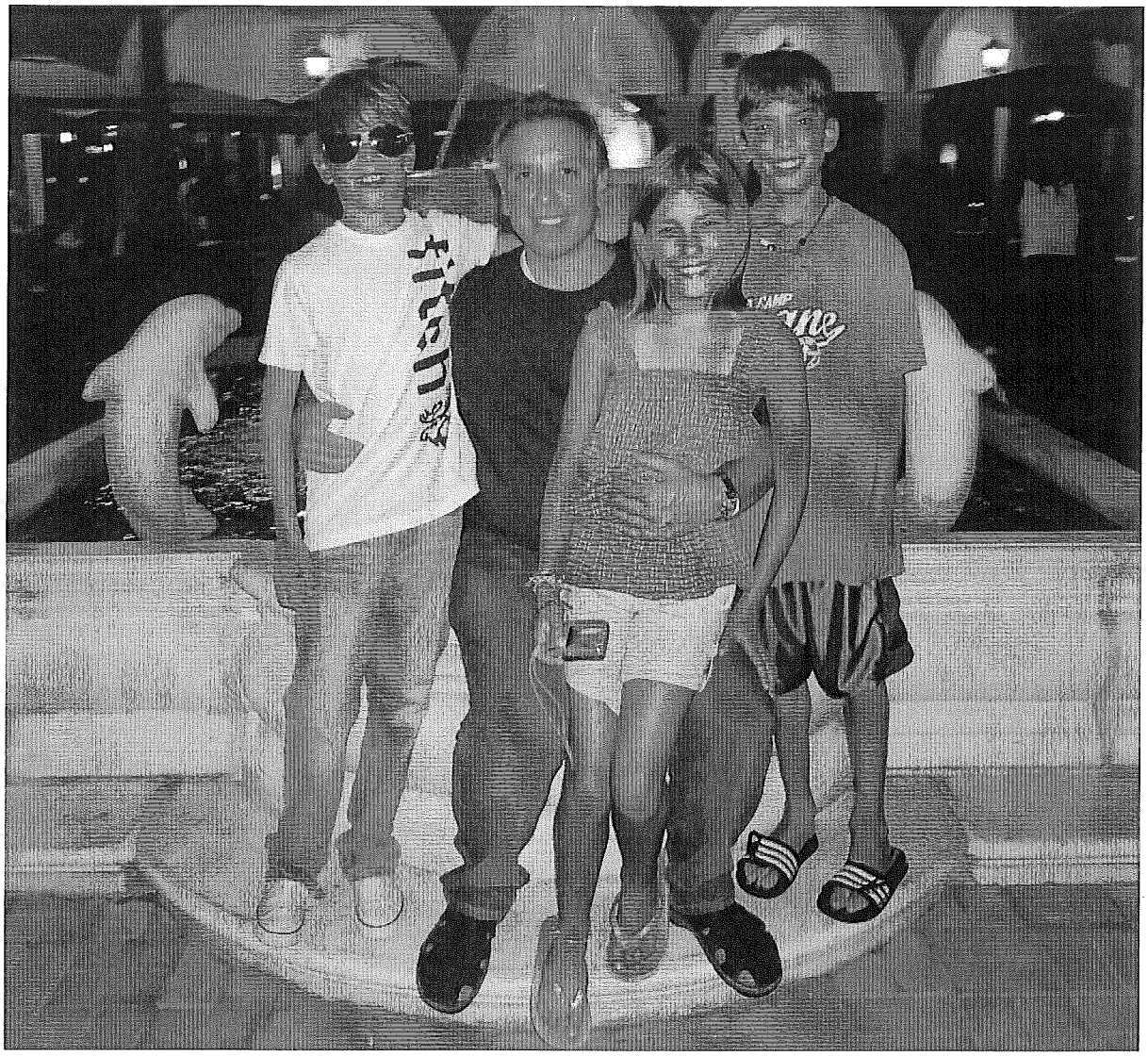
MY NAME IS JERRY MASTRANGELO AND I RESIDE IN EAST HAVEN. I AM A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL PARENTS ORGANIZATION WITH OVER 50,000 MEMBERS ACROSS THE COUNTRY. I HAVE BEEN A BUSINESS OWNER IN CONNECTICUT FOR THE PAST 34 YEARS AND CURRENTLY HAVE 130 EMPLOYEES. I AM HERE TODAY IN SUPPORT OF RAISED BILL 6685 ON SHARED PARENTING. THE STORY I AM ABOUT TO SHARE WITH YOU INVOLVES PARENTAL ALIENATION AND A BROKEN FAMILY COURT SYSTEM THAT HAS RECEIVED A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF MEDIA ATTENTION AND MORE SUPPORT THAN ALMOST ANY OTHER FAMILY CASE IN CONNECTICUT. THIS IS ABOUT MY FIGHT TO PROTECT MY CHILDREN'S RIGHT TO LOVE AND BE LOVED BY BOTH PARENTS. MY STORY BEGAN ON JULY 1, 1999 WHEN I BECAME THE PROUD FATHER OF TRIPLETS WHO WERE BORN PREMATURE WEIGHING LESS THAN 2 LBS EACH. UNFORTUANTELY MY MARRIAGE ENDED IN DECEMBER 2007 HOWEVER, I WAS AWARDED JOINT LEGAL PHYSICAL CUSTODY OF MY CHILDREN WITH APPROXIMATELY 40% OF PARENTING TIME. FOR NEARLY 3 YEARS, I ENJOYED PICKING UP MY CHILDREN FROM SCHOOL, HELPING THEM WITH THEIR HOMEWORK, SPENDING QUALITY TIME TOGETHER, GOING TO CHURCH, GOING ON VACATIONS, VISITING GRANDPARENTS AND EXTENDED FAMILY, CELEBRATING BIRTHDAY'S AND HOLIDAYS TOGETHER AS WELL AS WATCHING MY CHILDREN GROW UP. IN OCTOBER 2010, THIS ALL CHANGED. FOR THE PAST 2 ½ YEARS, MY CHILDREN HAVE NOT HAD ME IN THEIR LIVES. NOT ONLY HAVE MY CHILDREN BEEN ALIENATED FROM ME, BUT ALSO FROM MY ENTIRE FAMILY AS WELL. MY CHILDREN HAVE BEEN TAUGHT TO HATE ME;

