

NOTICE OF FILING

Details of Filing

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Registry:	NEW SOUTH WALES REGISTRY - FEDERAL COURT OF AUSTRALIA

Registrar

Important Information

This Notice has been inserted as the first page of the document which has been accepted for electronic filing. It is now taken to be part of that document for the purposes of the proceeding in the Court and contains important information for all parties to that proceeding. It must be included in the document served on each of those parties.

The date of the filing of the document is determined pursuant to the Court's Rules.

Form 59
Rule 29.02(1)

Affidavit of Joanne MacInnes

NSD 1727 of 2025

Federal Court of Australia
District Registry: New South Wales
Division: General

Charlotte MacInnes

Applicant

Rebel Wilson

Respondent

Affidavit of: **Joanne MacInnes**

Address:



Occupation: Retired Caterer; now part-time Pilates Instructor

Date: 10 December 2025

I, Joanne MacInnes, say on oath:

Background

1. I am Charlotte MacInnes' mother.
2. Charlotte grew up as an only child in the beautiful coastal town of Albany on the Western Australian South Coast. It was a perfect playground for a free spirited, adventurous, creative child like Charlotte. She spent a lot of time with her grandmother and they still have a very close bond, as do Charlotte and I. Her natural musical talent was nurtured and developed by some amazing teachers at both Albany Primary School and Great Southern Grammar. Charlotte has always been driven to achieve. From a young age, she worked tirelessly to achieve her goals both academically and artistically.



DAVID BRUCE BICKFORD



Filed on behalf of (name & role of party) Charlotte MacInnes, Applicant

Prepared by (name of person/lawyer) Patrick George

Law firm (if applicable) Giles George

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[Form approved 01/08/2011]

3. We have a large group of friends and would frequently go to each other's houses for dinner parties and social gatherings. The kids were always included. All of our friends knew Charlotte and were so supportive of her creative pursuits. They would come to watch her performances, whether it was in a circus, jazz band or a stage musical. They have avidly followed her career and rejoiced at her successes.
4. Being accepted to study at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) at 17 years old was a testament to her achievements and was widely celebrated by the whole Albany community who knew Charlotte.
5. Prior to September 2024, Charlotte had a reputation amongst the circles in which I mixed in Albany as a talented hardworking girl who was on her way to making a name for herself in the film and music industries. All our family and friends were incredibly proud of her. She was respected for the way she always knew what she wanted to do and for working tirelessly to improve her skills. She was very disciplined and gained amazing results. She was known as a very honest person of great integrity. [REDACTED]

The Deb

6. Charlotte was cast as Maeve in the film 'The Deb' in late 2022. She had played the same part in the stage production by the Australian Theatre for Young People in 2022.
7. Charlotte was in Albany when she learned she had been offered the role of Maeve in The Deb stage musical in late 2021. She was overjoyed and we were so proud. Being cast in the same role in the film just over a year later was celebrated by everyone who knew her. We were all very excited for her future.
8. She was very excited to be cast in the film role as it was the recognition she deserved for her talent and potential as an actor and singer. She had loved working on the stage version of The Deb, and was proud of the work she and others had done on it, and she was looking forward to bringing her character to life on the big screen with a first-time female director.
9. When Charlotte was cast in the film, she was living in our family home in Albany in Western Australia. She travelled to Sydney via Brisbane in early September 2023. She had to attend to pre-records for the film before the filming started in October 2023 in country New South Wales.
10. Charlotte told me that one of the producers of the film, Amanda Ghost, who she had met several times in Sydney at the end of 2022 during auditions and in London in mid 2023, had invited her to stay in a production apartment at Bondi Beach during the period prior to filming so that she did not have to travel back and forth to Western Australia. I thought this was a good solution.

J. Macdonald

[Signature]
DAVID BRUCE BICKFORD
[REDACTED]

11. On 30 November 2023, I flew to Sydney to stay with Charlotte for a week. I went to Disney Studios where filming was taking place. I had lunch with some of the cast. Whilst I was in Sydney, I had some discussions with crew members, including runners, who all spoke very highly of Charlotte. They told me they loved her and enjoyed working with her. I was so proud of her.

