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SONYA KRASKI
COUNTY CLERK
SNOHOMISH CO. WASH

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SNOHOMISH

In re the Marriage of:

ANN KATHRYN BEAZIZO, nka
ANN KATHRYN REINHART,

Petitioner,

and

JEFFREY BEAZIZO,

Respondent.

No. 08-3-01050-5

DECLARATION OF PETITIONER
IN RESPONSE TO MOTION FOR
ADEQUATE CAUSE AND
MOTION FOR PARENTING PLAN

I, ANN REINHART, am over the age of eighteen (18), am competent to testify, and
make this declaration based on personal knowledge.

What I Want and Why

I agree that there is adequate cause to re-examine our parenting plan. I strongly
disagree with Jeff on why it needs to be re-examined and what needs to be done about it.

DECLARATION OF PETITIONER IN RESPONSE TO
MOTION FOR ADEQUATE CAUSE AND MOTION FOR
PARENTING PLAN – Page 1

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ORIGINAL

76

1 As I deal with my physical health problems, I do believe the amount of time I spend with
2 the children needs to be reduced, but I believe reducing it to four supervised hours a week
3 would have disastrous consequences.

4 The reason is straight-forward: Jeff has spent our entire relationship making light of
5 my emotional and physical problems (despite being a primary cause of some of them), and
6 he has successfully transmitted this unhealthy attitude to the children. I do not believe he
7 consciously appreciates exactly how harmful it is, both to me and the children. This
8 attitude puts pressure on me, alienates the children from me, and I'm worried it will destroy
9 any chance the children have of forming healthy relationships in the future. I believe that
10 **all of us, Jeff, Colin, Emily, and myself**, should undergo therapy so that everyone can
11 understand this very toxic family dynamic, and do the work needed to make sure it does
12 not harm us all in the future.

13 Jeff has also made a number of untrue and exaggerated claims about my conduct
14 with the children to obtain what he wants. In light of his many years in law enforcement, I
15 find the untrue and exaggerated claims in his affidavit to be particularly troubling.

16 **Relationship History**

17 Jeff and I got married in 1994. After the first few years together, it was obvious that
18 there were problems in our relationship. Jeff worked with the Washington State Patrol and
19 his career was the main pursuit in his life. I always felt as if I was second-place. His job
20 weighed very heavily on him, although he would not admit it or seek any type of treatment
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DECLARATION OF PETITIONER IN RESPONSE TO
MOTION FOR ADEQUATE CAUSE AND MOTION FOR
PARENTING PLAN – Page 2

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1 for it, despite the obvious impact the stress was having on him. Even after threatening
2 suicide in the late nineties, he would not obtain any sort of treatment for these issues
3 despite my requests that he do so. Instead, he got into the habit of deflecting the issues,
4 always saying or implying that any problems were mine and mine alone.

5 I had hoped that having children would make things better, but it didn't. It made
6 things a lot worse. About a week after I had our first child, Jeff forced himself on me
7 physically, despite the fact that I was battered and had not healed from the birth. This
8 experience caused terrible pain and psychological difficulty for me. To this day, I still
9 struggle with the emotional harm this caused. I sought counselling for the issue (and
10 encouraged Jeff to undergo the same), but he would not do so. He would not even allow
11 me to see a therapist in our home town, instead insisting that I travel from Mt. Vernon to
12 Olympia to see a therapist associated with the State Patrol. I still carry the mental scars
13 from that humiliation. Our problems, and what he's done to me, are not a "dirty secret" to
14 be swept under the rug, but that is what has been going on for far too long.

15 Jeff continued his focus on his law enforcement career, and despite winning many
16 awards in his professional life, he never engaged at home the way I wanted him to. Finally,
17 once I came to the conclusion things were never going to be alright again, I divorced Jeff in
18 2008.

