

TESTIMONY FOR PUBLIC HEARING

The Task Force to Study Legal Disputes Involving the Care & Custody of Minor Children  
Connecticut Legislature  
c/o Legislative Judiciary Committee Office  
Legislative Office Building/Office 2500  
Hartford, CT 06106

Thursday, January 9, 2014

Dear Task Force Members:

My name is Douglas Morrow of 39 Catlin Road, Harwinton, CT 06791

I am the father of two wonderful, beautiful children my son Jackson Morrow now age 15 and my daughter Corinne Morrow age 13, I love them very much and have not been allowed any meaningful contact with my children in over 5 years. Without my request or full agreement Attorney Michael Fasano Sr was appointed GAL post judgement for my children in late 2008 court appointed by Judge Pickard of Litchfield Court. The children and I enjoyed a healthy and happy relationship prior to the GALs biased & arrogant interventions. My actual final divorce decree had been dated in 2003, and with recommendations of family service and in agreement, custody of the children was a shared physical custody which was in effect for over 5 years.

The GAL billed me beyond my abilities of what I could afford. At the time of his appointment it was made clear to all involved parties that I was out of work on short term disability. I made it clear numerous times to him and the court that I could not afford his fees of \$300.00 per hour, something he claimed was a reduced rate, my pleas for financial assistance were un-answered. The final billing from this GAL amounted close to \$35,000. This GAL actually met with the children less than a total of 5 hours over 5 years, if I want to file any motion he stands ready to continue to bill his excessive fees, when questioned about his billing I have been given the least amount of information possible and threatened to be sued for harassment. along with court recommendations by the GAL that I alone pay for Doctors fees amounting over \$10,000 while being unemployed. The GAL response to my low income at the time was that I borrow money from whomever possible if I ever wanted to see my children again.

The GAL continued to not be available for court numerous times due to conflicts with his very busy schedule, not only was he unavailable for court time, but this also contributed to delay in setting meetings with doctors, actually meeting with the children, meeting with more doctors, he could not even carve out time to actually communicate or meet in person any one of my family members, he would not respond to emails for days and sometimes weeks. Crucial events and or appointments were destined to be delayed, any complaint about this topic was construed as inappropriate and hostile –His availability was always scarce causing delay and resulting in increasing costs,

The GAL did not perform his duties in an un-biased fashion, he billed excessive fees and intentionally misused his role as THE GAL to intentionally cause delay to benefit himself financially, contribute to alienation of innocent children, he violated and was aware of numerous violations to my civil rights and choose to do nothing, he was well aware of a conflict of interest that existed and still exists with a Judge and my ex wifes Lawyer in Litchfield Court who are former business partners , yet he chooses to look the other way. He never once visited the childrens' home with me, he never made arrangements to meet and communicate with my family members, he was biased from the very beginning and did and said whatever he wanted, his delays were intentional and abusive. I was clear the best way he could choose to line his own pockets was to delay the process as long as possible enriching himself and his peers all while enjoying Quasi-Judicial immunity.

Motion upon motion for reinstatement was delayed and continued to be delayed for years, upon finally being heard in 2012 it was decided that the children now alienated from this time apart, In 2012 it was ordered to continue no contact as preference of now alienated children who have been systematically programmed for 4 YEARS ,

in accordance with testimony from the GAL who against previous judicial discussion went ahead to question the children prior to the motions being heard while the alienating mother sat just outside his doors his office his testimony makes claim that now in 2012 it is the preference of the children now to not only have nothing to do with their own father, but do not wish to see or hear from any of my extending family such as their grandparents, uncles , aunts, cousins, who they previously had wonderful relationships with, The existing orders were originally formulated in 2008 on false accusation of mental illness by the alienating mother which was later proven forensically to be not true, at which point the GAL did nothing to bring justice to the sham perpetrated by the parental alienator mother herself but extend further delay so she and her live in boyfriend could finish the job they started.

From the time they were born up to the age 8 & 10 the children were with me in a shared physical custody, In 2008 the GAL initial interview with the children the children opined that they wanted nothing more in the world except more time with dad. 2012 Court ruling upon recommendation from GAL testimony claims children do not wish to spend any time with dad or see grandparents, children are alienated , 2012 motion to have children brought to therapist for reunification efforts was denied, Judge clearly could not understand why reunification orders were delayed but guess that's too bad.. The Pende Lite 2008 order for years has taken its toll on the innocent children who were not allowed for contact, to make or receive phone calls, holiday cards or birthday presents. The court & especially the GAL have successfully erased this father from their existence except of course for child support payments and making sure the GAL gets paid, while at the same time empowering a parental alienator and her live n boyfriend who were allowed to continue to disparage me unchecked with no restrictions, emails from GAL admit he lets years go by without communicating at all with children.

Since 2008 the children have not been allowed to spend any quality time alone with me or my family to even receive presents for their birthday, Christmas,, Holidays, Vacations, Family Picnics..nothing due to the alienation the court system and the GAL allowed to flourish.

From 2003 to 2008 we had a shared physical custody the benefits were tremendous, the children enjoyed time with both parents and we had a well adjusted schedule. They enjoyed getting on the bus at my home, their neighborhood friends, extended family picnics, vacations, each had their own room, we had a very close bond that was destroyed d the GAL who both failed to protect us from all the obvious lies and later proved deceptions of an alienating mom and her boyfriend..When a parental alienator is empowered by a biased GAL and the existing court system - the end result will be abuse to children . We need to change this system so more innocent family and children are not hurt by the system that was supposed to protect them. Since 2008 my children have not had the benefit of a equally shared parenting time nor have they been allowed to see me in any way shape or form. We have been robbed forever of a loving caring relationship during these tender years, which will forever change their lives as it has mine and my family. The corporate greed of these GALs needs to be stopped at once so they are not spoon fed more children victims who they can continue to steal away family, and bleed them dry of college funds , vacation money, and life savings. This system needs reform - GALS should not be lawyers, and a shared physical custody should always be mandated, the system needs to be fixed so that there is no temptation to use children as pawns. If someone wishes to be a GAL they should be doing it with good intentions instead of financial incentive.

Thank You,

Douglas Morrow

39 Catlin Road

Harwinton, CT 06791

860-485-2766

DTEL99@YAHOO.COM