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Michael Ian Bender, Esq.
150 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 2130
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Re: Former Marriage of Matt and Mason

Dear Mr. Bender:

I am the 604.10 (c) Evaluator in the above named case. On January 11, 2022. I received an emailed letter from Megan Mason which I believe also copied you. That email made it clear that Ms. Mason was refusing to cooperate further with the evaluation until “the Appeal on the substitution of judge for cause is ruled upon...” She made clear her notion that there were no parentage issues to deal with. She noted various resources we could utilize if we had concerns about parenting of either A [REDACTED] or T [REDACTED]. I do have concerns about parenting issues with both children which I express here in letter form rather than a 604.10(c) Report.

I had occasion to observe A [REDACTED] and T [REDACTED] on Saturday, February 5, 2022. Before that observation, Mr. Matt emailed the following:

“Megan’s motion to substitute the judge was denied and she is now appealing that. To do this she needs to file a bystander report. She wants to do this with the help of a recording she did or one of her fellow church members, who observed the hearing, did. I feel this can backfire on her, since it is illegal to record a court hearing. During the hearing I was a little frightened to hear how her mind works these days. She was saying things like: “...you know, first of all, I love democracy. And January 6, 2020 (sic), I saw people storming the Capital (sic). So, I feel spiritually and emotionally called to protect democracy, And my understanding of a judge’s role in an American courtroom is that it is a sacred duty to uphold the judicial process in that court And so, Mr. Trowbridge’s (her former lawyer) malfeasance only matters here because Judge Johnson, Mr. Wehrman, and Mr. Bender observed it over the course of four months, and did nothing to intervene. “[...]”I think the appointment of Michael Bender without any legal proceeding (sic) was an illegal appointment. And I believe it was related to Judge Johnson’s bias against women, perhaps, against divorced women? I don’t know. I don’t really have to prove

that. I just know, I am an American citizen, and a mother with a divorce agreement and guardian ad litem was appointed. And I see it as bias.”

Due to the completion of her motion we now have a judge (the former one) again for our case. Now my lawyer can file something because A [REDACTED] still doesn't have ABA. Megan doesn't allow ABA because she doesn't like that the therapist is unvaccinated and she doesn't like the therapist's work in general. Megan is held in contempt for not allowing ABA so I am wondering what happens next. Fact is finding a new ABA will take time. Onboarding in regular circumstances can already take 3 months. I know this because we have been bouncing around between therapists many years now. By now we have gone through around a dozen evaluation and onboarding processes.

T [REDACTED] is not allowed to go to soccer practice during her time, because Megan thinks he does enough soccer with me. The back and forth between Megan's opinion about soccer is frustrating to T [REDACTED] I can imagine. He is a great player and he has the dream to become pro and certainly has the opportunity. He is willing to put in the work, but he needs to be allowed to do so. Last week T [REDACTED] scored a 91% in the national MAP test for reading and 77% for math. i.e. is doing great academically. He is very proud of this but doesn't agree with me that it might be due to his work with the Northwestern Gifted Program. He likes to work hard, but sometimes his initial reaction is “I rather watch TV”

Agnus has no ABA and I believe he is a bit regressing due to that. He moved from regular PE to adaptive PE, and he regularly spitting, hitting, kicking smashing windows, disrobing and toileting issues i.e. stool on clothes. I think this is worse than last year. The school says he needs to sleep more, but the medicine (Strattera) makes him anxious, etc., which also impacts his sleep. I will request a meeting with the school and with the psychiatrist to discuss. When only Megan and me are discussing with the psychiatrist she will get opposing views (maybe out of principle). The meds also have some impact on his overall participation in Special Olympics, which he is doing with me. He has been swimming 3 times per week, but one team doesn't allow his participation anymore, because he has gotten too weak and doesn't swim the whole pool length consistently. I guess this is mainly due to the increased anxiety and drowsiness, which probably is the medicine side effect.

Regards,
Peter

When I saw T [REDACTED] on February 5th, he was under good control as opposed to the time I saw him with his mother. He was not anxious and not running around the room saying bizarre things about how unable he thought himself to be. He was proud of doing well in school, but, as many children, resented that he had to spend extra time going to school. In general, I saw a very bright boy who appeared perfectly normal.

A [REDACTED] was obviously anxious, intolerant of being in my office and had a number of tics and peculiar behaviors. He only related to his father and not to me.

This is an interim report with interim recommendations.

Megan apparently sees no problem with her parenting but I think keeping her autistic child out of the appropriate therapy is a form of child abuse. Therefore, I recommend that her decision making about A [REDACTED] treatment be modified so that Peter Matt is the sole decision-maker for the present and foreseeable future.

Similarly, T [REDACTED] is doing well and even though he dislikes the extra education at the Northwestern Program is thriving. Importantly, I did not see the obviously disturbed kid I saw last summer with his mother. Therefore, I think father should have sole decision making for T [REDACTED] as well. If Megan attempts to interfere with either A [REDACTED] or T [REDACTED]'s treatment, her parenting time should be curtailed.

If you have further questions, don't hesitate to call.

Respectfully,

Gerald A. Blechman, Ph.D.
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Nationally Certified Custody Evaluator