19 After the divorce, I remained in the marital home to try and provide stability for the
20 children. I thought that them staying in the same house would help, so I have done by best
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DECLARATION OF PETITIONER IN RESPONSE TO
MOTION FOR ADEQUATE CAUSE AND MOTION FOR
PARENTING PLAN – Page 3

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1 to keep it up despite the fact that it is a 3000 square foot home and I'm a single mom with
2 three kids. (The pictures of the home and the alleged "hoarding" in his declaration are
3 misleading. We have one craft room--the only one his pictures depict--that is in the process
4 of being redone. He has included some pictures of that area from 2015, and tried to pass it
5 off like those pictures are from March 2016. Pictures of the home from this past weekend
6 are attached as Exhibit A).

7 **Previous Litigation**

8 Jeff has made a number of attempts to have the custody arrangement for the
9 children modified. In doing so, he has made many, many attempts to try and get me in
10 trouble with the authorities. In 2010 and 2011, Jeff made reports to CPS that were
11 determined to be "unfounded." See CPS correspondence filed separately under seal. He
12 also mentions in his declaration a wealth of alleged physical abuse that apparently did not
13 merit his reporting in any capacity (I'll address them specifically below). Suffice to say,
14 none of these allegations have merited any law enforcement response or CPS investigation
15 except as discussed below.

16 In 2011, Jeff sought leave of the court to have our 60/40% custody split re-
17 examined because of my "mental health issues." Despite receiving the Court's leave to do
18 so (and the host of things he's alleging I did), Jeff never bothered to actually pursue this
19 modification. He claims that his attorney told him it would not do any good and that things
20 might get worse if he made an issue of it, but that simply doesn't track. I have a hard time
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DECLARATION OF PETITIONER IN RESPONSE TO
MOTION FOR ADEQUATE CAUSE AND MOTION FOR
PARENTING PLAN - Page 4

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1 believing any attorney (even one later disbarred) would tell a client whose co-parent had
2 severe mental health issues to "let sleeping dogs lie", or that this would somehow harm his
3 child custody situation.

4 **Parenting Challenges Leading Up to March 17, 2016**

5 Both before and after our divorce, I've worked hard to be the best parent I can
6 possibly be. Over the years, I've attended Love and Logic, MOPS, and National Center for
7 Biblical Parenting for parenting courses. I believe that I need to have the best child-rearing
8 skillset that I can, especially in light of the tensions between Jeff and I. I have also been in
9 therapy with Dr. Daniel Hardman, my psychiatrist, since 2011.

10 In the last several months the kids have completely disregarded my requests to
11 complete household chores (as a single mom, the kids are usually the only help I can get).
12 When I discuss chores or the rules of the house, lately, the kids have stated, "Dad says we
13 don't need to listen to you." Or, "Dad says we don't have to do what you say." More
14 important than their words is their attitude. They have started exhibiting their father's same
15 "she's crazy, I don't have to pay any mind to her" attitude. This deeply scares and upsets
16 me. I've survived this sort of abuse from Jeff for years, but I can't bear the thought of my
17 children inflicting it on other people. They love their father very much, and it is terrible to
18 see him modeling such toxic behavior. I have confronted Jeff regarding this issue, but he
19 denies any sort of misconduct, and continues to maintain that there's nothing wrong with
20 him.
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DECLARATION OF PETITIONER IN RESPONSE TO
MOTION FOR ADEQUATE CAUSE AND MOTION FOR
PARENTING PLAN – Page 5

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1 To make matters worse, Jeff pairs this negative message with spoiling them; buying
2 their love and allegiance. He provides them with items and trips I never could because I am
3 a single-parent working as a dental hygienist, and he has since remarried and enjoys the
4 benefit of two-income household. Again, I do not believe the children possess the wisdom
5 or experience this behavior for what it is. No amount of toys or vacations should make it
6 OK to abuse a woman, physically or emotionally.

7 I am sick of being the "bad guy" in our family. I try and keep the kids on track and
8 disciplined regarding both their academics and their chores, but the hard reality is that I do
9 not have support from their father or his family in doing this. Instead of helping me keep
10 the kids on track, he uses my efforts as proof that I'm "crazy" and shouldn't be paid any
11 mind.

