

MAR 14 2005

DIVISION 6

Dear Judge Pelican,

I am writing to you today with the hopes of clarifying or bringing to light a couple of things in this case. I have not gotten too involved in the past for I had faith in the judicial system, however, I am seriously questioning just what it is that will truly make those who really count see the truth. In thinking about these things, I thought that maybe it would make a difference in letting you know.

First I am Paula Cappadona, paternal grandmother to James Griffin. I have helped raise this child since the age of 1 year until two years ago, when mother, Francis, asked me to assist her getting visitation taken away from father, Leonard. When I said I could not, but would continue being the stability in James' life, she immediately stopped us from seeing him and proceeded to do everything possible to get any and all communication taken from Leonard. This was in April 2003. In August 2003 she succeeded in finding a doctor (out of numerous) who finally agreed to medications that, in my opinion as well as others, would not be necessary if proper discipline, direction and nurturing (LOVE) were given.

This last time she tried anything, it ended up in your courtroom, again. At that point, a Dr. Mark Hoffman agreed to and was appointed as special advocate. He asked to meet with anyone involved in James' life. He called us, after meeting with mom, and we met with him. (At that point he had only met with Francis and James). He informed us that when he met with her, she had described herself to him as "white trash" and that James would be "bouncing violently off the walls" when the two of them met. He said that James was very calm and could not understand the medications, which would be one of the first things he checked into, and that James admitted to having said things so as not to anger his mother. Dr. Hoffman did want us to take James for a day here and there, for Francis told him in their first meeting that James loved us and missed us very much, said that we were very good to him and loved him. He then met with dad and had him take several two-hour tests. He also spoke with Maritta Goodman, James' therapist, and was told that James was doing worse (this was after James not seeing his father for two months). He also told us that he was going to visit Francis' home. He called me after the visit, very appalled and disgusted. He said that he had never seen a home in this condition; he said that there was trash, dirty dishes, dog feces, dirty laundry, broken glass in the children's rooms, etc. He also said that if he had called DHS at that time he would have been pulled off the case and all three children would have been removed. He gave her two weeks to clean it up. When he returned he said that her husband and James were cleaning; her husband, Terry, admitted to Dr. Hoffman that he has been on Francis to "do something around here." Dr. Hoffman told me that he was going to order the following for both parents:

He ordered drug evaluations/tests on Leonard as well as an anger assessment, psychological assessment, personality assessment and asked him to re-take the original tests in office for his office was broken into and his computer was stolen.

He ordered for Francis to take nurturing/mothering classes, parenting classes, cleaning classes and a couple of others I'm not clear on. However, Leonard completed everything Dr. Hoffman kept calling him on and Francis had done nothing, in fact, Dr. Hoffman said that she was too depressed and prescribed medication for her. When she told him she

could not fill the prescription because she owed the pharmacy money, he walked over with her and paid for it.

After several conversations with the Dr. and him telling me that he feared that he was not going to get paid, I offered to make sure that in the end I would cover reasonable expenses. The only thing I asked was that he deeply investigate into the medications and James' well being. He knows both parties agreed to pay 50/50, but felt that it would be too much on his part to put a lien on Francis' home in which she and her mother own. Judge Pelican, I am enclosing documents to back-up my feeling that Dr. Hoffman is holding this case hostage because of not being paid in full. He told Tyler Makepeace that he would be capping his fee at \$6500.00, he has received from me already \$6500.00 and his fees are up at \$9500.00 and he keeps harassing me for the money. He is refusing to give you a report because of the money and has done a complete turn around in his callings. For example, in the last mediation, after waiting for Francis for over 45 minutes, Dr. Hoffman "recommended" (via the phone) that Leonard see Dr. Athey and now needs to go to the center for fathering and his explanation when asked why this, now, and why Francis had still not completed his original recommendations was, "I've changed my mind!" (And to this day, Dr. Athey WILL NOT return a phone call, however, Dr. Hoffman and Dr. Athey have had numerous chats.)

Dr. Hoffman did, at a later date, state that he wanted Leonard to go to the center on fathering for alienation, this was after I had mentioned this to him. James was in tears upon going to his father's house one weekend because his mother told him, "If you go to "Lenny's" house you can't go to the movies with your sisters and me, we're going anyway!"

Judge Pelican, we do love James very much. This medication issue has us very troubled. All of the things she claims James' is on medication for, we never saw.

(Another point - Francis' mother is from San Antonio and apparently moved back after her second divorce here. Francis did state to me back in April 2003 that she wanted to move back, but could not because of James and his father. Dr. Hoffman does know this.) The old saying, "Money Talks!" I'm beginning to believe that. You will see in the attachments that Dr. Hoffman is only concerned with his extremely high bill getting paid. Judge Pelican, I implore you to seek the truth from the beginning in this case and Dr. Hoffman.

Sincerely and Faithfully,



Paula Cappadona  
3407 N. El Paso St.  
Colorado Springs, CO 80907  
(719) 520-1817 or 499-2613

Please feel free to call with any questions.

Thank You!