

Health Impact News

Medical Kidnapping Children in the United States: Idaho

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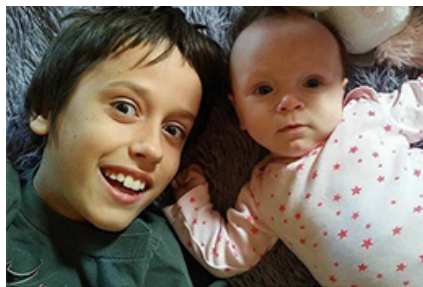
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Idaho



Idaho Mom Loses Two Children for Using Medical Cannabis to Stop Seizures

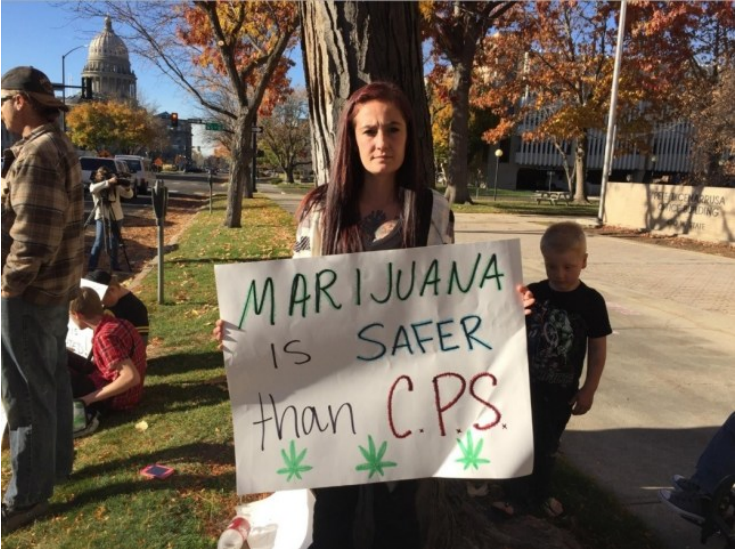


Image courtesy of [Kutv.com](https://www.kutv.com)

by Paul Fassa
Health Impact News

An Idaho mother has lost custody of her two children due to her state's strict laws regarding marijuana, where it is not legal even for medical purposes for physicians to prescribe.

Kelsey Osborne, 23, has lost custody of her two young children, son Ryker and daughter Madyson aged two and three respectively, to state Child Protective Services (CPS).

Both children were removed even though only Madyson was allegedly treated with cannabis during a horrific seizure episode. Kelsey now faces the charge of “causing injury to a child.”

Idaho is a bastion of resistance to medical marijuana bordered by three very liberal cannabis states, Washington, Oregon, Colorado, and one medical marijuana state that is improving its access to patients, Montana. Not long ago, a state congressional panel in Idaho rejected a proposal to allow CBD (non-psycho active cannabidiol) for children with seizures.

This allowance has been granted in several states that still oppose medical marijuana generally. They’re comfortable with allowing it due to the absence of THC (chemical that makes people “high”) with CBD oils and the fact that more and more children are severely epileptic than before, and many pharmaceutical medications are not working but worsening their conditions.

Instead, Idaho Governor C.L. “Butch” Otter opened up pharmaceutical research for synthetic CBD to be tested among 25 children. Problem is, synthetic pharmaceuticals of any herb or plant cannot exactly duplicate the active ingredient and do not contain the entourage effect of the many balancing compounds the marijuana plant offers.

CBD and THC are the two major cannabinoids among 60 others in the whole plant. CBD extracted from whole plant hybrid cannabis grown to minimize THC, has demonstrated strong efficacy and safety for epileptic seizures among young children.

This was the dilemma Kelsey dealt with to pull her daughter

Madyson from her intense agony and seizures during her withdrawal from Risperdal, an anti-psychotic drug Madyson was prescribed after her adverse reaction with the MMR vaccine.

Madyson was prescribed such a strong and dangerous anti-psychotic pharmaceutical because her doctor couldn't determine the cause of her aggressive behavior and angry outbursts, a manifestation of one aspect of the autism disorder spectrum. Obviously, he wouldn't confirm that the MMR vaccine caused her spells of aggressive anger. Most pediatricians won't dare go there.

During Madyson's time with Kelsey's ex-husband, he took Madyson off Risperdal cold turkey. That's a no-no, considered by many as even more dangerous than taking the drug.

The next day, Madyson was screaming in pain, vomiting with intense seizures, hallucinating, and begging for help. Evidently, Kelsey was up somewhat on medical cannabis research. If CBD would have been an option, she would have allegedly used that instead.

But that's not an option in Idaho. So Kelsey somehow got marijuana with THC then infused it into butter, which she spooned into a smoothie. Within a half-hour, ***Madyson was relieved of her agonizing symptoms.***

Kelsey had made an appointment with Madyson's pediatrician and brought her there soon after using the marijuana infused butter to calm her down. The pediatrician took a blood sample. That's when the THC showed up, compelling the pediatrician to call CPS and report the discovery of THC in a three year old child.

This is what led to Kelsey losing all custody of her children and being charged with “causing injury to a child.” Her case is scheduled to be heard on December 22, 2016.

A Case for the Legalization of Medical Marijuana

A group called [Moms for Marijuana International](#) has picked up the cause of allowing medical marijuana for children by backing up Kelsey in her fight to regain custody of her children and getting acquitted of the prosecution’s charge of “causing injury to a child.” Her trial has been extended for December.

The CPS case is based solely on the fact that cannabis is completely illegal in Idaho. Kelsey’s attorney R. Thomas Curl argues:

The state is relying on injury to a child because it’s illegal. It [cannabis] is illegal in Idaho but they cannot demonstrate injury to this child. And if they cannot demonstrate injury to this child they are missing one of the elements of the crime. And if they are missing one of the elements, then they have no case.

The fact is that Risperdal, especially with the **sudden withdrawal conducted by the father**, is what caused considerable harm, or actual injury to Madyson. Also, that prescription was given out of refusing to acknowledge the harm allegedly caused by another legal pharmaceutical, the MMR vaccine.

The reality is that Kelsey’s intervention with cannabis

seemed to have rescued her daughter from a hellish nightmare of agonizing seizures, pain, and constant vomiting.

Interestingly, another group similar to Moms for Marijuana calls itself Mothers Advocating Medical Marijuana for Autism ([MAMMA](#)). Their primary mission is for medical marijuana states, which are currently increasing in number, to consider cannabis, even with THC, as a legal alternative for children diagnosed with autism.

Only one state, Delaware has that provision in its medical cannabis bylaws. Anecdotal reports have demonstrated that children with resistant cases of autism, *especially aggressive behavior*, are not always handled with CBD oils or tinctures.

Often it takes the full spectrum of cannabis oil with THC. Until autism is included as a valid reason for using cannabis, families have to resort to using one or more physiological manifestations of autism that fit within any state's allowances for their autistic children to benefit.

Kelsey Osborne's case may prove to be instrumental in furthering the cause of permitting autism to be included in several medical marijuana states, which have expanded significantly in the recent November 8th, 2016 election.

https://youtu.be/B_elvvU_Hvc

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<https://www.facebook.com/Moms4MJ/>

5 Idaho Children Medically Kidnapped based on Doctor's Opinion of Shaken Baby Syndrome



Baby Rylee Wolken with her four siblings. All 5 children were removed from the home based on one Idaho doctor's opinion of Shaken Baby Syndrome. Photos from [The Fight for Rylee Wolken Facebook Page](#).

by **Health Impact News/MedicalKidnap.com**

An Idaho couple has been blindsided by an accusation of

Shaken Baby Syndrome.

Michael and Chelsea Wolken had a date night and left their 5 month old baby in the care of a trusted babysitter. They knew something wasn't right when they got baby Rylee home that night, but they never dreamed that her symptoms would be diagnosed days later as Shaken Baby Syndrome.

The Wolkens have more questions than answers about what happened to make their baby so sick, but one thing they say they are certain of – they didn't shake their baby.

A Child Abuse Specialist pediatrician told police and Child Protection Services that the baby's condition had to be caused by abuse, based on his interpretation of x-rays, despite the fact that there were no external signs of trauma, such as a neck injury, bruising, or history of violence in the parents.

Since the doctor has made this diagnosis, CPS has taken custody of Rylee and removed Chelsea's other 4 children from the home.

And doctors have stopped looking for any other explanation.

A very sick baby is now living with strangers in foster care.

The Wolkens' friend and advocate Serra Frank says:

The state is blaming the parents, and they're saying that there's no possible way it could be anything other than shaken baby syndrome, which [we] know that's not true.

It makes me worried for baby Rylee, because if there's

something else going on they're no longer looking for a cause.

The babysitter is being questioned, but at this time, it appears that CPS believes that the parents hurt their baby. The parents report that their baby was fine when they dropped Rylee off at the babysitter's home, but she was projectile vomiting and lethargic when they got her home.

Since the doctors have asserted that someone had to have hurt the baby, the couple is left with asking what happened to her while they were on their date night.

As we have reported many times, the science regarding Shaken Baby Syndrome is not at all settled, and there are many other possible explanations for the symptoms of SBS, including recent vaccinations.

On the evening of August 25, 2017, Chelsea and Michael took Rylee to the babysitter's house on their way to their date night. Chelsea says that her baby acted completely normal before they dropped her off.



This photo of Rylee was taken at about 1:30 pm on Aug. 25 – before going to the babysitters’ house. Source: [The Fight for Rylee Wolken](#) Facebook page.

The babysitter was someone that Chelsea has known for 15 years. She had watched her children before, and she believed that the sitter was trustworthy.

During the course of the evening, Chelsea and the babysitter texted back and forth. When she asked how her baby was doing, the babysitter said that Rylee was doing fine.

Then, while the Wolkens were at the movies, the sitter called Michael’s phone instead of Chelsea’s. Chelsea later said that was “odd,” but she “didn’t think anything of it.”

Chelsea texted back asking what was going on, and the sitter told her that she just wanted a time frame as to when they would be back. They had only been gone for a couple of hours, and the movie wasn’t over yet. The sitter said then that Rylee was fussy and tired. She texted a photo of Rylee.



Photo of Rylee sent by babysitter at 10 pm. Source: [The Fight for Rylee Wolken](#) Facebook page.

By the time the couple picked up Rylee, they had been gone a total of 5 hours. Chelsea reports that the babysitter:

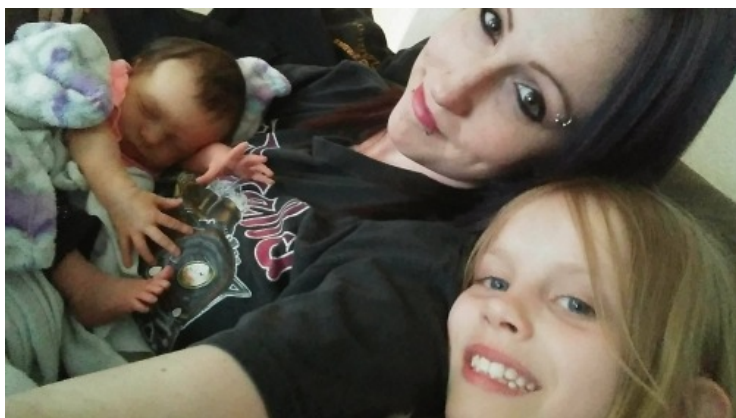
rushed Rylee to her carseat instead of handing her to me. I thought that was even odder but chalked it up to her just helping us get ready to leave. She rushed her significant other to quit talking to my husband so we could leave.

It took about a half hour for the Wolkens to get home. As they got the baby ready for bed, it quickly became apparent that something was wrong. Rylee was “projectile vomiting everywhere.”

Though Rylee is the couple’s first child together, Chelsea is the mother of 4 other children. As such, Chelsea has had some experience with stomach bugs, and that was what she assumed was going on.

The next morning, Chelsea said Rylee was “out of it and still not herself.” Besides vomiting and fussiness, she was also lethargic and had diminished appetite. The parents decided to give it 24 hours to see if it would resolve. It didn’t.

Parents Accused of Shaken Baby Syndrome with No Forensic Evidence – Only Medical Testimony



Rylee with her mother Chelsea and her big sister. Photo provided by family.

The following morning, Sunday, they took the baby to the local hospital. Doctors there told her that it was a gastric issue, and diagnosed pyloric stenosis. As her condition didn't improve, doctors transferred her later that day to [St. Luke's Children's Hospital](#) in Boise, Idaho, for further care and evaluation.

The Wolkens were devastated when they learned that a doctor at St. Luke's had a diagnosis for Rylee's condition – Shaken Baby Syndrome. Dr. Matthew J. Cox determined that the baby had retinal hemorrhaging, bleeding outside of her brain, and fluid between the membranes. The doctor called in the sheriff's department and Child Protection Services.



Dr. Matthew J. Cox – Child Abuse Specialist. [Source](#).

According to the investigational report from the Canyon County Sheriff's office, a detective states:

Dr. Cox reported to me that from his training and experience these injuries are consistent with an intentional violent shaking or jerking or other intentional trauma.

Family Destroyed with No Evidence of Wrongdoing

They had “the triad” of symptoms, and that was enough to rip the family apart, even though the officer admitted in his report:

At this time I have not been able to conclusively determine Chelsea or Michael did not cause, were not present, or did not have knowledge of how Rylee sustained her injury.

Thus, even though the officer admitted that they didn't know whether or not the parents had anything to do with Rylee's condition, the baby and her siblings were still removed from the Wolkens' custody. The report states:

Based on my ongoing investigation and possibility Rylee's injury was sustained while in the care of Chelsea and/or Michael, I declared Rylee in imminent danger on 9/04/2017.

As part of a "safety plan," the other 4 children were removed from the home. CPS put this plan into place and it was not something that Chelsea agreed to. She is not allowed to contact her other children at this time.

Rylee remained in St. Luke's hospital for two weeks under the custody of Child Protection Services. She had surgery to insert tubes in her head to drain excess fluid. She was discharged on Friday, September 14, to a foster home with strangers.

From having a date night to losing all of her children has been quite a shock to Chelsea, who wrote recently:

Having 5 kids ripped from our hands has been hard enough and a part of me dies each day they are away.



Baby Rylee with her 4 siblings – all taken from their home over the Shaken Baby allegation. Photo source: [The Fight for Rylee Wolken](#) Facebook page.

Family Looking for Answers Because Doctors Are Not

During the course of events since they brought her home from the babysitter's house, Chelsea and Michael have been trying to comprehend what was happening.

A series of text messages between the babysitter and Chelsea reveal an ongoing quest for answers.

The text conversation obtained by *Health Impact News* seems to paint a different picture than that shown in the sheriff's report. The texts occurred over the weekend before the time of the Shaken Baby diagnosis by Dr. Cox.

In the beginning, when Rylee was vomiting, Chelsea wondered if the sitter tried giving the baby a different formula. That wasn't it. There was discussion of another

child in the family who had been sick recently and wondering if Rylee could have caught something.

The Canyon County Sheriff's office received their initial report of possible abuse on Tuesday, August 29. They report interviewing the babysitter and her fiancé. During that interview, the sitter reported that the baby came to her house "exhibiting symptoms of paleness, lethargy, lack of appetite, crying, fussiness, exaggerated startle reflex, and inability to stay asleep."

That report is inconsistent with the text conversation between Chelsea and the babysitter.

According to the texts, Chelsea asked the babysitter at about 7 pm how her baby was doing. She was told that Rylee was fine. It was about 3 hours later that the sitter called her husband's phone. When Chelsea texted her, she said that the baby was fussy.

Chelsea told *Health Impact News* that she has been told that, with the symptoms that Rylee has, it can only be Shaken Baby Syndrome.

Entrenched Medical Dogma Increasingly Challenged

With the SBS diagnosis as a certainty, cases such as this become a matter of finger-pointing: doctors, police, and CPS place blame on the parents, while parents look to any other person who was with the baby.

Sometimes, parents are pitted against each other, while other times, it is parents versus caregiver.

In this case, it is longtime friends who have now been thrust into a situation where they question everything they once knew about each other.

However, just as music has trends, and the fashion industry has trends, the field of medicine has trends.

A current medical trend is to call any one of “the triad” of symptoms “Shaken Baby Syndrome.” The triad consists of subdural hematoma or brain bleeding, retinal hemorrhaging, and brain swelling.

The term has become so entrenched that doctors, especially Child Abuse Specialist pediatricians, it appears, often diagnose SBS without looking for any other explanation, even in the absence of any other signs of abuse, such as a neck injury, bruising, or history of violence in the parents.

As we have reported many times before, there are many doctors and scientists questioning the “established science” of SBS.

See:

[World Renowned Neuropathologist has Career Destroyed for Disproving Shaken Baby Syndrome](#)

[Mainstream Media Finally Exposing Shaken Baby Syndrome as False Diagnosis – How Many Innocent Parents Have Suffered?](#)

New Film Exposes Shaken Baby Syndrome Myth – Opponents Want to Silence it at Film Festivals

Could there be another explanation for Rylee's injuries? Could it be that no one, neither the parents nor the babysitter, is responsible for what happened to baby Rylee?

Other Evidence that Injuries Not Caused by Abuse

Consider Rylee's birth. She was born prematurely, at 36 weeks. It is well established in the medical literature that prematurity is associated with a higher rate of brain bleeding, subdural hematoma, and retinal hemorrhaging than full-term birth.

Before she was born, her mother experienced pre-term labor as early as 5 months into her pregnancy. She was given medication to stop the contractions, but after 2 doses, Chelsea reports that her baby stopped moving. She stopped taking the medication out of fear that it would harm Rylee.



Rylee after her recent surgery. Photo source: [The Fight for Rylee Wolken](#) Facebook page.

When she was born, she had breathing problems. Chelsea doesn't know if her baby was administered oxygen, because the staff worked on the baby out of her line of sight.

She says that Rylee's cry was weak after she was born. It is fairly standard protocol for newborns to have oxygen administered if they are having breathing problems. Oxygen is associated with a higher risk of retinal and brain hemorrhaging – a fact which, again, is well established in the medical literature.

As we recently reported, studies have shown that 1 in 4 normal full-term newborns have retinal hemorrhaging ([Source](#)), and 46% have some kind of brain bleeding ([Source](#)).

See:

Common Childbirth Practice Could Lead to Later False Diagnosis of Shaken Baby Syndrome

The current medical belief is that any brain bleeding or retinal hemorrhaging from birth always resolves by 5 to 8 weeks after birth – all 2 million of them that occur every year.

That, in and of itself, seems highly implausible. It is as if doctors have their fingers in their ears, refusing to hear any suggestion that later bleeding could possibly be related.

However, Dr. Steven Gabaeff, a clinical forensic physician, points out that:

Clinically, we know that crying, vomiting, or even normal handling have caused observable, often symptomatic episodic rebleeds ([Source](#)).