12 **Health Issues Leading Up To March 17, 2016**

13 It is also important that the Court understand my health issues in evaluating the
14 March 17, 2016 incident. October 2015 marked one year of cancer remission. One major
15 side effect is my battle with shingles. I suffer from shingles that cause severe pain. The
16 medication I use helps at the affected areas, but does not treat the severe pain and fatigue.
17 The pain and fatigue are terrible. I would rather give birth again or undergo kidney stones
18 than deal with this health problem. On March 17, I was severely physically and mentally
19 depleted between my chronic pain and the problems with the children. I believe this
20 condition played a significant part on my mistakes on that day.
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DECLARATION OF PETITIONER IN RESPONSE TO
MOTION FOR ADEQUATE CAUSE AND MOTION FOR
PARENTING PLAN ~ Page 6

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1
2 **March 17, 2016**

3 On March 17, 2016 we had an incident at the house. The children were already at
4 home and I was driving home from work. While driving, I was on the phone with Colin
5 (my ten year-old) talking to him about his school project. It was a Thursday night, so I was
6 trying to make sure he had his science project done and ready to go before they went to
7 their dad's for the evening. It was frustrating because Colin had been aware of the project
8 for several weeks, and should have been working on it over the weekends at his father's
9 house. As we spoke on the phone, it was apparent he had not done anything on the project.

10 When I got home, I checked in on him and realized that not only had he not made
11 any progress, he was shopping around for entirely new projects to do (despite the fact they
12 were going to their father's house that evening after Emily's 9th Grade Orientation). In
13 frustration, I lightly flicked him on the side of the head and told him to at least print some
14 information out so he could take the project to his Dad's over the weekend. He stated he
15 wanted me to do it since I was supposedly helping him. In frustration I stated, "I'm not
16 doing your homework."

17 This is when Emily (my fourteen year-old) got involved. I was trying to give Colin
18 five or ten more minutes to get at least something printed out before we left for her
19 orientation. (I was busy putting food away from dinner.) I looked over from cleaning up
20 dinner and saw he was still trying to change his project. In frustration, I kicked at the back
21 of his chair to get his attention and get him to focus.

DECLARATION OF PETITIONER IN RESPONSE TO
MOTION FOR ADEQUATE CAUSE AND MOTION FOR
PARENTING PLAN – Page 7

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1 Emily began stating we needed to go, and to leave Colin alone. Colin then
2 announced that he was not going to do the project at all. I asked Emily to leave because she
3 was increasing the tension and difficulty of the situation with her brother. I asked several
4 times for her to either go outside or go upstairs. Instead of leaving, she screamed at me that
5 Colin did not have to do the work, and that they needed to go. Based on her behavior, I
6 stated that we were not going to go to her orientation, and that she needed to stay out of the
7 way so Colin could finish his work. This only made her more angry; she continued to
8 scream at me about what I could not tell them to do.

9 At this point, I reached my breaking point. This exchange was typical of the rift Jeff
10 has created between me and the kids. I picked up two small glass jars of beads (which I use
11 in a "good behavior / bad behavior" system with my six year-old) and threw them against
12 the far wall over the rocking chair, where they broke. The jars did not go anywhere near the
13 children. They were directed at the far wall. Emily was standing next to the table at the
14 time I threw them, making it virtually impossible for me to strike her thigh with one of the
15 jars.

16 Doing this was a huge mistake on my part. Acting out like that will not de-escalate
17 a tense situation, and I understand that. I feel terrible that this incident has frightened and
18 upset the children, and created a deeper rift between us. That incident taught me something
19 very valuable. I've realized that no matter how much I love my children, no matter how
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DECLARATION OF PETITIONER IN RESPONSE TO
MOTION FOR ADEQUATE CAUSE AND MOTION FOR
PARENTING PLAN – Page 8

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1 much I want them to make good decisions, **I cannot control them**. At their ages, they are
2 free-thinking beings and have to come to the choice to act right on their own.

