

From the desk of Peter T. Szymonik

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Attorney Barry F. Armata, LLC

747 Stafford Avenue
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6 March 2009

Re: Your Letter Dated 4 March 2009

Dear Barry,

I have received your letter of 4 March addressed to myself and my former wife, Stephanie Sans, and cc:ed to the attorneys and medical professionals assigned to the case, dated 4 March 2009.

Your claims that I have may have in way "intruded in the function of the court appointed evaluator" are categorically denied and false. I found your letter to be highly caustic and confrontation and completely unwarranted and undesired given the current status of this case.

Contrary to your claims against me and my former wife, it has come to my attention through conversations with the individuals involved that it is you who are interfering with a court mandated evaluation that is supposed to be independent and unbiased.

I have and will raise extreme concerns regarding your interference with Dr. Grant-Hall's work and her independent efforts to properly assess the situation for the Court and address the needs of my children as they continue to suffer and be abused by "the system" and "the process."

This a condition which you have utterly failed to address in any manner as their Guardian Ad Litem, and in fact, perpetuated and exacerbated to your own financial benefit. This is directly contrary to your statements to me from our October 2008 meeting that you would seek to return to me "as much the \$3,000 deposit" I gave you knowing the extreme financial condition I was facing.

Your behaviors and your poor performance in role as GAL have been noted by the professionals involved as being one of the major contributing factors and reasons for the current status of case and the deplorable condition which my children are suffered. Abuses of my children which you have allowed, completely ignored and failed to act on in any way contrary to your mission and court mandate.

Additionally, while you and Dr. Grant-Hall may "work for the court", but your fees are being paid for at a substantial and quickly mounting cost at a time when I am facing extreme financial distress in the worst economy this country has suffered in over 25 years. Fees which are now well over and multiples above what I agreed to in front of Judge Epstein when she first assigned you to this case.

3/6/2009

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You are being paid and work for myself and my former wife under Court order and you are fully accountable to us as your clients in addition to your responsibilities to the Court and State. We signed independent contracts with you and the assigned professionals to provide services to us and our minor children. We did not sign contracts with the Court or State or subjugate our contractual rights to the Court of the State.

As such, we are your clients and we can, should and expect to receive a level of performance under the contracts we signed with you. You are fully accountable to the people who pay your fees and we expect a level of performance under Connecticut fair trade and square dealings, other business and Common law.

I am not aware that you have any right or authority to mandate or dictate how Dr. Pines, Dr. Grant-Hall or any other professional performs under the contracts signed by myself or my former wife in relationship to their services for Court and State on OUR behalf and on the behalf of OUR children. Your interference in the manner in which they decide to perform their duties is unwarranted, has been, and is damaging.

I will note that Dr. Grant-Hall is not the first professional that has complained about your interference with their work.

In summary, I consider your hostile letter to be a further example of your poor performance in the role of GAL. It highlights that your focus in this case has been and remains in the wrong place as a ward for the minor children.

You continue to threaten and harass while at the same time failing to perform your duties to the Court by conducting and presented information and evidence in an unbiased and objective manner. Instead, much of the "evidence" you have presented to the Court is horrendously inaccurate, undocumented in any manner, unsupported by any evidence, often rambling and full of your own personal bias and viewpoints.

You have utterly failed to focus on the specifics and realities of the situation or to take any action to safeguard the bests of my children in the face of mountains of direct evidence showing the abuses and harm they are suffering – this including poor school attendance records, pictures of obvious neglect and physical abuse, recordings of the children relaying troubling conversations they have had with their mother, evidence of neglect on the part of the maternal grandmother – all presented and completely ignored by you as a mandated reporter.

I find it beyond belief that you would be motivated to send a letter regarding my and my former wife's conversations with Dr. Grant-Hall, and yet have never once in six months taken any action or written any letters in regards to the documented abuses above.

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As recently as this past week, your offices took absolutely no action and did not write any letters when my former wife actively worked to prevent my son from meeting with his court order therapist – in spite of being made aware of the problem for over a week. That Attorney Armata, would have deserved a letter from your office as my son's ward.

Instead, you are now actively working to prevent other professionals engaged by the Court to perform services designed to quickly and effectively close this case, and meet the dire needs of the children involved and trapped in the middle of the maelstrom you yourself have done nothing to help resolve and only worked to perpetuate and make worse.

I will also note that over the course of the past few months and especially during the past few days and weeks, I have contacted you repeatedly in an attempt to set up a meeting where we can address all my concerns and discuss your thoughts and perspectives so we might make take any required corrective actions. Yet you have completely ignored these contacts and refused to return or even acknowledge my phone calls.

I will discuss next steps with my attorney, including the possibility of filing a formal and documented complaint with Judge Fazzini regarding your confrontational and wholly unwarranted behaviors, and possibly seeking to replace you with a proper GAL who understands the critical importance of role of advocacy for the children they are supposed to be wards for, and someone who would not interfere with caring professionals whose focus is squarely where it needs to be – **the needs of the children.**

Sincere Regards



Peter T. Szymonik

Cc: Attorney Michael Barry
Dr. Grant-Hall
Dr. Pines
Stephanie Sans