It is logical that Rylee's condition may not be related to any

person shaking or abusing her.

Vaccine Connection?

On August 10, Rylee was vaccinated with “all of the typical 4 month shots,” including DTaP, Hep b, and Rotavirus. This was 15 days before her parents’ date night. According to [VAERS](#) as well as the package inserts of some vaccines, the same symptoms used to diagnose Shaken Baby Syndrome are also possible side effects of vaccines.

See:

Vaccine Induced Scurvy and Shaken Baby Syndrome

Are Parents Going to Jail for Vaccine Injuries?

The family chiropractor saw Rylee the day before her parents’ date night, and gave her a clean bill of health. He wrote a letter stating that, on that date and the date of the previous visit, “there were no visible signs of bruising or trauma at that time.”



Rylee, just before going to the babysitter's house. Photo source: Wolken family.

A couple of family members had been sick around the time that Rylee began vomiting. Her lethargy, lack of appetite, and vomiting could simply have been, as Chelsea originally suspected, a stomach virus.

The vomiting and crying, as Dr. Gabaeff asserts, could have triggered rebleeding in Rylee's brain and eyes, in which her condition deteriorated rapidly.

There was no sign of bruising, no neck injury, and no other sign of abuse or a fall. None of the other children in the family have shown signs of being abused. Chelsea volunteered to take a drug test, which showed no signs of drugs.

Could the Wolkens, and their babysitter, be victims of junk science, while the doctors who are supposed to care for their patients stop looking for the real cause of her symptoms because they have blamed the parents for a crime? Because of the accusation by the Child Abuse Specialist, longtime friends are forced into a situation where they are pitted against each other.

At this time, there is no evidence that any particular person hurt Rylee. There are no witnesses, only accusations based on an entrenched theory in medical practice, a theory that is being increasingly challenged.



Rylee with Michael. Photo source: The Fight for Rylee Wolken Facebook page.

Child Abuse Specialist: Abuse Must be Found to Justify New Pediatric Speciality

Dr. Matthew J. Cox is the doctor who told the police that, in his experience, these symptoms are seen with “intentional violent shaking or jerking or other intentional trauma.”

He has a great deal of experience in the field of Child Abuse Pediatrics. As we have previously reported, this field is a relatively new certification. The American Academy of Pediatrics first began board certification of this specialty in 2010. Doctors in this field are trained in looking for abuse.

They are not neurologists or orthopedists or radiologists, and we have found many instances where specialists who are specifically trained in these fields refute the findings of the Child Abuse Specialists.

For more info see:

Are New Pediatric “Child Abuse Specialists” Causing an Increase in Medical Kidnappings?

Child Abuse Pediatricians: An “Ethically Bankrupt” Profession that Destroys Families

A problem arises when judges, especially family court judges, who work closely with Child Protective Services to condemn parents based sometimes exclusively on the testimony of a Child Abuse Specialist, all the while ignoring other medical reports from other specialists and medical experts.

We have seen cases where parents had up to a dozen reports from medical experts asserting that the child suffered from a real medical condition that was not abuse; yet, the judge

either never heard the evidence or chose to ignore it, in favor of the testimony of a Child Abuse Specialist – a doctor whose livelihood is based in finding abuse, whether or not it actually exists.

When parents are accused of child abuse outside of family court in criminal cases, judges across the country are throwing out convictions or demanding new trials if parents or caregivers were convicted solely based on medical testimony in favor of Shaken Baby Syndrome.

If other medical or scientific evidence is not presented, it is generally believed in civil courts today that the parents or caregivers did not receive a fair trial, and most district attorneys are not willing to retry these cases.

This has been such a widespread problem, that judges, law schools, and even the American Bar Association are now training attorneys on how to fight back against Shaken Baby Syndrome charges in court.

See:

[Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts Opens the Legal Door to Retry All Shaken Baby Syndrome Convictions](#)

[Attorneys Being Trained to Fight Bogus Child Abuse Charges used in Medical Kidnappings](#)

University of Michigan Law School Awarded \$250K to Learn How to Defend Shaken Baby Syndrome Cases

Ruling Alters Legal Landscape in NY Shaken-baby Cases

In what many people call the *Family “Kangaroo” Court* system, however, criminal charges against the parents or caregivers are not necessary in order to take a child out of a home. The single testimony of a Child Abuse Specialist, who often simply looks at x-rays and never even bothers to interview the parents or family pediatrician, is enough to award the custody of a child to the State, where that child then represents a significant amount of revenue through federal and state funding.

Dr. Matthew J. Cox: Trained Child Abuse Specialist

Dr. Cox is well versed in Child Abuse politics and policy, even when it contradicts hard science. He is board certified in Pediatrics and Child Abuse Pediatrics.

He attended medical school at the University of Texas Medical School in Houston. He did his residency at Vanderbilt, the hospital that medically kidnapped the Turner children ([story](#)), the Seagraves’ children ([story](#)), the Miller children ([story](#)), the Evans children ([story](#)) and Baby Steffen ([story](#)).

Dr. Cox then did a fellowship in Child Abuse and Neglect at Children’s Hospital in Philadelphia, the hospital responsible for seizing the Battiato boys ([story](#)). From there, he became the co-director of the [REACH](#) program, Referral and

Evaluation of At Risk Children, in Dallas, Texas.

He is currently the Medical Director of CARES – Children at Risk Evaluation Services – at St. Luke’s Children’s Hospital. According to his [bio](#) on the hospital website:

His primary practice involves the medical evaluation of children suspected of being victims of possible physical abuse, sexual abuse, or neglect.

In his quest to protect children from child abuse, has he fallen into a practice which possibly causes even more harm to children: that of accusing innocent parents of abuse?

Once children are taken away from families that love them, they are subjected to at least a 6 times greater risk of being abused, molested, raped, or killed in foster care. The very act of being separated from their parents can cause irreparable harm to growing children, and is, in itself, abuse.

Possible Experimentation?

One of the family’s advocates, Serra Frank, has expressed fear that the hospital may decide to use Rylee for experimentation, because children who are wards of the state may legally be used in drug testing or medical research without their parents’ knowledge or consent.

See:

Medical Kidnapping in the U.S. – Kidnapping Children for Drug Trials

Serra says:

What happened with baby Steffen scares us all.

See:

Medically Kidnapped Baby Scheduled for Execution TODAY!

Chelsea and Michael Wolken were concerned enough about this possibility that they wrote a letter to the hospital:

In regards to Rylee Rae Wolken (4-9-17)
we, Michael Wolken and
Chelsea Wolken do not consent
to any procedures or any
experimental procedures without
approved by us, her biological and
legal parents/representatives. We are
our daughters advocate.

Dated September 6, 2017

Chelsea Wolken
Michael Wolken

How You Can Help

A Facebook page has been set up by supporters of the family
– [The Fight for Rylee Wolken](#).



Governor C.L. Butch Otter is the governor of Idaho. He may be reached at (208) 334-2100, or contacted [here](#).

Patti Ann Lodge is the Senator for the Wolken family's district. She may be reached at (208) 459 7159, or contacted

[here](#).

There are two representatives for their district:

Representative Scott Syme may be reached at (208) 573 9301, or contacted [here](#).

Representative Christy Perry may be reached at (208) 880 9720, or contacted [here](#).

Recently Chelsea Wolken posted on Facebook:

Everyday it gets harder. Not knowing how she's doing. Not knowing if she remembers me. Promised they would keep in touch. I'm dying inside.

Babysitter Arrested for Shaken Baby Syndrome - But CPS Still Refuses to Return Baby to Parents



Baby Rylee was hospitalized and separated from her family.
Source: [The Fight for Rylee Wolken](#) Facebook page.

by **Health Impact News/MedicalKidnap.com Staff**

When Michael and Chelsea Wolken of Canyon County, Idaho, picked up their 5 month old baby last month from the babysitter's house, they were concerned that she wasn't acting right. Now, the babysitter has been charged with felony injury to a child and accused of Shaken Baby Syndrome.

Now that the parents are no longer being blamed, their baby should be home. Child Protective Services doesn't see it that

way, and they appear to be looking for any reason they can find to keep the child in their custody. The parents are devastated and just want Baby Rylee home, where she belongs.

Baby Shows Symptoms after Going to Babysitter

Before the night of August 25, 2017, Baby Rylee was acting normal. She played and cooed and interacted with her family just like she always did. On their way to their date night, the Wolkens dropped Rylee off at the home of a babysitter – a mother that Chelsea has known and trusted for 15 years.



Baby Rylee before going to the babysitter. Source: [The Fight for Rylee Wolken](#) Facebook page.

Almost immediately upon getting Rylee home that night, the baby began projectile vomiting. She was fussy and lethargic. A couple of days later, a Child Abuse Specialist decided that she had Shaken Baby Syndrome.

Police issued an emergency order to place Rylee into the custody of Child Protective Services because, at that time, they said that they couldn't rule out the parents as suspects. Chelsea's other 4 children were removed also and placed with their fathers.

See original story:

5 Idaho Children Medically Kidnapped based on Doctor's Opinion of Shaken Baby Syndrome

The family was devastated. Rylee underwent surgery to drain excess fluid from her brain. When she was released from the hospital, she went to the home of foster parents. The baby was forced to recover from surgery with strangers unknown to her or her family.



Baby Rylee in the hospital. Source: [The Fight for Rylee Wolken](#) Facebook page.

Other Possible Causes Ignored

Child Abuse Specialist, Dr. Matthew J. Cox, asserted that the only explanation for Rylee's symptoms had to be Shaken Baby Syndrome, despite numerous other conditions that can cause the same symptoms. Because of his diagnosis, everyone involved stopped looking for any other explanation.

The science behind Shaken Baby Syndrome has increasingly been challenged, and some now refer to it as “junk science.”

See:

[World Renowned Neuropathologist has Career Destroyed for Disproving Shaken Baby Syndrome](#)

[Mainstream Media Finally Exposing Shaken Baby Syndrome as False Diagnosis – How Many Innocent Parents Have Suffered?](#)

[New Film Exposes Shaken Baby Syndrome Myth – Opponents Want to Silence it at Film Festivals](#)

[Common Childbirth Practice Could Lead to Later False Diagnosis of Shaken Baby Syndrome](#)

Rylee's mother was given medications to stop premature labor during her pregnancy. She was born prematurely, and had breathing problems at birth. She was likely given oxygen at birth.

All of these things can result in symptoms that are part of the “diagnostic triad of symptoms” for Shaken Baby

Syndrome: retinal hemorrhaging, brain bleeding, and brain swelling.

The theory is that all of these symptoms resolve within 5 to 8 weeks, and any of these symptoms seen after that point are indicators of abuse.

However, Dr. Steven Gabaeff, a clinical forensic physician, points out that:

Clinically, we know that crying, vomiting, or even normal handling have caused observable, often symptomatic episodic rebleeds. ([Source](#))

Shortly after the Wolkens picked up their baby from the babysitter, Rylee began projectile vomiting, and her parents originally suspected a stomach bug or reaction to new formula. The possibility remains that she had a stomach virus, and the resulting crying and vomiting led to rebleeding in her brain, causing symptoms this time.

The baby received the standard vaccinations 2 weeks prior to the incident. Several of these vaccines, especially DTaP and Hep B, are known for leading to brain bleeding.

It could be that no one actually caused harm to the baby, but because the Child Abuse doctor, Dr. Matthew J. Cox, decided that the definitive diagnosis is Shaken Baby Syndrome, someone must be blamed, even if they are innocent.



Dr. Matthew J. Cox – Child Abuse Specialist. [Source](#).

Dr. Cox has a great deal of experience in the field of Child Abuse Pediatrics. Doctors in this field are trained in looking for abuse, but they are not trained as neurologists, orthopedists, or radiologists. They often find abuse in cases where other specialists have refuted their findings.

For more info see:

**[Are New Pediatric “Child Abuse Specialists”
Causing an Increase in Medical Kidnappings?](#)**

**[Child Abuse Pediatricians: An “Ethically
Bankrupt” Profession that Destroys Families](#)**

Parents Cleared of Injuring Baby

From the beginning, Chelsea and Michael have maintained their innocence. Their baby was fine when they left for their date night, and it is apparent that some of her symptoms began while she was at the babysitter's home.

Police originally looked at the parents, and their baby was removed from their custody because officers said that they couldn't rule them out as suspects yet. Chelsea was forbidden to see her other 4 children.



Siblings together with Baby Rylee. Source: [The Fight for Rylee Wolken](#) Facebook page.

The Wolkens logically assumed that, since the doctor said someone had to have inflicted harm on the baby, the babysitter must be responsible. The babysitter, likewise, pointed at the parents.

This type of finger pointing is very common in investigations such as these, where everyone who could be suspected tries

to figure out what happened and who could be to blame. Investigations often pit husband and wife or parents and grandparents against each other. In this case, it is parents versus babysitter.

If a crime has been committed, it would logically be either the parents or the babysitter who is guilty. However, it is reasonable to believe that no crime was committed by anyone, and that this was a tragic sequence of events that mimics abuse but isn't abuse.

Early in the investigation, the possibility was presented that Chelsea was on drugs. She quickly volunteered to take a drug test in order to put that suspicion to rest. The test showed that she was clean.

Chelsea volunteered to take a polygraph test in the hopes of showing that they had nothing to do with Rylee's injuries. Many people warned her against it, saying that innocent people can sometimes fail because it measures stress responses. She was already under a great deal of stress with her baby being very sick and in the hospital, and some were worried that the test might cause more harm than good.

On September 19, Chelsea wrote:

I have been advised by counsel, friends, advocates and family about the risks of polygraphs. But I just wanted to inform everybody that I went against it all today and stuck with my intuition and went to my detective today unassisted and took my test.

She passed the test. Based on the polygraph test, police have ruled her out as a suspect in her daughter's injuries.

Babysitter Arrested

The babysitter, however, did not pass her polygraph test. Subsequently, Kyla Vaughn was arrested on September 21 and charged with 2 felonies: injury to a child and infliction of great bodily injury. Bail was set at \$50,000. Kyla has since bonded out and is awaiting trial.

Arrest # 243869

KYLA M VAUGHN



Charges

118-1501(1) (F) - Children-Injury to Child

Babysitter Kyla Vaughn's mugshot. ([Source](#))

The question remains – could she be innocent as well? It is unknown at this time if investigators have further evidence

that she hurt Rylee or if she has any history of violence. Her only other arrest record is for a speeding ticket and failure to appear in 2013.

Baby Still Held by CPS

With the babysitter's arrest, it would be reasonable to suspect that Rylee would be returned to her parents. The sole reason given for seizing her was the fact of her injuries and the fact that investigators had not ruled out the parents.

However, as many parents across the United States have learned, once Child Protective Services has their foot in the door of their lives, they don't often leave easily. They often continue to look for other reasons to keep children in their custody for as long as possible. Parents and advocates have described this to *Health Impact News* as "fishing expeditions."

The other children in the family have been released to come home. However, at the pre-trial conference the attorney for CPS told the Wolkens that CPS was "looking into other concerns."

After the baby was hospitalized and seized from the parents, there was an incident where police were called for a "domestic disturbance," because of a disagreement related to the stress of what has been happening with Rylee.

The parents were in a very unusual situation for them. When a child is taken from a family, for whatever reason, there is a great deal of stress involved. Hospitalization of a child is also a high stress situation. It is an expected and normal response that tensions run high.

However, there was no violence involved. There were no criminal charges filed, and no one was accused of anything.

CPS is allegedly using that incident, along with text messages and conversations with the babysitter who was later arrested, in order to keep Rylee in their care.

The next hearing is on Monday, October 2. It is an adjudicatory hearing which requires a preponderance of evidence that shows Kelsey and Mike to be unfit, or a danger to Rylee, or a need for services, in order to keep Rylee in CPS custody. Kelsey reports that the CPS case is based only on hearsay with no evidence, and that their attorney plans to file a motion to dismiss and a motion to return Rylee immediately to her home.

How You Can Help

A Facebook page has been set up by supporters of the family – [The Fight for Rylee Wolken](#).



Governor C.L. Butch Otter is the governor of Idaho. He may be reached at (208) 334-2100, or contacted [here](#).

Patti Ann Lodge is the Senator for the Wolken family's district. She may be reached at (208) 459 7159, or contacted [here](#).

There are two representatives for their district:

Representative Scott Syme may be reached at (208) 573 9301, or contacted [here](#).

Representative Christy Perry may be reached at (208) 880 9720, or contacted [here](#).

Baby of Idaho Disabled Mom Seized when Parents Claim Religious Exemption to Vaccines



Baby Elijah was taken from his mom at birth.

Health Impact News

UPDATE 11/27/2017

from the [Health Freedom Idaho Facebook page](#):

Update on Idaho's baby Elijah case

They were not able to finish the Shelter Care hearing today. They will continue on Wed at 8am and will have time to finish up on Fri. The family is hopeful that the issue will be resolved through cooperation with the department.

We must continue to call and email the hospital admin that began this atrocious act against a disabled mother and loving and very capable father. To contact the [Kootenai Health](#) administration office, email administration@kh.org or call Kootenai Health's administrative office at (208) 625-4001.

We must also continue to contact the legislators of that district and ask them to please get involved in reuniting this family.

Representative Eric Redman eredman@house.idaho.gov
(208) 623-6383

Representative Vito Barbieri vbar@house.idaho.gov (208)
620-0873

Senator Steve Vick svick@senate.idaho.gov (208) 819-4189

It is unconscionable that sweet little Elijah has been away from his mommy and daddy for 5 days now. What about baby Elijah's right to be breastfed and bond with his mommy and daddy in these most precious first days?

This family will continue to lean on the support of their church family as they work together to be reunited. Health Freedom Idaho is working on a fundraiser for the family as they will have exorbitant costs through this process.

by [Health Freedom Idaho](#)

Something unconscionable has happened in North Idaho this last week. We were notified by the daughter of a local pastor here in Kootenai County regarding a woman of his congregation, Diamond Mehlhoff, who gave birth in Kootenai County @ KMC on Monday November 20th via C section.

On Wednesday November 22nd, after the parents refused

vaccination for the baby, the state became involved and took this beautiful baby, Elijah, from his loving parents, claiming the mother to be unfit due to a diagnosis of cerebral palsy (a non progressive movement disorder).



Diamond is an active individual who doesn't let cerebral palsy slow her down.

They have stated the mother to be bedbound, which is not at all the accurate, she also lives with her husband Ari and the grandfather of the baby.

This is an unbelievable, unheard of, egregious case of disability discrimination.

Their court hearing is tomorrow, Monday 27th at 8am @ 205 N 4th Street Coeur D Alene ID 83814 in the Juvenile Justice Center. They are asking anyone available to please come support them.