TO IGNORE ME. TO HANG UP ON ME AND TO CALL ME NAMES I CAN'T EVEN REPEAT. THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS IN PARENTAL ALIENATION. ONE PARENT WILL BRAINWASH AND MANIPULATE A CHILD INTO BELIEVING THE OTHER PARENT IS ALL BAD LEADING TO THE TOTAL REJECTION OF THAT PARENT. THE LEADING EXPERTS IN THE COUNTRY AGREE THAT THIS IS A FORM OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT. IN JULY 2011, I HAD NO OTHER CHOICE THAN TO TURN TO NEW HAVEN FAMILY COURT FOR HELP. IN DOING SO, I FILED 6 MOTIONS IN ORDER TO GET CONTEMPT ISSUES HEARD, EXISTING COURT ORDERS ENFORCED AND MODIFIED. I LEARNED VERY QUICKLY THAT FAMILY COURT WAS NOT ON MY SIDE. I LEARNED THERE WAS NO SENSE OF URGENCY, WHICH IS VERY IMPORTANT WHEN DEALING WITH ALIENATION. I LEARNED THERE'S A LACK OF EDUCATION AS IT RELATES TO ALIENATION. I LEARNED ABOUT ALL THE GAMES THAT ARE PLAYED ON THE 3RD FLOOR IN NEW HAVEN FAMILY COURT. THE STAUL TACTICS AND DELAYS WHICH ONLY BENEFIT THE BEST INTEREST OF THE ATTORNEYS AND THEIR WALLETS, NOT THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILDREN. I LEARNED WHAT IT MEANS TO HAVE A COURT APPOINTED GUARDIAN AD LITEM AT $300 PER HOUR AS WELL AS ANOTHER $300 PER HOUR FOR AN AMC. I LEARNED HOW A GAL CAN BE UNETHICAL, BIAS AND COMPLETELY NEGLIGENT IN CARRYING OUT THEIR DUTY TO PROTECT THE BEST INTERESTS OF A CHILD. CONNECTICUT GAL'S HAVE NO ACCOUNTABILITY AND HAVE THE LUXURY OF FULL IMMUNITY. I LEARNED HOW IT FELT FOR AN AMC TO ASK ME TO PULL OUT MY WALLET ON THE STAND TO SEE WHAT CREDIT CARDS I HAVE, WHAT THE LIMITS WERE AS

WELL AS THE BALANCES. I ALSO LEARNED HOW A PARENT COULD EASILY BECOME EMOTIONALLY AND FINANCIALLY BANKRUPT IN ORDER TO GET COURT ORDERS ENFORCED SO THEY CAN BE A PART OF THEIR CHILDRENS LIVES. CONNECTICUT FAMILY LAWS NEED TO CHANGE. CHILDREN NEED BOTH PARENTS IN THEIR LIVES, IN THE ABSENCE OF ABUSE AND NEGLECT. CHILDREN NEED SHARED PARENTING AND PARENTS NEED INCENTIVES TO FOLLOW COURT ORDERS AND SANCTIONS WHEN THEY DON'T. PARENTAL ALIENATION CASES NEED TO BE HEARD QUICKLY AND ACTED UPON IMMEDIATELY. TIME WORKS AGAINST THE ALIENATED CHILD IN THESE CASES. IN MANY OTHER STATES, JUDGES WHO IDENTIFY PARENTAL ALIENATION WILL REMOVE THE CHILD FROM THE ABUSIVE AND NEGLECTFUL PARENT. THIS IS NO DIFFERENT THAN CASES INVOLVING SEXUAL AND PHYSCIAL ABUSE; THE CHILD IS IMMEDIATELY REMOVED. I AM TESTIFYING TODAY ON BEHALF OF HUNDREDS OF FAMILIES THAT HAVE BEEN DESTROYED DUE OUR BROKEN FAMILY COURT SYSTEM. FAMILY LAWS NEED TO CHANGE. SAFEGUARDS NEED TO BE PUT IN PLACE SO THAT GAL'S PERFORM THEIR DUTIES ACCORDING TO CONNECTICUT STATUE.

PLEASE SUPPORT RAISED BILLS 6685, 6688 AND 1155.

THANK YOU.