3 My desperate desire for them to get better (and explosive frustration when I see
4 them repeat their Dad's behavior instead) cannot change that. My mistake from before is
5 that I thought that if I could control the children's behaviors, I could somehow counteract
6 the harm he caused. The truth is that only the children can change their own behavior. I've
7 discussed my role in this process with Dr. Hartman extensively. We agree that my role will
8 be setting the best example I can, being open and available for communication, and doing
9 my best to model behavior contrary to Jeff's (and contrary to my previous behavior, fueled
10 by my own frustration and fear). What I've come to appreciate is that right now, even
11 school work and chores are secondary to simply spending time together and growing our
12 relationship. The parental models from my own up-bringing are not appropriate to our set
13 of problems, and so I am implementing new ones.

14 After I threw the jar, Emily proceeded to call 911. The county sheriff showed up to
15 investigate, but he did not arrest me or pick up the children. Nor did he ask Jeff to take the
16 kids. To the contrary, Jeff showed up before his agreed upon time with the kids (I assume
17 Emily called him too) and the police did not allow him to take the children early. The
18 children were allowed to remain with me until their scheduled pick-up time. Since the
19 incident, I have not been arrested or interviewed by law enforcement. I have been contacted
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DECLARATION OF PETITIONER IN RESPONSE TO
MOTION FOR ADEQUATE CAUSE AND MOTION FOR
PARENTING PLAN – Page 9

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1 by CPS, and I have been cooperating in FARS, a diversionary program they offer. I was
2 undergoing counseling and taking parenting classes before they even reached out to me.

3 MY PROPOSED SOLUTION

4 I do believe that Jeff should get some more time with the kids. I am at my absolute
5 physical and mental limit between the house, the kids, and my other child (a six year-old)
6 that I raise by myself for half the week (she's with her father the other half). My hope is
7 that more "down time" will make things like chores and homework less pressing when I
8 have Emily and Colin, and will allow me to have more resources to deal with them, even if
9 they act out.

10 I have not seen the children since the date of that incident (we're getting supervised
11 visitation set up now). I miss them terribly. Unlike many of the incidents Jeff brings up
12 (which I address below), what tears me up about this incident is that I did let my frustration
13 get the better of me and I made a huge mistake. Spending weeks in an empty house has
14 driven home the gravity of that mistake, and what could be lost if something like it ever
15 happens again.

16 Since the incident, I have been working hard with Dr. Hartman to come up with
17 strategies for when the kids exhibit this behavior. He does not believe that I pose any sort
18 of danger to the children (he's treated me for half a decade before the incident, and
19 regularly afterwards), and has re-examined me since the incident to determine if I need any
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DECLARATION OF PETITIONER IN RESPONSE TO
MOTION FOR ADEQUATE CAUSE AND MOTION FOR
PARENTING PLAN - Page 10

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1 type of psychiatric medication or change in treatment. His conclusion is that I do not pose
2 any sort of danger. (See his letter filed separately under seal.).

3 I love my children and I am opposed to supervised visitation for a lot of reasons.
4 First, it isn't necessary. They are in no danger. Neither I nor my home present danger to the
5 children, and I hope the evidence I've presented makes that clear. Second, I do not believe
6 that visiting them in a stranger's home under supervision (as opposed to being with me in
7 the house they grew up in) will foster the kind of trust and connection I am looking to build
8 with them. To the contrary, I believe visits in a controlled setting will simply enforce to the
9 children that I am exactly the sort of person Jeff tries to paint me as being. In his proposed
10 temporary orders, he agrees to visitation at my home, but since the hearing on April 6, has
11 insisted that it occur at outside locations. I believe this is done to further enforce his pattern
12 of alienation.