For those concerned that perhaps this family is 'unfit' Health Freedom Idaho has been researching this story since the day that it happened. We feel confident that this family's

parental rights have been violated under the guise of the mother's illness.

This kind of blatant disregard of parental rights is happening all over the country.



**MEDICAL
KIDNAPPING
in progress**

*** I D A H O ***

Mom with cerebral palsy gives birth to a healthy baby boy. After claiming religious exemption from vaccinations, the State seized her newborn claiming mom's non progressive disorder makes her and her husband unfit to raise their child.

Their court hearing is tomorrow Monday 27th at 8am @
205 N 4th Street Coeur D Alene ID 83814
in the Juvenile Justice Center.

Contact the Hospital Administration and Idaho Elected Officials in District 2 Representatives Eric M. Redman, Vito Barbieri and Senator Steve Vick

Easy cut and paste into your BCC portion of your email and send!

eredman@house.idaho.gov,
ybar@house.idaho.gov,sjvick@senate.idaho.gov,administration@kh.org

Representative Eric Redman

P.O. Box 40, Athol, 83801
Home (208) 623-6383
Statehouse (208) 332-1070 (Session Only)
FAX (208) 623-6383

Representative Vito Barbieri
564 E. Prairie Ave., Dalton Gardens, 83815
Home (208) 620-0873

Senator Steve Vick
2140 E. Hanley Ave., Dalton Gardens, 83815
Home (208) 819-4189

Kootenai Health
2003 Kootenai Health Way
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

Jon Ness
Chief Executive Officer
(208) 625-4001

Jeremy S. Evans
Executive Vice President,
Hospital and Regional Operations
(208) 625-4001

[Source.](#)

Enraged Idaho Community Acts to Help Young Couple Who Refused Vaccine for Newborn - Baby Back Home for Now



by **Health Impact News/MedicalKidnap.com Staff**

An Idaho newborn who was seized by Child Protective Services the day before Thanksgiving over vaccine refusal was conditionally returned to his parents on Friday, December 1.

While supporters are rejoicing over the judge's decision, there is a great deal of concern over the state of Idaho's overreach in taking baby Elijah. Precious bonding time was

lost, and a new family has been traumatized.

See our original story:

[Baby of Idaho Disabled Mom Seized when Parents Claim Religious Exemption to Vaccines](#)

Diamond Mehlhoff has cerebral palsy, which is a brain disorder affecting movement. Despite her disability, she is active and involved in her church. She lives with her husband Ari and the baby's grandfather.

Baby Seized After Vaccine Refusal

According to [Health Freedom Idaho](#), a group that has been involved with the family's case since the baby was taken:

On Wednesday November 22nd, after the parents refused vaccination for the baby, the state became involved and took this beautiful baby, Elijah, from his loving parents, claiming the mother to be unfit due to a diagnosis of cerebral palsy (a non progressive movement disorder).

Idaho state law allows vaccine exemption for religious, philosophical, and medical reasons. In fact, there are only 3 states that do not recognize religious exemptions – California, Mississippi, and West Virginia.



Visit the [National Vaccine Information Center](#) for more information on state by state vaccine exemptions.

At *Health Impact News*, we are increasingly seeing cases where the issue of vaccines seems to be the catalyst for involvement by Child Protective Services. Whether or not refusal of vaccines ends up listed in the grounds for removal, numerous parents have reported that it was when they refused one or more vaccines that medical staff became hostile or subjected them to more scrutiny.

In this case, the allegation is that the mother's disability is an issue, but it was apparently not until after the parents stated that they were refusing vaccines on religious grounds that her disability became an issue of concern.

Targeted for Vaccine Refusal?

Dr. James Lyons-Weiler believes that the increase in cases

like this is a calculated move:

What is happening here is, I believe, state by state by state, they want to set the precedent by which they're claiming to have the authority to take children away from parents who decide not to vaccinate.

What I believe is happening is they are going after low income families who have no chance of having any substantial legal assistance, who can't afford legal aid themselves.

They're trying to set a precedent by which it looks like they're taking children on the basis of vaccination, as if that's something that they can do legally.

See:

Vaccine Refusal Increasingly Being Linked to Medical Kidnapping – Violation of Civil Rights

Health Freedom Idaho has faced criticism that vaccines surely cannot be the real issue because the hospital has allowed other parents to refuse vaccinations. They address this concern by noting that other parents that have experienced similar things with this hospital have been too afraid to go public, and that the issue might be more widespread than the public is aware.

One argument that we see often is that this hospital has allowed others not to vax and allowed other disabled parents to take their children home. Why would it be different this time? Well, there is a first time for everything and that is why

we wanted to bring this to the light.

However, as this story has come out other parents have shared their stories of being bullied at the hospital. Obviously this isn't hospital policy so it is not across the board. So, one family can have a great experience with the staff and others can have a completely different experience.

It's unfortunate that parents are so afraid to tell their stories for fear they will lose their children and come under public scrutiny.

Family Reunited, Bonding Time Lost

For the Mehlhoff family, they have won a temporary victory. Their baby is now home with them. Their church family has rallied around them and will be providing round-the-clock support.

because of
YOUR HELP
ELIJAH
IS GOING
HOME

Mom, with cerebral palsy, gave birth to a healthy baby boy November 20, 2017. After legally invoking a vaccination exemption, CPS seized her newborn, apparently they are concerned that her non-progressive disorder makes her and her husband unfit to raise their child. Their community (and citizens across the nation) rallied behind this family to request that the State return their infant.

HealthFreedomIdaho.org/bring-elijah-home

According to Idaho state law, the initial “shelter care hearing” must be held within 48 hours of removal of the child, excluding holidays and weekends. Because the baby was seized on the day before the Thanksgiving holiday, it was 5 actual days before the first of the 3 part hearing was held.

He was returned home 9 days after he was seized. Thus, a 2-day old breastfeeding newborn was traumatized by separation from his mother and was deprived of critical bonding time, time that can never be replaced.

Besides the obvious impact on establishing breastfeeding, the separation from her baby is also traumatic for a newly postpartum mother. Such trauma can impact a mother’s recovery and lead to increased risk of postpartum depression.

Like every other family that comes under the heavy hand of

Child Protective Services, the couple will have to jump through hoops as they prepare for the next court hearing. What those hoops are has not been released publicly.

Statement from Health Freedom Idaho

This is the statement released by [Health Freedom Idaho](#):

****UPDATE***We had the first taste of victory and justice as it was decided by the court that baby Elijah could go home!!!*

I arrived at the courthouse for the shelter hearing today ready for a long day of waiting through testimony. To my surprise the doors of the courtroom opened after only about 20 to 30 minutes of court being in session. We had the first taste of victory and justice as it was decided by the court that baby Elijah could go home with his mom (Diamond) and dad (Ari) TODAY!

I witnessed the pure joy on Diamond's face as she was wheeled out of the courtroom knowing that she would be able to hold, nurse, and bond with her baby today.

The church members, friends, and family cheered, hugged, and cried as the news spread through those of us that had hunkered down for the long haul. The news came so quickly that it took a moment for it to all sink in and then people went into action and planning. There was an excited shout, "We have to get the carseat!"

I have witnessed an incredibly supportive church family lead by pastor Brenden Biggs. Under his direction, the church had come together with a plan of 24 hour assistance for the family and the court agreed. According to state statute, the

longest that this agreement can be in place is 3 months.

We were not told facts specific to this case as it cannot be shared at this time.

We do know that the legal procedure would be this: First there is a shelter care hearing. At this point, there can be a resolution reached which stipulates that there is a reason for the Dept to be involved. Part of allowing an agreement like this means that the party is then able to get the child back immediately.

The case moves toward a pre-trial, then an adjudicatory hearing within 30 days (after the removal of the child). The parents can agree to move the hearing but the hard date is 3 months.

The resolution put forth can stay in place for 30 days, but no later than 3 months. At 3 months a new resolution needs to be written or the case dismissed. The resolution can also be dismissed at anytime.

Pre-trial hearing is set for Dec 18th at 1:30 pm. The adjudicatory hearing set for Dec 22 at 9am. Of course, these times can be subject to change and we will notify you of any changes.

This is a time to celebrate! It is also a time for the family to bond as a new family should. They have things to learn especially Diamond as she learns how to mother Elijah with a disability.

This is no small task but now she has the opportunity to do this, as I would imagine that she intended, with the guidance and care of those that love her.

As for the rest of us, we need to look into the heart of this issue which is the systematic overreach of the department. It is imperative that people know their rights and how to enact those rights from the beginning of a situation before it escalates.

We plan on educating ourselves and you as we delve into the law and the protection that it can provide. We must do so keeping in mind that our human rights and parental rights are NOT granted to us by the government but by our Creator.

Contact Legislators

Even though baby Elijah has been reunited, legislators still need to hear from the public that this kind of governmental overreach must be addressed. Here is contact information for the hospital and legislators:

To contact the [Kootenai Health](https://www.kootenaihealth.org) administration office, email administration@kh.org or call Kootenai Health's administrative office at (208) 625-4001.

We must also continue to contact the legislators of that district and ask them to please get involved in reuniting this family.

Representative Eric Redman eredman@house.idaho.gov
(208) 623-6383

Representative Vito Barbieri vbar@house.idaho.gov (208)
620-0873

Senator Steve Vick svick@senate.idaho.gov (208) 819-4189

2-Year-Old Girl Taken Away From Parents Because Military Vet Dad Chose Medical Cannabis Over Dangerous Psych Drugs for PTSD



Zoey Thomas. Photo from [Justice for the Thomas Family Facebook Page](#).

by **Health Impact News/MedicalKidnap.com Staff**

Idaho is usually a place that has numerous parental protections, including choosing whether or not to vaccinate your children, homeschool your children, or even take your children to a doctor when you believe that your faith will heal them.

There haven't been many extreme stories of corruption in Child Protective Services out of Idaho.

But throw medical cannabis into the mix, and Idaho suddenly becomes very anti-parent and anti-family.

Despite over 74% of Idahoans supporting medical marijuana in a 2011 Boise State University survey, cannabis laws in Idaho remain unchanged, and families across the state are being affected.

(See a previous story on this topic: [Idaho Mom Loses Two Children for Using Medical Cannabis to Stop Seizures](#))

On March 22nd, 2018, the Thomas Family of Eagle, Idaho, experienced first hand just how harsh the state of Idaho can be when someone chooses to use medical cannabis.



Edward Thomas with daughter Zoey. Photo from [Justice for the Thomas Family Facebook Page](#).

Edward Thomas is a 29-year-old, Iraq Veteran of the Army National Guard. He spent a year stationed within a combat zone in Baghdad and suffers from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) caused by what he witnessed during that time.

As we have reported many times here at *Health Impact News*, military people suffering from PTSD are almost always prescribed a strong cocktail of psych drugs with toxic side effects, and in the U.S. military, vets are committing suicide

at a high rate, as we lose more vets to suicide than we do to combat.

See:

[The Role of Psychiatric Drugs in Military Suicides and Sudden Deaths](#)

[700 Percent Increase in Number of Psych Drugs Prescribed to Active Soldiers Leads to More Deaths by Suicide than Deaths by Combat](#)

[Former Navy Seal & Army Colonel Awarded for Fight Against Mass Drugging of Our Armed Forces](#)

[Veterans Kick The Prescription Pill Habit, Against Doctors' Orders](#)



Edward Thomas served his country in Iraq. Now, the state has removed his daughter simply because he found relief for his PTSD and seizures from medical cannabis. Photo supplied by family.

Edward Thomas also suffers from a small benign tumor in his brain that has caused several epileptic episodes in the past.

Edward currently works as a customer service representative in Boise, Idaho, to provide for his small family, including his wife of six years, Ashley, and 2-year-old daughter, Zoey. Edward and Ashley are also currently expecting their second daughter, Scarlet, due to arrive June 22nd, 2018.

Ashley is a 27-year-old, disabled mother, that suffers from scoliosis, heart issues, as well as chronic depression and Bipolar disorder.

Both Edward and Ashley have found relief from their suffering due to their various conditions, through the use of [medical cannabis](#).

Edward says:

It helps with my nightmares and insomnia caused by my time overseas. I used to wake up in a panic from dreams that I was killed in an explosion or seeing my family killed in one. It helped me stop taking several pills for depression and anxiety, and even helps with my chronic pain.

CPS Shows Up to New Home Based on Anonymous Phone Call



Ashley with daughter, Zoey. Photo from [Justice for the Thomas Family Facebook Page](#).

On the morning of March 22nd, Ashley was home alone with Zoey, about to eat breakfast, when two social workers from the Idaho Department of Health Welfare, Child Protection Division, showed up at their door. Amy Johnson and Holly Lavoie told Ashley that they had received an anonymous phone call with a report of concern for Zoey's well-being and asked Ashley if they could come inside the home.

Ashley declined and stated that she was busy right then. She

says that the social workers pointed out a bong that was sitting on the counter and said that she had to let them in because of the paraphernalia. Not knowing that this was not true, and that she had the 4th amendment right to say no and demand a warrant, Ashley let the social workers into her home.

Edward and Ashley had recently bought a run-down mobile home trailer to renovate and make their own. They had rented space in a park outside of the city of Eagle and had only been there for two weeks before the social workers arrived at the door.

The home was cluttered with moving boxes and animal cages.

Edward breeds guinea pigs for show as a hobby and had several cages in the living room. Ashley explained to the social workers that they had just moved there and the house wasn't finished being unpacked or renovated. The kitchen was also cluttered with dishes that Ashley hadn't had time to tackle yet, as well as more moving boxes in the process of being unpacked.

The social workers looked around the home and told Ashley that they had to call the police to report the paraphernalia. The social workers waited outside of the house for the police to arrive.



Daddy with Zoey in untidy, just-moved-in home. Photo from [Justice for the Thomas Family Facebook Page](#).

Two officers arrived on the scene and entered the home,

Sheriff Deputy Paul Lim and Deputy Austin Eckhardt. They searched around of their own accord and then asked to enter the locked room.

Ashley told them that it wasn't hers and did not give permission for the police to enter it. Ashley reports that Deputy Lim pushed on the door until it opened due to the faulty door lock, allowing the officers to look inside.

Ashley says that she did not give permission, nor did the officers have a warrant to open the locked door.

Inside of the room were five medical marijuana plants, growing under some lights. The fertilizer that was being used is reportedly made from bat guano, which resulted in a very rank smell, a smell that Edward and Ashley say the social workers and police officers attributed to the conditions of the house instead of the fertilizer.

Deputy Lim and Deputy Austin called in more officers to investigate the scene. They located numerous pieces of marijuana paraphernalia, include a scale, bong, pipes, and containers. They also located Edward's .45 handgun, which had been secured in a gun box on a shelf in their bedroom.

According to the police reports, the officers took their time as they searched through Edward and Ashley's belongings, noting every negative they could find within the house; even allegedly masquerading as electricians and contractors in an effort to report on the structural integrity and electrical safety of the home the Thomas Family had just purchased.

They went as far as to point out stains on the carpet, despite the fact that the Thomas Family had just moved in and couldn't have been there long enough to create that amount

of damage.

Edward and Ashley defended their home and pointed out that ALL of their belongings had just been moved to the location, so of course it was not in the most tidy condition. They had just moved in.

As many parents have found is common with these types of situations, even positives were turned into negatives.

“The fridge was well stocked...” “...but had several stains inside.”

“The child was appropriately dressed...” “...but had greasy hands.”

In the photo that was provided in the police evidence, Ashley points out the Pringles can sitting next to Zoey in the stroller and comments “of course they were greasy, she was just eating chips when they took the photo!”

Parents Arrested and Sent to Jail



Photo from [Justice for the Thomas Family Facebook Page](#).

The police confiscated everything they found, including Edward's legally-obtained firearm. Idaho is a very conservative, republican state, that strongly supports it's citizen's rights to bear arms, and, as a military veteran, Edward is obviously well-trained in the use and safety of weapons, but that didn't keep the social workers and police officers from using Edward's possession of a gun against him and taking it into evidence.

The officers and social workers ransacked the Thomas home, ultimately arresting Ashley, as well as Edward upon his arrival at the home. The couple was transported to the Ada County Jail, where they were questioned by officers, separately, without an attorney present.

Both Edward and Ashley were booked into the jail, each on

three felony charges – *Manufacturing a Controlled Substance*, *Manufacturing a Controlled Substance with Intent to Deliver where a Child is Present*, and *Injury to a Child*.

A No Contact Order with Zoey was requested by the Department and granted, forbidding Edward and Ashley from any contact with their daughter.

Fortunately, Zoey was placed in a kinship foster placement with Ashley's mother and not in the home of strangers.

Having family members nearby in their home state of Idaho to help out the young family is the main reason why they could not consider moving to a state with more friendly medical cannabis laws.

In addition, as we have reported here at *Health Impact News*, even in states where marijuana is legal, because it remains illegal at the federal level, child protection services are removing children from parents who use medical cannabis even in states where it is legal. See:

[Oklahoma Mom Gives Legal Cannabis Oil to Epileptic Daughter to Stop Seizures – Now all 5 Children Medically Kidnapped](#)

[Oregon CPS Kidnaps Child Because Parents are Legal Medical Marijuana Patients](#)

[Parents Out on Bail Try to Meet Ever-Changing Demands of CPS to get Daughter Back](#)

Since then, Edward and Ashley were able to bail out of jail

with the help of their family, each on a \$20,000 bond. They've cooperated with the department, jumping through what seems like an endless line of hoops and demands. They have been forced to rush the renovations on their home, costing them thousands in repairs to appease the requests of the social workers.

Edward says:

No matter what repairs were made they seemed to constantly have something to add on.

They were told to fix the stained carpet, so they did.

Then it became the cracked tile in the kitchen. So, it was fixed.

Everything they could find had to be fixed immediately, including the smallest gap between the fridge and the cupboard.

Then it became an issue with the animals and every "what if" the social workers could drum up. So, Edward made a gate to separate the guinea pigs from the living room.

They were told by social workers that they are being "rewarded" by the department for their cooperation by being allowed to have supervised visits with their daughter.

After a little more work and cooperation, they were given unsupervised visits and promise of 48-hour visits with overnights.

They have yet to hear back on when this will be allowed, despite that they were told they'd be able to have their daughter come home next week if they cooperated fully.

Edward says:

They just keep asking to do walk-throughs of the house; in my mind they are just looking for more reasons why it is unfit.

The social workers keep changing on them, as well as the plan for Zoey's return home. Currently, Socialworker Heather Blair is assigned to the case, with Kristen Nate supervising.

Edward and Ashley have done everything that has been asked, but the department seems to be stalling before their adjudicatory hearing.

Both Ashley and Edward continue to face three felony charges in criminal court as well, with preliminary hearings scheduled for May 25th.

