMP Cpl. MacLeod that the perpetrator was "an alcoholic," and that Chris had spoken to the perpetrator about alcohol use and addiction on several occasions:

[The perpetrator was] an alcoholic . . . and he, I remember one time at their place in Portapique um, Lisa . . . she brought that up at the dinner table um, because she was trying [to] convince [the perpetrator] this was something that he should be looking into. And um, so I, I volunteered what I, what I knew about the, about alcoholism and, and addiction and ah, so after that he would, I always talked to him on the phone and he'd say yeah I know, I've quit and sometimes it would be a few months, sometimes it would be almost a year but eventually he always went back and ah, ah, he was not a friendly a drunk, I, I only saw him once like

that and ah, I knew that um, I didn't ever want to, ever, ever wanted to see him in that kind of shape again. He, he becomes very, very aggressive and ah, kind of scary. . . . he's definitely got two sides to him . . .

- [Statement of Chris Wortman, April 21, 2020: COMM0003405 at lines 33–43](#)

155. In his second statement to the RCMP on April 28, 2020, Chris Wortman said he “knew [the perpetrator] was always capable of killing somebody or [doing] serious harm, but not to this extent.” Chris told the RCMP that the perpetrator “had a horrible upbringing from a very dysfunctional family. And, um, never sought help ... and ... [f]ell through the cracks.”

- [Statement of Chris Wortman, April 28, 2020: COMM0051420 at pp. 54, 61](#)

156. According to the perpetrator's Nova Scotia Medical Services Insurance patient history from 1996 to January 2020, the perpetrator saw doctors for a range of health issues. He saw a family doctor named Dr. David Sanders between 2001 and 2016, and during this time, the term listed under the column “Diag Name” is “ac rxn stress disturb emotions.” When the perpetrator visited Dr. Sanders on October 16, 2003, Dr. Sanders recorded in his notes that the perpetrator had “some anxiety – break up relationship.” When the perpetrator saw Dr. Sanders on June 2, 2010, Dr. Sanders noted that the perpetrator was “very angry, upset about parents.” Dr. Sanders also noted that the perpetrator “wants to take time off work and go to cottage”. Dr. Sanders took the perpetrator's blood pressure reading and prescribed medication to reduce high blood pressure. During a later visit on June 29, 2010, Dr. Sanders wrote that the perpetrator had an “[e]xcellent response. Has cooled down a lot.”

- [MSI Patient History: COMM0000024](#)
- [Medical records of \[the perpetrator\] from Dr. Sanders: COMM0059097, at pp. 11, 13](#)

157. Between 1996 and 2000, the perpetrator was treated by a family doctor named Dr. Peter MacAulay. In 2000, Dr. MacAulay referred the perpetrator to a psychiatrist named Dr. Douglas Maynes, who saw him four times. For these visits, the term listed under the column “Diag Name” is “narcissistic personality.”

- [MSI Patient History: COMM0000024](#)

158. The perpetrator also went to a family practice clinic called Fall River Family Practice twice in 2009 and from 2018 to 2020. In June 2009, he saw Dr. Cynthia Forbes, whose notes indicate he was seeking treatment for hypertension. The notes also indicate that he was worried about his liver and asked for an ultrasound. He reported a “history of alcoholism,” that he had quit in the past for a year, that he drank 12 beers a day, five days a week, and did not think he would have trouble “weaning himself off alcohol” but that he wanted to wait until later in the summer. Dr. Forbes suggested that he see a psychologist to help him deal with stress, but “he wasn't interested at this point.” In 2018, the notes from the Fall River Family Practice indicate that Dr. Forbes “agreed to take him back in June 2018.” According to the Medical Services Insurance patient history, from

June 2018 to January 2020 the only medical treatment the perpetrator received were seven visits with Dr. Forbes and her colleague Dr. Elaine Davies for “benign essential hypertension.”

- [Medical records from Fall River Family Practice: COMM0040546](#)
- [MSI Patient History: COMM0000024](#)