13 Finally, the visitation is financially taxing. I'll do whatever I have to in order to
14 spend time with my kids, but as the court can see looking at my financial declaration, I am
15 in significant debt already, and I do not anticipate this issue being resolved quickly. I
16 believe the supervision is an unnecessary cost that does not do anything to improve our
17 relationship. As a practical matter, it would also force me to put my youngest child into
18 afternoon daycare for part of the week (the kids used to pick her up at the bus stop), which
19 would add additional financial strain. I cannot express how hard it has been for her to try
20 and make sense of her brother and sister being absent from the home since March 17.
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DECLARATION OF PETITIONER IN RESPONSE TO
MOTION FOR ADEQUATE CAUSE AND MOTION FOR
PARENTING PLAN – Page 11

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1 I have gone back to my physician to look at different pain management options. I
2 have resisted taking any pain medication so far, but the March incident has shown me that
3 being at my physical limit impacts my ability to parent. Managing my pain is an essential
4 part of preventing something like this from ever happening again. I've consulted with Dr.
5 John Lank, my pain management doctor, to see what we can do to address the issue. We
6 will be starting with a combination of lidocaine patches and other painkilling ointments, as
7 well as an aggressive NSAID regimen to manage these symptoms.

8 One of the most important things I am asking for here is that Jeff get counselling.
9 To my knowledge, he has never been evaluated for any of his behaviors. I desperately tried
10 to get him to deal with his issues. Jeff experienced a lot of difficulty and loss in his years as
11 a law enforcement officer, and I don't think he's ever addressed them. I'm begging the
12 Court to order him to do what I could not in all our years of marriage: see his behaviors and
13 their impact. My hope is that a good therapist can show him his role in this, ways to be a
14 good role-model for his children, and to learn productive ways to communicate in conflict.

15 **Allegations of Misconduct**

16 **My Family History:** In his attempt to gain an advantage here, Jeff has gone back
17 more than 35 years. Before being jailed for attempted murder, my father was a decorated
18 Marine, then an ATF agent, and finally worked for General Services Administration. His
19 relationship with my mother was difficult, and he was convicted on circumstantial
20 evidence. I've always supported him, and Jeff has always been embarrassed by that
21

1 support. Jeff's attempt to use both that circumstance, and my sister's bipolar diagnosis (he
2 lets her around the children regularly) is a text-book example of how he "gas lights" and
3 tries to imply mental illness where there is none.

4 If these maladies "run in my family," as he implies, why aren't they in the rest of
5 my family? I'm one of 5 kids. Four of us are healthy and productive. My twin and I both
6 work in dentistry and my two older brothers are highly decorated military officers. My
7 oldest brother retired as a Captain in the Army. The next brother is a Commander in the
8 Navy. Both have masters degrees. My older sister had a brain tumor and is disabled. Her
9 health problems are not mine and does not mean I have the same conditions.

10 2008 – The story about me holding Emily's face under the water by her pony-tail is
11 ridiculous. I've never done such a thing. Further, as any woman would know, you don't
12 bathe a girl child with her ponytail in. If Jeff had been more involved in parenting back
13 then, he would have figured this out before making up this story. The allegation about the
14 trip to North Dakota is also false; Emily didn't know how to use a cell phone at 7 years old,
15 and I've never grabbed and bruised her.

16 Attempting to bring Gordon Gazaway into this is typical of Jeff's "see what sticks"
17 approach to this litigation. I only saw Mr. Gazaway for a few months, and had already
18 since left him and been remarried by the time I learned of any misconduct. As Jeff makes
19 clear in his declaration, none of his actions in any way concerned or impacted my children,
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DECLARATION OF PETITIONER IN RESPONSE TO
MOTION FOR ADEQUATE CAUSE AND MOTION FOR
PARENTING PLAN – Page 13

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1 so I can only assume he includes this information to attempt some sort of guilt by
2 association.

3 I've never smeared feces on Colin's leg, nor threatened to do the same in his face.

4 **2011** – I find Jeff's report of my threatening to kill the children over a homework
5 dispute more than a little ridiculous, and allegations of bribery for silence to be more than a
6 bit troubling. I have never threatened to kill my children and I have not and would not
7 "bribe" my child not to take part in therapy.

8 Colin had his challenges with potty training, which is to be expected with all the
9 issues between Jeff and I while he was that age. I have never threatened him regarding
10 bathroom issues, and I (as well as anyone with a working nose!) would have noticed that
11 Colin had feces in his underpants after two days.

