

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT, DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISION

IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:)
)
PETER MATT,)
)
Petitioner,)
)
and) No. 16 D 9534
)
MEGAN MATT n/k/a MASON,)
)
Respondent.)

**AFFIDAVIT OF MEGAN MATT N/K/A MASON IN OPPOSITION TO [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS COUNSEL**

I, MEGAN MATT n/k/a MASON, hereby submit this affidavit under penalties provided by law pursuant to section 1-109 of the Illinois Code of Civil Procedure and certify that the statement set forth in this affidavit are true and correct.

I am submitting this affidavit to express my opposition to the withdrawal of [REDACTED] as my attorney. I ask this Court to please deny [REDACTED]'s removal at this late juncture as such an abrupt change would cause material harm to me as her client. We are nearing the end of a custody evaluation and it would be unconscionable to deny me as a mother access to legal representation through a process that is so impactful to me and my children. I have no way of knowing that I will be able to obtain counsel in a timely manner who is able to familiarize him or herself with the matters of this case and give me the representation that I am entitled to.

Furthermore, as [REDACTED] is well aware, there are extremely sensitive and unusual factors in this case that I have reason to believe put me and my children in peril. [REDACTED] must not be allowed to put her convenience above her client's well being. This is antithetical to the lawyer-client relationship.

[REDACTED] stated the reason for her wish to withdraw is a difference of principle. At no point has [REDACTED] ever stated to me that she had concerns about differences of principle. In fact, the first I heard about her wish to withdraw was on Friday, November 12th at 3pm in the

afternoon. At that time [REDACTED] explained she has a very heavy caseload and that two attorneys have left her firm. I told her I objected to her leaving and had concerns about my well being and that of my children if we are not provided competent legal counsel.

Having never discussed any concerns about principle, I can only attempt to guess what [REDACTED] might mean by such a claim. I can only think of one instance of dispute between [REDACTED] and myself. As it happens I politely followed Ms. Brinkmeier's advice in this matter, so it would appear that the difference of principle was easily resolved through normal client-attorney proceedings.

However, given the abrupt attempt to remove herself from my case I feel compelled to point out that I believe she is doing so in order to extricate herself from a complicated situation. In other words, I desperately need help and so she is trying to get out of helping me.

When it comes to the one difference of opinion I can recall, shortly before retaining [REDACTED] as my attorney I came to have strong reason to believe that an individual formerly involved in my case had sabotaged my case resulting in an unfounded contempt finding. I had asked [REDACTED] to file for a motion to reconsider because of the misconduct of this individual.

I provided Ms. Brinkmeier with extensive evidence supporting my suspicion and invited her to provide me with an alternative explanation. I specifically presented evidence of attorney malfeasance, deceit, fraud upon the court, sabotage, identity theft and internet fraud. [REDACTED] was unable to provide me with an alternative explanation to the events I documented and described.

I fully appreciate how serious such allegations are and therefore I have also brought my concerns to other attorneys in an informal advisory capacity hoping that I, as a lay person, might learn of an explanation other than fraud for the events that I detailed. Specifically I have consulted with and disclosed to Michael Sharp, the General Counsel of Jefferies Financial LLC; The Honorable Judge Judy Harris Kluger, founder of Sanctuary for Families; and Dorchen Leidholdt, lead attorney for Sanctuary for Families. In addition to the several attorneys I've disclosed to I have consulted with a mental health therapist on a regular basis. I know of no claims that my allegations are deceitful or misguided, even by [REDACTED] herself.

Because I believe I was found in contempt in August of 2020 as a direct result of the misconduct just mentioned I asked [REDACTED] to file a motion to reconsider in this Court. I thought that fraud could be the basis. She said the time that had lapsed was too long and that the suspected crimes were not a basis. I accepted her decision.

However, I reported my suspicions to The Department of Justice's Task Force on Internet Crime and other Federal authorities. On November 8th, four days before her abrupt decision to withdraw, I wrote to tell [REDACTED] that I had submitted complaints to the Department of Justice alleging internet fraud, fraud upon the court and identity theft by this individual. I also disclosed other reports to federal law enforcement that I fear put me at peril of retaliation or attempts to evade prosecution by others who may be involved in these matters.

I beg this Court to deny [REDACTED]'s motion to withdraw. If the court does grant this motion against my strong objection, I ask that [REDACTED] only do so after she has presented me with three attorneys who are willing and able to accept my case.

MEGAN MATT n/k/a MASON