Idaho Wants to Convict These Parents as Criminals – Forever Altering Their Future



Edward and Ashley on their Wedding Day. Hopes and dreams for a happy family are now dashed as they face the future of being labeled as criminals for choosing a natural healing plant over dangerous pharmaceutical drugs. Photo supplied by family.

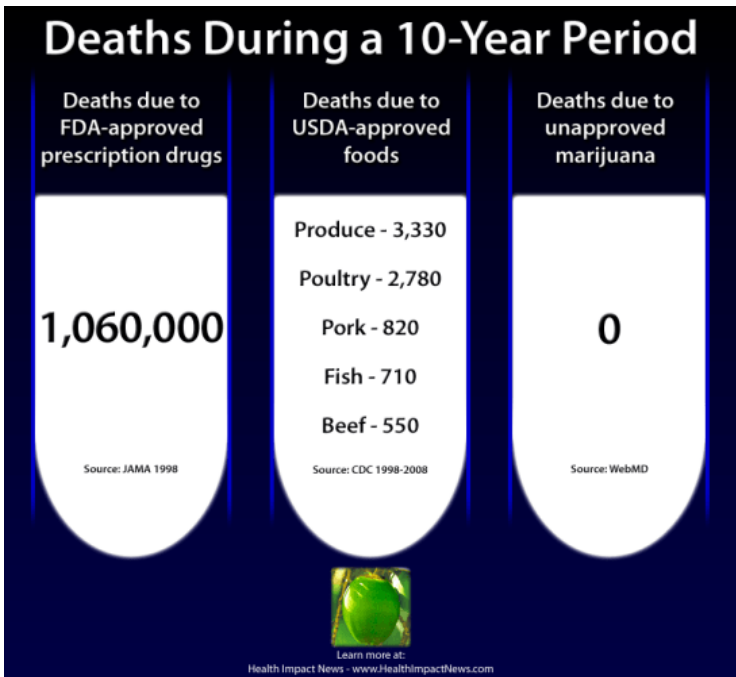
Edward and Ashley were each offered a plea agreement at their last court date, a deal that would include five years of Felony Probation, if they just plead guilty to the two felonies related to the Marijuana, and a reduced misdemeanor Injury to Child charge.

Both Ashley and Edward turned down this deal, with the hope of fighting back against what they feel is injustice in Idaho regarding their necessity of a safer medicine and a better quality of life.

Ashley says:

I feel destroyed that they took our daughter over a healing plant. I feel like our government and justice system are corrupt and unjust. And I want justice.

Taking Dangerous Pharmaceutical Drugs Now Required to Get Daughter Back



Edward and Ashley have since had to return to the pharmaceuticals they were avoiding, in the hopes to control their pain and suffering.

Edward is already up to 150mg of the anti-anxiety medication, Hydroxyzine, which is intended for short-term use only and includes side effects like involuntary motor

activity and tremors, severe headaches, and hallucinations.

These young parents now live in a state of chaos and confusion, combined with physical and emotional pain, compounded with the threat of permanently losing their daughter, Zoey; and, as many expectant parents have experienced while under supervision of the Department – the fear of losing their new baby, Scarlet, upon her birth in June.

Family Advocate and local activist, Serra Frank tells *Health Impact News*:

When it comes to Medical Marijuana, the laws and policies of the state of Idaho conflict greatly with the Will of The People.

The People of Idaho do not want our Veterans locked in cages, or their children taken away, just for choosing a non-toxic plant over dangerous pharmaceuticals.

We owe our lives and our freedom to these soldiers.

And this is how we repay them? By destroying their families and forcing them into a criminal system just for making the decision to combat their demons with a safer drug?

It doesn't make sense, and it isn't what the people of Idaho want.

How You Can Help

Facebook page –
<https://www.facebook.com/justice4thomasfamily/>

Change.org petition -
<https://www.change.org/p/c-l-butch-otter-justice-for-the-thomas-family>

Contact [Idaho Governor – Butch Otter](#) – [Facebook Page](#)

District 14 Representatives

Sen. Marv Hagedorn

Rep. Mike Moyle

Rep. Gayann DeMordaunt

Idaho Department of Health and Welfare Director, Russell S. Barron, 208-334-5500

Deputy Director, Health, Welfare, and Family services: Lori Wolff, 208-334-5500

Contact the Director's Office -
<https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/ContactUs/DirectorContact/tabid/3833/Default.aspx>

UPDATE:

Since writing this story, *Health Impact News* has learned that Zoey has apparently been allowed to go home to her parents for now, although the State of Idaho still has custody. The criminal charges remain against the parents, and they are required to stay on pharmaceutical drugs with toxic side effects as a condition to have their daughter in their home.

Idaho Homeschooled Teenager with History of Medical Issues Removed from Mother Against His Will Due to Child Abuse Doctor Testimony



Homeschooled Teenager with Celiac & Scoliosis Medically Kidnapped at Idaho Children's Hospital – Mother Wrongfully Accused of Medical Abuse & Educational Neglect

by Health Impact News Staff

Brandon McCreery was always a small child, and had always been in the care of his mother, who diligently worked with doctors to find solutions to his medical needs.

They moved to Idaho in 2017 in search of better health care. After being diagnosed with influenza, lab tests revealed Brandon had Celiac Disease, which was probably a contributing factor to his constant battle to put on weight.

However, a psychological evaluation was ordered and his case was referred to a Child Abuse Specialist at St. Luke's Children's Hospital in Boise.

A short time later, Brandon's mother was being charged with child abuse, and Brandon became a victim of Medical Kidnapping, where his own voice in the matter was suppressed.

His mother was further charged with educational neglect for homeschooling Brandon, and he was forced to attend high school even though he had already fulfilled all high school requirements and graduated at age 16.

Brandon McCreery's Story – A Small Child

Since he was born, Brandon McCreery has been a small child. He arrived in the world on July 8th, 2003, full term, at 5 lbs, 15.2 oz and 18 inches, the small end of “average size” for full term babies. At 18 months, he was in the 3rd percentile, weighing less than at least 97% of children his age.

His pediatrician, Dr. Kevin Marks from Eugene, Oregon, commented on his small stature and his extraordinary inability to gain weight, calling Brandon “a petite child” and speculating that “the reason for his low weight is most likely

a genetic issue.”

At 5 years old, Dr. Marks comments that Brandon

“has always been petite on his growth curves. He has a healthy appetite. There are no food restrictions. Both his weight and height trending along the 3rd percentile for most of his life. His BMI is normal, but on the low end. He may have constitutional delay of growth, otherwise asymptomatic. No development or learning concerns.”

At 11 years old, Dr. Anthony Gunsul in Albany, Oregon, documented that Brandon’s weight had fallen into the 1st percentile. In his assessment, Dr. Gunsul states,

“Prediction of child’s target height based on midparental height 5’7”, therefore I suspect patient’s stature is most likely one of the two most common causes of short stature: Familial (Genetic) Short Stature or Constitutional Delay of Growth, which are normal variants of growth. Patient is otherwise healthy.”

In October 2015, yet another doctor, Edward Frothingham from Albany, Oregon, also made note about Brandon’s small stature, stating,

“He has normal symmetric bulk and strength.”

A bone age test was conducted that said Brandon’s skeletal age was normal for an 11-year-old standard, a year behind

his age at 12 years old.

His mother, Kristine McCreery, stands at 5'2 and averaging 115 lbs, showing the genetics of the small stature into which Brandon was born. Kristine says she has never weighed more than 142 lbs, which was the day she gave birth to Brandon.



Kristine, a single mother and real estate blogger, says she spent years working to provide adequate nutrition and meals, including the use of Pediasure, a nutritional shake for children, and vitamins to help improve Brandon's weight and health.

As early as age one, medical records document her attempt to involve medical professionals in her concerns for his weight and dietary care, specifically when she stated to Dr. Marks that "his weight was not in the same percentile as his height" and requested help with increasing his weight.

Kristine grew up in the Bay Area, in Sunnyvale, California. She met Brandon's biological father in Santa Rosa, California, and became pregnant in 2002.

When her father was advised to move closer to Portland, Oregon, after being added to a heart transplant list there, Kristine move to Eugene, Oregon, with her parents and sister while she was still pregnant with Brandon.

After her father passed away in 2003, the family eventually moved to Albany, Oregon. Kristine's mother, Kathy, is disabled with sciatic nerve damage and often needs assistance. Kristine's sister, Michelle, is their mother's caregiver.

In May 2017, the family moved to Mountain Home, Idaho, in search of a better quality of life. Idaho was known for having more sunny days to enjoy the outdoors compared to rainy Oregon, and the family had been told Idaho also had better health care.

On June 26, 2017, at age 13, Brandon's new doctor in Mountain Home, Dr. Justin Smith, states,

“Brandon is well developed and well nourished at 76.8 pounds.”

In November 2017, Brandon lost approximately 5 pounds due to an illness, but was back up to 77.6 lbs when he visited with Ben Bradley, PA-C, at St. Luke's Primary Care in Nampa Idaho, in June 2018, after moving to Nampa, Idaho.

Vitamin D Deficiency

At that visit, Mr. Bradley ordered lab tests to be done, something Kristine says no doctor had ever done before. All of the labs came back normal, except for his Vitamin D levels, so Brandon began taking Vitamin D supplements. Kristine says that Mr. Bradley was worried about possible 'failure to thrive' and told her to also add Pediasure back to his diet to get his weight up, in addition to the Vitamin D supplements.

After the visit with Mr. Bradley, Kristine decided to send Brandon to a primary care physician that she had found for herself, Dr. Erik Linn at St. Alphonsus Primary Care. According to medical records dated October 9th, 2018, Brandon had gained weight since seeing Ben Bradley during the summer, and weighed 82.8 lbs. Dr. Linn switched Brandon from Pediasure to Ensure, the adult version of the nutritional shake.

Doctor Visits Due to Infections

On December 17th, 2018, Brandon was seen by Dr. Linn for an upper respiratory infection. He was prescribed Cheratussin because he was coughing so much he couldn't sleep through the night. At this time he weighed 85.2 lbs.

On December 21st, 2018, Kristine took Brandon to the ER for continuing issues, this time receiving a diagnosis of Bronchitis from Dr. Matthew Schreiber, the emergency room physician. He had lost a bit of weight, weighing in at 83.4 lbs.

Scoliosis Diagnosis

An Xray and CT was performed and Brandon was diagnosed

with mid-thoracic dextroscoliosis and upper thoracic levoscoliosis, specific types of scoliosis that result in a sideways curve of the spinal column.

If the spine curves to the right, the condition is known as dextroscoliosis. If the spine curves to the left, the condition is called levoscoliosis.

Also cited in the medical records is a diagnosis of pectus excavatum, a structural deformity of the anterior thoracic wall in which the sternum and rib cage are shaped abnormally. This produces a caved-in or sunken appearance of the chest. It can either be present at birth or develop after puberty.

Treatment for Influenza

After the New Year (2019), Kristine says that Brandon started to “feel crappy.” He was just recovering from the bronchitis he had over Christmas, and was feeling sick again. Kristine says he developed flu-like symptoms, was obviously sick, and also complaining of stomach pain.

On January 6th, Brandon still wasn’t feeling better and was still complaining of stomach pain, so Kristine took him to St. Alphonsus in Nampa, Idaho.

It was a Sunday and their primary care physician was closed so they had to go to the emergency room.

At the St. Al’s ER, Brandon was diagnosed with Influenza A. He had been so sick that he had lost quite a bit of weight, and medical records show he weighed only 70.54 lbs on that date.

Records also state that he was mildly tachycardic, still

recovering from bronchitis, and his labs were low. The ER staff did not administer any fluids or medications. Kristine says that she was not told any of this, except for that he had the flu.

He was discharged home in stable condition with a prescription for Tamiflu and ordered to follow up in 3-4 days for a recheck.

Kristine says that after his first dose of Tamiflu, Brandon became delusional. Kristine says he was trying to open a box on his bed that wasn't there.

Concerned, she called the ER and spoke with a triage nurse who said that's a reaction to the Tamiflu. Kristine was told to discontinue the use of it and the symptoms should resolve within 8 hours, but if not, to please return to the ER.

Kristine says she did as directed by the triage nurse, discontinued the Tamiflu and the bad reaction was resolved within 8 hours.

By January 9th, Brandon's symptoms had only gotten worse. It was after 10pm, and the primary care office was closed again. So Kristine took him back to the ER at St. Alphonsus.

According to records, he weighed 72.75 lbs. At the ER, Brandon was given IV fluids, morphine for the abdominal pain, zofran for the upset stomach.

He was assessed to have Mesenteric Adenitis (inflamed lymph nodes), and was prescribed codeine/Guaifensesin for his cough, Tramadol for his pain, and more Zofran for nausea. He was discharged, and Kristine was told to bring him back if things got worse.

The next day, on January 10th, his abdominal pain was even worse, so Kristine took him back to the ER. He had gained a few pounds since the day before, weighing in at 76.50 lbs according to medical records.

He was given more Morphine and IV fluids. Dr. Christopher Tobe noted that this was his 3rd ER visit in a week, that Brandon's labs were low possibly due to the viral syndrome, either from Influenza A or potentially infectious mononucleosis, and he ordered more testing.

Kristine was told that Brandon had the flu, and was initially told that the doctor wanted her to take Brandon back home "under close watch."

Tired of repeated trips to the ER and extremely worried about her son, Kristine says she urgently insisted that they provide other treatment for him. She says she knew something else was going on other than just the flu.

It was either that or this was some very severe case of the flu, but whichever it was, she believed he needed medical treatment and insisted they treat her son.

Brandon was admitted to St. Alphonsus in Nampa and then transferred to St. Alphonsus Pediatric Center in nearby Boise, Idaho. Medical records show that he was admitted with Influenza A, a positive result for Mono, abdominal pain, recent weight loss, as well as thrombocytopenia (low blood platelet count), and leukopenia (low white blood cell count).

Over the next two days, Kristine watched her son suffer. It was often necessary for her to help him out of bed and walk to the bathroom. Brandon was given a walker so that he could navigate the hallways and receive some exercise.

Psych Evaluation of Brandon

According to medical records, on January 13th, Dr. Marc W. Bostick conducted a psych evaluation interview with Brandon. His report refers to “staff concerns” of the relationship dynamic between Brandon and his mother, referring to Kristine as a Mama Bird. Dr. Bostick concludes in his report that he does not think there is “anything abusive or dangerous about it.”

On January 14th, social worker Lisa Manery conducted an investigation on the same concerns. She also didn’t find anything abusive and ends her report with “no future social worker involvement necessary.”

Test for Celiac Disease

On January 15th, records show that a specimen for Celiac testing was collected by Dr. Curtis McGuyer, a medical director at St. Alphonsus.

On January 16th, Brandon was transferred to St. Luke’s Children’s Hospital in Boise by Dr. Jennifer King. Kristine was told that it was because there was nothing else St. Al’s could do for him, and he needed testing for cystic fibrosis, a respiratory disorder that can result in extreme malnutrition due to digestion issues.

Transfer to Child Abuse Specialist

However, according to medical records of Dr. Amy Barton, a child abuse specialist that works for St. Luke’s through their Children At Risk Evaluation Services (CARES), the actual purpose for the transfer was to put Brandon into her care of Dr. Barton to determine whether or not his condition was

medical abuse vs. medical neglect.



Dr. Amy Barton. [Image Source](#).

Dr. King from St. Al's had allegedly already decided that the only cause of his weight problem was that this mother was hurting her son, and asserted that there were concerns of medical abuse by Kristine either actively by not allowing Brandon to eat, or passively through medical neglect.

She had primarily sent Brandon to St. Luke's Children's Hospital CARES to be under the care of the child abuse specialist, Dr. Barton.

St. Luke's Children's Hospital CARES (Child At Risk Evaluation Services) is a team of physicians employed by the hospital to specialize in child abuse evaluations.

According to their website, they provide “medical examinations, treatment, and forensic interviews conducted by specially trained professionals.” They also provide “legal documentation, court preparation, and crime victims compensation assistance.”

“Children are primarily referred to CARES by child protective services, law enforcement agencies, and the court. Healthcare providers may refer to CARES after consulting with CARES medical staff. Referrals cannot be taken directly from parents, counselors, attorneys, or others.”

See: [St. Luke’s CARES \(Children at Risk Evaluation Services\)](#)

Medical Kidnapping by Child Abuse Specialist Teams has become a common issue at Children’s Hospitals in recent years. See:

[**Boston Hospital Seizes 15 Year Old From Parents Over Medical Treatment Disagreement**](#)

[**From Bubby’s Best Birthday to Parent’s Worst Nightmare: Medical Kidnapping in Washington**](#)

[**Formerly Healthy Girl with Rare Genetic Disorder Dies After Being Medically Kidnapped in Georgia**](#)

[**Tennessee Family Seeks Lawsuit for Malpractice, Negligence, and Wrongful Death Over Down Syndrome Baby Taken Off of Life Support**](#)

Former Nurse at Phoenix Children's Hospital Speaks Out Against Medical Kidnapping of Children

Unbeknownst to Kristine, Dr. King had really sent her son to St. Luke's to be evaluated for medical abuse, and had also already called Child Protective Services.

Brandon Removed from His Mother's Care

On January 17th, Kristine was approached by Dr. Barton and asked to step into the hallway to answer some questions, promising Brandon that his mother would be right back.

Kristine agreed, but little did she know, she would never return to that room.

Kristine says this is when she first met CPS investigator Teresa Torres and Detective Erin Pon from the Nampa Police Department.

Kristine was interrogated for almost an hour, inside of a small room with the detective and social worker.

They asked her about Brandon's weight, about his feeding habits, about his schooling and social activities.

Kristine says she felt she had nothing to hide and answered everything truthfully. They told her they were concerned about his weight, and she replied that she was concerned too. That is part of why she had brought him to the hospital.

Dr. Barton's initial report alleges that Brandon's weight had been declining since July 2017 and that the "most likely cause of this child's malnutrition is inadequate calorie

intake.”

Kristine mentions that St. Luke’s never once referenced Brandon’s St. Alphonsus records that showed he had gained a significant amount of weight prior to getting sick in December.

According to information collected in an affidavit by Detective Erin Pon with the Nampa Police Department, Dr. Barton had also stated that if Brandon had “proper nutrition and had access to the sun, there is no way that his Vitamin D levels would be so extremely low.” So, in other words, his mother must be intentionally not feeding him, or letting him outside into the sun.



Image of Brandon supplied by family.



Image of Brandon supplied by family.

However, Brandon's medical records do not confirm this, and show that Brandon's weight and Vitamin D levels had increased significantly over the previous year, while under the care of Dr. Linn.

According to WebMD, the most accurate way to measure how much vitamin D is in your body is the 25-hydroxy vitamin D blood test. A level of 20 nanograms/milliliter to 50 ng/mL is considered adequate for healthy people. A level less than 12 ng/mL indicates vitamin D deficiency.