2024

12. In March 2024, [REDACTED] Charlotte was cast in the stage musical 'Gatsby' which rehearsed in New York and was performed in Boston. This was another great opportunity for her and she was very excited.
13. In June 2024, Charlotte phoned me and said that Rebel had accused Amanda of inappropriate behaviour towards her.
14. In July 2024, I saw Rebel's Instagram post about the producers refusing to release the Film for the Toronto International Film Festival and saying that Amanda had acted inappropriately toward the lead actress in the Film.
15. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].
16. In mid-August 2024, I became aware of a link to a malicious website using Amanda's name. I viewed the "amandaghost.com" website. I recall it claimed that the lead actress from the film had been cast by Amanda in the musical Gatsby as a reward for staying silent about the sexual harassment toward her.
17. I know how hard Charlotte had worked to get the role in Gatsby and she deserved it. She told me that she was devastated by that lie. At the time, although she told me that she suspected Rebel was behind the website, because it was anonymous, she thought nothing could be done about it.
18. Charlotte told me that she was concerned about people believing that Amanda had sexually harassed her and that was how she got the role in Gatsby.
19. At around this time, she decided to make a public statement in response to the allegations in the malicious websites about her.
20. On 23 September 2024, an article was published in The Daily Mail with Charlotte's response to some of the lies in the malicious websites.

Publications

23 September 2024 Post

21. On about 23 September 2024, I saw Rebel's post about Charlotte. I believe I saw it the day it was posted.

J. H. [Signature]

[Signature]
DAVID BRUCE BICKFORD
[REDACTED]
10/25

22. I thought it was suggesting that Charlotte was someone who would use her sexuality to progress her career and that she was lying about it to protect Amanda and Gregor.
23. I saw the negative effect this had on Charlotte's physical and mental health and felt helpless to prevent it.
24. Charlotte and I discussed the post around the time it was published. We discussed how Rebel was really doubling down on her allegations even though Charlotte had repeatedly denied saying anything to Rebel about being uncomfortable. Charlotte told me that she felt voiceless against Rebel and what seemed to be turning into a public campaign against her. I recall Charlotte said to me words to the effect that "Even if 0.1 percent of her followers hate me, that is still 11,000 people, and I don't have a voice against it". Charlotte felt that she was being used as a pawn in some bigger dispute about money between other people. She was also confused about why she was being targeted by Rebel in this way. She had worked so hard for the role in Gatsby, and she could not understand why she was being called a liar and demeaned for her efforts to progress her career after The Deb.
25. This post had a huge emotional toll on Charlotte. She said she thought it was ridiculing her and dismissing her talent. She said she thought it was reducing her to her youth and her sexuality, suggesting that she was using those traits and qualities as a bargaining chip, to get ahead in her career. [REDACTED]
26. Many of our friends and family were shocked about Charlotte being named in the publication.
27. On 28 August 2024, this story was rehashed on the Channel 7 news. I saw a photo of Charlotte, with her name and the caption "Defamation Drama: Actress at centre of Rebel Wilson legal troubles has been revealed". I was horrified to see my beautiful innocent daughter on the TV for all the wrong reasons.
28. At some stage in either late 2024 or early 2025, when Charlotte was in Albany we were at a local boutique and while Charlotte was trying on a dress in the change rooms, I had a discussion with the sales associate. She brought up Rebel's allegations. She said words to the effect "Well, Rebel Wilson is a lawyer so she wouldn't say these things if there wasn't some truth in it".
29. I did not tell Charlotte about this conversation until recently as I did not want to further upset her. When I told her about it, she was really upset [REDACTED]

John Edwards

[Signature]
 DAVID BRUCE BICKFORD
 [REDACTED]
 10/23

16 May 2025 Post

30. On about 16 May 2025 I saw a post on the Instagram account for The Deb (@thedebfilm). I believe I saw it the day it was posted.

