

Texas Home School Coalition

Dedicated to Serving and Protecting the Home School Community of Texas

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April 21, 2014

John J. Specia, Jr. Commissioner Department of Family and Protective Services PO Box 149030 Austin, TX 78714

Commissioner Specia:

I am writing in response to the continued maltreatment of the T___ family by CPS. There are several issues that unfortunately remain unaddressed, as well as some new problems that have recently come to light.

Ms. Shan Robinson, the caseworker assigned to perform the original review of the T______' home, effectively committed an act of perjury for which she could be held criminally and civilly liable due to her contradicting testimonies. At the January 7, 2014, hearing, Ms. Robinson testified under oath that she did not believe that the T____ children were at immediate risk, yet in her affidavit she swore to, signed, and presented to the court a statement that this risk did indeed exist.

As you are well aware, the removal of a child from his parents' home, even temporarily, is a life-changing event, and one which should not be undertaken lightly. Ms. Robinson's conflicting testimonies demonstrate her willingness, in blatant violation of the legally required threat of harm to the child, to inflict extremely traumatic circumstances onto children whom she swore under oath were not in danger.

serious question by the actions of Ms. Kristina Lindsay, the current CPS caseworker for the	
T' children. After discovering that the adoption subsidy from the state for B T was	as
being withheld, the T attorney contacted Ms. Lindsay in an attempt to find a solution to the	iis
time-critical problem. Ms. Lindsay responded on March 5 by saying, "I am following up with the	ie
subsidy supervisor to see what needs to be done to ensure that these services will be resumed. I	
will let you know what I find out." More than a month later the T have heard nothing back	
from Ms. Lindsay, and B's adoption subsidies continue to be inexplicably withheld.	

Apprehension regarding Ms. Lindsay's judgment on these important issues is intensified by the irresponsible lifestyle of which she boasts online, drawing into question her qualifications to accurately and impartially determine the best interests of these children. After viewing several

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Twitter posts from Ms. Lindsay's account, it is apparent that her actions and mindset could be putting the T___ family at significant risk. A few of these posts are listed below:

Kristina Lindsay @kristinalindsay Mar 15

You know you had a crazy #drunksleep when your sheets and blankets are all jacked up! #kbshenanigans

Kristina Lindsay @kristinalindsay Mar 2

"@ChildhoodRuiner: they wanna adopt her so bad pic.twitter.com/rlRkDycZ9S" ha ha ha ha

Kristina Lindsay @kristinalindsay Jan 24

"<u>@ThoughtCatalog</u>: I Look Down On Young Women With Husbands And Kids And I'm Not Sorry http://teat.tc/ld8iSj9 totally thought of <u>@btaddonio</u>

These comments indicate not simply an irresponsible lifestyle but also actions that could result in the impaired judgment of Ms. Lindsay to competently assess the T____ family, as these views directly clash with CPS's stated purpose of child protection and could even imply racial discrimination regarding adoption.

While the court is ultimately responsible for making decisions, as you mentioned in your previous letter, CPS makes recommendations to the court for consideration. Those recommendations from CPS caseworker Ms. Robinson indicate an unfounded suggestion to the court to have the T_____' children forcibly removed from their home, and for limits to be placed upon their right to educate their children in a way that is compatible with their children's needs.

CPS does indeed have significant influence with the court, and in many cases direct control over the lives of the T_____' children. The actions taken by Ms. Robinson are in clear violation of the required standards set forth in Texas statute. If the findings by the Office of Court Administration that CPS policies were followed correctly are accurate, then the question arises as to how CPS policies have allowed actions to take place that are in such clear violation of the law.

Commissioner Specia, CPS is responsible for the actions of its employees. Throughout three court hearings and countless interactions with the family, CPS has continually failed to provide a single, legal justification for the removal of the T_____' children, which has resulted in immeasurable emotional and psychological harm to the family, even to the point where one of the children is unable to attend school as a result of her deteriorated condition.

The blatant disregard by CPS caseworker Shan Robinson and her supervisors for the standards set forth in Texas law are considered by the home schooling community to be a direct affront to the constitutional right of fit parents to direct the care, control, and upbringing of their children. Be assured that this issue will not go unaddressed. If CPS is unwilling to take the necessary actions to ensure the well-being of these children and to hold its employees accountable, then be aware that THSC will pursue any and all means necessary to ensure that the T______ children are afforded their full protections under the law, including any action required to hold accountable those parties deemed responsible for the unjust and illegal removal of these children by CPS.

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Tim Lambert

Sincerely,

Tim Lambert

cc: Ms. Lisa Black, Assistant Commissioner Child Protective Services; Ms. Kristine Mohajer, CPS Education Specialist; Governor Rick Perry; Texas Senate Health & Human Services Committee; Texas House Human Services Committee; State Senator Royce West; State Representative Yvonne Davis; State Senator Charles Schwertner; State Representative Larry Gonzales; State Representative Tony Dale; State Representative Marsh Farney; Texas home schoolers