The 5.23 ng/ml levels Brandon had when he visited with Ben Bradley in June 2018 had risen when checked on January 10th, as he was admitted to St. Al's.

At that date, his Vitamin D levels were up to 25.4 ng/ml. According to medical records, his levels had risen even further by February 6th, to 35.9 ng/ml, when checked again at St. Luke's.

The doctors, detective, and department accused the mother, alleging Brandon would be dead within six months if he was not taken into emergency foster care.

The supposedly better health care system that she had moved to Idaho to receive, therefore, resulted in the kidnapping her child.

Det. Pon declared Brandon in imminent danger and Brandon was immediately removed from mother's care for medical abuse. Kristine was removed from the hospital where her very sick son was being held, not even allowed to say goodbye to him before she left.

Diagnosis of Celiac Disease

Meanwhile, back at St. Alphonsus that same day, Medical Director Dr. McGuyer ordered a Celiac test be conducted on the sample obtained from Brandon on January 15th.

According to medical records, on January 18th, that test came back positive for markers for Celiac Disease. But Brandon had already been transferred to St. Luke's Children's Hospital and Kristine had already been separated from her son.

Kristine now believes that her son has been suffering from Celiac Disease all along, and that may be the contributing cause for Brandon's health condition at the time of removal, including malnutrition and Vitamin D deficiency.

However, his mother would not know the results of that test until months later, when she collected the medical records for her court hearings.

At the Shelter Care hearing a few days later, Kristine didn't have much of a voice. Hearsay is enough to keep a child in care, and Kristine was advised by a public defender to continue on to adjudicatory hearing where the facts were supposed to be presented.

On January 31st, a social worker named Michelle Borgquist, also from St. Luke's CARES, met with Brandon for another interview. She spent almost an hour interrogating the child.

She inserted new claims that there was concern over "intense enmeshment of the nuclear family to the detriment of the child" implying that Kristine doesn't allow Brandon to interact with children his own age, or even barely leave his home.

A report of the interview was created by Dr. Barton, in addition to another report by a CARES social worker, Katherine Lovejoy. Both reports were regarding the interview with Michelle, and provided to Judge Tucker at the adjudicatory hearing.

Brandon's Voice Not Heard

However, the actual interview with Brandon, was not included.

The report reads:

"Brandon stated Health and Welfare was worried about his

weight, but he denied concerns for his weight. Brandon stated Health and Welfare ‘split me from my family.’ Brandon reported this is ‘stupid’ and when asked what was ‘stupid’ Brandon replied, ‘all that is going on.’ Brandon reported they have food in the house and he gets to eat what he wants.”

Every time Brandon says something positive about his mother, or denies the allegation about not being fed, Dr. Barton and Katherine Lovejoy claim the answers are scripted – perpetuating a new allegation that his mother had coached him in what to say to doctors.

The report also states that, “Child continues to maintain that he lost 15 lbs in 2 days from influenza, but there is no medical documentation to support this and seems medically impossible that the child was ever 90 pounds or that he would lose 15 pounds in a matter of days,” and then alleges that Brandon is stating information that is not real.

Dr. Barton states,

“Child is very restricted in his interview and gives scripted answers to questions. When child is asked to describe details about activities or types of food in his home, he is unable to do so.

Child is unable to describe how to prepare foods that he states he prepares for himself at home and is unable to describe activities he reports he does with his family.

There is great concern for coaching and/or delusional perception of the child’s life rooted in codependency and enmeshment.

Child continues to recount and state information that is not based in reality.”

Dr. Barton goes on to continue her assertion that the child is in need of counseling to deal with “unhealthy levels of enmeshment within the home.”

The social worker report also refers to an instance at the hospital where a single nurse alleged that Kristine had to assist Brandon with his genitals to produce urine.

Horrified by this accusation, Kristine passionately denies this occurred, and explains that the only instance that this could possibly refer to is when she held a urinal to collect the urine, with the aid of two St. Alphonsus nurses that helped hold Brandon up while he urinated, because he was too weak to stand at that point.

Kristine says she finds all of these accusations absurd and doesn’t understand why the social workers and doctors are lying like this. She continues to assert that there is something more going on with her child’s health that is being ignored.

Kristine says that no one ever said Brandon was 90 lbs, but that he had reached 85.2 lbs in December, and then had dropped to 70.5 on January 6th.

He had actually gained weight before he was finally admitted to St. Al’s on January 10th, weighing 72 lbs when he was at St. Al’s on January 9th, and 76 lbs on January 10th when he was finally admitted to the pediatrics ward and diagnosed with Mono; all confirmed by Brandon’s St. Alphonsus medical records.

Listening to the full interview between CARES and Brandon, it is very obvious that key information was left out of Dr. Barton's report, perhaps intentionally.

In the almost hour-long interrogation with Michelle Borgquist, Brandon states several times that nothing is wrong at home, his mother takes care of him, they do things outside of the house, and that he has plenty of access to food.

The interview begins with Michelle telling Brandon that they are in her "Talking Room" so that she can ask him questions and he can feel safe answering them. She makes him promise that he will tell the truth. Brandon agrees and then proceeds to answer her questions.

When asked about things that he enjoys doing, Brandon answers include badminton, bowling, golf, chess, video games, board games, as well as several other outside activities.

At approximately 8m:45s into the interview, Brandon is asked if he can think of anything that has happened recently that made him sad or unhappy. Brandon answers,

"Not being able to be with my family."

When asked to tell more about that, he responds,

"Well, it's stupid."

When asked what is stupid about it, you can hear his voice

break as he answers,

“Well just the fact that it happened. All of this.”

At 10:42, Brandon is asked to explain why he was there that day. He responded,

“I know they’re worried about my weight and everything.”

When asked who, he replies,

“Children’s Health and Welfare...”

When asked why they were worried about his weight, he says,

“I don’t know. It’s low.”

At 11:44, Brandon is asked why he is living in foster care and he responds,

“Because they split me apart from my family.”

When asked why they split him from his family, he is unable to give an answer, and is quite emotional several times. He says he doesn’t remember what they said and that they

didn't give him a reason.

At 13:30, when asked about how he feels about being there to do the interview, he replies that it is

“awful.”

When asked what makes it so awful, he replies,

“Not being with my family.”

At 20:39, Brandon is asked if his family ever helps him go to the bathroom, and he responds that they help

“walk me to it, but don't like physically help me go to the bathroom”

and

“I can go pee by myself.”

Throughout the conversation, Brandon is asked to describe his day, his routines, his school work, as well as activities his family does outside the home. Brandon explains these things in detail, including bowling trips to a local family center called Wahooz, and about the miniature golf course they have.

At approximately 24:45, Brandon is asked what he does for lunch. Brandon explains he sometimes has

“sandwiches, like turkey sandwiches, grilled cheese sandwiches, chicken, lettuce, tomato, onion, chicken and rice.”

At 25:15 Bradon is asked if there is ever a time that he didn't have food. Brandon denies the question, with a simple

“Huh-uh, we always have food.”

He is then asked if there is ever a time when he was hungry and for some reason couldn't get food to which Brandon responds,

“Nope.”

At 33:18, Brandon is asked if he feels safe when he is with his mom, and he responds,

“Yeah, of course.”

When asked what she does that makes him feel safe, he responds,

“Well, she's nice. She's my mom. Like, who wouldn't be safe

around their mother?”

After the social worker explains that some kids aren't safe around their mother, Brandon replies,

“Well, she protects me.”

When asked what he likes about his family, he replies,

“Just being with them. Doing stuff with them,” as he begins to cry again.

Throughout the interview, Brandon gives very detailed answers. He describes numerous items in both his refrigerator and pantry, and continues to deny questions referring to his mother not feeding him. He explains in detail why he lost weight when he was sick, and that he has always been on the low end of the scales.

It's obviously through his own words that Brandon wants to be with his family, and has never alleged that his mother does not provide for him. When asked if he was concerned about his weight, he replies,

“No, because I can always gain it back.”

Full CARES interview with Brandon

<https://youtu.be/c9AJ5GRqmV4>

Allegations and hearsay from the doctors and detective may have been enough to remove and withhold Kristine's child until an adjudicatory hearing within 30 days.

But at adjudication, only facts are supposed to be allowed. Kristine felt confident that the judge would see the hearsay for what it was, and that Kristine would finally be able to present all of the evidence that showed they were lying.

The adjudicatory hearing was held on March 6th, with Canyon County Judge, Courtine R. Tucker, presiding. The hearing was held 49 days after Brandon was removed from his mother's care (the day she was removed from the hospital), despite Idaho's strict laws that require adjudicatory be held within 30 days of removal.

At the hearing, Shari Dodge, Canyon County Prosecuting attorney, continued to allege medical abuse, and presented both Dr. King and Dr. Barton as witnesses.

Dr. Barton and Dr. King both testified under oath, and continued with their hearsay allegations of medical abuse. Kristine says Dr. King testified that Brandon was like a "stegosaurus in a concentration camp" (to which Kristine once again refers to the combination of Celiac and Scoliosis symptoms).

Teresa Torres, the CPS investigator, also testified further about the "enmeshment" allegation originally perpetuated by Dr. Barton. Only the hearsay evidence of being told this allegation from Dr. Barton was given. Kristine said that no one in the courtroom, not even the judge, knew what she meant, and Teresa was forced to elaborate on the definition of "enmeshment."

However, according to Kristine and the court paperwork, there were never any examples of how “enmeshment” has occurred, other than Brandon denied the allegations of medical abuse by his mother and the doctor alleging his answers that contradicted the allegations, were “scripted” and not based in “reality.”

Dr. Barton repeatedly expressed concerns about Brandon’s Vitamin D exposure, and the department continued to allege it must be because Kristine doesn’t allow Brandon to go outside.

According to court records, Dr. Barton’s report of the CARES interview was submitted to the court as evidence, but the CD with the actual interview was not. Judge Tucker has read the words in the report, but has never actually listened to the interview itself and heard Brandon’s words (listed above).

Court Rules Against Mother

Brandon was declared dependent upon the State of Idaho for his safety, and forced to remain in foster care. And Kristine was forced to comply with a case plan that painted her as a sadistic, controlling, psychologically unstable, and abusive mother who refuses to feed her child or let him go outside; alleging she was forcing him to be entirely dependent on her.

For the next six months, Kristine and Brandon were restricted to once-a-week supervised visits.

In the beginning, because of foster care placement with friends from Mountain Home, the visits were held by going out to eat, or doing something fun like miniature golf or an escape room. Brandon was allowed visits with Grandma and

Aunt, who have always been a daily part of his life.

Kristine worked hard to cooperate with CPS, hoping that by submitting to their services, they would see the truth for what it was, and let her son come home.

Brandon's Aunt Michelle says,

“Since Brandon was taken, my sister has done everything in her case plan required from CPS and court ordered – including extra things that CPS seems to have forgotten, like wanting to follow up on his scoliosis, celiacs, and even with a nutritionist.”

Kristine says she has attempted to show the medical records that contradicted the allegations to social workers and anyone who would listen. But her attempts were always ignored and disregarded. Even her paid attorneys failed to submit her evidence to the court.

Brandon had been given a public defender to represent him in court from the Canyon County Public Defender's office, Bethany Harder, as well as a Guardian Ad Litem from the 3rd District Guardian Ad Litem program, Janet Lee, and a second attorney, this one for the Guardian Ad Litem, Alexa Perkins.

According to Kristine, Brandon says none of these women return his phone calls or tells the court that he wants to go home or that his mom feeds him just fine, as he has repeatedly told them. And they refuse to communicate with Kristine about his medical records.

Instead of seeking the truth of this young man's health, and speaking in his true “best interest,” or even speaking for

him in court despite promises that they will, Kristine says these women just echo the words of CPS.

Kristine is fighting against 7 different voices, all echoing the same hearsay allegations of intentional medical abuse to the court. And her voice still has yet to be heard.

Educational Neglect Alleged Due to Homeschooling

Another allegation that CPS suddenly decided to throw at Kristine is that Brandon has been homeschooled for his entire life. The Department now alleges that Brandon's education was neglected, because he was homeschooled, and has requested educational evaluation, despite that he has a history of being in the gifted and talented programs through his online homeschool in Oregon.

The Department is also requesting that Brandon begin his freshman year at Homedale High School this September, despite that he has actually graduated through homeschool with the appropriate amount of credits at the end of this last school year.

Kristine presented with his High School diploma on his 16th birthday, July 8th.



According to Idaho Statute, Idaho does not regulate or monitor homeschools or homeschool instruction:

“a homeschool student must be comparably instructed to students in the public school during the compulsory attendance ages of 7 through 16 years of age.”

See:

TITLE 33 – EDUCATION, CHAPTER 2 – ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOLS

Even without having graduated, according to that law, Brandon would still not be legally required to attend public school in Idaho as he is now sixteen. But his mother says that doesn't matter. He has already graduated 2 years early.

Mom Passes Psych Evaluation but CPS Orders New One

After Kristine completed the required psych evaluation, the report from Dr. Phares Books came back in her favor. The department was not satisfied and motioned to have a new psych evaluation done, demanding that a new one be done with a new psychologist, this with copies of the CARES reports that alleged medical abuse and neglect provided prior to meeting with Kristine.

Her family is extremely concerned about this creating a bias and contends that the department is doctor-shopping because they didn't get the result that they wanted to match their narrative of medical abuse.

Kristine is appealing this order. She continues to assert that she does not have psychological problems, that she has provided for her son for his entire life, and fed him as any mother would. She continues to assert that her son has Celiac Disease and his illness is being ignored.

Lab Test for Celiac Disease Missing

According to St. Luke's discharge paperwork, Dr. Gregory Boss stated that Brandon's labs for Celiac came back negative. However, despite the thousands of papers that make up Brandon's medical records, the official lab results for a Celiac test by St. Luke's cannot be found. Kristine has called St. Luke's records numerous times, and has submitted an official request to find the blood panel – which came back with no results found.

What she does have in hand is the positive results of markers for Celiac through the St. Alphonsus test dated

January 18th.

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PROMETHEUS Test Results
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PROMETHEUS® Celiac Serology

9410 Cassell Park Drive
San Diego, CA 92121
Phone: (888) 429-5277
www.prometheus.com

T41739

Patient & Order Information				Report Recipient	
Order ID	3835648			Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center (LAB)	
Patient	McCreey, Brandon J			1055 North Curtis Rd.	
DOB	07/08/2003	Sex	M	Attn: LAB Central Processing	
SSN		Prometheus ID	2526552	Boise, ID 83706	
Institution ID	2333535	Reported	01/18/2019	USA	
Ordered	01/17/2019	Ordered By	Medical Director	208/367-2015	Phone 208/367-6781 Fax
Sample ID:SV01170092	Collection Date:01/15/2019 6:37PM (Serum)			Institution Sample ID: T41739	

Test Result

Assay	DGP IgG	DGP IgA	TTG IgA	EMA IgA	TOTAL IgA	Summary Interpretation
Result	-	+	-	-	See Below	Results may support a diagnosis of celiac disease.

Serological markers for celiac disease detected.

Positive DGP, IgA may also occur in normal individuals as well as in other GI conditions.

But none of the attorneys that have worked with Kristine to date have brought this to the attention of the court. Instead, all of the focus has been on Mom, with the chiding of the attorneys to quit fighting and just “do what they say.”

The documented diagnosis of Celiac and Scoliosis are being completely ignored by the prosecutor, the department, and the doctors, and even the attorneys who were supposed to be helping Kristine. It has never been seen by the judge or submitted to the court record.

A quick Internet search might help speculate why the diagnosis is being rejected.

According to WebMD.com,

“Teens with celiac disease may not show symptoms until they’re in a stressful time, such as when they leave home or have an injury, illness, or pregnancy. They tend to show many of the same symptoms as younger children, including diarrhea, abdominal pain, weight loss, and fatigue. Teens can also have other symptoms such as: Growth problems and delayed puberty.”

According to [MayoClinic](#), “Untreated, Celiac Disease” can cause:

- **Malnutrition.** This occurs if your small intestine can’t absorb enough nutrients. Malnutrition can lead to anemia and weight loss. In children, malnutrition can cause slow growth and short stature.
- **Bone weakening.** Malabsorption of calcium and vitamin D can lead to a softening of the bone (osteomalacia or rickets) in children and a loss of bone density (osteopenia or osteoporosis) in adults.

According to the [Celiac Disease Center at the University of Chicago](#), there are common nutrient deficiencies that an adult might experience prior to diagnosis, including:

“Iron, calcium and Vitamin D being the most common deficiencies, but some present with deficiencies in B12, copper, folate, magnesium, niacin, riboflavin and/or zinc. Nutrient deficiencies associated with celiac disease are due to intestinal damage caused by protein in wheat, rye and barley.”

[Verywellhealth.com](https://www.verywellhealth.com) points out:

“It doesn’t matter how well you eat — if your villi have been destroyed by untreated celiac disease you’re almost certain to be malnourished, and that puts you at risk for anemia, weight loss, osteoporosis, and infertility. In addition, children with untreated celiac disease often suffer from short stature caused by malnutrition.”

Kristine asserts that it is extremely probable that Celiac may just be the cause of Brandon’s short stature, malnutrition and Vitamin D deficiency, and it is quite possibly the answer to the weight problems for which she has been searching for her son’s entire life.

Concerns for Gluten-Free Diet Required for Celiac Disease

But at this time, Brandon is on an increased calorie diet at his foster home, and not a Celiac, gluten-avoidance diet that she believes he needs.

Kristine is concerned that he is still very underweight looking, and while the increased calorie diet is helping Brandon increase his weight a bit, his mom says he continues to suffer numerous symptoms of Celiac. Brandon has yet to be seen by a gastroenterologist to confirm the Celiac diagnosis, because the department refuses to look into Kristine’s concerns.

The CPS case has left Kristine without any control over her son’s health care. The department and Brandon’s new case worker, Heather Newcomb, is in entirely in charge of

overseeing his doctors appointments and has chosen to focus on psychological counseling related to his mother's alleged medical abuse, instead of determining if there is anything going on with this teenager that may have a legitimate medical answer.

Kathy, Brandon's Nana, says,

“After being told of all his health issues that up until his tests were done we had no idea of. Kristine found the appropriate teams of doctors to help him. However, we need to get him home to take him to these doctors.”

Despite being denied access to his medical care, Kristine continued to advocate for her son. She has visited with nutritionists to prepare for when Brandon can finally come home.

To whom it may concern,

On March 25th 2019 I met with Brandon McCreary's mother, Kristine, his grandmother and his aunt to discuss Brandon's nutrition. According to Kristine, the 3 of them live together with Brandon, and all voice concern for his wellbeing. Kristine is very concerned over Brandon's nutrition upon his return to their home and is doing preemptive preparation for his arrival back to their home as according to Kristine they have been separated since January 17, 2019.