12 **2011 Adjustment of the Parenting Plan** – Jeff never followed up on the Court's
13 invitation to address my alleged "mental health issues." He is correct that the Court ordered
14 us to mediation, and that mediation was scheduled for October 28, 2011. What isn't correct
15 is who walked out: he did. His story about his attorney saying that the schedule couldn't
16 get any better and that he should ignore my mental health issues is as unbelievable as most
17 of the stories he attempts to sell in his declaration. In retrospect, I should have pushed to
18 have a finalized plan entered at that time.

19 **2012** – I have never choked my daughter. I have never been investigated, arrested,
20 or prosecuted for the same, nor did CPS choose to become involved. In light of the
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DECLARATION OF PETITIONER IN RESPONSE TO
MOTION FOR ADEQUATE CAUSE AND MOTION FOR
PARENTING PLAN – Page 14

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1 allegations (in the way Jeff tells them), it seems rather remarkable all those agencies would
2 be so *laissez faire* about such serious accusations.

3 **2015** - I have never threatened to commit suicide. Ever. A simple reading of his
4 allegations (that I became violent when Colin said, "just a minute," abused both of the
5 children, and then declared, "My children don't love me so I'm going to commit suicide")
6 is just as ridiculous as it sounds. If I had made such a threat in 2015, I'm beyond astounded
7 that a law enforcement officer of 20 years' experience would allow his kids to spend
8 another half-year in such an environment without taking any action. Maybe if it was
9 someone who was ignorant of how the system works, it might be (somewhat)
10 understandable, but Jeff was the court liaison for the WSP for years. He knows there are
11 options that can be taken if kids are in danger. In fact, he took advantage of those very
12 options in seeking a DVPO.

13 I already addressed the hoarding allegation. Please see photographs of my home.
14 I'm not sure how I'm supposed to be such a tyrant about the housework and yet live in a
15 disastrous home. I keep a clean house and run myself ragged to do it.

16 The alleged "spoiled food" is frozen berries in smoothies. They keep for a long
17 time. Jeff attempted these allegations in a CPS complaint in 2010 – 2011. It wasn't true
18 then, and it isn't now.

19 I do not call Jeff and Heidi names in front of the kids or otherwise. I know what it
20 feels like to be on the receiving end of a parent's efforts to alienate children. I would not do
21

DECLARATION OF PETITIONER IN RESPONSE TO
MOTION FOR ADEQUATE CAUSE AND MOTION FOR
PARENTING PLAN – Page 15

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1 it back. Truth be told, I hate airing all of Jeff's misconduct here, but I feel like he's given
2 me no other choice with these allegations.

3 The water incident was highly distorted. I flicked about one ounce of water at Emily
4 (not her laptop I would be paying to replace!) when she was disrespectful. I grew up with
5 these sort of taps and nudges as part of my childhood (they were how my parents
6 disciplined us), but I can see that they have no place in our injured family.

7 **Heather Beg's Declaration** - Ms. Beg's allegations about my relationships concern
8 me. It's true that I have been married since Jeff, and that marriage was a difficult one. It's
9 also true that I locked my ex-husband out of my bedroom. He had already been served with
10 divorce papers two months prior and I had repeatedly asked him to leave my home. He
11 refused to do so. After I locked my bedroom door, he bashed it in. He was arrested for his
12 conduct, and court-ordered out of the home after that. I don't deny that tension was
13 stressful, but it is years in the past at this point, and not pertinent to the children's well-
14 being right now. More to the point, if Ms. Beg had such concerns, I'm astounded that they
15 were never brought to my attention. I've been very active in my children's school lives, and
16 I attended two conferences with Ms. Beg during the school year.

17 **Michelle Langstraat** - I think Ms. Langstraat's declaration is probably the most
18 hurtful thing in Jeff's materials. I've been trying to get the kids into treatment for years.
19 This is the first I have ever heard of Emily attending treatment since 2012! As her mother, I
20 feel like I should have been made aware that my child was receiving treatment. As I
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DECLARATION OF PETITIONER IN RESPONSE TO
MOTION FOR ADEQUATE CAUSE AND MOTION FOR
PARENTING PLAN - Page 16

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1 understand it, under our previous parenting plan, such treatment decisions should have
2 been made jointly. I am the biggest therapy advocate in our family, and I would have
3 absolutely worked with the therapist to address any issues and work on our
4 communication. I hope my own half-decade commitment to the therapy process is a
5 testament to that. I have never observed any signs of post-traumatic stress disorder in my
6 children, and until recently, I've been their primary custodial parent.