31.

[REDACTED]

32. I spoke to Charlotte at length after this. She was very upset that a wonderful experience had been reduced to a slanderous post.

33.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] she told me she felt she was breaking down.

34. Charlotte expressed to me that she felt like every time she tried to move forward, she was being ridiculed and stomped on by Rebel. She felt defeated, and that nothing that she did publicly was being allowed to happen without being undermined by Rebel. She felt that it was dishonest and vindictive for Rebel to suggest she was responsible for The Deb not being released, and she felt that it was orchestrated to instill fear in her and others about coming out against Rebel.

25 July 2025 Post

35. On 25 July 2025, I saw another post on Rebel's Instagram account. I believe I saw it the day it was posted.

36.

[REDACTED]

37. Charlotte and I discussed this post. I observed that the ongoing posts were further wearing Charlotte down and making her feel like a smaller and smaller person.

38. Charlotte has also expressed to me that she has become somewhat numb because of the ongoing repeated publications by Rebel and her attempts to wield her fame and power over Charlotte.

60 Minutes

39. I watched the 60 Minutes interview of Rebel on Channel 9 in Australia as did most of my friends and family in Australia.

40.

[REDACTED]

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

(2025)



41. [Redacted]

42. When Charlotte saw the 60 Minutes interview, she was horrified to think that she had been exposed as 'a victim' and a liar to the entirety of Australia. The fact that Charlotte knew that people she knew had watched 60 Minutes made her feel extremely vulnerable.

43. The program was a huge topic of discussion in Albany. A number of people mentioned the program to me and had watched it. There was heavy promotion of the program in the week leading up to it airing. Around every second set of advertisements on Channel 9 contained a promotion of the 60 Minutes interview.

44. I arranged for Charlotte to fly home from London in the week following the interview as I knew she needed to be in her safe space with people who loved her unconditionally. She arrived back in Australia on around 26 November 2025. I was shocked and dismayed when I picked her up at the airport. She was thin, anxious and nervous - so unlike the positive fearless Charlotte I know. We then drove the four and a half hours back to Albany and she was withdrawn and often teary. During the car ride, she was clearly very fragile and exhausted.

45. Since she has been at home, she has not wanted to go out as I believe she has been frightened that people would be judging and gossiping about her. She is paranoid that people will look at her strangely and that she will have awkward interactions with others.

46. Usually, Charlotte and I would go to the gym together, go out to eat, and go on hikes together but she does not seem to have the same energy.

47. [Redacted]


48. She has expressed to me that she is frustrated people seem to avoid discussing this situation with her. She feels she cannot work out whether they believe the truth of the publications and whether that is why they will not directly raise them with her.

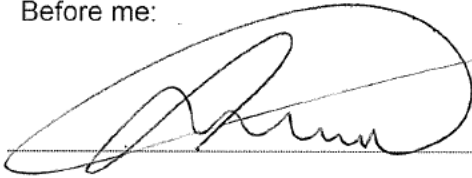
J. Hardman

[Signature] [Redacted] *WASS*

- 49. I believe the stress of the Publications has become very overwhelming and a saddening constant in her life. She feels instinctively that people are against her and the pressure of clearing her name is undeniably heavy.
- 50. In summary, since the first of the posts in September 2024 I, and other members of our family have watched Charlotte lose confidence in herself, worry about being watched or followed, and her wellbeing and happiness suffer immeasurably. She has spent most of her time and energy trying to clear her name personally and professionally. The injustice is colossal and the effects have been heartbreaking. Although Charlotte can be a very strong and resilient person, I fear the lies told in the Publications will haunt her.
- 51. [REDACTED]

Sworn by the deponent
 at ALBANY
 in Western Australia
 on 10 December 2025
 Before me:

)
)
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)
) Signature of deponent



Signature of witness


 _____ 10/12/25

Name and qualification of witness