Kristine tells me that in her court hearing there was some misinformation presented by one of Brandon's doctors; that his pre-albumin level, a marker to determine nutrition status, had been low, but according to the lab results the level was within normal limits (the actual level from lab report dated 1/17/19 was 27.0 mg/dL – reference range is 17.6-36.0 mg/dL).

I am impressed by this family's preparation for the return of Brandon to their home in terms of both ascertaining knowledge of how to sustain and grow Brandon's nutritional status and weight, and in terms of providing social outlets as well (they plan for him to be part of his church's youth group) which are important for overall wellbeing.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Sandy Kipp, RDN

She has attempted to bring the Celiac and Scoliosis diagnoses to the attention of the department, however, it seems that anything that doesn't fit the narrative that the CARES report and what the Department have already decided is true is rejected entirely.

Kristine points out in the medical records that several doctors have also commented that he may be on the Autism spectrum, concerns that are also being ignored.

Unfortunately, due to inadequate representation and her initial ignorance of the justice system, Kristine has yet to be adequately heard by the court.

Charges Filed Against Mom as She is Arrested for Child Abuse

To make matters worse, on June 6th, almost six months after Brandon was removed and the case began, prosecutor Shari Dodge filed criminal charges against Kristine for felony *Injury to Child*.

Kristine was arrested and taken to jail on a \$10,000 bond, costing the family hundreds of dollars to bail her out – taking away from lawyers fees, rent, increased gas money due to court dates, required doctors appointments, visits with her son, and her normal household budget.

Additionally, Shari requested a No Contact/Protection order be placed on Kristine and now she is no longer allowed to visit with Brandon anywhere other than the CPS office.

No more dinners, parks, or any kind of out of office activities, confining 16-year-old Brandon's summer visits with his mom to a small room at the office. The foster

parents have also confiscated Brandon's phone, so he can no longer text with his Nana and aunt, cutting off all communication with his family.

Family Advocate, Serra Frank, from the Fight for Lilly, has helped to investigate the McCreery family's case through medical records and court documents. Serra points out that:

“the filing of criminal charges and no contact orders in addition to the CPS case is extremely common amongst families, especially when the department has run out of reasons to attack the parents.

By adding charges and protection orders, the prosecutor can now say there is an additional concern in the CPS case over the pending criminal case, trumping up paperwork in an effort to keep the child in care. I wouldn't be surprised if the criminal charge and protection order are suddenly added as a concern at her next hearing.”

See:

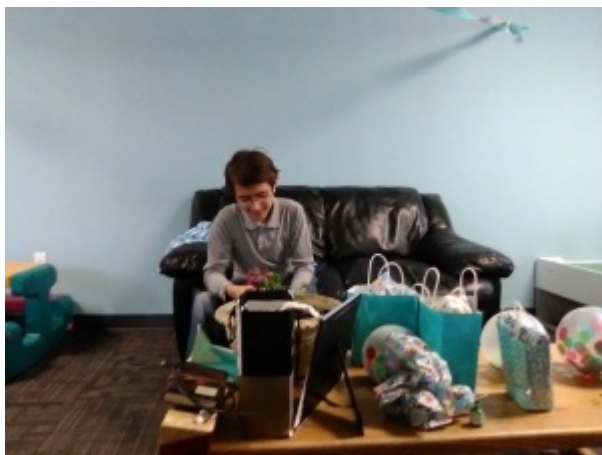
[Criminal Charges Dismissed After Oregon Medical Marijuana Parents Refuse to Quit Fighting After State Took Away Their Daughter](#)

The department has also put Kristine's name on a public child abuse registry, forcing her to appeal the administrative decision, while adding public shame and humiliation to an already tough situation.

Brandon celebrated his 16th birthday on Monday, July 8th, in a small room at the CPS office. When asked if she could

make it more of a party for him, Kristine and her family were only offered the option of spending time in a “grassy area outside of the office” if they want to leave the room. Kristine is appalled that this is how her son has to spend his sweet sixteen. She says,

“He wasn’t even allowed to blow out candles on his birthday cake!”





Still restricted to a weekly one-hour visit with her son, and fed up with attorneys who will not speak for her, Kristine has done what so many parents do when they cannot find the help they need within the system.

Mother Fights Back

She has decided to discharge her attorney and fight CPS herself.

Kristine has filed for a new evidentiary hearing and a new adjudication, asserting that misinformation and hearsay is perverting the court record. Kristine hopes that maybe her voice will finally be heard by Judge Tucker this time around. If not by the judge, then at least by someone with the power to do something about what is happening with her son.



Kristine and Brandon’s case has caught the attention of several local groups in Idaho, including Expose Idaho CPS (a local group dedicated to exposing corruption in CPS), Health Freedom Idaho (a local advocacy group dedicated to health care freedom) and the Fight for Lilly (a family advocacy group aimed at teaching parents how to fight CPS corruption).

Miste Karlfeldt from Health Freedom Idaho says of the case:

“A parent knows a child like no one else can. From the moment of birth a parent hears each type of cry, each facial expression, every milestone, every new word.

No one knows that little body and soul better than their parents. And no one is more equipped to make decisions about that child’s health. No amount of schooling, no

number of degrees or years in practice, no quantifiable “experience” can ever replace the instinct and intuition of a parent. Probably the least qualified to make health decisions for a child, is the state.”

Kristine appears in court next on July 16th, for the 6-month review hearing, and to hear the motions she has recently filed. She expects that this will be a battle, but isn't afraid. She says,

“I will not quit fighting until my son is home again, where he belongs.”

How you can help

Support the Family –
www.facebook.com/bringbrandonmccreeryhome

Change.org Petition –
<https://www.change.org/p/idaho-cps-bring-brandon-home>

Court Support – July 11th, 2019 Canyon County Juvenile Justice Center, 8:30 –
<https://www.facebook.com/events/419931622065717/>

11am Rally – Health Freedom Idaho Expose Idaho CPS – Canyon County – Idaho Health and Welfare
<https://www.facebook.com/events/2055298724766388/>

Court Support & Rally – July 16th 2019 –
<https://www.facebook.com/events/2055298724766388/>

Contact GOVERNOR OF IDAHO Brad Little - governor@gov.idaho.gov or (208) 345-8356

Contact LT. GOVERNOR Janice McGeachin - janice.mcgeachin@lgo.idaho.gov or (208) 334-2200

Contact Mike Crapo - Idaho Senator - <https://www.crapo.senate.gov/contact/email-me> Boise - (208) 334-1776 or Washington DC - (202) 224-6142

Contact Jim Risch - Idaho Senator - <https://www.risch.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contact> Boise - (208) 342-7985 or Washington DC - (202) 224-2752

Contact Mike Simpson - Idaho Representative - <https://simpson.house.gov/contact/> Boise - (208) 334-1953 or Washington DC - (202) 226-8000

Contact Russ Fulcher - Idaho Representative - <https://fulcher.house.gov/email-me> Boise - (208) 888-3188 or Washington DC - (202) 225-6611

Contact Representative Brent Crane - bcrane@house.idaho.gov (208) 332-1058 or (208) 466-0613

Contact Representative Greg Chaney - gchaney@house.idaho.gov or (208) 332-1055

Contact Senator Jim Rice - jrice@senate.idaho.gov (208) 332-1423 or (208) 891-4178

Contact Senator Jeff Ajenbroad - jagenbroad@senate.idaho.gov (208) 332-1329, (208) 501-7472 , or (208) 466-9315

Contact Representative Christy Zito -
czito@house.idaho.gov (208) 332-1181 or (208) 590-4633

Contact Representative Heather Scott -
hscott@house.idaho.gov (208) 332-1190 or (208) 920-3120

Idaho Residents Show Support for Homeschooled Teen Medically Kidnapped - Mom Continues Fight in Court



Kristine McCreery with her 16 year old son Brandon. [Image from Facebook.](#)

by **Health Impact News Staff**

For the last 7 months, 16-year-old Brandon McCreery has been separated from the only family he has ever known. After being medically kidnapped by St. Luke's Children's Hospital in Boise, over false allegations of medical abuse by his mother, Kristine, supposedly refusing to feed him, Brandon has spent the majority of 2019 in foster care.

Desperate to be reunited with her son, and prove the allegations false, Kristine McCreery has sought answers and help from anyone she could find. After the Idaho Department of Health & Welfare and the 3rd District Guardian Ad Litem program refused to listen, and several different attorneys failed to speak for her, Kristine became frustrated and angry with the system.

Unable to get anywhere with anyone associated with her son's case, she has turned her anger into a relentless passion and renewed her fight for her son. Since the State wouldn't actually help her, Kristine decided to help herself and turned to her new neighbors in Idaho for their help too.

Their story went public on Wednesday, July 10th, 2019. See:

[Idaho Homeschooled Teenager with History of Medical Issues Removed from Mother Against His Will Due to Child Abuse Doctor Testimony](#)

To Kristine and her family's surprise, this young mother's cry for help was met with a monumental outpouring of support from Idaho residents.

In a matter of days, a change.org petition demanding Brandon's return from the Idaho Department of Health & Welfare numbered in the high hundreds, with signatures added every hour. See:

Bring Brandon Home

A fundraising campaign matches numbers of the petition and their family support page grows every day, receiving messages of support from all over the world, including as far as Croatia. See:

Please help us raise money for a attorney and miscellaneous needs for Brandon

Bring Brandon McCreery Home Facebook Page

The day after the article originally ran on MedicalKidnap.com, July 11th, Kristine appeared in Canyon County criminal court for what was supposed to be a preliminary hearing on felony Injury to Child charges. A group of people showed up to support her. Dr. Amy Barton, from St. Luke's CARES, was scheduled to testify against her to show probable cause – but was apparently “out of town” and didn't show.



So the hearing was continued until July 25th.

Family advocate, Serra Frank, reports,

“My favorite part was after Kristine was done talking to the judge and was leaving the courtroom – the entire back row got up and left with her. Everyone in the courtroom stopped what they were doing and watched us leave; so it definitely made a good first impression!”

After the hearing, advocates from local groups including Health Freedom Idaho, Expose Idaho CPS, and the Idaho 3% gathered in front of the Canyon County office of the Idaho Department of Health & Welfare to protest.

Health Freedom Idaho

Expose Idaho CPS

3% of Idaho

Armed with sidewalk chalk and #BringBrandonHome protest signs, the Department was apparently intimidated by their presence. Obviously already aware the event was to occur, the Department had apparently consulted with their neighbor, the manager at Flying J Truck Stop, as well as the property manager of their building, to demand the protesters leave and be trespassed from the property the moment they arrived.



The peaceful group was told they were absolutely NOT allowed to park their cars in the Flying J parking lot or shop inside the store, much less set foot on the public access road that leads through the Flying J parking lot to the Department of Health and Welfare.

Before anyone had even exited their vehicles, the police had already been called.

Robert Jones of Expose Idaho CPS reports,

“When we peacefully complied [with their demand to leave] it sent them into a rage and they called the cops immediately!! It did not stop us! Just helped spread the word to some law enforcement.”



Understanding the group was merely attempting to invoke their first amendment right to peaceably assemble and protest against the medical kidnapping of young Brandon, the kind officers of the Caldwell Police Department, helped the protesters figure out where to legally park.

The officers told them they could protest on the public sidewalks in front of the truck stop, and then went on with their day.



As the rally started, Brandon's Nana, Kathy, stepped into the

grass next to the sidewalk to get some rest under the shade of a tree. Kathy suffers sciatic nerve damage and needed an escape from the 98 degree heat in Idaho's dry desert environment.

Suddenly, a few moments later, the police were back. Half a dozen officers called in by the manager at Flying J – all because of a grandmother taking a rest.

The officers had to tell the group to stay off the grass and then left again.

The support of the community is essential to the success that this family will have bringing Brandon home. They have expressed deep appreciation for the support they have already received.

Brandon's aunt, Michelle, says,

“We are very grateful for the love we have received from the Idaho community and the online community. I know Brandon will be grateful too. Once he is finally home.”

Kristine appears in court next on Tuesday, July 16th for a review hearing on the CPS case. The court is set to decide the permanency plan for Brandon, which appears to be leaning towards not returning him to his mother.



But Kristine isn't giving up. She plans to represent herself in court and demand her evidence be heard by the judge.

She says,

"I am hopeful that I will at least have a chance to be heard. I pray that Judge Tucker will see the truth in my words and Brandon's medical records, and finally send my son home to us."

Court support and another rally have been planned for Tuesday to show community outrage over this situation.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Support the Family –
www.facebook.com/bringbrandonmccreeryhome

Change.org Petition –
<https://www.change.org/p/idaho-cps-bring-brandon-home>

Court Support & Rally - July 16th 2019 -
<https://www.facebook.com/events/2626563124022769/>

Contact:

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(208) 590-4633

Representative Heather Scott

hscott@house.idaho.gov

(208) 332-1190

(208) 920-3120

Idaho Judge in 16-Year-Old Medical Kidnap Case Orders Video and Picture of Doctor Removed from MedicalKidnap.com as Cell Phones of Supporters are Confiscated



Brandon (seated) in Court, completely separated from his mother and friends.

by Health Impact News Staff

For the last month, Kristine McCreery has been working to bring truth to light in an extremely complex Idaho medical kidnapping involving her 16-year-old son, Brandon.

See:

[Idaho Homeschooled Teenager with History of Medical Issues Removed from Mother Against His Will Due to Child Abuse Doctor Testimony](#)

When a public defender failed her in court, and she spent all of her resources on paid attorneys that she felt weren't speaking for her, Kristine reached out to her local legislators in desperation.

This led her to community organizations that teamed up to help her raise awareness of what was happening to her family.

Upon learning their story, the community rallied around the family, demanding justice for the young man and his mother.

See:

[Idaho Residents Show Support for Homeschooled Teen Medically Kidnapped – Mom Continues Fight in Court](#)

Kristine took it upon herself to start learning the system and how to speak for herself in court.

However, after she had submitted a motion to discharge her attorney and requested an evidentiary hearing, Kristine learned that Judge Courtnie Tucker blocked her submission

of any further motions, instructing the Canyon County Court Clerk to refuse any documents that Kristine attempted to submit to the court. She was not allowed to submit any evidence or even a declaration of fact for the judge, temporarily silencing her voice to the court once again.

On Tuesday, July 16th, Kristine appeared in court for a six-month review of the CPS case.

In the week before court, Brandon's story had made a monumental impact in Idaho, garnering support from all over the state. Over fifty people showed up to the Canyon County Juvenile Justice Center in support of #BringBrandonHome, including representatives from local community organizations, as well as Idaho House Representative, Christy Zito, who said,

What impressed me the most is the community support. It is so important for our citizens to know their rights, to know what due process is and to make sure it is being followed.

I so admire Kristine for standing strong, for fight so hard for her son, for allowing her story to be put out there so that other parents can learn and know what to do if they are ever in this kind of a situation.





When it was time for Kristine's turn in court, the crowd of supporters filed into the courtroom to show their support. The crowd was still coming in through the door, when Judge Tucker ordered that everyone leave the courtroom immediately if they were not party to the case.

This brought questions from the crowd, including from Eric Parker, [President of the Real 3%ers of Idaho](#), who requested to know if the State legislator could stay to witness the proceedings, holding his camera up for the answer. A bailiff immediately prevented him from recording, and took away his phone.

Realizing that several members of the gallery were recording from their phones, Judge Tucker demanded the bailiff remove them from her courtroom. Suddenly, the court went into an uproar, with bailiffs confiscating telephones and kicking people out of the room.

Eric Parker, and other members of the community, were taken behind closed doors where they were forced to give their names to the bailiff and delete any recordings – before they would have their property given back to them.

While Eric, and others, were being detained for video recording government officials, another bailiff placed the state's Administrative Rules on Recording Devices on a bulletin board outside of the courtroom – something that wasn't available before the hearing.



When asked about his thoughts on what happened, Eric said:

The young man is 16. He's damn near an adult and to see him treated like someone we have to protect and can't make their own decisions is asinine.

I wanted to ask the young man, a citizen of the State of Idaho, if he was under duress. The fact of the matter for us is what we are witnessing is a weaponization of the judicial branch. We see it everywhere, not just family court.

Once the chaos of the supporters leaving the courtroom had ended, and the courthouse staff was determining what to do with confiscating their phones, Kristine was left alone in the courtroom, with only her attorney as a witness.



Kristine says that after everyone else was forced out of the courtroom, she was left with nine people, including the judge.

Those who were allowed to stay included her attorney,

Quentin W. Lackey; Shari Dodge, Canyon County prosecutor; as well as public defender, Bethany Harder, and representative of the Guardian Ad Litem program, Janet Cheney, who are supposed to be speaking for Brandon.

She noticed that also in attendance was Mike Dixon, chief supervisor for the Canyon County CPS office, and another unknown CPS supervisor.

Kristine says she had met with Mr. Dixon previously, to express concerns about her case and show him and Heather's supervisor, Brandi Barklow, medical documentation that proves the doctors were lying. However, they disregarded the documentation and Mr. Dixon has never appeared at a hearing before now.

Kristine reports that the hearing began with Prosecutor Shari Dodge making complaint to the court regarding the [family's facebook support page](#), reportedly citing issues such as it being a child protection case and it possibly violating the Idaho Child Protective Act.

There was discussion about MedicalKidnap.com and their recent articles, as well as the change.org petition, which has now gathered over 1,200 supporters demanding [Idaho CPS bring Brandon home](#).

Obviously upset over the recent press regarding the case, Shari Dodge reportedly motioned for the CARES interrogation video of Brandon (found in the [original MedicalKidnap.com article](#)) be taken down. She argued that it was a violation of a court order because the department doesn't make those interviews public, citing concern over how it was being used.



Judge Courtnie Tucker. [Image Source](#).

According to Kristine, Judge Tucker agreed, on the basis that posting the child abuse specialist interrogation “violates the CARES institution” and is “not acceptable.”

Judge Tucker ordered for Kristine to take it down, despite the fact that the MedicalKidnap.com website is not within Kristine’s control.



Dr. Amy Barton. [Image Source](#).

Additionally, Kristine was ordered to take down the picture of Dr. Amy Barton from the original article, violating not just her freedom of speech, but the first amendment rights to freedom of the press retained by MedicalKidnap.com, as well as the family advocacy group, Fight for Lilly, which hosts the video on YouTube.

<https://youtu.be/c9AJ5GRqmV4>

The department and court are worried about the vulnerability of CPS and the “CARES institution,” but the public is more concerned about their accountability.

Kristine said that the public support made such an impact that Shari Dodge voiced concern over navigating the crowd of people in the lobby to retrieve social worker Heather Newcomb for the hearing, and requested the bailiff do it in her place.

Heather Newcomb had prepared a six month report for the hearing, but neither Kristine, nor her attorney, had received it when court began, much less had time to prepare a response, once again violating Kristine’s right to due process in court.