7 The allegations of me making Emily stand outside are also distorted. I do ask my
8 kids to take a time out on the porch when they get worked up or angry. This de-escalation
9 strategy was suggested to me by my therapist and I have adopted it whole-heartedly. I also
10 make clear that they can come back in whenever they feel calm. I absolutely would not
11 make my children stand outside in the elements. I sincerely wish I'd used this strategy on
12 the night of the incident, instead of letting my frustration get the better of me.

13 I think the volume of Jeff's accusations (and their lack of credibility) makes clear to
14 the Court how much credit to give his allegations. If the kids did tell these sorts of things to
15 this woman, I'm worried they've adopted his behavior of lying (or very heavily distorting
16 the truth) to get what they want.

17 **Heidi Beazizo** – I think Heidi's role in this is pretty clear. She married Jeff, she
18 likes the kids, and feels like their life would be better without me in it. As I already
19 mentioned, I've not called her names, fed anyone rotten food, or forced my children to stay
20 outside in the cold. I find the allegations about the cellular phone disconcerting. When I
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1 gave Colin my old iPhone, I took steps to make sure that all of my content was taken off
2 the phone (they did this at the store for me). The first I ever heard of this issue was these
3 pleadings. Again, I'm struck with how this evidently happened as early as last year, but
4 evidently was not important enough to address until April of 2016.

5 I would respectfully suggest that the reason Jeff and Heidi haven't taken action on
6 the sea of allegations is that these things never happened.

7 **Jeff's Financial Declaration**

8 I have not lived with Jeff for years, but I believe the following items in his financial
9 declaration should be clarified for the Court.

- 10
- 11 • I do not believe it is appropriate or necessary for Jeff to include child
12 support his wife receives for a child from a prior relationship.
 - 13 • Jeff identifies a rent or mortgage payment of \$2,487.00. If this is a
14 mortgage payment, he fails to identify the mortgage information in Section
15 5.10.
 - 16 • Under section 5.4, he identifies a daycare/babysitting expense and a tuition
17 expense but does not clarify if these expenses are for our 2 children only or
18 include his wife's daughter. He also includes a monthly "other" expense of
19 \$438.00 but fails to identify the actual expense(s).
 - 20 • Under section 5.5, he identifies "other transportation expenses" of
21 \$100.00/month but once again fails to identify the actual expense.

DECLARATION OF PETITIONER IN RESPONSE TO
MOTION FOR ADEQUATE CAUSE AND MOTION FOR
PARENTING PLAN – Page 18

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- Jeff identifies a monthly vehicle payment of \$354.00, but he fails to identify the loan information in Section 5.10.
- His claim of \$2,000.00 a month ^{for food} with an additional \$500.00 in eating out seems excessive.
- His monthly expenses of \$500.00 for clothing and \$250.00 for hair care/personal care seem excessive. Perhaps these expenses erroneously include his wife's expenses.
- He fails to identify what "other" personal expense merits \$400.00 a month.

Conclusion

I am not asking the Court to "take my word for it" on any of these issues. Please order the whole family to counselling and appoint a guardian *ad litem*. My sincere hope is that the crisis that began on March 17, 2016 will lead our family to the healing it has needed for years. I would ask the Court to implement my proposed plan, and re-examine the issue after the guardian *ad litem* has had the opportunity to see this dynamic for herself. My goal and the Court's are the same – do to what is in the best interest of my children.

I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed at Everett, Washington this 19 day of April, 2016.



ANN REINHART

DECLARATION OF PETITIONER IN RESPONSE TO
MOTION FOR ADEQUATE CAUSE AND MOTION FOR
PARENTING PLAN – Page 19

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EXHIBIT A









