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Letter to ATSDR:

December 22, 2000

To Whom It May Concern:

Enclosed you will find minute information that my wife and I feel is exclusively relevant to the Camp LeJeune Survey. I, William Mark Nelson, Social Security Number [REDACTED], do hereby give this to be an official testimony to the accounts that we know to be true.

I, of my own free will and accord, did volunteer for service in the United States Marine Corps on September [REDACTED], 1981. After completion of basic training, I was assigned, stationed, and ordered to report to Truck Co. HQ. BN. 2nd Mar. Div. Camp LeJeune, North Carolina 28542 and resided at the H-Style barracks from January, 1982, through July, 1982.

I married Erin Karee Nelson, Social Security Number [REDACTED], on August 14, 1982. On approximately August 16, 1982, we moved to 530-17 Rocky Run Road, Midway Park, North Carolina 28544. Our daughter, Misty Karee, Social Security Number [REDACTED], was conceived, carried and born while we lived there. We resided at this location until approximately September, 1984.

In late 1983, I was re-assigned to HQ. CO. HQ, BN. 2nd Mar. Div. Camp LeJeune, North Carolina 28542, to which I was assigned as one of seven tractor trailer drivers to support the 2nd Mar. Div. The relativity of this comes into play in the following explanation. I do remember being dispatched to a warehouse in approximately early 1984 on or around Center and Ash St. Camp LeJeune main side with a 40-foot flatbed to dispose and remove 50-gallon drums. The supply personnel were wearing blackish-gray or charcoal-colored gloves that covered their entire arms up to their shoulders, eye protection, and masks. This did obviously raise my curiosity! It was my understanding at the time through heresay and speculation that it was Agent Orange. However, as current events have unfolded, I do wonder if indeed this may have been (TEC)?

At this time, I have earnest concerns for all my fellow Marines and their families on the issue of drinking water contamination. For example, at my off-base residence, there was a well on the left-hand side at the corner of Rocky Run Road. In approximately late 1983, there were certain issues that did arise. [REDACTED] Also, we had a young female neighbor, who after having taken a bath, came running to my wife frantically. She showed my wife her private parts or genitalia that had swollen into grape-size blisters. After a series of events, my wife and the neighborhood ladies contacted the water department.

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A few days later, we personally observed the landlord pouring bags of chemicals into the well. During the next couple of weeks, my wife contacted the water department to find out the results of the test. Much to our dismay, the person who performed the test no longer worked there!

For those who are unconvinced of these accounts, I have no need to fabricate this testimony as I am already being compensated by the VA. Only after much dissuasion and exhaustion of all avenues of reproach and trying all means available, the truth prevailed!

I make this testimony solely out of the very leadership traits that were instilled in me through the Corps.—some of those traits being always faithful to God, country, and Corps.; honor; integrity; honesty; tact; bearing; and commitment. I am very grateful to our country. I am very grateful to have served her in the best service—the United States Marine Corps. Also, I am grateful that my country has after long hesitation done what is right in my personal situation. However, I am concerned for my fellow Marines who have put their lives on the line for our country.

I do hereby feel that the Camp LeJeune Survey should be opened up to all adults as well as children. This situation is at least gross negligence and at most malicious homicide.

Thank you for your time.

Yours respectfully,

William Mark Nelson

William Mark Nelson
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