Kristine’s attorney motioned for a 5-day continuance so that they would have adequate time to prepare, which was denied by the judge.

According to Heather’s latest report, the intent of the department is to keep Brandon in their care for the next two years, until he ages out of the system at age 18, or upon approval of the department, be sent to live with an estranged father.

Heather mentions frequently that Brandon cannot articulate any future goals, and continues to allege this must be because of “educational neglect.”

However, as he said in the CARES video, Brandon verbally states that he is unsure of what is next because “this [the CPS case] is happening.”

This young man, who originally had been working with his mom on plans to attend college for computer science and game design coding, once he graduated early from homeschool, is now forced to live with strangers and redo his homeschool education at local high school this fall.

Any child in such a situation would feel lost in not knowing what his future holds or if he’ll ever be with his family again. This is an issue created by the Department by removing him from his mother’s care, and then passing the blame on to his mother because of how he feels about it all.



Heather also states:

The Department has been made aware of a community page and website that Kristine began on June 28th that is for the purpose of bringing the community behind her to ‘fight CPS.’

Additionally, Kristine has been engaged in ‘fighting back’ and requesting hearings to overturn the original ruling that brought Brandon into foster care.

Just as predicted in the original article about this case, Heather proceeds to raise concerns of the criminal charge that Shari Dodge fabricated to support the CPS case. Heather states:

Brandon is not able to return to his mother due to a criminal NCO [No Contact Order] and Kristine is actively working to reverse the original ruling that brought Brandon into foster care.

Heather also asserts a new allegation against Kristine – fraud. Heather states in her report,

“at times, it appears that she has edited medical or educational records to suit her purposes.”

However, Heather fails to provide any example, instance, or evidence to support such an allegation, nor has this allegation ever once been mentioned in previous court documents.

Apparently, to the department, fighting back against what Brandon's mother declares to be lies by the doctors and social workers, while demanding due process in court to review her evidence, are "concerns" enough to be reason to withhold her child even longer.

For those following the case, it seems more like retaliation for showing the world Brandon's celiac diagnosis and contradicting the narrative of the department through medical records.

Serra Frank, family advocate from [Fight for Lilly](#), points out:

Every time Kristine or Brandon say anything or provide any medical documents that counter the narrative of the Department, they are said to be liars, delusional, and have fraudulent paperwork.

All aspects of the department's recent behavior is obviously displacement of CPS' corruption onto this family. It can be logically assumed this is for the continuation of CPS involvement to keep this special needs teenager in the system; a common tactic of CPS in an effort to obtain more Title IV federal funding.

Additionally, the Guardian Ad Litem, Janet Cheney, submitted a six-month report to the court, stating Brandon should remain in foster care until he is eighteen for the same reasons that Heather mentions; despite also saying it isn't what Brandon wants:

Brandon has stated that he wants to return home to his mother, his grandmother, and his aunt. He misses his home

and his cat.



Kristine says that, although she was denied her motions, things were definitely different this time. She felt that her attorney was finally fighting for her voice to be heard and that she was allowed to be heard quite often.

Judge Tucker let Kristine know she had every right to go pro-se. Despite this, Kristine's attorney is proving to her that he stands beside her and is willing to speak for her.

Mr. Lackey convinced the judge to allow him to file a motion for a new hearing, and with him actually fighting for her, she feels more confident in his representation, but has also stated she will demand to represent herself in the future if she must.

Whether or not the judge will actually allow the new hearing

is still unknown. Judge Tucker set the next status hearing for October 17th, 2019, a 9-month review.

When Miste Karlfeldt, with [Health Freedom Idaho](#), learned of the extended delay until the next CPS hearing she was disappointed with the outcome:

When Kristine first contacted me, telling me how, despite her best efforts while seeking medical care for Brandon, they accused her of medical abuse, I realized that this could happen to any one of us.

It saddens me to see that after six months, and six times in front of a judge with multiple delays in her cases, it doesn't seem that Kristine is any closer to being reunited with her son.

Kristine's criminal charges are still pending. Her preliminary/probable cause hearing, originally scheduled for July 11th and then continued to July 25th, has once again been postponed due to Dr. Amy Barton's failure to be available and give testimony.

Kristine reports that she still does not have a date for this hearing; which, according to [Idaho law](#) should have been held within 21 days of Kristine's arrest and initial appearance in the beginning of June.

An additional delay that only painfully continues the No Contact Order between Kristine and Brandon, and keeps Brandon from his home and family.

Kristine says,

My son should be back home with his family: to be with his mom, his aunt, his nana...the people who have always been there for him, who love him and have always provided for him. This should be a time for healing, not fighting in court for the truth to be heard.





HOW YOU CAN HELP

Support the Family -
www.facebook.com/bringbrandonmcreeryhome

Change.org Petition -
<https://www.change.org/p/idaho-cps-bring-brandon-home>

Court Support/#BringBrandon Home Rally - October 17th,
2019 Canyon County Juvenile Justice Center, 3:30pm MST -
<https://www.facebook.com/events/380031696244972/>

Contact GOVERNOR OF IDAHO Brad Little -
governor@gov.idaho.gov or (208) 345-8356

Contact LT. GOVERNOR Janice McGeachin -
janice.mcgeachin@lgo.idaho.gov or (208) 334-2200

Contact Mike Crapo - Idaho Senator -
<https://www.crapo.senate.gov/contact/email-me> Boise -
(208) 334-1776 or Washington DC - (202) 224-6142

Contact Jim Risch - Idaho Senator -
<https://www.risch.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contact>
Boise - (208) 342-7985 or Washington DC - (202) 224-2752

Contact Mike Simpson - Idaho Representative -
<https://simpson.house.gov/contact/> Boise - (208) 334-1953
or Washington DC - (202) 226-8000

Contact Russ Fulcher - Idaho Representative -
<https://fulcher.house.gov/email-me> Boise - (208) 888-3188
or Washington DC - (202) 225-6611

Contact Representative Brent Crane -
bcrane@house.idaho.gov (208) 332-1058 or (208) 466-0613

Contact Representative Greg Chaney -
gchaney@house.idaho.gov or (208) 332-1055

Contact Senator Jim Rice - jrice@senate.idaho.gov (208) 332-1423 or (208) 891-4178

Contact Senator Jeff Agenbroad - jagenbroad@senate.idaho.gov (208) 332-1329, (208) 501-7472 , or (208) 466-9315

Contact Representative Christy Zito - czito@house.idaho.gov (208) 332-1181 or (208) 590-4633

Contact Representative Heather Scott - hscott@house.idaho.gov (208) 332-1190 or (208) 920-3120

Idaho Mom Arrested Second Time as Attempts to Silence Her Fail - Meanwhile 16-Year-Old Son Suffers in Foster Care



Judge Courtnie Tucker (top left), Dr. Amy Barton (top middle), Prosecutor Shari Dodge (top right), Brandon (bottom left), Mom Kristine (bottom right).

Idaho Mother of Medically Kidnapped 16-Year-Old Indicted by Grand Jury and Re-arrested on Felony Injury to Child Charges

by Health Impact News/MedicalKidnap.com staff

Kristine McCreery has spent the entirety of 2019 fighting Idaho Child Protective Services for her 16-year-old son, Brandon, over allegations of medical abuse/neglect because of health issues potentially caused by an untreated Celiac condition. See:

[Idaho Homeschooled Teenager with History of Medical Issues Removed from Mother Against His Will Due to Child Abuse Doctor Testimony](#)

In June, 6 months after her son was removed from her care, Kristine was arrested on felony Injury to Child Charges. She was taken to Canyon County jail where she was bailed out by her family on a \$10,000 bond.

Kristine's first criminal court date, for a preliminary/probable cause hearing was held on July 11th, 2019. Dr. Jennifer King from St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center and Dr. Amy Barton from St. Luke's Children's Hospital were both set to testify.

However, when she arrived, Kristine was told that this hearing was going to be postponed, allegedly because one of the doctors was not available. A group of a dozen supporters attended this public hearing, filling the back row of the

courtroom, as Kristine and her attorney worked out the next date for the hearing.

On July 16th, 2019, Kristine appeared in juvenile court for the CPS case, where over 50 supporters gathered in the lobby. All of the attendees were kicked out of the courtroom when they attempted to watch the proceedings, including Idaho Representative Christy Zito. See:

[Idaho Judge in 16-Year-Old Medical Kidnap Case Orders Video and Picture of Doctor Removed from MedicalKidnap.com as Cell Phones of Supporters are Confiscated](#)

At this hearing, Prosecutor Shari Dodge reportedly made a comment about being intimidated by the supporters, so she did not want to walk through the crowd that was gathered in the lobby in order to fetch the social worker assigned to the case, Heather Newcomb. She reportedly requested the bailiff retrieve the social worker in her place.

Kristine was set to have the next preliminary hearing on July 25th where, once again, one of the doctors was not available to testify, so the hearing was postponed yet again.

According to the [Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure – Rule 5.1](#), preliminary hearings on criminal charges must be provided to defendants within 21 days of their initial appearance. At this point, Kristine’s preliminary hearing had been postponed twice, due to no fault of her own, and then reset for August 8th, 2019, more than 60 days after her initial appearance.

Kristine says she was ready to have this hearing. She was ready to testify against the doctor’s hearsay accusations and

be able to submit her evidence and witnesses to the court.

Indicted by Grand Jury

However, the night before the hearing, Kristine received a phone call from her attorney who informed her that the hearing had once again been canceled. She was told that Shari Dodge had gone to a grand jury instead, without the knowledge of her attorney, and received an indictment against Kristine.

A grand jury is sometimes used to determine if there is probable cause to prove that a defendant has committed a crime. The prosecutor provides evidence and witnesses during a secret hearing, similar to a preliminary hearing, except that it is not done through a judge, and the defendant or his/her representation is not allowed to be present or able to provide their own exculpatory evidence, evidence favorable to the defense's case.

If the grand jury finds that probable cause exists, according to the evidence provided by the prosecutor, they return an indictment or a statement of their belief that probable cause exists. If the jurors are not convinced, the prosecutor loses their chance to prosecute the defendant on that charge.

In other words, Prosecutor Shari Dodge took her "expert" witnesses, Dr. King and Dr. Barton, behind closed doors in order to secretly obtain the indictment through their hearsay allegations, which prevented Kristine from presenting her own witnesses and evidence as she would have been able to do at a preliminary hearing and also nullified Kristine's right to have the preliminary hearing in front of a judge. See also:

Pediatric Child Abuse “Experts” are NOT Experts in Anything

Kristine points out that this is obviously a tactic done by the prosecutor to avoid public scrutiny of the hearing or to allow her to present the evidence that challenges the allegation of Injury to Child. Kristine says that Shari Dodge was afraid of the crowd at CPS hearing on July 16th, so

“she went behind my attorney’s back to get this indictment, obviously in part to avoid having to face me in court. She probably also didn’t want to have to walk past all those people again.”

The grand jury indictment also means that Kristine was no longer able to have a hearing on the No Contact Order that was put into place in June, which currently prevents her from having off-site visits with her son and forces all visitation with Brandon to be in the CPS office, including his 16th birthday and homeschool graduation party.

Local group, Health Freedom Idaho, has provided continuing coverage of Kristine & Brandon’s story:

<https://youtu.be/dbGh5i1o5Ks>

Arrested Again on Injury to Child Charge

On Saturday, August 10th, 2019, Kristine was arrested again on the felony Injury to Child charges, the same exact charges that she was arrested and bonded on in June. When she asked the police officers who had issued the warrant, she was allegedly told that it originated with Shari Dodge

because of the indictment.

Kristine and her family were told that she was going to have to bail out once more on the \$10,000 bond. Her family, advocates, and public supporters were able to raise enough money in a matter of hours to secure her release, however, it turned out to not be necessary.

Kristine reports that even the police officers were confused as to why they had just arrested her a second time on the same charge. They had allegedly been told that they were picking her up because she failed to attend a court hearing. Kristine says,

“They told me they even had two officers at the courthouse on the 8th, waiting for me to show up, because they were going to arrest me there instead.”

She reports that even one of the officers said “this isn’t right” and then, somehow, she was released without having to pay any of the additional bail.

[A new court date for Kristine’s arraignment on the charges was set for August 21st, 2019.](#)

When she was released, Kristine was given a new No Contact Order that states she can not go back to the house that she had previously shared with her son Brandon, despite him not having been at the residence for the last 8 months.

Brandon is currently residing with foster parents in Homedale, Idaho, leaving just Kristine, her mom, and her sister at the address where Kristine is now restricted from residing. Regardless, the NCO stated her home address as

restricted.

Luckily, Kristine and her family were in the middle of a move to a new house when she was arrested, so Kristine had a new home she could go to instead. Despite the NCO preventing her from her own residence, she fortunately wasn't just left on the streets alone, unable to go home to her family.

The NCO now also restricts Kristine from interaction with any minors who are under the age of 18, as if she was a danger to all children, restricting her from going anywhere where minor children might be present, including restaurants, grocery stores, or even church.

Charged with Contempt of Court for Going Public

Kristine has also now been charged with contempt of court for going public with her story. In reality, she is being held in contempt because MedicalKidnap.com and Fight for Lilly are refusing to remove Dr. Amy Barton's picture and the St. Luke's CARES video from the original article.

Kristine sent an email to Fight for Lilly, and to *Health Impact News*, after she was verbally ordered to remove them from the article, officially requesting the items be removed.

Request - Per Court Order >>



Inbox



BringBrandon Home



to me

Jul 17 [View details](#)

While I greatly appreciate the article put out on medicalkidnap.com - per my last court hearing, the prosecuting attorney filed a contempt order and the judge agreed - that the CARE's video/audio and Dr. Barton's photo must be removed from the article. The judge mentioned that due to the nature of this case, it must be treated sacred and that dissemination doesn't help this case. With that said, the judge held me in contempt & court ordered me on Tuesday, July 16th, 2019, to have the CARE's video/audio and Dr. Barton's photo removed immediately from the medicalkidnap.com article. I am hereby following the court order and asking for the CARE's video/audio and Dr. Barton's photo be immediately removed from the medicalkidnap.com article.

Thank you,
Kristine McCreery

I am hereby requesting that MedicalKidnap.com remove the CARE's video, the photo of Dr. Barton & the photo of the judge effective immediately that was placed in the below article. I did not authorize those to be part of the article at all.

<http://medicalkidnap.com/2019/07/23/idaho-judge-in-homeschool-teenager-medical-kidnap-case-orders-video-and-picture-of-doctor-removed-from-medicalkidnap-com-as-cell-phones-of-supporters-are-confiscated/>.

I'm also hereby requesting the CARE's video & the photo of Dr. Barton be removed from the below articles per my prior request on 07/17/19:

<http://medicalkidnap.com/2019/07/10/idaho-homeschooled-teenager-with-history-of-medical-issues-removed-from-mother-against-his-will-due-to-child-abuse-doctor-testimony/>

I did not authorize those to be part of the article at all. I have been court ordered to have them removed & I am abiding with that order. I have to know that what is going to be posted and/or printed is what I authorized it as to be - without any changes after final submission. If they need to contact me please have them do so.

Thank you,
Kristine McCreery

According to court documents, Judge Courtnie Tucker also filed a written order, dated July 24th, 2019, demanding that the photo and video be removed from the article, specifically stating:

“Kristine McCreery is to remove the CARES interview, and any reference to any CPA proceeding and Dr. Barton’s photograph from the website <http://medicalkidnap.com/2019/07/10/idaho-homeschooled-teenager-with-history-of-medical-issues-removed-from-mother-against-his-will-due-to-child-abuse-doctor-testimony/>.”

Tucker’s order was not given a proper hearing, and Kristine was never able to adequately argue against such an order being granted, as it is in violation of her rights to freedom of speech.

Because the image and video were not removed by July 29th, 2019, Prosecutor Shari Dodge has also motioned for Kristine to be held in contempt of that order, submitting a motion for contempt that states:

“Not only was the CARES interview and Dr. Barton’s picture not removed from the above website, but there have been additional articles and interviews since the July 16th, 2019 hearing in which Kristine McCreery continues to provide information regarding statements made in the child protection proceedings that are still on a variety of websites including YouTube where the CARES interview can be accessed.”

In her affidavit of support for the motion for contempt, Shari Dodge also states:

“On July 10, 2019, I received an email from change.org that stated Fight for Lilly had started a petition and listed me as a

decision maker. The petition is entitled Idaho CPS: Bring Brandon Home!” Shari included a copy of the petition as an exhibit, which has collected over 1,500 signatures. – <https://www.change.org/p/idaho-cps-bring-brandon-home>

Shari also states:

“The email provided a link to an article found at medicalkidnap.com in which there was a lengthy narrative about facts and information contained in the child protection case including the audio recording of the CARES interview that was held on January 31, 2019”

Shari attached another exhibit that includes the medicalkidnap.com article and continues with,

“The article found at medicalkidnap.com also provided as part of the narrative a transcription of the CARES interview that was held.”

As we mentioned in previous articles regarding this family, neither the website MedicalKidnap.com that contains the photo of Dr. Barton, nor the YouTube account through fight4lilly.org that hosts the CARES video, are within Kristine’s control.

MedicalKidnap.com and Fight4Lilly.org have their own policies regarding the removal of such things from their websites, and choose to stand upon the rights granted under the First Amendment of Freedom of the Press.

Canyon County Prosecutor Shari Dodge and Judge Courtnie Tucker are publicly funded officials, and the St. Luke's CARES institution that employs Dr. Amy Barton is a federally funded program – all subject to public scrutiny because they receive public funds. See:

Child Abuse Pediatricians: Exposing Their Role in Medical Kidnappings to the Public

Family advocate, Serra Frank, from Fight for Lilly, says she has watched courts all over the country repeatedly attempt to punish parents for going public with their story, using their children as weapons against them. She says it is terrifying for the parents, but it simply means the officials are scared too. They are merely lashing out against the public scrutiny of their corrupt actions – like a scared dog attacks when cornered. See also:

The Weaponizing of CPS – Lose Your Children IF: You Don't Vaccinate, You Don't Make a Dentist Appointment, You Don't Pay School Lunch Fees, You Don't Shut Up, Etc.

Serra points out that Shari and Courtnie are throwing fuel on a fire of alleged corruption, all in an apparent effort to avoid continued public scrutiny. But their plan may be backfiring because it actually gives Kristine the option to take the issue even more public through another criminal charge, the legality of which is highly questionable, and which must be heard in open court with a jury of her peers.

“Instead of avoiding public scrutiny, their corrupt actions are attracting more attention. It makes you wonder why they are so scared and what they are really hiding.”

Kristine says that since she went public, those involved in the case have lost focus of the real issue at hand, the health of sixteen year old Brandon:

“They seem to care more about publicity than my son or his well-being.”

Health Neglected in Foster Care

Kristine says Brandon continues to lose weight in foster care, and that his medical needs are not being met by the department. She is greatly concerned about the malabsorption caused by Celiac and a possible lactose intolerance.

Although Brandon is on an increased calorie diet, Kristin says it isn't going to help if he cannot absorb the nutrients correctly, because he is continuously given food that contains gluten and lactose. And no one seems to care about the possibility of Celiac disease that is proposed by the positive test results.

According to Kristine, everyone involved say the Celiac results don't matter, and continue on their narrative that Kristine medically abused her son by not allowing him to eat proper meals.

Where in reality, Kristine reports that the department and court that is demanding control of his health over alleged medical neglect by her are instead neglecting Brandon's health themselves by denying the possibility that this child could have Celiac disease, and by not even looking into it or allowing him to go to a GI specialist for follow up.

Department Retaliation – Brandon Denied Own Choice for Legal Representation

Kristine reports that Brandon continues to say “this is stupid” and that he wants to come home.

She has had an Idaho attorney reach out to her who is willing to take on the case as Brandon’s attorney, instead of court appointed Bethany Harder who continues to refuse to speak for Brandon in court.

When Kristine’s sister, Michelle, handed Brandon a phone during one of their recent visits, so that he could talk to his new attorney, the social workers reportedly threatened to end the visit, and prevent future visits.

By fighting for her son’s voice to be heard, Kristine has been subjected to retaliation by not just the courts, but by the department as well.



Prior to going public, Michelle and her mom, Kathy (Brandon’s Nana) were allowed an hour each week with Brandon at a park or a restaurant. Now Michelle and Kathy are forced to share their visit at the CPS office during Kristine’s weekly two-hour visit.

Michelle and Kathy were also allowed to communicate with Brandon through text, and play games through their apps on

their phones. However, the foster parents confiscated Brandon's phone, allegedly by request of the department, and for quite awhile they did not have the contact with Brandon they had just a few months ago. Luckily, Kristine was able to advocate for her son and get his phone privileges back again.

Since January, Brandon was able to have contact with his family multiple times a week. But now he has extremely limited contact. In what is seen as an attempt to sever the bond between him and his family, 16-year-old Brandon is now only allowed to see his family through restricted, supervised visits once a week.

Kristine's attorney, Quentin Lackey, filed a motion for new adjudicatory hearing (evidentiary hearing) shortly after their last hearing on July 16th, but they still haven't heard back on a hearing date from Judge Tucker, who has already previously denied access to the court record for Kristine and the ability to file or receive any of her own paperwork.

Additionally, Judge Tucker has denied Kristine's motion for access to the audio recording from July 16th hearing, further perpetuating the secrecy and corruption in this court.

Kristine still has yet to have a real chance to provide medical documentation to the court as evidence of her innocence.



Between the grand jury indictment, another arrest, another No Contact Order with excessive restrictions, a decrease in visitation with Brandon for both Kristine and her family, the removal of Brandon's cell phone and access to his family by his foster parents (per the department's request), the denial of access to court documents and filing her own, and delay of a new hearing, Kristine and her family do not know when they are going to ever have their normal lives back again. And the public is astounded by the lack of due process and oversight in this case.

Idaho Representative Christy Zito says,

"I just don't understand. A mother takes her child to the doctor in good faith, and this is the result? What am I missing here?"

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Support the Family:
www.facebook.com/bringbrandonmccreeryhome

Family Fundraiser:
https://fundrazr.com/d1WzGf?ref=fb_68IId9_ab_57FvP6

Change.org petition:
<https://www.change.org/p/idaho-cps-bring-brandon-home>

Court Support :

(Criminal) Aug. 21, 2019 @ 2:30pm -
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1291775824321458/>

(CPS) Oct. 17, 2019 @ 3:30pm -
<https://www.facebook.com/events/380031696244972/>

Submit Public Complaints

Contact the Idaho Judicial Council

re: Judge Courtnie Tucker

<https://judicialcouncil.idaho.gov/>

Contact the Idaho State Bar -

re: Attorney Shari Dodge (prosecutor)

re: Attorney Bethany Harder

(Brandon's court appointed attorney)

<https://isb.idaho.gov/>

Contact the Idaho Department of Health & Welfare -
208-334-5500

Director, Dave Jeppesen,

dave.jeppesen@dhw.idaho.gov

Deputy Director, Lori Wolff

lori.wolff@dhw.idaho.gov

Audits & Investigations, Steve Bellomy

steve.bellomy@dhw.idaho.gov

Contact GOVERNOR Brad Little – governor@gov.idaho.gov or
(208) 345-8356

Contact LT. GOVERNOR Janice McGeachin –
janice.mcgeachin@lgo.idaho.gov or (208) 334-2200

Idaho Lawmaker Wants to Rein in Abuse of Power by Child Protection Services



Idaho Representative Heather Scott

Health Impact News

Idaho Representative Heather Scott is apparently getting too many calls from her constituents regarding the abuses of Idaho Child Protection social workers in the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare.

She has proposed legislation that would require every social worker visiting someone's home to provide a print-out of parents Constitutional rights, which seem to be routinely violated by social workers and local law enforcement.

As is to be expected, she experienced strong push back on her bill from those in Government profiting from the trafficking of children through Child Welfare and the Foster Care System.

She took her case to the public recently via a video she posted on Facebook, as she is proposing other bills now as well, such as requiring that social workers receive training on parents' Constitutional rights.

Representative Scott is also encouraging parents to visit IdahoCPS.org to learn more.

<https://youtu.be/OK-Qh91g5Pg>

Idaho Judge Sanctions Medical Kidnapping and Child Trafficking as Innocent Baby Suffers in State Care



Baby Cyrus has been ripped from the loving arms of his parents and put into the hands of the State of Idaho and a powerful child trafficking network.

by **Brian Shilhavy**
Editor, Health Impact News

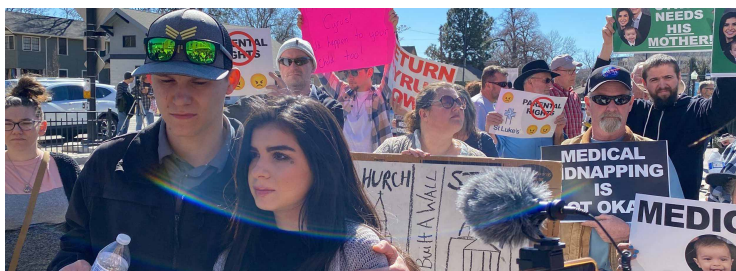
This past weekend we reported on the medical kidnapping of a baby in Idaho who was literally ripped from the arms of his mother who was his sole source of nourishment through breastfeeding. See:

Idaho Parents Have Child Medically Kidnapped for Missing Doctor's Appointment

The actual abduction by Meridian Police Detective Hanson was captured on video by the mother and live-streamed to her Facebook Page, where we grabbed it and put it on our video channels as well. This is from our [Bitchute channel](#).

<https://www.bitchute.com/embed/D4e0lztHss3B/>

The parents' alleged crime was to disagree with a doctor, and fail to make a scheduled doctor's appointment. The child reportedly did not have any serious medical conditions, but was simply underweight, and diagnosed as "malnourished."



Hundreds of people showed up in Boise over the past few days to protest the kidnapping of this innocent child.

According to medical records obtained from St. Luke's Hospital, the baby was allegedly discharged on March 4th with a clean bill of health, according to the baby's grandfather.

After the baby was kidnapped by the State on Saturday, March 12th from the arms of his breastfeeding mother, his parents were allowed a 2-hour visit with him two days later, where it was obvious to them their child was being abused in

State care.

The baby's grandfather, Diego Rodriguez, reported:

Baby Cyrus has been in custody of the state and is now at St. Luke's Pediatric Hospital in downtown Boise. He has been in their "care" since approximately 1:00 am Saturday morning (March 12th). Levi and Marissa were "allowed" to see their own child last night for 2 hours—while escorted by Idaho State Police and a social worker.

Baby Cyrus is in worse condition than ever. Levi and Marissa reported that he "is not even the same child. He is unresponsive and lethargic and his spirit has completely changed. He is unrecognizable from the child he was when they stole him away from us."

Cyrus also has two pricks, with bruising, in one of his hands that the hospital claims are from IVs, but there is an IV in his other hand, so these marks are incredibly suspicious. The hospital staff swears that he has not been given vaccines or any other treatment not authorized by the parents.

Cyrus is likewise constipated—he hasn't had a bowel movement since they kidnapped him. A baby who is constipated will not eat—just like adults don't like to eat when constipated. But a baby will just vomit if you try to force feed him when he's constipated. This is common knowledge to any parent.

But the "experts" at St. Luke's who harm and kill babies all the time told Marissa and Levi, "We are not concerned about his constipation, just that he gets nourished." But he cannot be nourished if he doesn't eat because he's constipated!!!! This is so obvious it is ridiculous. Levi and Marissa begged for

an enema but the hospital refused. Later in the evening a hospital employee contacted them and they begged again for an enema and he said he would “look into that” and call them back. He then called back and said that the hospital would “let him go through the night and review it again in the morning.”

St. Luke’s is harming Baby Cyrus. His health is deteriorating BECAUSE OF THEM. He needs Marissa to nurse him and he needs the emotional bond with his family. It is A HAZARD TO HIS HEALTH TO BE IN ST. LUKE’S WITHOUT HIS FAMILY. Period. It is that simple. ([Source](#).)

Apparently the mother, Marissa, was able to pump out some of her breast milk and give it to the hospital to start feeding the baby, and then the next day, March 15th, a doctor called the father (Levi) and left a 7-minute voicemail on his phone giving an update on the baby. Here is a [partial transcript](#):

“I have great news regarding Cyrus. His weight has continued to increase...which is really good news. He’s actually been tolerating taking breastmilk from a bottle. He has had no further vomiting.

In talking things over with the team, we haven’t identified any really serious medical condition that is causing him to have trouble gaining weight. The thinking is he got behind on his nutrition [from the vomiting], and then his breastfeeding was just burning so many calories that he just couldn’t keep up, so he kind of got behind, and by getting his nutrition up again and by getting some of that strength up, there’s good reason for optimism that he will be able to keep his nutrition up by taking a bottle or by breastfeeding.

Our team is thinking right now that taking breastmilk through a bottle right now is working really well, and that's a great place to help keep his nutrition up, gradually increasing the amount of actual breastfeeding he is doing.

So what is it that puts him at a spot where he's ready for discharge? He's hit all of those medical goals that would typically allow for a discharge. From a medical standpoint, he is medically stable for a medical discharge. And we've let our state partners know that that is the case and it's really going to be up to them.

Hopefully we can get Cyrus back to you as quickly as the state will allow."

Their first hearing in court before a judge happened yesterday, March 16th, and there were hundreds of people locally and probably tens of thousands of people around the country hoping that this poor baby would be returned to his parents.

But having covered these medical kidnapping child trafficking stories for years now, I can report that this almost NEVER happens at the first hearing.

Why?

Because #1, to release the child immediately is to forfeit massive state and federal funding that the State can collect when the child becomes a ward of the State.

And #2, to release the child immediately would open up the door to legally prosecute those who removed the child needlessly if the judge found no cause to remove the child in

the first place.

And sure enough, that is exactly what happened. [Magistrate Judge Laurie Fortier](#) awarded custody of Baby Cyrus to the State of Idaho.

First of all, thank you for all of your incredible support and your constant prayers. As you now know, [Magistrate Judge Laurie Fortier](#) awarded custody of Baby Cyrus to the State of Idaho. There are no words to describe the horror that our family has experienced. Unfortunately, from what we've heard, this judge is famous for destroying families and ripping children away from their families without evidence.

Today was what they call a “Shelter Care Hearing” where the court rules what will happen with the child that has been kidnapped. Contrary to ALL EVIDENCE—including a statement from a doctor from St. Luke’s Hospital that Baby Cyrus is medically stable and that there is no reason for him not to be reunited with his parents—and tons more evidence to show that there was no DUE PROCESS, and that the state didn’t have any right to take Baby Cyrus from his parents for only being “underweight,” [the judge still ruled viciously against Marissa and Levi.](#)

The next hearing is called the “adjudicatory hearing” and it is where they actually decide to re-unify Cyrus with his parents or if Cyrus stays in foster care. Yes, Cyrus is now in foster care. This adjudicatory hearing will be on April 8th. ([Source.](#))

If you are new to this topic of child medical kidnapping, and find this hard to believe and that there must be “another side” to the story where this baby and his family deserved

this, then you need to take some time and investigate this issue for yourself, and understand what a travesty of justice this child welfare system is in the United States.

We have a whole website dedicated to educating you on this topic, MedicalKidnap.com, where we have documented HUNDREDS of similar stories to this one over the past several years.

Go to the [About Medical Kidnap page](#) and start reading there. Find out how what is happening today with this family in Idaho, is not unusual, but common, and happening in every single state.

[Medical Kidnapping: A Threat to Every Family in America Today](#)

We document some of the reasons why this is happening:

[Medical Kidnapping in the U.S. – Kidnapping Children for Drug Trials](#)

[Child Kidnapping and Trafficking: A Lucrative U.S. Business Funded by Taxpayers](#)

[Attorney Reporting in Newsweek: Foster Care is a System Set Up to Sex Traffic American Children](#)

[Christian Churches Redefine the Meaning of “Orphan” to Justify Participating in Child Trafficking](#)

We report on the research that shows children are far worse off when placed in Foster Care, than if they are left with

their parents, even if it is a “troubled” home.

Foster Care Children are Worse Off than Children in Troubled Homes – The Child Trafficking Business

Study: Children from Poor Parents, Even if they have a Drug Problem, do Worse if Put into Foster Care

We also document how we got to this point:

From Child Protection to State-sponsored Child Kidnapping: How Did we Get Here?

This is a legal tragedy that has been allowed to continue in this country for far too long.

Consider what is happening to this family, and thousands if not tens of thousands of other families across this nation today.

First, the alleged victim, the child, is the one who is removed from the home and incarcerated, instead of the alleged abusers, the parents.

Where else in the legal system does this happen??

Consider the issue of alleged abuse in other cases where children are not involved.

For example, if there were a complaint by a woman against an alleged “abusive” husband or partner; who would be removed from the home by law enforcement if an

investigation warranted it?

Would the alleged victim, in this case the woman making the complaint, be the one removed from the home?

Of course not! The person the complaint was filed against would be removed, all the while having their Constitutional rights protected, by arresting them, reading them their Miranda rights, and bringing them before a judge to face the charges. The alleged victim would remain in the home.

That is the legal process in the criminal justice system.

But this due process of law is not followed with social services and local law enforcement when they remove children from their homes.

In these cases, the alleged victims are removed from the home (the children), while the alleged abusers (the parents) are left in the home, with no criminal charges filed.

When someone is arrested on suspicion of murder, rape, assault, robbery, and other serious crimes that are a threat to the public, those arrested enter into the criminal justice system, and have rights that are protected under our Constitution to ensure they are not victimized by the over-reach of government abuse.

Unfortunately, these alleged **criminals are afforded more rights than parents are today**, who have their children removed from their home or custody with no arrest and no trial in the criminal justice system. Instead, they have to go a “family court” which is basically a Kangaroo Court system funded simply to traffick children.

There are multiple reasons why this is happening, but they are very easy to understand.

First, when the due process of the law is followed to arrest someone, hold them in confinement, bring them before a judge to press charges, and then follow the judicial process of bringing about a “speedy trial,” all of these actions are a *burden to the state*.

In other words, it costs money.

But once children are taken into State custody, they become an *asset to the State*.

What this means is that all the child’s expenses are now paid via federal funds, including medical costs via Medicaid. There are also federal funds in place for foster care. The longer a child remains in State custody, the more funds that state can collect.

These states actually need to meet quotas, for number of children taken, and for how long they hold them, to collect all the funding available to them.

Consider all the options available to the State that could have been used in this situation, but were not used because they brought no revenue to the state.

The parents could have been arrested, and placed in the Criminal Justice system while other family members took care of the baby.

Since the child is still breastfeeding, the mother could have been arrested and remanded to a house arrest, such as wearing an ankle bracelet, so she could keep breastfeeding

her baby. This would also eliminate the severe emotional trauma to the child for being incarcerated as the victim and turned over to Foster Parent strangers who get a check to take the baby.

If there was reasonable suspicion that the parent might harm the child, a guard could even be placed in the home to protect the child.

But then the State collects no funds, it is a burden to the state to provide those kind of services.

Welcome to the multi-BILLION dollar child trafficking business in the U.S.

Here are the alleged criminals in this particular story who should all be arrested and locked up immediately. This was [posted by Diego Rodriguez](#), the baby's grandfather.



Natasha Erickson, St. Luke's Doctor

(She was the first to call CPS simply because Marissa and Levi asked to leave St. Luke's after Cyrus first got his IV and was rehydrated. She threatened to call CPS if they decided to leave early, so Levi and Marissa stayed. She called CPS anyway and a social worker came to "interview" Marissa—putting Marissa and Levi on "watch" with CPS. This was the initial trigger that got everything started.)



Judge Laurie Fortier

(She is the unjust judge who is beyond corrupt and disgusting—who is responsible for destroying the lives of thousands of Idahoans and is directly responsible for the kidnapping of untold numbers of children from the homes of good families. The depth of her wickedness and corruption will be exposed).



Aaron Dykstra, [Functional Medicine of Idaho](#)

(He is the Nurse Practitioner who contacted CPS simply because Marissa canceled Cyrus's weigh-in appointment).



Nice Loufoua, Social Worker

(She is the social worker who contacted the police to start the kidnapping process.)



Meridian Police Detective Hanson Badge # 3534

(This is the evil and wicked animal who ripped Baby Cyrus out of Marissa's arms. He is the actual KIDNAPPER.)



Meridian Police Detective Fuller Badge # 3138

(He is the detective in charge of the case. He has the greater sin (John 19:11).)

**We need AT LEAST 10,000 Calls and Emails
to the Idaho Governor's Office RIGHT NOW!**

Diego Rodriguez has listed some things you can do to [protest this travesty of justice here.](#)

But the one person who can put an end to this immediately, and who is ultimately the person responsible for this happening, is Idaho Governor Brad Little.



From publishing these stories for the past 8 plus years, I can say from experience that this is the best way to put pressure on the State to resolve this issue as quickly as possible.

It will take at least 10,000 calls and emails to probably shut down their phones and email servers, and force them to address this issue.

This pressure on a state governor has worked in the past.

Here is the Governor's phone number: (208) 334-2100.

[Send an email here.](#)

If you are looking to make a difference in Medical Tyranny today, America, here is your chance. Start calling and emailing.

Instead of driving trucks to D.C., how about if everyone goes to Boise, ID, and shut down the entire city until this baby is released?